

The Mi Farm Brief #001

Inaugural Edition - Cal Henderson - Monday June 1, 2026

Mi Farm AI

Prepared 2026-05-31 20:36 Central Time

Generated by Mark's Claude AI

For internal review

The Mi Farm Brief - Inaugural Edition (#001)

For Kent Harfmann - Mantorville Township, Dodge County, Minnesota

Monday, June 1, 2026. First-ever Brief from The Mi Farm AI Desk. Welcome.

Weather (Mantorville, MN)

Tonight (Sunday): Low 57F. Rain Showers then Mostly Cloudy.

Monday (June 1): High 80F. Mostly Sunny.

What this means for tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High near 80, with temperatures falling to around 78 in the afternoon. Southeast wind around 7 mph.

Source: NOAA National Weather Service point forecast for Mantorville, MN, pulled 2026-05-31 evening.

Decision Delivered

DO THIS MONDAY: Markets reopen Monday 8:30 AM Central. Spring side-dress nitrogen window opens with Monday's mostly sunny - high 80F. If you have N to apply, Monday 7 AM to 4 PM Central is your clean work window before Tuesday's chance of storms returns. Source: NOAA point forecast.

Honest note: tonight is the inaugural Brief; the Phase 2 build adds your per-field unpriced bushels, your basis at the local elevator, your APH-anchored Revenue Protection floor, and your federal program calendar. Tonight you see the bones: weather, a real decision, the Coffee Shop, signed by Cal. The dollar layer is coming.

Farm context: Harfmann Farm - 60 acres of hay, owner-operated since 1992 (real intake on file).

The Coffee Shop

Cal's Joke of the Day

An economist asked a farmer why he kept planting corn when prices were down. The farmer said: "I tried planting money instead, but the deer ate it."

Today in Farm History

164 years ago, on May 15, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the bill creating the United States Department of Agriculture. He called it "the People's Department." At the time about half of all Americans worked the land. Today roughly 1% do, and feed twenty times the population. Source: USDA history office (usda.gov/our-agency/about-usda/history).

Cal's Quiz

When the USDA was created in 1862, what fraction of Americans worked on farms?

- (a) About 1 in 4
- (b) About 1 in 2
- (c) About 9 in 10
- (d) About 1 in 10

Answer at the bottom of the Brief.

A Note from the Editor

Kent - first Brief out the door. Hay-acreage marketing intelligence and timber-harvest planning are on the Phase 2 roadmap; tonight the Brief leads with weather and the Coffee Shop so you can feel the format. Welcome to the desk.

Cal.

What the production Brief is going to do every morning at 5:00 AM Central, starting this week: lead with your weather and today's high and low, name one decision in the first line with the dollar number behind it, walk you through what changed on your fields overnight, finish with the Coffee Shop. Sometimes a corny joke. Sometimes a quiz that costs you ten seconds and teaches you something about farming a century ago. Always sourced. Always independent. Always signed.

The Mi Farm AI Desk

Cal Henderson, Editor in Chief

Quiz Answer

(b) About 1 in 2. In 1862, roughly half of Americans were farmers. By 1900 it was about 38%. By 1950, 15%. Today it's near 1%. Same country fed, fewer people doing it. Source: U.S. Census of Agriculture historical series.

The Mi Farm Brief is the independent daily farm intelligence brief that earns zero when you buy inputs. Cal Henderson is the editorial persona of the Mi Farm AI desk - the AI-orchestrated production team that produces this Brief every working morning. The Monthly Receipt is signed by Mark Matuska, Founder. Honest. Independent. Loyal. Transparent. The HILT Covenant.