Josh Knight <josh@farmdirection.com>

Fwd: GOOD MORNING: Van Trump Report 7-18-19

1 message

Jordan Van Trump <jordan@farmdirection.com> Thu, Jul 18, 2019 at 8:05 AM
To: Drew <josh@farmdirection.com>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **The Van Trump Report** <reply@vantrumpreport-email.com>
Date: Thu, Jul 18, 2019 at 5:31 AM
Subject: GOOD MORNING: Van Trump Report 7-18-19
To: <jordan@farmdirection.com>

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"I've been in more laps than a napkin." **- Mae West**

Thursday, July 18, 2019

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Morning Summary: Stock bulls have been catching their breath as Q2 corporate earnings start to roll out more heavily. According to FactSet data, about 85% of the S&P 500 companies reporting so far have posted better than expected profits.

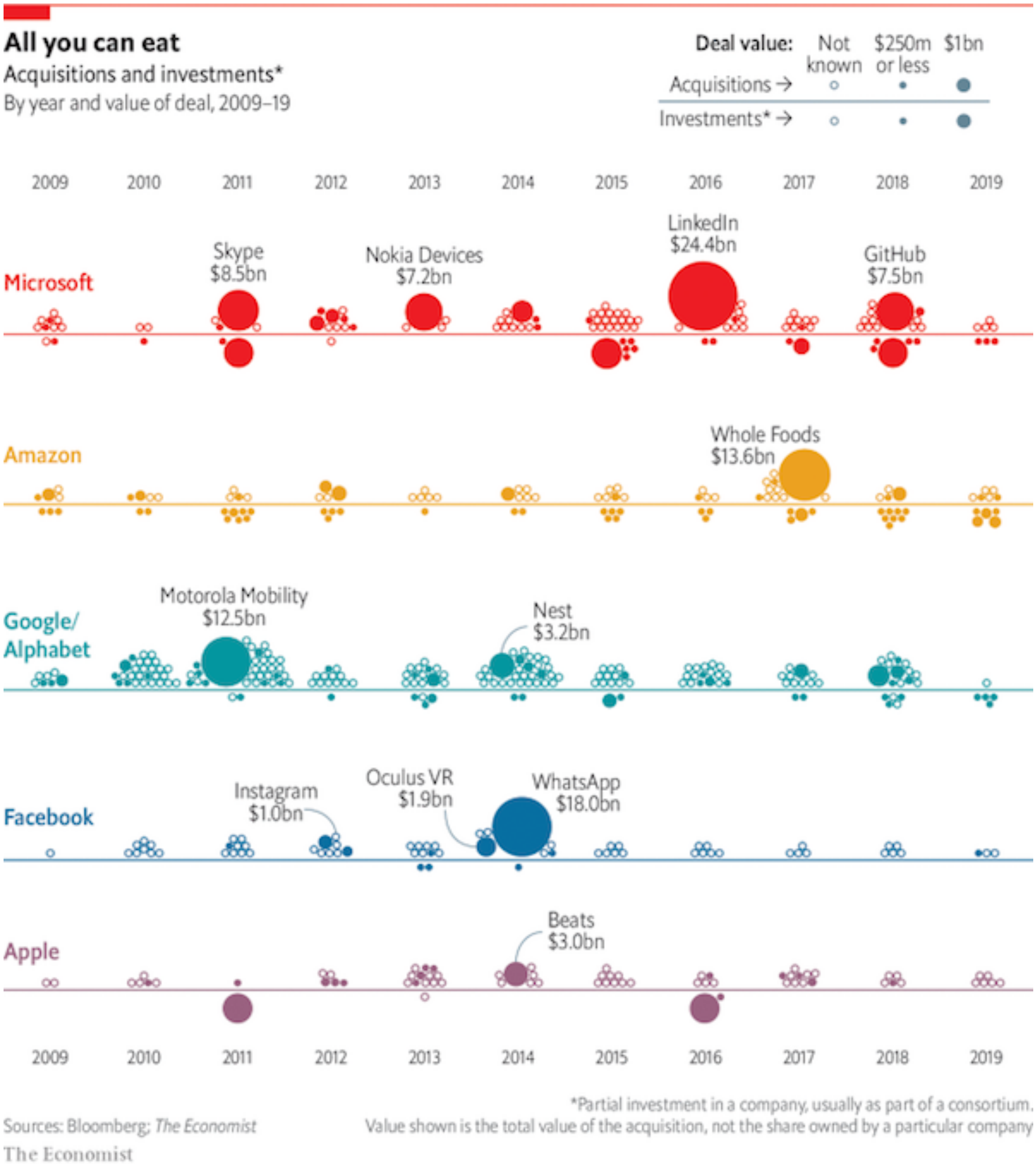
Unfortunately, Netflix wasn't one of them as shares fall over -10% on fewer than anticipated new global subscribers. Netflix executives had estimated they would add +5 million new global subscribers this past quarter, instead they added only about 2.7 million new global subscribers. Keep in mind, Netflix added a record +9.6 million new subscribers in the first quarter of 2019. The company now has 151.5 million subscribers globally, of which about 60.2 million are from the United States. We have to play very close attention here since Netflix has been one of our big leaders on the way up. Earnings being rebased today will include reports from Blackstone, Capital One, E*Trade, Danaher, Honeywell, United Health, Morgan Stanley, and Phillip Morris. Friday earnings will be reported by American Express and Black Rock. Turning to economic news, traders await Weekly Jobs Claims and the Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook Survey which is expected to show slight improvement for July. I suspect debates surrounding the Fed cutting interest rate into a record high stock market will continue. There's also a ton of ongoing uncertainty surrounding Chinese trade negotiations. Don't forget, Mueller is scheduled to testify before the House next week. Meaning we could perhaps see some negative headline uncertainty and media hype out of Washington. We also have the release of Q2 GDP data at the end of next week. The week after that all eyes will be on the two-day Fed FOMC meeting. Odds have fallen to about 62% that the Fed will make a quarter-point rate reduction at the July meeting. The odds are about 35% that the Fed makes a half-point rate reduction at the upcoming meeting.

Ebola Breakout Once Again International Health Emergency: *World Health Organization officials announced yesterday that the breakout of ebola in Congo is now an international health emergency, which often brings greater international attention and aid, along with concerns that nervous governments might overreact with border closures. According to reports, more than 1,600 people have died in the second-deadliest Ebola outbreak in history, which is unfolding in a region described as a war zone. From what I understand, while the risk of regional spread remains high, the risk outside the region remains low. This is certainly worth keeping our eye on.*

Amazon Prime Day Moves Over +175 Million Items... *and becomes the* *companies biggest shopping event in history, surpassing Black Friday and Cyber Monday combined. I'm told the most sold Amazon devices, were the Echo Dot and Fire TV Stick with Alexa Voice Remote. Prime members also bought 100,000 lunchboxes, 100,000 laptops, 350,000 luxury beauty products, and more than one million toys. From what I understand, over eighteen countries participated, with Prime members saving more than $1 billion, and Amazon also said they signed up the newest Prime members ever on each day of the sale.*

Bernard Arnault Moves Past Bill Gates: *The Moët, Hennessy, Louis Vuitton group CEO and Chairman, Bernard Arnault, has now been named the second wealthiest person in the world, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. Gates' ranking as the third richest happens to be the lowest position the Microsoft co-founder has held since the list began seven years ago. Arnault's rise comes after he added +$39 billion to his fortune in 2019, by far the biggest individual increase by anyone on the rankings. From what I understand, Arnault's net worth stands at $107.6 billion, which is +$200 million above Gates. I should mention, back in June, Arnault surpassed the $100 billion USD mark for the first time, becoming only the third centibillionaire in the world.*

Are Tech Companies too Big? *Growing antitrust scrutiny stems in part from the sheer size of the tech firms, as the big five—Amazon, Apple, Alphabet, Facebook, and Microsoft—are cumulatively valued at $4.2 trillion. Keep in mind, these companies represent one-seventh of America's total stock market value. Over the past 12-months, they've amassed $180 billion in pre-tax profits, which is equivalent to roughly a tenth of all profits generated by American publicly-traded companies. I suspect the firms' giant cash piles have helped fuel a flurry of acquisitions. I should note, Google bought Motorola Mobility for $12.5 billion in 2011 and three years later Facebook splashed out $18 billion on WhatsApp. In 2016, Microsoft acquired LinkedIn, for $24 billion, then the following year Amazon picked up Whole Foods for $13.6 billion. It's worth mentioning, the firms have splurged more than $92 billion of cash in the past five years as well as additional billions in* *stock buying up smaller rival firms. It's an interesting dichotomy... all businesses seek market share growth in a number of ways including acquisition, and if you happen to be the best at it... Read more HERE.*



Steve Burns
@SJosephBurns

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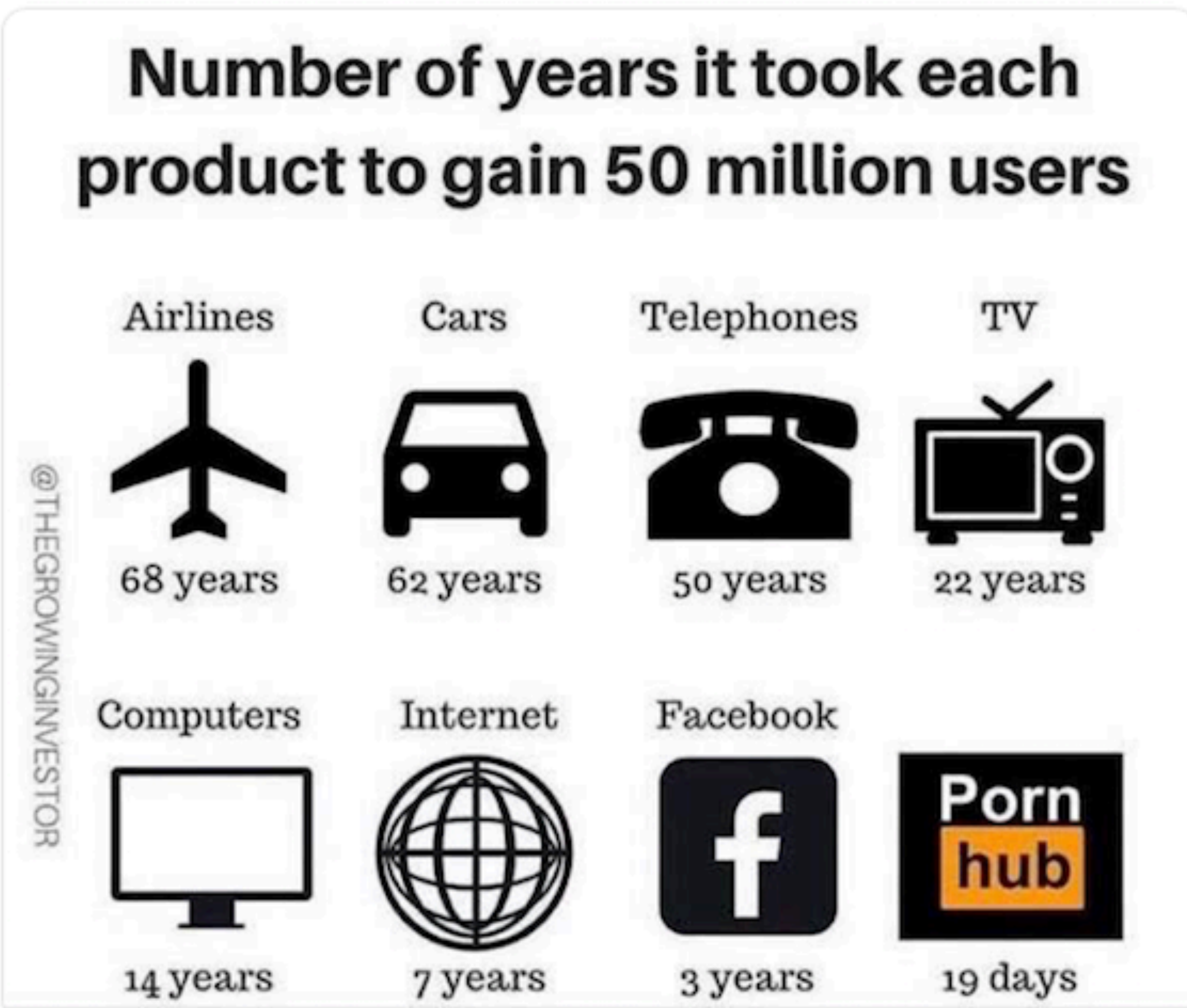

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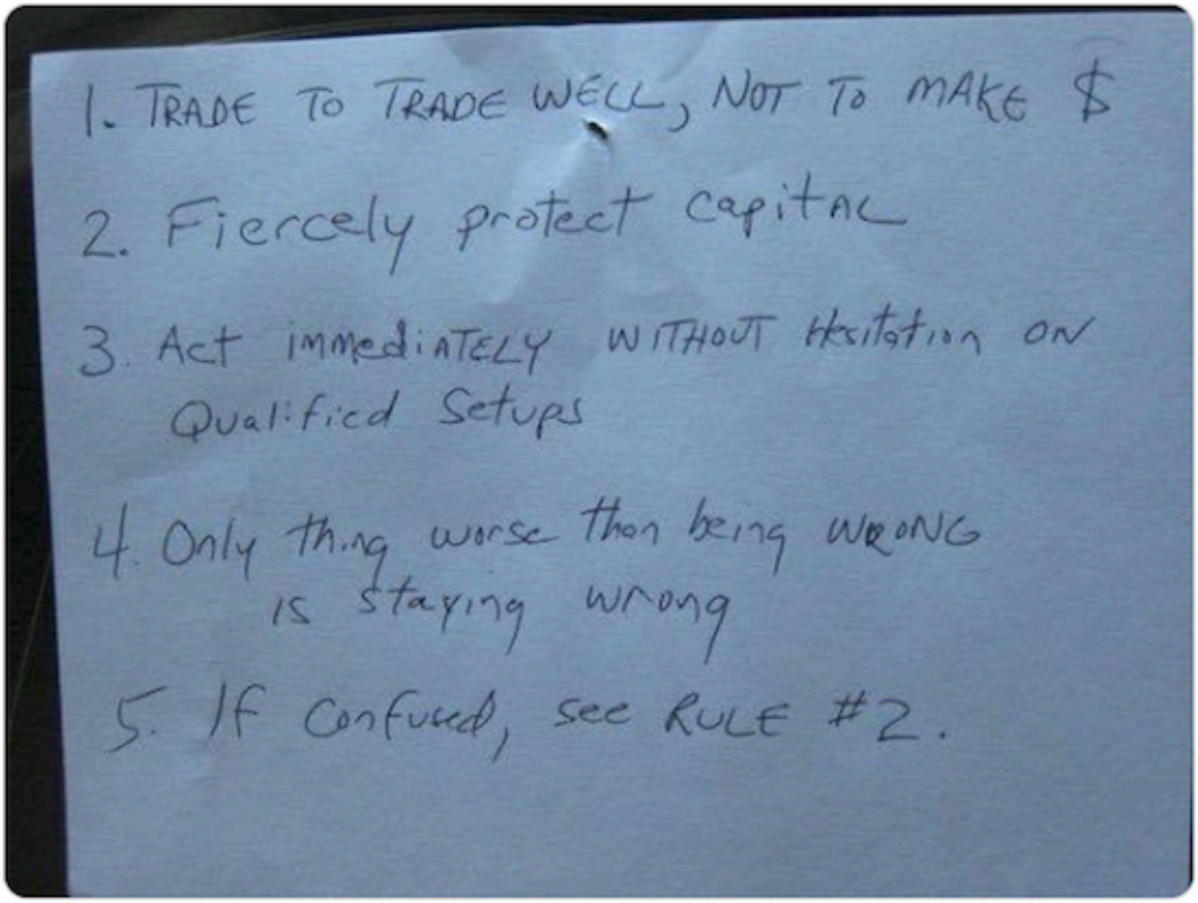
30 Of The World's Best Trading Rules
newtraderu.com/2015/01/13/30-...



Joe Stephan
@agold_joe

Following

Every farmer should take a drive on I29 south from Omaha. The destruction from the Missouri River flooding is unbelievable! Words cannot describe the infrastructure, and farmsteads destroyed. Made me feel ashamed for being dissatisfied with my crops. #plant19 #farming

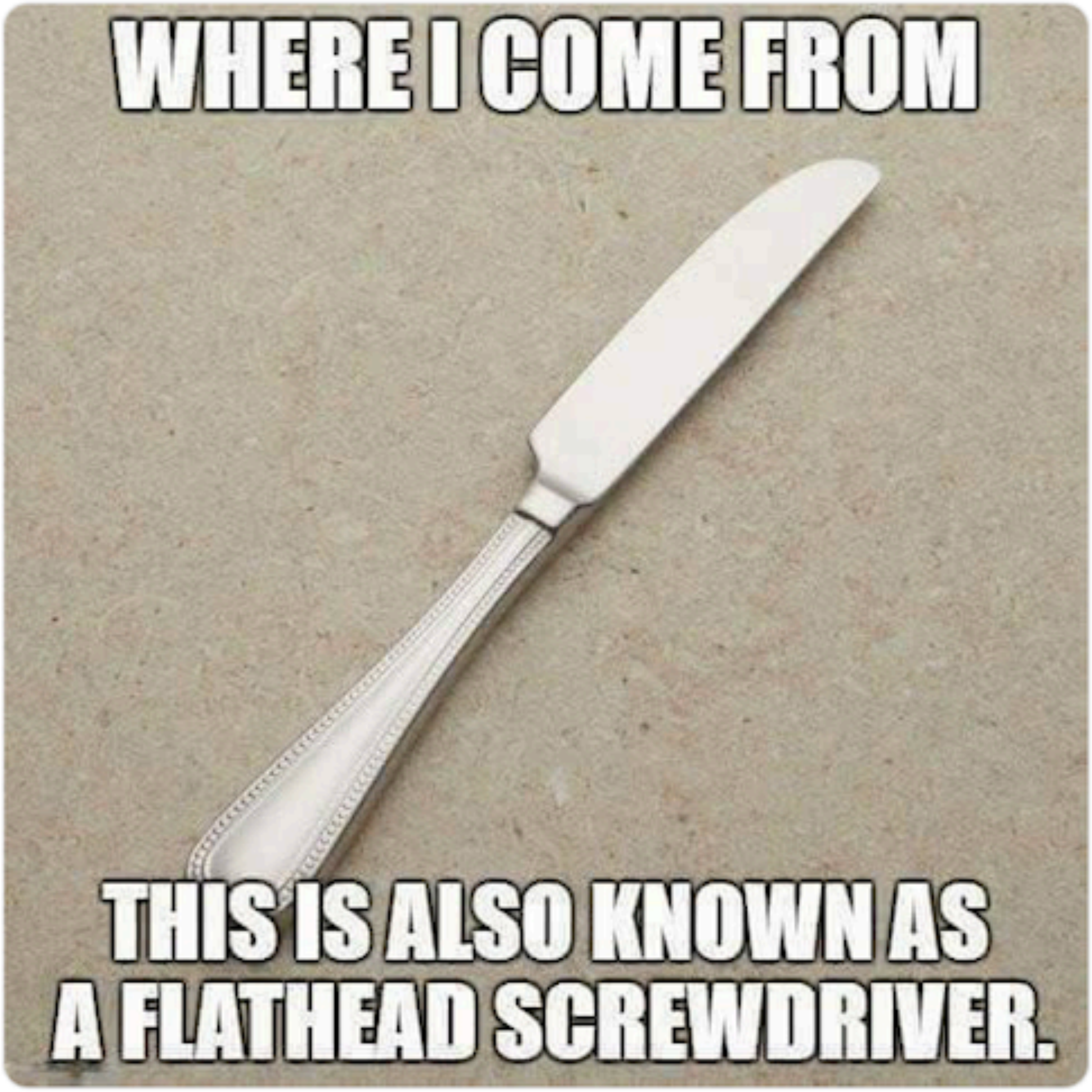
Pine Tree Research Station
@StationPine

Following

3rd time HAS to be the charm. Definitely expecting a bumper crop this year. 🙄😭😤 #plant19 #plantreplant19 @AgWriterArk

Men's Corner
@Mens_Corner_

Following



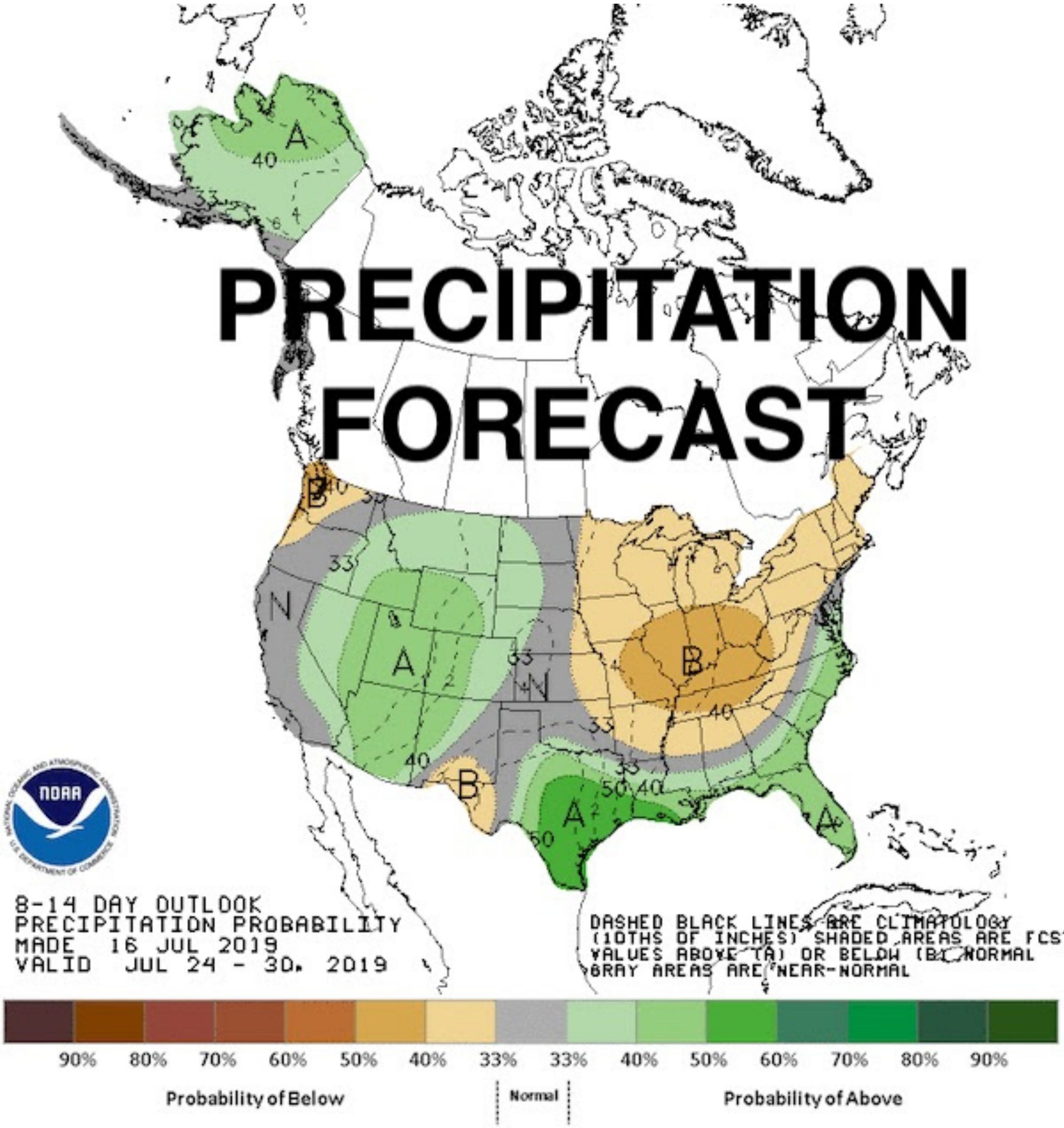
Rock History In Pics
@RockHistoryPix

Following

Elvis Presley, 1960

Keep An Eye MFP Payments: Form what I understand, The White House Office of Management and Budget completed its review of the next round of MFP payments. I've heard we could her more specifics and some type of formal announcement very soon. I continue to hear talk of +$40 to +$60 per acre for planted corn and soybean acres, based on a fixed rate for the county in which they were planted. There's talk that producers could be applying for MFP in just a few weeks and checks from the government could be in the mail by late-August. Stay tuned...

Corn traders continue to debate planted acres and total U.S. production. There's continued talk of 8 to 10 million preventive plant acres in play. Many bulls will argue the number might be even higher. There's some talk that many producers went ahead and planted just so they were eligible to participate in the next Market Facilitation Program. I just wonder how those acres ultimately turn out and how much money producers are going to actually throw at those acres? There's also been a few private crop tour results circulating inside the trade. I could go into great detail, but most seem to be ranging from a 155 to 170 bushel average yield, with harvested acres somewhere between 75 and 80 million. It feels to me like the over/under on total U.S. production is around 12.5 billion bushels. Bears are pointing to cooler temperatures and a slightly wetter U.S. forecast. There's still some concern for many producers in the Western and Central portions of the corn belt. Globally, there's more talk floating around inside the trade that extreme heat across the North China Plains could create some yield drag moving forward. Most of the area is irrigated, so rainfall is not really a major concern, but heat could become a more significant problem, so I will be paying closer attention. I should also mention, France has started restricting some water use in areas of the country as they continue to battle extreme heat. On the flip side, bears are wanting to point towards Brazil's second-crop corn production estimates creeping a bit higher. As both a producer and a spec, I remain bullish but understanding of the fact we could see more extreme volatility in the days and weeks ahead. I continue to see this as a long journey and extremely wild ride!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GRAY AREAS ARE NEAR-NORMAL
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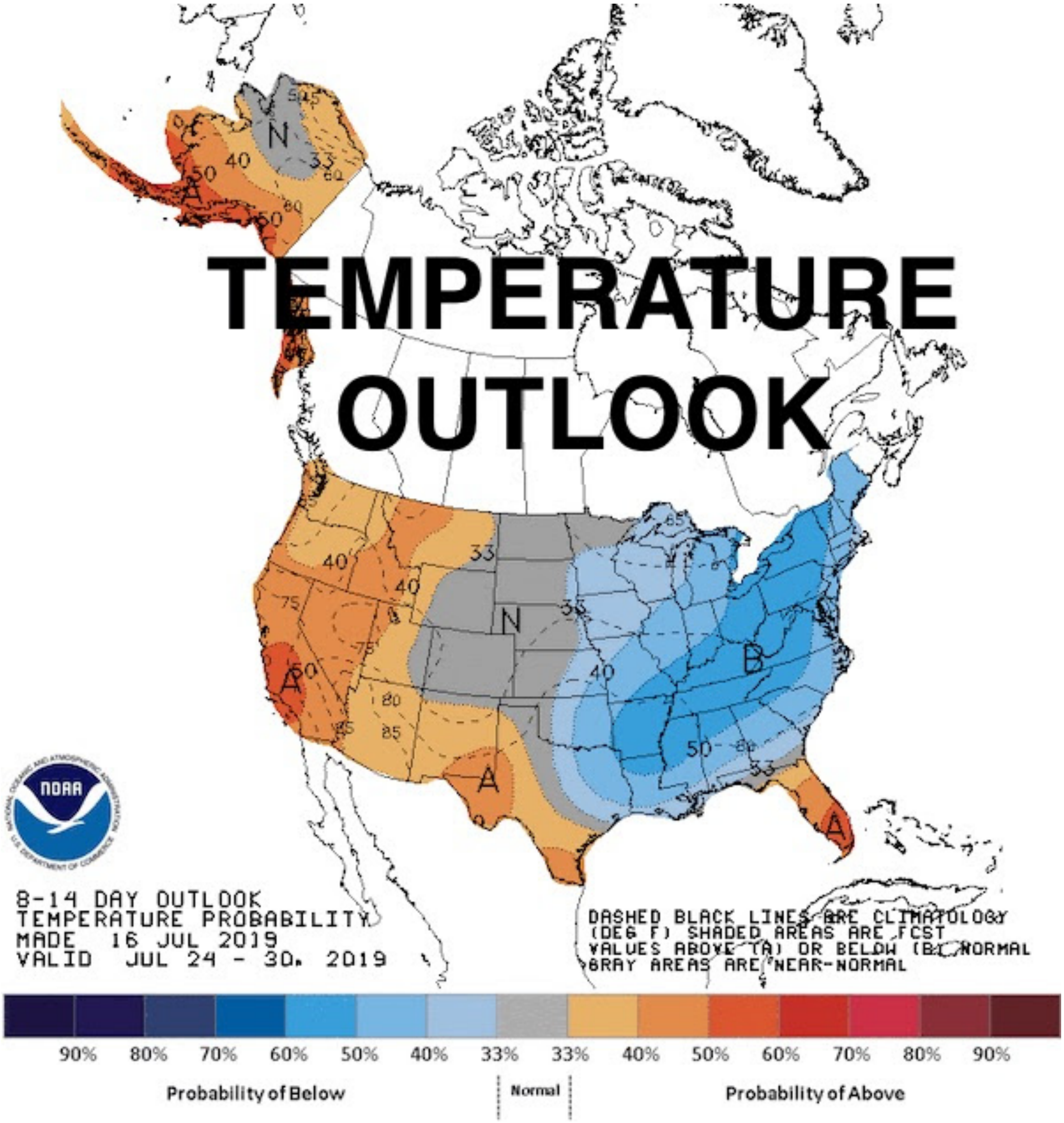
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Normal
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Soybean bulls are hoping the market can find more substantial technical support in the $8.75 to $8.90 range. Uncertainty about Chinese trade and the ongoing global problems surrounding African Swine Fever have worked to keep a lid on the rallies. I continue to hear talk from many producers who planted soybeans after July 10th. I have no idea how these crops will turn out, so I see a ton of unknown out on the horizon. I could argue lower yields and fewer harvested acres but who really knows? As a spec, I'm keeping a close eye on the current downstroke. I've maintained my patience for several weeks and may soon get a chance to establish a bullish position sub-$8.75 per bushel, an opportunity that hasn't been available since late-May. As a producer, I'm sticking with my game-plan, believing there will be better opportunities to reduce risk in late-2019 or perhaps early-2020. In other words, I'm in no major hurry to reduce additional price risk.

Wheat traders struggle to find fresh headlines. The U.S. harvest continues to advance towards the north with ongoing variability in yield. Some areas reporting much better than expected others less than expected. I would suggest the mixed results will keep total U.S. production fairly close to the USDA's current winter wheat estimate. Globally, I continue to monitor parts of Russia and portions of the European Union. With a glut of U.S. supply, +1.0 billion bushels, and a large global surplus, it's tough to get overly excited without a more substantial and wide-spread weather story. I remain an engaged observer. As a producer, I'm closely watching the JUL20 contract for early opportunities to reduce a portion of next years risk. As a spec, I have no real conviction at the current price.

Rice prices continue to hold near their highs made last week. Nearby SEP rice has failed to push through 12.00/cwt in recent sessions, but bears being cautious about getting aggressive to the downside. USDA gave rice a slightly bullish lean on last Friday's report but nothing that changed any previous thoughts on the crop. There was a slight drop in acreage and ending stocks along with no major change in yield. Monday's crop progress showed a 1% improvement from last week to 67% G/E. This compares to 69% last year. In regard to acreage, there are many traders that are skeptical about USDA's higher than expected rice acreage number. Poor planting conditions this spring have many traders thinking that USDA's current number of 2.62 million should be closer to 2.3 – 2.4 million. If USDA does determine that more acres were lost and they adjust their number, it may take a while for them to do this which could keep the market in limbo. Weather wise, Barry dumped a good amount of rain across the Delta but much less than what was expected. Rice is a flooded crop so rain would not be considered beneficial but too much rain this time of year could affect flowering and pollination in a negative way. The Delta will experience a major warm up through the weekend, but temperatures look to cool down a bit next week. Global supplies remain ample and production overseas is not a concern right now. Nonetheless, the bulls still seem to be in control given the uncertainty over the size of the crop. If buyers come in and can push rice above 12.00 nearby, that could be enough for another technical push to new yearly highs. Trey Morris - Husk Trading

> Philippines Suspends Meat Imports from Germany: *There are acquisitions being made that Germany is co-mingling pork bones from Poland, which is now battling African Swine Fever. Remember, Bulgaria recently reported some 30 cases of ASF in several regions, including border provinces with Romania. I should also note, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, North Korea, and Hong Kong have also all reported cases of ASF.*

> Plant-Based Foods Move Beyond Niche Status: *U.S. sales of plant-based foods grew 11% last year hitting $4.5 billion, as retailers increasingly put them on shelves. Clearly, plant-based foods are no longer hyper-niche products relegated to small sections of a grocery store aisle. As innovation in the space continues, it's* *definitely something to keep your eye on as new products that are appealing to more than just vegans and vegetarians aren't only an investment opportunity, but a possible premium channel for contracts with production. Read more HERE!*

> Hog Futures Hit One Month High On China Import Hopes: *Chicago Mercantile Exchange's lean hog futures soared by the daily limit and approached a one-month high on Wednesday on renewed hopes that China will increase pork imports to compensate for pigs killed in a widespread outbreak of a fatal swine disease. I'm told, China's agriculture ministry said a new outbreak of African swine fever had been confirmed in Sichuan province in the southwest of the country, meaning the number of reported outbreaks is now over 140. Producers are hoping demand pressure can keep exports growing. Read more HERE.*

> July Could be Hottest Month Ever Recorded: *Record temperatures across much of the world over the past two weeks could make July the hottest month ever measured on Earth, according to climate scientists. In just the last two weeks, we've seen freak heat in the Canadian Arctic, crippling droughts in Chennai and Harare, and forest fires that forced thousands of holidaymakers to abandon campsites in southern France. Not to mention, the Indonesia airforce flying cloud-busting missions in the hope of inducing rain. I'm told if the trends of the first half of this month continue, it will beat the previous record from July 2017 by about 0.025C, according to calculations by Karsten Haustein, a climate scientist at the University of Oxford. Keep in mind, this follows the warmest-ever June, which was confirmed this week by data from the US space agency Nasa. Read more HERE.*

> Nestle Discovers the Secret to Chocolate Without the Sugar? *Nestle has found a way to create chocolate without adding any sugar, relying on leftover material from cocoa plants for sweetening as consumers look for natural and healthier fare. I'm told the food company is using a patented technique to turn the white pulp that covers cocoa beans into a powder that naturally contains sugar. From what I understand, Nestle will start selling KitKat bars this fall in Japan with 70% dark chocolate under the new recipe, which doesn't include any added sugar. I should mention, up until now, the pulp has never been used as a sweetener for chocolate, and usually, it's mostly thrown out.*

> Foreign Buyers Leave U.S. Housing Market in Droves: *Foreigners bought 183,100 properties with a total value of about $77.9 billion, from April 2018 through March 2019. Only one year earlier, they bought 266,800 properties valued at $121 billion a year earlier, which is a 36% drop. From what I understand, many factors are in play including, slower economic growth abroad, tighter capital controls in China, a stronger U.S. dollar, and a low inventory of homes for sale. I should mention, the Chinese were the leading buyers for the seventh consecutive year by purchasing an estimated $13.4 billion worth of residential property. Yet, that was a 56% decline from the previous 12 months and comparatively the biggest percentage drop of all foreign buyers. Read more HERE.*

> Are Americans Getting Better at Saving? *Vanguard recently released its 2019 edition of "How America Saves ," an excellent publication which summarizes the statistics for the defined-contribution plans that the company administers. Vanguard tends to administer larger plans, so they are often better designed than average and participants typically have higher incomes, meaning this report presents the best face of the 401(k) system. So, how are Americans doing in putting away for a rainy day or hopefully retirement? I'm told in 2018, the average account balance was $92,148 and the median was $22,217. Vanguard points out, the big difference between the median and the average is due to a small number of accounts that have really big balances. Bottom line, the report shows that there hasn't been much of a change in American's savings habit over the last decade. Read more HERE.*

> Does the History of Rate Cuts Have Meaning Today? *Testifying before the House Financial Services Committee last week, Fed Chair Jerome Powell hinted that the Federal Reserve may cut short-term interest rates when they meet again later this month. In terms of history, a rate cut wouldn't be anything new, but it has been a long time since the Fed last lowered them. Since 1960, the Federal Reserve has cut the Fed Funds Rate nearly 140 times, which is roughly 23 times per decade. What's most interesting about this statistic is there hasn't been a single rate cut in this decade. Obviously, there hasn't been a rate cut this decade as rates were on the floor for so long following the Great Financial Crisis. Ben Carlson put together a short history of Fed Cuts and how it might play out in light of this unique period of time where interest rates, unemployment, and inflation are* *all low by historical standards. Read more HERE.*

> Have You Done the FaceApp Challenge Yet? *Have you ever wondered what Father Time has in store for you? Since going viral in 2017, FaceApp, which uses artificial intelligence to create a rendering of what you might look like in a few decades, has amassed more than 80 million active users and is now blowing up again thanks to the so-called FaceApp Challenge where celebs and everyone else have been revealing their new looks. With the renewed interest in the app, a single tweet recently began creating a stir about privacy and Russians taking your data. Forbes assures worried users, thats not the case in an article you can read HERE.*

> First-Ever Automated Call Ejection: We recently shared that the Atlantic League just installed robot umpires as part of its three-year agreement with Major League Baseball, which is a pact that has led to a number of other regulatory tweaks as well. It didn't take long for us to have our first ejection stemming from arguing a computer called ball four. Frank Viola, the 1988 AL Cy Young Award winner, now the pitching coach of the High Point Rockers will go down in the record books as the first to be ejected using Trackman. But no matter where you come down on whether robots should be entrusted with the calls, you have to admit it's funny that a baseball lifer was ejected within an inning of the switch. You can watch the ejection HERE!

> Musk Reveals Plans for Interfacing Computers and Brains: *Neuralink, the Elon Musk-led startup that the multi-entrepreneur founded in 2017, revealed his company is working on technology that's based around 'threads,' which it says can be implanted in human brains with much less potential impact to the surrounding brain tissue vs. what's currently used for today's brain-computer interfaces. It's worth mentioning, the technology could theoretically be put to use medically as early as next year with possible applications including enabling amputees to regain mobility via the use of prosthetics and reversing vision, hearing, or other sensory deficiencies. Long-term, Neuralink is really about figuring out a way to "achieve a sort of symbiosis with artificial intelligence, something you can choose to have if you want," according to Musk. Read more HERE.*

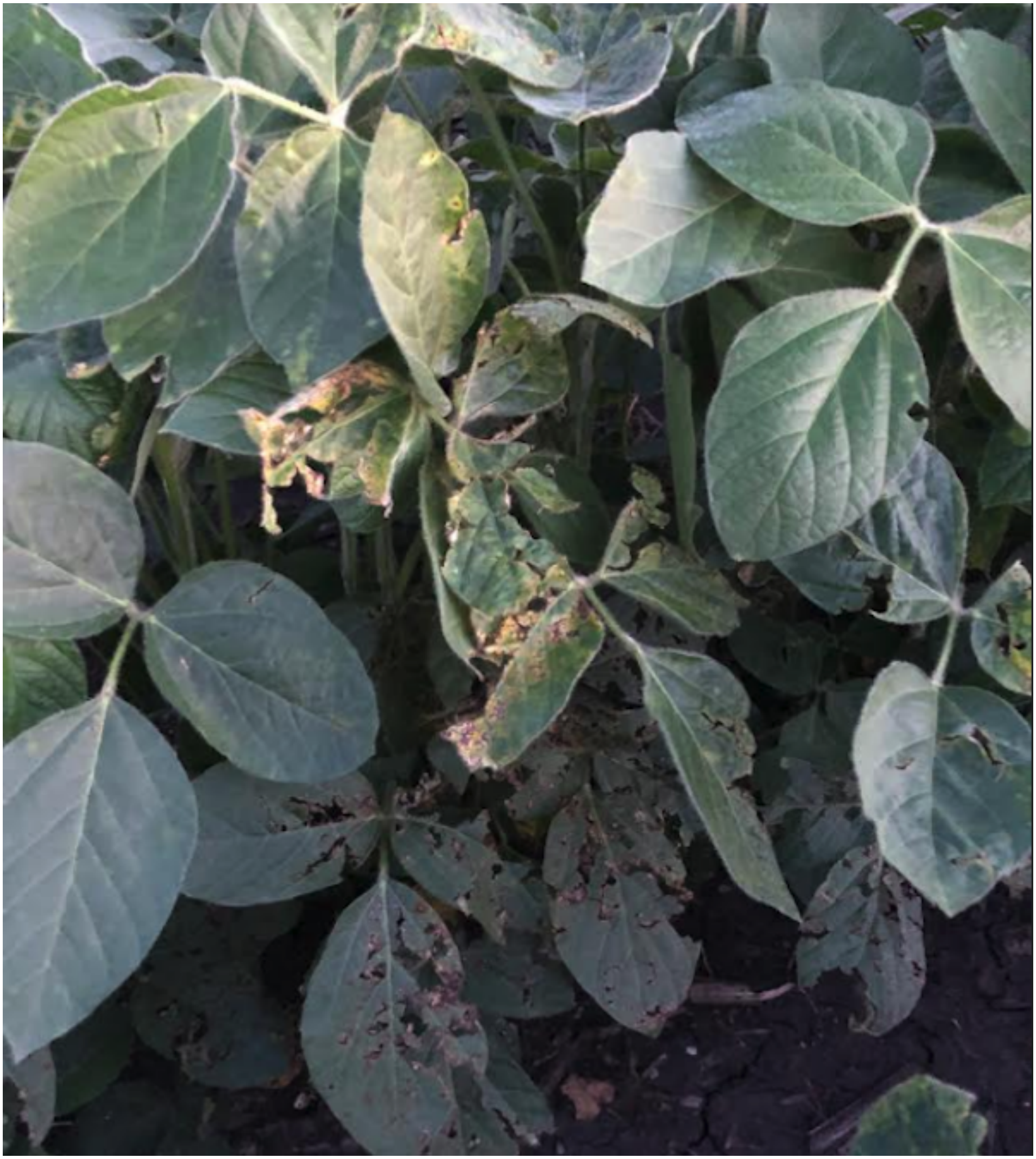
> Pot Producers Pushing into U.S. Amid Increasing Legalization: *Curaleaf Holdings Inc. will buy fellow U.S. cannabis cultivator and retailer GR Companies Inc. in an $875 million cash-and-stock deal, expanding its reach when more U.S. states are expected to legalize recreational use of marijuana. I should mention, the company's shares jumped 18% on Wednesday, as the deal cements Curaleaf's position as one of the biggest weed companies in the world by revenue and expands its presence to 19 U.S. states from 12. It's worth mentioning, with the acquisition of privately held Grassroots, Curaleaf will get access to new markets, including Illinois, which in June became the 11th state here to legalize recreational use of marijuana by adults, as well as highly populous Pennsylvania. For investors who don't mind having marijuana stocks in your portfolio, the sector is getting interesting as the U.S. landscape leans in their direction. I suspect we'll see legalization of recreational use in most all states in the next 24 to 36 months.*

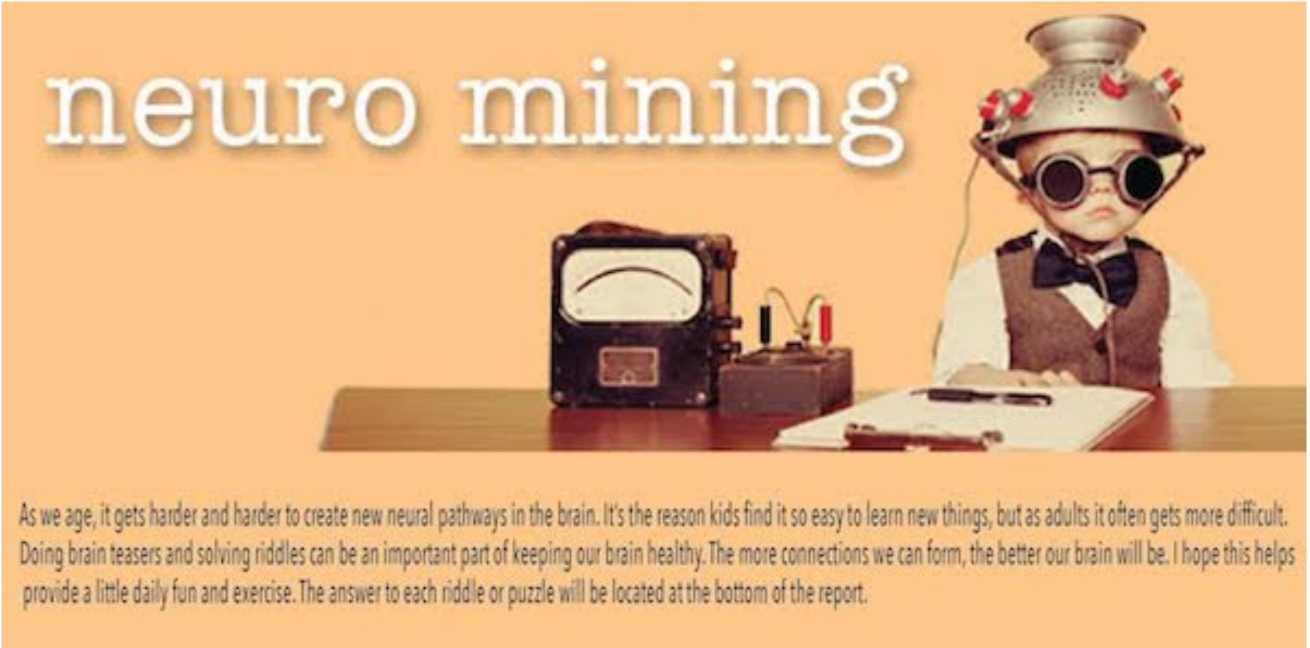
> Lotus Builds an All-Electric Supercar: *Making its debut in London recently, the Evija (pronounced E-vi-ya) is a battery-electric supercar billed as the most powerful of its kind in the world. Keep in mind, performance figures are hypothetical at this point, but Lotus claims a power output of 1,973bhp or 2,000PS and a top speed excess of 200mph. I'm told Evija uses four motors and a 70 kWh battery pack with the ability to accept an 800 kW charge, meaning a full charge could be completed in nine minutes. From what I understand, Lotus will only produce 130 of the models beginning next year and you can pick one up for just over $2 million. Read more HERE.*

Northcentral Iowa – *We've struggled for months with a wet spring, planting delays, replanting multiple fields, and even replanting a couple of fields three times. We didn't take any prevent plant simply because we believe even if we could get the crop in the ground there was a better chance of making a good crop. We've had a few showers that haven't amounted to more than a windshield wetting in the last four weeks. We went from entirely way to wet to too dry and looking to get drier over the next month. We have no rain in the forecast in the* *next 10-15 days outside of a 20% chance here or there. Our corn was planted over a seven-week period compared to normal, which should've been 10 days. The earliest corn is within 10 days from tasseling and the later plant corn is maybe 3-4 weeks out max. The soybeans aren't even close to canopying, I would say our tallest field is 8 inches. Right now, if we have an early frost it's over for us. In fact, a normal frost puts us dangerously close to losing serious test weight in corn and possibly an entire loss in soybeans.*

Southern Minnesota – *I'd say at least half the corn looks really good in this area and the rest is mediocre at best. The fields that don't look great have a lot of uneven corn and drown out spots, especially in the bottoms where water stood early. I still think we could pull out of the yellow corn and yield might improve in those areas. The problem is all the drown out spots which might be an acre here or there, but when you have those in half your fields or more it adds up and will drag the yield down. I took a short road trip north and I will say that most of the corn 50 miles south of the twin cities and above look much better than ours. We are going to be high 90's tomorrow and over 100 on Friday, which will take its toll on the corn and especially the soybeans that are still at least a few weeks behind if not more. I'm hearing guys talking frost in the coffee shop almost daily, which I think will do more harm to soybeans than corn. Our corn should catch up and I believe we'll be fine on that front. It's been a trying and tough year for most of us farmers.*

Northern North Dakota – *I wanted to make a quick correction on a what I sent the other day. . . I originally thought we had a fairly serious problem with thistle caterpillar due to the excessive holes eaten in leaves over a large area here. There are a lot of acres that look very similar to the picture below which you included on Tuesday's report. We did late evening scouting and we did find some grasshoppers and caterpillars out in the fields and ditches, but they weren't outside the norm. What we did figure out is we have a problem with soybean blight, which in my opinion, is much worse because it's more difficult to combat. This is a widespread problem over northern North Dakota. If it gets worse, you may see yield drop into the 25 bushel per acre or less. Soybeans will be more* *likely to lodge if the problem persists, which could drop your yield to nearly a 100% loss. Sometimes soybeans will grow out of this bacteria, but you need to spray a growth promoter to help combat the blight. We haven't seen this problem in a very long time, so we will be closely monitoring how it goes.*





TODAY'S RIDDLE: Why did the orange wish he was wearing sunscreen?

Plant Nutrient Delivery Sees Game-Changing Research

Researchers led by Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Greg Lowry at Carnegie Mellon University have successfully discovered a way to apply nanoparticles to plant leaves, so they can travel through the plant all the way to the root. This breakthrough could now open the door for growers to deliver nutrients, antibiotics, and pesticides in a much more efficient manner.

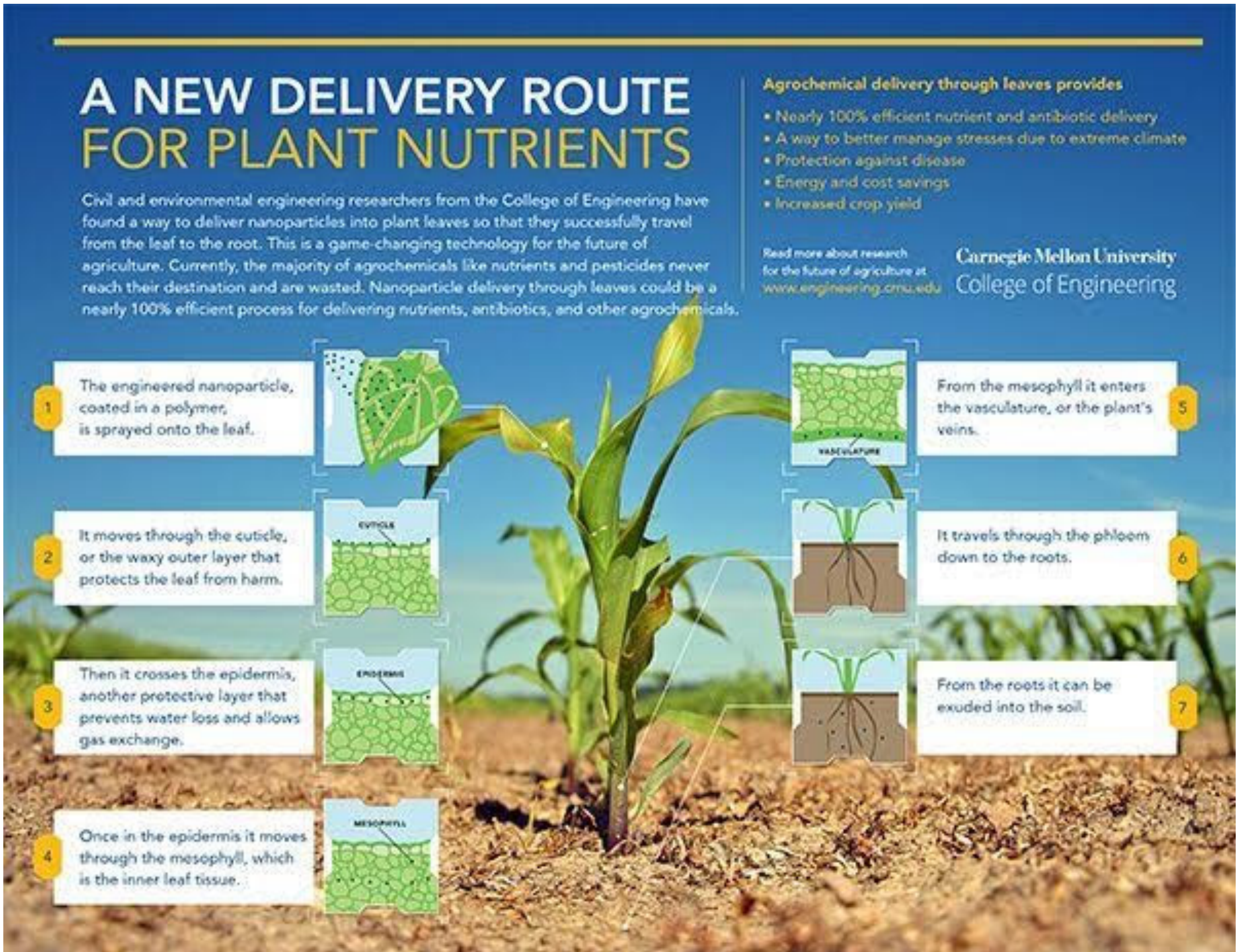
Applied pesticides and nutrients often struggle to reach their destinations as they accumulate in the soil or run off into the groundwater, meaning these new results have the potential to transform the way agrochemicals are delivered to plants.

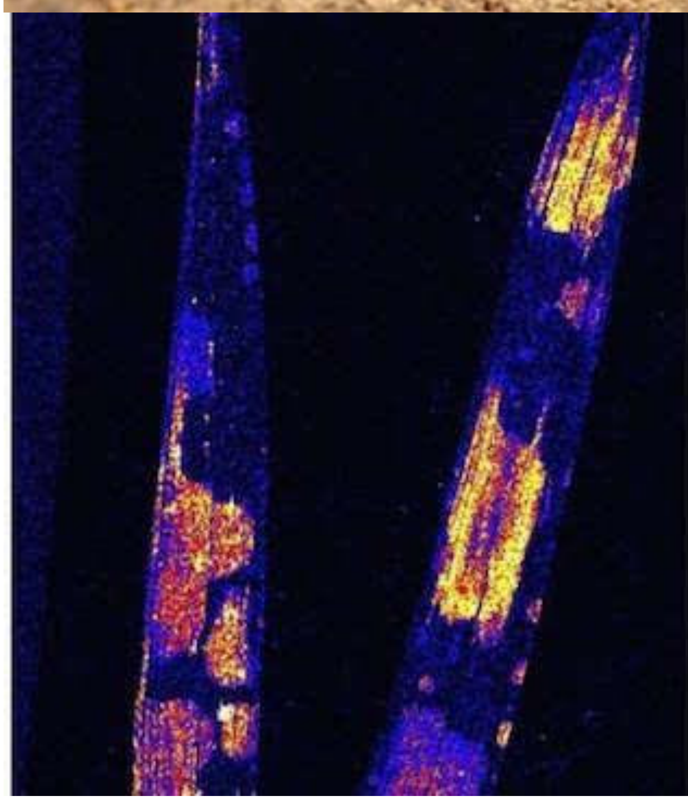
Nanoparticle movement through the leaf into the plant and to the root has rarely been studied in a systematic manner. Interestingly, the team from Carnegie Mellon sprayed gold nanoparticles with a polymer coating onto the leaves of young wheat plants, and since gold doesn't exist anywhere in the plant, they were able to easily identify it as it traveled.

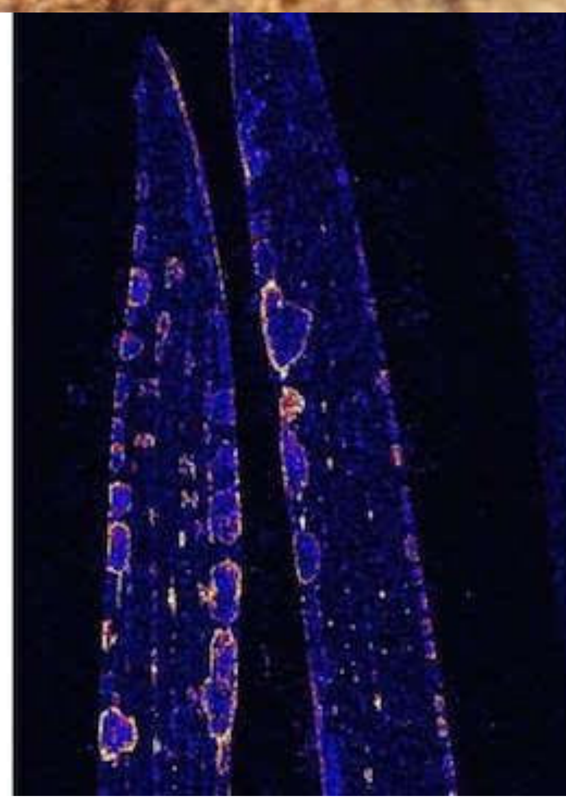
Wheat was chosen because it's very susceptible to nutrient deficiencies. Most importantly, researchers were able to demonstrate that once reaching the roots, nanoparticles can be exuded into the soil, adhering to the microenvironment that sticks to the roots called the rhizosphere, or put another way, where the plant interacts with the soil.

Methods currently available generally include mixing agrochemicals in the soil or applying water with the chemicals. In both cases, a large number of chemicals can be lost to inefficiency in the delivery model. Consider the decrease in the number of chemicals needed, the lower cost, and limited potential for environmental contamination that would all occur if science was able to find or discover a delivery system offering nearly 100% efficiency.

Antibiotic delivery could also see massive benefits. To this point, once a plant gets a bacteria into its vasculature there's little that can be done to save it. It looks like we are about to enter a new era of atom-efficient agriculture! You can watch a short video on the discovery and delivery process HERE. (Source: phys.org)


A NEW DELIVERY ROUTE
FOR PLANT NUTRIENTS
Civil and environmental engineering researchers from the College of Engineering have found a way to deliver nanoparticles into plant leaves so that they successfully travel from the leaf to the root. This is a game-changing technology for the future of agriculture. Currently, the majority of agrochemicals like nutrients and pesticides never reach their destination and are wasted. Nanoparticle delivery through leaves could be a nearly 100% efficient process for delivering nutrients, antibiotics, and other agrochemicals.
Agrochemical delivery through leaves provides
• Nearly 100% efficient nutrient and antibiotic delivery
• A way to better manage stresses due to extreme climate
• Protection against disease
• Energy and cost savings
• Increased crop yield
Read more about research for the future of agriculture at www.engineering.cmu.edu
Carnegie Mellon University
College of Engineering
1 The engineered nanoparticle, coated in a polymer, is sprayed onto the leaf.
2 It moves through the cuticle, or the waxy outer layer that protects the leaf from harm.
CUTICLE
3 Then it crosses the epidermis, another protective layer that prevents water loss and allows gas exchange.
EPIDERMIS
4 Once in the epidermis it moves through the mesophyll, which is the inner leaf tissue.
MESOPHYLL
5 From the mesophyll it enters the vasculature, or the plant's veins.
VASCULATURE
6 It travels through the phloem down to the roots.
7 From the roots it can be exuded into the soil.





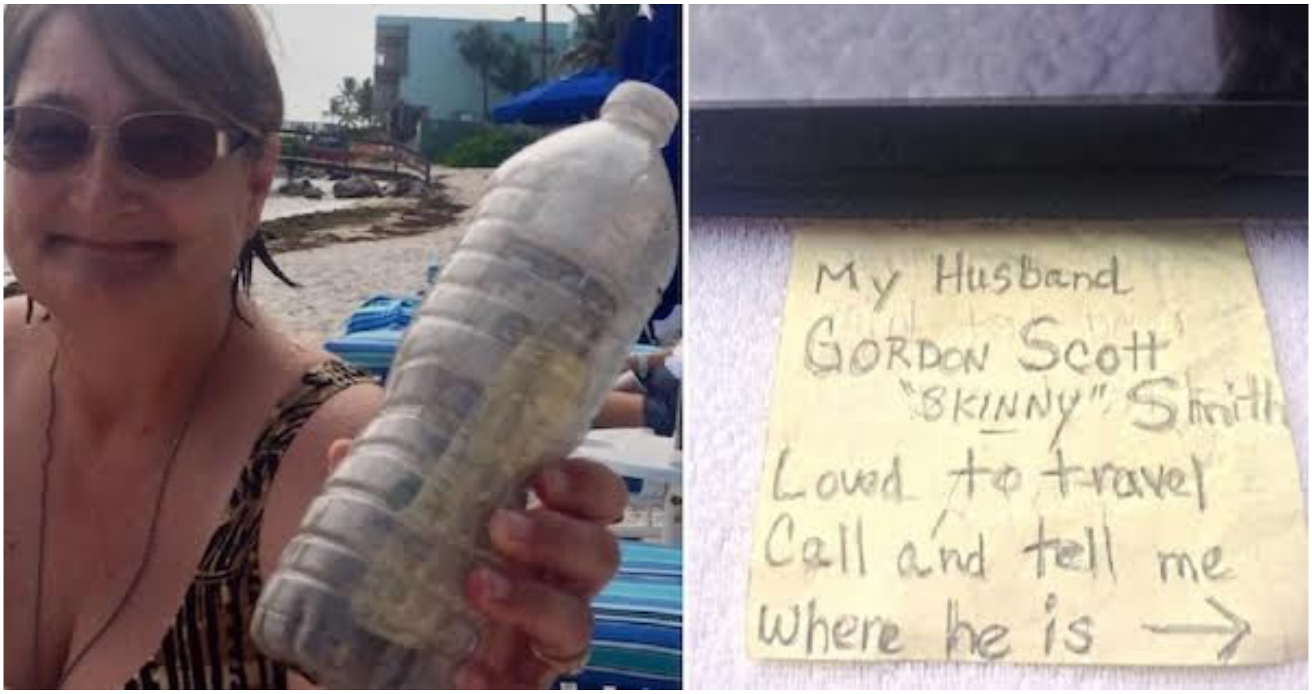
Safe Travels Gordon!

Beverly Smith, 56, put the ashes of her late husband, Gordan Scott Smith, in a bottle and tossed them off the coast of Big Pine Key, FL., WCVB reported. With his remains were $2 and a note instructing whoever recovered the bottle to "call and tell her where he is."

Gordon Scott Smith, from Louisville, Tennessee had died at 57 from a sudden brain hemorrhage. Three weeks later his wife honored his love for travel and came up with the idea of sending a portion of his remains on a wild journey and highly unpredictable journey. Now, with the help of a few kind strangers, his memory is living on in various places around the world. "He absolutely loved the ocean," Beverly Smith told reporters. "I wanted to let him travel a little and let him sail away."

Instructions inside the bottle told Gordon's story and also gave specific instructions to call his wife at the number included every time Gordon's bottle was discovered at a new location. His wife Beverley would encourage those who called to put their own letter in the bottle with Gordon and send him back out on another adventure.

Judi Glunz Sydney found the bottle of ashes washed up in front of a hotel one afternoon. She actually called Beverly and asked if she could transfer the contents of the beaten up bottle into a larger and more stable bottle of rum. Sydney thought it would be more fitting, fun, and comfortable for Gordon to take to the high-seas in a rum bottle! I wish Gordon all the best in his travels:)



Tribute to Brownings 1911 Design

M1911, also known as the "Government", is designated by many authorities as the finest service pistol design of all time. It served as the standard-issue sidearm for the United States Armed Forces from 1911 to 1986. It was widely used in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Necessity is said to be the mother of all invention, and in this case, it was a life and death necessity. Nearly a decade prior to the Model 1911, and halfway around the world, US soldiers and Marines found themselves locked in combat in the Philippines against a group of fanatic local insurgents. In this case, the necessity was the need for an effective large-caliber defensive pistol that could be used in fairly close proximity. At the time US troops were armed primarily with either .30 caliber Krag or Springfield bolt-action rifles and .38 caliber double-action revolvers. Although there were no issues with the .30 caliber rifles when it came to stopping the attackers, the US troop’s handguns demonstrated an unnerving lack of stopping power.

John Moses Browning, often regarded as one of the most successful firearms designers of the 19th and 20th centuries, came to the rescue. His father, Jonathan Browning, established a gunsmith shop in Ogden, Utah in 1852. As was common in the Mormon community at the time, Jonathan Browning was a polygamist, having taken three wives. He fathered 22 children, including John Moses Browning. The young John Moses worked in his father's Ogden shop from the age of seven, where he was taught basic engineering and manufacturing principles, and encouraged to experiment with new concepts.

Designed and invented in the late 1890s as the result of a search for a suitable self-loading (or semi-automatic) pistol to replace the variety of revolvers then in service, John Moses Browning created the M1911. Keep in mind, the United States was adopting many new firearms at a phenomenal rate; several new pistols, all-new service rifles, and an intensive quest for a self-loading pistol. Among those submitted, the Colt was used in a test at the end of 1910 attended by its designer, John Browning. Six thousand rounds were fired from a single pistol over the course of two days. When the gun began to grow hot, it was simply immersed in water to cool it. The Colt gun passed with no reported malfunctions

Colt's pistol designed by Browning was formally adopted by the Army on March 29, 1911, when it was designated Model of 1911, later changed to Model 1911, in 1917, and then M1911, in the mid-1920s. The Director of Civilian Marksmanship began manufacture of M1911 pistols for members of the National Rifle Association in August 1912. Approximately 100 pistols stamped "N.R.A." below the serial number were manufactured at Springfield Armory and by Colt. The M1911 was formally adopted by the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps in 1913.

World War I brought about massive demand. By the beginning of 1917, a total of 68,533 M1911 pistols had been delivered to U.S. armed forces by Colt's Patent Firearms Manufacturing Company and the U.S. government's Springfield Armory.

Battlefield experience in World War I led to some more small external changes, completed in 1924. The new version received a modified type classification, M1911A1, in 1926 with a stipulation that M1911A1s should have serial numbers higher than 700,000 with lower serial numbers designated M1911.

World War II and the years leading up to it created a great demand. During the war, about 1.9 million units were procured by the U.S. Government for all forces, production being undertaken by several manufacturers, including Remington Rand (900,000 produced), Colt (400,000), Ithaca Gun Company (400,000), Union Switch & Signal (50,000), and Singer. So many 1911A1 pistols were produced during the war that the government canceled all postwar contracts for new production, instead choosing to rebuild existing pistols with new parts, which were then refinished and tested for functioning. From the mid-1920s to the mid-1950s thousands of 1911s and 1911A1s were refurbished at U.S. Arsenals and Service depots. Pistols that were refurbished at government arsenals will usually be marked on the frame/receiver with the arsenal's initials, such as RIA (Rock Island Armory) or SA (Springfield Armory).

Generals in the US Army, between 1943 and 1945 were issued a fine-grade russet-leather M1916 pistol belt set. It was composed of a leather belt, leather enclosed flap-holster with braided leather tie-down leg strap, leather two-pocket magazine pouch, and a rope neck lanyard. The metal buckle and fittings were in gilded brass. The buckle had the seal of the U.S. on the center (or "male") piece and a laurel wreath on the circular (or "female") piece. The pistol was a standard-issue M1911A1 that came with a cleaning kit and three magazines. From 1972 to 1981 a modified M1911A1 called the RIA M15 General Officer's Model was issued to General Officers in the US Army and US Air Force.

Gifting a gun? Any of the M1911or modified M1911A1 with a bit of historic story would make an amazing gift. If you're really looking to impress try and track down one of the models issued to a General. It would be an amazing gun with an amazing story!

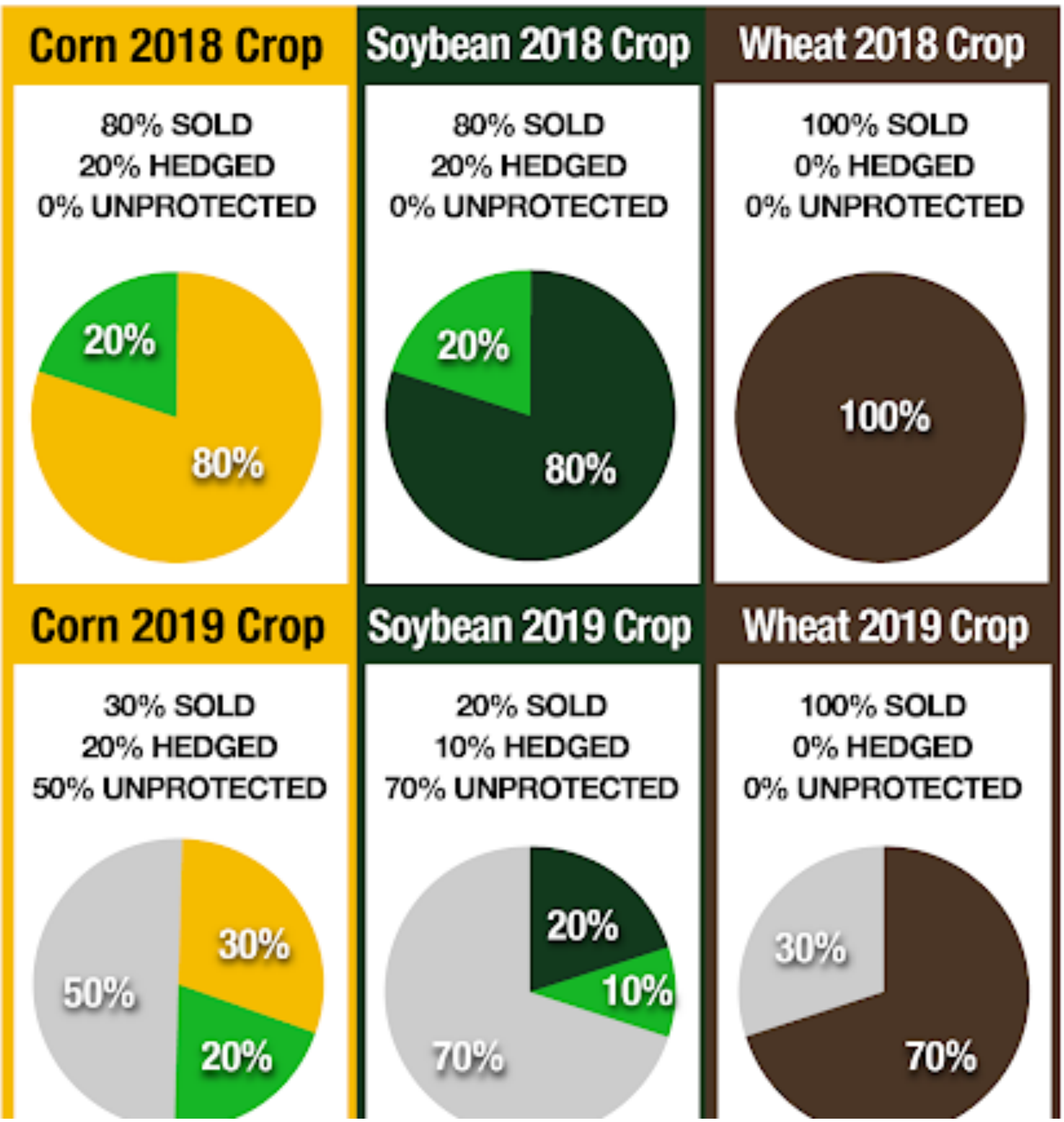

Ed Brown


PATENTED APR.20.1897. SEPT.9.1902
COLT'S PT.F.A.MFG.CO.
HARTFORD.CT. U.S.A.
UNITED STATES PROPERTY


US

ANSWER to riddle: It was starting to peel.

CASH SALES & HEDGING TOTALS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0% UNPROTECTED
20%
80%
Soybean 2018 Crop
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80%
Wheat 2018 Crop
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Soybean 2019 Crop
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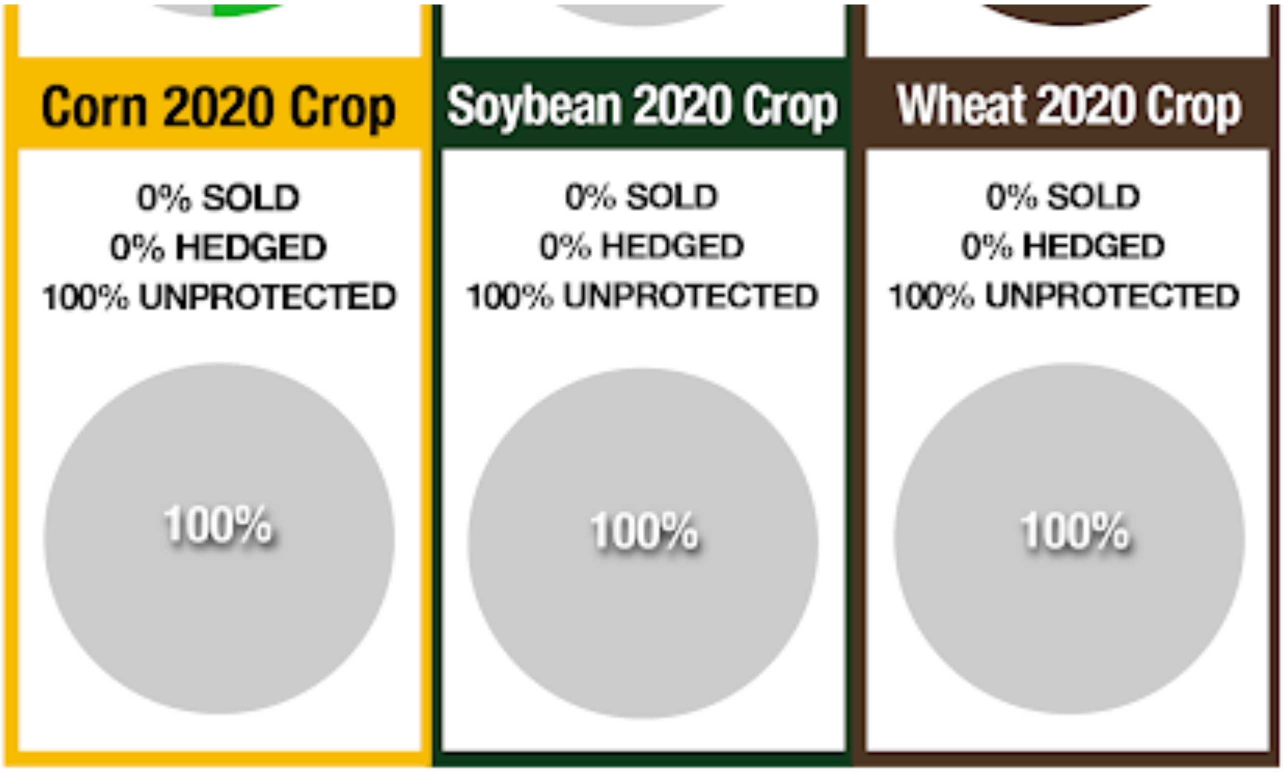

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Respectfully,

Jordan Van Trump

-"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit" – Aristotle