

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

## **Middle East Offers Market Opportunity for U.S.**

### **Dairy**

**Audio with Tom Vilsack, President and CEO, U.S. Dairy Export Federation**

The U.S. has an opportunity to increase already record high U.S. dairy exports by expanding into the Middle East market. Tom Vilsack, President and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Federation and former Agriculture Secretary in the Obama administration says the market is an excellent opportunity for U.S. dairy...tape

Cut #1 :35 OC:... "in particular."

He says the wealth in the market bodes well for U.S. products...tape

Cut #2 :36 OC:... "in that space."

He says it's important that the U.S. uses good marketing tactics to showcase U.S. dairy products...tape

Cut #3 :28 OC:... "around the world."

That's Tom Vilsack, President and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Federation and former Secretary of Agriculture.

### **White House Won't Stop Farm Bill over Forestry**

**President Donald Trump won't stop the farm bill over forestry concerns. An inside source told the Hagstrom Report that he'll**

**direct Ag Secretary Sonny Perdue to use all the tools at his discretion to suppress forest fires. Perdue and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said the final farm bill should include provisions in the House-passed version that would increase government agencies' authority to clear forest floors and thin trees. The White House says it won't insist on those additions because Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell doesn't want to make forestry the defining issue of the new farm bill. The Hagstrom Report was made aware of the White House position hours after the chairs and ranking members from the Senate and House Ag Committees announced an agreement in principle on the new bill. Several steps still remain before the bill gets to President Trump for his signature. The joint statement from the Ag Committee leaders says they're committed to getting a new farm bill delivered to America as quickly as possible.**