

New U.S. agriculture secretary visits Kentucky farmers

FROM FRONT PAGE

Freedom Hall during the National Farm Machinery Show and explored cutting-edge farm equipment alongside industry stakeholders. She also joined the Championship Tractor Pull, highlighting the importance of agricultural innovation and rural economies.

On Saturday morning, Secretary Rollins joined Fox and Friends live from Louisville, where she discussed tackling egg prices and President Trump's trade priorities.

Rollins and Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell then traveled to Shelbyville to host a fireside chat and meet-and-greet with more than 100 local farmers at Gallrein Farms. They discussed issues facing farmers, such as avian flu, trade, and

restoring rural prosperity.

Rollins hit the ground running in more ways than one. In the next few days, she also visited Kansas, Texas and Missouri.

On her first full day in office, she took several actions to eliminate policies that counter Trump's positions on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility.

"We will neither commemorate nor celebrate our immutable characteristics, neither among ourselves nor among Americans at large. We will instead celebrate the things that make us American: merit, faith, and liberty first among them. All Americans deserve equal dignity, and at this Department they will receive it. On this precipice of the 250th anniversary of our Revolution, we will rededicate ourselves to 'the proposition that all men are created equal,'" she said.

She convened a briefing and reviewed options for a strategy to combat Avian flu and lower the price of eggs. She delivered a message to U.S. Forest Service firefighters for their actions to save lives and curb wildfires in California.

She held a media availability at the White House, where she discussed key priorities for American farms and ranchers.

As she was traveling and meeting farmers, however, farmers were becoming concerned about USDA funds that have been frozen by the Trump administration. Last Thursday, Rollins announced that \$20 million in frozen funds would be released that had been "paused due to the review of funding in the Inflation Reduction Act."

Rollins said USDA would honor contracts that were already made directly to farm-

ers. The funds were part of contracts with farmers through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, the Conservation Stewardship Program and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program.

"After careful review, it is clear that some of this funding went to programs that had nothing to do with agriculture—that is why we are still reviewing—whereas other funding was directed to farmers and ranchers who have since made investments in these programs. We will honor our commitments to American farmers and ranchers, and we will ensure they have the support they need to be the most competitive in the world," she said.

USDA continues to review IRA funding and more announcements are expected to follow.

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MARKET REPORT: WEEK OF FEB. 18, 2025

Farmers Regional Livestock Market of Glasgow, LLC

Supply included: 9% Feeder Cattle (4% Steers, 24% Dairy Steers, 12% Heifers, 40% Bulls, 20% Dairy Heifers); 40% Slaughter Cattle (0% Steers, 85% Cows, 12% Bulls, 3% Dairy Heifers); 51% Replacement Dairy Cattle (5% Fresh/Milking Cows, 4% Bred Cows, 11% Bred Heifers, 1% Springer Heifers, 14% Open Heifers, 3% Bulls, 47% Baby Bull Calves, 15% Baby Heifer Calves). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 36%.

FEEDER CATTLE:

Steers: Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head 600# 179.00. **Dairy Steers:** Large 3: 3 Head 303# 187.00; 1 Head 660# 148.00; 1 Head 830# 133.00; 1 Head 905# 114.00. **Heifers:** Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head 470# 173.00; 1 Head 680# 179.00; 1 Head 895# 180.00. **Dairy Heifers:** Large 3: 1 Head 505# 149.00; 1 Head 585# 152.50; 1 Head 630# 196.00; 1 Head 795# 163.00; 1 Head 815# 120.00. **Bulls:** Medium and Large 1-2: 4 Head 435# 294.00; 1 Head 475# 256.00; 4 Head 561# 227.00. Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head 580# 200.00.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE:

Steers: Select and Choice 1-2: 1 Head 1520# 195.00. **Dairy Heifers:** Select and Choice 1-2: 5 Head 1044# 148.49; 1 Head 1165# 169.00; 1 Head 905# 136.00. **Cows:** Breaker 75-80%: 5 Head 1622# 138.19; 3 Head 1547# 159.97; 1 Head 1860# 128.00. Boner 80-85%: 31 Head 1428# 139.81; 47 Head 1339# 154.46; 8 Head 1477# 124.50. Lean 85-90%: 39 Head 1154# 128.37; 18 Head 1181# 143.75; 17 Head 1004# 113.91; 13 Head 1088# 85.99. **Bulls:** 1-2: 11 Head 1602# 163.48; 13 Head 1619# 180.73; 1 Head 980# 143.00.

See more at Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News • www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn

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