Bethany Jones, MBA Communications Director Ag Association Management

Let's talk about Alfalfa Seed: Using Social Media to Tell Your Farm's Story



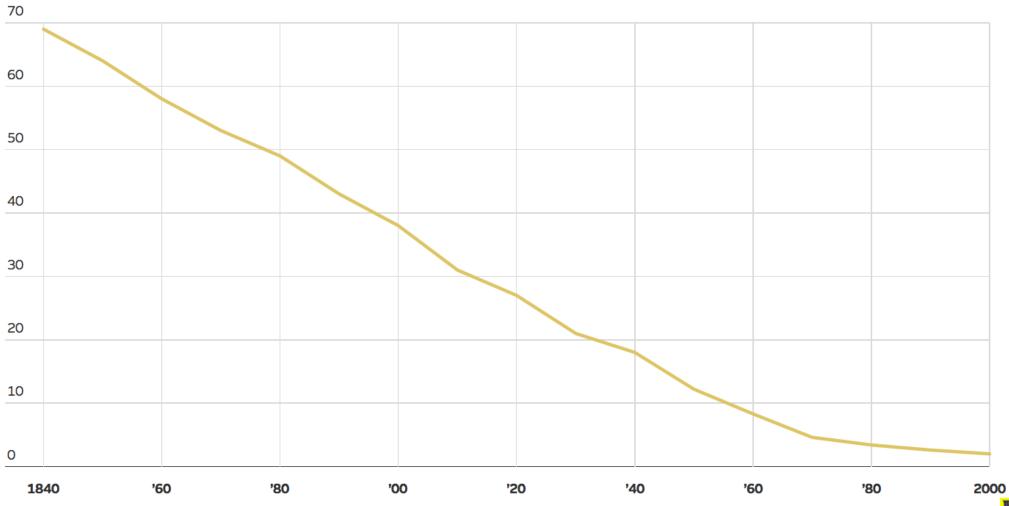


A Little About Me...

- Grew up on military bases
- Studied International Business
- Interned at worldrenowned art museum
- Worked in finance and non-profits



% of American workforce in agriculture, 1840-2000



Source: USDA,









"I could teach anybody, even people in this room, to be a farmer. It's a process. You dig a hole, you put a seed in, you put dirt on top, add water, up comes the corn... Now comes the information economy...That is a whole degree level different. You have to have a different skillset, you have to have a lot more grey matter."

Mike Bloomberg, US Presidential Candidate, 2020

Source: Newsweek Feb 17, 2020

Meet the People Getting Paid to Kill Our Planet

American agriculture is ravaging the air, soil and water. But a powerful lobby has cleverly concealed its damage.

Source: New York Times, Feb 1, 2022



DON'T LET ANYONE ELSE TELL YOUR STORY!



Changing Landscape of Communication

- Social media removes the limitations of traditional communication channels
- Smartphones and internet access have made social media ubiquitous



Most popular social networks worldwide as of October 2023, ranked by number of monthly active users (in millions) Facebook 2,491 YouTube 2,000 WhatsApp* Instagram 1,327 WeChat TikTok 1,036 Facebook Messenger 800 Telegram 750 Snapchat Douyin** 673 Kuaishou X/Twitter Sina Weibo QQ 571 465 Pinterest



Sources

We Are Social; DataReportal; Meltwater © Statista 2023

Additional Information:

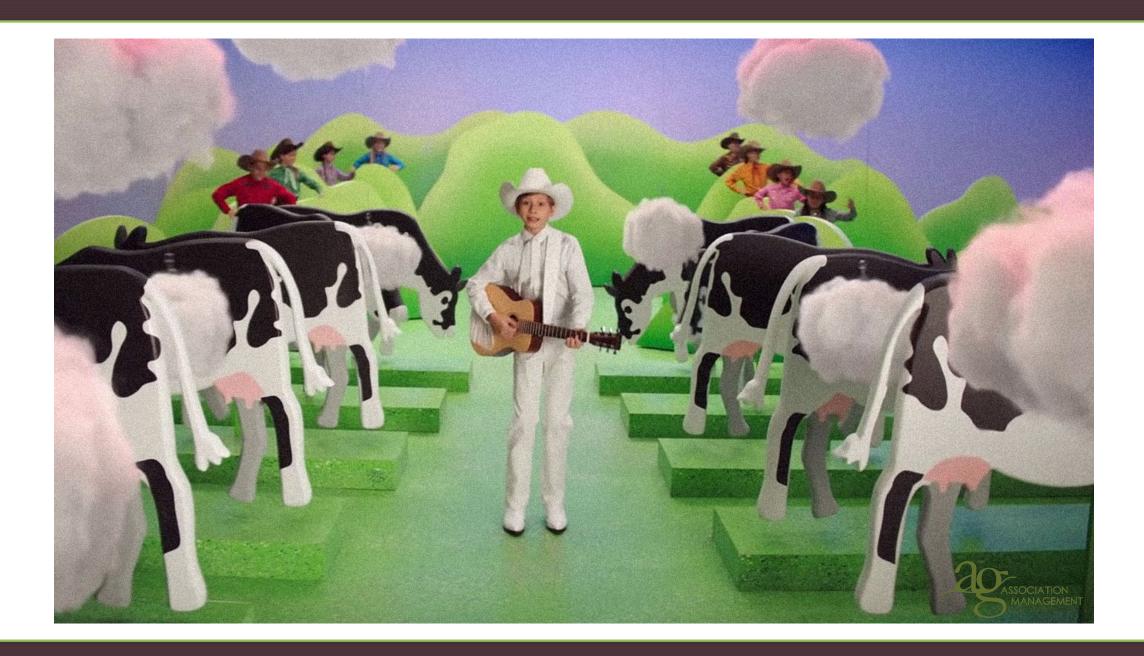
Worldwide; DataReportal; October 2023; social networks and messenger/chat app/voip included; figures for TikTok does r



Connecting with Consumers

- Consumers are increasingly curious about where their food comes from.
- Instagram, farmers can provide a behind-the-scenes look at their operations, fostering a deeper connection with consumers.







Policy Advocacy

Social media provides a powerful tool to influence decision-makers.



- Hashtags
- Online Campaigns
- Collaborative Efforts





How do I begin?

- Who do I want to reach?
- What platform do I want to use?
- What do I want to talk about?





Who do I want to reach?

- Decision Makers
 - Policy Makers
 - Purchase Makers
 - Mothers
 - Millennials (1981-1996)/Older Gen Z (1997-2010)



What platform do I want to use?







Struggles

Products You Use

Daily Chores

Harvest

Farm Events

Labor

Research

What do I want to talk about?

Seasonal Changes

Introduce Yourself and Staff

Scenic Photos

Chemical Applications

Planting

Technology

Weeding

Legislation

Other Crops

Humor

Livestock



1. Engage2. Engage3. Engage



"Social media is no longer an option, it is necessary."

