

News Letter no. 126



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Management change

Jytte Rosenmaj stops after 7 years as chairman and leave the board

During the summer, the board had an important task in getting a new management in place after Johannes V Hansen decision to retire. DFA is now ready to work on with renewed power having Tom Axelgaard as general secretary.

However, the time is right for me to stop after 7 years as chairman and as board member, in order to leave the chairmanship to new resources.

I am pleased to announce that the board has appointed **Jesper Brunhøj Jensen** as new chairman and Kristina Skeldal as continuing deputy chairman.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Johannes Hansen for a good and constructive collaboration over the years. At the same time, I would like to thank the current board, former board members, as well as fellow members of DFA, for good and inspiring cooperation.

I wish the new management good luck with the important task of securing and developing DFA's activities in the coming years.

Yours sincerely, Jytte Rosenmaj

Briefly about upcoming DFA activities

DFA General Meeting 27 January

DFA will have its ordinary General Meeting on Friday, January 27 at 9.00 at **Bygholm Agricultural College** close to Horsens.

The agenda according to the [articles of association](#).

DFA Winter Conference on 27 January

In continuation of the DFA General Meeting, DFA will arrange its traditional winter conference. We have really worked hard to make an exciting and inspiring program for the conference starting at approx. at 11 am.

In addition, we have planned a subsequent **bang of a party**, where we will say goodbye to Johannes Hansen as the long-standing manager of Danish Farmers Abroad.

The winter conference's topics are related to climate-friendly and sustainable agriculture, as well as how we as producers can adapt to the actual trends, agricultural policy and consumer expectations. In addition, how the war in Europe affects both our daily life and future possibilities. Finally, the future perspectives for the food supply and the geopolitical development in the world will be highlighted.

We have invited a number of insightful and experienced people to contribute with presentations from different corners of the world, where we can alternately mention:

- Hans Poulsen from Agro Cocora in Romania
- Erik Van Straaten from Bunge in the Netherlands
- Søren Hertel Hansen from Andrimner in Spain
- Steen Bitsch from Vestjyllands Andel
- Morten Fogh Albertsen from Goodvalley in Ukraine
- Palle Jacobsen from Agrocom in Denmark
- Clement Kjersgaard from DR Debatten
- Mykhailo Vydoynik, ambassador for Ukraine in Denmark

And in addition to listen to their presentations on the above subjects, we will have a panel discussion and, as usual, there will be time for social and vocational networking. Bring your spouse and employee as well, and let us have a fruitful debate and subsequent party at Friday 27 January 2023 in the evening.



Please set aside the day (and the evening) to attend the conference and to discuss the many challenges and issues in our industry, which have and will have decisive importance for all of us in the years to come.

A registration list for each of the events will be sent out in the late part of December, but if you already know that you want to participate, don't hesitate to register to **Tom Axelgaard** by mail: ta@danishfarmersabroad.dk That is a way avoiding getting anything else put on the calendar for that day.

DFA courses for middle managers in crop and pig production

DFA MSP course for pig managers. The 11 pig managers on the team started the course's first seminar in mid-September (September 20 - 23) in Denmark. The team's next meeting takes place on 17-20 January in south-eastern Hungary and the program includes a visit to First Farms Hungary. The last two seminars take place in May and September 2023.



DFA MSP Team 2022-23

The **DFA CMP course for Crop managers** is scheduled to start in week 8, 2023 (February 21 – 24) with the first seminar in Denmark. The second of three will be held in Romania (7-9 June) and the final seminar in Slovakia in November 2023.

More information about the course can be found [here](#).

Contact course manager **Povl Nørgaard** on + 45 31720145 or mail: povl@povlnorgaard.dk or the DFA secretariat for further information on the two courses.

Briefly about completed DFA activities

Impressions from the DFA Study Trip to California

The 33 participants on the DFA study Trip at the beginning of November got an unforgettable impression of the state and not least of Californian large-scale agriculture in the Central Valley as well as the attitudes among the farmers towards their big challenge – lack of water.

California's Central Valley is one of the world's most productive agricultural regions and represents a significant part of California's economy. This despite the fact, that the area would be a desert if it were not possible to irrigate via an expanded canal network that moves meltwater from the nearby mountains of the Sierra Nevada to the good soil in the former lake bed. In the state, nearly \$50 billion in revenue is produced in 2020 (13% of total agricultural production value in the United States as a whole). More than 300 commodity crops are grown across the state, including a significant portion of all fruits, vegetables, and nuts for the entire United States.

The Central Valley of California has arable land twice as large as Denmark's agricultural land of 2.3 million. ha.

The first visit went to **Burrel Farm – owned by Ingleby Farms**. They have 1.394 ha with pistachio trees and a further approx. 400 ha used for other crops and for uncultivated land to promote biodiversity. Here we got a detailed impression of how pistachios are grown and how they are subsequently processed in the company's own factory right next to the farm. At the brand-new factory facility, each individual pistachio nut is photographed so that they can sort by size and ensure quality. A 10-year-old pistachio tree can harvest approx. 8-10 kg of nuts per year. Leguminous plants are grown between the rows of trees, which later are grounded.



Pistachios, tree pruning machine and a pistachio harvester

The visits the following day focused on **milk production**. We visited 4 different dairy farms with up to 5,000 cows and different types of milking systems – from a traditional herringbone system to carousel milking with space for 80 cows, as well as barns with robotic milking systems. Camera surveillance of the cows was used and with "face recognition" to identify the individual cow. We saw only one example of a biogas plant for degassing livestock manure - otherwise the manure was simply collected and left in stacks - possibly brought back as bedding. However, the visit to the Raw Milk Farm differed greatly from the others – as the focus here was on producing unhomogenized milk, based on the fact that it is significantly healthier to drink.



On the third day, we got an impression of the modern **cotton harvester's technique**, which makes it possible to harvest 25 ha per day – equivalent to what 1,000 hand pickers was able to harvest previously. That harvester has created a minor labor revolution in the countryside – not least in China.

The visits that day also gave an impression of different types of irrigation techniques – including the use of drip hoses laid down 40 c. depth to minimize water evaporation.



At an arranged lunch **meeting with 20 local farmers**, we got an impression of their strong attitudes towards the climate agenda. They did not think that their water shortage problems were due to climate change – rather that it was normal fluctuations in rainfall, which have always characterized the area. Their attitudes were thus in great contrast to those of the urban population in the state's large cities, who wanted agriculture to use much less water. According to the farmers, agriculture in the Central Valley uses 40% of the water that comes from the mountains – 10% goes to the cities as drinking water and the rest is discharged.

The trip also included a visit to facilities for sorting and packing of kiwifruit, production of trees for planting in new almond, pistachio and walnut plantations. As well as joyful testing local wine production.

The greatest experience came on the visit to **Sequoia National Park** having 3,000-year-old Red Wood Giant trees – it is simply incredible that trees can become so big and so old. The world's heaviest tree stood here among these giants.

A big thank you to Gary Schmidt and Ingleby Farms for a fantastic program and good trip management.

Resume of meeting in the DFA Innovation Committee on 25 November

Another meeting has been provided in the DFA's Innovation Committee including a company visits. The meeting took place at **DAKA's headquarter** in Hedensted. Katja Juul Nielsen provided a tour around the factory as well as a vivid insight into how DAKA has innovated during the recent years.

The group got a very interesting and informative impression of the part of DAKA which, among other things, receives food waste and other waste products from the food industry and converts it into both biogas, biodiesel and fertilizer. DAKA has moved from being a company known for picking up dead animals and smelling terrible, to being a modern, sustainable company with goals and activities that contribute to a cleaner environment and a reduced CO2 emission promoted via an innovative and efficient processing of both dead animals, slaughterhouse waste and food waste from both the food industry and retail trade. An impressive development that everyone in the group could positively relate to.

The future of the DFA Innovation Committee

At a subsequent meeting, the future of the DFA Innovation Committee was discussed. It was agreed by all, that the committee's purpose should be a constant focus on current topics related to sustainable development of agriculture and the food industry, and in cooperation with DFA's agricultural members to shed light on both needs and what is going on here. Technical solutions to reduce Greenhouse gas emissions in all parts of the supply chain should also be a main theme for the activities in the group.

It is an area having an incredible number of new developments going on. Therefore, the focus should be on how both companies in the agro-industry and agriculture themselves collaborate to find the right tools, technologies and knowledge contributing to the food industry in the future being able to market food with a significantly lower footprint than today.

It was decided that an attempt should be made to establish a networking forum having focus on innovation and sustainability, being relevant for both company and agricultural members. The intension is to provide two annual network meetings arranged by a facilitator, who can plan, organize and implement the network meetings, and ensure that new relationships and networks are created throughout the group.

Summing up - there is something to look forward to, in terms of getting inspiration and concrete ideas for the future development of the agro-sector.

HR passions, online/offline blend and heart for Ukraine

The network group of HR managers in DFA has had a meeting in October. This time as well we got inspiration from both outside and inside. We had all missed being physically together, so experience was exchanged on a grand scale - on recruitment, visibility, management training, HR digitization and much more at the meeting in Warsaw.

Most of the presentations for the group were with a physical presence - such as a super concrete and versatile presentation from one of Poland's largest recruitment companies, **EWL Group**, to specifically address the record low unemployment, and hence challenges around recruitment in virtually all of Europe. But we also got online submissions from super, super talented **Olena Eliseyeva** from Ukraine, who is now sitting in Croatia until it is safe enough for her and her child to go back to their home in Ukraine.



Olena gave us insight into two super simple, but super sharp and extremely useful models regarding how to handle yourself, colleagues or employees who are under pressure/stress, and may react somewhat inappropriately to their work. And we probably just listened an extra time when someone is sitting "opposite" of us tells us about something she has experienced to an extreme degree on her own. Even though Olena's post was over a screen, it was both touching, uplifting and a two-hour "it makes sense" experience (and it was cool that it was possible with an online/offline blend)

Thanks to Danish Farmers Abroad and thanks to the world's best network group and thanks to speakers having something on their minds.

Sofie Hammerskov

The benchmarking group met for the 12th time in Copenhagen

DFA ERFA Group 1 met for the 12th time in Copenhagen in November having Johannes. V. Hansen as coordinator. Previously Jens Christensen, Optima was the manager of the group. The purpose of the group is to exchange practical experiences and financial key figures.

In addition to this fixed annual meeting in Copenhagen, the group usually meets in the months of April-May at some carefully selected location inside or outside Europe. The meetings are held during a day and a half and, in addition to exchanging experiences, it is dealing with a number of current topics for the industry. The group represents DFA members having activities in countries such as Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Venezuela and Denmark.

At the meeting in Copenhagen, Karsten Flemming, L&F presented an outlook for pork prices, Palle Jacobsen, Agrocom gave his take on the development in commodity prices, Martin Kristian Brauer, L&F gave his take on the development in the global economy and finally Claus Mathiasen presented the military situation in Ukraine seen from the Defense Academy. It was a fruitful couple of days in Copenhagen. The group will meet again in March in the USA.

News from Member Companies

Harvest news

Halychyna Zahid, Ukraine, Jesper Krogh (December 6)

We have finished this year harvest. The below presents our average yields per ha and prices for the various crops in 2022.

Crop	Tons per ha, clean and dry	App, marked price December 22, with VAT
Winter barley	5,9	7.500,00 UAH
Winter wheat	7,2	6.800,00 UAH
Oilseed rape	3,8	18.200,00 UAH
Soya	3,2	14.000,00 UAH
Corn	7,1	6.250,00 UAH
Sugar beets	84,1	

DFA Activity Plan

Month	Days	Activity	Location	Coordinator
January	Friday 27	DFA annual meeting and Winter Conference	Bygholm Agricultural College, Denmark	DFA Secretariat
January	Tuesday 17 – Friday 20	MSP Course Pig Managers	Hungary	Povl Nørgaard
February	Tuesday 21 – Friday 24	CMP Course Crop Managers	Denmark	Povl Nørgaard
March	Monday 27- Wednesday 29	DFA ERFA Group 4 meeting	Denmark	Henrik Nielsen
May	Wednesday 24 – Friday 26	MSP Course Pig Managers	Slovakia	Povl Nørgaard
June	Wednesday 7 - Friday 9 June	CMP Course Crop managers	Romania	Povl Nørgaard
June	Not decided	DFA Summer Conference	Denmark	DFA Secretariat
September	Tuesday 19 – Friday 22 Sept	MSP Course Pig managers	Denmark	Povl Nørgaard

Global Pork Meat Prices

Source: Genesis, 7 December 2022



GLOBAL MARKETING REPORT

Price as of December 7th, 2022

	Domestic price (own currency)	US dollars (liveweight lb.)
USA (CME constructed price)	82.98 USD/100 lb. carcass DW	61.41 ¢
Canada (Ontario base price)	204.05 CAD/100 kg carcass DW	54.07 ¢
Mexico (national average)	45.39 MXN/kg liveweight	\$ 1.05
Brazil (South Region)	6.70 BRL/kg liveweight	57.76 ¢
United Kingdom	200.36 GBP/100 kg carcass	88.73 ¢
Spain	1.640 EUR/kg liveweight	78.13 ¢
France	1.807 EUR/kg carcass	71.79 ¢
Russia	107.70 RUB/kg liveweight	78.19 ¢
Vietnam (national average)	53,000 VND/kg liveweight	\$ 1.01
South Korea (national average except Jeju)	5,445 KRW/kg carcass	\$ 1.88
Philippines (national average)	175 PHP/kg liveweight	\$ 1.43
China	23.17 CNY/kg liveweight	\$ 1.47

Advertisements

Agricultural technology student looking for an internship abroad

My name is Oliver O. Vanner, I am 23 years old, from the island Als and I am looking for an internship abroad - preferably in crop production and management. At the moment I am a student at Erhvervsakademi Aarhus, where I am studying Agricultural Technology to become Agro Business Manager. It is an education having focus on management and economics within the agricultural sector. In this connection, I will be doing an 8-week internship from the middle of February. See my CV [here](#)

Contact: Oliver Vanner by Mail: Olivervanner@live.dk Mobile: +45 29 91 37 24

Magnus Fredensborg is looking for new challenges

I am 22 years old and come from Løgumkloster. I have a vocational education as EUX farmer in 2021 and right now I am in Australia where I work on a farm. I have a dream of moving on to Africa and working with crop production, as I think it could be exciting to try something completely different and learn to grow crops in a different way than what we do here. Other places in the world may also be my interest!

See my CV [here](#)

Contact: Magnus Fredensborg by mail: magnus-f@live.dk Mob: + 45 28785046

Animal production farm for sale in Croatia

In Western Balkans area, Croatia, an animal breeding farm is for sale. The farm now operates as a mixed animal breeding farm, on 8 buildings. Farm has 8 big stables and is leased (short-term lease) by a company who currently produces animals on location. Stables are constructed from prefabricated concrete elements. Stables need regular renovation and technology improvement.

Farm is for sale (land, buildings and equipment) in whole for 1.800.000 €. Farm is free of any liability, so is simple for buying by a new potential owner. See further detailed description including photos of the farm [here](#).

Contact: The farm is provided by APR, Business Consulting Ltd., Slovenia - with partners. Danish contact person: Povl Nørgaard, mail: povl@povlnorgaard.dk, mob: + 45 31720145

Support the people of Ukraine - donate as a Christmas gift to the employees

Danish companies have asked us how they could support Ukraine instead of giving the traditional Christmas gifts. We have therefore produced a nice gift-carrying bag, which the company can give to employees or customer relations as an alternative or supplement to the Christmas gifts. You can also put some fine Ukrainian products in. Both parts to support of Ukraine. Read more about how [here](#)

Contact: Project Help Ukraine Now – Tom Axelgaard, Mail: help-ukraine.nu@axelgaard.org mob: 45 40 37 23 79.

Project Hemp in Sub Sahara Africa seeking partners

We are looking for progressive partners who have the same vision as ourselves - to establish production of Hemp in Zambia or other African Countries. We need help in the form of funding, grants, expertise and uptake of our products. We already have the will and expertise to produce the raw material in huge quantities. Partners could be individuals, Corporate Organizations, Government Organizations and NGOs who see the potential of a viable eco-friendly crop that will bring us all the right returns.

See further info on the project ideas [here](#)

Contact: ZAMBEZI ENVIRO T/A HEMP CONSOLIDATED, Mail: hempenviro@gmail.com or call +263 (0)772 565 170



Short News from Abroad

Global cereal production and trade forecast to fall to three-year lows – FAO

Source: Ukr Agro Consult, 5 December 2022

FAO's forecast for world cereal production in 2022 has been cut by 7.2 million tonnes this month and is now pegged at 2 756 tonnes, 2.0 percent (57 million tonnes) lower year-on-year. By comparison, world cereal production grew by an average of 56 million tonnes per year in the last three years. This month's downgrade mainly concerns maize and, albeit by a smaller amount, wheat production.

Global coarse grain production in 2022 is pegged at 1 462 million tonnes following an almost 5-million-tonne cut to the forecast and is now seen to decline by 3.1 percent compared to the 2021 outturn. The recent reduction principally reflects lower maize harvest prospects in Ukraine, where the impact of the war has made post-harvesting operations prohibitively expensive, compelling many farmers to leave planted areas unharvested.

[Read more:](#)

FAO: Global pig meat exports expected to be 11% lower this year

Source: pig333.com, 30 November 2022

This reduction in total pork meat exports is driven by a nearly 45% anticipated decline in sales by China.

Total pig meat exports in the world are forecast to total 11.3 million tonnes in 2022, down 11.3% from last year, according to the FAO's Meat Market Review - Emerging trends and outlook 2022. This reduction in total exports is driven principally by a nearly 45% anticipated decline in sales by China, limiting

overall pig meat imports to 2.7 million tonnes, accounting for around 24% of global trade, although much lower than the 45% level in 2020. This year's decline is principally due to lower imports in the first half of the year amid abundant domestic production and low internal prices.

[Read more:](#)

Understanding the two types of carbon market

Source: AHDB, 24 November 2022

Carbon markets – the world of trading the emissions and offsets of greenhouse gases – are becoming an increasingly important part of the economy. They are a growing part of the world's efforts to combat climate change. They also have increasing relevance to farmers and growers, as we have recently discussed, representing an opportunity for an additional income stream.

These carbon markets can be complex, but we are going to break down the basics in this series of articles so you can understand what carbon markets are, how they work, and what you need to know.

One of the first steps in navigating carbon markets is to understand the two broad types of market: the compulsory market, and the voluntary market. The compulsory market is government-regulated, where companies have a legal limit to their emissions but can buy or sell allowances with other companies – similar to the old milk quotas. The voluntary market is where companies can choose to offset their emissions by buying credits generated by carbon-sequestering projects. Both markets work on the basis that 1 carbon credit = 1 tonne of CO₂ equivalent.

[Read more:](#)

Czech Republic reports African swine fever in wild pig

Source: Ukr Agro Consult, 6 December 2022

On 2 December, Czech Republic's State Veterinary Administration (SVS) defined a zone of infection around the place in Jindřichovice pod Smrkek in Frýdlantsk, where a dead piglet of a wild pig infected with African swine fever was found

Municipalities within the government-defined zone of infection must also submit an inventory of all pigs kept by households. The deadline to complete this inventory is December 9. Farmers who keep pigs for non-commercial purposes will have to have the pigs slaughtered within 10 days.

[Read more:](#)

Romania registers lowest corn production in 15 years

Source: Ukr Agro Consult, 6 December 2022

Romania is set to mark this year the lowest corn production since 2007, the drought reducing the harvest by approximately 40%-50% compared to previous years.

The disappointing harvest will not pose a threat to the country's internal consumption. The average production is 3,000 kg per hectare, much below the average of normal years in Romania, when this crop produced between 5 and 6 tons per hectare. It is the most affected crop by the drought, but the harvest ensures our domestic consumption and availability for export.

[Read more:](#)

The largest integrated farm in Romania tripled its business first 9 months of 2022

Source: Business Review, 24 November 2022

AGRAR Group, the largest integrated livestock farm in Romania with cow milk production and vegetal production, continued accelerated investments this year registering, in the first nine months of 2022, a turnover of RON 103.23 million (+221.45%) and a net profit of RON 10.6 million (+249.5%), compared to the analyzed period of 2021.

The acquisition of their farms Lacto Agrar (made in December 2021) and Apold (made in April 2022), contributed with over RON 5 million to the profitability of DN AGRAR, representing over 48% of the net profit achieved, according to the financial results for the first 9 months of 2022.

[Read more:](#)

Ukrainian agricultural exports are approaching pre-war levels

Source: UkrAgroConsult, 2 December 2022

The export of agricultural products from Ukraine amounted to 7.2 million tons in November, crossing the mark of 7 million tons for the first time since the war. This was announced by the Deputy Minister of Economy – Trade Representative of Ukraine Taras Kachka on his Facebook page. He noted that the specified volume is “very close to pre-war January, when agricultural exports were 7.8 million tons.”

[Read more:](#)

Pork export Russia bounces back

Source: Pig Progress, 16 November 2022

Russian pig farmers have seen export supplies recovering in the past several months, after a slump in the first half of 2022. More Russian pork started to land on traditional markets of the post-Soviet countries, while supplies to Asia are still hindered by logistics challenges.

Russian pig farmers exported 130,000 tonnes of pork in the first 6 months of 2022, 25% lower compared the same period of the previous year. As of late October, foreign sales lag behind last year's level only by 15%. This indicates that export slightly recovered. By the end of 2022, Russian is set to export 170,000 tonnes of pork, against 210,000 in 2021.

A drop in export to Vietnam, Hong Kong and Ukraine – the key export markets for Russian pig farmers in the past few years were offset by a rise in supplies to Belarus and Kazakhstan, RUPP said, not providing any concrete data.

[Read more:](#)

Russia Reaped \$1 Billion of Wheat in Occupied Ukraine, NASA Says

Source: Ukr Agro Consult, 5 December 2022

Ukraine has lost at least \$1 billion of wheat that was harvested in areas controlled by Russia, according to research using satellite imagery from NASA's food security and agriculture program.

The analysis gives an idea of what's happening in occupied territories, where information is tightly controlled. It uses a machine-learning model detecting texture and color changes based on a time-series of satellite images to map where crops have been harvested or left unharvested.

Almost 6 million tons of wheat was collected from areas not under Ukrainian control, according to NASA Harvest. About 88% of the winter crops planted in occupied areas were harvested, while unharvested areas were mainly along the front line.

[Read more:](#)

Citing concerns about China, states mull limits on foreign ownership of farmland

Source: farmlandgrab.com, 11 November 2022

Amid growing concern about Chinese investment in U.S. agriculture, there has been a renewed push to limit and more closely monitor foreign ownership of farmland across the country.

At least eight states considered implementing a new limit on foreign control of agricultural land, and one, Indiana, passed a new law limiting new investment by foreign companies – specifically citing China as a reason for passing the law.

[Read more:](#)

Firmaprofil – Jyga

CANADIAN WORLD CLASS FEEDING TECHNOLOGY FOR LACTATION AND GESTATING SOWS ENTERS DENMARK

JYGA Technologies, manufacturer of the GESTAL feeding system is now available for Danish pork producers, thus providing peace of mind, while improving herd performance.

We are proud to bring this already proven system to Denmark with Mr. Jacob Pilgaard and Ms. Helena Echberg providing sales and technical services of GESTAL products.

WHAT CAN GESTAL DO FOR DANISH PORK PRODUCERS?

The GESTAL smart feeders help producers get heavier litter weight at weaning by increasing feed intake of lactating sows. Knowing how hyper prolific the Danish sows are, the feeders can ensure a higher intake, which allows for optimal sow body condition at weaning and increase sow longevity. With today's labor challenges, the GESTAL smart feeders can make sure your sows are fed precisely, with much easier feed management and happy employees.

WHO IS JYGA TECHNOLOGIES

JYGA Technologies – a Canadian company – became the first to ever design and manufacture a smart feeder for sows, which assures all your sows will get the perfect feed intake leading to great results. JYGA Technologies develops and manufactures entirely all its GESTAL feeding systems – including electronics and software – at its own plant located in Canada, and every single part is evaluated and tested in Ferme ALDO, the owners 2,200 head sow-farm.

Strong by its experience as a pork producer, JYGA Technologies is the pioneer for precision feeding of sows. It is not surprising to see the company being distinguished from others, by the diversity of its competences.



Québec, Canada | Kansas, USA | Vechta, Germany
info@jygatech.com • 866-333-7853

JYGA Technologies is a global company present in 34 countries, has 3 offices (Canada, USA, and Germany) and employs more than 100 people. More than 1 million sows in USA are fed by this equipment, and there are already clients in Denmark enjoying the JYGA Technologies'.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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