



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

Members of the Colby High School band performed during halftime at Colby football games this season. The band is under the direction of Jill Nickols.

# Farmers, ag experts embrace new methods, technologies to deal with global warming

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Gary Larsen, who grows corn and soybeans in western Iowa, is among a growing number of farmers who are concerned about the potential effects of global warming.

Like Larsen, many in the agriculture industry are developing or adopting new technologies and farming methods to brace for the possibility of widespread drought and crop-pounding storms.

The industry has been especially aggressive in breeding and developing crops that more efficiently use soil moisture and nutrients and developing pest-resistant and drought-tolerant crops.

“We don’t know how the world could actually turn out, but doing absolutely nothing and sticking your head in the sand is not an option,” said Larsen, a 63-year-old grandfather who lives near Elk Horn.

In the past century, the Earth’s surface temperature has risen by about 1 degree Fahrenheit and could climb another 5 to 10 degrees over the next century, according to government officials. The Environmental Protection Agency has blamed human activities for most of the warming over the last 50 years, including the buildup of greenhouse gases that trap heat in the atmosphere.

“It’s dire in the sense that this problem is already with us, and it’s hard to see how it can go away,” said Kevin E. Trenberth, head of climate analysis at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder,

Colo.

Crops that more efficiently use soil moisture and nutrients can ward off disease and pests that stress plants trying to cope with increased temperatures, experts say.

William Niebur, vice president of DuPont Crop Genetics Research and Development, said the evidence of climate change includes the migration of successful corn production north 100 miles over the past three decades.

Niebur’s company is developing pest-resistant and drought-tolerant crops. “It’s really a holistic approach, understanding that the ecosystem is changing,” he said.

Emerging technology has already been aiding crop production, said Jon Doggett, vice president of public policy for the National Corn Growers Association. “You are seeing good corn yields under conditions that would have probably been a crop disaster 20 years ago,” he said.

Improved soil management methods are reducing greenhouse gases. No-till farming, for example, where farmers plant crops without using machines to plow or turn over the soil, cuts down on energy use and keeps carbon in the ground instead of releasing it into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide.

Farmers also are planting crops that require less fertilizer and herbicides; using alternative fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel; capturing methane gas from livestock for energy production; and harnessing wind power.

Many are beginning to sort out water supply problems as warm, dry areas expand. This includes examining water rights before shortages happen and studying dwindling mountain snowpacks that supply farmers with water during spring melting. Faced with fiercer storms that cause rain to hit the ground and run off rather than be absorbed, researchers are exploring ways to capture the precipitation.

Francis Thicke, an organic dairy farmer and soil fertility expert from Fairfield in southeast Iowa, said he provides his 130 animals with grassy areas to forage for food. He said that cuts down on fuel needs because he’s not growing as much grain for feed and allows carbon to remain in the soil because there’s no need for tilling.

Thicke said he believes politicians should end subsidies to farmers who grow crops such as corn and soybeans in a way that robs the soil of nutrients and requires lots of energy.

“Our whole farming system really contributes a lot to global warming and it could be made to be much more sustainable,” he said.

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On the Net:  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Global Warming Web site: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/index.html>

The National Center for Atmospheric Research: <http://www.ncar.ucar.edu/>

Critics also say the measure could ruin farming by erasing zoning rules that keep condos and office buildings from sprouting in agricultural areas.

I-933 and its counterparts elsewhere follow the lead of Oregon, where residents in 2004 enacted a law forcing government to pay private property owners for regulations that harm land values.

Washington state supporters say their measure has key differences, but critics say the two measures are close enough to make Oregon’s \$4 billion in claims a striking lesson.

The pro-initiative campaign has raised nearly \$800,000. Its largest contributor is Americans for Limited Government, a group headed by New York real-estate mogul and conservative activist Howard Rich, who has helped bankroll similar measures elsewhere.

Initiative opponents have raised more than \$2.6 million, with the largest donations coming from The Nature Conservancy. Wealthy local people, including Aldus Corp. founder Paul Brainerd and Microsoft’s Bill Gates, also have donated to the cause.

# Washington state farmers back property-rights measure

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — Roger Reaves isn’t planning to turn his 126 acres of chickens, cattle and Christmas trees into a sprawling housing development anytime soon.

But when county officials decided that homes in his area should be separated by 20 acres instead of five, Reaves still felt the sting.

Now, if Reaves’ children and grandchildren find themselves in a pinch, they’ll get far less money for selling the family spread, the long-time Tenino farmer said.

“One of the things my parents instilled into me was, ‘Son, if you take something that’s not yours, you’re going to be held accountable,’” Reaves said. “To be quite honest with you, local and state government doesn’t feel that.”

Complaints like Reaves’ are at the heart of Initiative 933, a property-rights measure being considered by Washington voters.

The initiative would require state and local government agencies to either compensate private landowners for regulations that harm the value of private property, or waive those laws.

It’s aimed at land use rules adopted since 1996.

Washington’s initiative is similar to property-rights measures on the ballot in at least three other western states, and has put farmers front and center in the battle for public opinion.

The state Farm Bureau is the most vocal public supporter of the initiative, saying it will help guard against heavy-handed government regulations that could drive down property values and make farms and ranches unprofitable.

“We’re just saying that if government has taken rights away from you in the last 10 years and you can show it, then they ought to be accountable to respect those rights,” Farm Bureau spokesman Dan Wood said. “It’s not a big, scary concept.”

Opponents, however, say the measure could compromise critical environmental protections and open up rural areas to voracious housing developers. They point to a state budget office study that said the measure could force the government to pay more than \$8 billion in claims over the next six years.

# TV LISTINGS

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**WEEKDAYS**

**OCTOBER 24 - OCTOBER 30**

	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KLBY/ABC 4 6	Good Morning Kansas		Good Morning America				Martha		The View		Millionaire	News
KSNK/NBC 8 8	News Cont'd		Today						Live With Regis and Kelly		The Megan Mullally Show	
KBSL/CBS 12 11	News Cont'd		News		The Early Show		The 700 Club		The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless	
K15CG 2	Business	Body Electric	Curious George	Clifford-Red	Dragon Tales	Big Big World	Beren Bears	Lions	Sesame Street		Teletubbies	Barney-Friends
ESPN 28	Sports-Center	Varied	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Sports-Center	Varied	SportsCenter		Baseball Tonight	NFL Live
USA 37	JAG		JAG		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Varied Programs	
TBS 38	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	The Megan Mullally Show		Dawson's Creek		Movie				Varied	Home Improve
WGN 39	Changing	Believer Voice	Hillbilities	Hillbilities	Rockford Files		Magnum, P.I.		Homicide: Life on the Street		Da Vinci's Inquest	
TNT 40	Angel		Charmed		Charmed		ER		ER		Judging Amy	
DSC 42	Paid Program	Paid Program	Joyce Meyer	Paid Program	Biker Build-Off		American Chopper		American Chopper		Varied Programs	
A&E 47	The District		24		City Confidential		American Justice		Cold Case Files		Crossing Jordan	
HIST 48	Varied Programs											
NICK 55	Danny Phantom	OddPar-ents	Sponge-geBob	Sponge-geBob	Dora the Explorer	Go Diego	Blue's Clues	Backyard-igans	Wonder Pets	Wow! Wubbzy!	Lazy-Town	Rugrats
DISN 56	The Wiggles	Higgly-town	Ein-steins	Mickey Mouse	Handy Manny	Doodle-bops	Charlie & Lola	The Koala	The Wiggles	Higgly-town	Lilo & Stitch	Little Mermaid
FAM 58	Family Matters	Family Matters	Hogan Family	Hogan Family	The 700 Club		Living the Life		Step by Step		Gilmore Girls	
HALL 60	New Morning		The Waltons		The Waltons		Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		Touched by an Angel	

**WEEKDAYS**

**OCTOBER 24 - OCTOBER 30**

	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	All My Children		One Life to Live		General Hospital		Dr. Keith Ablow		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	ABC Wild News
KSNK/NBC (3) (8)	News	Extra	Days of our Lives		Passions		The Ellen DeGeneres Show		The Insider	Jeopardy!	News	Nightly News
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News	Bold, Beautiful	As the World Turns		Guiding Light		Dr. Phil		Oprah Winfrey		News	Evening News
K15CG (2)	Reading Rainbow	Caillou	Varied Programs			Curious George	Cyberchase	Arthur	Maya & Miguel	Post-cards	Cliff Pup	Business
ESPN (28)	Contender	Varied Programs			1st and 10	Outside-Lines	NFL Live	Rome-Burning	Around the Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter	
USA (37)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs										Law & Order: Criminal Intent
TBS (38)	Home Improve.	News-Radio	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	King of Queens	King of Queens	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
WGN (39)	News		The Greg Behrendt Show		America's Funniest Home Videos		Moesha	Moesha	Even Stevens	Lizzie McGuire	Home Improve.	Home Improve.
TNT (40)	Judging Amy		Law & Order		Law & Order		Charmed		Charmed		Law & Order	
DSC (42)	Varied Programs		The New Detectives		The FBI Files		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		Cash Cab	Cash Cab	It Takes a Thief	
A&E (47)	CSI: Miami		24		City Confidential		American Justice		Cold Case Files		Crossing Jordan	
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels	Varied Programs										
NICK (55)	Rugrats	Thornberrys	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Jimmy Neutron	Jimmy Neutron	OddParents	OddParents	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Ned's School	Avatar-Last Air
DISN (56)	Timon & Pumbaa	Buzz Light	Whiskers	Proud Family	American Drgn	Kim Possible	Varied Programs			Zack & Cody		
FAM (58)	Boy Mts. World	Boy Mts. World	Grounded-Life	Grounded-Life	Full House	Full House	Sabrina-Witch	Sabrina-Witch	7th Heaven		Everwood	
HALL (60)	Matlock		Matlock		Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H

**THURSDAY**

**OCTOBER 26**

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	News (CC)	Entertainment	Ugly Betty (N) (CC)		Grey's Anatomy		Grey's Anatomy I Am a Tree (CC)		News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	
KSNK/NBC 8 (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Name Is Earl	The Office	Deal or No Deal (N) (CC)		ER Bloodline (CC)		News	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)	Late Night	
KBSL/CBS 12 (1)	News (CC)	Inside Edition	Survivor: Cook Islands (N) (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		Shark Pilot (CC)		News (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman	Late Late	
K15CG (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Sun- flower	Kansas Spotlight	The This Old House Hour (CC)		Remaking American Medicine		BBC World	Keeping Up	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)	
ESPN (28)	Sports- Center	College Football: Clemson at Virginia Tech. (Live) (CC)						SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		Baseball Tonight		NFL Live (N) (CC)
USA (37)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU	
TBS (38)	Ray- mond	Ray- mond	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Movie: A Knight's Tale ★★½ (2001) A peasant poses as a knight for a shot at jousting glory. <i>Heath Ledger.</i>				Movie: Bait ★½	
WGN (39)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Movie: The Delta Force ★★ (1986, Action) <i>Chuck Norris, Lee Marvin.</i> (CC)				WGN News at Nine (CC)		Sex and the City	Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	Becker (CC)
TNT (40)	Without a Trace Clare de Lune (CC)		Nightmares & Dreamscapes		Nightmares & Dreamscapes		NBA Preseason Basketball: Denver Nuggets at Los Angeles Lakers, Staples Center. (Live) (CC)				Movie: Terminal	
DSC (42)	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		Fugitive Strike Force		A Haunting The Unleashed (N)		Sensing Murder Basement Horror (N)		Most Evil Notorious killers' accomplices.		Fugitive Strike Force	
A&E (47)	CSI: Miami Identity (CC)		CSI: Miami Money Plane (CC)		The First 48 A badly decomposed body.		Dallas SWAT (CC)		Cold Case Files (CC)		CSI: Miami Money Plane (CC)	
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels Military aircraft. (CC)		History's Mysteries Historical monsters.		Decoding the Past (N) (CC)		Modern Marvels Death Devices (CC)		Engineering an Empire (CC)		History's Mysteries Historical monsters.	
NICK (55)	OddPar- ents	Jimmy Neutron	Spon- geBob	Danny Phantom	Full House	Full House	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Rose- anne	Rose- anne	Design. Women	Fresh Prince
DISN (56)	Phil of Future	That's- Raven	Movie: Return to Halloweentown (2006, Comedy) <i>Sara Paxton.</i> (CC)				Life With Derek	Phil of Future	Zack & Cody	That's- Raven	Phil of Future	Kim Possible
FAM (58)	Gilmore Girls Pilot (CC)		Movie: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed ★★ (2004) <i>Freddie Prinze Jr..</i>				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club (CC)		Home Videos	Home Videos
HALL (60)	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Movie: Love Comes Softly (2003, Drama) <i>Katherine Heigl, Dale Midkiff.</i> (CC)		Softly (2003, Drama) <i>Katherine Heigl, Dale Midkiff.</i> (CC)		M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)

**FRIDAY**

**OCTOBER 27**

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
KLBY/ABC 4 6	News (CC)	Entertainment	Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown		Men in Trees The Buddy System (CC)		20/20 (CC)		News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)		
KSNK/NBC 8 3	News	Wheel of Fortune	1 vs. 100 (N) (CC)		Las Vegas Father of the Bride Redux (N)		World Vision		News (CC)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)		Late Night	
KBSL/CBS 12 11	News (CC)	Inside Edition	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Close to Home Homecoming (CC)		NUMB3RS Longshot (TV) (N) (CC)		News (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman		Late Late	
K15CG 2	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Political Programming		Market-Market		NOW (N) (CC)		Ballykissangel Missing You Already	BBC World	Score-board	Red Green	Roadtrip Nation
ESPN 28	Sports-Center	NFL Live (Live)	NBA	NBA Preseason Basketball: Dallas Mavericks at San Antonio Spurs. AT&T Center. (Live) (CC)				SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		NFL Live (CC)	Fast-break		
USA 37	Law & Order: SVU		Movie: Bad Boys II ★★ (2003, Action) Two detectives battle a drug kingpin in Miami. <i>Martin Lawrence, Will Smith.</i> (CC)						House TB or Not TB (CC)		Movie: Bad Boys II ★★ (2003) (CC)		
TBS 38	Raymond	Raymond	King of Queens	King of Queens	Movie: Scary Movie 2 ★½ (2001, Comedy) (PA) <i>Shawn Wayans.</i> (CC)				Movie: Scary Movie 3 ★★ (2003, Comedy) <i>Anna Faris.</i>		Family Guy (CC)		
WGN 39	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Movie: Grosse Pointe Blank ★★ (1997, Romance-Comedy) <i>John Cusack.</i> (CC)		WGN News at Nine (CC)				Sex and the City	Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	Becker (CC)	
TNT 40	Without a Trace Kam Li (CC)		Movie: Signs ★★★ (2002) A widower investigates huge circles in his crop fields.				Movie: Dreamcatcher ★½ (2003) Four telepathic friends encounter malevolent aliens. <i>Morgan Freeman.</i>				Movie: Matrix		
DSC 42	Dirty Jobs Gooduck Farmer (CC)		MythBusters Poppy Seed Burger Test		MythBusters Deadly Straw (CC)		MythBusters Diet Coke and Mentos		Stunt Junkies	Stunt Junkies	MythBusters Poppy Seed Burger Test		
A&E 47	CSI: Miami Nothing to Lose (Part 1 of 2)		CSI: Miami Nothing to Lose (Part 2 of 2)		CSI: Miami Game Over (CC)		CSI: Miami Blood Moon (CC)		CSI: Miami Hard Time (CC)	CSI: Miami Nothing to Lose (Part 2 of 2)			
HIST 48	Generat-ion	Generat-ion	Haunted History of Halloween		Bible Mysteries Enigmas. (CC)		Pacific: The Lost Evidence (CC)		Generat-ion	Generat-ion	Haunted History of Halloween		
NICK 55	SpongeBob	Cats-crat	OddParents	Mr. Meaty	The X's (N) (CC)		Danny Phantom	Full House	Fresh Prince	Rose-anne	Rose-anne	Design. Women	Fresh Prince
DISN 56	Hannah Montana	That's-Raven	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	Movie: Casper Meets Wendy ★★ (1998, Fantasy) <i>Shelley Duvall, Hilary Duff.</i> (CC)				Zack & Cody	That's-Raven	Hannah Montana	Kim Possible	
FAM 58	Gilmore Girls (CC)		Movie: Misery ★★★ (1990) A psychotic fan holds an injured novelist captive. (CC)				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club (CC)		Home Videos	Home Videos	
HALL 60	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Movie: Love's Enduring Promise (2004, Drama) <i>Katherine Heigl, Dale Midkiff.</i> (CC)				M*A*S*H The Party	M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)	