

## TERRORIST ATTACKS AFFECT AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

Commodity markets were sluggish on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange when trading of futures and options contracts were resumed after the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, DC. Philip Paarlberg, a specialist in international agriculture trade at Purdue University, said the financial fallout to American farmers could be substantial. "One of the issues is the global economy is weak. Some people feel it is in recession," Paarlberg said. "Does this make that worse? Probably so. To what extent is a little bit premature to determine. The World Trade Center in New York was a major international finance and commerce center. These facilities are now offline for the foreseeable future."

### Money from the Farm Program?

The other issue is redirection of U.S. federal spending. Beefed up security, military action, and incident investigation will cost money and "some of those funds may be diverted from farm programs," said Otto Doering, a farm policy specialist. Work on the 2002 Farm Bill has been postponed until the first or second week in October. "What this has done has changed the whole set of priorities about what is important and what is not important, and the ag bill is at the bottom of the list right now," Doering said. The deadline for passing farm legislation in order to lock in the \$75 billion set aside for commodities programs is April 15, 2002.

### Slow Movement

New, and likely slower, inspection protocols at ports could be just one of the ways agribusiness is slowed and costs are forced up. Port of Portland spokesman Aaron Ellis said he hasn't heard of major delays in shipping, even though everyone at the port has been directed to take extra precautions against possible terrorist activities. "The goal is not to reduce the efficiency with which we are processing cargo," he said.

### Increased Costs

Fuel, chemical, and fertilizer costs could increase. The FBI has requested the assistance of all fertilizer retailers of bagged ammonium nitrate or urea in reporting suspicious persons who have or wish to purchase quantities of fertilizer. In addition, crop dusters have been grounded

due to what the FBI terms "credible threats" that crop dusting equipment may be used in future chemical terrorism.

### Good News

The good news is supply-and-demand basics should remain stable, keeping agriculture on a fairly even keel.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**October 3-7:** World Dairy Expo, Madison, WI. Call 608/224-6455.

**October 16:** WSHGA Board of Directors Meeting and 2002 Hay Conference Planning Meeting, JonathINN's, Moses Lake, WA. Call 509/547-5538.

**October 23-25:** Washington State Dairy Federation Annual Meeting, Quinalt Beach Resort, Ocean Shores, WA. Call 360/412-0875.

**November 13-15:** Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar, Boise, ID. Call Alfalfa Council, 816/891-0579.

**January 22-23, 2002:** Washington State Hay Growers Association Annual Hay Conference and Trade Show, DoubleTree Hotel, Pasco, WA. Call 509/547-5538.

## MID-COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICTS ANTICIPATE EARLIER-THAN-NORMAL SHUT-OFFS

*Compiled by Tri-City Herald staff*

Most Mid-Columbia irrigation districts still have at least a few weeks of water left, and some districts are trying to keep water flowing as long as possible. The following is a list of current plans.

**South Columbia Basin Irrigation District** will turn off water October 26, except in block 18, which will be turned off October 24. The last Saturday ditch rides are October 6.

**The East Columbia Basin Irrigation District** will close farm turnouts supplied by the East Low Canal on October

24. The shutdown date for East District water users in blocks 11 and 49 is scheduled for October 26. The district board will consider a short extension of the season at its October 3 board meeting.

**The Kennewick Irrigation District** normally turns off deliveries in mid-October, however the current season may be extended several days.

**The Benton Irrigation District** expects to have a “limited amount of water” through September.

**The Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District** likely will shut down October 20, but the board has not made a final decision.

**The Franklin County Irrigation District and Columbia Irrigation District** anticipate shutting down around October 15.

**Kiona Irrigation District and Badger Mountain Irrigation District** will cease normal delivery around October 15.

**The Hermiston and Westland Irrigation Districts** in Northeast Oregon are already off.

**The Stanfield Irrigation District** in Northeast Oregon is expected to run until mid-October.

BENTON-FRANKLIN FAIR  
HAY KING CONTEST RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Competition for the title of Hay King at the Benton-Franklin Fair was fierce. Hayles, Inc. of Pasco exhibited the winning entry, a 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting alfalfa with a total adjusted score of 184.2. The hay from the contest was sold during the market livestock auction and raised nearly \$900 for the fair improvement fund.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Exhibitor</u>	<u>Variety</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Hayles, Inc.	Sunland Seeds 950
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kevin Gray	Plumas
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Charles Mahler	Millennia

4 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel Petty	Plumas
5 <sup>th</sup>	Scott Hayles	Sunland Seeds 950
6 <sup>th</sup>	John Middleton	Basin Blend
7 <sup>th</sup>	Jeff Waytashek	unknown

The contest was judged by Dave Evans, WSU agronomist from Prosser. Laboratory analysis was provided by Agri-Check Inc. of Umatilla, OR. The contest was supervised by Tim Woodward, WSU Franklin Co. Extension Forage Specialist.

GRANT CO. FAIR  
HAY KING CONTEST WINNERS

Greg Foryan was reported in the last issue of *Hay News* as the Grant Co. Hay King. Other winners from the Hay King Contest staged at the Grant Co. Fair under the direction of Grant-Adams Area Cooperative Extension Forage Specialist John Kugler were:

Class 1035 - Dairy Alfalfa	
2001 Hay King	Greg Foryan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Paul and Heather Glasco
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Dave Kosa
Class 1036 - Grass Hay	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Klompen Farms
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Dave Kosa
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	SIDEB, Inc. - Sid Sackmann
Class 1037 - Grass/Legume Mix	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Don Ness
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Klompen Farms

## WASHINGTON/OREGON (COLUMBIA BASIN)

Tonnage: 21,630 Week Ago: 22,340 Year Ago: 11,185  
 Compared to last week, Good and Premium alfalfa for export steady to weak for quality. Trading slow, demand moderate with buyers taking a wait-and-see approach to the market on light to moderate offerings. Premium alfalfa dairy and export slicer hay trading steady to weak on 3rd and 4th cutting and firm on recently baled higher testing hay. Trading and demand moderate on light to moderate offerings. Good alfalfa, low end dairy and export slicer and cubing hay trading steady to 5.00 lower, mostly steady. Trading and demand moderate on moderate offerings. Low and Fair alfalfa, some with faults for feedlots, dry cows and export cubers trading steady to firm. Trading slow, demand good on mostly light offerings. Feed store and horse sales steady to 5.00 higher. Trading and demand moderate on light to moderate offerings.

Quality/Bale Size	Tons	Price	Wtd Avg	Comments
Export Alfalfa sales to move in 60 days, tops off:				
Premium 2-tie	150	125.00	125.00	
Premium 2-tie	240	130.00	130.00	Ext. Del.
Premium 3-tie	710	125.-130.00	127.75	
Premium 3-tie	710	120.-130.00	122.96	Ext. Del.
Good 2-tie	90	115.00	115.00	
Good 2-tie	220	120.00	120.00	Ext. Del.
Good 3-tie	180	120.00	120.00	Ext. Del.
Quality/Bale Size	Tons	Price	Wtd Avg	Comments
Domestic Alfalfa sales, tops off:				
Premium 2-3 tie	210	120.-130.00	125.00	
Prem. mid/ton	6080	115.-120.00	120.93	
Good 2-3 tie	630	110.-115.00	111.67	
Good mid/ton	8330	95.-105.50	103.48	
Fair 2-3 tie	210	100.00	100.00	
Fair mid/ton	1040	90.-100.00	97.31	
Oat hay 2-3 tie	150	110.00	110.00	
Oat hay mid/ton	600	75.00	75.00	

2,080 tons of other hay reported. Good alfalfa, light rain damage, ADF 30+ 95.00-102.00 FOB big bales. Fair to Good alfalfa, weeds 95.00 FOB big bales. Fair alfalfa, rain

damage, ADF 32+ 90.00-98.00 FOB big bales. Low alfalfa, heavy rain damage, ADF 35+ 90.00 FOB. Feed store or horse accounts sales covered, 2-3 tie bales: Good to Premium orchard 140.00-155.00 FOB. Good orchard grass 120.00-125.00 FOB. Good to Premium orchard/alfalfa blend 135.00-155.00 FOB. Good orchard/alfalfa blend 115.00-125.00 FOB. Good to Premium alfalfa 125.00-145.00 FOB. Good alfalfa 95.00-115.00 FOB. Wheat straw 45.00-50.00 FOB.

*USDA Market News*

## ROZA DISTRICT TURNING OFF WATER

The Roza Irrigation District shut down water delivery, having used 37 percent of its normal water supply from the Bureau of Reclamation. Normally, the Roza District would have continued deliveries to irrigators for another month. "It could have been much worse," said Ric Valicoff, chairman of the Roza district board, noting that water purchases and other strategies kept the flow going through an early September hot spell. Early season forecasts for districts with junior water rights like the Roza District were as little as 28 percent of normal water delivery.

The district spent about \$2 million to purchase more than 16,000-acre feet of water, which did extend the delivery season by several days. However, the expense drained the district coffers, and is likely to delay upgrades and construction during the unusually long off-season. 30 employees may lose their jobs from December through February. Dipping into the savings for this year has also resulted in little expectation for purchasing additional water supplies next year. Those additional supplies may not even be available for purchase as Yakima Basin reservoirs enter October about 4 percent full, a fraction of the reserve from 2000.

Capital spending since the last drought allowed the Roza District to operate at water levels far below what the system was designed to handle. At one point, said Valicoff, dams built inside a canal allowed deliveries when flows were just one-third of full. Now all eyes are on October and November for a hint of how much water will be available next season. Irrigators need something more than 100 percent of normal precipitation this winter to refill reservoirs.

**S** EPTEMBER 2001

### WSHGA TO PUBLISH 2001 "HAY AVAILABLE" LIST

For the third year, the directors of the Washington State Hay Growers Association have ordered that a list of available hay be compiled from WSHGA members and published for distribution at the Washington State Dairy Federation convention to be held October 23-25 at Quinault Beach Resort near Ocean Shores, WA. The Washington State Hay Growers Association has exhibited in the Dairy Federation trade show for the past four years, promoting **World Class Washington Hay**.

The list will also be available at the Association office, mailed to county extension agents, and posted on the WSHGA website at [www.wa-hay.org](http://www.wa-hay.org). WSHGA distributed over 300 copies of the 2000 list of hay available, to the delight of many satisfied buyers and sellers.

Members will be asked to submit updated information on the amount, type, and quality of hay currently for sale. Forms

will be mailed to all members or you may request additional forms by contacting the WSHGA office at (509) 547-5538. If you are not a member of the Washington State Hay Growers Association, you are encouraged to join and take advantage of this marketing opportunity!

To participate in the WSHGA "Hay Available" list, please complete the information form inserted in this issue of *Hay News* and return to the Association office by Wednesday, October 17, 2001. You may fax or mail the form, but it must be received in the office no later than close of business on the deadline day. Non-members can participate by sending or faxing the completed information form with a check or credit card number in payment of membership dues. Non-members who do not send payment will not be included in the 2001 WSHGA Hay Available publication.