



consumption are also trending higher.

Texas dairy farmers are moving on up in the ranks, too. Sorry, I couldn't resist the pun. In 2019, Texas ranked as the fifth-largest dairy producing state in the nation. An estimated 375 Grade A dairies produce more than 1.4 billion gallons of milk each year, according to the Texas Association of Dairymen. And cash receipts from the sale of milk by dairy farmers amounted to more than \$2.2 billion last year. That's some serious moola.

While I could go on and on about agriculture's relevance to the Christmas holidays, you get the point—agriculture is in everything we do. It's part of our clothes, our food, our home furnishings and our traditions.

Check out our Texan 12 Days of Christmas for more agriculture-related Christmas fun. With a Texas spin, of course.

And have yourselves a merry little Christmas!

[Editor's Note: This article was originally printed at TexasFarmBureau.org.]

Consumers beware of gifts that are wolves in sheep's clothing

Electronics are at the top of the holiday shopping list for many Americans as families make upgrades to work and learn from home in the wake of COVID-19. They should be careful that seemingly familiar brands are not, in fact, a wolf in sheep's clothing that could compromise their personal information.

Spending on consumer technology like computers, smartphones and support services is expected to top \$135 billion in the fourth quarter, a 10 percent increase over last year. Most consumers will instinctively steer toward well-known names. More than seven in 10 Americans consider only brands they know — or think they know, anyway — when purchasing electronics. \

As a result, many people could be putting a Trojan Horse under the tree this year without even knowing it. Popular products

that have long been thought of as American-made, including Motorola and IBM, are now owned by the Chinese government. That means consumers who think they are buying from U.S. companies may actually be supporting America's top adversary — and compromising their personal

data in the process. Much of the revenue from these products goes to China's government coffers, which is then invested in military projects directed against the United States.

Consider the companies above. Lenovo's Chromebook has become a popular computer for children learning remotely.

The manufacturer, a company backed by the Chinese government, bought up IBM's laptop division. The U.S. Department of Commerce restricted Lenovo distribution after reports that the owner-company sourced materials from labor camps of Uyghur Muslims. Last year the Department of

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OF GIVING...

We're extending our very best wishes to you and yours for a holiday filled with good friends and cheer.
We're proud to be a part of this fine community and are grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
B & K Processing
and
The Hall Family



To you & yours,
Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year.

Tad & Therese
Emert