



Jordan Van Trump <jordan@farmdirection.com>

GOOD MORNING: The Van Trump Report 8-3-20

1 message

The Van Trump Report <reply@vantrumpreport-email.com>

Mon, Aug 3, 2020 at 5:30 AM

Reply-To: Jordan <reply-fec512737160037f-1180_HTML-40325470-100003450-12@vantrumpreport-email.com>

To: jordan@farmdirection.com



"We are at our most alert when we are in danger of failing. The greatest growth comes from being alert, scared and striving." — **Dan Sullivan**

Monday, August 3, 2020[Printable Copy](#) or [Audio Version](#)

Morning Summary: Stock traders are bracing for another big week of headlines. Not only do we have another wave of corporate earnings but also the highly anticipated July employment report scheduled for release on Friday. There's a ton of debate and uncertainty surrounding unemployment and if and when the millions of lost jobs are going to come back. The Fed is also very concerned and paying close attention to U.S. unemployment. Bulls hoped the U.S. economy would be bringing back workers in large doses by this juncture, unfortunately, that doesn't seem to be happening. Bears believe the employment numbers released on Friday could show most of the gains made in May and June wiped out by losses in July. Bulls on the other hand expect another net gain for the month with estimates as high as +6 million jobs added. The average estimate is for a gain of +1.65 million. Keep in mind, ADP releases their private jobs data on Wednesday which will likely draw a lot of extra attention considering how far apart analysts are in their forecasts. At the same time, the gridlock in Congress over the next round of coronavirus stimulus continues. Barron's ran an interesting article this weekend that reported U.S. cumulative stimulus in Q2 was actually larger than the country's aggregate GDP for the first time in history. In other words, fiscal and monetary stimulus in Q2 totaled +\$5 trillion while nominal GDP was only around \$4.85 trillion (crazy). Keep in mind, this next round of

stimulus is probably going to be another \$1.5 trillion. This is also a busy week globally as the Bank of England meets on Thursday a month after they announced £100bn of quantitative easing. The Reserve Bank of Australia meets on Tuesday. Brazil is likely to cut rates on Wednesday, and India more than likely cuts rates on Thursday. Here at home, close to two-thirds of S&P 500 companies have now reported Q2 results with about 84% beating estimates. I'm not sure that's saying much as the average analyst estimate for S&P 500 second-quarter earnings was a decline of -36%, compared to about -45% at the start of last week. Blowout results from big tech companies helped carry the load. The five biggest tech giants - Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Microsoft - have added +\$1.66 trillion in market value this year, compared to a decline of -\$1.61 trillion among the other 495 stocks in the S&P 500. Today's earnings highlights will include Dish Network, Eastman Chemical Company, Ferrari, Marathon Petroleum, and Tyson Foods. Other big names reporting this week will include Disney, Twilio, and Beyond Meat on Tuesday; Moderna, Regeneron, Fastly, and Square report on Wednesday; Bristol Meyer and Uber report on Thursday. Economic data out today includes ISM Manufacturing and Auto Sales, both for July, as well as June Construction Spending. Let's also not forget, presidential candidate Joe Biden has been saying he will unveil his VP selection during the first week of August but some are now saying we might not get a formal announcement until early next week, regardless, his pick is coming in the next few days. The favorite still seems to be California Senator Kamal Harris followed by Representative Karen Bass also from California and Susan E. Rice, the former national security adviser for President Obama.

High-End Retail Starting to Really Take it on the Chin: *America's glitziest and most expensive shopping districts are losing tenants, and rents are in a free fall. Average asking rents along 16 major retail corridors in Manhattan declined for the eleventh consecutive quarter, falling to \$688 per square foot in the second quarter, according to CBRE. The drop marked in Manhattan retail rent was the first time since 2011 that prices dropped below \$700. rents on Prince Street in the SoHo neighborhood saw the biggest declines, according to CBRE, tumbling 37.5% year-over-year to \$437 per square foot from \$699 per square foot. Global luxury sales are forecast to drop roughly 29% in 2020. (Source: [CNBC](#))*

Lots of Big Deals Happening: *It looks like Microsoft now has the blessing of the White House to proceed with talks to buy TikTok within the next 30-days. There are also talks circulating that Nvidia is going buy the UK chip designer Arm from SoftBank in a cash-and-stock deal valued at +\$32 billion. A private equity group is trying to buyout Kansas City Southern in a deal that could be worth +\$20 billion. I also heard over the weekend that Marathon Petroleum agreed to sell its Speedway gasoline stations to 7-Eleven in a deal worth around \$21 billion in cash. The energy space is really seeing some shakeups. In just the past couple of weeks, Chevron purchased Noble Energy and Berkshire acquired Dominion's natural gas assets. I'm thinking we are only going to see more and more mergers and acquisitions as the coronavirus fallout deepens and widens the divide.*

Facial Recognition Coming to the Stadiums: *I'm hearing more talk that some stadiums are trying to go to a "touchless" venue and instead of tickets you may soon enter the stadium via facial recognition tools. There was an article in the Wall Street Journal this weekend that said, "Several pro sports teams, including the New York Mets and the Los Angeles Football Club, are testing facial-recognition technology in stadiums. The idea is to admit fans for entry by authenticating their faces, to make the process as touchless as possible." (Source: [The Wall Street Journal](#); Los Angeles Football Club; Axxess AG)*

Temperature

Second camera for

screening camera

recognizing a mask and
a face linked to a ticket

Screen

When a **red frame**
appears around a face,
a voice may ask an
attendee to wear a
mask or wear it
properly.

A **green frame** means
the visitor can go
through.

Barcode or QR code
reader for fans who
have not linked their
ticket to their face

Motion sensor
triggers the





turnstile to open.

Sources: Los Angeles Football Club; Axess AG

Sign Up for FarmTank

A Podcast for Creative Minds in Agriculture, Delivered Free to Your Inbox.

[Sign Me Up!](#)

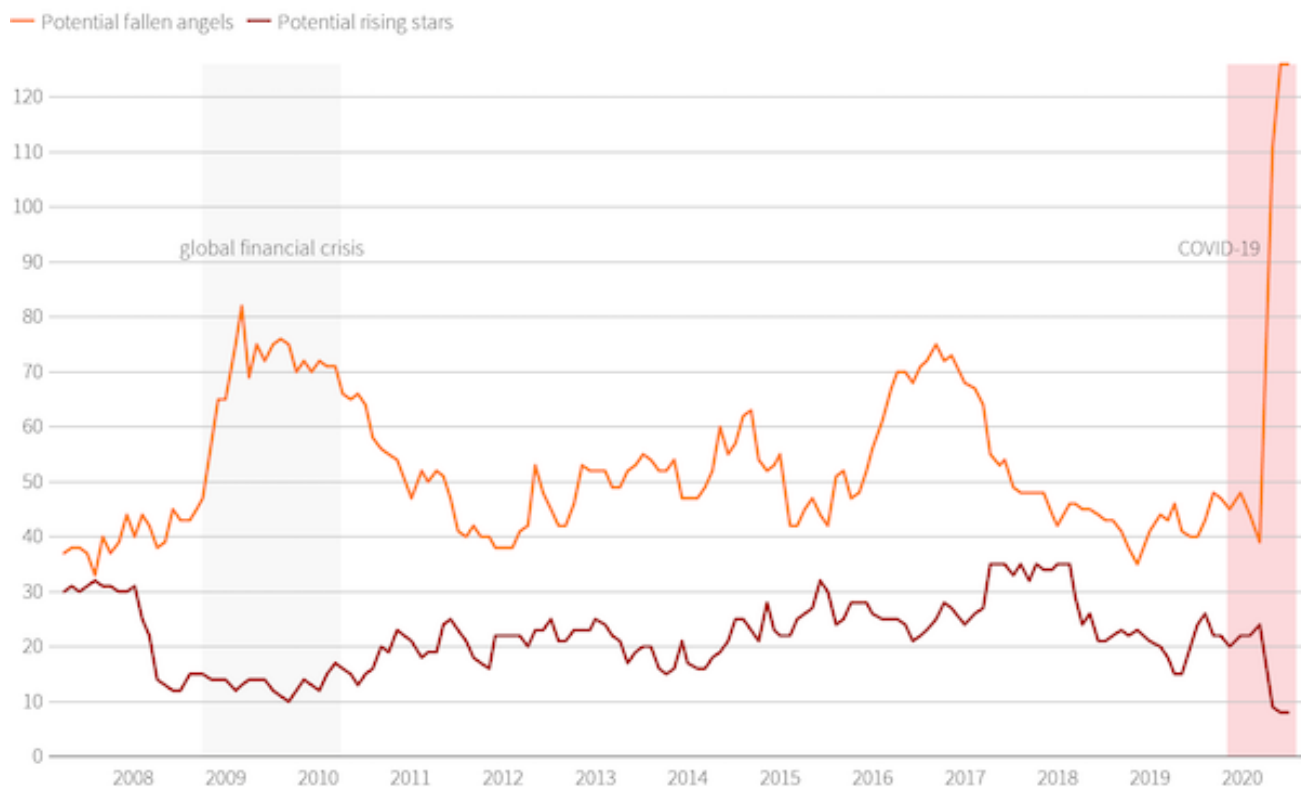
Icons for Apple Podcasts, Google Play, and Spotify are visible at the bottom right.

SpaceX says Starlink Internet has "Extraordinary Demand": *SpaceX said Starlink, its nascent satellite internet service, has already seen "extraordinary demand" from potential customers, with "nearly 700,000 individuals" across the United States indicating they are interested in the company's coming service. Due to the greater-than-expected interest, SpaceX filed a request with the Federal Communications Commission on Friday — asking to increase the number of authorized user terminals to 5 million from 1 million. User terminals are the devices consumers would use to connect to the company's satellite internet network. The request comes about a month and a half after SpaceX updated its Starlink website to allow potential customers to "get updates on Starlink news and service availability in your area." If Starlink succeeds, however, SpaceX has told investors that the satellite internet business is targeting a \$1 trillion total addressable*

market. Read more from [CNBC](#).

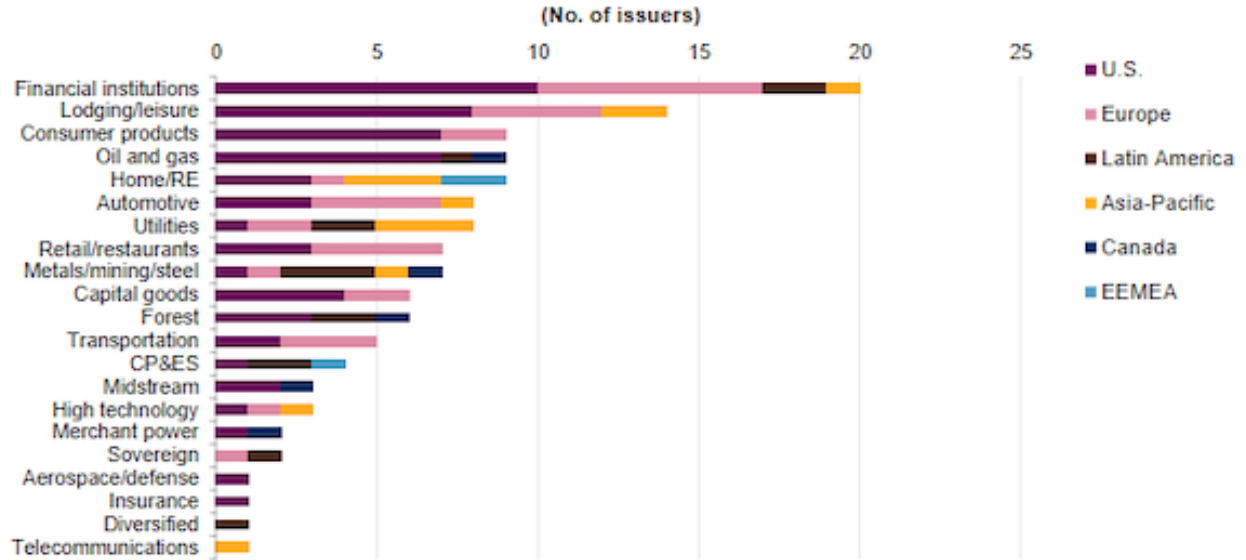
Fallen Angels Rising: S&P's count of fallen angels, or bond issuers downgraded to junk ("BB+" or lower) from investment grade ("BBB-" or higher) has hit 34 issuers with over \$320 billion in rated debt among them, including Ford, Rolls-Royce, Kraft Heinz, Renault, Delta Air Lines, Lufthansa, British Airways and Macy's. They have all been companies so far, although Moody's has cut South Africa to junk and Italy, India, Colombia, Morocco, Romania, Uruguay, and Mexico are all near the brink with at least one of the main agencies. Fallen angels are significant because the prospect of losing investment-grade ratings can lead investors to sell the bonds in favor of more creditworthy companies, pushing up their borrowing costs. S&P also has a record 126 potential fallen angels on a warning. They have another \$576 billion of bonds, meaning the amount of debt affected is likely to rise. (Source: Reuters)

Gulf between potential fallen angels vs rising stars wider than ever



Source: S&P Global Reuters News | Marc Jones

Financial Institutions, Lodging And Leisure Continue To Lead Potential Fallen Angels



FARM TANK

Tweets of the Day



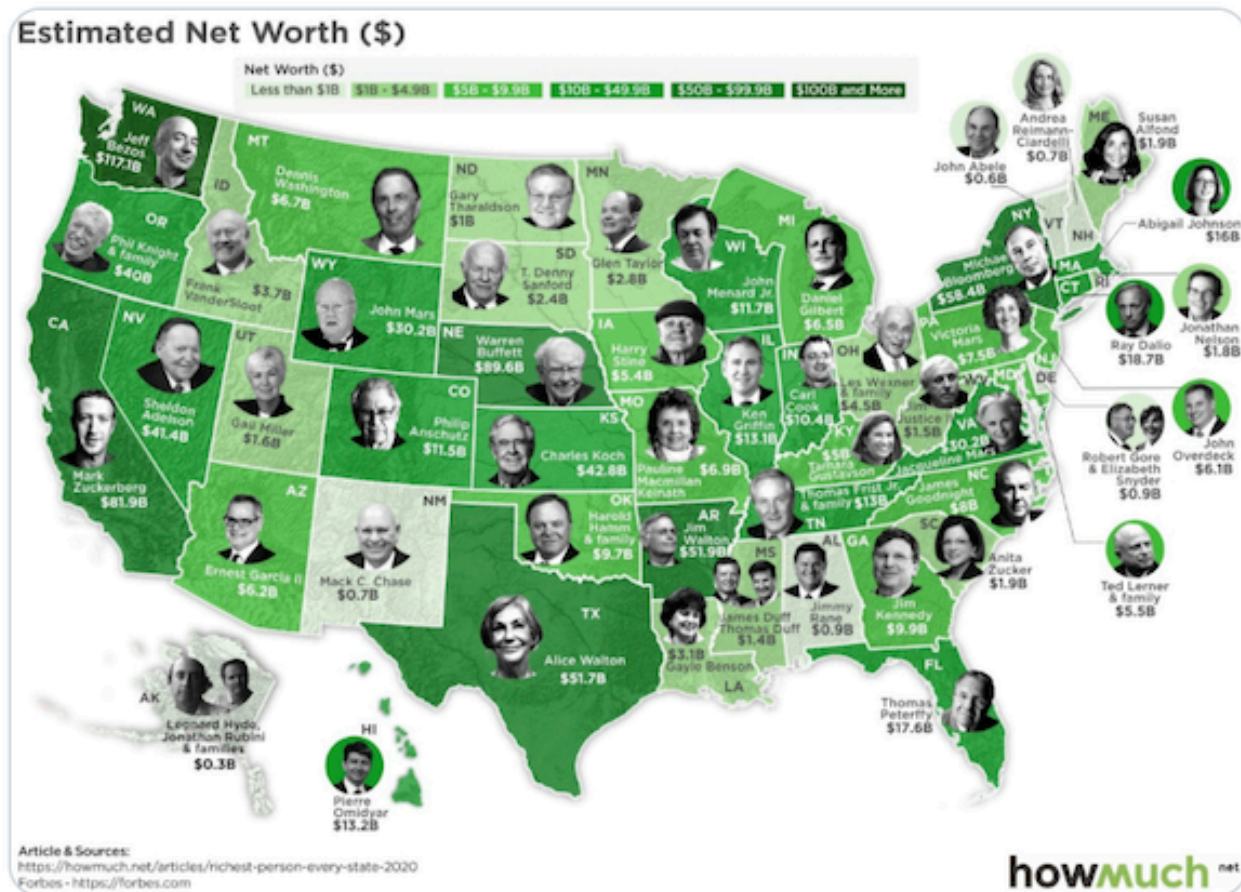


Visual Capitalist 
@VisualCap



Mapped: The Wealthiest Person in Every U.S. State in 2020

[visualcapitalist.com/wealthiest-per...](https://visualcapitalist.com/wealthiest-per-...)






Upside Down
@bigalbert_



Yep I can say it went exactly as it said

And you will read this at the end



**You will read
this first**

And then you will read this

Then this one



Jennie Schmidt MS RD
@FarmGirlJen



Green bean [#harvest2020](#) underway here on the Eastern Shore of [#Maryland](#).





Casey Cox
@caseymco



First day of field corn harvest today! 🌽 #harvest20





Jason Persall
@agourmetfarmer



Things are startin to get pretty around here 🌻🌻

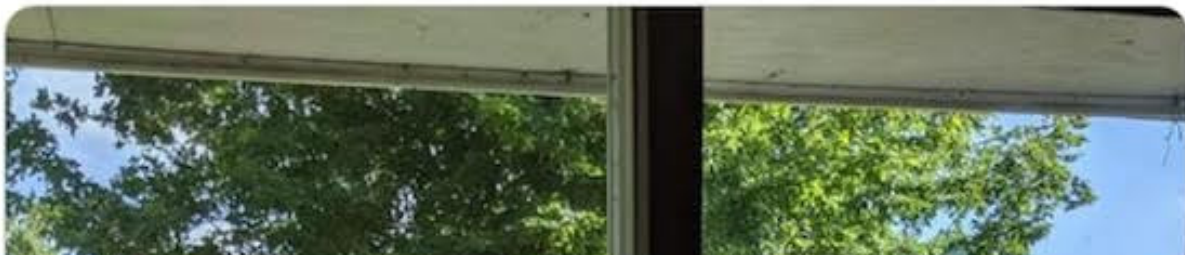


Dirt Turner
@DirtTurner



Me:. I love to just sit and watch my cows graze.

My cows:







Rich Deane
@Seekandshare

"The secret of change..." Socrates
#inspirational #quotes

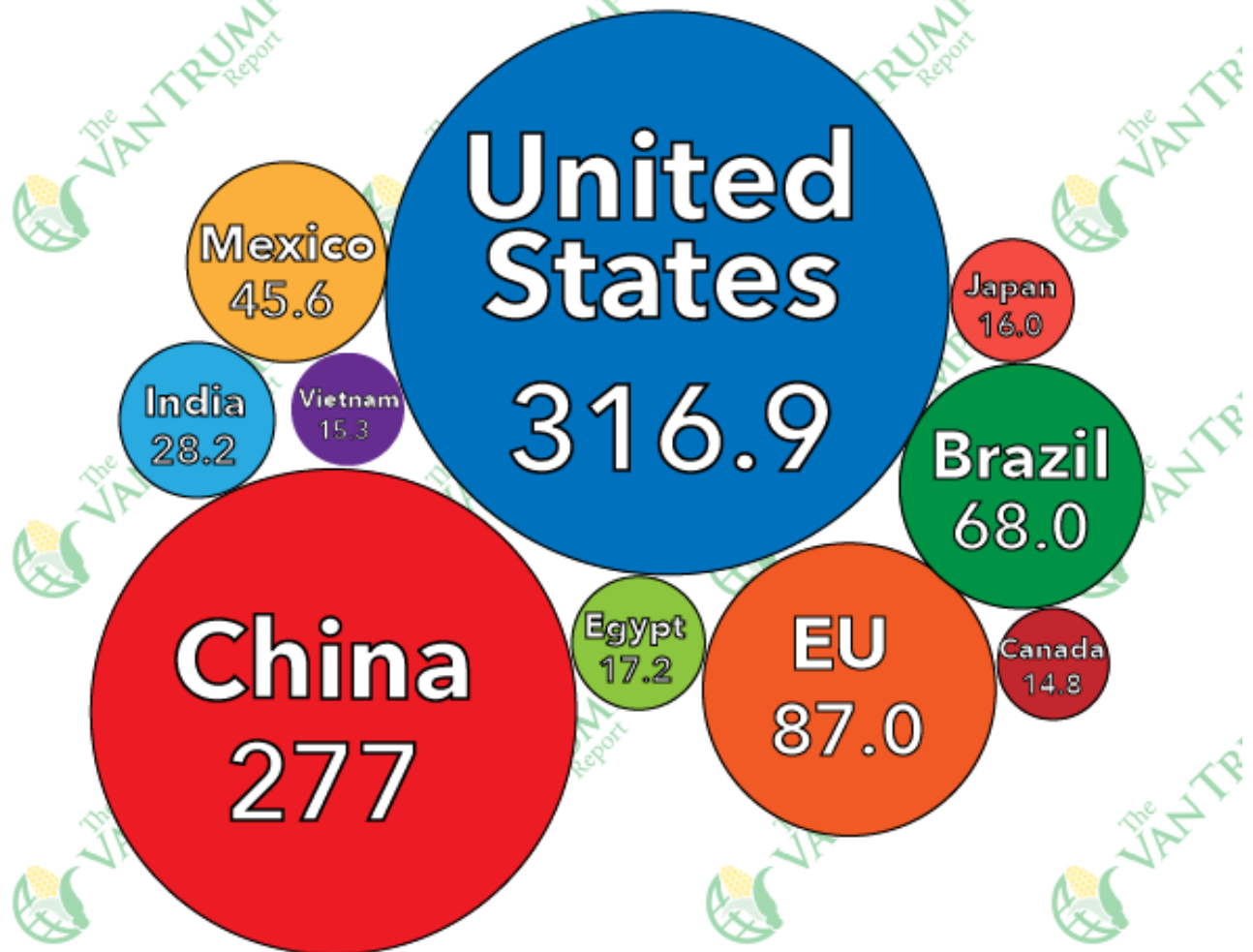


CORN bears have been winning the battle as of late with prices down over -30 from the early-July highs. Cooler temperatures and more widespread rainfall has the trade thinking a record-setting U.S. yield is in the bag. Many traders are now taking a 180 to 182 type average. If this plays out we could be looking at a U.S. harvest of +15.2 billion bushels of corn and ending stocks perhaps pushing higher

to between +2.75 and 3.0 billion bushels. Obviously, demand will be in question as there's still a lot of debate and uncertainty surrounding ethanol and exports. Bears worry that corn used for ethanol will again need to be trimmed as U.S. driving demand continues to disappoint. At the same time, there are big debates circulating in regard to ongoing Chinese demand. Bulls are thinking the Chinese need to keep buying to help fulfill their domestic demand to the south. Bears are hesitant in believing the Chinese will be larger buyers of U.S. ag exports as we move closer to the U.S. election. Bottom-line, the big debates remain just how large is the U.S. yield and how much U.S. corn will the Chinese ultimately purchase? As both a spec and a producer, I worry that until we get actual equipment out in the fields and are able to move past the talk and speculation of a record-setting +180 yield, price rallies are going to remain extremely limited. Still looking for the DEC20 contract to retest the \$3.22 low. Don't forget we have the USDA's monthly supply and demand report scheduled to be released next Wednesday, August 12th. We will also be getting some official "Preventive Plant" numbers,. Remember, these are still farmer surveys. As for today, most are looking for the USDA to leave weekly crop-conditions unchanged to bumped slightly higher. The crop is already rated 72% GD/EX vs. what's traditionally 64% GD/EX. As you can see, not hard for the bears to argue above trendline yield. Still keeping an eye on Iowa and the areas that have been abnormally dry.

Domestic Corn Consumption

(in million metric tons)



Source: USDA, PS&D, July 2020

 @KevinVanTrump



LEATHER PATCH HATS
BACK IN STOCK!!!

GARY THE GOAT

ORDER NOW!

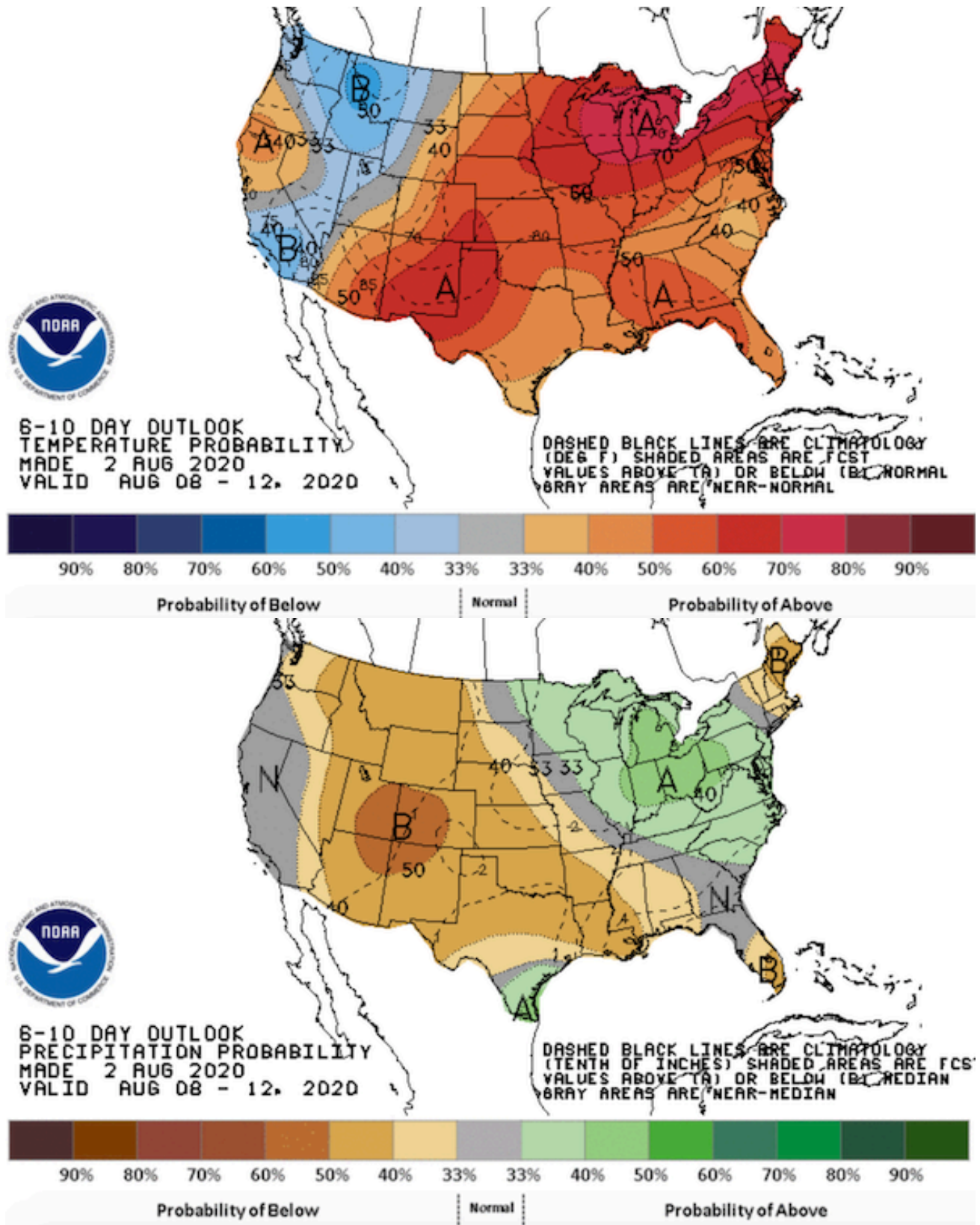
AgSwag 

Lots of Folks Looking Good in Our Gear! Hope we can help your farm business.





6-10 Day Getting Dry and Hot

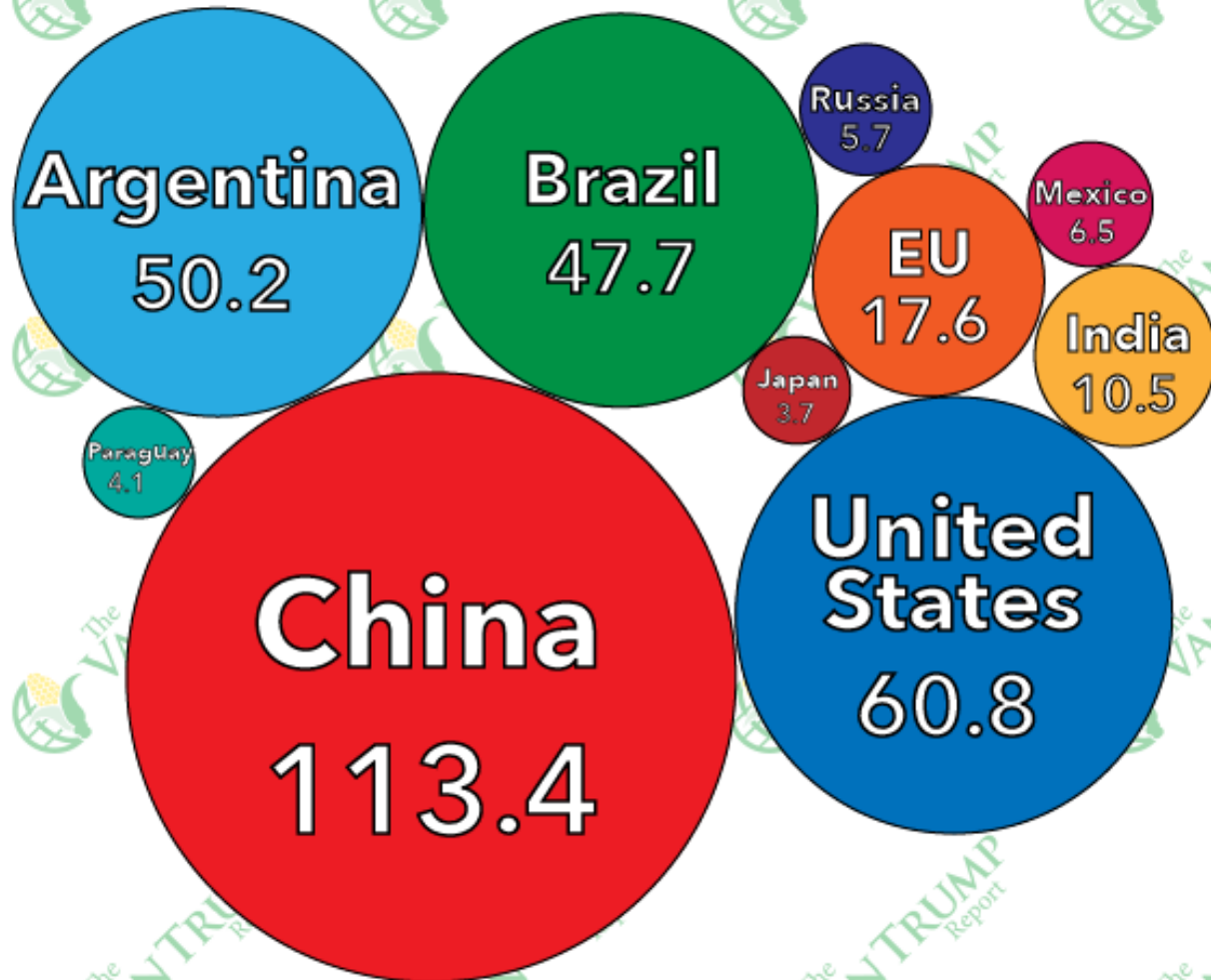


SOYBEAN bulls hope to continue pointing towards steady Chinese buying and dwindling supply out of South America. The Bears won last week's battle as prices here at home fell by about -6 cents in total. All it took was a couple of days

without Chinese buying headlines and cooperative U.S. weather to bring about talk of a record-setting yield of perhaps +51 bushels per acre. Keep in mind, we are currently looking at one of the best crop-condition ratings on record for the U.S. soybean crop at 72% GD/EX and talks we might improve on the rating this afternoon. In other words, there's certainly reason to believe and argue the possibility of a record-setting yield. Bulls have to hope the Chinese counterpunch with record-setting U.S. demand. Net-net, it still feels like the U.S. balance sheet will remain in the 375 to 475 million bushel range. Technically, prices seem comfortable trading in the \$8.50 to \$9.20 range until they see something that might break ending stocks higher or lower. If the Chinese decide to stop buying, the U.S. ending stock estimate could start to push north of +500 million bushels. On the flip side, if the Brazilian currency strengthens in comparison to the dollar, South American supply tightens, and the Chinese start to buy U.S. beans in bigger doses I look to see the ending stock estimates tighten and prices move higher. I think the U.S. yield is going to be record large but I'm still keeping an eye on August weather. The question from here forward seems to be Chinese demand and U.S. relations. Don't forget, this afternoon we also get the USDA's domestic soybean crush estimate for June which is expected to record large for the month at just under 178 million bushels.

Domestic Soybean Consumption

(in million metric tons)



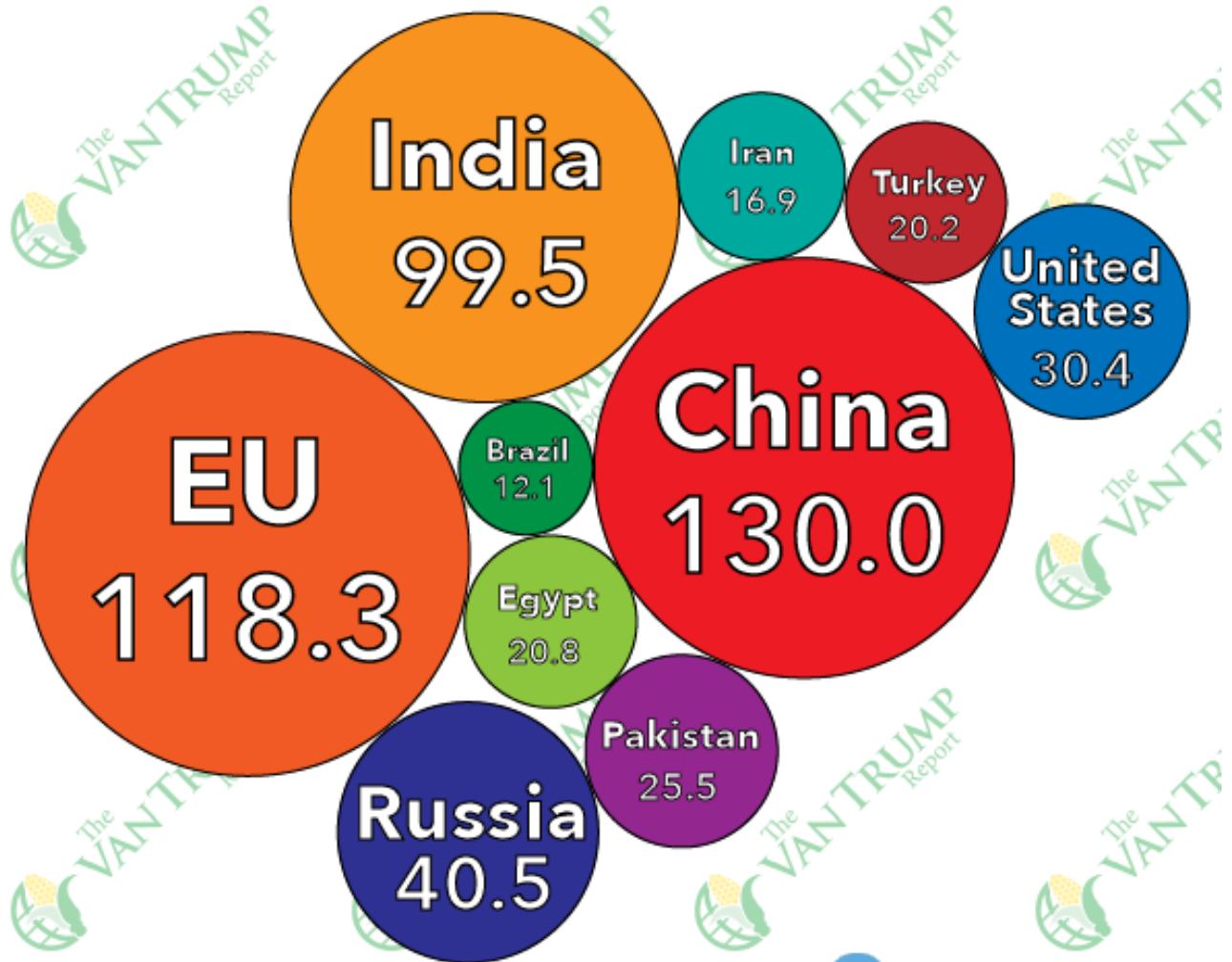
Source: USDA, PS&D, July 2020

 @KevinVanTrump

WHEAT bears are talking about improved U.S. spring crop conditions. Most inside the trade are thinking spring wheat conditions have improved and the spring wheat harvest is now close to 5% complete. The trade is also thinking the U.S. winter wheat harvest is nearing 85% to 90% complete. Bulls continue to talk about production problems in parts of the European Union, Russia, and Argentina. Bulls also believe the Chinese are going to soon be in the market for more U.S. wheat. Net-net, most traders still see U.S. ending stocks somewhere between 900 million and 1.0 billion bushels. Similar to soybeans, it feels like the market wants to chop around for a bit. Bears continue to point towards record large global supply, much-improved production out of Australia, and an ample U.S. domestic balance sheet. Bulls point to a few production hiccups amongst the world's low-

cost suppliers and the overall weakness in the U.S. dollar creating a more bullish commodity landscape.

Domestic Wheat Consumption (in million metric tons)



Source: USDA, PS&D, July 2020

 @KevinVanTrump



> Mystery Seeds Being Identified: *The U.S. Agriculture Department has identified more than a dozen plant species ranging from morning glories to mustard in bags of unsolicited seeds arriving in the mailboxes of thousands of*

Americans, mostly postmarked from China. While most species identified seem to be innocuous herbs, flowering plants, vegetables or grasses, plant experts warn that seeds from other parts of the world could be non-native varieties that harm commodity crops. Another concern is what appears to be an unknown coating, possibly insecticide or fungicide on the seeds, said Robin Praisner, state seed control official at the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship in Iowa, the top U.S. corn growing state. The Agriculture Department has said the packages are most likely part of a "brushing" scam, in which people receive unsolicited items from a seller who then posts false positive customer reviews to boost sales. Read more [HERE](#).

> Army Corps to Dredge Section of Mississippi: *The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to deepen the Mississippi River from 45 to 50 feet, on a 256-mile-long stretch between Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and the Gulf of Mexico, the Corps announced July 31. The project will go to contract later this year and is estimated to be complete in 2024. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development will also provide funding for the project, which will allow shipping companies to move more products – including ag commodities – more cost effectively, to global ports. The project has been a priority for U.S. soybean producers, says Mike Steenhoek, executive director of the Soy Transportation Coalition. Read more [HERE](#).*

> Brazil Acreage Could Increase More Than +2%: *South American crop expert Michael Cordonnier of Soybean & Corn Advisor says favorable conditions in mid-August when Brazilian farmers begin planting the 2020-21 corn crop could lead to an increase in acreage. His initial estimates include a +2.3% increase in acreage following a very good 2019-20 growing season with record high domestic corn prices. The 2020-21 Brazilian corn acreage is estimated at 46.6 million acres, which would represent an increase of +1.08 million acres or +2.3% compared to Conab's estimate of 18.43 million hectares for the 2019-20 Brazilian corn crop (45.5 million acres). The full-season corn acreage could decline -2% to 10.2 million acres and the safrinha corn acreage could increase +4% to 35.14 million acres. Read more [HERE](#).*

> WTO Paralysis Deepens: *Trade officials in Geneva on Friday failed to select an acting leader of the World Trade Organization to take over when current Director-General Roberto Azevedo steps down on Aug. 31. WTO delegates couldn't broker a consensus agreement this week after the U.S. demanded that an American, Alan Wolff, become interim director-general instead of Karl Brauner of Germany. If the impasse continues into September it will leave the arbiter of international trade rules leaderless until WTO members select a new director-general for a four-year term -- a process that is unlikely to wrap up until November and could potentially extend into 2021. Read more from [Bloomberg](#).*

> GM Working on EV Charging Network: *General Motors is working with electric vehicle charging network EVgo to build more than 2,700 new fast chargers in cities and suburbs across the US over the next five years. That is more than triple the 800 fast chargers that EVgo currently has on its network, which is in 34 states and serves "more than 200,000 customers." The buildout will help EVgo keep pace with other growing fast-charging networks. Tesla boasts 2,000 Supercharger stations (and 18,000 stalls) worldwide, and Volkswagen's new Electrify America network is already up to 452 stations in the U.S. They won't be exclusive to GM vehicles, and the first chargers that are part of this new buildout will be available in early 2021. The two companies are targeting around 40 different metropolitan markets. Read more from [The Verge](#).*

> Instagram Morphs Into Information Powerhouse: *Instagram is in the midst of a transformation — what was once the place to share photos of food and social outings is quickly becoming a hub for information and advocacy. Text, infographics and topical illustrations are exploding on Instagram as the pandemic and racial justice movement brought purpose and focus to its millions of users, supercharging the urgency to get educated and share useful information. The information ecosystems on Twitter and Facebook are well entrenched, leaving many people — particularly the younger-skewing Instagram crowd — to seek a new place to operate. And then in the wake of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor's killings, it was primed not just for information, but activism. And accounts that have leaned into this trend have seen their growth skyrocket. Read more from [Axios](#).*

> How to Spend a Second Stimulus Check: *The Senate's proposal last week for another round of coronavirus relief included a second \$1,200 stimulus check to individuals who meet the income requirements. Negotiations between the Senate and the House still need to happen before any final package is passed, but it seems increasingly likely that there will be another economic impact payment hitting millions of Americans' bank accounts. CNBC Select asked Sallie Krawcheck, co-founder and CEO of the digital investment platform Ellevest, how you should spend this cash if you get it, depending on your circumstances. See her advice [HERE](#).*

> Gene Therapy Proven Effective for Type of MD: *NPR has the story of a fatal genetic disease, a tenacious scientist and a family that never lost hope. Conner Curran was 4 years old when he was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a genetic disease that causes muscles to waste away. Conner's mother, Jessica Curran, remembers some advice she got from the doctor who made that 2015 diagnosis: "Take your son home, love him, take him on trips while he's walking, give him a good life and enjoy him because there are really not many options right now." Five years later, Conner is not just walking, but running faster than ever, thanks to an experimental gene therapy that took more than 30 years*

to develop. Read more [HERE](#).

> The Tech Behind Fake Stadium Crowds: When Fox Sports aired the first MLB games of the new, shortened season this past weekend, it filled parts of the stadium with digital people, as the pandemic is keeping the real ones at home. These virtual crowds were a first for U.S. sports, but we'll likely see a lot more examples in the coming months. CGI animators have seen a flood of incoming requests to generate crowds for sports events and concerts alike, and insiders say that the trend could provide the industry with new opportunities even after COVID subsides. Fox Sports only added CGI crowds to some of its camera feeds, leading to a somewhat dissonant mixture of shots of empty seats and shoulder-to-shoulder crowds. The results were nonetheless real enough to confuse some viewers who thought they were real fans. Read more about the tech behind the crowds from [Protocol](#).

> SpaceX Crew Dragon Return to Earth: NASA astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley safely returned to Earth inside SpaceX's Crew Dragon capsule this afternoon, bringing their historic two-month mission at the International Space Station to an end. The spacecraft carrying the two astronauts splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Pensacola, Florida at 2:48PM ET, where recovery boats were waiting nearby to receive the crew. With this landing, the Crew Dragon has now successfully completed its first-ever passenger flight to orbit. The mission began on May 30th, when Behnken and Hurley both launched inside the capsule from Cape Canaveral, Florida and then docked with the space station a day later. Called Demon-2 or DM-2, the mission was meant to prove out all of the Crew Dragon's biggest capabilities — by safely transporting people to space and getting them to the ISS. Now SpaceX has proved that the capsule can safely bring people home, too. CNBC has a really good rundown of all the major milestones the mission accomplished, what comes next, and a video of Behnken and Hurley's historic splashdown. Check it out [HERE](#).





Southwest New York - *We farm a ton of corn and hay, both of which are mostly used for dairy ruffage. I have to admit, the changing market in dairy has us a bit concerned as the demand for our corn could take a hit very quickly. Fortunately, we have other revenue streams including small grains, organics, and vegetable processing, but are definitely looking at options moving forward as two-third of our corn acres are geared toward feed and the rest grain. This year's corn is doing well but the first cut yield of hay was only 50% at best, which hurts a bit as that is our biggest of the four cuts we will make. We definitely see potential in growing our organic business but you have to understand that you quickly get to a level where the labor issues are hard to maintain.*

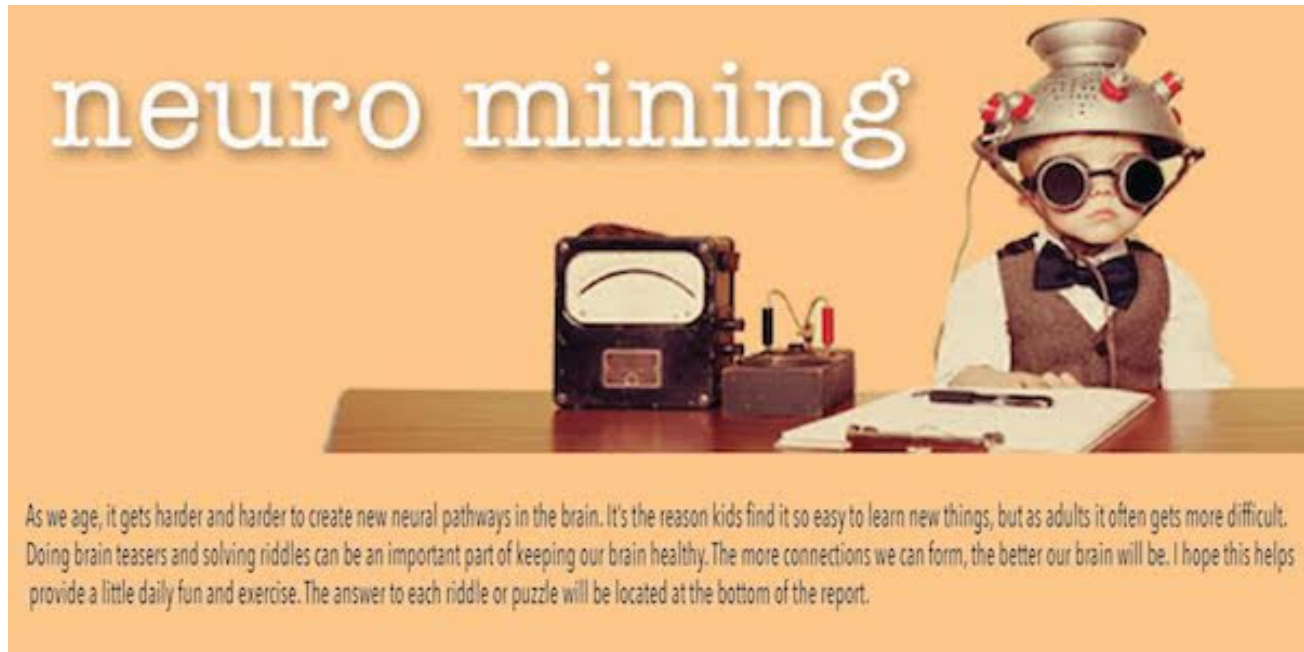
Eastern Nebraska - *We have received very nice rains over the last two to three weeks and the crops are really loving it. We have friends just across the border in Iowa that would pay a pretty penny for what we got. It is drier than a bone over there and yields will reflect it. We were fortunate to avoid most of the wind damage that occurred this spring even though we experienced the same conditions. I bank during the day and we are seeing land prices hold steady for the most part and it is good to see the guys staying ahead of the game on their finances, with lots of prepayments on inputs and avoiding paying high cash rents for acres. They should get some extra help this year as it looks like they could out-produce the crappy prices.*

West Central Iowa - *I have some pictures of good and bad areas of the corn fields in the same picture. These came from our fields that have been missing the rain. They look pretty good from the road. The damage seen in the soybeans showed up in the last 10 days. This is why I have been hesitant to use E3's because people spray dicamba in the last part of July.*









TODAY'S RIDDLE: Which is correct to say, "The yolk of the egg are white" or "The yolk of the egg is white"?



CIBO the NEW "Zillow for Agricultural Land"

A St. Louis-based startup wants to do for farmland what Zillow has done for real estate markets, providing consumers with real-time data to help them make more informed decisions. CIBO's platform uses technology grown out of Michigan State University and is meant to appeal to a wide range of users, including farmers, lenders, and agriculture companies. The most appealing aspect of CIBO for some users might be that the platform doesn't ask for any of their personal, farm, or input information.

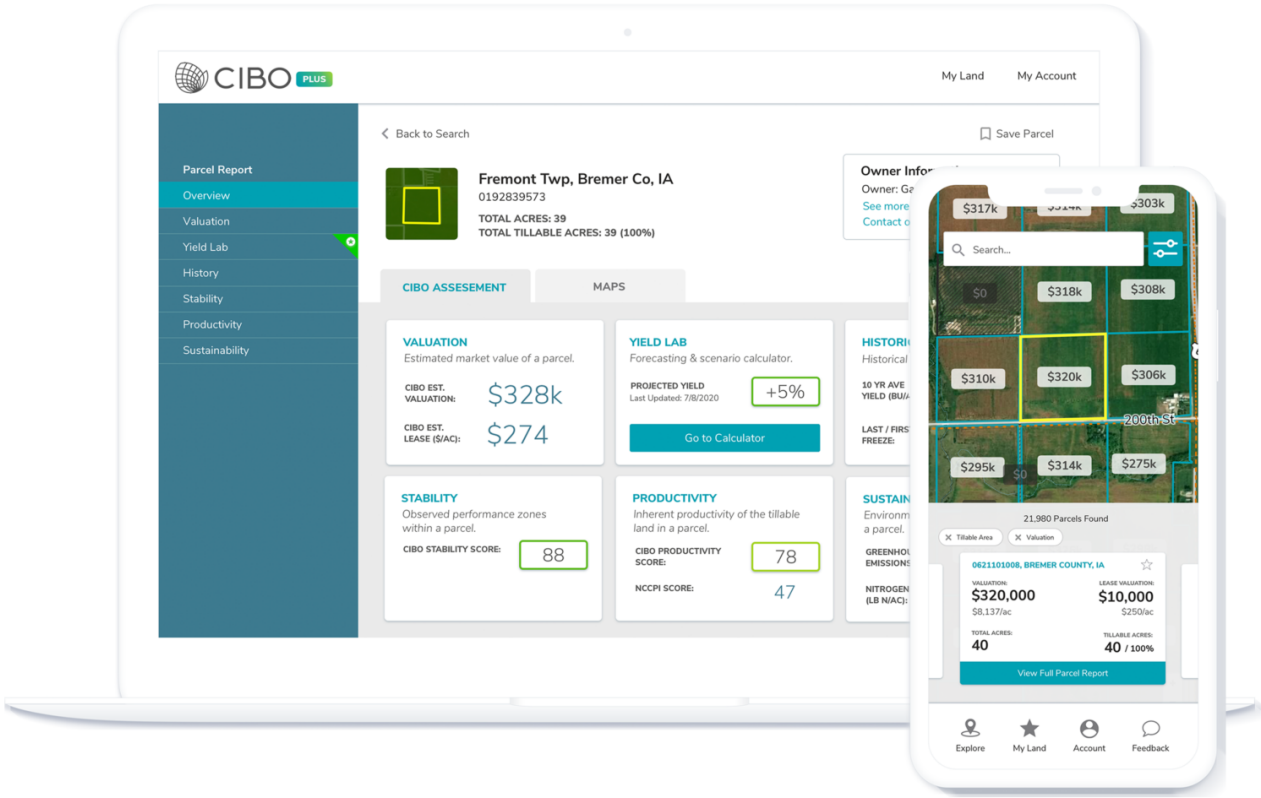
CEO Daniel Ryan explains that CIBO is not a land sale or leasing site, but rather a Land Intelligence Platform that enables all users to evaluate and compare land with objective information. The platform collects vast amounts of public and private data, which its proprietary ecosystem of crop simulation, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and computer vision then interprets. The system generates insights for hundreds of million of acres of U.S. farmland, including past

and in-season management practices and yields. Accessing the platform from a web browser or mobile app, users can search parcels locally or nationally against over 20 criteria, including all proprietary and public metrics.

CIBO was co-founded by Michigan State University agriculture expert Bruno Basso. "I'm much more interested in helping the buyer understand the sustainability and productivity of the piece of land than simply letting people know the price of the land," Basso explains, describing the technology as much more powerful than Zillow. The technology, which has been developed and tested over 30 years, identifies the value and environmental sustainability of a piece of land and can simulate the way plants grow daily in a variety of environments. In addition, the platform provides deep insight into the environmental effects of farming and can calculate impacts such as greenhouse gas emissions, nitrate leaching, and carbon accumulation in the soil over time.

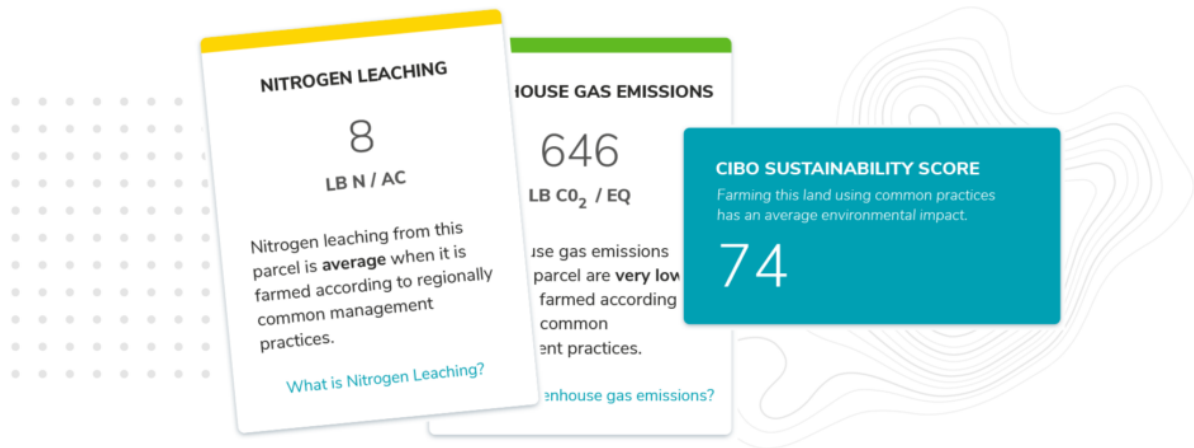
The startup says its product stands alone in the market, as currently available products only address individual elements of farmland information and are designed for very specific and limited roles, such as providing the most recent real estate value of a piece of land. It contends that competitors also rely on farmers to do the work of collecting and reporting data, while CIBO's platform provides its proprietary insights and information on a parcel level without having to rely solely on farmer inputs.

CIBO offers a free service but to unlock all of its functionality, users will need to pay \$9.99 a month for CIBO Plus. As Ryan recently clarified, even though it uses publicly available information, some of the databases they utilize require a fee. Thus, free CIBO accounts will have limited access. CIBO heavily relied on farmer collaboration while developing the technology, starting with a fifth-generation Iowa farmer that let them use his fields to start building an accurate database. They have since added a group of farmers they collaborate with to validate data and obtain feedback and have also formed a farmer-led advisory network in partnership with Family Farms Group. Learn more from CIBO's website [HERE](#). (Sources: MSUToday, AgDaily, Wisconsin Farmer)









CIBO
@CIBOTech

We are proud to begin offering our [#land](#) intelligence platform with robust search capabilities that provide rich details about parcels across the U.S. [#farm](#) [#farming](#) ow.ly/kobg50z6ppb

NEWS RELEASE

CIBO Launches Land Intelligence Platform



Old Becomes New Again... "Unsolved Mysteries" is Netflix's Most Popular

Netflix recently revived the long-running "Unsolved Mysteries" television series that ran for 14 seasons beginning back in 1987 and its wildly popular. The true-crime show follows the same approach as the original, re-enacting unsolved crimes that have baffled police for sometimes decades. Over the show's previous seasons,

an estimated 1 in 4 cases was solved by enlisting the public's help and the new series has already generated some leads for the latest batch of Unsolved Mysteries. In one case, they're even exhuming a body!

"Unsolved Mysteries" was created by Terry Dunn Meurer and John Cosgrove, which are also back for the reboot. It initially ran from 1987-1999 and was brought back a couple of different times during the 2000s. Hosts over the years included Raymond Burr and Karl Malden, but it's the late Robert Stack that is most well known for the role. In fact, he is so closely tied to the series that the showrunners didn't feel he could or should be replaced and nixed the on-screen host altogether. I remember watching the original series and Stack's ominous delivery could always keep me hooked on even the sillier episodes that involved things like UFOs or ghosts. Stack's role has instead been replaced with documentary-style interviews conducted with family, friends, eyewitnesses, detectives, and others. They've taken some obvious cues from the high production values that are common in today's documentaries and the quality is really close to what you'd expect from a program on PBS.

The reboot has also maintained the reenactments of cases used in the original, which were often cheesy and always overly dramatic. A number of now-famous actors actually appeared in some of those earlier episodes, the biggest among them probably being Matthew McConaughey who played a murder victim, one of his first on-screen roles. I have watched the first two episodes of the new six-episode series on Netflix and the much-improved quality of the re-enactments is one thing that immediately stands out. It was hard not to get sucked into the original but the reenactments were just so awful, sometimes you couldn't help but laugh even in the middle of a gruesome murder scene. The new shows also focus on a single case per episode rather than three like in older shows.

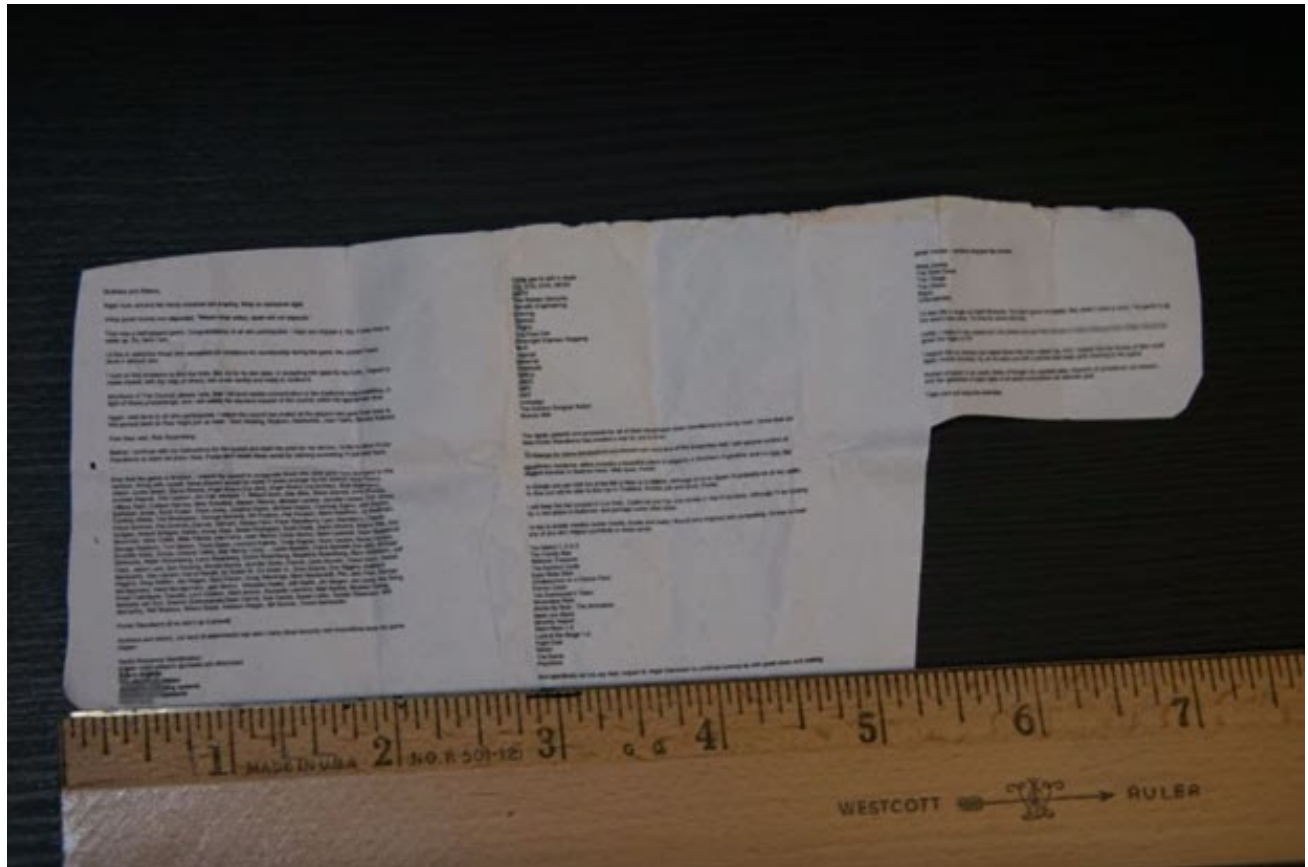
The old show's hotline, with "operators standing by" and "law enforcement on hand" has been replaced with a website where users submit tips through a web form. Users can submit cases or story ideas on the site as well. Netflix has also set up a publicly accessible database for each case that includes all the related material they have, including photos, unaired video and interviews, and other various items. And for anyone that wants to pursue a case further, there are countless social media groups and message boards where thousands of people are collaborating to solve these and other crimes.

One of the reasons behind the show's return is the insane popularity of true-crime and a fascination with "citizen detectives" right now. Also known as "websleuths" and "citizen investigators," these average, everyday people literally search for clues and try to solve crimes, many of them long forgotten cold cases. While law enforcement has always called on the public for help in solving crimes to some degree, the rise in citizen investigators can be traced clearly back to the advent of

the internet. People frustrated by unsolved crimes involving themselves or loved ones began flocking to the internet in the late 90s to comb the web for clues. Whole networks of websleuths have formed around the world and have actually helped solved some pretty notorious crimes, most famous probably being The Golden State Killer murders in rapes.

Two cases covered in the new "Unsolved Mysteries" appear to have generated leads already. The most dramatic is the case of Alonzo Brooks, who went missing from a house party in rural Kansas in 2004 and was eventually found dead. The official account for Unsolved Mysteries tweeted that the case had been reopened by authorities and that Brooks' body was being exhumed. The other is the case of Xavier Dupont de Ligonnès, a French count who in 2011 brutally murdered his wife and four children, then disappeared without a trace. A credible tip from someone in the U.S. is apparently being investigated. You can learn more about the show on the "Unsolved Mysteries" website [HERE](#). (Sources: Cnet, Forbes, Oxygen)





SUBMIT A CASE

**Click here to submit any stories
or ideas you have for a case.**

We would especially like to hear from you if you have
a personal connection to the case, or from
law enforcement officers who have worked on a case.

CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT

People Can't Simply Give You "Wisdom"

I always remember my grandfather saying you have to earn "wisdom". People can give you books or tell you how to do things but real wisdom comes from failing, getting back up, and failing again.

I hate to harp on the subject, but I again think about how our generation raised our kids. They are very good at following directions and taking tests that they have been asked to study for, unfortunately, I have to question the street smarts and overall wisdom at younger ages... But isn't that our fault as parents for not giving them enough freedom to explore, fail, and be on their own with projects and ideas from start to finish?

I constantly battle this in my own world... I tell my wife it feels like everyone wants to be told what to do rather than thinking for themselves. I get it nobody wants to be wrong, nobody wants to fail! I have to remind myself this is how our schools and social networks are now structured. Follow the rules in school, take the tests, go to the prep study programs, go to college, again follow the rules and take the tests. Listen to what everyone tells you to do and how to think. Have a good memory and do as you are told and you will get good grades. Let the social media algorithms learn your tendencies then have them start telling you how to

think.

As you can see, the kids end up on a hamster wheel of never thinking for themselves. They are so afraid of "failing" or being wrong they simply gravitate towards following directions. This is NOT thinking for themselves. This is NOT failing and learning from their mistakes. This is NOT being street smart and having wisdom! Yes, they get an "A" in school and walk away with a degree from college...but was that really the ultimate goal. Sadly, I think for many kids that's what they have been told, "all you need is that piece of paper, just get good grades and get a degree..." I hate hearing those words. That is so far from the truth. You have to know how to think for yourself. You have to know how to measure and take risks. You have to know how to navigate the unknowns.

I hate to say it, but the illusion of "knowledge" is perhaps the biggest hindrance to gaining "wisdom". I've watched so many people through the years act as secondary-observers, reading about other people's thoughts and ideas then adopting them as their own. Many times walking blindly through life with very few if any of their own original thoughts or processes. You learn to build processes by trying new things and failing and trying and failing again and again. Eventually, you gain wisdom and build a process you personally understand and can more easily follow as it is your own. You then use that process to attack the next set of hurdles. Sometimes that bit of wisdom helps unlock a portion of the problem, and you have to fail and fail again, refining your process and gaining more wisdom.

An e-mail was sent my way the other day that was written by Shane Parrish. He was also talking a lot about "wisdom" needing to be earned as it can not be given. As parents, we have to work hard to remind ourselves to encourage our kids to fail, to explore, to try new ways of doing things... if we want our kids to have "wisdom". Shane made the point below...

While the abundant directives, rules, and simplicities offered by others make us feel like we're getting smarter, it's nothing more than the illusion of knowledge.

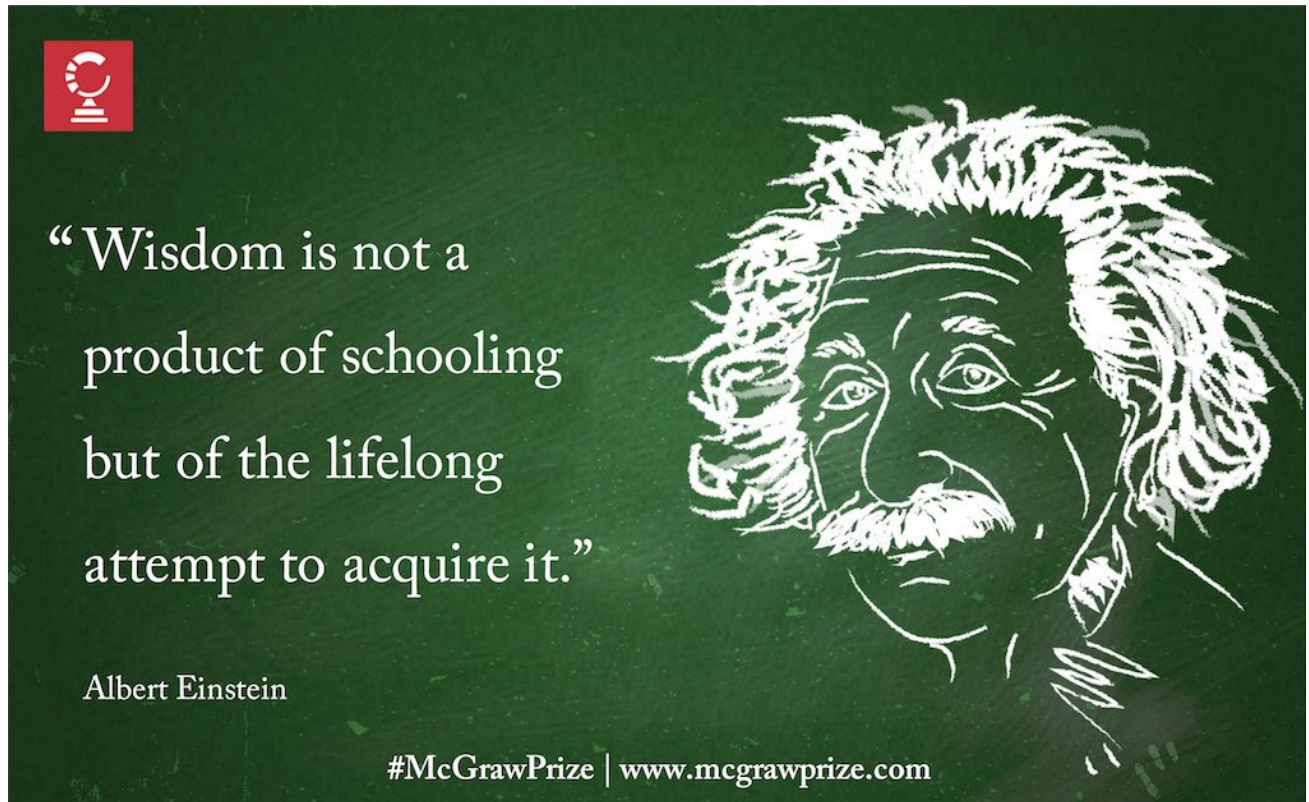
If wisdom was as simple to acquire as reading, we'd all be wealthy and happy. Others help you but they can't do the work for you. Owning wisdom for oneself requires a discipline the promiscuous consumer of it does not share.

Perhaps an example will help. The other day a plumber came to repair a pipe. He fixed the problem in under 5 minutes. The mechanical motions are easy to replicate. In fact, while it would take me longer, the procedure was so simple if you watched him you'd be able to do it. However, if even one thing were to deviate or change, we'd have a crisis on our hands, whereas the plumber would not. It took years of work to earn the wisdom he brought to solve the problem. Just because we could only see the simplicity he brought to the problem didn't mean there wasn't a deep understanding of the complexity behind it. There is no way we could acquire that insight in a few minutes by watching. We'd need to do it over and over for years, experiencing all of the things that could go wrong.

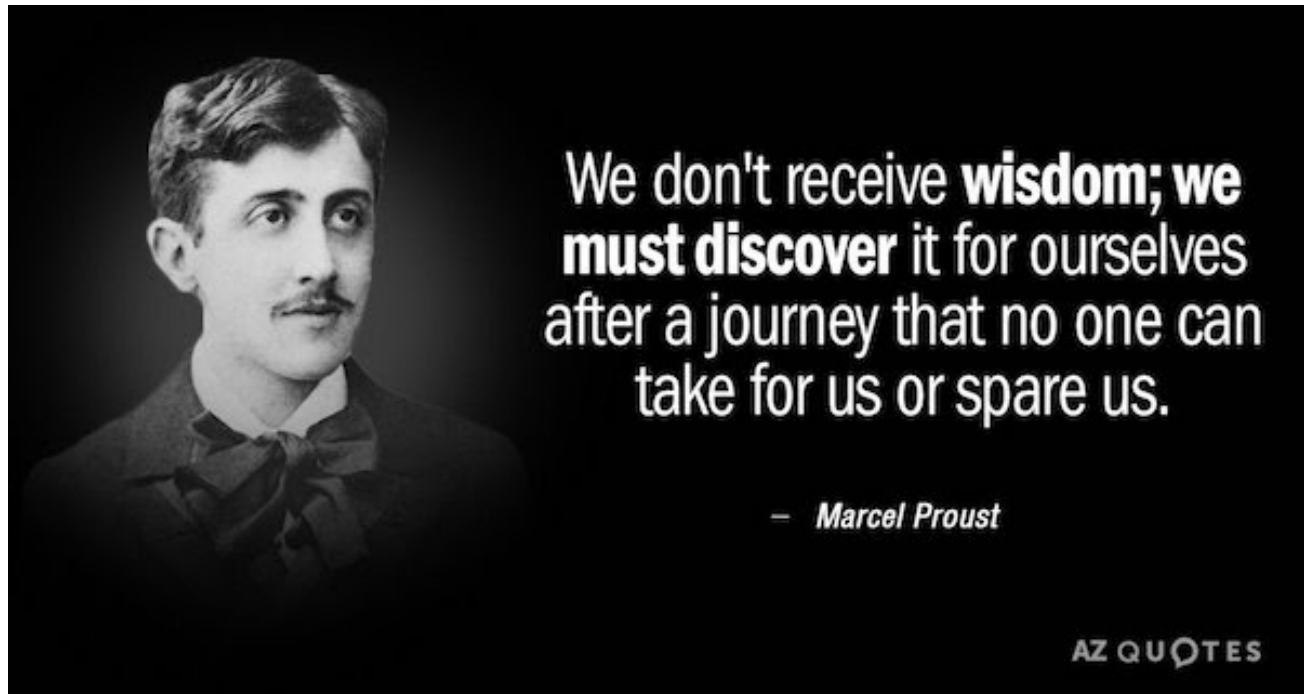
I think a very important part of that example above is a false illusion that many have today, thinking their degree, or test-taking abilities or so-called knowledge is the same as having earned wisdom and built processes and models for overcoming failure and difficult tasks. It's when Shane says, "However, if even one thing were to deviate or change, we'd have a crisis on our hands, whereas the plumber would not." that really hits home. I watch so many people today think they are smart or knowledgeable but for some reason constantly have a "crisis".

I will leave it with this... most of the people that I have encountered along my long journey through life that truly have "wisdom" seem to have the least number of "crisis" in their life. In the trading world, we would often say someone was in a fast-market. My wife would get so mad hearing me say, "are you in a fast-market right now." That simply meant all hell was breaking loose, and from my perspective, she was unnecessarily spazzing out. It would happen all the time in the trading world when a major report was released or the market was caught by a surprising headline. The traders with little wisdom and no real trusted process of their own to follow would clearly be in a "fast-market" and spazzing out.

Pay attention the next few weeks to how people respond and react when things start to go bad. you will know immediately if they have wisdom and trusted processes they have developed in place to help bail them out. As Parish made the point about the plumber... "the procedure was so simple if you watched him you'd be able to do it. However, if even one thing were to deviate or change, we'd have a crisis on our hands, whereas the plumber would not." Good stuff! As parents, we have to keep encouraging the kids to try things on their own, don't be afraid to fail, get back up and try again, build processes and gain more wisdom!







ANSWER to riddle: Neither. The yolk of the egg is yellow.

CASH SALES & HEDGING TOTALS

PLEASE READ The Van Trump Report is a publication intended to give analytical research to the Agricultural community. The Van Trump Report is not rendering investment or hedging advice based on individual portfolios or individual business operations. Kevin Van Trump is NOT registered as a stock or commodity advisor in any jurisdiction. You need to consult with your own registered advisor for specific strategies and ideas that are appropriate to your specific portfolio or business entity. Information included in this report is derived from many sources believed to be reliable but no representation is made that it is accurate or complete. This report is not intended, and shall not constitute, or be construed as an offer or recommendation to "buy", "sell" or "invest" in any securities or commodities referred to in this report. Rather, this research is intended to identify issues and macro situations that those invested in the agricultural industry should be aware of to help better assess and improve their own risk management skills. Please read the entire [DISCLAIMER PAGE](#) for full risk-disclosure and copyright laws.

Corn 2019 Crop

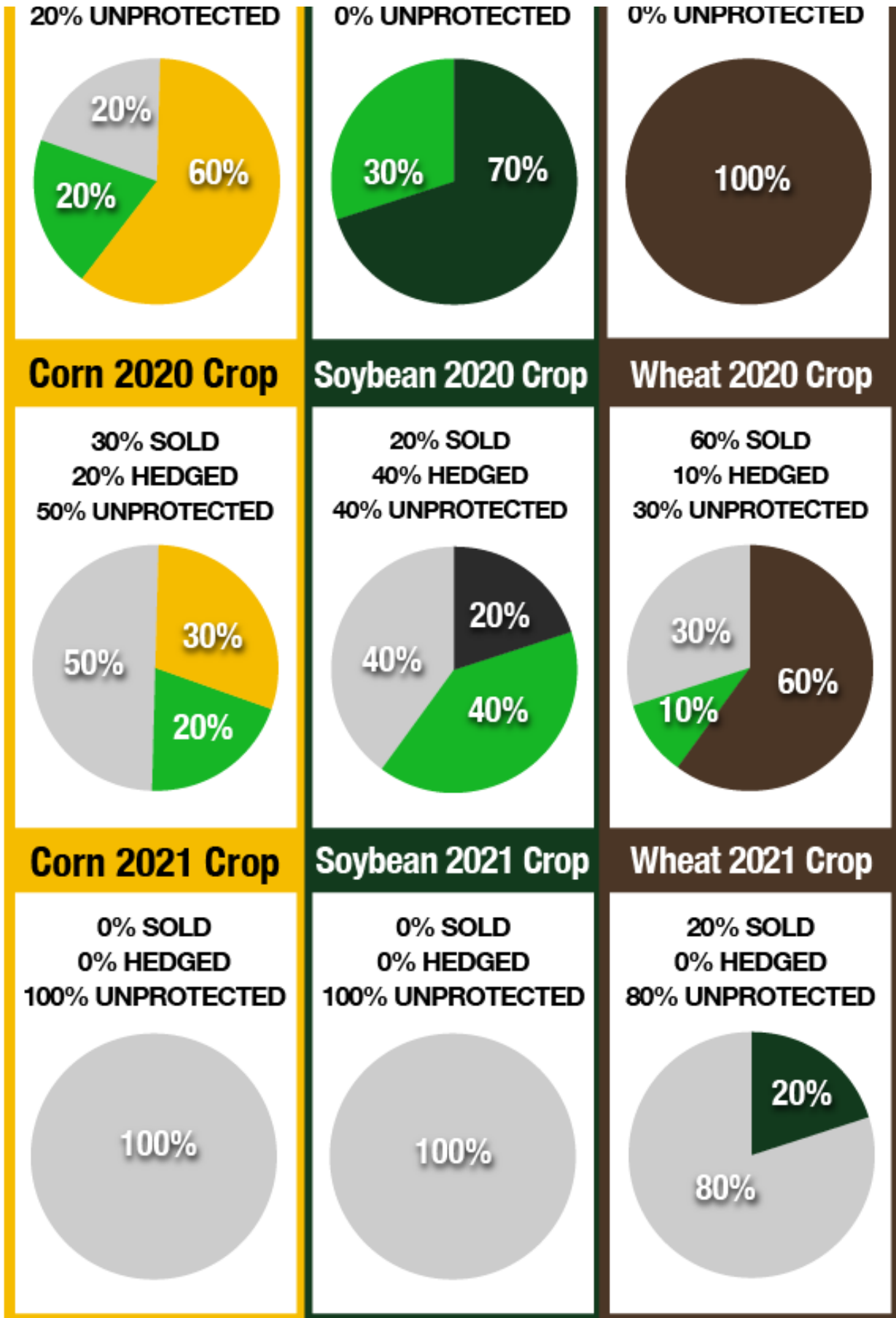
60% SOLD
20% HEDGED

Soybean 2019 Crop

70% SOLD
30% HEDGED

Wheat 2019 Crop

100% SOLD
0% HEDGED





Can't see the images? [View As Webpage](#)

This email was sent by: Farm Direction
1020 Pennsylvania Ave, Kansas City, MO, 64105 US

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Update Profile](#)

[Manage Subscriptions](#)