

Lindsey Wilson University to launch Agribusiness Major

DUANE BONIFER
LINDSEY WILSON

In response to regional workforce needs and a growing interest from area high school students, Lindsey Wilson University will begin an agribusiness major in the 2026-27 school year. "We are excited about this major because it is an alignment between agriculture, business and our region's workforce needs," said Lindsey Wilson School of Business and Communication Dean Benson Sexton '04. "Our goal was simple: create a program where students don't have to leave rural America to get a world-class, career-ready agribusiness education connected to the land and the communities they call home. "We wanted to do more than just launch a new agribusiness program -- we wanted to create a program that would launch the next generation of Kentucky agribusiness leadership."

The 120-hour bachelor of arts degree will include 12 core courses (36 hours) and four electives (12 hours) that will draw on the disciplines of agriculture, biology, business management, communication, economics, English, and sustainability and environmental studies. "Students will develop analytical, problem-solving, and communication and leadership skills that are in high demand in the modern agricultural economy," said Sexton.

Career-ready graduates
Lindsey Wilson's agribusiness major will also produce career-ready graduates through internships, field experiences and partnerships with agricultural enterprises, community organizations and government agencies. "These components will provide students with meaningful, hands-on learning opportunities that connect classroom knowledge to professional practice," said Sexton. "Students won't just study agribusiness, they will practice it alongside the people who live it every day. By engaging students in practical applications, our program will reinforce Lindsey Wilson's tradition of developing graduates who are prepared to contribute

immediately and effectively to the workforce." Benson said Lindsey Wilson's agribusiness major will prepare students for a plethora of career options. While the focus of the major is on Kentucky's rural economies, Sexton said it will also appeal to students from urban areas who are interested in having a career in an industry that contributed more than \$1.5 trillion to the U.S. gross domestic product in 2023, according to data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. "This program is designed to give students a direct pathway into the wide range of careers that power today's agricultural economy -- not only farm ownership and management but careers like crop insurance, agricultural lending, ag sales, supply chain coordination, commodity marketing, equipment operations and agribusiness consulting," he said. "Modern agriculture runs on informed business decisions, risk management, data and relationships, and this program prepares students to step into those roles with confidence."

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Managing small mammals: Practical strategies for gardens and orchards

Kara Back
University of Kentucky
Horticulture Agent

Small rodents and burrowing mammals may be tiny, but their impact on lawns, gardens, orchards, and crop areas can be substantial. Understanding which animal is causing damage — and how to respond — is the first step toward effective management. Rabbits, voles, moles, and shrews each leave distinct calling cards. Rabbits clip young plant stems with clean, straight-across cuts, thanks to their sharp incisors. Voles leave small, rounded burrow openings near vegetables and gnaw at the plants themselves, their roots, or tubers underground. Moles, by contrast, are insectivores that feed on grubs and worms; their signature is raised soil ridges and dirt mounds, not plant damage. Shrews are rarely a garden problem at all, despite their fearsome reputation as the only venomous mammals in the region.

One practical rule of thumb: Where there is one small rodent, there are likely many more. These species reproduce rapidly, adapt to a wide range of conditions, and fill ecological niches quickly, meaning that eliminating one population often invites another to move in. Before reaching for traps or chemicals, simple habitat modifications can go a long way. Maintaining a three-foot vegetation-free zone around the base of young trees protects against girdling by voles and rabbits. Keeping grass mowed short beneath trees removes the cover that small mam-

mals rely on. Wrapping tree bases with metal hardware cloth provides an additional physical barrier that is both affordable and effective. One of the most cost-effective management strategies is encouraging natural predators. Installing raptor perches or nesting boxes — such as barn owl or kestrel boxes — attracts birds of prey that can dramatically reduce local rodent populations. A single barn owl feeding chicks may deliver more than four dozen rodents to its nest in a single night.

An important caution: Do not combine predator encouragement with rodenticide use. Poisoned rodents behave erratically and are easily caught by predators, causing toxins to move up the food chain — a dynamic already linked to declines in barn owl populations. For small, localized rodent populations, peanut-butter-baited snap traps are reliable and inexpensive. Place them at active burrow openings and continue until no animals are caught for three consecutive days. For moles specifically, worm-shaped baits placed inside active tunnels are highly effective, but locating the active tunnel first is essential. Flatten several tunnel sections, then return the next day to see which has been reopened.

For larger-scale vole problems in production orchards, zinc phosphide is a powerful option, though it requires careful handling as a restricted-use pesticide. Always use enclosed bait stations to prevent non-target wildlife from accessing the material and apply in late fall to protect trees heading into winter.

Source: Matthew Springer, associate professor, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources

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REAL ESTATE: 3.27 acres by a 2024 survey. The property has long road frontage on Black Gnat Road and it is suitable for many uses. TRACT B: 1.70 acres improved with a stone and vinyl sided house containing 2 BRs, bath, LR, kitchen, plus an UF basement, covered patio w/attached storage shed, central H/A. Other Improvements consist of: a det. Garage, a metal sided building, another metal sided open front building, a tool shed, a metal and wood sided building and a combination set of buildings including an outside stove building complete with a Taylor Wood Stove. TRACT A: 1.57 acres, all open with scattered trees, and no improvements. This tract has an entrance on Black Gnat Road and it is suitable for many uses. INSPECTION: The auctioneers will show the property by appointment. Call 270-465-7051, or attend Open Inspection, Thursday, April 2, from 11:00 A.M. to 12 Noon. Your inspection is invited and appreciated.

TERMS: REAL ESTATE: 10% of purchase price day of auction (a personal check with ID, cash, or cashier check), along with the signing of a Real Estate Sales and Purchase Contract and Lead Based Paint Waiver. The balance due with delivery of deed on or before May 26, 2026. PERSONAL PROPERTY: Cash or good check with proper ID, or Credit Card (with a 3% convenience fee & \$1,000.00 max) day of auction. NOTE: A 10% Buyers Premium will be added to all winning bids on the real estate and personal property to determine the final sales and purchase price. ALL BUYERS NOT KNOWN BY KESSLER AUCTION & REALTY CO. MUST HAVE A BANK LETTER OF GUARANTEE ADDRESSED TO KESSLER AUCTION & REALTY CO. OR CERTIFIED FUNDS. NOTICE: Any announcement made by the auctioneer from the auction block on the day of sale will take precedence over any printed material or oral statement. In an auction sale, all property is sold As Is, Where Is with NO warranty expressed or implied by the sellers or auction company. The information in this ad is believed to be correct but is not guaranteed. It is the responsibility of each potential bidder to make their own inspections or investigations and to bid on their judgment of value. The real estate is available daily by appointment with the Auction Company prior to the auction to make or have made on your behalf any inspections you choose, including lead based paint.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026 - 10:00 A.M. CDST
140 +/- ACRES - 6 TRACTS + FARM EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL PROPERTY
1654 Hodgenville Road, Greensburg, KY. - Auction Signs Posted !
Directions: From Greensburg at the US 68 and KY 61 roundabout, follow KY Highway 61 (Hodgenville Road) approximately 1.50 miles to the Wise Farm.

REAL ESTATE SELLS 1st AT 10 AM CDST
FOLLOWED BY THE FARM EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL PROPERTY

140 +/- ACRES SELLING IN 6 TRACTS WITH THE RIGHT RESERVED TO GROUP - BUY 1 TRACT, COMBINATION OF TRACTS OR AS A WHOLE USING OUR COMPUTER RUN MULTI-PAR SYSTEM
A Live Onsite Auction With Simulcast Internet Bidding On The Real Estate & Select Pieces Of Equipment & Personal Property.
Hickory Hollow Farm: Located just minutes from downtown Greensburg, this farm is suitable for the expansion of your current farming operation or any of the tracts would be ideal for the beginning or hobby farmer. This is a self-sufficient farm ideal for a cow / calf operation or for backgrounding feeder cattle. The rolling pastures, scattered woods, ample water supply and suitable hay fields make it a candidate for the perfect operation. In addition, wildlife of all kinds call this area home. The farm is subject to an existing hunting lease through approximately November 1, 2026. The farm consists of approximately 140 +/- Acres (New Survey Underway), fronting on KY Highway 61 (Hodgenville Road) and also on a Private Roadway Easement. All tracts have access from The Private Roadway Easement or another easement. The land consists of both open land and wood land and it has public water available on KY Highway 61, plus there are approximately 4 nice size ponds, providing ample water for livestock. Improvements consist of (1) A wood and metal sided barn approximately 38' X 40' M/L. (2) a hoop barn approximately 32' X 78', M/L. Located near the hoop barn is concrete feed bunks for feeding grain. (3) a metal sided barn approximately 38' X 64', M/L. (4) A tool shed and shop approximately 26' X 80', M/L, with the shop portion having a concrete floor. Next to the tool shed/shop is a complete RV hookup, which is currently rented on a month-to-month basis. Tract #1: 27 +/- acres fronts on KY Highway 61 (Hodgenville Road) and has access by the Private Roadway Easement, plus it has an installed entrance on Highway 61 at the far end. This tract consists of open land suitable for pasture and scattered wood land and it is improved with barn (1) described above. Tract #2: 21.40 +/- acres with access by the Private Roadway Easement. This tract consists of open land with scattered woods and is improved with a large pond and the Hoop barn and concrete feed bunks (2) described above. Tract #3: 57 +/- acres with access by the Private Roadway Easement featuring 2 fields suitable for hay production, pastureland and woods. This tract is improved with a small pond and the metal sided barn (3) listed above. Tract #4: 24 +/- acres with access by the Private Roadway Easement. This tract has a large area of woodland, some pastureland and a large pond. This tract is a sportsman's dream. Tract #5: 3.10 +/- acres with access by the Private Roadway Easement. This tract is mostly open land and it has a small pond plus the tool shed / shop and the RV hookup (4) listed above. Tract #6: 7.80 +/- acres with access by a deeded easement. This tract has open land with scattered woods and it also fronts on Hodgenville Road. Inspection: The land can be inspected daily at your leisure, or attend an Open Inspection with agents on the grounds, Thursday, March 26, from 12 Noon Central time until 1:30 P.M. Central time. The auctioneers are available to answer questions at anytime by calling 270-465-7051. Plats, and additional pictures are available at our office or online at www.kesslerauction.com. Click on this auction then documents.

Auctioneer's Note: If you are in the market for a working farm, a hobby farm, a home site, investment property, or looking for some land to call your own, this could be the perfect place for you. We invite you to look this property over before the auction, make any arrangements or inspections necessary and come prepared to BID & BUY, Saturday, April 4, 2026 at 10AM cdst. The personal property offers something for everyone. Make plans to attend this auction and bring a friend. We'll see you there! John and John Wayne Kessler.
Personal Property: Equipment & Trailers: Kuhn GMD500 disc mower, International 4 bottom plow, ground driven manure spreader, 2000 Chaparral 20' gooseneck livestock trailer, 3pt bale unroller, 16' bumper hitch trailer, 3 ton feed bin, hay elevator, post hole digger, 1 catch gate, 1995 Wabash 53' trailer, Powder River squeeze chute, garden cultipacker, garden aerator, antique horse drawn equipment. Tools & Miscellaneous: 6 pallets of new tile, bags and buckets of mortar, ladders, assorted tools & boxes, coin operated washers and dryers, adjustable metal shelving, kayaks, misc. small items, fishing poles, security lights, possibly some 5'x5' hay. Consigned Items Belonging To Joseph Bishop: 1989 Ford Ranger (240,235 odometer showing, needs rear axle or rear end), Seadoo trailer with flat. Plus Lots Of Miscellaneous Items Too Numerous To Mention.

Terms: Real Estate: 10% of purchase price day of auction (a personal check with ID, cash, or cashier check), along with the signing of a Real Estate Sales and Purchase Contract. The balance due with delivery of deed on or before May 19, 2026. Simulcast bidders must register and be approved for bidding prior to the auction. Simulcast bidders must sign the purchase contract in person or by electronic signature within 24 hours of the conclusion of the auction and their earnest money deposit must be paid in person or by wire transfer no later than 5:00 P.M. on the second business day following the auction. Additional terms shall apply to simulcast bidders. (See auctioneers web site for complete terms). Personal Property: Cash or good check with proper ID, wire transfer or Visa/Master Card (with a 3% convenience fee, \$1,000.00 CAP) day of auction. Simulcast bidders must register and be approved for bidding prior to the auction. Simulcast bidders must pay for any purchases in person or by wire transfer no later than 5:00 P.M. on the second business day following the auction and before items are removed. Additional terms shall apply to simulcast bidders. (See auctioneers web site for complete terms). NOTE: A 10% Buyers Premium will be added to all winning bids on the real estate, equipment and personal property to determine the final sales and purchase price. ALL BUYERS NOT KNOWN BY KESSLER AUCTION & REALTY CO. MUST HAVE A BANK LETTER OF GUARANTEE ADDRESSED TO KESSLER AUCTION & REALTY CO. OR CERTIFIED FUNDS. Notice: Any announcement made by the auctioneer from the auction block on the day of sale will take precedence over any printed material or oral statement. In an auction sale, all property is sold As Is, Where Is with NO warranty expressed or implied by the sellers or auction company. The information in this ad is believed to be correct but is not guaranteed. It is the responsibility of each potential bidder to make their own inspections or investigations and to bid on their judgment of value. The real estate is available daily by appointment with the Auction Company prior to the auction to make or have made on your behalf any inspections you choose.

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