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Hay crop lacking nutrition this year

Testing options available for area farmers' forage

By Emily Ernsberger
The Herald-Times

Organizations across the area are helping livestock farmers whose animals may be affected by the lack of nutritional value in this year's hay crop.

A Purdue University Extension specialist is warning livestock owners that forage they harvested earlier this year is likely to have lower-than-usual nutritional quality, another consequence of a rough planting and harvesting season. Specifically, cool-season grasses such as tall fescue, orchardgrass, smooth bromegrass, timothy and perennial ryegrass, as well as legumes such as alfalfa or red clover will have nutritional deficiencies this year.

"This is a very unusual year, and the quality is extremely low for this late-harvested forage," Keith Johnson, a professor of agronomy and Extension forage specialist, said in a news release last week. "We have less energy and protein with a more mature crop. There's a crisis potentially brewing if people don't pay attention to quality."

As forage crops mature, they increase fiber and lignin content, making them less digestible. Less digestible forage crops result in reduced nutrient supply to the animal. Dry matter intake potential is also compromised with high fiber content, according to the release. Poor nutritional content in forage can lead to weight loss, weakness, poor lactation and conception in certain livestock.

Extension specialists suggest livestock operators have their forage tested and seek guidance from local extension office and a

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"This is a very unusual year, and the quality is extremely low for this late-harvested forage. We have less energy and protein with a more mature crop. There's a crisis potentially brewing if people don't pay attention to quality."

KEITH JOHNSON, a professor of agronomy and Extension forage specialist

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Bloomington High School North security guard striving to have an impact on students' lives

By Emily Cox | The Herald-Times

Rob Jordan, security guard at Bloomington High School North, kept his eyes on the road as snow fell for the first time this season. A little tree car freshener hung from the rearview mirror. Classic rock played quietly from the radio.

School was done for the day, but Jordan wasn't done taking care of students.

Earlier that day he had taken a student to get a physical. The student's mom couldn't take him and couldn't afford it, Jordan said. He made sure it happened.

As he waited at a red light, his left hand rested on the steering wheel, revealing tattoos on his forearm. Among them is the quote, "When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace."

"I appreciate this, Mr. J," the student said.

"I said, 'Hey man, people do things like that for you. I just try to be what I wish I had when I was your age, then one of these days, it'll be your responsibility to do it for somebody else. But for right now, it's my turn, and I don't mind,'" Jordan said.

Along with being a security guard at Bloomington North, Jordan has another job. He and his wife, Jacqueline Jordan, a therapist, have their own agency, Jordan Family Services, contracted with the state of Indiana. Jordan works with children through the Department of Child Services and through juvenile probation.

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PICTURED: Rob Jordan gets his beard trimmed by Aaron Brown, owner of Razor's Edge Barber Shop, Thursday as he shares a laugh with Christopher Burke, left. (Rich Janzaruk / Herald-Times)

TODAY'S WEATHER | BACK PAGE

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BUSINESS
Ho ho humbug: Survey finds holidays bring financial stress for most Americans | PAGE A5

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Ellettsville receives grant to build dog park

By Ernest Rollins
The Herald Times

The town of Ellettsville was recently awarded \$8,156 to construct a dog park along East Tecumseh Drive. The dog park will be built in an existing pocket park in that area.

Denise Line, assistant planner with the town of Ellettsville, said there will be no charge to residents to use the dog park. She said preliminary site work would begin in the late fall this year with some seeding and grading. In the spring, she said, work will begin on installing a water line that will connect to a dog fountain in the park. She said the .34-acre dog park will have a black chain-link fence and there are plans to have a gravel path around it.

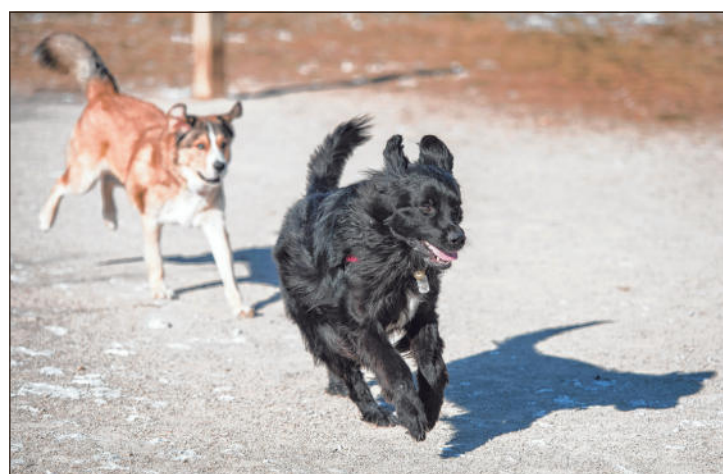
"We are very pleased to get this," Line said. "It was to try to

bring some green space into some older neighborhoods to get people out and moving and walking their dogs."

Line said town officials have been interested in creating a dog park in Ellettsville for quite some time. She said planners researched the concept by visiting Ferguson Dog Park in Bloomington.

While there, Line said, planners encountered someone from Ellettsville who had traveled to the city to use the dog park. Line said when she shared the news of Ellettsville getting its own dog park, the individual was excited and expects others to be actively using the park once it is built.

She said the town plans to advertise the dog park to the public on its website and its parks Facebook page. She said the Monroe





Savannah Carver's Newfoundland, George, leads the way as he runs with Shaye Mueller's dog, Alamo, at Bloomington's Ferguson Dog Park on a cold January 2018 day. (Chris Howell / Herald-Times)

County Humane Association also plans to give the town vouchers to distribute to individuals who go to the dog park to get their dogs spayed and neutered.


"I think this is a great idea," said Dan Swafford, town council member.


SEE DOG | PAGE A3


Weather today

 44 / 31
 Mostly cloudy and cold

Tuesday

 49 / 34
 Occasional rain and drizzle in the morning

Sun and moon
 Sunset today 5:30 p.m.
 Sunrise Tue. 7:33 a.m.
 Sunset Tue. 5:29 p.m.
 Moonrise today 11:14 p.m.
 Moonset today 1:03 p.m.
 Sunrise Tue. none

Wednesday

 57 / 42
 Partly sunny and not as cool

Thursday

 59 / 33
 Cloudy with showers; breezy in the morning

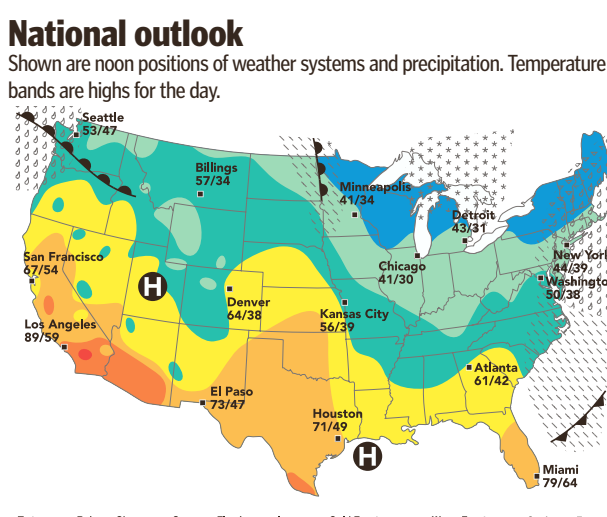
Friday

 46 / 28
 Partly sunny and chilly

Pollen
 Yesterday's air in Bloomington
 Grass Absent
 Trees Absent
 Weeds Absent
 Mold Absent

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Area forecast

City	High	Low	W
Chicago	41	30	c
Evansville	46	35	c
Fort Wayne	44	31	c
Indianapolis	44	32	c
Louisville	48	36	c
South Bend	41	30	c
Terre Haute	44	30	c



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Around the nation today

City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W
Albany	35	31	i	Detroit	43	31	c	Omaha	53	37	sh
Albuquerque	57	38	s	El Paso	73	47	c	Orlando	74	54	pc
Anchorage	33	26	pc	Fairbanks	5	-6	sf	Philadelphia	46	36	r
Atlanta	61	42	pc	Flagstaff	67	29	s	Phoenix	85	59	r
Atlantic City	47	34	c	Grand Rapids	40	33	c	Peoria	44	33	pc
Baltimore	50	33	c	Hartford	43	33	r	Pittsburgh	47	30	c
Billings	57	34	pc	Helena	53	32	pc	Portland, ME	39	33	r
Birmingham	58	39	pc	Honolulu	84	73	t	Portland, OR	57	48	r
Boston	44	38	r	Houston	71	49	s	Richmond	52	35	sh
Brownsville	80	59	s	Jackson, MS	61	41	pc	Sacramento	76	49	s
Burlington, VT	35	28	i	Jacksonville	68	45	pc	St. Louis	51	39	pc
Casper	55	39	s	Kansas City	56	39	pc	Salt Lake City	61	40	pc
Charleston, SC	59	43	pc	Las Vegas	77	52	s	San Diego	83	62	pc
Charlotte, WV	51	34	pc	Little Rock	60	42	pc	San Francisco	67	54	s
Charlotte	57	39	pc	Los Angeles	89	59	s	St. Ste. Marie	37	32	sf
Cincinnati	48	33	c	Memphis	55	43	pc	Seattle	53	47	r
Cleveland	48	33	c	Miami Beach	79	64	pc	South Bend	41	30	c
Columbia, SC	60	41	pc	Milwaukee	40	30	pc	Tampa	72	58	pc
Columbus	49	33	c	Minneapolis	41	34	c	Tucson	85	58	s
Dallas	70	43	c	Nashville	53	37	pc	Tulsa	69	41	pc
Danver	49	34	c	New Orleans	67	50	pc	Wash., DC	50	38	c
Dayton	64	38	s	New York City	44	39	r	Wichita	71	37	pc

Around the world today

City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W
Amsterdam	47	43	r	Havana	79	61	pc	Paris	46	36	c
Athens	73	61	sh	Helsinki	43	39	c	Prague	49	30	pc
Baghdad	70	45	s	Hong Kong	83	62	pc	Reykjavik	45	40	r
Bangkok	93	76	pc	Istanbul	70	56	pc	Rio	78	69	c
Barbados	87	79	pc	Jerusalem	61	47	pc	Riyadh	76	63	pc
Barcelona	58	39	pc	Kabul	62	32	s	Rome	63	55	r
Beijing	41	17	pc	Kiev	42	35	pc	Santiago	63	58	pc
Beirut	76	60	s	Kuwait	74	55	c	Sao Paulo	73	60	c
Belgrade	64	45	pc	Lima	70	63	pc	Seoul	45	24	c
Berlin	52	35	sh	Lisbon	59	48	pc	Singapore	88	78	t
Bermuda	78	72	t	London	47	32	c	Stockholm	45	42	c
Brisbane	79	64	pc	Madrid	53	31	pc	Sydney	78	61	s
Brussels	45	36	r	Manila	88	79	t	Taipei City	76	63	r
Budapest	57	39	sh	Mexico City	74	54	pc	Tel Aviv	74	56	pc
Buenos Aires	83	71	t	Montreal	32	27	c	Tokyo	69	59	r
Calgary	46	30	pc	Moscow	43	38	c	Toronto	37	29	c
Caracas	73	63	pc	Nairobi	79	59	pc	Vancouver	52	42	c
Copenhagen	51	43	pc	Nassau	80	68	pc	Vienna	53	41	pc
Dublin	44	36	pc	Nicosia	74	49	pc	Warsaw	56	39	pc
Harare	82	64	pc	Oslo	38	36	sn	Zurich	44	32	pc

Legend for City Lists: W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

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DIFFERENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"To me it's a beautiful thing," he said. "It allows me to work with kids who could potentially fall through the cracks. I feel like as an adult, I have a responsibility, almost an obligation, to ensure that they don't. To ensure that their voices get heard, to have somebody to advocate for them."

Jordan is many things — a mentor, a role model, a father, a husband, a friend.

"I've heard everything from being called somebody's crazy uncle to something as much as 'I wish my dad were like you,'" Jordan said. "When you hear that, I've been doing it for years, and when you hear it, it still has a deep, resounding impact on you."



Rob Jordan talks with friends Thursday as Aaron Brown, owner of Razor's Edge Barber Shop, checks his phone. (Rich Janzaruk / Herald-Times)

"My job is to make sure that everybody there is safe and to make sure that everybody has a place in that school. You do whatever you feel like you need to. I feel like I've been blessed. The right thing to do is to share in that blessing. You know, you do that from the heart. Man, I love these kids."

ROB JORDAN, a security guard at Bloomington High School North who also operates Jordan Family Services with his wife

and changes over the course of a few years," Jordan said. "I'll never forget how we got her."

When Shyanna Yokley was a freshman at Bloomington North, she came up to Jordan. Jordan's wife, Jacqueline Jordan, had worked with Yokley's family before, he said.

Yokley was shy as she told him her grandmother had died. He told her he was sorry to hear that and asked if she'd like him to let his wife know. Yokley paused, then said yes. As she told Jordan she was going to have to go into foster care and would likely have to leave Bloomington, she started crying. He called his wife and she called DCS.

"She called me back and said, 'She will come home with us,'" Jordan said. "And she never left."

Now, Yokley is a senior at Bloomington North. Jordan tells his kids that success isn't about how much money you make — success is when you accomplish what you set out to do and are satisfied and content. He also tells his children they might not always hear the best things about him from students.

"It's not what they call you, it's what you answer to, because I'm gonna be called everything in the book by kids, but most of them don't mean it," Jordan said. "They're upset over the

circumstances, maybe they're in trouble, but I don't hold that against them. I don't personalize it."

The work Jordan does through Jordan Family Services isn't a 9-to-5 job, but he makes sure his kids are a priority. He said he knew he might have to miss some of his daughter Lauryn's track meets, so he went to every practice.

"If I've got a kid that's calling me saying, 'I need to see you, can you make time to come see me, I'll make time to come see them because poverty don't stop,'" Jordan said. "Being hungry don't stop. Needing an adult voice to talk to you don't stop. So I always tell folks, please give me a call if you need to."

If he's not working or at home, Jordan's probably at Razor's Image Barbershop. It's his home away from home, he said. He said the flavor from other places he's called home, including Kentucky and Tennessee, come through the shop.

"You never know who you're gonna meet when you go in there," Jordan said. "The conversation could be anything from basketball, could be a little bit about politics. It can be about everyday life, guys just ribbing one another. Not a better place to be and hang out with those guys."

He brings people together by hosting barbecues, which he's been doing for more than two decades. He said he and his wife are an interracial couple, and what it's about is "being able to break down barriers and match people up that normally wouldn't match, put people together from different socioeconomic classes that wouldn't normally eat, break bread together."

Building relationships is a key part of his job, too.

When Jordan returned from picking up the Bloomington North student after getting a physical exam, he watched some basketball practice from the track above the court. He gave a student five single bills for her \$5 bill upon her request. He unlocked a door for students in an afterschool club, but only after checking to make sure the teacher was in the classroom and the students were safe. He laughed as a student offered him "a crisp high five" as a thank you.

The students at Bloomington North know him and he knows them.

"What I do is I try to learn like three or four names a day, and then by the end of the week, I should memorize them," Jordan said. "One of the things that I know that kids love more than anything else is that you remember their name. Don't just call them, 'Hey, you.' People like the sound of their own name. So my favorite part is when I know names right off the bat and when they respond to it."

On Monday after school, he walked in the library and looked to see if specific students were in tutoring.

"Tell your dad I'm gonna have him over again real soon, we'll have dinner again," he said to a student before she left the

building.

Jordan wouldn't say he's doing anything special, but students do. They tell him that what he does matters to them. He's received a handwritten note from a student that said it was clear he pays attention to all students, no matter what their background is.

"I mean here at the school, I don't care if your mama and daddy got a doctorate on the front of their name or if they're unemployed," Jordan said. "I'm gonna treat you the same. I'm gonna treat you the way I want to be treated. I'm gonna treat your child like I would expect mine to be treated."

Before he worked at North, Jordan worked as a correctional officer.

"If I could break it down, I would say working in prison is probably about 99% boredom and 1% sheer terror," he said. "When it comes, it comes. It's enough to bring you to your knees."

Jordan has a scar from where he was stabbed while doing this work. Above the scar, a chain with his wedding ring hangs around his neck. While working in the penal system, he didn't wear it. People in the system asked a lot of questions, he said, and wanted to know everything about his life. They would piece things together.

He said that skills he learned in that field translate to what he does now, like telling the truth to students. Once credibility is gone, there's no getting it back, he said. He tries to stay where the students are. If there is a fight or situation, he doesn't run, because he knows soon enough every student in the school could be running behind him, which would create panic.

Jordan will tell anyone he didn't choose this field, it chose him. He knows young people, whether the students at Bloomington North or those he works with through Jordan Family Services, are always watching. He's more open with his life now than he was when working in the penal system. He keeps his Instagram account public. If someone looks at his account, they'll see his love for his family and sneakers. They'll see the things that make him happy.

"Kids need to see stuff like that because when they do, it humanizes you," Jordan said. "You don't want them treating you like a robot, thinking man, when y'all leave at 3 o'clock, I go in that closet, I shut down and I don't come back out until 7 in the morning. No, I'm a human being, I have a lot of fun, I try to be vibrant, colorful and talk to as many people as I can and try to make a difference."

Contact Emily Cox at 812-331-4243, ecox@heraldt.com or follow @HT_InSchool on Twitter.

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