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INSIDE WLJ

150 YEARS OF SHORTHORN — The American Shorthorn Association is the oldest U.S. beef breed association, but the breed went through many challenges to get to where it is today. **Page 5**

CA AG VEHICLE EXEMPTION — A three-year extension to the exemption of ag vehicles from California's Basic Inspection of Terminals program was introduced in the state Legislature. **Page 9**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

With the MCOOL discussion heating up once again, we look back to a March 2007 *WLJ* column where editor John Robinson shared his take: "The problem with COOL is that I have yet to see hard data or consumer polling that says consumers will choose an American steak over one from Australia, especially if ours costs more. … Most consumers make snap decisions at the grocery store. They are likely to spend about 45 seconds at the meat case making their selection. They will buy the product with which they are most familiar. Most are driven by price. … Although Americans love U.S. corn-fed beef, they have a knack for changing their tastes, particularly when price is a motivating factor."

INDEX

Opinion P-2
Legal Ledger P-7
Markets P-18
Classifieds P-21
Sale Calendar P-22

U.S. Government

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey (R) announced a new state water agency, as well as expressed his desire to create a desalination plant. Pictured here, an aerial view of the Central Arizona Project canal.

AZ governor announces new agency to find water

— Roundtable on challenges

Drought has been on the top of people's minds in Arizona, with Gov. Doug Ducey (R) announcing in late February a new state agency to identify and develop new long-term sources of water, while federal lawmakers with water and agriculture stakeholders also held a roundtable to discuss the drought issue plaguing the state.

Ducey's new Arizona Water Authority would significantly change how Arizona approaches water. The nine-member board has the authority to acquire, own and sell water on behalf of the state. They also have the authority to plan, construct and own water-related infrastructure by providing grants and loans through two programs. The Water Supply Development Revolving Fund would provide loans and grants to eligible entities outside of Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties for planning and developing water supplies. The second fund, the Long-Term Water Augmentation Fund, will provide loans to all entities in the state, with at least 75 percent of this fund for one or more large-scale projects to import water into the state.

Depending on how the Legislature decides on its budget, this fund could receive up to $1 billion.

Ducey proposes spending $1.16 billion on water augmentation over the next three years—one-third this year and one-third apiece in each of the next two years. In Ducey's State of the State address in January, he touted the idea of a desalination plant in the Gulf of California in Mexico as part of his water plan. In the speech, Ducey said with the resources available in the budget, "Instead of just talking about desalination, how about we pave the way to make it actually happen?" Ducey said the goal is to secure "Arizona's water future for the next 100 years."

The Associated Press (AP) stated a report shows that even a $1 billion state investment would only cover about 20 percent of the cost of building a new plant capable of producing up to 200,000 acre-feet (an acre-foot is equivalent to 325,851 gallons) of water.

See WATER on page 12

CA water projects allowed to proceed

— Trump-era opinions in effect

California will be allowed to proceed with state water plans after a federal judge ruled two Trump-era biological opinions may remain in effect over the next three years—with new safeguards for endangered fish.

Fishing and environmental groups argued that 2019 opinions for California's Central Valley Project and State Water Project would jeopardize endangered fish species, while supporters appreciated the elimination of certain requirements regarding water flows. U.S. District Judge Dale Drozd ruled March 11 that the biological opinions would remain in place while the Biden administration reconsiders them.

The Trump-era opinions allow water to be sent to about 20 million farms, businesses and homes in southern and central California. The opinions removed certain requirements, such as mandating extra flows to prevent water temperatures from increasing high enough to damage salmon species. Critics argue removing the mandates endangers Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, delta smelt and longfin smelt.

Background

In 2019, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued a pair of biological opinions addressing the impact on endangered species from the long-term operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project. USFWS' opinion addressed the water projects' impact on the delta

See CA H2O on page 9

Groups address vagueness of 'conservation' in 30x30 plan

— Initiative lacks detail

Several letters sent during the comment period for the American Conservation and Stewardship Atlas said the 30x30 initiative—known as America the Beautiful initiative—fails to clarify how the federal government defines "conservation" and what lands would be considered part of the initiative.

In January, the Department of the Interior (DOI) announced it was taking public comments and holding listening sessions to develop the Atlas, which will reflect baseline information on the lands and waters that are "conserved or restored." The department announced the Atlas would "reflect a continuum of conservation actions, recognizing that many uses of lands and waters can be consistent with the long-term health of natural systems and contribute to addressing climate change."

Montana

In a letter dated March 7, Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte (R) stated the initiative is "long on philosophy and short on detail" and asserted the federal government does not have the authority and funding to execute the proposal.

Gianforte's letter stated the DOI lacks authority to define "conservation" and determine what state and private lands constitute the definition. The letter cited two court rulings that stated the federal government lacks authority to undertake President Joe Biden's executive order directing DOI to solicit input, and Congress should grant such authority.

"Attributing undefined characteristics like 'conservation' or 'wildlife habitats and corridors' to private lands influences property values, may lead to promulgation of land restrictions, and raises a number of property 'taking' concerns pursuant to U.S. Constitution (Amendment) V," the letter reads.

The letter questions the government's recent effort to propose "vague action" followed by a public comment period that "inappropriately shifts the burden to stakeholders and opens the door to illogical outgrowth of the initial proposal." The letter cites the Atlas as an example of the approach and questions what constitutes "conservation," whether 30 percent applies to all lands and waters in the U.S., and what "permanent protection," "nature-deprived" and "stewardship action" mean.

"Montana has done its job insofar as conserving natural areas and resources," the letter continues, citing the state's work with environmental groups, private landowners and stakeholders to ensure the protection of open space. "Montana asks that the DOI allow this work to continue, unencumbered by federal attempts to 'help.'"

See 30x30 on page 14

Market begins to trade steadier

While the European conflict continues to impact the cattle market, futures were able to recover some of the previous week's losses, and the cash trade market was steady.

Live cattle futures found some recovery, with the April contract up about $3.50 to $139.47 and the June contract also up about $3.50 to $135.93.

Cash trade took until Thursday to fully develop, with about 46,000 head sold through Thursday morning. Live steers sold between $136-140, averaging $138. Dressed steers sold from $220-222.

"The cash cattle market's ability to hold prices steady with a week ago has helped traders take a firm position, but traders are still unwilling to push the market too aggressively as they'd run the risk of pushing prices close to the 100-day moving average," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her midday Thursday comments.

Cash trade through March 12 totaled 83,264 head. Live steers averaged $138.37, and dressed steers averaged $220.02.

The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of March 7-14 was the following on a live basis:

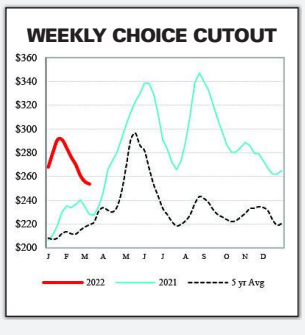
- Negotiated purchases: $138.43.
- Formula net purchases: $144.61.
- Forward contract net purchases: $144.19.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: $142.61.

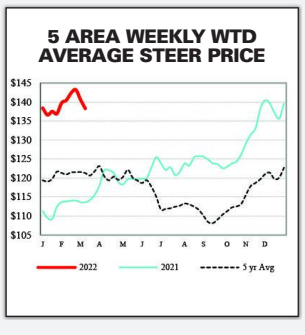
On a dressed basis:

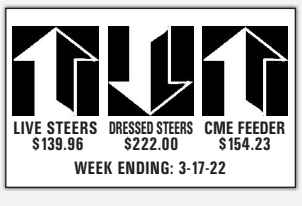
- Negotiated purchases: $219.89.
- Formula net purchases: $227.18.
- Forward contract net purchases: $222.31.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: $227.20.

Slaughter through Thursday totaled about 500,000 head, similar to a week earlier. Total slaughter through March 12 is projected at 654,000 head, down a few thousand

See MARKETS on page 19







PERIODICAL: Time Sensitive Priority Handling

COMMENTS

Watch the grain market

CROW

Cattle markets have been a seesaw ride ever since this Ukraine conflict started. I still can't believe one man can simply start a war. Russia is one of the largest countries in the world and is blessed with huge natural resources. Now, they are having trouble selling those commodities, like oil and gas, nickel, wheat, etc.

I would have to imagine the Black Sea is their main shipping port for many of those commodities, and one would have to think that protecting the region's infrastructure would be kind of important. Last I heard, 3 million refugees have left the country.

Last week there was some cash trade at $140. The first two days of the week, futures markets were cooperating, and then on Wednesday it took another crash. Then some cattle sold for $141 Wednesday, so it looks like feeders have a little leverage right now.

The greatest threat of this conflict is inflation. The beef cutout appears to have bottomed out at the $250 level, which should give consumers a little relief from surging fuel prices. Oil shot up to $130 a barrel two weeks ago but has now dropped below $95. Energy drives every industry in the world, and renewables just won't get it done.

The Federal Reserve finally raised interest a whopping quarter point, 0.25 percent. I can't see if that will start any avalanches of fear. The last time we had big inflation was in the 1980s, and interest rates were at least 12 percent. We have had cheap money for quite some time.

One bright spot is that cull cows and bulls are in demand, with some auction markets reporting $80 cows and $110 bulls. David Anderson, Extension economist at Texas A&M University, looks at the non-fed markets: "Cow prices are increasing in spite of large cow slaughter. Weekly cow slaughter during the first two weeks of February totaled at least 145,000 head per week. That was the largest weekly slaughter since the first week of December 2012. It was the biggest two consecutive weeks since the fall of 2011. Beef cow slaughter has been extremely large, rivaling peak fall slaughter levels. This large beef cow slaughter is coinciding with seasonally large dairy cow slaughter, which typically peaks early in the year.

"High cow beef prices are providing some insight into beef demand. Both the cow beef cutout and the wholesale 90 percent lean beef for ground beef are well above a year ago, at $229 and $284 per cwt, respectively. Wholesale middle meat prices have dropped in recent weeks. For example, both wholesale ribeye and strip loin prices have fallen below year-ago levels. There is some evidence of consumers shifting purchases to more ground beef and fewer steaks in response to high retail prices. There is also evidence of some shifting to less expensive Select beef cuts and away from higher priced Choice and Prime.

"By the last week of February, slaughter had eased to 137,000 head, remaining larger than the same week last year. Both dairy and beef cow slaughter declined. Increasing milk prices should slow dairy culling in coming weeks, as it often does seasonally. Beef cow culling is going to be greatly influenced by drought and costs. The rate of culling over the last year should have already moved most of the older, less productive cows. On balance, reduced dairy culling should pull down total cow slaughter and support prices in coming weeks."

Feeder cattle have taken the brunt of this volatile market; corn prices have surged to the $7.50 mark, which has put the brakes on advancing feeder cattle values. However, futures markets have feeders priced at $180 and higher this coming fall, so I wouldn't worry about the fall market just yet.

Fed cattle markets will see more market-ready cattle coming around June/July, which is a typical seasonal trend. Grain markets will be the commodities to watch during this conflict. And I suppose diesel and fertilizer prices will be important to watch too.

The cost of producing crops will go higher, and yields may decline. The Drought Monitor is reaching into the Corn Belt, which may pose problems. What we need more than anything in the ag world is moisture, and again, I will start praying for rain and now also peace. — **PETE CROW**

RESOURCE SCIENCE

WOLVES: WHEN NORTH MEETS SOUTH

Everybody is now using the science terms related to COVID-19. People talk about the SARS-CoV-2 virus, messenger RNA, immunity, vaccines, spike proteins, mutations and the increasing numbers of COVID-19 variants. So, what's a variant? It's a different form of the virus with mutations resulting in a different RNA genetic sequence, which in turn results in different properties (infectivity and lethality). Variants that might pose a public health threat are called "variants of concern" by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

You know from DNA profiles that different bulls have different DNA sequence mutations that result in different performance traits of their daughters. So, maybe each bull could be called a variant. Of course, you would just designate a bull by his name/number and not call him a variant. I suppose you could also call a breed a variant, but the word "breed" works just fine.

The point is that words have meaning, and they should be used appropriately for effective communication and policy. Consider wildlife, which also have variants. You know them as the variants called species and populations—like the population of the elk species in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in Colorado Game Management Unit 82. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) designates populations called distinct population segments (DPSs). The ESA also recognizes subspecies, which are populations that are in some way distinct from other populations of the same species. Subspecies are like livestock breeds, but they are not clearly distinct because wild animals move and interbreed over time. It follows that DPSs are also not clearly distinct. So, COVID-19 variants, DPSs and subspecies are categories that are not definite but are designated with informed judgment.

I described the complications of wolf subspecies and DPSs previously (*WLJ*, Feb. 18, 2019), and Anna Miller's excellent articles in the Feb. 21 and March 7 editions of *WLJ* describe the recent ESA relisting of the wolf DPS in the lower 48 states and the petition to relist wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountain (NRM) DPS. It's confusing that the ESA lists subspecies and populations, but that's wildlife law these days.

Now consider this. The wolves in the NRM DPS originated from natural immigrants and introduced wolves of the northern subspecies in Canada; the Mexican wolf in southern Arizona and New Mexico is considered a subspecies and is listed as an endangered species; and there are plans for wolves to be introduced into Colorado. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine concluded the Mexican wolf is a valid subspecies—although I think this is uncertain because scientists acknowledge that subspecies designations are subjective (see references at wlj.net). In any event, whatever the source of wolves that will be put into Colorado, they will not be the Mexican wolf subspecies. So, what happens if and when wolves in Colorado disperse southward and meet up with the Mexican wolves? They will likely both interbreed and kill each other (wolves killing each other is common in wild wolves). I guess they're like people in some ways.

Regardless, a mixed population will result, selection will determine what genes and characteristics persist over time and the population will not be the same genetically as the existing ESA-listed pure Mexican wolf subspecies. It will be a new "variant" population. How this is handled with regard to the ESA remains to be seen, but NRM wolves mixing with the Mexican subspecies is a threat to its genetic distinctiveness.

Maybe wolves from the North and South won't ever meet, but wolves disperse long distances. For example, NRM wolves expanded from Idaho, Montana and Wyoming into Washington, Oregon and California, so it is possible, and even likely, that wolves from Colorado will eventually contact the Mexican wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. This issue should be addressed by the state of Colorado and in a federal environmental impact statement regarding introduction of wolves to Colorado and their subsequent spread. What, if anything, is going to be done to protect the Mexican wolf subspecies from mixing with NRM wolves? Will crossbreeding of northern and Mexican wolves result in more genetic diversity and increase fitness?

These are academic questions regarding the classification of wolf populations. The practical issue is managing wolves in different geographic areas regardless of subspecies designation. The most important management questions involve minimizing wolves' impact on the livestock and game populations upon which Americans' livelihoods depend. This is currently being debated in Colorado, and preliminary assessments are available at www.northwestbiology.com/publicationsreports. — **Dr. Matt Cronin**

(Matthew Cronin was a Research Professor at the University of Alaska and is now a scientist with Northwest Biology Company LLC in Bozeman, MT. He can be reached at croninm@aol.com.)

GUEST OPINION

WITH INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT, IT'S TIME FOR CO SENATORS TO SHINE

On Aug. 9, 2019, a fire broke out at one of the largest beef packing plants in the U.S. The Finney County beef plant in Holcomb, KS, owned by Tyson Foods, accounts for nearly 6 percent of the nation's slaughter capacity. In the days following the fire, southeast Colorado cattle producers witnessed extreme volatility in the daily feeder and live cattle futures.

A Sept. 16, 2019, report released from Kansas State (K-State) University listed projected values for finished steers in Kansas feedyards at -$184.99. During that same period, packer margins spiked significantly to nearly four times their annual average, or approximately $549. Within that same report, K-State predicted that cattle feeders would not see a positive net return on finished steers or heifers until May 2020.

Unfortunately, that positive net return never came. Instead, a global pandemic disrupted supply chains across the globe. The arrival of COVID-19 exposed inherent flaws in the U.S. meatpacking industry, resulting in a compromised food supply chain and exposing the vulnerability of our global meat processing workforce. In a report prepared by Brett Crosby of Custom Ag Solutions Inc., the United States Cattlemen's Association (USCA) estimated the total impact of COVID-19 on the cattle industry would exceed $14.6 billion.

Then, on May 30, 2021, JBS detected a ransomware attack that temporarily halted all production at its U.S. facilities and certain facilities around the world.

The combination of these so-called "black swan" events earned the attention of lawmakers, media and the public. With the spotlight now on the cracks in the system, can we finally make meaningful change to ensure a robust and secure domestic food system?

Negotiated cash sales form the foundation of price discovery in the cattle marketplace. All sectors of the beef market depend on ranchers and meatpackers arriving at a fair cash price through price discovery. Even alternative marketing arrangements, also known as formula sales, often rely on cash prices as the basis of their contracts—and a dwindling number of ranchers are doing the work of price discovery, even though everyone stands to benefit.

Sens. Deb Fischer (R-NE), Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Jon Tester (D-MT) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) are leading the bipartisan Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act, which would make sure everyone does their part to achieve price discovery in the market. The bill would establish minimum levels of cash sales that vary based on cattle marketing region, using each region's previous 18-month average trade as a guide for the level of cash sales necessary for price discovery in a particular region.

USCA was one of the first groups to endorse this bill. Some of the other cattlemen's groups prefer a voluntary approach to ensuring price discovery. But if a voluntary approach works, why hasn't it worked already? Instead, after decades of trying, this approach has brought us exactly the opposite of a healthy market: today's widespread dysfunction and abuse.

We have seen some economists say that price discovery is functioning effectively in the market already. But the same economists are unable to answer a simple question: How thin of a cash market is too thin?

Those same economists have also said that if the minimums are set too high or too low, you could end up disrupting the cattle market in the long term. To address that, the bill would require USDA to review the levels of cash sales every other year. If anything changes after the bill passes, there is a built-in mechanism to quickly make it right.

Something is deeply wrong when so-called black swan events leave ranchers vulnerable while other parts of the supply chain profit. We have momentum on our side, and now is not the time for complacency. Remember, nearly all of the cattle industry has a common goal: making sure enough price discovery is happening in the market.

The bill introduced by Fischer, Grassley, Tester and Wyden would do that. It is a long overdue lifeline for America's independent producers. And it is a key piece of returning transparency to the industry and achieving the level of price discovery that every link of the beef supply chain needs.

I urge Colorado Sens. Michael Bennet (D) and John Hickenlooper (D) to join the 17 other co-sponsors of this bill and support the Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act. — **Keven Falduto, La Junta, CO, cattle producer**

Letters to the Editor: Letters for publication should be no longer than 675 words, must refer to an article that has appeared within the month, and must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published. Letters may be shortened for space requirements. Send a letter to the editor by emailing editorial@wlj.net or mailing it to Western Livestock Journal Editorial, 7355 E. Orchard Road #300, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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Several factors may contribute to pregnancy losses in beef cattle

With calving season well underway, cattle producers are hoping to minimize calf deaths as much as possible.

The three categories of pregnancy losses in beef cattle include early embryonic death, abortion and stillbirth, according to North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension livestock specialists.

Early embryonic deaths occur within the first 42 days of gestation. After that point, losses are considered abortions. Abortion involves the expulsion of a dead fetus prior to approximately day 270 of gestation, while stillborn calves include full-term calves that are born dead or die in the first 24 to 48 hours after birth.

Abortions are also assumed when females diagnosed as pregnant begin showing signs of estrus (heat) or fail to deliver a calf. Identifying a cause in these cases is more difficult, as the only specimen remaining to help determine the cause is a blood sample from the female that suffered the presumed abortion.

"Although pregnancy losses in beef cattle are a fact of life, late-term losses are likely the most discouraging," said Gerald Stokka, NDSU Extension veterinarian and livestock stewardship specialist. "There are often more questions than answers, and trying to find a reason for the loss can be a complex and frustrating process."

"Within a herd, a single abortion or stillborn calf may not be regarded as significant," said Janna Block, Extension livestock systems specialist at NDSU's Hettinger Research Extension Center. "If several of these instances occur, it is a good idea to investigate further."

Potential causes of losses

Common causes of losses include calving difficulty (dystocia), nutritional deficiencies and infectious diseases.

Dystocia can occur if calves are too big or are not situated normally in the birth canal. Stress and lack of oxygen during calving can result in stillborn calves; however, these losses are often attributed to other causes, Stokka notes. Dystocia and stillbirths are more likely to occur in first-calf heifers because of a smaller pelvic area and in cows that are either overly conditioned or too thin.

Proper vitamin and mineral intake is also essential for placental and fetal development. In particular, deficiencies of selenium, iodine, manganese and vitamins A and E may result in abortion.

Some abortions in late pregnancy may be due to injury or extreme stress in the cow due to immune challenges and weather-related issues. The fluid-filled uterus provides good protection for the fetus, but pain or inflammation following maternal injury can cause stress and trigger the release of hormones in the body that may initiate premature labor, Stokka explains.

Infectious diseases caused by bacteria, protozoa, viruses and fungi often result in abortions and/or stillbirths in cattle. Vaccines are available to reduce the risk of losses from bacterial diseases including brucellosis, leptospirosis and vibriosis. Diseases such as trichomoniasis, sarcocystosis and neospora, which are caused by protozoa, can be more difficult to manage because vaccines are unavailable or may be ineffective.

Common viral diseases include bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) and infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR). Vaccines to prevent losses due to IBR and BVD are available and effective; however, producers need to choose their vaccine protocols wisely.

"It is important to always follow label directions when using modified live vaccines in pregnant cows because off-label use may result in abortions," Stokka said. "To avoid this problem, producers should vaccinate cows when they are not pregnant or consider using vaccines labeled for use in pregnant cows."

Calf loss diagnosis

Laboratory diagnosis of disease issues that contribute to calf losses can be frustrating because the infectious agents often are undetectable in tissue or blood samples. The placenta often is the key to obtaining a diagnosis; therefore, submitting the placenta in addition to the fetus whenever possible is very important, Block said.

"Prompt identification of aborting cows and isolation from the herd is recommended to help prevent the spread of infectious diseases if applicable," she adds. "It is also helpful to have cows isolated in case blood samples from aborting cows are needed to try to identify abnormalities such as mineral levels and/or antibody titers for infectious diseases."

The specialists recommend that when collecting aborted fetuses and tissues for analysis, producers should be sure to use appropriate biosecurity measures, such as latex gloves and a mask, to avoid diseases that can be passed from livestock to humans. The fetus and placenta should be placed in a black garbage bag and kept cool until they arrive at the laboratory. Avoid freezing the fetus and/or placenta unless they were already frozen when they were found.

Additional factors

Because there are so many potential causes for stillbirths and abortions, it is important to investigate each calf loss individually, as well as evaluate the situation on a herd level.

Factors that should be considered when trying to determine the cause of losses include:

- Cow herd nutrition (feed analysis, mineral supplementation program, potential toxicities/deficiencies, etc.).
- Cow age and number of offspring.
- Vaccination program (types of vaccines used, when it was administered, etc.).
- Body condition score of cows at calving.
- Length of calving, calving difficulty and whether or not assistance was used.
- Presence of any visible abnormalities in the calf.
- Cloudy eyes in the calf, indicating it has been dead for several hours.

"Although diagnosis is not always possible, even with necropsy or laboratory analysis, sample submission to the NDSU Diagnostic Laboratory is encouraged if abortion rates are in excess of 1 to 2 percent," Block advises. "Producers should work closely with their local veterinarians for assistance and advice with diagnosis and to develop future herd health and vaccination strategies to minimize losses." — **NDSU Extension**

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America's first: The American Shorthorn Association

— Celebrating 150 years

Founded in 1872, the American Shorthorn Association is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year, making it the oldest U.S. beef breed association. Simultaneously, the world Shorthorn community is celebrating the United Kingdom's 200th year of the "Coates Shorthorn Herd Book," the first private beef breed herd book in the world. It is hard to comprehend just how dominant Shorthorn have been historically, but for perspective, they have been implicated in the formation of 30 other breeds.

The Shorthorn's yearlong celebration started at last fall's annual meeting with the release of the coffee-table book "Shorthorn and the American Cattle Industry." The celebration will continue at the Shorthorn Junior Show and the World Shorthorn Conference, both this summer, and wrap up at the North American International Livestock Exposition this fall.

Shorthorn became the first improved breed in North America when it arrived in 1783: the same year the Treaty of Paris was signed, ending hostilities between the United Kingdom and the newly minted United States of America. Considering the treaty wasn't actually ratified until 1784, it is impressive they were able to import the cattle at all.

The early Shorthorns were tripurpose cattle, so they could improve the various unimproved "scrub" cattle that existed in America if they had weakness in beef production, milk yield or as draft animals. Shorthorns were like a Swiss Army knife in the U.S. cattle industry because they could do almost everything. They made the ultimate farm cows, producing milk, meat and power. They also pulled settlers' wagons across the continent in the 1840s to the new Oregon Territory. In the Great Plains, Shorthorn was the first breed used to improve the vast herds of Longhorns that grazed the American West. Shorthorns were everywhere and did everything.

The Shorthorns were so versatile that they had no real competition in the U.S. from other breeds until the 1880s. Interest was so great by Shorthorn breeders that in 1846, Lewis Allen printed the first cattle breed herd book in the U.S.—"The American Shorthorn Herd Book."

After the Civil War, there developed a purebred fad around the late English breeder Thomas Bates' dual-purpose Duchess bloodline cattle. By the early 1870s, one person had cornered the market on all remaining pure Duchess females. In what became known as the "sensation of '73," these remaining 11 females were sold at auction in 1873, averaging $21,709 per head, with the top selling cow going for a record $40,600—a landmark in the seedstock history.

However, the Bates fad actually hurt the breed in the end. Shorthorn breeders could profitably market all the red bulls they could produce to the Western market. Because of the Bates fad, they were sending dual-purpose bulls to Western range customers instead of the beef Shorthorns they needed. The U.S. had also started the American Fat Stock Show at the Chicago Union Stock Yards in the 1870s, where large, aged, dual-purpose Shorthorn steers first dominated. Then, everything changed.

In the West, the size and production potential of the large, dual-purpose Shorthorns outstripped the available feed resources in dry years. When the historically bad winter of 1886-87 occurred, the dual-purpose cattle fared poorly compared to Herefords, in what became known as the "big die up." The better survivability of the Herefords allowed them to take over the market. The American Fat Stock Show also had a type change in the late 1880s, away from aged, dual-purpose type steers to earlier maturing (2-year-old), blocky beef-type cattle. In total, the high dollar dual-purpose Shorthorn market totally collapsed.

Despite these setbacks, U.S. Shorthorn breeders were quick to adapt to the changing times. They sourced Booth bloodline beef Shorthorns that had long been popular in Canada, as well as Scottish beef-type Shorthorns, especially those of Cruickshank breeding. Breeders retooled the Shorthorn population so quickly that they readily regained the favor of feeders and packers. The breed also reinvented itself with polled Durham/Shorthorn, and the U.S. became the source for the top polled Shorthorn genetics worldwide. Today, approximately 90 percent of U.S. Shorthorns are polled.

In 1900, the Chicago Stock Yards started the International Livestock Exposition, and the newly retooled Scotch Shorthorns and polled Shorthorns were crowd-pleasers from the beginning. The Shorthorn's high profile drew many wealthy people to become breeders, particularly at their estates outside the cities where they worked. This resulted in Shorthorn peaking in registrations in the U.S. in 1918 with 118,039 head.

Shorthorns always had a natural advantage over the other British breeds in terms of size and performance, but after World War II, the seedstock industry experienced a fad of selecting compressed cattle in what became known as the "belt buckle era," in which Shorthorns were full participants. The end result was that when the type changed to larger framed, faster growing cattle in the late 1960s, Shorthorn's 150-year natural advantage in size and performance over the other British breeds had been lost.

Shorthorn breeders quickly moved to change type in the show ring. The decision was eventually made that the fastest way to catch up was through an open herd book. This changed the cattle quickly, but the breed had to work out some inconsistencies in the cattle. After the frame race of the 1980s, common sense size and consistency returned to the breed.

Another milestone for the breed was in 1968, when the American Junior Shorthorn Association was formed, making it the oldest national junior beef association in the U.S. It is not only the first, but it is also the largest, with 6,950 current members. For many Shorthorn people, the annual Junior Show and Youth Conference is the highlight of the year, and the breed prides itself on being a family-friendly breed.

As the American Shorthorn Association celebrates its 150th anniversary, the breed is flourishing, with membership up 7.4 percent over the previous year and registrations rising 13 percent over the previous fiscal year.

The early Shorthorns were tripurpose cattle, so they could improve the various unimproved "scrub" cattle that existed in America if they had weakness in beef production, milk yield or as draft animals.

Shorthorn is experiencing improved demand from commercial producers, which can be traced back to many sources, but one of the primary reasons was the American Shorthorn Association moving its genetic evaluation to International Genetic Solutions in 2013. Now, American Shorthorns are in a multibreed analysis with 14 other breed associations, which ensures that all EPDs are on the same base and scale, making them comparable when designing a crossbreeding system.

To help celebrate its 150th anniversary, the association commissioned a coffee-table book chronicling its history, "Shorthorn and the American Cattle Industry," by Drs. Bob Hough and Bert Moore, which can be purchased at the association. It is a story of both triumphs and setbacks, as well as the constant drive to make Shorthorns the preferred British alternative in commercial crossbreeding systems.

Whether it is 200 years of the "Coates Herd Book" or the 150-year anniversary of the American Shorthorn Association, 2022 is certainly a year of Shorthorn celebration. — **Dr. Bob Hough, *WLJ* correspondent**

Consider causes of hair loss and itching in cattle

Perhaps the long and cold winter is coming to an end, but it's not soon enough for those cows exhibiting itching behavior with missing patches of hair.

A number of causes and contributing factors can result in hair loss and itching, according to North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension veterinarian Gerald Stokka.

"In some cases, just dry skin and winter hair causes itching behavior and hair loss, but this year is somewhat unique in that many of our harvested forages may be low in vitamin A," said Stokka.

The precursors of vitamin A are plentiful in green forages. However, due to very dry conditions last summer, green harvested forages are limited in supply and have been replaced by other forages that may be deficient in vitamin A.

"When looking at topical treatments to treat biting lice, it may be in your best interest to look for name-brand products and to use one with a higher volume dosage."

Vitamin A is critical to maintain skin integrity and good hair coats. When deficient, hair coats and skin may appear dull and dry. In addition, the skin may be more susceptible to infections, such as fungal infections like ringworm. Ringworm in cattle and other species is communicable to humans.

"It is critical during this winter feeding period to provide supplemental vitamin A to cattle," said Karl Hoppe, livestock systems specialist at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center. "Most loose mineral supplements provide 300,000 international units (IU)/pound of free choice mineral. Cows consuming 2 ounces per head per day of the mineral will be consuming 37,500 IU/day. The daily requirement for an adult beef cow will be in a range of 25,000-45,000 IU/day."

Along with possible vitamin A deficiencies are lice infestations, which can cause itching and result in hair loss, even in herds that have been previously treated. Some groups have been treated more than once and still are seeing the effects of itching and hair loss in their livestock.

"Lice populations seem to be more difficult to control than previously," said Stokka. "We cannot be sure as to the reason for reduced lice control, but the possibility of resistance to current control products is certainly on the minds of our veterinary practitioners."

Common lice species

Five species of lice are commonly found in the U.S., with certain regions of the country seeing variations in the species present. The common species are categorized as sucking (pierce skin and suck blood) or biting (feed on skin debris).

Sucking lice include the short-nosed cattle louse, long-nosed cattle louse and little blue louse. The most common biting louse is the red louse, also known as the cattle-chewing louse.

Lice infestations increase during cold weather and subside during warm weather in response to the increased surface temperature of their host. Although most cattle become louse-free in the summer months, carrier animals (about 1-2 percent) remain infected and serve as a source of infestation during fall and winter months.

Lice essentially spend their entire life on the animal and cannot survive off the host for more than a few days, according to Stokka. The life cycle of lice on cattle varies from three to six weeks.

Transmission generally requires animal-to-animal contact. However, lice have been shown to grasp the legs of horn flies or houseflies and take a trip to another animal.

Diagnosing a lice infestation

Determining a lice infestation in cattle can be a frustrating diagnosis for veterinarians and ranchers. Most often, they look for symptoms of a lice problem, such as itchy skin.

Another sign is characteristic hair loss patterns in the neck, across the shoulders and withers, and in the udder area. Some hair loss may be significant enough to result in frostbite to hairless areas, especially in extended cold winter weather.

However, light infestations are easy to overlook when examining animals individually unless the veterinarian or rancher does a careful inspection. A detailed exam starts with looking for nits, then exploring for lice by carefully parting the hair.

"A systematic and defined approach to the examination of cattle for the presence of lice will enable the examiner to have a higher level of confidence in attaining accurate results," said Stokka. "A pair of magnifying goggles and an external light source will greatly assist the diagnosis."

Lice control

The pioneer avermectin (macrocyclic lactone) products such as ivermectin and Dectomax have been used extensively to control lice because of their effectiveness. With the development of the systemic "pour-on" products, along with generic products, the use increased. In some cases, these products have been used multiple times per year.

These products are absorbed through the hair follicles, so dirt and other foreign materials on the backs of cattle will limit absorption. Other control products are strictly topical with no absorption.

"So, whether we are dealing with resistance in lice or less efficacy at the appropriate dose, the result is the same—a lack of adequate control," Stokka said.

Here are a few options to help curb lice outbreaks:

- Leave the lice alone. At this time of the year, the best solution may be to let the cattle itch for a while. Lice populations will begin to decrease in activity rapidly as the weather warms.
- Treat only those animals showing clinical signs of itching and hair loss. Some animals may be more sensitive to the effects of lice infestations, while others can handle some lice with natural resistance. If the entire herd is showing hair loss consistent with a lice infestation, then herd treatment is necessary.
- Determine the type of lice causing the infestation and use the correct control methods for that type. For example, sucking lice feed on blood and serum from the animal. These lice are controlled more effectively with a systemic injectable product. In contrast, biting lice feed on the dander and scurf on the skin. They are controlled more effectively with a topical treatment.
- Use an injectable and topical treatment to control both types of lice. However, no licensed products are labeled to be used concurrently.

"When looking at topical treatments to treat biting lice, it may be in your best interest to look for name-brand products and to use one with a higher volume dosage," Stokka said. "Biting lice will be controlled more effectively by the parasiticide if they come in contact with it. Thus, the higher-dosage products will give you more coverage on the animal and more area for the lice to come in contact with the product."

— **NDSU Extension**

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Pilgrim's Pride lawsuit dismissed

A district judge has dismissed with prejudice the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union Local 464A et al. suit against Pilgrim's Pride, which alleged the company inflated stock prices due to price fixing. The suit claimed Pilgrim's Pride "deceived investors by touting Pilgrim's performance during the class period while continuing to participate in an undisclosed and illegal bid-rigging conspiracy." In the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado, Judge Raymond P. Moore ruled the suit did not show the "bid-rigging scheme had such a significant impact on Pilgrim's bottom line that it could be credited with turning around the company following its filing for bankruptcy in 2008 or with driving its success during the class period." Moore therefore granted Pilgrim's Pride a motion to dismiss the case with prejudice.

Mixed support for contract library

While the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) applauded the inclusion of the Cattle Contract Library pilot program in the fiscal year 2022 omnibus appropriations package, the North American Meat Institute (NAMI) condemned it. "Congress and the administration say they value transparency in the beef and cattle market, yet they bury this rider without debate in a giant spending bill and direct USDA to create the pilot program without any feedback from beef companies or cattle producers," said NAMI President and CEO Julie Anna Potts. In contrast, NCBA Vice President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane said, "This pilot program will allow USDA to work on the model for a contract library that works for everyone in the supply chain while Congress and industry continue to work out the details of a permanent library in subsequent legislation like the Cattle Contract Library Act."

USDA inspector charged for bribery

A USDA inspector has pleaded not guilty to a felony charge after allegedly accepting bribes from March 2019 to November 2021 to allow tick-infested and diseased cattle to enter the U.S. USDA Lead Animal Health Technician Roberto Adams was arrested March 3 in Laredo, TX, for allowing the cattle to enter the country "without properly inspecting and/or quarantining them, in violation of his lawful duties as a lead animal health technician for the (USDA)." If convicted, Adams faces a maximum of 15 years in federal prison and $250,000 in fines. Adams appeared before federal Magistrate Judge Diana Song Quiroga on March 8, where he was remanded to custody until a $75,000 bond was posted. While a trial date has not yet been set, the final pretrial conference is set for May 3.

Carson City meat company sues city

Carson Valley Meats has submitted a suit against the Carson City Board of Supervisors in the First Judicial District Court of Nevada in Carson City following the board's decision to disallow a proposed plant to be built. On Feb. 3, the board overturned the Planning Commission's earlier decision to approve a proposed animal processing facility after residents filed appeals against the decision. The supervisors and residents expressed concerns over the proposed location near Centerville, NV, as well as potential noise, odor and pollution. "Statements by interested parties or their representatives, and the opinions of council members, unsupported by proof, do not justify the denial of a special use permit," the petition stated. "The board's reliance on unsupported, inaccurate and irrelevant material does not meet the 'substantial evidence' requirement supporting such a decision."

Labeling lawsuit dismissed

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit recently ruled against a case brought on by New Mexico cattle ranchers who argued the "Product of USA" label was often used to mislabel foreign beef. "Allowing plaintiffs to impose (a different label standard) would impose a requirement different from what USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service has already approved as consistent with the Federal Meat Inspection Act," wrote Denver Circuit Judge Nancy Moritz in her 21-page ruling. The 2020 suit named the Big Four packers as defendants, and the case was dismissed by the District Court last year. The Court of Appeals affirmed the District Court's dismissal. In late January, USDA announced it would begin collecting information regarding consumers' value of USA-labeled beef and their willingness to pay extra for products labeled as such. The agency opened a commenting period, which closes April 4. To submit a comment, visit www.regulations.gov and search for docket number FSIS-2021-0031, or mail to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

Livestock water challenges expected to continue in 2022

Access to adequate, good-quality water will continue to be a challenge for ranchers in North Dakota this spring, according to North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension livestock environmental stewardship specialist Miranda Meehan.

Many ranchers in the region still depend on surface water sources, such as dugouts and stock dams, to provide water to grazing livestock. Due to drought conditions in both 2020 and 2021, many livestock sources either dried up or were potentially toxic to livestock.

Many sources in the state naturally contain salts, which are dissolved minerals or solids.

"Elevated concentrations of total dissolved solids (TDS) and sulfates can be toxic to livestock, resulting in decreased performance, abortions, blindness, central nervous system disorders and death," says Meehan.

"For most classes of grazing livestock, the TDS in the water should be less than 5,000 parts per million (ppm). Sulfate is part of the TDS. The recommended concentration should be less than 500 ppm for calves and less than 1,000 ppm for adult cattle."

In 2021, Extension agents screened 1,547 water samples from 37 counties in North Dakota. The screenings identified 151 sources with elevated TDS levels greater than 5,000 ppm. Potentially toxic sulfate levels, greater than 1,200 ppm, were identified at 330 locations.

Improvement in water quality in surface water sources depends on runoff.

Many surface water sources entered the winter at very low levels, if not dry. Even in areas of the state that received fall moisture, the majority of it infiltrated and replenished soil moisture and did not run off.

Across much of the state, snowpack is below normal or not present, which will decrease the potential for runoff. Unfortunately, spring rainfall alone likely will not be adequate to dilute salt concentrations in surface waters.

"As you prepare for the upcoming grazing season, we recommend monitoring water quality and evaluating alternative water options," says Meehan. "We recommend a couple tools to aid in monitoring water quality: a hand-held TDS meter and sulfate test strips. Both of these tools are affordable and easy to use. If the screening indicates TDS is greater than 4,500 ppm and/or sulfates are greater than 800 ppm, submit a sample to a lab for additional analysis."

Meehan encourages ranchers who encountered water quality issues in 2021 to evaluate and consider developing an alternative water source.

"Installing a water development plan can help ensure that livestock have access to good-quality water throughout the grazing season and increase a ranch's drought resilience," says Meehan.

Many cost-sharing opportunities are available to producers for installing water developments through agencies and organizations including the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, soil conservation districts and conservation groups. In addition, the Department of Water Resources still has funds available through the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Project Assistance Program. — **NDSU Extension**

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Preventing bovine respiratory disease, appropriate vaccine protocols

— Prevention over treatment

Bovine respiratory disease (BRD) has been one of the greatest disease challenges in the cattle industry for many years, but it only acquired this name in the past few decades. According to Dr. Robert Cope, who has been the main large animal veterinarian in Lemhi County, ID, for the past 44 years, cattlemen in earlier years simply called it shipping fever.

"Back in the days when I was in veterinary school, we thought we knew everything there was to know about this disease. We knew it was a complex issue that consisted of three parts that combined to create lung disease: a virus called parainfluenza 3, a bacterium called Pasteurella and stress. In recent years, it became apparent that more factors were involved," said Cope.

"The list of pathogens now known to contribute to BRD includes several additional bacteria like Mannheimia, Haemophilus and Mycoplasma, plus the viruses infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), bovine viral diarrhea (BVD), bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV) and probably several others that may not have been identified yet," he said.

Dr. Andi Lear, clinical instructor of farm animal field services in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee, said minimizing stress is important, along with a good vaccination program. Vaccination alone won't do the job, since extreme stress can negatively impact the immune system and leave cattle vulnerable even if they were vaccinated. Stress at the time of vaccination can also hinder the immune system and prevent the animals from mounting a good response to the vaccine.

"We do a lot of cow-calf work here at the university, and we tell our clients that they need some sort of routine herd management," Lear said. Being able to look at every animal and evaluate body condition when checking the pregnancy status of the cows before going into winter is important, along with evaluating them again before breeding season. Looking at the calf crop also helps producers know if their health and nutrition program is working.

Using appropriate vaccine protocols to prevent BRD, blackleg, etc., in calves is crucial, along with trying to minimize stress as much as possible when working them. "Take care of the castration, dehorning, pouring for parasites, etc., prior to weaning. We tell producers not to perform these stressful procedures and haul the calves away in a truck on the same day (or even in the next few days). This is one reason there are a lot of sick calves or calves that will soon be sick at a sale barn and why buyers don't give as much money for them, knowing they are going to get sick," she said.

"Producers can add value to their product by vaccinating, castrating and weaning prior to shipping to minimize stress and decrease the risk of BRD. It doesn't take that much extra time but ensures those calves have been exposed to vaccines and have some immunity prior to getting on that truck," said Lear.

If you do all of this early, while they are still on the cow, it's not as stressful because mom is there to comfort them after they come out of the chute. "Abrupt weaning on top of vaccinating can be very stressful and can result in a lot more sickness," she explained.

Vaccination of calves should begin by branding age. Cope generally recommends a modified live virus vaccine containing BVD, IBR, parainfluenza type 3 (PI3) and BRSV at branding, followed by a booster dose before weaning. "Pasteurella and Mannheimia (Mannheimia was previously known as Pasteurella) vaccine should be given at least at preweaning. Several programs that aid in marketing feeder calves require these vaccinations and can result in higher calf prices at auction," he said.

Dr. Rob Callan

A calf with pneumonia that has seromucoid discharge.

"Although several antibiotics (Draxxin, Baytril, Nuflor and others) have been developed that tend to be more effective than some we used routinely in the past, prevention is still far more effective than treatment. Keep in mind, however, that antibiotics are only effective against bacteria, not against viruses," Cope said.

When considering a vaccination program to prevent respiratory disease, both viral and bacterial diseases must be included. "As previously mentioned, IBR, BVD, PI3 and BRSV are integral parts of the BRD syndrome. When possible, I recommend using modified live vaccine as opposed to killed virus products. There are, however, some instances in which, in the case of BVD, killed products may be preferable. This can be the case when the cow herd has not been properly immunized earlier, and the calves may be persistently infected with the BVD virus. In that situation, modified live vaccine can actually precipitate the disease. In the case of the other viruses, however, live vaccine is almost always preferable," he explained.

There are several good intranasal vaccines for IBR and PI3. "These products are given by shooting the vaccine into the nostrils. The advantage of these vaccines lies in how quickly immunity can be gained. Rather than the seven to 10 days that intramuscular vaccines require to produce protective immunity, intranasal vaccine will provide protection in as little as 18 to 36 hours," said Cope.

"The disadvantage of using intranasal vaccine is simple. There is no intranasal vaccine for BVD, which is one of our greatest concerns," he said.

Although many calf pneumonias result from bacterial complications of a viral infection, this is not always the case. Sometimes a bacterial infection is the primary and maybe the only pathogen. "We have found that when the environmental temperature differential between daytime highs and nighttime lows is 40 F or more (such as going from 40 or 50 F at night to 80 or 90 F in the late afternoon), primary bacterial pneumonia—primarily pasteurellosis—becomes fairly common. When this differential exceeds 50 degrees, this pneumonia becomes a major problem."

Viral vaccines alone will not prevent this primary bacterial pneumonia. "When choosing a Pasteurella vaccine, it is important to know that any effective Pasteurella vaccine must contain two essential components: a capsular antigen and leukotoxoid. Simple Pasteurella bacterins are simply not effective. While there are several good Pasteurella (Mannheimia) vaccines on the market, I have had excellent results with both Presponse and One Shot and tend to recommend either of these," Cope said.

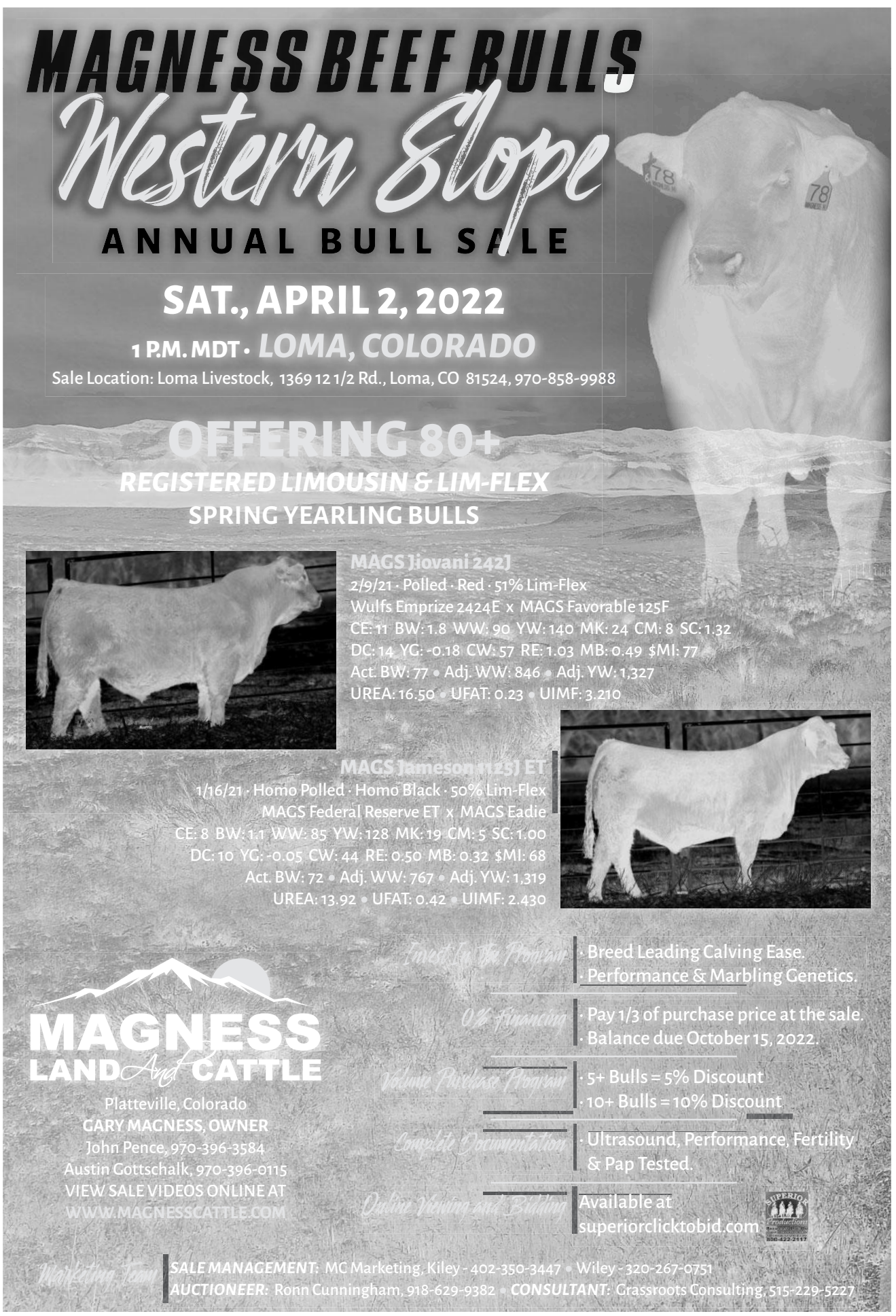
Dry weather increases risk

Dry weather, smoke and dust put calves at greater risk for respiratory disease. Dr. Eugene Janzen, professor emeritus of production animal health at the University of Calgary, said studies in western Canada in earlier years looked at this problem in cattle on community pastures. "Often they have more trouble on dry years, when conditions are dusty during gathering and working cattle. Dust can irritate the respiratory tract, making the animals more susceptible to problems," he said. Dust may also carry bacteria with it.

"When calves inhale dust, the first line of defense in the respiratory tract may be overwhelmed. If the inside of the nostrils and upper respiratory tract gets clogged with dust, bacteria are not as readily exposed to nasal secretions, which tend to kill them or help flush them out. If bacteria cling to dust particles, they can be sucked down into the lungs," said Janzen.

The dust and irritation also inhibit normal action of cilia—the tiny hair-like structures that line the windpipe and move in wave-like motions, continually moving mucus, dust and foreign material up and out of the respiratory tract to be coughed out.

"Shortly after bringing cattle in, if producers had a bad year for dust, they were treating calves for pneumonia," he explains. Western Canada and many western states have suffered through hot, dry conditions, smoke from catastrophic fires, a lot of dust and stressful weather. In some regions, a combination of hot days (90 F or higher) and cool nights (often down to 40 F) adds additional stress, which hinders the immune system—creating perfect conditions for respiratory disease. — **Heather Smith Thomas, *WLJ* correspondent**



Bill introduced to extend CA ag vehicle exemption

— BIT program

Legislation has been introduced to extend by three years the exemption of agricultural vehicles from California's Basic Inspection of Terminals (BIT) program.

Introduced by Assembly Member Tom Lackey (R-36-Palmdale), Assembly Bill (AB) 2415 would extend the exemption until Jan. 1, 2026, from its current deadline of Jan. 1, 2023.

The BIT program requires certain motor carriers to submit their vehicles for California Highway Patrol (CHP) inspection at the place where the vehicles are garaged or maintained. BIT inspections are intended to ensure that motor carriers are complying with Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulations and that vehicle maintenance is adequate to prevent collisions and mechanical breakdowns.

Under the bill, an agricultural vehicle is a vehicle or a combination of vehicles under a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,000 pounds, operated by a producer or employee for the exclusive use of agricultural operations in intrastate commerce.

Under AB 1960, agricultural vehicles are currently exempt from the BIT program since commonly used farm and ranch vehicles also serve as producers' personal vehicles. According to the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA), BIT inspections are time-consuming for family farms and ranches. Even minor violations potentially restrict a farmer or rancher from operating a vehicle critical to their business, the association said.

When AB 1960 was signed into law, the CHP was to report to the governor and the Legislature about the impact of excluding agricultural vehicles from the BIT program, including "information about collisions involving excluded vehicles and any associated traffic safety issues associated with excluded vehicles."

The CHP has not filed the report on the safety of the agricultural exemption, despite the report's due date of Jan. 1, 2022.

"Nevertheless, the agricultural exemption is set to expire on Jan. 1, 2023, causing undue hardship to farmers and ranchers who would be required to submit to time-consuming BIT inspections—with potentially significant disruptions to the farm or ranch operations—without any new data or public safety considerations justifying the new requirement," CCA said in its Legislative Bulletin dated Feb. 22.

CCA noted without the report, stakeholders and the Legislature cannot address any concerns the CHP may have regarding the exemption or provide time for other legislation to make the exemption permanent.

"CCA thanks Assembly Member Lackey, a former CHP officer who authored the initial ag exemption from BIT in 2016, for his leadership on this topic and his support of the agriculture community," the bulletin concluded.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation, but a hearing has not been scheduled. CCA stated it would continue to keep members abreast of the bill. — **Charles Wallace, *WLJ* editor**

Interim water plan in place while under review

CA H2O
(from page 1)

smelt, and the NMFS opinion addressed impacts on various other aquatic species.

A coalition of fishing industry and environmental groups—including the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations and Natural Resources Defense Council—argued the opinions violated the Administrative Procedure Act, National Environmental Policy Act and California Endangered Species Act, and they filed suit in 2020.

In his recent opinion, Drozd noted that thousands of pages of briefs and supporting documents had been submitted regarding the case. "Put simply, the dozens of lawyers involved in this case have drowned the court in paper," he wrote. "It cannot be understated that it would be impossible for the court to address every argument raised in the papers or at the hearing on the motions in a remotely timely fashion."

While the Biden administration reconsiders the opinions, an interim plan will be put in place with added provisions to protect endangered fish species through the remainder of the water year, ending Sept. 30. Drozd also ruled to stay additional litigation through September, as the Biden administration's review will likely impact the future of the case.

Plan details

The proposed plan recognizes California is in an ongoing drought, and winter-run Chinook have experienced poor egg-to-fry survival rates. In order to protect the species, the interim plan will adjust water temperature hours and determine an end-of-September carryover storage goal for the Shasta Reservoir. In addition, the Bureau of Reclamation will not schedule or make deliveries of stored water for any reason other than for public health and safety until the agency approves a temperature management plan to meet the winter-run habitat criteria and September storage goals.

The plan also creates a new Shasta planning group to coordinate decision-making related to temperature control issues and develop a monitoring and tracking system.

For steelhead trout and winter-run salmon, the interim plan is similar to the NMFS' 2019 biological opinion, but it requires that pumping reductions, if triggered, would have to remain in place for at least 14 days before exports could be increased—even if a risk assessment determined the risk was no longer present.

Regarding the delta smelt, the interim plan limits its exports to protect larval and juvenile smelt if needed and to reduce negative water flows depending on the level of risk.

The fishing and environmental groups argued for a stricter interim plan, but Drozd ruled the government-backed interim plan was sufficient and reasonable.

Some water rights holders argued the interim plan would impact their water rights, but Drozd said, "Even though Reclamation operates Shasta Dam, Reclamation does not have management discretion over all water that is released from Shasta Reservoir. Reclamation is, for example, contractually obligated to deliver water to certain entities that hold water rights that are senior to (i.e., higher priority than) the rights Reclamation relies upon in operating the (Central Valley Project)."

In response to Drozd's ruling to keep the biological opinions in place, Kate Poole, Natural Resources Defense Council senior director of the water division, said the ruling would drive the fish species into a "death spiral from which they may never recover."

"It's time for the Biden administration to acknowledge that these biological opinions are highly illegal and wildly destructive, and to impose adequate protections during the three years that it will take to write new biological opinions," Poole wrote.

She concluded that while the coalition of fishing and conservation groups had sought stronger protections, "The court deferred to the state and federal agencies to do their job and protect listed species. We must now hold them to it." — **Anna Miller, *WLJ* managing editor**

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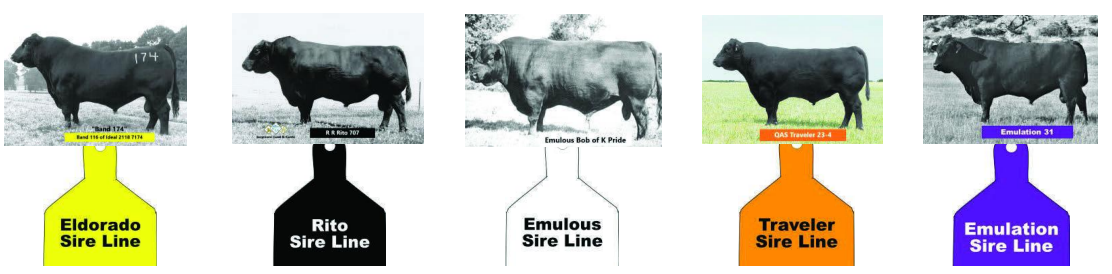

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Using targeted grazing at Sterling Wildlife Management Area

It's a chilly winter day at the Sterling Wildlife Management Area (WMA) near Aberdeen, ID. Dallin and Chase Carter and ranch hand Cole Lewis mount their horses and gather 400 cattle to drive them to another grazing area in the Sterling WMA.

The ranchers round up the cattle in a matter of minutes and drive the cattle down a snowy road to the next pasture. Chase rides alongside the cattle in adjoining farm fields, making sure the cows stay on the road. After traveling about a mile, the ranchers herd the cattle into the next pasture, and the cows begin grazing.

Maria Pacioretty is the habitat biologist at Sterling WMA for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. She's been searching for answers on how to deal with a heavy burden of dead cattails and bulrushes that have been accumulating in the Sterling WMA.

"Our wildlife are really coming out ahead, our users are coming out ahead with the habitat we're doing and the ranching community is really benefiting, so we're really proud of this."

Steve Stuebner

Dallin and Chase Carter and ranch hand Cole Lewis round up 400 cattle on a frosty morning to move them to the next pasture in the Sterling WMA.

"We have a biomass problem, where we have acres and acres of decadent vegetation and accumulated growth on the ground," Pacioretty said. "It's really thick, almost impenetrable, so it makes it really difficult for wildlife and people who want to use the WMA, whether it's hunting or hiking.

"It's almost suffocating in a sense."

The Sterling WMA was established in 1968. It encompasses 4,100 acres on the west shore of the American Falls Reservoir. One purpose of the WMA is to provide habitat for breeding and migrating waterfowl.

It's also open to hunting and trapping. Sterling WMA provides habitat for upland game birds and pheasants; it's the most popular place to go pheasant hunting in southeast Idaho.

Pacioretty did a lot of research on how to fix the problem. The overload of decadent vegetation reduces the overall productivity of the wetland.

"We started thinking about unique ways to attack this problem," she said. "So we got in touch with some local ranchers and started working up a plan: How could we use cattle to maybe help break this up, open these areas back up, so we can have some rejuvenation of the vegetation here?"

Cattle grazing occurs in the winter, so it doesn't conflict with other uses. The Carters are using herding and solar hot wire fencing to focus the cattle on specific areas that need attention.

This method is called targeted grazing or intensive grazing.

"So what we're trying to do is take a big group of cows and graze a small area for two, three, four days and then move them," said Dallin, who, with his brother, Chase, runs the family's cattle business based in Pingree, ID.

"Ideally, we'd like to move them every three days. That's our goal, and that seems to work really well."

So far, they all like the results.

"They eat quite a bit," Dallin said. "What they don't eat, they trample into the ground. They clear out a lot of that biomass and let next year's growth come up through that. Sunlight can penetrate through, and things just grow better. So that's a big deal.

"And we're removing a lot of biomass too, so that's a big deal. Things just grow better when you clear things out."

"I think it's working splendid," Pacioretty said. "We're really excited to see what we're seeing in the last season. The response has been noticeable for us on the ground. For other people who have seen it before and come back are like, 'What did you do?' So, we're already seeing a difference."

The Carters were pleased to discover that Idaho Fish and Game needed their help at the Sterling WMA. They typically try to lease pasture from local farmers in the winter.

"They grow hay or they grow corn, and so we did that a couple of years. It's always hard. It's hard to find farmers that'll let you. Logistics can be hard. How do we find water, electric fence, etc.?"

Idaho Fish and Game has a service agreement with the Carter brothers to formalize the targeted grazing project. The Carters provide the livestock and manage the cattle in the WMA in return for being able to graze there. Targeted grazing allows Idaho Fish and Game to manage habitat in a cost-effective way, where few other tools are available.

"It's really nice for us to have excess pasture that we can use."

If the Carters had to feed their cattle hay during the winter on the home ranch, it would be much more expensive.

"The big issue is baled hay; there's just no way to get that cheap," Dallin said. "It costs $200 to $250 a ton right now, depending on the quality. It's almost double what it was last year."

Under the agreement with Idaho Fish and Game, the Carters graze their cattle in the Sterling WMA for about a month in January or February.

"You get a lot of impact quickly, then this area won't see any more cows for 360 days, right?" Dallin said. "So, there's still lots of habitat for wildlife and birds in our grazing system."

Pacioretty envisions it will take years of intensive management, including a variety of management tools, to increase the productivity of the Sterling WMA wetlands. She estimates about one-fourth of the WMA would benefit from this type of grazing program.

"It's going to take a while. It's going to be years," she said.

She has been in touch with refuge managers at the Seedskadee National Wildlife Refuge in Wyoming who also are using targeted grazing to improve wildlife habitat.

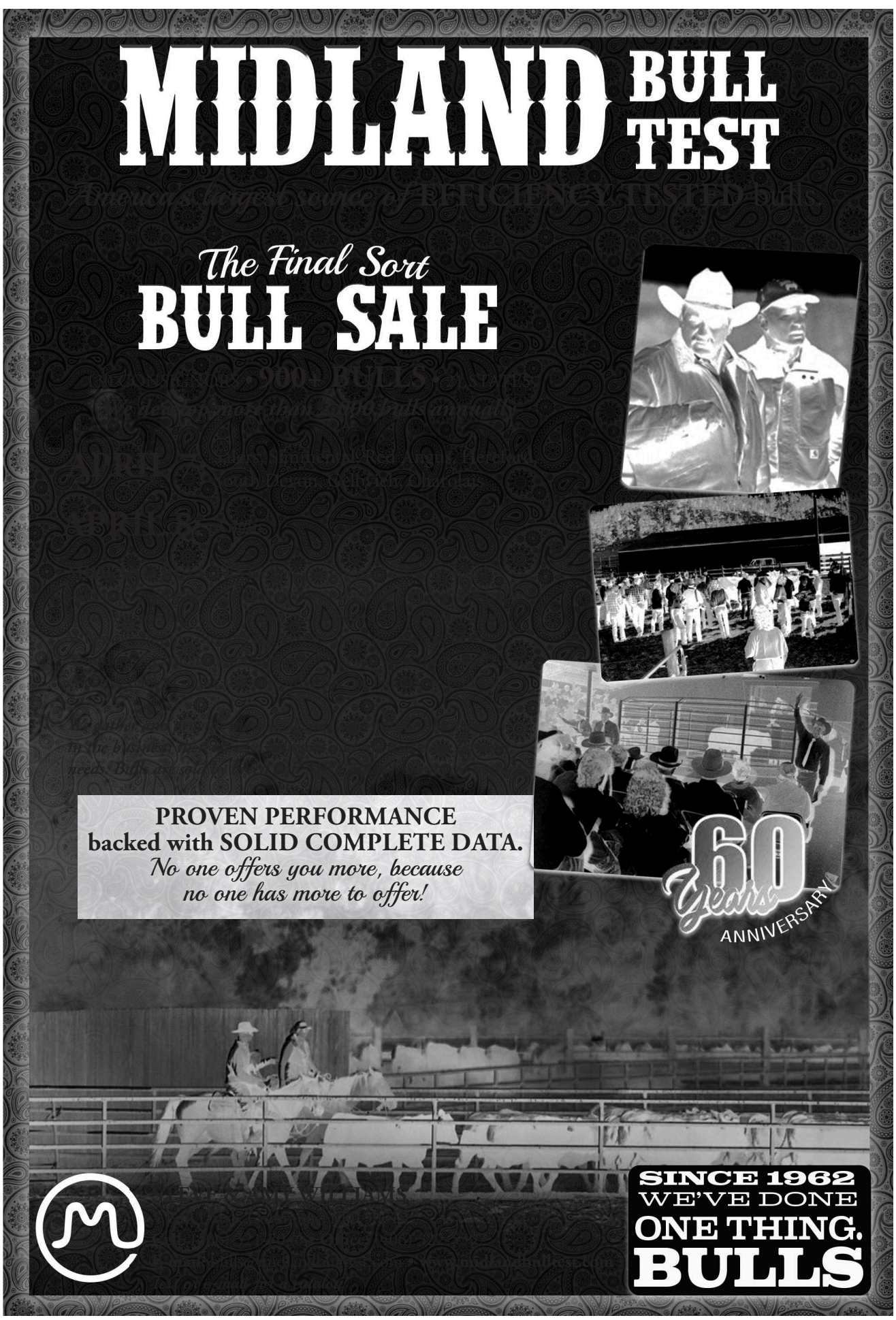
"Our toolbox can't just be small; we have to have all of these different ways to manage habitat," Pacioretty said. "It's a big job. We have to figure out different ways to do it."

Dallin said it's been great to use targeted grazing techniques to benefit wetland plants and wildlife. He went to a University of Idaho grazing school to learn about intensive grazing.

"The reality is that (in) most places, well-managed grazing is a great environmental tool," he said.

"This has been a really great partnership," Pacioretty said.

"It just kind of shows that reaching out to someone you don't even know and what it can develop into. It's turned into such a win for everyone involved. Our wildlife are really coming out ahead, our users are coming out ahead with the habitat we're doing and the ranching community is really benefiting, so we're really proud of this." — **Steve Stuebner, writer and producer of Life on the Range**



When is the right time to castrate bulls?

The practice of castrating animals goes back to ancient times. Egyptian farmers found castrating bovine bulls made the animal much easier to handle. It's doubtful the Egyptians were concerned about the value-added components of their animals, but today, adding value to market cattle is the name of the game. Castration is a key component to any preconditioning program that can greatly influence market price premiums or discounts, especially in older bull calves.

Castrating bull calves has become common practice in U.S. beef herds. In 2017, the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's National Animal Health Monitoring System's beef cow-calf study indicated that 62 percent of commercial cow-calf herds used castration methods in their management practices.

Castration has provided economic benefits to both cow-calf producer and feedlot operators through increased market prices and meat quality. Castration also decreases unwanted pregnancies and increases the safety of workers and other animals.

There is a perceived notion that intact bulls have an advantage in body weight gains during the preweaning period and post greater weaning weights than calves castrated at or near birth. However, numerous studies have shown the weaning weights are similar for bulls and steers (approximately 600 pounds). Advantages in calf weight gain due to testosterone production are presumably realized at a time following average weaning dates closer to puberty.

The timing of castration can influence weight gain and stress management. Studies examining how the timing of castration affects average daily gain (ADG) in cattle castrated either in early life (birth to 2 months) or those castrated at weaning or postweaning (6-10 months) demonstrated higher ADG during the postweaning period in the early castrated calves (approx. 0.3 lbs./day greater) than those castrated at or after weaning.

The period calves experience weight loss post-castration increases with age, as does risk of disease susceptibility. The stress experienced is also related to the time of castration, as the levels of discomfort and trauma increase with the size of testicles. Calves castrated at 5 and a half months of age or later experienced a greater duration of stress than those castrated at birth or at branding.

Bull calves entering the stocker or feedlot segments of the industry have numerous health and performance factors associated with late-life castration, such as increased risk of morbidity and mortality, sick treatments and decreased ADG. Therefore, price discounts for bull calves being sold at market can be substantial when compared to steers marketed in the same weight class.

Lighter weight bulls (300-400 lbs.) are viewed as less risky, and discounts are generally minimal, if any. As the weight of a bull increases, so does the risk. Discounts can average $6-12/cwt or $30-60 per head.

A herd management practice that dates to ancient times and is still used today has clearly proven beneficial. Utilizing the practice with a timing that makes sense may be the difference between dollars made or dollars lost.

Castration is an important part of adding value to your calves through preconditioning. For more details and to enroll in the Oklahoma Quality Beef Network (OQBN) program, go to www.oqbn.okstate.edu. — **Jeff Robe, OQBN coordinator**

Deciding whether to replace thin alfalfa

Planting new fields of alfalfa is expensive. So many of us put off tearing up old fields and planting new ones. But is this smart?

Alfalfa stands usually reach peak production by year two or three. After this, yields tend to decline each year. By year four or five, yields are often much lower than their peak years, especially for dryland fields, because the subsurface moisture that plants were using during the early years is all gone. This is most noticeable during drought years, when regrowth is almost zero after the first or second cut.

Yield decline in irrigated fields is slower but usually is a ton or more lower by year five or six. In addition, thin stands with densities of less than 50 stems per square foot can open the door for weed encroachment.

So, should you try to squeeze another year out of your current alfalfa stand? Calculate the costs. First, and most obvious, how will the lower yield of your old field compare to yields from a younger field? A second loss is the rotation benefit received by crops like corn that follow alfalfa in the rotation. Not only will alfalfa reduce your nitrogen fertilizer needs by 100-150 pounds over the next couple of years, but much research has shown that corn after alfalfa often yields 10-20 bushels more per acre than it will even with extra fertilizer.

This rotation benefit could be especially valuable this year if commodity and fertilizer prices stay high. So if you have alfalfa fields that are past their prime or maybe show winter damage this spring, this might be an excellent time to rotate those fields to a different crop and plant some new, higher yielding acres with alfalfa.

Both your alfalfa crop and the rotated crop could benefit.

Pure alfalfa or mixtures

Planting a new alfalfa hayfield is a pretty routine undertaking. Have you considered putting some grass in that new alfalfa planting this year?

Putting a field back into alfalfa production is a practice that often goes with little thought of alternative species. Every operation is different, so pure alfalfa may still be the best option. Some producers may want to seed smooth bromegrass, orchardgrass, festulolium or other grasses with the alfalfa. But why should you consider a mixture?

Many producers roll out bales for winter feeding, while others may grind different hays or feedstuffs. If more than 5-6 lbs. of alfalfa are being fed to brood cows, that may be too little energy or total digestible nutrients (TDN) and too much protein. This is with a good-quality alfalfa.

If an alfalfa/grass hay is fed instead, the protein may be lower, but the TDN will be higher and better meet the energy requirements of those cows while not overfeeding protein. The mixing of the hay is done in the field while it grows instead of with machinery in the winter.

Not every field is equal—just look at a soil map. Soil types or conditions may vary within a field, and a mixture may result in a better overall stand. Alfalfa, for example, doesn't like "wet feet," so the grass planted will do better in low-lying areas where alfalfa can't survive.

Additionally, an alfalfa-grass mix usually dries down quicker, so it can get put up sooner. Typically, a mixture will yield the same or more than pure alfalfa on an annual basis, with most of the grass tonnage produced in the first cutting.

Mixtures do have to be managed differently than pure alfalfa stands, and some buyers may only want alfalfa, but for some operations, a mixture might be the perfect recipe. — **Ben Beckman and Brad Schick, Nebraska Extension**

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State needs to invest in water infrastructure

WATER
(from page 1)

Former Gov. Bruce Babbitt (D) said at a news conference that desalination is not the answer to Arizona's water problems. Babbitt said the reason is the cost to agriculture producers. He pointed out the Poseidon plant in San Diego County, CA, where San Diego is required to purchase water from the plant at $2,725 per acre-foot, resulting in the highest water rates in the nation. Babbitt said the maximum sustainable cost agricultural producers could afford to pay, according to estimates from the Central Arizona Project (CAP), is less than $200 per acre-foot. CAP charges most users $155 per acre-foot under its current rate schedule.

Babbitt, who negotiated the Arizona Groundwater Management Act in 1980, called for a long-term solution to groundwater issues and said a desalination plant could be in the future as technology changes.

Babbitt was at the Capitol to help push through legislation by Rep. Regina Cobb (R-5-Kingman). House Bill 2661 would use money from the state lottery fund for the Department of Water Resources' Heritage Fund, which would allow for the creation of rural management areas to regulate groundwater use in rural parts of the state.

According to the Daily Independent, House Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25-Mesa) said the state may be looking for a "magic bullet" with the desalination plant, but it is not a bad idea.

Bowers, who helped craft the legislation establishing the water authority, said specific details on projects the water authority would tackle were omitted, as "We're not trying to limit the scope per se of what projects might be available."

According to the AP, Bowers said the agency would look at multiple solutions, such as treating brackish groundwater, and more extensive projects, like developing supplies in three remote desert valleys earmarked for decades as potential sources for metro Phoenix. Bowers said there are other options such as paying farmers to convert to new crops or use different irrigation techniques and providing incentives to homeowners to cut back on water use.

However, Ducey is pushing back against water cutbacks for farmers, saying, "Farming and agriculture is a huge part of the economy."

Roundtable

Members of the Congressional Western Caucus recently participated in a policy roundtable with water stakeholders and the agriculture community.

Brenda Burman, former U.S. Bureau of Reclamation commissioner and current executive strategy adviser for CAP, told the roundtable that runoff in the last couple of years has been below average, and the West is in the middle of the worst drought in 1,200 years.

Burman said CAP has junior rights to other users on the Colorado River, and within CAP, there are different priorities for water users. In exchange for lower water rates, agriculture agreed to take the lowest priority. Burman noted CAP has been working with other water users to soften the blow to agriculture and other users, but it has not been enough. Arizona experienced water cutbacks of 18 percent as a result of Level 1 restrictions due to low water levels in Lake Mead. To further stave off water reductions, Burman said the 500+ Plan—which Lower Basin states on the Colorado River have voluntarily agreed to—would help fund irrigation technology and other water-saving measures.

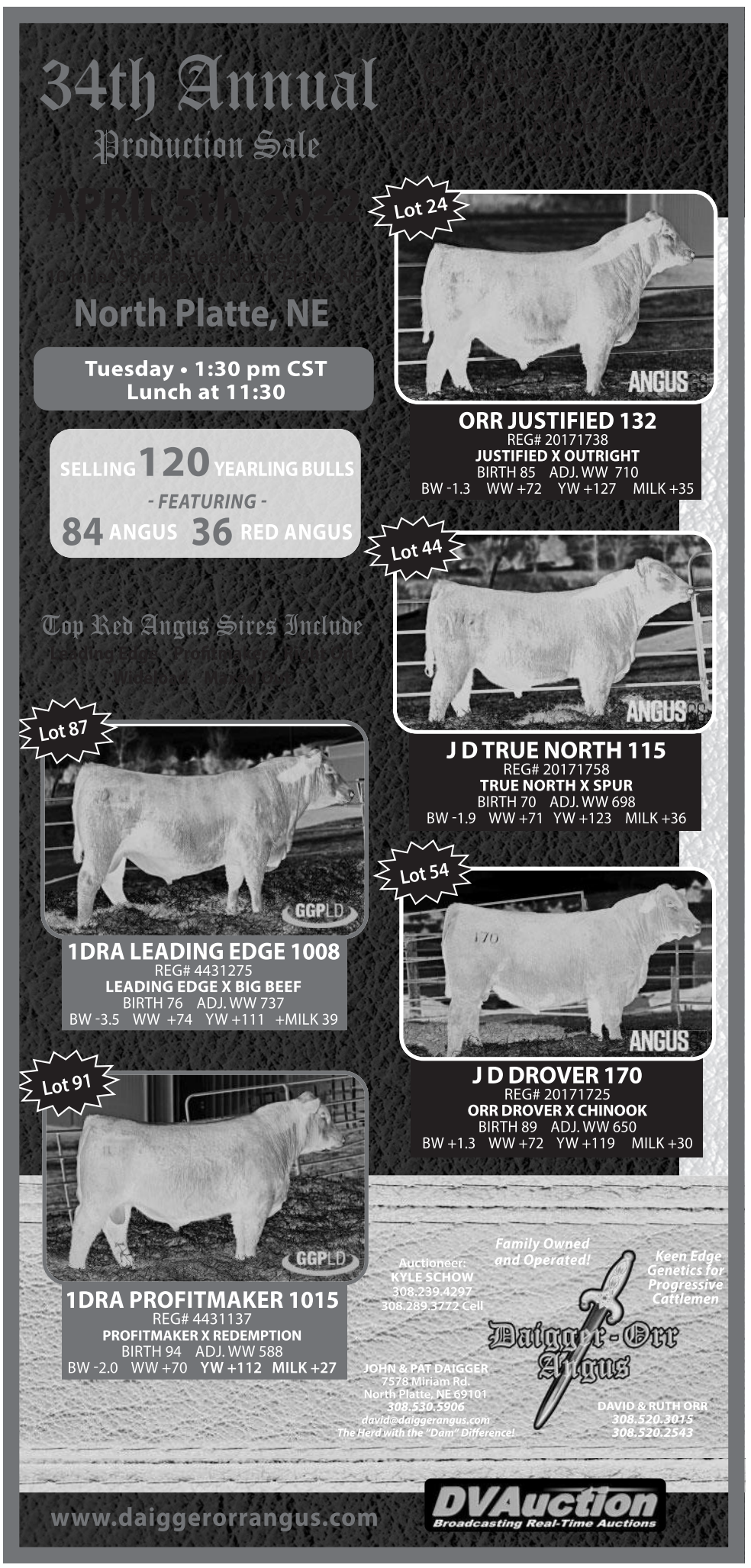
Stefanie Smallhouse, Arizona Farm Bureau president, posed two questions to the roundtable. First, "Why are farmers losing their water, specifically in Arizona and across the West?" Smallhouse said the reason boils down to two things: climate change and the courts. Smallhouse said there is not much farmers can do about drought and climate change, but agriculture always loses in the courts with fights over endangered species and water rights for groundwater and surface water flow.

The second question Smallhouse asked was, "Whose problem is that; whose problem is it to solve?" Smallhouse said water is getting more expensive with the cost to build and maintain infrastructure, and consequently, farmers are negotiating their rights to be able to afford water. Smallhouse noted the farmer is directly impacted, and it has a ripple effect on other farmers, the community and the consumer. Smallhouse said she thinks consumers have not engaged on the issue and connected the dots between agriculture and water. Smallhouse noted that agriculture is responsible for $23.3 billion of the economy and constitutes 60 percent of land in the state, and local food is essential for resiliency and quality of life. Smallhouse said the Southwest is pretty good at turning sunshine into food and doesn't want to fill the void with imports from other countries.

"Before we can do any more regulation of agriculture, we need to do augmentation, because agriculture has given as much as they can give," Smallhouse said.

Smallhouse praised the state for establishing the water authority and investing in infrastructure and the federal government for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Shelby Hagenauer, senior director of congressional relations at the American Farm Bureau Federation, echoed Smallhouse's comments on the impacts of drought on agriculture and thanked Congress for the increase in budget to the Bureau of Reclamation to fix aging water infrastructure and for grants to local irrigation districts for water conservation. — **Charles Wallace, *WLJ* editor**



The impact of bull selection on your herd performance

This week, we take a look at an example of what happens to expected herd performance in the next generation based on the bull we use.

First, last fall at weaning, the following measures of herd performance were taken:

- 1,400 pound average mature cow size (4-7-year-old cows).
- 85 percent pregnancy rate.
- 82 percent calf crop weaned.
- Average weaning weight: 500 lbs.
- Pounds of calf weaned per exposed female: 410 lbs.

This data indicates that we need to improve the pounds of calf weaned per exposed female on a whole-herd basis to improve the profit potential of this operation. Traits of economic significance to improve this number are weaning weight (WW), cow herd fertility (heifer pregnancy, HP), cow milk level (Milk) and mature weight (MW) of cows. An EPD exists for each and can be used as a basis of selection to improve the 410 lb. value.

In this example, we use herd bulls as rotational sires, selecting the best 20 percent of heifers to develop as replacements and selling all other calves at weaning.

Since genetic values are comparable across time and geography, we can use the registration numbers of the five bulls used over the past decade that sired our existing cow herd and find the following EPDs specific to our selection goal (Table 1).

Now we consider the genetic values of two new potential herd bulls:

- New herd bull No. 1: 71 WW, 15 HP, 20 Milk and 68 MW.
- New herd bull No. 2: 101 WW, 9 HP, 20 Milk and 122 MW.

By comparing the EPDs of the new bulls we are considering to the five bulls that sired our existing cow herd, we can predict the genetic change expected in the next generation of cows in our operation.

For example: Bull No. 2 should raise weaning weights by 30 lbs. and mature weights by 34 lbs. Bull No. 1 should sire daughters

Table 1.

Tattoo	WW	HP	Milk	MW
3348	85	10	27	104
5405	75	8	15	101
0A36	81	13	25	111
7008	63	9	25	63
5133	50	6	17	63
Average	**71**	**9**	**20**	**88**

6 percent more likely to get pregnant and raise a calf to weaning while lowering the mature weight of cows by 20 lbs. Neither bull is expected to change the milk level of the cow herd.

The question is, which bull transmits more profit potential to this operation? Take some time to consider the question. — **Mark Z. Johnson, Oklahoma State University Extension beef cattle breeding specialist**

Crop insurance provider reaches $500,000 settlement in fraud case

A Warsaw, IN, based crop insurance company has reached a settlement with the U.S. attorney's office in western Michigan, agreeing to pay $500,000 to resolve allegations the company violated federal law by submitting fraudulent crop insurance claims for a Michigan farmer now facing charges.

Silveus Insurance Group Inc. agreed to a one-year monitoring period with USDA's Risk Management Agency in connection with a crop insurance fraud case filed against Gaylord Lincoln. He farms in four south-central Michigan counties.

James Silveus, the company's CEO, agreed to a voluntary exclusion from federal programs through March 1, 2023, according to a news release from the U.S. attorney's office.

Currently, the case against Lincoln is pending in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan, where the U.S. attorney's office filed a complaint. The U.S. contends Silveus, through Silveus Insurance Group, served as the crop insurance agent for Lincoln, who farmed crops in Calhoun, Eaton, Ingham and Jackson counties in Michigan.

In December 2021, the U.S. filed a complaint alleging Lincoln violated the False Claims Act by maintaining a "scheme to fraudulently obtain more federal farm benefit program payments than he was entitled to receive," according to the U.S. attorney's office.

The U.S. attorney alleged Silveus and Silveus Insurance Group, acting at the direction of Lincoln, "obtained federal crop insurance policies for these straw farming operators, and that Mr. Silveus and Silveus Insurance Group caused the submission of false claims for the straw farming operators who had no insurable interest in the insured crops under their names."

"As a result of these false claims, the federal government, through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, paid subsidy premiums and indemnities on these false policies, as well as administrative costs that were paid to Mr. Silveus and Silveus Insurance Group," the news release said.

The lawsuit

The U.S. attorney's office alleges in the lawsuit that Lincoln financed a network of so-called "straw lessees" to help circumvent USDA benefit limits set on farms from 2010 to 2019. Each of the lessees, according to the complaint, would claim to be a producer enrolling in various crop benefit programs.

"To do so, Lincoln parsed his substantial farmland holdings to a group of straw operators who, at Lincoln's direction, knowingly submitted false and fraudulent documents to enroll in USDA programs," the lawsuit alleges.

"By falsely claiming Lincoln's crops as their own, these straw lessees fraudulently obtained USDA benefit payments that they funneled to Lincoln for his personal benefit. Lincoln also directed his network of straw farming operators to falsify documents and fraudulently obtain crop insurance policies that were partially subsidized by the federal government."

The complaint said Lincoln's alleged scheme allowed him to obtain insurance premiums funded by the federal government and crop insurance indemnity payments "to which he was not entitled."

"Defendant Gaylord Lincoln took advantage of the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) benefit programs, including the Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP), Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, as the producer on these farms," the complaint said. "But because his farming operation was so large, defendant Gaylord Lincoln hit the $40,000 maximum of FSA's DCP program benefit payments as early as 2010."

Lincoln allegedly created a way to get around crop insurance contract ceilings.

"He placed certain farmland under the names of his family members and employees," the complaint alleges. "That allowed these family members and employees to fraudulently enroll with FSA in the DCP, ARC and PLC programs as producers to receive payments."

The alleged straw operators took out land leases on farmland, including some new and previously leased or owned by Lincoln. The complaint said Lincoln provided money for the leases.

"Then, at the direction of defendant Gaylord Lincoln, the straw farming operators submitted farm operation plans to FSA for the straw farming operations by completing and signing forms," the government alleges.

"In these forms, the straw farming operators fraudulently certified to FSA that they were 'producers' (i.e., that they were entitled to share in any crop produced and shared in the risk of producing that crop). This was not true. In most instances, the crops were planted, cultivated and harvested by defendants who alone profited from the crop production and bore all the risk of producing these crops.

"The straw farming operators then returned their ill-gotten gains to defendants. Sometimes the money was paid directly into 'joint' bank accounts to which defendant Gaylord Lincoln was a signatory with the straw farming operator and which defendants ultimately controlled." — **Todd Neeley, DTN staff reporter**

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Lot 5 • 1803J • #4412003 • 1/9/21
ENERGIZE X PREMIER X IMPRESSIVE
177PROS, 89HB, 88GM, 16CED, -3.7BW, 77WW, 133YW, 27MILK, 14HPG, 10CEM, 20ST, 0.73MB, 0.48RE, $19,101PRO, $52RAN
An Elite Herd Bull from Top to Bottom!

Lot 1 • 1048J • #4455653 • 1/8/21
MERLIN X FANTASTIC X TAKEOVER
91PROS, 33HB, 59GM, 15CED, -3.4BW, 88WW, 144YW, 31MILK, 8HPG, 7CEM, 10ST, 0.38MB, 0.55RE, $22,667PRO, $46RAN
One of the stoutest Merlin's to ever sell anywhere!

Lot 52 • 1090J • #4455737 • 1/17/21
PRESIDENT X BOURNE X CONQUEROR
137PROS, 74HB, 62GM, 14CED, -3.2BW, 85WW, 133YW, 31MILK, 20HPG, 9CEM, 12ST, 0.79MB, 0.38RE, $17,699PRO, $70RAN
This is one stout Tank!

Lot 44 • 1242J • #4456033 • 2/12/21
CHARTER X REDEMPTION X DENIRO
149PROS, 71HB, 78GM, 15CED, -3.2BW, 71WW, 119YW, 29MILK, 9HPG, 9CEM, 18ST, 0.73MB, 0.35RE, $16,542PRO, $47RAN
Outcross Charter Sired herd bull!

Lot 36 • 1053J • #4455663 • 1/9/21
X-FACTOR X NORTHLINE X RIGHT VIEW
121PROS, 62HB, 59GM, 18CED, -3.1BW, 72WW, 121YW, 28MILK, 9HPG, 11CEM, 15ST, 0.75MB, 0.10RE, $18,918PRO, $60RAN
One of the deepest and heaviest bulls in the sale!

Lot 65 • 1180J • #4455915 • 1/30/21
X-FACTOR X BOURNE X PREMIER
114PROS, 48HB, 66GM, 19CED, -6.8BW, 66WW, 104YW, 32MILK, 12HPG, 11CEM, 12ST, 0.88MB, 0.28RE, $19,432PRO, $74RAN
Calving ease specialist with so much more!

Lot 62 • 1264J • #4456077 • 2/19/21
PRIME FACTOR X AUTHORITY X TYSON
138PROS, 53HB, 85GM, 16CED, -3.3BW, 68WW, 110YW, 27MILK, 11HPG, 9CEM, 13ST, 0.88MB, 0.67RE, $21,279PRO, $60RAN
Bull loaded with carcass and $Profit!

Ryan Ludvigson
515-450-3124
rl_ludvigson@hotmail.com

Park Ludvigson
712-229-3431
parkludvigson@hotmail.com

Kellen Ludvigson
515-314-2883
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Podcast focuses on new technologies and environmental issues in agriculture

The field agricultural engineering team with Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach continues to offer the "Engineering Your Farm" podcast, which provides timely information on engineering and environmental issues in agriculture.

The team works with farmers and agribusiness professionals to help improve the efficiency, profitability and environmental outcomes on farms and rural homesteads.

The podcast features information and interviews with people from the Midwest and around the world who have expertise in a wide variety of topics relevant to Iowa agriculture.

Previous episodes have covered a range of topics, including soil and water management, nutrient management, weed management, autonomous robotics, livestock facility ventilation and more. Future episodes will focus on solutions to common problems on farms and farmsteads and will continue to explore new technologies to make agriculture more productive, resilient and profitable.

The podcast is available on many popular podcast players. Subscribe to the "Engineering Your Farm" podcast, and stay tuned for new episodes.

"This podcast is a great way for people to learn about new developments and get the latest information regarding management of farm facilities, rural homesteads, livestock and crops," said Brian Dougherty, field agricultural engineer with ISU Extension and Outreach.

"Participants will also hear insights from industry experts and other farmers on implementing technologies and ideas to improve efficiency and profit while stewarding our natural resources." — **ISU Extension**

Livestock associations seek clarification on 'protect'

30x30
(from page 1)

Both the Montana Farm Bureau and the Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) echoed the same concerns expressed in Gianforte's letter, stating the initiative lacks detail, and in order for the "ambitious proposal" to achieve success, they must have farmers and ranchers at the table.

"In defining 'conservation,' there must be an accounting for what is already done: conservation easements, utilization of federal conservation practices, adoption of the innovative approaches that support healthy ecosystems and more," MSGA said in a statement. "The administration should also take a broad view of conservation so that good practices are rewarded (by being counted) and are encouraged in the future—as part of this proposal, or during the normal course of daily activities."

PLC

Echoing concerns about what defines "conservation," the Public Lands Council (PLC), National Cattlemen's Beef Association and American Sheep Industry sent a joint letter on the administration's request for information on the development of the Atlas.

The trio is recommending a clarification of the distinction between "conservation" and "preservation" and between "conserve" and "protect." They are asking the administration to define what "counts" in the Atlas—whether it is just federal lands or state lands and if multiple-use lands are allowed to be considered "conserved." They ask the administration to recognize existing conservation, including the routine stewardship of farmers and ranchers.

"As a baseline, farmers and ranchers have often stewarded and conserved landscapes for decades, some for generations, and have done so with great success," the letter reads. "Ranchers' and farmers' viability depends on their ability to match the needs of their operations with the health of the landscape and watersheds, building on the biodiversity and ecological potential for future generations."

Additionally, the letter asks the Biden administration not to seek new federal authority to complete conservation objectives in the initiative, "particularly those that would allow the agencies greater latitude to infringe on private property rights because the administration will not be successful in regulating additional landscapes into conservation."

The livestock associations are asking the DOI not to consider the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Protected Areas Database as a baseline—which states only 12 percent of lands are considered permanently protected—or use its system of Gap Analysis Project (GAP) codes.

USGS classifies GAP 1 and 2 areas as those "having permanent protection from the conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation." They ask to include lands where conservation practices like grazing are implemented alongside multiple uses.

ASL

Since the Biden administration's 30x30 announcement, American Stewards of Liberty (ASL), a nonprofit founded in 1992 by Western ranchers to protect property rights, has led a grassroots effort in counties to pass resolutions opposing the initiative.

In a letter submitted by ASL and several counties, they are calling on the Biden administration to conduct a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the Atlas and the 30x30 program.

ASL contends that an environmental impact statement under NEPA would require the administration to explain the definition of "conservation" and disclose any "substantive details that provide necessary information to the public and decision-makers."

Margaret Byfield, ASL executive director, stated NEPA compliance is required on smaller projects than the 30x30 initiative, and the administration should comply with the regulation.

Like Gianforte's letter, ASL stated, "A presidential order to act, as with the exercise of any governmental power, must stem either from an act of Congress or from the Constitution itself, or a combination of the two."

An outdoor group known as the Hunt Fish 30x30 coalition, which comprises 45 recreational groups, sent comments on the 30x30 initiative, asking for the clarification of "conservation" to support the active management and sustainable use of our nation's public trust fish and wildlife resources.

They urged the Biden administration to identify the lands and waters considered "conserved" based on conservation outcomes rather than arbitrary criteria. The groups also highlighted the importance of working with state fish and wildlife management agencies, regional fish and wildlife management authorities, Tribes, conservation-focused nongovernmental organizations and private landowners "who are most knowledgeable and best equipped to advance pragmatic and successful conservation efforts throughout the U.S." — **Charles Wallace, *WLJ* editor**

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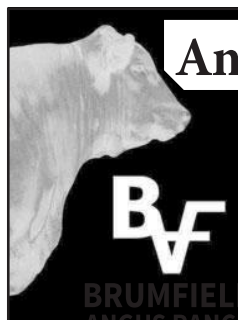
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Strong momentum continues for January US beef exports

Coming off a record-breaking performance in 2021, U.S. beef exports remained red hot in January, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF).

Beef exports totaled 119,066 metric tons (mt), up 13 percent from a year ago, while value soared 57 percent to $1.03 billion. This was the third highest value total on record—trailing only August and November of last year—and export value per head of fed slaughter set a new record, topping $500 for the first time.

"This is a truly remarkable run for U.S. beef exports, and the momentum is not limited to our large Asian markets," said USMEF President and CEO Dan Halstrom. "Regions such as Central America and the Caribbean contributed significantly to January export growth, and export value made strong gains in the Middle East."

Huge month for Korea

Beef exports to South Korea reached a record $2.38 billion in 2021, and demand didn't miss a beat in January. Exports to Korea climbed 39 percent from a year ago to 29,578 mt, while export value nearly doubled to a record $316.5 million (up 99 percent). While U.S. beef's pandemic-era growth in Korea has been largely driven by soaring retail demand, the food service outlook is also brightening, as health officials recently loosened social distancing requirements and allowed longer operating hours for restaurants. Korea's tariff rate on U.S. beef, which was 40 percent before the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement entered into force, dropped to 10.7 percent this year and will reach zero at the end of 2026.

Demand for U.S. beef in China/Hong Kong remained strong in January, climbing 69 percent from a year ago to 19,772 mt, while export value more than doubled ($194.2 million, up 115 percent). USMEF projects continued growth for U.S. beef in the region this year, though at a more moderate rate than in 2021, when export volume increased 87 percent year over year to more than 240,000 mt. Meaningful access to China—which was first achieved in early 2020 through the Phase One Economic and Trade Agreement—is also a supportive factor in the prices U.S. beef cuts command in other Asian markets.

January beef exports to Japan were up 4 percent from a year ago to 22,936 mt, while value jumped an impressive 32 percent to $181.7 million. Exports were bolstered by a strong performance for beef variety meat—mainly tongues and skirts—which increased 20 percent in volume (4,367 mt) and 69 percent in value ($41.8 million).

Other January results

Exports to Taiwan raced to a fast start in 2022, climbing 80 percent to 6,914 mt, while export value jumped 115 percent to $83 million. However, the large increase in January was due in part to delayed shipments that would normally have arrived before the end of the year.

Beef exports to the Middle East were relatively steady in volume (6,761 mt, down 1 percent) but increased 29 percent in value to $26.3 million, led by strong value growth in Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait.

Led by excellent value growth in Japan, Egypt, Mexico, China/Hong Kong, Vietnam, Gabon and Honduras, beef variety meat exports increased 36 percent in value to $93 million, despite a 3 percent drop in volume (22,977 mt).

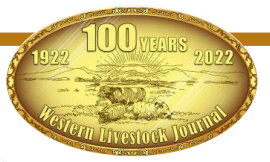
A rebound in food service demand helped beef exports to the Caribbean climb 28 percent from a year ago to 1,857 mt, while value doubled to $17 million, led by strong results in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

Beef exports to Central America continued to expand in January, increasing 14 percent from a year ago to 1,803 mt, while value jumped 45 percent to $13.1 million.

January beef export value equated to a record $503.68 per head of fed slaughter, up 62 percent from a year ago and topping $500 for the first time. Exports accounted for 15.4 percent of total beef production and 13.3 percent for muscle cuts, up substantially from the year-ago ratios of 13.3 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

Lamb exports higher

January exports of U.S. lamb totaled 1,533 mt, up 49 percent from a year ago, while export value climbed 59 percent to $1.9 million. Variety meat exports to leading market Mexico accounted for $1.3 million of the value total, a year-over-year increase of 73 percent and a new monthly record. Variety meat volume to Mexico was the fourth largest on record at 1,444 mt, up 53 percent. Lamb muscle cut exports to Mexico also increased substantially, with muscle cut demand also posting gains in the Caribbean and Panama. — **USMEF**



Let's go to Africa...six seats left

If you'd like to treat yourself to a rare adventure tour, here's an opportunity. But you'll have to hurry.

The "Sold Out" sign is about to go up on Western Livestock Journal's big 1968 African Safari; but there are still six vacancies. That's right—six.

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YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

(In an effort to serve the next generation of livestock producers, WLJ's Youth Opportunities calendar lists internship and scholarship information for agricultural- and livestock-focused students, listed by application deadline. If you have an internship or scholarship to announce, please email it to editorial@wlj.net.)

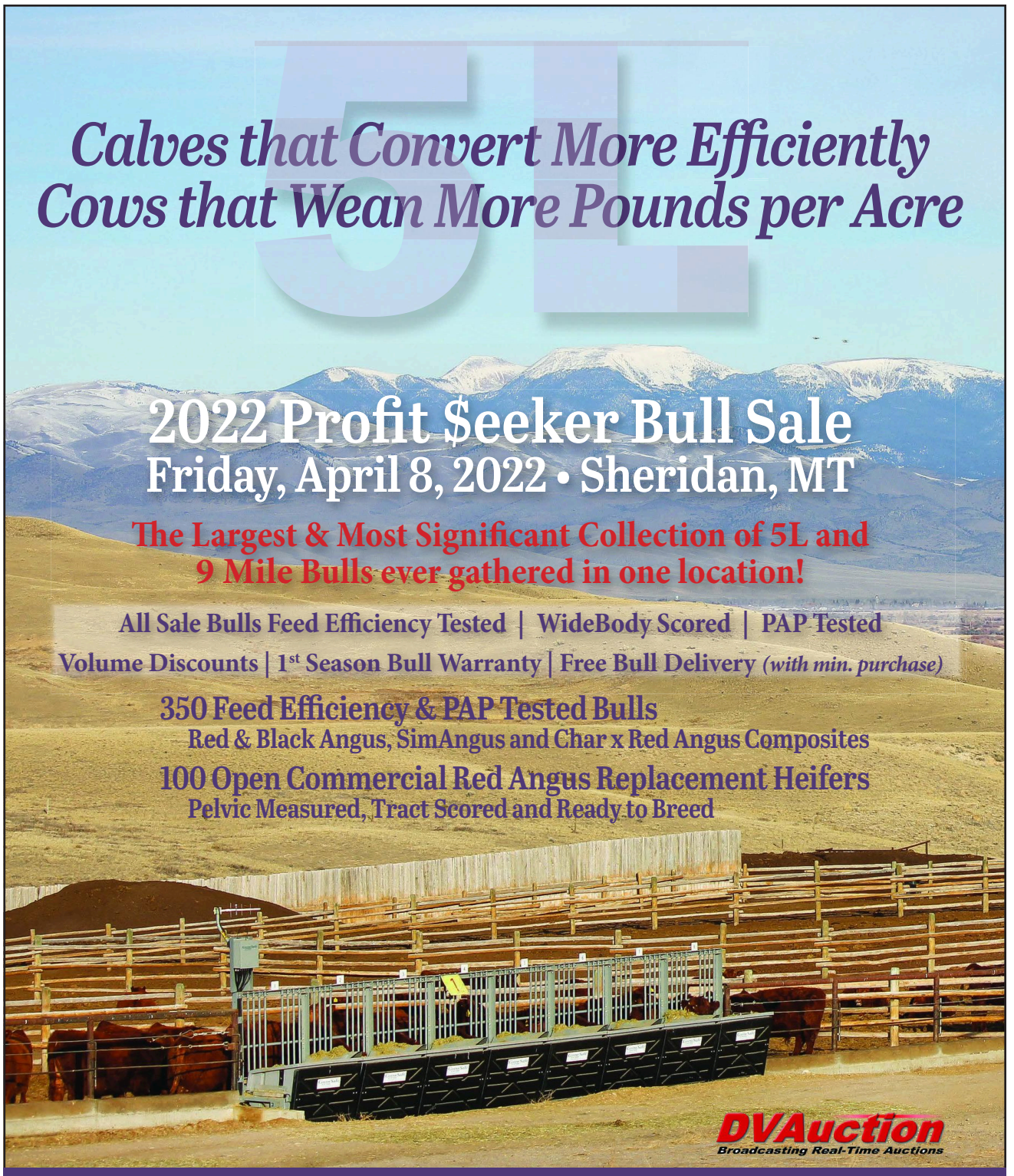
March 31 – Dairy MAX will award three $2,500 academic scholarships. Scholarship applications are now open until March 31, 2022. Students must reside in the Dairy MAX region, be a graduating high school senior or an undergraduate student currently enrolled in college and be a child of a dairy farmer, child of a dairy farm employee or an FFA/4-H dairy show participant. Details: DairyMAX.org/dairy/scholarships.

April 1 – The North American Limousin Junior Association is looking for a media intern for the duration of the 2022 National Junior Limousin Show and Congress, June 25-July 1. If interested, please send a resume, cover letter and two references to mallory@nalf.org.

April 15 – The Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry has opened applications for the Kansas State University Animal Science Leadership Academy, which will be held June 22-25 and June 29-July 2 in Manhattan, KS. The academy is available to high schoolers from across the U.S. Registration and more information are available at www.asi.k-state.edu.

May 2 – The Oklahoma Cattlemen's Foundation will distribute more than $25,000 in scholarships to students in 2022. The scholarships are available for current college students at an Oklahoma university with definite plans to continue in the fall or for graduating high school seniors who have an interest in the beef cattle industry. Details: www.okcattlemen.org.

June 15 – Tavaputs Ranch is honoring the memory of the late Tate Jensen through an annual $2,500 scholarship. Applicants must be seniors in college or in a graduate student program and studying agriculture or natural resources. Applications must include an essay with the applicant's background, college involvement and their future plans. Applications can be submitted to jennie.m.jensen@gmail.com or by mail to Jennie Christensen at P.O. Box 725, Price, UT 84501.



SALE REPORTS

COLYER HEREFORD AND ANGUS 42ND ANNUAL SALE
Feb. 28, Bruneau, ID
1 Flush. $12,500
6 Pregnancies. 8,633
134 Hereford bulls . . 7,693
77 Angus bulls 6,629
25 Hereford heifers. . 4,034
14 Angus heifers . . . 3,413
Auctioneers: C.D. "Butch" Booker & Kyle Colyer

TOPS—Hereford bulls: C 8086 SANCHO 1084 ET, 1/7/21 by ECR 628 IVYS ADVANCE 8923 ET; to Bowling Ranch, OK, and Bill King, NM, $45,000, 3/4 interest. C SPECIAL ADVANCE 0264 ET, 8/25/20 by ECR 628 IVYS ADVANCE 8923 ET; to Waibel Ranch, OR, $52,500. C 8105 GENESIS 1024 ET, 1/2/21 by LOEWEN GENESIS G16; to Waibel Ranch, OR, $40,000. C 8108 BELLE AIR 1092, 1/8/21 by C 4038 BELL AIR 8108 ET; to Waibel Ranch, OR, $35,000. C 5355C BELLE AIR 1085, 1/8/21 by BR BELLE AIR 6011; to NV buyer, $27,500. C BAR 1 8108 BELL AIR 1113, 1/9/21 by C 4038 BELL AIR 1113; to CA buyer, $17,500. C GENESIS 1123, 1/11/21 by LOEWEN GENESIS G16; to TI Ranch, NV, $11,000. C 7057 BLACK HAWK 0276, 8/28/20 by C 4212 BLACK HAWK 7057 ET; to Davis Farms, SD, $11,000. C SULL G16 GENESIS 1221 ET, 2/20/21 by LOEWEN GENESIS G16 ET; to Knox, TX, $11,000. C MILES VALIDATE 0315 ET, 9/5/20 by EF BEEF BR VALIDATED B413; to Mark Mackenzie, OR, $10,500. C 4038 G16 GENESIS 1086 ET, 1/8/21 by LOEWEN GENESIS G16; to W3 Livestock, ID, $10,000. C 88X GENESIS 1137, 1/13/21 by LOEWEN GENESIS G16; to Capon Ranch, OR, $10,000. C VALIDATED 0245 ET, 8/21/20 by EF BEEF BR VALIDATED B413; to Rancho Puerto de Nieto, MX, $10,000. C 1313 ENDURE 2099 ET, 9/1/20 by NJW 79Z Z311 ENDURE 173D ET; to El Regladero, MX, $10,000. **Hereford females**: C SULL OLIVIA 1047, 1/5/21 by ECR 628 IVYS ADVANCE 8923 ET; to Jennings Land and Livestock, IL, $15,000. C 8108 BELL AIR 1021, 1/3/21 by C 4038 BELL AIR 8108 ET; to Jennings Land and Livestock, IL, $10,000. **Pregnant rec.:** Heifer calf pregnancy by C GKB GUARDIAN 1015 and C BLACK HAWK LASS 8019; to Jennings Land and Livestock, IL, $14,000. 1 flush; to ID buyer, $12,500. **Angus bulls:** C C316 CAPITALIST 1028, 1/2/21 by LD CAPITALIST 316; to Wakely Ranch, NV, $18,000. C 558H TREASURE 1008, 12/30/21 by CONNEALY TREASURE 558H; to Ira Brackett, ID, $17,500. C EXCLUSIVE 1038, 1/3/21 by MUSGRAVE 316 EXCLUSIVE; to Ira Brackett, ID, $17,500. C 558H TREASURE 1092, 1/10/21 by CONNEALY TREASURE 558H; to Wilson and Wilson, $13,500. C JOANIE TRUE NORTH ET, 1/22/21 by SQUARE B TRUE NORTH 1108 ET; to Elk Angus, WY, $13,000. C CADILLACE 1055, 1/5/21 by KR CADILLACE RANCH; to Wilson and Wilson, $12,500. C 16 EXCLUSIVE 1005, 12/29/21 by MUSGRAVE 316 EXCLUSIVE; to Rees Bros., UT, $10,000. **Angus female:** C KNOW HOW HEIRESS 1076, 1/8/21 by HOOVER KNOW HOW; to Triple L, ID, $7,000. — **LOGAN IPSEN**

IPSEN

CROUTHAMEL CATTLE CO. ANNUAL BULL SALE
March 4, Stanfield, OR
101 Angus bulls . . . $4,988
3 Charolais bulls. . . . 4,650
7 SimAngus bulls. . . 3,246
Auctioneer: Rick Machado
Sale Manager: Parnell Dickinson Inc.

TOPS: Crouthamel Emerald 1001, 1/8/21 by Connealy Emerald; to Shielded M Farms, Colville, WA, $24,000. Crouthamel Spur 011, 1/13/21 by Connealy Spur; to Ox Bow Ranch, Wolf Creek, MT, $15,000. Crouthamel Prime Cut 1007, 1/12/21 by HA Prime Cut 4493; to Shielded M Farms, Colville, WA, $15,000. Crouthamel Tahoe 0300, 10/6/20 by Tehama Tahoe B767; to Cedar Top Angus, Stapleton, NE, $10,000. — **LOGAN IPSEN**

LOOSLI RED ANGUS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 8, Ashton, ID
97 Yearling bulls . . . $4,228
52 Open heifers 1,387
Auctioneer: Kyle Colyer

TOPS—Bulls: Loosli Ultimatum 123, 1/27/21 by 5L Ultimatum 1893-03C; to Chuck Jaure, Rawlins, WY, $15,500. Loosli Triad 1114, 3/1/21 by Brown CSB Triad D6451; to Devon Genetzky, Towner, ND, $14,000. Loosli Spartacus 129, 1/30/21 by Bieber Spartacus A193; to James Gowan, Tooele, UT, $10,500. **Heifers:** Miss Loosli Triad 127, 1/23/21 by Brown CSB Triad D6451; to Bob Mullendore, Missoula, MT, $3,000. Miss Loosli Spartacus 118, 1/21/21 by Bieber Spartacus A193; to Randy James, Dayton, WA, $2,500. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

MURNIN

LELAND RED ANGUS AND KOESTER RED ANGUS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 11, Sidney, MT
41 Older fall bulls . . $6,348
120 Yearling bulls . . . 5,644
33 Open Red Angus heifers 1,600
Auctioneers: Seth Weishaar & Lynn Weishaar

TOPS—Yearling bulls: Leland Propulsion 1326, 4/19/21 by BB Propulsion 9096; to Diamond H Ranch, Victoria, KS, $17,500. Leland Spartacus G06-1193, 4/6/21 by Bieber Spartacus G06; to ABS Global, DeForest, WI, $14,500. Leland Redemption 043-1103, 3/29/21 by LCOC Redemption A043F; to Northern Lites Red Angus, Opheim, MT, $13,500. Leland Stockmarket 1050, 3/25/21 by Bieber CL Stockmarket E119; to Loonan Stock Farm, Corning, IA, $13,000. Leland Peerless 1090, 3/29/21 by Schuler Peerless 9976; to Saunders Land and Livestock, Gillette, WY, $12,000. **Fall bulls:** Koester Stockmarket 015, 8/12/20 by Bieber CL Stockmarket E119; to Shaw Ranch, Joes, CO, $14,000. Koester Warrant 033, 8/14/20 by Lorenzen Warrant 8273; to Huber EY Red Angus, Jud, ND, $10,500. Koester Confidant 077, 8/18/20 by Schuler Confidence C810; to Jerry Olson, Selby, SD, $10,500. **Female:** Leland Stockmarket 1165, by Bieber CL Stockmarket E119; to Mark Pust, Lambert, MT, $2,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

DIAMOND PEAK CATTLE CO. ANNUAL DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH BULL SALE
March 12, Riverton, WY
101 Bulls $4,350
Auctioneer: Ty Thompson

TOPS: Yearling bull by GAR Fail Safe 5244; to Mack Morrell, Bignell, WY, $6,500. 2-year-old bull by Hoover Dam; to Ramon Walker, Lyman, WY, $6,250. Yearling bull by GAR Fail Safe 5244; to Alvin Miller, Lander, WY, $6,000. 2-year-old SimAngus bull by GW Premium Beef; to Pitchfork Ranch, Meeteetse, WY, $6,000. 2-year-old SimAngus bull by GW Premium Beef; to Pitchfork Ranch, Meeteetse, WY, $6,000. 2-year-old SimAngus bull by Boulder; to Pitchfork Ranch, Meeteetse, WY, $6,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

HOLDEN HEREFORDS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 14, Valier, MT
119 Bulls $11,263
26 Spring yearling heifers 5,971
29 Black baldie open heifers 1,748
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins

TOPS—Bulls: HH Advance 0270H, 8/4/20 by CL1 Domino 883F 1ET; to Coates Ranch, TX, $95,000. HH Advance 1023J, 1/1/21 by CL 1 Domino 8232F; to Cooper Hereford Ranch, MT, and Van Newkirk Herefords, NE, $80,000. HH Advance 1128J, 1/11/21 by HH Advance 1045L; to Van Newkirk Herefords, NE, $65,000. HH Advance 1069J ET, 1/5/21 by HH Advance 1045L; to Flying S Herefords, TX, $40,000. HH Advance 1028J, 1/1/21 by CL1 Domino 883F 1ET; to Fawcett's Elm Creek Ranch, SD, $28,000. HH Advance 1242J, 1/29/21 by CL1 Domino 883F 1ET; to Mrnak Hereford Ranch, ND, $25,000. HH Advance 1054J, 1/4/21 by HH Advance 8010F ET; to Bill Wilhelm, WY, $25,000. HH Advance 1112J, 1/9/21 by HH Advance 5018C ET; to Three Hills Ranch, IA, $25,000. **Females:** HH Miss Advance 1121J ET, 1/10/21 by CL1 Domino 917G; to Steve Bodner, MT, $28,000. HH Miss Advance 1035J ET, 1/2/21 by HH Advance 8132F; to Double Bit Ranch, MT, $12,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

COOPER HEREFORDS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 15, Willow Creek, MT
7 Bred cows $15,500
86 Bulls 12,552
23 Yearling heifers . . 6,261
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins

TOPS—Bulls: CL1 Domino 1115J, 1/12/21 by CL1 Domino 9108G ET; to Holden Herefords, MT, and Van Newkirk Herefords, NE, $90,000. CL1 Domino 175J, 1/9/21 by CL 1 Domino 94SG; to Van Newkirk Herefords, NE, and Pedretti Herefords, CA, $50,000. CL1 Domino 1176J, 1/24/21 by HH Advance 8392F ET; to Oleen Bros., KS, and Ken Coleman, CO, $50,000. CL1 Domino 1190J, 1/26/21 by HH Advance 8392F ET; to L Bar W Herefords, MT, $50,000. CL1 Domino 1195J, 1/27/21 by HH Advance 8392F ET; to Perez Cattle Co., NM, and Barber Herefords, TX, $45,000. CL1 Domino 1235J, 2/13/21 by CL1 Domino 7131E 1ET; to Lowell Fischer Herefords, NE, and The Berry's, WY, $40,000. **Bred cows:** CL1 Dominette 701E 1ET, 1/7/18 by CL1 Domino 215Z; to Churchill Cattle Company, MT, and Buford Ranches, OK, $30,000. CL1 Dominette 701E 1ET, 1/3/17 by CL1 Domino 215Z; to Tony Lasseter, IA, $26,000. **Heifer:** CL1 Dominette 1136J, 1/14/21 by CL1 Domino 7131E 1ET; to Buford Ranches, OK, $22,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

KLOMPIEN RED ANGUS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 16, Manhattan, MT
46 Yearling bulls . . . $5,049
Auctioneer: Kyle Shobe

TOPS: DKK Influence 1125, 2/6/21 by Schurr MCD Impact of Garton; to Hansine Ranch Red Angus, Pierre, SD, $14,000. CK Retain 1137, 2/8/21 by MRLA Resource 137E; to Mikes Red Angus, Geddes, SD, $9,500. DKK Top Shelf 1155, 2/13/21 by MRLA Resource 137E; to Leo Gauderman, Glenfield, ND, $9,500. DKK Brute 1041, 1/22/21 by DKK Brute 931; to Quigley Ranch, Avon, MT, $8,750. DKK One of a Kind 1047, 1/24/21 by Pie One of a Kind 510; to Chuck Plymale, Townsend, MT, $7,500. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

STEVENSON ANGUS RANCH BULL SALE
March 16, Hobson, MT
210 Total bulls. $5,219
58 2-year-old bulls . . 6,711
152 Yearling bulls . . . 4,650
Auctioneers: Roger Jacobs & Joe Goggins

TOPS: Stevenson Rainfall 10460, 1/15/21 by SAV Rainfall 6846; to Dubas Cattle Co., Fullerton, NE, $24,000. Stevenson Easy Money 0079, 4/12/20 by Stevenson Easy Money 70688; to Granger Angus Ranch, Great Falls, MT, $18,750. Stevenson Easy Money 00618, 3/5/20 by Stevenson Easy Money 70688; to a commercial buyer, $14,500. Stevenson Stunner 0001, 1/31/20 by Musgrave 316 Stunner; to a commercial buyer, $12,000. Stevenson Icon 10040, 1/24/21 by Mr JT Icon 921; to Cudlobe Angus, Stavely, AB, $12,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

Industry leading genetics and the highest quality Red Angus, with 77 years of Satisfied Customers

Beckton has long been the premier breeder of Red Angus cattle which combine calving ease, maternal traits, and rapid growth to yearling age, for maximum overall profitability to commercial cow-calf cattlemen. Beckton's balanced genetics and emphasis on the maternal traits, have made them the leading choice for commercial replacement females and for building a productive cow herd. And the lower birth weights make them a first choice for breeding heifers.

As an indicator for "maternal" traits, the Herd Builder Index is dominated by Beckton bloodlines. 9 of the top 10, 18 of the top 20, and 43 of the top 50 sires in the breed for Herd Builder are Beckton sires or descended by Beckton sires.

In the Red Angus breed, 9 of the top 10 sires for Birth Weight EPD, 8 of top 10 sires for Stayability EPD and 8 of the top 10 sires for Marbling EPD are Beckton sires or descended from Beckton sires.

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LUFKIN CATTLE COMPANY ANNUAL BULL SALE
March 16, Leadore, ID
83 Yearling bulls . . . $5,180
Auctioneer: Trent Stewart
Sale Manager: Ron Frye Marketing

TOPS: LCC Resilient 138, 1/23/21 by Sitz Resilient 10208; to TFI Limited Partnership, Meridian, ID, $15,000. LCC Raindance J7, 1/20/21 by SAV Raindance 6848; to Ed Snook, Salmon, ID, $13,000. LCC Resilient 143, 1/23/21 by Sitz Resilient 10208; to Cecil Jackson, Salmon, ID, $9,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

REID ANGUS PRODUCTION SALE
March 11, Brush, CO
40 Yearling bulls . . . $4,453
8 Yearling heifers . . . 2,131
Auctioneer: Joe Frazier

TOPS—Bulls: RAR Ashland 137, 2/28/21 by GAR Ashland; to Brad Mills, Stratton, CO, $9,000. JHC Stunner 191, 2/20/21 by Musgrave 316 Stunner; to J & T Cattle Co., Akron, CO, $6,000. JHC Ashland 61, 1/17/21 by GAR Ashland; to Cowtac, Brush, CO, $5,750. Reid Patriarch 104, 1/28/21 by Tehama Patriarch F028; to Hahn Farm LLC, Grover, CO, $5,750. **Heifer:** Reid Miss Ruby 129, 2/26/21 by Schilling Total Confidence; to Rumsey Angus, Wiggins, CO, $2,600. — **JIM GIES**

GIES

KOBERSTEIN FARMS ANGUS LLC BULL SALE
March 12, Ogallala, NE
66 Total registered bulls $4,673
8 Older bulls 5,375
58 Yearling bulls 4,577
Auctioneer: Kevin Schow

TOPS: KF Bomber 1250, 2/19/21 by Casino Bomber N33; to Goddard Farms LLC, Haxton, CO, $10,000. KF Bomber 1249, 2/19/21 by Casino Bomber N33; to Bogle Inc., Elwood, NE, $6,750. KF Gary 0506, 8/29/20 by Connealy Gary; to Starkebaum Farms, Haxton, CO, $6,500. KF Gary 0513, 9/7/20 by Connealy Gary; to Ron Luchs, Arapahoe, NE, $6,250. KF Steadfast 1103, 1/31/21 by Prairiedge Steadfast; to Goddard Farms LLC, Haxton, CO, $6,250. KF Monumental 0503, 8/28/20 by EXAR Monumental 6056B; to Goddard Farms LLC, Haxton, CO, $6,000. — **JIM GIES**

LUDVIGSON STOCK FARMS CORNHUSKER CLASSIC BULL SALE
March 12, North Platte, NE
101 Bulls $4,378
Auctioneer: Charlie Cummings

TOPS: LSF RCC Commander 0657H, 8/26/20 by LSF SRR Commander 5906C; to Vick Westphal, Grass Range, MT, $10,500. LSF PDC Complete H92, 9/28/20 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to Dave Bauman, Linton, ND, $10,500. LSF WRA Commander 1115, 2/1/21 by LSF SRR Commander 5906C; to Ben Martin, Lexington, NE, $9,500. LSF PDC Watchman H89, 9/5/20 by LSF SRR Watchman 5289C; to Danny Harms, Grover, CO, $8,250. LSF PDC Complete H86, 9/3/20 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to Dan and Tesa Hooper, Merriman, NE, $8,000. — **JIM GIES**

FEDDES RED ANGUS AND C-T RED ANGUS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 14, Manhattan, MT
116 Bulls $5,507
Auctioneer: Kyle Shobe

TOPS: C-T Red Rock 1022, 1/20/21 by C-T Red Rock 5033; to Weber Red Angus, Wagner, SD, $20,000. C-T Seneca 1012, 1/17/21 by RReds Seneca 731C; to McCune Marketing, Perkins, OK, $16,000. Feddes Seneca 1235, 1/28/21 by RReds Seneca 731C; to Jim Jones, New Kinsington, PA, $11,000. C-T Red Mark 1015, 1/17/21 by C-T Red Mark 9003; to Riley Garrigan, Dupree, SD, $10,000. C-T Red Rock 1005, 1/14/21 by C-T Red Rock 5033; to Kerri Paddock, Douglas, WY, $9,750. — **PETE CROW**

CROW

GREEN MOUNTAIN RED ANGUS ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
March 15, Logan, MT
73 Yearling bulls . . . $5,148
Auctioneer: Trent Stewart

TOPS: GMRA Investment 1217J, 1/13/21 by Bieber CL Stockmarket E119; to Lone Tree Ranch, Bison, SD, $18,000. GMRA Capital Gains 1211J, 1/11/21 by Bieber CL Stockmarket E119; to Double D Red Angus, Corvallis, MT, $15,500. GMRA Damascus 1226J, 1/15/21 by Feddes Brunswick D202; to Anderson Land and Cattle Co., Oberlin, KS, $12,000. GMRA Bonanza 1205J, 1/8/21 by Feddes Brunswick D202; to Anthony Ranches, Ryan, OK, $9,500. GMRA Cinch 1216J, 1/13/21 by GMRa Absolution 6201; to Wood V Bar X Ranch, Sandpoint, ID, $9,500. — **PETE CROW**

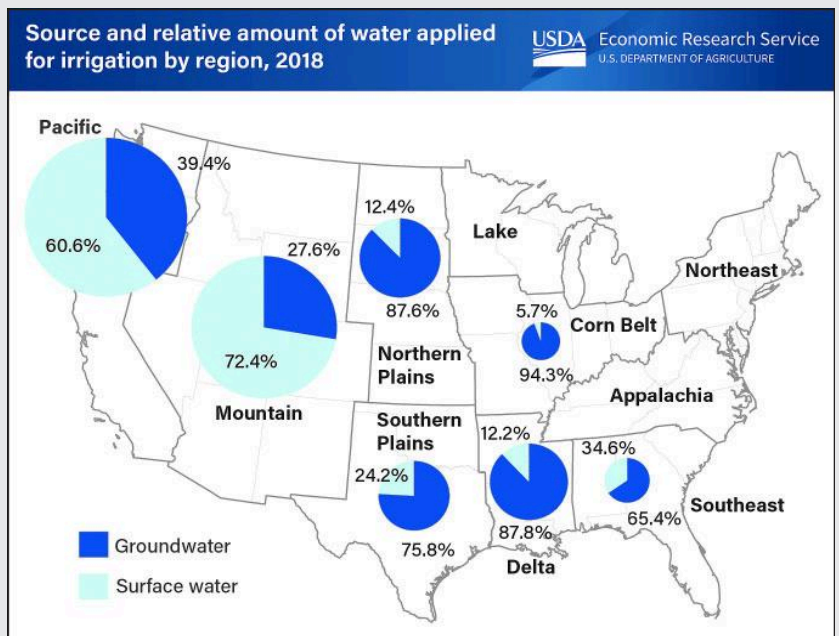
Surface or groundwater use for irrigation varies

Surface and groundwater are the two primary water supply sources for irrigated agriculture. Groundwater is pumped from aquifers, while surface water is diverted from natural streams, rivers and lakes. The predominance of surface versus groundwater use varies regionally.

Groundwater is the most common source of water applied for irrigation in the Mississippi Delta, Northern Plains and Southern Plains regions. The prevalence of groundwater-fed irrigated agriculture in the Northern and Southern Plains relates to the regions' historically abundant groundwater resources.

The High Plains aquifer, the largest aquifer in North America, also known as the Ogallala Aquifer, underlies significant portions of the Plains regions. The Mississippi Delta region also has abundant groundwater resources that are relatively shallow, making groundwater-based irrigation less expensive.

Irrigated agriculture relying on surface water is most prevalent in the Mountain and Pacific regions. The extent of surface water use for irrigation in these regions reflects past federal, state and local investments in water conveyance and storage infrastructure, as well as characteristics of the regions' legal institutions, which grant water rights based on historical beneficial use rather than ownership of land along streams and rivers. — **USDA Economic Research Service**



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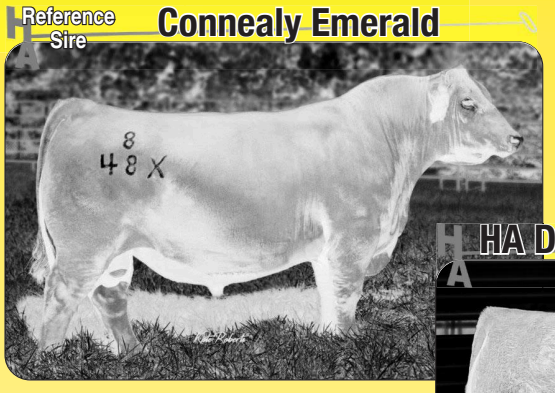
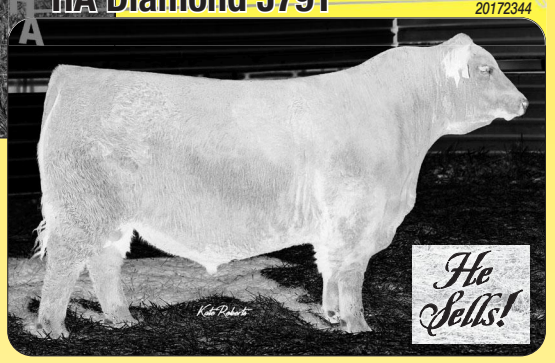
Reference Sire
Connealy Emerald



Connealy Emerald is one of the most popular calving ease sires from the Confidence Plus line. First daughters look tremendous!

90 Bulls Suitable For Heifers

HA Diamond J791 20172344



HA Diamond will be one of the most complete calving ease prospects to sell this spring, ANYWHERE!

CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	Marb	RE	Fat	$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
+11	-2.2	+71	+126	+25	+.55	+.90	-.003	+78	+81	+86	+51	+137	+256

Reference Sire
HA Image Maker 0415

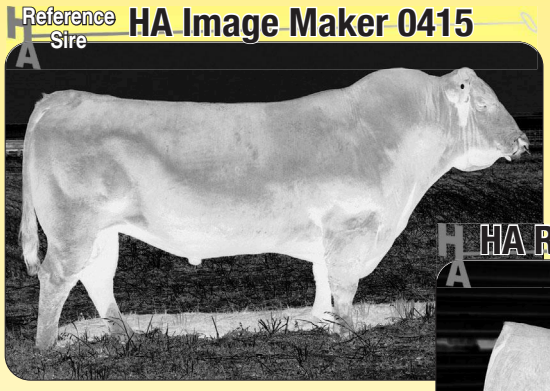


Image Maker is the cornerstone sire of the Hinman program, a legend in the ABS lineup for over a decade. The dam of Image Maker has hundreds of descendents in the HA herd.

HA Reflection J459 20172227

Reflection is poised to continue the Image Maker legacy.

CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	Marb	RE	Fat	$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
+12	-1.3	+77	+128	+32	+.37	+.62	-.024	+59	+91	+94	+41	+135	+234

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Tuesday April 5, 2022
1:00 pm MDT
At the Ranch 10 miles east of Malta, MT

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MARKET NEWS

MARKET SITUATION REPORT

WLJ compiles its market reports, ODJ stories and statistics from USDA and independent marketing organizations.

MARKET AT A GLANCE	This Week: 3/17/2022		Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	139.96	▲	138.12	114.24
CME Feeder Index	154.23	▲	153.06	134.28
Boxed Beef Average	251.05	▼	253.94	228.61
Average Dressed Steers	222.00	▼	220.14	180.05
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,396	▼	1,400	1,374
Weekly Slaughter**	644,000	▼	658,000	649,000
Weekly Beef Production***	540.7	▼	553.1	536.1
Hide/Offal Value	13.27	▼	13.77	10.16
Corn Price	7.54	▼	7.58	5.46

*Average weight for previous week. **Total slaughter for previous week. ***Estimated year-to-date figure in million pounds for previous week.

89BEEF REPORT: Weekly Composite Boxed Beef

WEEK ENDING	COMPREHENSIVE Loads	COMPREHENSIVE Price	PRIME Loads	PRIME Price	BRANDED Loads	BRANDED Price	CHOICE Loads	CHOICE Price	SELECT Loads	SELECT Price	UNGRADED Loads	UNGRADED Price
March 14	7,449	261.16	327	260.06	1,435	260.69	2,303	258.40	818	250.21	2,565	236.26
March 7	7,666	262.65	258	293.73	1,493	263.75	2,486	259.19	737	254.85	2,693	240.74
February 25	7,065	267.94	271	302.63	1,417	268.60	2,182	265.04	785	261.07	2,410	242.99
February 18	7,457	276.13	264	313.87	1,188	276.59	2,044	270.90	624	266.65	3,338	253.36

Cutouts — FED BOXED BEEF

DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT	50% LEAN	90% LEAN
March 17	257.05	250.68	228.91	108.61	283.96
March 16	258.08	250.27	230.45	110.78	287.22
March 15	257.90	248.84	229.99	107.78	N/A
March 14	255.51	249.94	229.95	106.44	288.31
March 11	254.71	249.11	229.07	110.55	258.53

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle

	3/11	3/14	3/15	3/16	3/17	High*	Low*
Apr.	13730	14033	14085	13935	13948	14783	10920
Jun	13295	13570	13680	13553	13593	14385	12525
Aug.	13501	13668	13730	13650	13665	14355	13055
Oct.	14288	14403	14445	14378	14380	14662	14003

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle

	3/11	3/14	3/15	3/16	3/17	High*	Low*
Mar.	15328	15595	15635	15725	15655	17025	15328
Apr.	15798	16240	16260	16263	16110	17275	15425
May.	16373	16745	16730	16728	16588	17755	16373
Aug.	17708	18043	17993	18038	17930	18665	17450

*High and low figures are for the life of the contract.

FED CATTLE TRADE

	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES			
Live FOB Steer	4,396	1,571	139.96
Live FOB Heifer	1,977	1,417	140.09
Dressed Del Steer	994	968	222.00
Dressed Del Heifer	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	26,633	1,476	138.12
Live FOB Heifer	11,311	1,326	138.06
Dressed Del Steer	12,440	963	220.14
Dressed Del Heifer	5,642	844	219.99
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	21,567	1,494	114.24
Live FOB Heifer	8,182	1,308	114.17
Dressed Del Steer	2,667	938	180.05
Dressed Del Heifer	314	914	180.00

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME

	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	45,655	7,493
Formula	268,583	375
Negotiated Cash	78,504	182
Negotiated Grid	31,800	0
Packer Owned	9,967	0
Total	**434,509**	**8,050**

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,851
Mar. '22	218,933	Neg. Sales 21+ days	1,535
Apr. '22	235,169	Formula sales	3,475
May '22	150,555	Forward contract sales	588
Jun. '22	139,483	Domestic sales	6,158
Jul. '22	110,480	NAFTA Exports	113

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK PRICES & FEDERAL INSPECTED SLAUGHTER FIGURES

Alberta Direct Sales (4% shrink)	Price	Weekly Change
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs	129.06	+2.4
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	128.27	+2.37
Ontario Auctions		
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs	136.85	-0.32
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	135.57	N/A
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs	75.19	+5.67

*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, March 4, 2022

Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario
501-600 lbs	184.07	184.83	172.93
601-700 lbs	172.53	169.74	165.10
701-800 lbs	159.26	155.55	148.27
801-900 lbs	149.75	146.67	145.45
Heifers:			
401-500 lbs	161.06	159.61	139.57
501-600 lbs	155.53	153.77	140.70
601-700 lbs	146.87	143.04	142.00
701-800 lbs	139.97	137.09	134.07

USDA MEXICO TO U.S. WEEKLY LIVESTOCK IMPORTS

Feeder cattle imports weekly and yearly volume.

Species	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Year-to-date	Previous Year-to-date
	3/12/2022	3/5/2022		
Feeders	18,275	15,821	179,867	237,641

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE

Friday 3/11/22
Mexico to TX. & NM. Weekly Feeder Cattle Import Summary
Receipts EST: 15,000 Week Ago Act: 11,246 Year Ago Act: 24,923

Compared to last week, steer calves and yearlings closed steady after posting gains early in the week. Heifers steady to 2.00 lower. Trade moderate to active, demand moderate to good. The bulk of the supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-700 lbs.

Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 178.00-193.00; 400-500 lbs 163.00-177.00; 500-600 lbs 148.00-163.00; 600-700 lbs 140.00-152.00. Medium and large 2&3, 300-400 lbs 163.00-178.00; 400-500 lbs 148.00-162.00; 500-600 lbs 133.00-148.00.

Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 155.00-167.00; 400-500 lbs 145.00-157.00; 500-600 lbs 135.00-147.00; 600-700 lbs 125.00-137.00.

(All sales fob port of entry.)

Selected Auction Week Ending March 17, 2022

Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2

STEERS / HEIFERS

DATE MARKET		200-300 lb.	300-400 lb.	400-500 lb.	500-600 lb.	600-700 lb.	700-800 lb.	800 lb. -up	SLAUGHTER COWS SLAUGHTER BULLS	PAIRS REPLACEMENTS	
No report available Blackfoot, ID											NORTHWEST
March 10 Burley, ID	578		199-205	191 179.50-186.50	170 171.75-176.50	159	150.50-151 140-144	145-148.50 127-137.50	77-90.50 95.50-106		
March 15 Emmett, ID	486			175-192 144-160	145-177 139-154	149-162 139-146	135-146 127.50-133	131-135.50	66-90 118-123		
March 12 Eugene, OR	894		105-111	140-170 120-135	125-149.50 115-137.50	130-147 110-129	120-140 105-122	98-111	90-97.50 95-105	500-1,240 650-1,180	
No report available Madras, OR											
March 9 Vale, OR	454		150-188	134-160	137-149 131-149	125-140	129-143	120-127	76-89 85-100		
March 16 Davenport, WA	114		170-195 123-134	116-170 123-141	133-142 50-161	86-132 51-122	59-132	86-135 92	52-107 52-142		
March 10 Toppenish, WA	2,250		199*	195-198.50* 194*	180.50-204* 166*	168-187* 142-158*			70-86 90-138		
No report available Orland, CA											FARWEST
March 14 Escalon, CA	N/A		130-171 125-156		125-160 120-153		120-146 100-135	100-125 95-115	60-85 80-103	800-1,300 700-1,300	
March 14 Famoso, CA	361		150-175 120-130	150-175 120-140	150-175 110-140	140-153 110-128	125-140	110-125 100-121	65-93 80-101		
March 16 Galt, CA	1,884				150-173 140-162.50	145-164 140-155	140-160 125-152		50-94.50 90-144		
March 15 Turlock, CA	2,992		160-191	160-174 145-159	155-172 140-160.25	149-174 135-144	140-167.85 127-140.75	130-145 124-135	82-103 108-139		
No report available Salina, UT											
March 14 Iowa	5,382	193	221 176-199	185-214 166-186	185-204 153-165	155-194.50 138-157	146-177.85 130-151	136.75-158.25 127-137	67-97 54-116		NORTH CENTRAL
March 15 Miles City, MT	1,945		189.50-194	226-226.25 180-190.50	188.50-205 160-181	159.50-188.50 147.50-172	164-167.75 138-156.50	146-148	75-87.50 79-104.50	900-1,485	
March 16 Bassett, NE	3,060	142.75	220-233 192-205	222-233 184-189	200.25-222 167.25-183	176-200 155-175.25	152-188.25 149-160.75	156.50 133-140.25			
March 12 Ericson, NE	3,336		235	208-233 167-194	192.50-215.50 157-177	170.50-198 143.50-165	155-174 144.50-148	139-157.50 137.50-153.75		1,985	
No report available Imperial, NE											
March 9 Kearney, NE	1,985			194-205	188-204 152.75-164.50	166-191.50 144.25-160.50	154-170 139-145.25	142.50-157 135-140.25			
No report available Lexington, NE											
No report available Ogallala, NE											
March 10 Valentine, NE	3,355		232	213-224 194-198	196-225 173.25-183.25	184.50-210 149.50-168.50	155-174 139-163				
March 11 Herreid, SD	1,991			177-186	190-207 159-172	160-197.25 150-155.75	152.50-170.50 138.50-149	138.50-161.75 132.25-143.75			
March 9 Torrington, WY	2,535		225 198	205-216 178-196	199-211.50 170-189	175-195 151-175	156-174.50 150-157	151.50-152.50 141-142.50			
March 10 Willcox, AZ	1,212	184-191 157-168	171-189 158.25-168	154-178 147-162.50	149-165.50 136-152	140-144 131-140.50			80-105 90-115.50	1,425-1,500 1,050-1,175	SOUTH CENTRAL
March 14 Colorado	9,493		225-234	216-240 174-198	194-219 162-196	148-210 145-172	150.50-181 135-146.50	130.50-149 130.50	64-99 87.50-116	1,360-1,485 1,010-1,500	
March 12 La Junta, CO	634									1,275-1,485 1,000-1,600	
March 7 Loma, CO	248		172.50		185 171	174 149-151	145.50 145	111 102-106	88-107.50 95-108.50		
March 17 Dodge City, KS	4,632	189	225-227 161-197.50	182.50-214 171-193.50	170-201 151-180.50	156-183 143-160.50	150-158 136.25-145.85	136.75-157.25 124-140.10	81-99 86-120	1,100-1,175	
March 17 Pratt, KS	6,000		181	194-202 178-200	181-188 175-200	152 137-159.25	154 136.50-149.25	140 130-141.35			
March 10 Salina, KS	1,465		213-221 154-160	194-200 155-167	186-206 155-164.50	166-177 133-163	144.50-154.50 132.50-143	125.50-148.50 125-138.50			
March 16 Clovis, NM	1,434		204-218 188-195	190-208 160-190	171.50-188 140-164.50	160-168 141-155	151-155 137-144	145			
March 15 El Reno, OK	2,000		205-232 200-212.50	195-220 174-192.50	182-210 157-180	154-181 150-157					
March 16 McAlester, OK	1,175		196-209 165-180	175-206 147-197	156-184 144-166	145-167 135-153	135-141 120-145	110 132	80-96 98-116	1,050-1,475 825-1,350	
March 15 Oklahoma City, OK	8,812		200-230 166-194	188-223 149.50-192	189-205 145-179	161-187 140-162	146.75-163.75 135-148	130.50-152 129-136			
March 11 Cuero, TX	1,323	143-202 135-200	153-202 135-189	159-190 136-174	144-180 132-174	141-166 127-143	100-144		55-95 90-111	400-1,000	
March 11 Dalhart, TX	1,888	202	220 176-205	207-218 165-183	193-198 155-169	161-175.50 146-157	152-155 140-147	135.25	68.50-87.50 104-107		
March 14 San Angelo, TX	949		172-225 148-160	170-214 140-162	151-185 130-161	140.50-168 126-147	127-140 118-128		72-89 80-114	800-1,225	
March 10 Tulia, TX	1,599		184-186 150	177-180 150-170	154-174 151-162.50	160-169 134-151	147.50-161.75 133-145	144.50-151 133.50-138.75	75-85 105		
March 14 Alabama	11,094	150-154	175-212 148-180	170-199 140-166	156-190 134-160	141-186 120-152.50	135.75-152 115-144	126.50-134.50 117	64-98.50 75-121	700-1,700 450-1,700	EAST
March 14 Lexington, KY	741	190-192.50* 142-162.50*	170-199* 148-172*	156-196* 141-160*	151-176* 140-149*	145-166* 125-142*	134-140* 115-138.10*	138.30-142.50* 116-126*	69-95 93-128	900-1,085	
March 14 Joplin, MO	5,604	240	200-225 170-182.50	197.50-223 160-177.50	192-212 158-175	165-189 148-158	154-162 143-144	138-156.25 124.50-138			
March 14 Tennessee	4,958	165-210* 139-175*	172.50-220* 141-172*	160-204* 129-162.50*	154-198* 120-157.50*	131-170* 125-144*	125-157.50* 115-136*	110-141* 108-127.50*	56-100.50 79-133	1,000-1,780 700-1,550	
March 13 Virginia	4,906		165-168 123-163	139-190 126-144.50	135-195 125-151.25	138-178 110-149.50	130-174 105-140	98-143 99-141			
CANADA											
No report available Lethbridge, Alberta											

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Springtime is finally here... Hopefully

Spring is trying to arrive in Oklahoma, with several rounds of alternating warm and cold weather recently. Much of the state received a bit of snow in the early part of the month, but moisture totals were very small. The calendar says that winter is officially over this week, and spring-like temperatures are forecast in the near future and may be here for good. Warmer temperatures, low humidity, dry conditions and wind mean that wildfire risks are very high now.

The drought conditions impacting the region will become much more apparent in the coming weeks. The Oklahoma Mesonet system shows that precipitation over the past 120 days averaged 44 percent of normal across the state. All regions of the state are dry, with some much drier than others. The east central region has received 62 percent of normal precipitation, the most of any region of the state, while the Panhandle has received just 14 percent of its normal since mid-November.

According to the Drought Monitor, nearly 92 percent of Oklahoma is abnormally dry or worse, with over 56 percent of the state in D3 (extreme drought) and D4 (exceptional drought). The Drought Severity and Coverage Index (DSCI) for Oklahoma currently is at 321 (out of a maximum of 500). The Oklahoma DSCI was at 67 in mid-September 2021.

The latest Seasonal Drought Outlook from the Climate Prediction Center predicts continued drought conditions across most of the western U.S., with the exception of the Pacific Northwest. This includes all of Oklahoma except the eastern tier counties.

The weather patterns we are experiencing are consistent with the current La Niña conditions in the Pacific Ocean. La Niña conditions are forecast to persist into the summer, thus increasing the likelihood of continuing drought conditions. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Feeder cattle recover losses; still leary of corn

MARKETS
(from page 1)

head due to some scheduled plant shutdowns. Actual slaughter for the first week of March was recorded at 659,346 head.

Boxed beef prices have seasonally bottomed out. The Choice cutout gained $13 to close at $257.05, and the Select cutout gained just over $3 to close at $250.68.

"As the cutout bottomed, so did packer margins last week, and that trend is seasonally expected to continue," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in the Beef. "No one expects packer margins to reach last year's record level, but packers are expected to be very profitable from a historical perspective this year. Cattle weights are the heaviest in history thus far in 2022, which means more pounds to sell, supporting revenue."

Feeder cattle

"The war will not change the numbers of cattle, but skyrocketing grain prices will change their value," said the Cattle Report. "The market is telling those holding feeder cattle to hold them longer on pasture and make them heavier. Feeding cost of gain is working towards a price point that is higher than the value of the feeder animal."

Feeder cattle futures also made some improvements over the week, although they closed lower on Thursday. The March contract gained about $5 to close at $156.55, and the April contract also gained about $5 to close at $161.10. The CME Feeder Cattle Index gained $1.17 to close at $154.23.

Corn futures traded mostly steady, with the May contract down a penny to $7.54 and the July contract down 8 cents to $7.26.

"These types of back-and-forth price jumps, which then create immense volatility and uncertainty in the market, are likely to continue until the war in Ukraine is finished," Stewart said. "Until then, the market will likely continue to look for every little clue and crumb of insight and neglect to value its fundamentals."

Colorado: Winter Livestock in La Junta sold 2,648 head on Tuesday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers under 500 lbs. sold mostly steady, 500-600 lbs. sold $3-5 lower, 600-800 lbs. sold $3-5 lower with instances of $8 lower, and over 800 lbs. sold steady. Feeder heifers under 500 lbs. sold $3-5 lower, 500-600 lbs. sold $5-8 lower, 600-700 lbs. sold steady and over 700 lbs. sold steady to $2 higher.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 5,000 head on Monday. Feeder steers under 450 lbs. sold $4-10 higher, with heavier weights selling steady to $2 higher. Feeder heifers under 550 lbs. sold $5-8 higher, with heavier weights trading steady. Benchmark steers averaging 715 lbs. sold between $154-162, averaging $159.08.

Nebraska: Bassett Livestock in Bassett sold 3,060 head on Wednesday. Compared to the previous auction, there was not a recent test for an accurate comparison on steers or heifers. Benchmark steers averaging 711 lbs. sold between $179-188.25, averaging $183.98.

New Mexico: Clovis Livestock in Clovis sold 1,434 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, steer and heifer calves sold $5-10 higher. Yearling steers and heifers sold $2-6 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 767 lbs. sold between $151-152 and averaged $151.78.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 8,700 head on Monday. Feeder steers sold $2-4 higher, and feeder heifers sold $3-6 higher. Steer and heifer calves sold unevenly steady. Benchmark steers averaging 781 lbs. sold between $149-154, averaging $150.92.

South Dakota: Hub City Livestock in Aberdeen sold 5,786 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, steers 600-700 lbs. sold unevenly steady, and 701-950 lbs. were steady to $3 higher. Heifers 600-650 lbs. were steady to $3 higher, while 651-800 lbs. sold mostly steady with instances of up to $2 lower on 700-750 lbs. Benchmark steers averaging 729 lbs. sold between $159-175, averaging $166.45. — **Anna Miller, *WLJ* managing editor**

Pasture management now leads to better grazing season performance, profitability

"Pasture is the cheapest feed resource in a cattle operation," said Patrick Davis, University of Missouri (MU) Extension livestock field specialist. Proper pasture management in the late winter and early spring will help optimize forage production during the grazing months and will have a positive impact on production and profitability, Davis said.

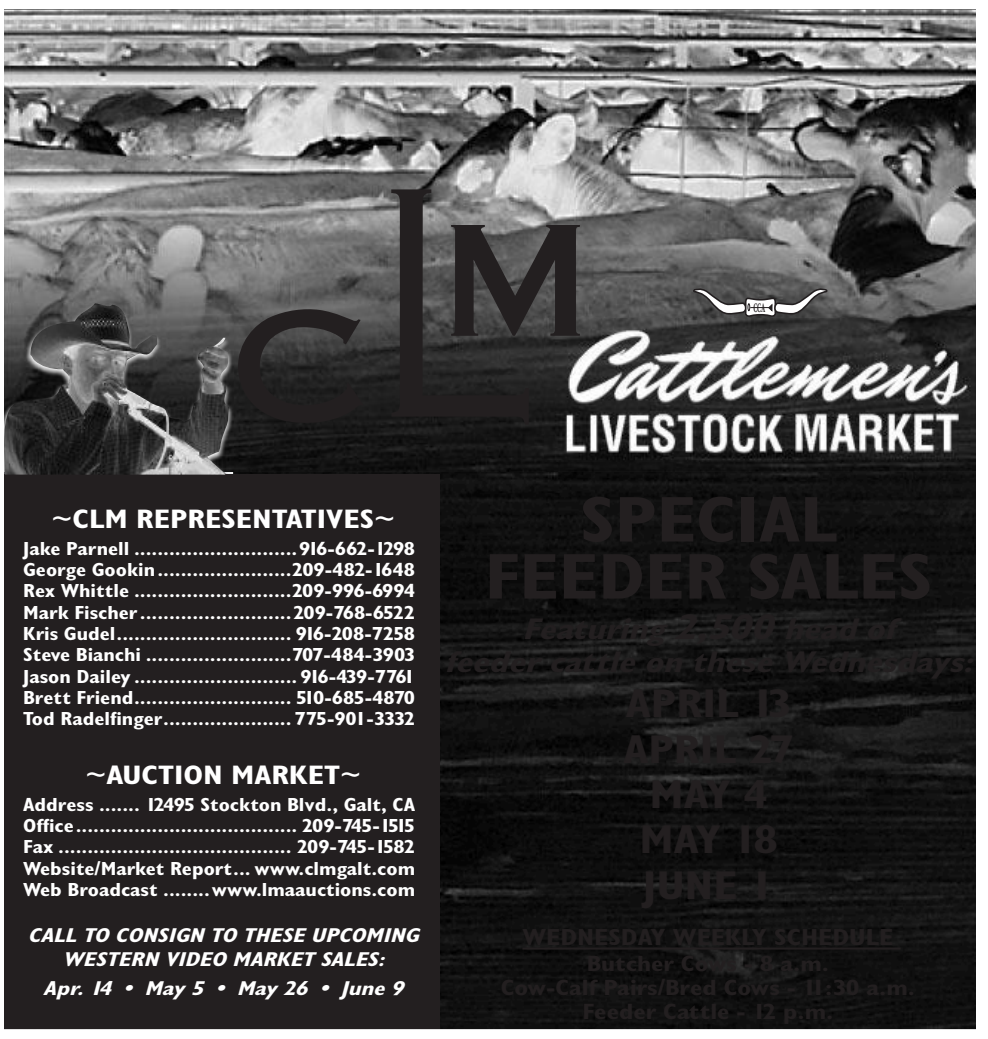
"Cattle producers need to evaluate their pastures," he said. Identify pastures that need renovation, and consider using those as sacrifice pastures. Davis urges consultation with an MU Extension agronomy specialist to grade pastures and make decisions on potential pastures that need renovation.

"Move cattle to sacrifice pastures for hay feeding until grass is at proper grazing height," Davis said. This helps provide fertility in these areas in the form of manure and hay, which aids in the renovation process. Also, this strategy reduces destruction of good pastures, which could affect their productivity throughout the grazing season.

"Hold cattle off good cool-season grass pastures until proper forage height is achieved," he said. At turnout, cool-season pastures should have about 6 inches of growth. During the grazing season, cool-season pasture heights should range between 4 and 8 inches. Davis urges cattle producers to stay within this range during the grazing season to maintain optimum grass growth and quality for optimum cattle performance and productivity.

"Improve pasture forage quality and animal performance by seeding legumes," he said. Legumes such as clovers and lespedeza can be drilled now to provide high-quality forage grazing opportunities in the spring and summer months. In addition, they help dilute cattle fescue consumption, reducing fescue toxicosis problems. Legumes are high in calcium and magnesium, which aids in proper cattle mineral balance," Davis said.

"Forage and grazing management are key to the profitability of your cattle operation." — **MU Extension**



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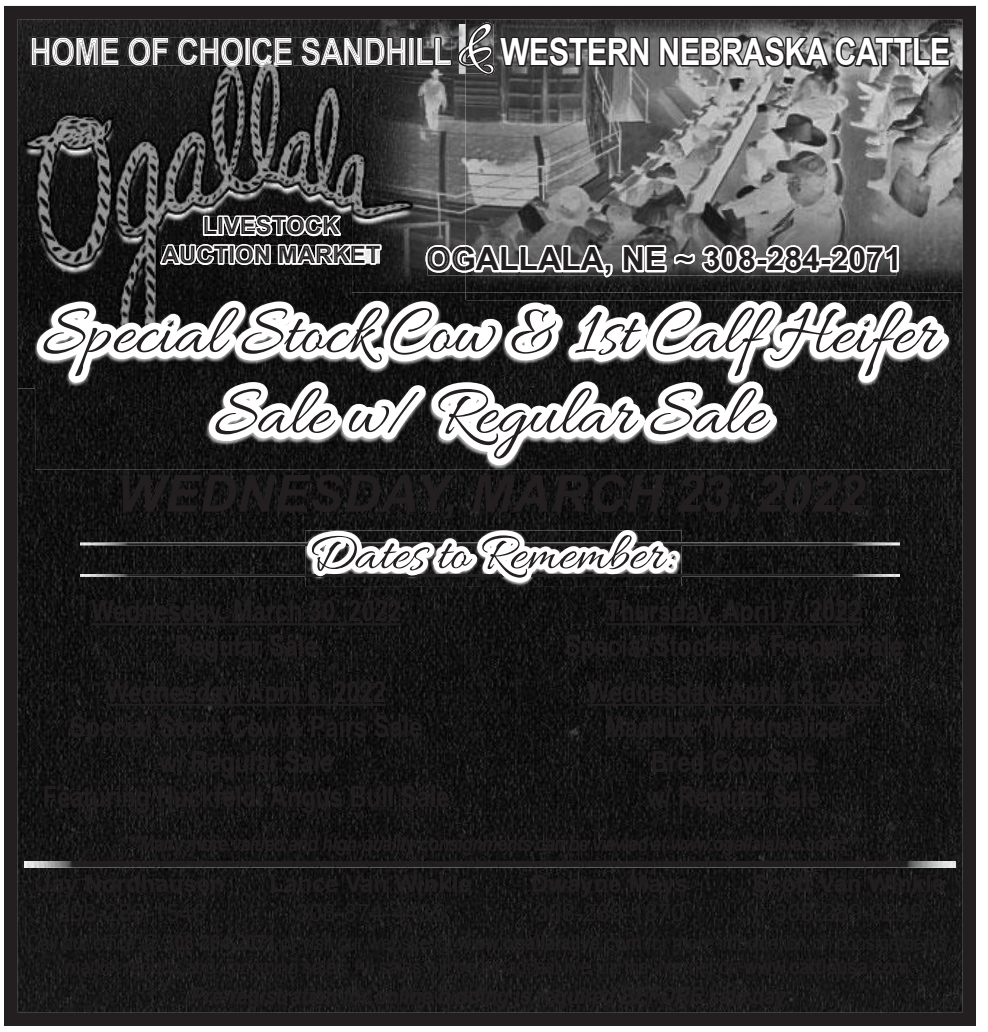

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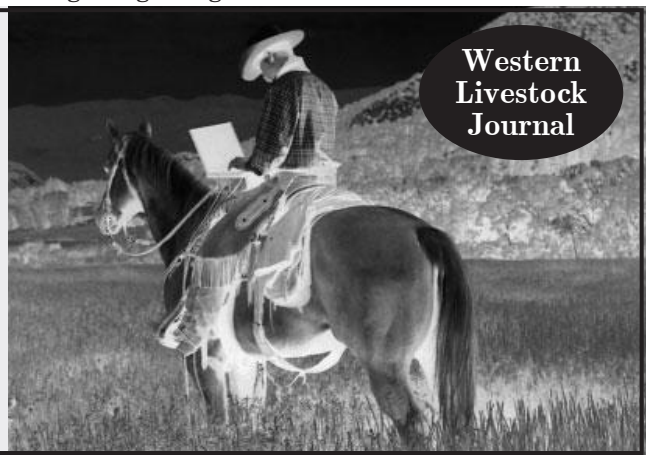

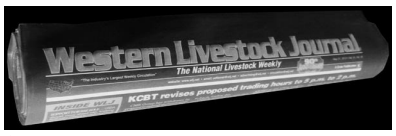

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Aiding efforts to root out feral swine in MO

Having grown up on a farm in the foothills of the Missouri Ozarks, Jerry Richards was prepared for droughts, snowstorms and torrential rains. He wasn't prepared for feral hogs.

Richards, a retired high school teacher, has a cow-calf operation on the same 500 acre century farm where he was raised. He'd heard that feral hogs, which roam in groups called sounders, could tear up fields. He imagined the results would look like a muddy football field after Friday's game. But when a sounder invaded his farm and trampled over a hay and pasture field, Richards said it looked like someone had set a drunk loose with a skid-steer loader.

"I started getting damage about three years ago," he said. "I trapped on my own with assistance from the (Missouri) Department of Conservation for two years and then got a trapper about this time last year. To date, we have removed over 200 hogs from the farm."

Richards recently joined University of Missouri (MU) Extension as a cooperative feral hog outreach educator. In addition to Richards, who is based in Iron County, MU Extension has hired Kevin Crider in Dent County and Megan Crane in Douglas County. A fourth educator is being sought for Butler County. Funding for the positions is through a USDA grant managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC).

The Missouri Feral Hog Elimination Partnership has removed more than 54,000 hogs from public and private lands since 2016, but there's more work to be done. Outreach efforts by the MU Extension educators take the form of presentations, workshops and demonstrations, as well as conversations with individuals seeking assistance. They will connect landowners wanting to eliminate feral hogs on their property with partnership trappers.

"Once the sounder has been eliminated, the educators will then connect them with their county soil and water conservation board to gain access to equipment to help them restore their damaged fields and pastures," says Hank Stelzer, MU Extension natural resource education director.

Found in at least 35 states, feral hogs represent a serious economic and ecological danger. They can also spread a host of diseases and parasites to livestock. The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has estimated that damage from feral hogs totals $2 billion per year.

Feral hogs are well-equipped to wreak havoc. They can grow to 300 pounds or more, run 30 miles per hour and detect tempting smells from miles away. Their jaws are strong enough to crack hard-shelled nuts and break the bones of animal carcasses. And they are not picky about what they eat. Their diet is mostly plants, but they will also prey on smaller wildlife, including turkey eggs and deer fawns.

Roaming sounders will wreck fences and trample vegetation. When they root in the ground for food, they leave behind damaged crops, deep holes, softball-sized rocks and large clumps of soil.

Missouri's feral hogs are primarily found in the southern part of the state, within at least 27 counties. In the 1990s, there were attempts to manage Missouri's feral hog population through recreational hunting. But with sows normally having two litters per year, birthing four to five piglets per litter on average, hogs reproduce faster than they can be hunted down. Moreover, shooting a couple hogs in a sounder leads the rest of them to scatter. The survivors learn to be afraid of humans and are wary of attempts to lure them with food.

Current efforts center on trapping. Large traps can capture an entire sounder at once: In a typical trap, a circular metal enclosure is suspended above the ground. Bait—typically corn—is placed immediately below. The site is checked daily or sometimes monitored by a camera. During winter, aerial operations are conducted with drones and a helicopter operated by APHIS.

According to Jason Jensen, MDC feral hog operations incident commander, the partnership's efforts since 2016 have resulted in a 48.5 percent decrease in the number of watersheds in Missouri occupied by feral swine.

"Estimates of feral swine abundance statewide, measured as the catch per unit effort, have decreased from 2016 to the present, with a year-by-year decrease from 2019 to 2021," Jensen said. "Anecdotal field reports from trappers indicate feral hogs are becoming rarer in the landscape, and sounder sizes are decreasing over time."

While MDC and the other organizations in the 18-member feral hog partnership have made considerable progress, they have struggled in allocating resources between raising landowner awareness and the actual trapping and elimination of hogs, Stelzer says.

"That's where our educators come into play," he says. "They are not here from 'the government' to tell landowners what to do. The team has strong connections to the land and their communities."

Both Richards and Crider have Missouri roots and have seen the damage to area fields and pastures firsthand.

The partnership assisted 1,308 landowners in 2021, Crider says. "Many landowners have had very good success with the partnership on their properties, which is a testament to the progress made in the removal of feral hogs in the state." — **MU Extension**

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COMING EVENTS

(Send calendar of events information to editorial@wlj.net.)

March 30 – The Public Lands Council's Legislative Conference will be held virtually, with no cost to attend. The event will be a half day of interactive sessions and policy briefings with the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Congressional Western Caucus and more. Register at publiclandscouncil.org under the "Events" and "Legislative Conference" tabs.

May 20-21 – Registration is now open for three National Cattlemen's Beef Association Stockmanship and Stewardship regional events, with the first stop in Blacksburg, VA, May 20-21. Details: www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org. Cattle producers attending a Stockmanship and Stewardship event are eligible for reimbursement through the Rancher Resilience Grant.

June 16-18 – Registration is now open for three National Cattlemen's Beef Association Stockmanship and Stewardship regional events, with the second stop in Leavenworth, KS, June 16-18. Details: www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org. Cattle producers attending a Stockmanship and Stewardship event are eligible for reimbursement through the Rancher Resilience Grant.

Aug. 12-13 – Registration is now open for three National Cattlemen's Beef Association Stockmanship and Stewardship regional events, with the third stop at Auburn University in Auburn, AL, Aug. 12-13. Details: www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org. Cattle producers attending a Stockmanship and Stewardship event are eligible for reimbursement through the Rancher Resilience Grant.

Aug. 18-19 – R-CALF USA is hosting its 2022 Annual Convention and Trade Show at the Lodge at Deadwood in Deadwood, SD. Sponsor and attendee registration is available now at www.rcalfconvention.com.

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5 ..... Appraisers
6 ..... Auctions
7 ..... Auctioneers
8 ..... Feedlots
9 ..... Lost Cattle
10 ..... Cattle for Sale
11 ..... Cattle Wanted
12 ..... A.I./Semen/Embryos
13 ..... Brands
14 ..... Dogs for Sale
15 ..... Horses/Mules
16 ..... Bison/Buffalo
17 ..... Sheep/Goats/Hogs
18 ..... Livestock Supplies
19 ..... Ranch/Livestock Services
20 ..... Real Estate Opportunities
20A ..... Pacific Real Estate For Sale
20B ..... Intermountain Real Estate For Sale
20C ..... Mountain Real Estate For Sale
20D ..... Southwest Real Estate For Sale
20E ..... Plains Real Estate For Sale
20F ..... Midwest Real Estate For Sale
20G ..... Southeast Real Estate For Sale
20H ..... Northeast Real Estate For Sale
20I ..... Foreign Real Estate For Sale
21 ..... Real Estate Wanted
22 ..... Real Estate Rent/Lease/Trade
23 ..... Pasture Available
24 ..... Pasture Wanted
25 ..... Mineral Rights
26 ..... Hay/Feed/Seed
27 ..... Irrigation
28 ..... Ag/Industrial Supplies
29 ..... Fencing/Corrals
30 ..... Equipment For Sale
31 ..... Equipment Wanted
32 ..... Building Materials
33 ..... Trucks/Trailers
34 ..... Tractors/Implements
35 ..... Business Opportunity
36 ..... Loans
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Cattle For Sale 10

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Brands 13

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Issue Date: September 5, 2022
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What do you think when you hear "South Dakota"?

In the early 1970s, South Dakota had a marketing campaign called "South Dakota, of all places." That slogan would be just as apt today, as it seems South Dakota is still an obscure place in most people's minds. The majority of South Dakota is rolling prairies, but there is a well-kept secret: a small unpopulated area in western South Dakota—and a portion of eastern Wyoming—called the Black Hills, covering an area 110 miles long and 70 miles wide, and people are starting to notice.

The name Black Hills comes from the Native American term "Pahá Sápa." It's the word the Lakota used to describe the dark appearance of the hills when viewed from the plains. Black Elk Peak is the highest point in South Dakota, with an elevation of 7,242 feet above sea level, and is the highest point between the Rocky Mountains and the Swiss Alps. It is named after the famous Lakota warrior Black Elk.

Gold was first discovered in the Black Hills in 1874. The early settlers said, "Black Hills or bust!" Like gold, the Black Hills are truly a treasure trove of mountains, trees and rocks in the middle of the prairie.

This region has less snow than Denver, warmer winters than Minneapolis and more sunshine days than Miami. Summers are warm, dry and sunny, with daytime temperatures reaching into the 70s and 80s. An interesting fact: Up until 1992, South Dakota's state slogan was "The Sunshine State."

The Black Hills are home to internationally famous landmarks such as Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park, Jewel Cave National Monument, Wind Cave National Park and the mysterious and unique Devils Tower National Monument located in the Black Hills of Wyoming. And of course, the hills are rich in Native American culture, old West mining towns, such as the infamous Deadwood, and museums of all kinds.

Because South Dakota didn't lock down during the pandemic, it has thrived with one of the lowest unemployment rates and one of the strongest economies. South Dakota and Wyoming also have no state income tax—truly the land of the free. This combination has resulted in a lot of folks relocating here to call the Black Hills their home. The Black Hills are No. 2 in the nation for people relocating, according to the 2021 National Movers Study.

When you come to visit the Black Hills, you can pick quiet, remote places to refuel your senses. One thing is for sure: If you come to visit the Black Hills, you may well want to call it your new home, your destination, and you'll be saying "South Dakota, of all places!"

Visit DestinationBlackHills.com to see if the Black Hills are right for you. Team Faith Lewis is based out of Custer, SD. Faith's team helped hundreds of families purchase or sell over $86.5 million in real estate in 2021. Remember, you gotta have Faith! — **Lewis Realty**

SALE CALENDAR

ALL BREED

Apr. 7-8 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT

ANGUS

Mar. 21 – Whistling Winds Angus, Production Sale, Hingham, MT
Mar. 21 – Harrer's Lost Lake (Angus), Production Sale, Great Falls, MT
Mar. 21 – JR Ranch/Sackmann Cattle, Bull Sale, Othello, WA
Mar. 23 – Nebraska Bull Test, Bull Sale, Broken Bow, NE
Mar. 23 – Peterson Grain and Cattle, Bull Sale, Havre, MT
Mar. 24 – Gartner-Denowh, Bull Sale, Sidney, MT
Mar. 24 – Vermilion Ranch, Commercial Female Sale, Billings, MT
Mar. 25 – Vertical Edge Genetics, Production Sale, Bancroft, ID
Mar. 25 – Schurrtop Angus & Charolais, Bull Sale, McCook, NE
Mar. 25 – Vermilion Ranch, Bull Sale, Billings, MT
Mar. 26 – Basin Bull Fest, Bull Sale, Klamath Falls, OR
Mar. 26 – Diamond Peak Cattle, Bull Sale, Loma, CO
Mar. 26 – Connealy Angus, Bull Sale, Whitman, NE
Mar. 29 – Silver Bit Ranch, Bull Sale, May, ID
Mar. 29 – Thomas Angus, Bull Sale, Shoshone, ID
Apr. 2 – Brooks Chalky Butte, Bull Sale, Bowman, ND
Apr. 4 – Pharo Cattle Company, Bull Sale, West, TX
Apr. 5 – Daigger-Orr Angus & Red Angus, Bull Sale, North Platte, NE
Apr. 5 – Hinman Angus, Bull Sale, Malta, MT
Apr. 7 – Arntzen Angus, Bull Sale, Hilger, MT
Apr. 7 – Pharo Cattle Company, Bull Sale, West, TX
Apr. 8 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT
Apr. 9 – Bar T Bar Ranches, Bull Sale, Winslow, AZ
Apr. 9 – Fink Beef Genetics, Bull Sale, Randolph, KS
Apr. 9 – Redd Ranches, Bull Sale, Paradox, CO
Apr. 11 – Cook Angus, Bull Sale, Billings, MT
Apr. 11 – Herbster Angus Farms, Bull Sale, Marysville, KS
Apr. 11 – Jorgensen Land & Cattle, Production Sale, Ideal, SD

BALANCER

Apr. 9 – Bar T Bar Ranches, Bull Sale, Winslow, AZ
Apr. 9 – Redd Ranches, Bull Sale, Paradox, CO

BRANGUS

Mar. 22 – Geneplus-Suhn Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Eureka, KS

CHAROLAIS

Mar. 25 – Schurrtop Angus & Charolais, Bull Sale, McCook, NE
Mar. 26 – Valley View Charolais, Bull Sale, Polson, MT
Mar. 28 – Axtell Cattle Company, Production Sale, Sterling, CO
Apr. 2 – DeBruycker Charolais, Bull Sale, Great Falls, MT
Apr. 9 – Fink Beef Genetics, Bull Sale, Randolph, KS
Apr. 9 – Hebbert Charolais, Bull Sale, Hyannis, NE

FLECKANGUS

Mar. 25 – Vertical Edge Genetics, Production Sale, Bancroft, ID

FLECKVIEH

Mar. 25 – Vertical Edge Genetics, Production Sale, Bancroft, ID

GELBVIEH

Apr. 9 – Bar T Bar Ranches, Bull Sale, Winslow, AZ
Apr. 9 – Redd Ranches, Bull Sale, Paradox, CO

HEREFORD

Mar. 23 – Nebraska Bull Test, Bull Sale, Broken Bow, NE
Mar. 23 – NJW Herefords, Bull & Female Sale, Sheridan, WY
Mar. 29 – Silver Bit Angus, Bull Sale, May, ID

RED ANGUS

Mar. 23 – Nebraska Bull Test, Bull Sale, Broken Bow, NE
Mar. 23 – Westphal Red Angus, Production Sale, Grass Range, MT
Mar. 28 – Axtell Cattle Company, Production Sale, Sterling, CO
Apr. 1 – Pieper Red Angus, Bull Sale, Hay Springs, NE
Apr. 4 – Pharo Cattle Company, Bull Sale, West, TX **Apr. 5** – Daigger-Orr Angus & Red Angus, Bull Sale, North Platte, NE
Apr. 7 – Pharo Cattle Company, Bull Sale, West, TX **Apr. 8** – 5L Red Angus, Bull Sale, Sheridan, MT
Apr. 9 – Ludvigson Stock Farms, Bull Sale, Shepherd, MT
Apr. 9 – Redd Ranches, Bull Sale, Paradox, CO

SIMANGUS

Mar. 24 – Western Cattle Source, Production Sale, Crawford, NE
Mar. 26 – Diamond Peak Cattle, Bull Sale, Loma, CO
Mar. 26 – T-Heart Ranch, Bull Sale, La Garita, CO
Apr. 9 – Redd Ranches, Bull Sale, Paradox, CO

SIMMENTAL

Mar. 24 – Western Cattle Source, Production Sale, Crawford, NE
Mar. 26 – T-Heart Ranch, Bull Sale, La Garita, CO
Mar. 28 – Vertical Edge Genetics, Production Sale, Bancroft, ID
Mar. 31 – Open Gate Simmental, Bull Sale, Augusta, MT
Apr. 2 – Big Country Genetics, Bull Sale, Powell, WY

STABILIZER

Mar. 27-28 – Leachman Cattle of Colorado, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Collins, CO

COMMERCIAL

Apr. 2 – TLAY, Contra Costa-Alameda, San Joaquin-Stanislaus County Feeder Sale, Turlock, CA
Apr. 7-8 – Superior Livestock Auction, Gulf Coast Classic Sale, Natchitoches, LA

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VIDEO AUCTION

March 10, Hudson Oaks, TX
Superior Livestock Auction hosted their March 10 video auction live from the Superior Livestock office and studio located in Hudson Oaks, TX. Cattle producers offered almost 24,330 head of calves, yearlings and breeding stock from 25 states for this auction. Cattle were sold on contract to deliver immediately through October 2022.

In a week where news headlines and outside influences reached over into the commodity markets, Superior Livestock reported a mainly steady video auction with strong and selective buyer interest. Feeder steers and heifers from Regions 3/4/5/6 saw deferred deliveries steady, but close deliveries were under pressure, selling $6-10 lower. Region 1 and 2 feeders were in light test but had a lower undertone. Weaned program calves from all regions in grazing condition were well received at steady to $10 higher. Weaned calves and calves on cows not enrolled in third-party programs were fully steady.

TOPS—Feeders: Haystack Cattle Co. & Wayne Schilling Farms, Lubbock, TX, sold 70 feeder steers @ 700 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Verified, CARE Certified, NHTC, Verified Natural Beef, Veg. Fed Approved, Certified Natural Plus. Angus & Angus cross. $175, April 15-May 1 delivery. Hubbell Ranch, Quemado, NM, sold 27 feeder steers @ 740 lbs./38 feeder heifers $8/cwt back @ 700 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Verified, GAP 4, CARE Certified, NHTC, Verified Natural Beef, Veg. Fed Approved. Out of Angus cows by Angus bulls. 100% black. $163, March 14-18 delivery. Panama Cattle Co., Ulysses, KS, sold 45 feeder steers @ 750 lbs./30 feeder heifers $10/cwt back @ 725 lbs. VAC PRECON. Black Angus based w/some SimAngus influence. Approx. 95% black hided. $166.50, May 15-June 1 delivery. Belanger Cattle Co., Texarkana, TX, sold 64 feeder steers @ 775 lbs. SimAngus cross, very few Charolais cross & English Exotic cross. $150.50, March 14-19 delivery. Vache Operations LLC, Randlett, OK, sold 60 feeder steers @ 825 lbs. Angus, Angus cross, Red Angus cross, Charolais cross & a few BWF & RWF. Approx. 70% black hided. $159, March 14-18 delivery. 65 heifer mates @ 770 lbs. brought $144.50, March 14-19 delivery. Hank Vogler, Detrick, ID, sold 125 feeder steers @ 660 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Progressive Genetics. Out of Black, BWF & a few Red Angus cows by 9M & Telford Black Angus bulls. $162.50, March 14-18 delivery. 140 heifer mates @ 650 lbs. brought $147.50, same delivery. Eureka Livestock LLC, Bruneau, ID, sold 130 feeder heifers @ 825 lbs. Superior Verified, GAP 4, NHTC, Verified Natural Beef, Veg. Fed Approved, Certified Natural Plus. Out of Angus & Angus cross cows by pred. Black Angus bulls. Approx. 90% black hided, bal. Red & Charolais. $135, March 14-20 delivery. Bob & Travis Nichols, Vale, OR, sold 58 feeder steers @ 900 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Verified, NHTC. Out of Black, BWF & a few Red, RWF & Charolais cross cows by Black Angus bulls. 100% black hided & a few black brockle face. $129, March 14-19 delivery. **Beef-dairy crosses:** AB Ranch, Stephenville, TX, sold 70 beef-dairy cross steers @ 350 lbs./70 beef-dairy cross heifers $14/cwt back @ 350 lbs. VAC 60. Out of Holstein cows AI'd to Angus bulls. $191, April 1-May 1 delivery. Arch Diamond LLC, Portales, NM, sold 194 beef-dairy cross steers @ 495 lbs. VAC 45+, Superior Verified, NHTC, Superior Progressive Genetics. 100% black w/a few white socks, white belly or star. $184, March 15 delivery. 192 heifer mates @ 500 lbs. brought $162, same delivery. S-D Feeders, Johnson City, KS, sold 91 beef-dairy cross steers @ 550 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Verified, NHTC, BQA Certified. Out of Jersey cows AI'd to Alta Angus bulls. Bred for muscling & growth. $161, March 11-17 delivery. Lakin Dairy, Lakin, KS, sold 146 beef-dairy cross steers @ 685 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Progressive Genetics, BQA Certified. Out of Holstein cows AI'd to approx. 90% ST Genetics, 5% Alta Genetics & 5% Genex Black Angus bulls. 100% black hided. $150, March 30-31 delivery. 154 heifer mates @ 665 lbs. brought $139.50, same delivery. **Stockers:** Lone Star Livestock, Darrouzett, TX, sold 114 weaned steer calves @ 495 lbs. VAC 60, Superior Verified, Black Angus Verified Beef, NHTC, Verified Natural Beef, Veg. Fed Approved, Certified Natural Plus, Superior Progressive Genetics. Out of Angus & Angus cross cows by Pharo Angus bulls. 100% black hided. $212, March 12-15 delivery. 97 heifer mates @ 450 lbs. brought $185.50, same delivery. T&M Farms, Auburn, NE, sold 90 weaned heifer calves @ 535 lbs. VAC PRECON. English, English cross & a few English Exotic cross. Approx. 90% black hided, balance red hided or Charolais cross. $175, April 1-15 delivery. Tim & Kathy Wedel, Cordell, OK, sold 85 weaned steer calves @ 550 lbs. Angus, Angus cross & a few w/Brangus influence. 90-95% black, bal. Red Angus cross. Buyers option on 100% black hided. $193, March 11-18 delivery. Greg & Ronda Weins, Hillsboro, KS, sold 80 weaned heifer calves @ 625 lbs. VAC PRECON, BVD-PI Free, BQA Certified. English, English cross & English Exotic cross. Pred. black hided, may be 2-3 Red or Charolais cross. Few may show a tic of ear. $167, April 4-22 delivery. Raymond Adams IV, Maple Hill, KS, sold 95 steer calves @ 500 lbs. VAC 34. Black Angus. 100% black hided. $218, April 20-27 delivery. 90 heifer mates @ 500 lbs. brought $188, same delivery. Iowa Prison Industries, Fort Madison, IA, sold 65 steer calves @ 650 lbs./heifer calves $15/cwt back @ 600 lbs. VAC 34. Out of pred. Angus & a few Angus cross & Red Angus cross cows by Balancer bulls. Approx. 90% black & BWF, balance red hided, before sort. $162.50, March 14-21 delivery. Chugwater Creek Cattle Co., Paul Norfleet, Chugwater, WY, sold 60 weaned steer calves @ 455 lbs./60 weaned heifer calves $20/cwt back @ 455 lbs. VAC PRECON. Out of English cross cows by Longhorn bulls. Pred. F1 cross. Pred. black hided, balance red hided. $137, April 11-21 delivery. Reid Ranch, Poplar, MT, sold 194 weaned heifer calves @ 560 lbs. VAC PRECON. Pred. Red & Red cross with a few Charolais cross. $174, March 12-22 delivery. Round Mountain Ranch, Malta, ID, sold 90 weaned heifer calves @ 650 lbs. VAC PRECON. Out of Angus & Angus cross cows by Black Angus bulls. Approx. 90% black hided. $150, March 12-20 delivery. Mike & Colleen McCormick, Arriba, CO, sold 85 steer calves @ 585 lbs. Superior Progressive Genetics. Out of Angus based cows by Warner Genetics Balancer bulls. 100% black hided. $173, March 14-26 delivery. 90 heifer mates @ 560 lbs. brought $159, same delivery. **Bred stock:** Beatty Canyon Ranch, Springfield, CO, sold 65 replacement heifers. Red Angus FCCP, Superior Progressive Genetics. Out of Red Angus cows by Beckton, Mushrush & Calvo Red Angus bulls. $1,525, March 14-25 delivery. Gates Angus Ranch, Coldwater, KS, sold 41 bred cows @ 1,200 lbs. Angus, Angus cross, two Charolais Angus cross & one Hereford cow bred to nine Ohlde Angus & two Hereford bulls. Preg check 3/8/22. Start calving approx. 4/1/22 for approx. 60 days. Two 3-year-olds, two 4-year-olds, eight 7-year-olds & bal. 8-10-year-olds & one 12-year-old. Solid mouth. Rule Ranch, Brush, CO, sold 44 bred heifers @ 1,100 lbs. Red Angus (Pieper, Beckton, Croissant & Redland genetics) bred to low birth weight reg. Redland Red Angus (Red Aviator & Red Nexus) bulls. Preg checked 2/21/22 with 14 8.5 months, 17 8 months, seven 7.5 months and six 7 months bred. Two calves on ground as of 3/1/22. Red Angus EID tagged. $1,825, March 11-25

MARKET REPORTS
FIND THEM ONLINE TODAY AT WWW.WLJ.NET

AXTELL DOMINOR 4124
AXTELL CATTLE COMPANY
AX-
AXTELL CATTLE COMPANY
Annual Production Sale
March 28, 2022
1:00 p.m. (MST)
Sterling Livestock Commission—Sterling, CO
Selling 64 Red Angus Yearling Bulls, 5 Charolais Yearling Bulls
15 Registered Red Angus Yearling Heifers
PLUS 32 high quality commercial Red Angus Yearling Heifers
Our bulls and heifers are backed by a maternally oriented cow herd that is run like area commercial cattle. The sale cattle will be in "working" condition, not over fat. The dams are udder scored, the calves are culled for performance, birth weight, disposition and structure. Check out our website and Facebook page for more photos and sale information. Lot videos and sale broadcast available on DVAuction.
RED SSS KNOCK OUT 661D
His sons and daughters will sell!
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Saturday, April 16, 2022 | At the Ranch

SELLING
100 FALL AND SPRING YEARLING BULLS
8 POLLED | 5 FALL
65 TOP-END REGISTERED HEIFERS
135 HOME RAISED COMMERCIAL FEMALES
90 HEREFORD | 45 BWF

7 ET SONS FROM BAKKEN'S MOTHER – 2 FULL BROTHERS
3 ET'S BY 1162-DOMINATES MOTHER

22 SONS BY 619 & 308 PLUS SONS BY NEW SIRE
BELMAR 8082-DOMINO 942
993-REVERE-EXPEDTION-SIERRA-STARDANCE

10 Miles north of Bowman or 16 miles south of Amidon
on Hwy 85, then 5 miles west, ½ mile south

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FEMALES SELLING ARE SOME OF OUR BEST, IT IS DRY AND WE HAVE TO REDUCE NUMBERS

LOT 63
SON OF BCC DOMINATOR 619D
CED 0.5 • BW 3.8 • WW 64 • YW 109 • M 25
REA .74 • MB .13 • CHB 144
FULL BROTHER TO DOMINATE 308
STOUT, BONE, CORRECT, TRIM

LOT 1085
DAUGHTER OF DOMINATOR 619D
CED 6.3 • BW 0.8 • WW 55 • YW 97 • M 33
REA .62 • MB .33 • CHB 158
SHE HAS THE LOOK—THICK AND DEEP

LOT 19
SON OF DOMINATE 308
CED 2.8 • BW 2.8 • WW 58 • YW 100 • M 36
REA .47 • MB .18 • CHB 119
ET-OUT OF THE DAM A BAKKEN
5 BROTHERS SELL- ALL A 3-D LOOK

LOT 30
SON OF UPS NAVARRO
CED 3.6 • BW 3.1 • WW 45 • YW 86 • M 38
REA .30 • MB .21 • CHB 126
ET FULL BROTHER TO BAKKEN 62Z
FULL BROTHER AND 2 SISTER'S SELL

LOT 79
SON OF MH REVERE 830
CED 3.5 • BW 3.8 • WW 55 • YW 92 • M 33
REA .53 • MB .18 • CHB 125
NEW SIRE GROUP-SUPER LOOK
THICK, DEEP AND WIDE

LOT 83
SON OF CHURCHILL MARK DOM 697D
CED 4.4 • BW 1.6 • WW 55 • YW 100 • M 36
REA .49 • MB .43 • CHB 155
CHECK HIS NUMBERS-GREAT MOM
SIRE GROUP OF BW AND CARCASS

LOT 1620
POLLED FALL SON OF DOMINATE 308
CED 5.2 • BW 1.8 • WW 59 • YW 99 • M 33
REA .67 • MB .19 • CHB 138
EXTRA LONG AND THICK, EXTREME DEPTH
LOTS OF BONE, MUSCLE EXPRESSION

LOT 1021
DAUGHTER OF DOMINATE 308
CED 1.4 • BW 4.2 • WW 68 • YW 110 • M 36
REA .71 • MB .18 • CHB 141
FEMININE WITH A GREAT LOOK

LOT 67
POLLED SR EXPEDITION 619G
CED 5.5 • BW 2.9 • WW 73 • YW 120 • M 32
REA .78 • MB .27 • CHB 149
THIS GUY IS STOUT
LOW BW, VOLUME MADE SIRE GROUP

Stuber Ranch | 7606 149th Ave SW | Box 56 | Bowman, ND 58623
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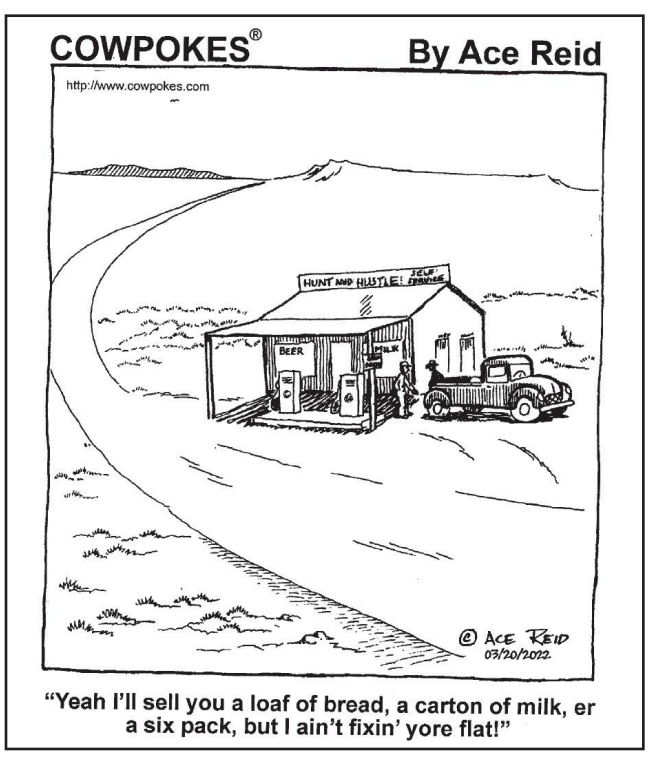

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BULL SALE

APRIL 9, 2022
Paradox, Colorado

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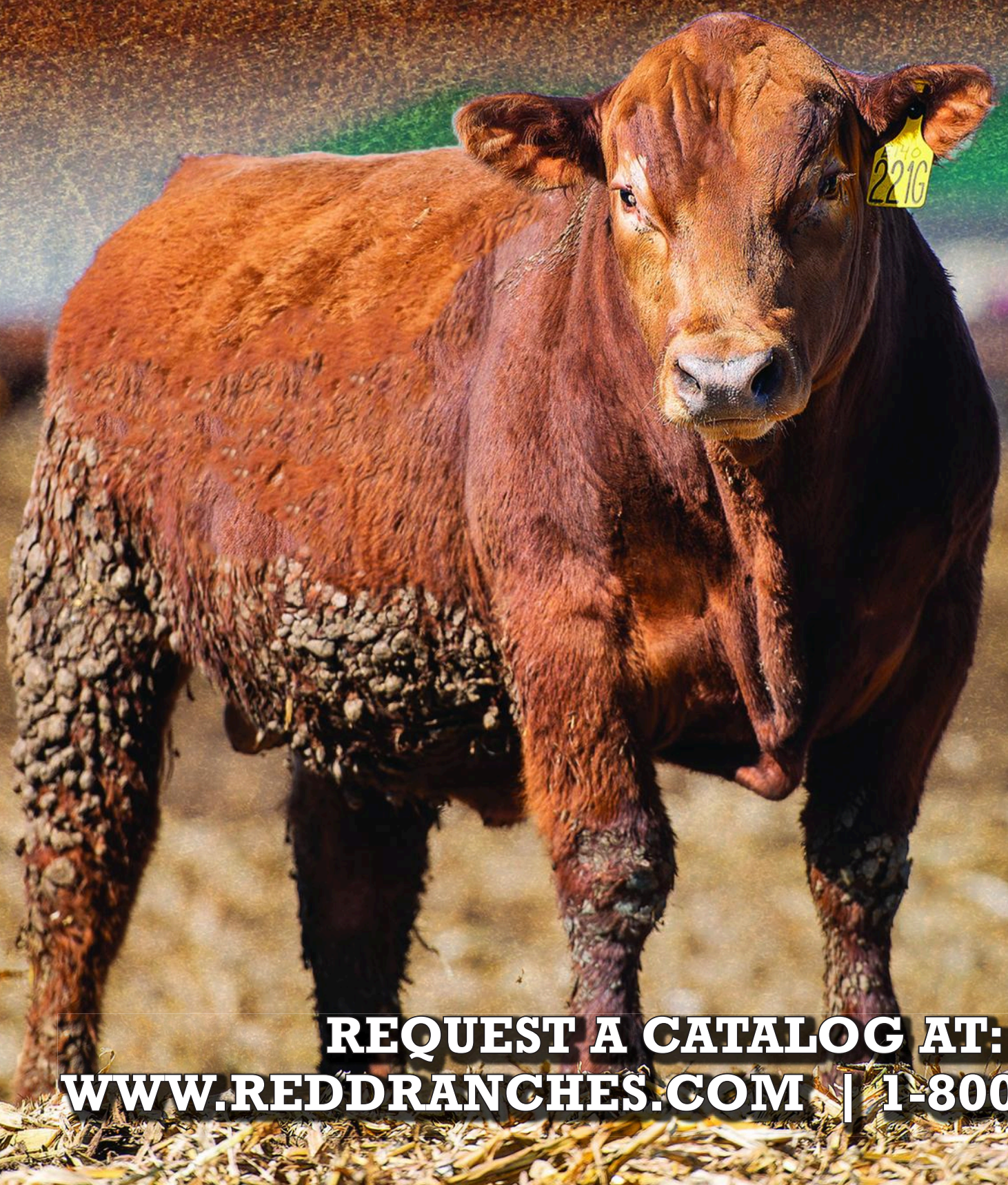
RED ANGUS • BLACK ANGUS • SIM-ANGUS BULLS



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