

Holoubek: Positive spin about ag needed

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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Disconnect from farming creates problems.

Average Americans are three generations removed from the farm which means a detachment from their food supply.

Willow Holoubek, an agricultural producer from David City and organizational director of the Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (A-FAN), said disconnect leads to many people not understanding agriculture and how it has changed.

“We want to increase the awareness of Nebraskans about our safe and secure food supply,” she said.

Holoubek spoke at Gothenburg Public Library Thursday at the invitation of the Gothenburg Chamber of Commerce.

In the evening, she was the guest speaker at a public barbecue at the Monsanto Water Utilization Learning Center.

Promoting agriculture is important, she said, because it’s big business in Nebraska—business that has come under attack from some animal rights groups and others.

“One out of three jobs in Nebraska is related to agri-business,” she noted.

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TOP 10

Nebraska's 10 leading commodities, in order of importance for cash receipts, are:

1. Cattle and calves
2. Corn
3. Soybeans
4. Hogs
5. Wheat
6. Dairy products
7. Chicken
8. Eggs
9. Hay
10. Grain sorghum, dry beans.

Source: Nebraska Agriculture Fact Card

...the fact that Nebraska's leading commodity is cattle and calves, a fact that is often overlooked in the media's coverage of the state's agricultural industry. The fact that Nebraska's leading commodity is cattle and calves is a testament to the state's strong agricultural base and the hard work of its farmers and ranchers. It is a fact that should be celebrated and promoted to the public, as it is a source of pride and a key component of the state's economy. The fact that Nebraska's leading commodity is cattle and calves is a testament to the state's strong agricultural base and the hard work of its farmers and ranchers. It is a fact that should be celebrated and promoted to the public, as it is a source of pride and a key component of the state's economy.