

Today is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about \_\_\_\_\_ when we return

## **Washington State Ag Department Looking at Bugs in Truck Grills**

### **Audio with Randy Taylor, Washington State Department of Agriculture spokesperson**

The Washington State Department of Agriculture is very interested in what's trucked in to the Evergreen state. Not just commodities and loads, but also insects.

The department is ramping up efforts to check big rigs coming into the state for insects in the grill, or on the windshield. Washington State Agriculture Department spokesperson Randy Taylor says while dead insects in the grill may not be extremely exciting, it can tell a fascinating story...tape

Cut #1 :18 OC:... "further investigate."

Taylor says these insects, specifically the gypsy moth and Japanese beetle, can have a detrimental impact on the Washington Ag economy...tape

Cut #2 :14 OC:... "and trade restrictions."

Taylor noted it's not just a project done at the state level, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is involved to track the movement of a variety of insects.

### **AFBF CHIEF ECONOMIST TO RETIRE**

#### **Audio with AFBF chief economist Bob Young**

American Farm Bureau Federation chief economist Bob Young started at AFBF in 2003, and will retire this month after studying the agriculture economy for more than 30 years. Starting his career as an agriculture economist in the 1980s, he says that challenging time period in farming left a mark on his work...tape

Cut #1 :24 OC:...“out of business.”

In the last decade, Young says he’s noticed what he calls a reduction in age of the people who are getting involved in agriculture and attending Farm Bureau meetings...tape

Cut #2 :17 O:...“of the game.”