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INSIDE WLJ

USMEF REPORT — USMEF says January beef exports lower than year prior. Page 4

JBS STRIKE — Nearly 4,000 JBS workers strike at Colorado plant. Page 13

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

"Texas winds, losing momentum in the Panhandle and recent rainfall in southeast Oklahoma have given cattle producers in those areas a break from the constant struggles caused by fires raging across the South. However, this long awaited relief is not expected to last for long, according to meteorologists. Unfortunately, Texas and Oklahoma wildfires are just the beginning of what forecasters predict will be a spring with an uncommon amount of fires," read the March 27, 2006, WLJ article.

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Court weighs 'immediate' removal of excess wild horses

— Ranchers challenge gather in NV

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit heard oral arguments over whether federal law requires the government to move more quickly to remove excess wild horses from public rangelands in Nevada.

The dispute centers on how to

interpret the word "immediately" in the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act (WHA), a statute that directs federal agencies to remove excess animals from the range when overpopulation threatens rangeland health.

The case was brought by Nevada ranching operations Colvin & Son LLC and Stone Cabin Ranch LLC, which hold grazing permits in ar-

reas where wild horse populations have exceeded federally established management levels. The ranchers argue that gather plans developed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) fail to meet the statute's requirement for the immediate removal of excess animals.

The case reached the appellate court after a lower court ruled in

favor of the federal government, concluding that BLM's plans satisfied the statute so long as removal actions occur "as promptly as reasonably possible." The ranchers now seek a reversal, arguing that the plans lack concrete timelines and therefore do not comply with federal law.

See HORSE REMOVAL on page 7



BLM Nevada

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals is determining whether the government must move more quickly to remove wild horses from public lands. Pictured here, a 2023 gather in the Reveille Herd Management Area in Nye County, NV.

Historic NE wildfires burn hundreds of thousands of acres

— Relief efforts mobilize

Wildfires burning across western and central Nebraska have scorched hundreds of thousands of acres, prompting emergency action from state and federal officials while ranchers and agricultural organizations mobilize support for affected producers.

According to a March 18 update from fire officials, the Morrill Fire had burned 643,361 acres and was 16% contained, while the Cottonwood Fire had burned 131,259 acres and was 40% contained. Both fires are being managed by the Rocky Mountain Complex Incident Management Team 1.

Additionally, the Nebraska Examiner reports that as of March 17, the Anderson Bridge Fire burned 17,400 acres and was 60% contained, and the Road 203 Fire burned 35,814 acres and was 36% contained.

The fires have caused one death, damaged buildings and affected

grazing land supporting about 35,000 head of cattle.

The scale of the fires has prompted action from state leaders. Gov. Jim Pillen (R) issued an executive order temporarily waiving certain transportation regulations to support relief operations. The order allows commercial motor carriers hauling emergency supplies such as livestock feed and other materials to receive temporary relief from hours-of-service restrictions and certain size and weight regulations for 14 days.

The executive order followed the governor's declaration of a state of emergency, authorizing the deployment of state resources, including 26 National Guard personnel, a fixed-wing aircraft and a helicopter for aerial water drops.

At the federal level, Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said the USDA is coordinating with state and local officials to support wildfire response efforts.

"USDA and Forest Service crews, engines, and aviation resources are working alongside state and local partners to protect communities and contain these fast-moving fires," Rollins said in a message posted on X after speaking with Pillen. She added that federal officials are also exploring options to provide flexibility for ranchers, including moving grazing permittees to other available allotments where possible.

Relief efforts

Agriculture officials are also working to connect affected ranchers with relief resources. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture said it is coordinating assistance to help producers obtain hay, feedstuffs, fencing materials, equipment and volunteer support as the fires continue to impact farm and ranch operations.

See WILDFIRES on page 9

Survey: Non-farmers own most rented farmland

— 348 million acres rented for ag

A comprehensive USDA survey reveals that the majority of rented farmland in the U.S. continues to be owned by non-farming landlords.

USDA released its latest study surveying all land rented for agricultural purposes. The Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) Survey covers results from 2024 and was last conducted in 2014.

"As the only source of detailed information on agricultural land ownership characteristics and economic data, TOTAL provides important statistics to government, academia, the farming industry, and others regarding agricultural land ownership for planning, policymaking, research, and market analysis," said Joseph Parsons, National Agricultural Statistics Service administrator.

The survey covers land ownership income, expense, debt and

assets, along with other landlord characteristics. Surveying took place from January to April of last year. Public grazing lands were not included in the survey. The survey sample included all 50 states, with the non-operating landlord sample size at 17,293 and the operating sample size at 40,282.

Survey findings

In 2024, more than 2 million landowners rented out 348 million acres of land for agricultural purposes. A total of 87% were non-operating landlords who owned 79% of the rented land, and 13% were operating landlords who owned 21% of the rented land. The majority of landlords (38%) were in the Midwest region, with nearly 800,000 landlords. The West had about 23% of total landlords, at 220,000 landlords, and 79.4 million rented acres.

Non-operating landlords include

See FARMLAND on page 8

Cattle market finds some recovery over the week

Despite the ongoing strike at a Colorado JBS plant, the cattle market found stronger footing over the week.

Live cattle futures recovered some losses by Thursday. The April contract gained about \$2 to close at \$233.27, and the June contract also gained about \$2 to close at \$231.70.

"The market is making new lows for the week but is well above last week's important low," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef on Thursday.

Cash trade through Thursday totaled less than 2,000 head. There were no market trends noted.

"Cattle feeders had begun the week with expectations of higher money after last week's \$5/cwt lower trade," Fish said. "But packers seem to be holding their resolve and are focused on margin management after record losses earlier this quarter."

Cash trade for the week ending March 15 totaled 43,139 head. Live steers averaged \$234.99, and dressed steers averaged \$372.08.

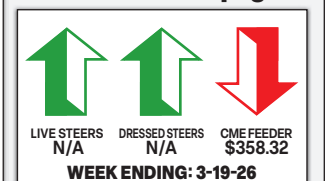
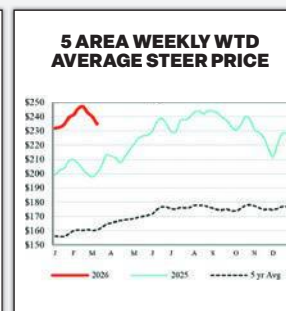
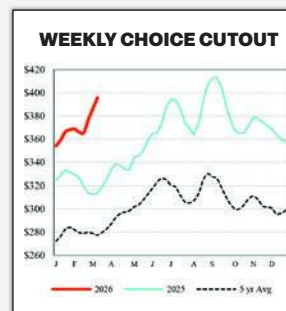
Slaughter through Thursday totaled 414,000 head, compared to 422,000 head a week earlier. Total slaughter for a

week earlier is estimated at 525,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending Mar. 7 was 523,916 head. The average steer dressed weight was 986 lbs., up 5 lbs. from the prior week.

Slaughter for the week was anticipated to be lower as a result of the ongoing strike at the JBS Greeley, CO, processing plant, although the company was expected to shuffle cattle around to other plants with capacity.

Boxed beef traded steady to higher over the week. The Choice cutout gained about \$2 to close at \$400.30, and the Select cutout gained about 30 cents

See MARKETS on page 13



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COMMENTS

Thinking of Nebraska

All too often, headlines detail wildfires with massive destruction and chaos. There are simply too many headlines using phrases like “largest in history” or “most destructive on record” that seem to happen around every season. In places like California, where there are efforts for grazing and logging to be eradicated, or in areas where neither option is available but population continues to expand, massive fires have erupted, creating mass destruction of towns and causing billions of dollars of damage. This idea just doesn't seem plausible, but it happens more and more frequently. Throughout history, there are stories told of fires claiming townships. This would often make sense to me as a child. Complete towns built of dried wood with little-to-no way to deliver a high-pressure water source. It makes sense. But today? It doesn't seem that it should be a reality, yet it is.

This isn't a column about global warming. I have my stance there, but this isn't the column to expand on that. What is fact is that this winter has been drier and warmer. Weather patterns and ocean currents have created a La Niña pattern that is quickly fading in 2026, and several factors fell perfectly into place for Nebraska to be dealing with the largest fire on record. In the second week of March, a massive storm carrying a heat wave and high winds swept across the nation, starting on the West Coast and reaching all the way to the Plains. This storm system helped to drop humidity and shock fuel sources, and a spark was all it took for a fire to explode. From there, embers were moving faster than any machine could. As one source told me, “The first time hot embers flew overhead and started a fire behind me, I thought I was going to die. But after it kept happening, I got used to it and just kept fighting the blaze.”

This led to Nebraska experiencing one of the most destructive wildfire outbreaks in its history, transforming vast stretches of prairie into scorched earth. What began as a series of grassfires quickly escalated into a statewide emergency, fueled by extreme weather conditions and difficult terrain. The scale of destruction has been staggering, with more than 800,000 acres burned from multiple fires as of the writing of this column, making this one of the largest wildfire events ever recorded in the state. At the center of the devastation is the Morrill Fire, which alone has consumed over 650,000 acres across several counties in western Nebraska. Other major fires—including the Cottonwood Fire and Road 203 Fire—have added tens of thousands more acres to the total, overwhelming local and state resources. The fires spread with astonishing speed; in some cases, flames traveled more than 70 miles in less than a day, leaving little time for evacuation or defense. The sources of ignition vary, but early reports suggest a mix of human and infrastructure-related causes. Officials believe the Morrill Fire may have been sparked by electrical equipment, possibly downed or sparking power lines in high winds, though investigations are ongoing. Vegetation also played a major role. Dry prairie grasses provided continuous fuel, while invasive species like cedar trees intensified the burn by releasing oils that increase flame intensity. Sources fighting the fire were quoted as being able to smell the oils burning. In this environment, fires didn't just creep along the ground—they exploded across hillsides and through tree lines, making traditional firefighting methods less effective. Another major challenge is Nebraska's rural landscape. Much of the state relies on volunteer fire departments, which cover vast areas with limited resources. In remote regions, access to water, equipment and manpower can be scarce, slowing response times and allowing fires to grow before they can be contained. Even when reinforcements arrive, rapidly shifting weather conditions can undo hours of progress in minutes.

The destruction has been profound. Entire pastures have burned, homes and outbuildings have been lost, and at least one life has been claimed. For ranchers, the loss of grazing land, fencing and livestock represents not just economic hardship, but a deep personal blow tied to generations of work and stewardship. As I've been in contact with people who have witnessed the destruction or have direct connections to those who have, the stories are starting to come out about having to drive pickups through a fire line just to survive, or neighbors dropping everything to go help, or volunteer fire departments from neighboring states packing up and heading to fight fires. Human resiliency, support and care always come to the forefront. It's humbling to see how people come together to help each other in times of need. God bless those who put down their own agenda to go help neighbors and complete strangers. Ironically, while this is all happening, southern Canada and the northern states were dealing with blizzard conditions and dealing with their own set of problems Mother Nature decided to hammer down during the later part of March. Ultimately, the Nebraska wildfires of 2026 highlight a changing reality for the Great Plains. No longer rare events, these large-scale fires are becoming more frequent and more intense. Driven by drought, wind and human activity, they represent a growing threat to rural communities. The destruction seen across Nebraska is not just a single disaster—it is a warning of what may lie ahead if conditions continue to worsen. — **LOGAN IPSEN**



IPSEN

GUEST OPINION

For years, many of glyphosate's critics were basically anti-GMO; Roundup-Ready seeds were what appalled them. More recently, glyphosate itself has become the focus of controversy. Critics fear it causes cancer.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer fueled these fears with its 2015 declaration that glyphosate is probably carcinogenic to humans—a position that many regulators around the world, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), have rejected.

Now there's a new twist in the controversy: All three branches of the U.S. federal government are weighing in. Two of them are taking glyphosate's side. The third, the Supreme Court, may also end up giving glyphosate a boost, though that is far from guaranteed.

In the lower courts, the herbicide has been getting clobbered. Something like 170,000 lawsuits have been filed by cancer victims who blame the herbicide. For Bayer, the German company that owns glyphosate parent Monsanto, the result has been tens of billions in damages and settlements.

Now the Supreme Court has agreed to hear a Bayer appeal from a judgment against it in the Missouri state courts. The high court will decide a relatively narrow question: Whether the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) preempts a label-based failure-to-warn claim where EPA has not required the warning. Oral argument has been set for April 27.

Bayer maintains FIFRA bars it from putting a warning on the product's label if the EPA has registered the product without requiring a warning. Quoting the EPA's registration manual, Bayer says “the label (as determined by the EPA) is the law.”

The victorious plaintiffs haven't yet filed their brief, but they're expected to argue that a warning on the label can be required under state law, not just statutory law but tort law as well. They'll likely argue Missouri law imposes a “parallel” requirement to FIFRA's requirement that a product not be misbranded.

A Supreme Court victory wouldn't end Bayer's legal troubles but it would definitely help. Most glyphosate plaintiffs sue on multiple grounds, among them negligence and strict liability. But failure-to-warn is usually one of the grounds and often a critical one. The jury in Missouri, for example, dismissed all plaintiff's claims except failure-to-warn.

The executive branch has moved to prop up glyphosate in two ways. The Trump administration filed a friend-of-the-court

brief March 3 supporting Bayer.

This was especially significant because it marked a reversal in the government's position. In a 2022 case, a Biden administration friend-of-the-court brief supported a glyphosate plaintiff and urged the Supreme Court not to hear the failure-to-warn case.

The justices took the administration's advice, letting an appeals court's judgment for the plaintiff to stand.

Two weeks before the brief supporting Bayer was filed, President Donald Trump issued an executive order declaring an adequate supply of glyphosate-based herbicides and elemental phosphorus “crucial” to national security and food security.

Trump's Secretary of Health and Human Services, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., has called glyphosate “poison.” A few years ago, he was one of the lawyers in a successful suit against Roundup. After Trump issued the executive order, Kennedy was forced to tell his angry supporters that he disagreed with the president's decision, but understood it.

Congress, too, is getting in on the act. The farm bill that House Republicans are pushing would shield manufacturers from liability for failing to provide warnings. Its chances of becoming law are uncertain.

The biggest uncertainty, though, is how the Supreme Court will rule. Two years ago, the court overturned a 40-year-old precedent requiring federal courts to defer to agencies' interpretations of the laws they administered. Courts were now supposed to think for themselves.

In this case Bayer is implicitly asking the court to defer to the EPA. The government's friend-of-the-court brief calls for deference explicitly.

Its concluding paragraphs warn that juries will tend to find for “the one plaintiff who suffers a rare injury or illness” even when the product is “safe and effective in 99.9% of its uses.” State legislatures will pass different and even conflicting requirements for an “untenable choice” on manufacturers.

The government's final shot: “Lost in that noise: EPA's considered judgments about what warnings are actually necessary to protect public health, and any hope of uniformity.”

Does FIFRA make EPA the ultimate arbiter? What the Supreme Court will decide isn't whether glyphosate is safe but who, under FIFRA, gets to decide whether it's safe—EPA or the states. — **Urban Lehner, DTN editor emeritus**

GUEST OPINION

FERTILIZER SUPPLY DISRUPTIONS THREATEN US AGRICULTURE

Farmers are no strangers to uncertainty. Weather, markets and supply challenges can all influence what happens on the farm. In recent years, we've seen just how quickly events around the world can affect American agriculture.

Right now, farmers are watching disruptions to global shipping routes with growing concern about what it could mean for fertilizer supplies as we head into spring planting season.

Recently, I shared those concerns when I testified before the Senate Agriculture Committee. As I told lawmakers, fertilizer is one of the most essential inputs farmers rely on to produce the crops that feed our families and fuel our economy. When the fertilizer supply chain is threatened, it creates ripple effects that impact farms, grocery stores and kitchen tables across America.

That's why the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) recently drew attention to this issue and called on the president to take proactive steps to protect the fertilizer supply chain and prevent disruptions that could impact farmers across the country.

The current concern centers on disruptions to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important maritime corridors for energy and fertilizer products. Large volumes of products like urea, ammonia, phosphates and sulfur move through that region each year. In fact, nearly half of global urea exports and about 30% of global ammonia exports originate from countries in or near that region. When something interrupts that flow, it can send shockwaves through the fertilizer supply chain.

Farmers understand supply chains because we depend on them every day. When an input becomes harder to find or more expensive, those challenges move quickly from global markets all the way down to individual farms.

The timing of this issue makes it especially concerning. Across the country, farmers are preparing fields and making final plans for planting season. That means fertilizer decisions are being made today that will impact harvests months from now.

Farmers are already facing tight margins and declining commodity prices. A sudden spike in fertilizer costs or disruption in availability could put even more strain on farm families who are already underwater.

A disruption in fertilizer supplies will affect crop production, and reduced crop production does not just affect farmers. It threatens our food security and can contribute to higher food prices for families across America. A strong and stable food supply begins with a strong agriculture supply chain.

The recommendations outlined in our letter to the president focus on keeping fertilizer moving safely and efficiently. They include maintaining safe maritime transit for fertilizer shipments through key global shipping lanes and working with international partners to keep those routes open. We also highlighted the importance of ensuring vessels transporting fertilizer can obtain the insurance coverage necessary to operate in higher-risk regions.

At home, policymakers can help by ensuring fertilizer moves efficiently through our domestic transportation system. Rail, barge and trucking networks all play a role in making sure farmers receive the inputs they need when they need them.

Additional steps, such as easing certain trade restrictions or temporarily suspending duties on imported fertilizer products, could also help moderate price increases during a time of market disruption.

American farmers are resilient. We plan, adapt and keep moving forward even when challenges arise. But maintaining a stable fertilizer supply chain is critical to ensuring farmers can continue producing the food, fuel and fiber American families depend on.

Protecting the fertilizer supply is about more than one planting season. It's about making sure American agriculture remains strong, resilient, and ready to meet the needs of families here at home and around the world. — **Zippy Duvall, AFBF president**

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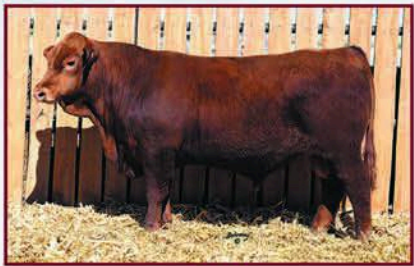
Top 2% \$Profit • Top 11% \$Ranch
Top 2% \$Feeder • 3-Star Calving Ease



5392

Top 4% \$Profit • Top 9% \$Ranch
Top 5% \$Feeder • 4-Star Calving Ease

40 HEAT TOLERANT INFLUENCED BULLS



5181

Top 2% \$ Profit • Top 1% \$Ranch
Top 11% \$Feeder • 3-Star Calving Ease



5101

Top 16% \$Profit • Top 10% \$Ranch
Top 37% \$Feeder



5263

Top 16% \$Profit • Top 32% \$Ranch
Top 13% \$Feeder



5424

Top 22% \$Profit • Top 10% \$Ranch
Top 56% \$Feeder • 4-Star Calving Ease

30 ANGUS AND HIGH % ANGUS BULLS



2514

Top 3% \$Profit • Top 13% \$Ranch
Top 3% \$Feeder • 3-Star Calving Ease



2515

Top 3% \$Profit • Top 25% \$Ranch
Top 1% \$Feeder



5041

Top 0% \$Profit • Top 3% \$Ranch
Top 0% \$Feeder



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Herd Consultants and Development

Challenges to beef packing infrastructure

Recent announcements of facility closures from the beef packing sector highlight the continuing challenges that low cattle inventories pose for the beef industry. Beef packing represents large investments in facilities and a long-term perspective.

Adjustments in packing capacity occur slowly and are not just the result of current cattle inventories but the cumulative impacts over time. Figure 1 shows how average cattle

inventories have decreased over time.

The majority of beef packing capacity was built from the 1960s into the 1980s when average cattle inventories were 20-30 million head larger than today. Adjustments to packing infrastructure occur slowly and abruptly with different regional impacts. The numbered boxes in Figure 1 correspond to the major adjustments to fed packing capacity in the past 26 years:

- 1: ConAgra plant burned, 2000, Garden City, KS (unplanned reduction; plant not rebuilt).

- 2: Tyson plant closed, 2008, Emporia, KS.

- 3: Cargill plant closed, 2013, Plainview, TX.

- 4: Tyson plant closed/Amarillo plant reduced, 2026, Lexington, NE/Amarillo, TX.

With both plant numbers and capacities fixed in the short run, Saturday slaughter is the principal source of flexibility for the packing industry to adjust to short run changes in cattle numbers. Figure 2 shows Saturday slaughter as a percentage of total slaughter for the past 30 years (red symbols correspond to plant closures).

When cattle numbers are insufficient, the Saturday slaughter percentage decreases. The previous cyclical low in cattle inventories prompted generally low Saturday slaughter rates from 2009-15. The one-year bump in 2013 was likely the result of the plant closure that year.

Low Saturday slaughter rates since 2023 show the impact of current low cattle inventories on the packing sector. The 2025 Saturday slaughter rate of 1.2% is the lowest in the

past 30 years. The recent plant closure and reduction by Tyson will provide some relief in 2026.

With cattle inventories

unlikely to grow much, if any, in the next couple of years, it is not clear whether additional packing sector adjustments will be

needed. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Value of beef variety meat exports at record-high

January beef exports were lower than a year ago due to the prolonged lock-out in China, but export value per head of fed slaughter was more than \$415—the highest since March and reflecting solid demand in other markets, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Beef variety meats were a major bright spot, with export value topping the previous monthly high reached in December.

Beef exports totaled 92,558 metric tons (mt) in January, down 10% year over year. But value fell just 3% to \$780.1 million, as exports have commanded higher prices. However, prices are still not being maximized to the degree that would be possible

with China back in the mix.

When excluding China from the January results, exports increased 5% in volume and climbed 16% in value. January beef shipments trended higher year over year to Korea, Japan, Taiwan, the Caribbean, the ASEAN and South America, with export value also increasing to Mexico, Canada and Central America.

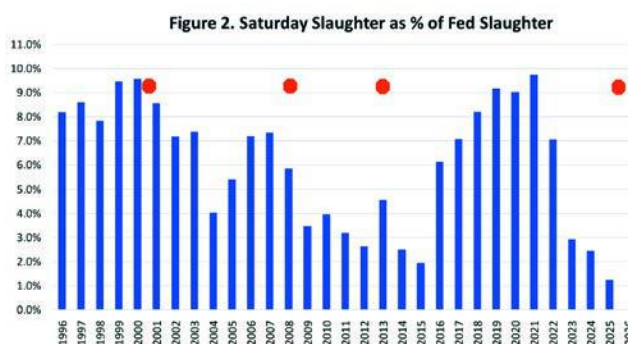
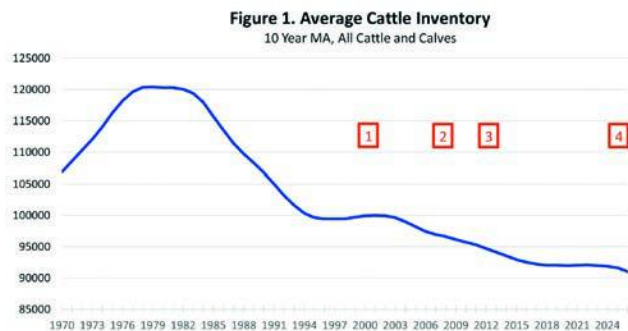
Beef variety meat exports were especially strong in January, increasing 6% from a year ago to 27,511 mt (the largest in more than four years), while value soared 46% to a record \$126 million.

“Beef variety meat value reaching new heights for the second consecutive month is great news for cattle producers and for the entire supply chain,” said USMEF President and

CEO Dan Halstrom. “With cattle numbers being tight, it is more critical than ever to maximize the value of every animal. And while much of this export growth was driven by tongues and skirts going to Japan, demand was strong in a wide range of markets.”

January lamb exports down slightly

Coming off a robust performance in 2025, January exports of U.S. lamb muscle cuts totaled 238 mt, down 7% from a year ago, while value fell 1% to \$1.44 million. Exports increased year-over-year to the Bahamas, Japan, Taiwan, Costa Rica and Panama, but shipments to Mexico trended lower and no exports were reported to Canada. — **USMEF**



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\$M	\$W	\$F	\$C					
87	103	117	335					

LT EXCLUSIVE 5446 PLD



JSR Estrada 52E x LT Authority
 DOB 2/12/2025 | AICA M1017270

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MTL	SC	RE	MB	TSI
9.3	-0.4	98	176	28	77	2.5	1.08	0.17	310

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HF Alcatraz 60F x Koupals B&B Pathfinder
 DOB 2/04/2025 | AAA 21412723

BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	CLAW	ANG.	MB	RE
0.7	67	118	0.84	48	0.24	0.44	0.77	0.71
\$M	\$W	\$F	\$C					
69	88	91	261					

LT WORLDWIDE 5464 PLD



LT Global x Fargo x Long Distance
 DOB 2/13/2025 | AICA M1017275

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MTL	SC	RE	TSI
11.4	-0.5	91	145	44	89	1.5	1.02	295

LT CHURCHILL COMMANDER 548N



Stellpflug Then Some x BR Charles Hutton 6033
 DOB 1/6/2025 | AHA# 44667035 | HORNED

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125

LT VIEW 5002



LT Converse x LT Reversed
 DOB 2/15/2025 | AAA 21394243

BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	CLAW	ANG.	MB	RE
0.0	74	124	0.37	31	0.42	0.41	0.76	0.76
\$M	\$W	\$F	\$C					
87	86	103	288					

LT EXCHANGE 5128 PLD



LT Governor x LT Blue Value
 DOB 1/25/2025 | AICA EM1017201

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MTL	SC	RE	MB	TSI
11.4	-0.3	83	146	20	62	1.3	1.26	0.17	311

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McBee asset fraud case moves forward

A lawsuit alleging a reality television star and farmer Steve A. McBee fraudulently transferred assets to two of his sons to avoid surrendering them as part of a still-outstanding \$4 million judgment on crop insurance fraud will continue after the U.S. District Court for the District of Western Missouri denied the family's motion to dismiss.

The star of the reality television series "The McBee Dynasty: Real American Cowboys" pleaded guilty to crop insurance fraud and is serving a two-year prison sentence in South Dakota.

U.S. attorneys contend the Gallatin, MO, farmer transferred assets to the trusts for his sons, Cole and Jesse, to avoid surrendering the assets. The family has argued in court filings the trusts were created more than a decade before a transfer of assets was made in 2014 and were an established practice of the trusts.

"Plaintiff has alleged that McBee became aware of an investigation against him in June 2023, and that his lawyers met with the U.S. attorney's

office in December 2023 to consider his 'criminal culpability,'" the court said in its order.

"Plaintiff then alleges about a month later, on Jan. 7, 2024, McBee transferred his interests in defendant companies to the defendant trusts. Plaintiff then alleges that McBee received no consideration for these ownership transfers. A plausible inference from these facts, which the court must assume are true at this stage, is that McBee made these transfers anticipating a criminal conviction that would result in a significant restitution judgment and that he made these transfers to shield his assets from collection."

The court concluded that at the early stages of the new lawsuit, the plaintiff has met its burden for the case to continue.

"Plaintiff alleges that in the summer of 2023, McBee became aware that he was the subject of a criminal investigation and that, in December 2023, his attorneys met with the U.S. attorney's office to discuss his potential criminal

liability," the court said.

"Plaintiff further alleges that approximately one month after that meeting, McBee transferred his ownership interests in the defendant companies to the defendant trusts and did so without receiving anything of value in exchange. At the pleading stage, these allegations suffice.

"Given the alleged timing of the transfers—shortly after discussions with the U.S. attorney's office regarding potential criminal liability—and the existence of a restitution obligation exceeding \$4 million, the court may reasonably infer that McBee believed he would incur debts beyond his ability to pay as they came due."

McBee transferred his ownership interests in three companies to his sons Jesse and Cole. That includes 39% interest in McBee Properties L.C., 99% interest in Rock Bluff Development LLC and 99% interest in S&K Enterprises LLC. According to the lawsuit, Steve McBee split those interests evenly between Jesse and Cole.

The federal government alleges the transfers occurred while McBee was under federal investigation, and he received no payment in exchange.

The federal government's lawsuit includes six claims for fraudulent conveyance under both federal and Missouri state law. The U.S. argues the transfers were made with actual intent to defraud the federal government, and the transfers were made without equivalent value when McBee knew he would face debts he couldn't pay.

In addition, the government asked the court to file an injunction preventing anyone from selling, mortgaging or disposing of the business assets.

The U.S. is also seeking money judgements against Jesse McBee and Cole McBee, for the value of the transferred interests.

As part of McBee's plea agreement, the government agreed not to charge anyone in his family with crop insurance fraud. — **Todd Neeley**, DTN environmental editor

LEGAL LEDGER

DOL awards \$1.6M to support Tyson workers

The Department of Labor (DOL) awarded \$1,671,239 to the Nebraska Department of Labor to support individuals affected by the January closure of the Lexington, NE, Tyson Foods beef processing plant. On Jan. 20, Tyson closed its plant and laid off 3,200 workers, about one-third of the town's residents. "This National Dislocated Worker Grant will allow the Nebraska Department of Labor to provide training and skills development services for dislocated workers seeking assistance in Buffalo, Custer, Dawson, Frontier, Gosper, Lincoln, and Phelps counties," DOL said.

Concerns raised in OK poultry litter case

A federal judge and Oklahoma officials are raising concerns about the proposed settlement agreements between Oklahoma and several poultry industry companies. In February, Oklahoma Attorney General Genter Drummond announced a \$25 million settlement from Tyson Foods and Cargill in a 20-year poultry litter pollution case. In early March, state Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur and Secretary of Energy and Environment Jeff Starling penned a letter to Gov. Kevin Stitt (R), expressing concerns about the agreements. "Our goal in raising these concerns is straightforward: Oklahoma should seek a resolution that treats producers fairly and uniformly, protects taxpayers, and respects the roles of each branch of government," the letter read. U.S. District Judge Gregory Frizzell questioned whether provisions in the proposed settlement could actually allow poultry litter application to increase if poultry production grows in the Illinois River watershed. Frizzell has not yet approved any of the settlements, which also include proposed agreements by Peterson Farms and George's Inc. Simmons Foods and Cal-Maine Foods have yet to reach settlements with the state.

CO bill would protect beavers on public lands

A group of Colorado state lawmakers introduced House Bill 26-1323 in early March, which would prevent the taking of beavers on public lands for recreational or commerce purposes. The bill reads that beaver activity helps reduce wildfires, protect water quality and improve drought resilience. "As part of Colorado's wildfire resiliency strategy, it is critical for the state to conserve beavers on public land by prohibiting the taking of beavers for a recreational purpose or commerce in beaver fur, parts, or products on public land in the state," the bill read. The legislation comes as the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission recently voted to advance a citizen petition seeking to "prohibit the commercial sale of wildlife fur in Colorado," which would include beaver fur. Opponents say the petition has legal, scientific and ethical issues.

USFWS seeks input on wolf, bear management

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is requesting public input on the management of Colorado gray wolves, Mexican wolves and grizzly bears. Experimental populations established under Section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act require information collection and reporting to USFWS to monitor reintroduction and recovery efforts. In a Federal Register notice, the agency proposed to renew three information collections without change. In particular, USFWS is interested in the public addressing the following: whether the collection of information is necessary, the accuracy of the estimate of the burden for collection of information, ways to enhance how information is collected, and how the agency might minimize the burden of the collection of information. Comments may be submitted until May 11 at [tinyurl.com/msmwppc5](https://www.tinyurl.com/msmwppc5).

Bill would support Tribal meat processors

Sens. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK) and Tina Smith (D-MN) on March 5 introduced the Promoting Regulatory Independence, Mastery, and Expansion for Meat Processing in Indian Country Act. The bill would support Tribal meat processing operations by establishing self-governance authority for the inspection of Tribal processing facilities. "Given their operation in rural areas, these facilities are often booked for months, or even years in advance, leaving few processing options for Tribal producers," Mullin said. "Common sense updates to current procedure will help Tribes expand production, capacity, and support a reliable food supply in their communities."

USTR initiates Section 301 investigations

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is investigating several countries under Section 310(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to structural excess capacity and production in manufacturing sectors. "The United States will no longer sacrifice its industrial base to other countries that may be exporting their problems with excess capacity and production to us," said trade ambassador Jamieson Greer. The investigation will cover the following economies: China, the European Union, Singapore, Switzerland, Norway, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand, Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Mexico, Japan and India.

USDA launches grants to combat pest threats

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is launching a new grant opportunity to address emerging and re-emerging pest and disaster threats across the U.S.' food and agricultural systems. The Rapid Response to Emerging and Re-emerging Pest and Disease Events Across Food and Agricultural Systems grant aims to deploy timely, science-based solutions to protect agriculture productivity and food security. More details can be found at [tinyurl.com/yenc4t5y](https://www.tinyurl.com/yenc4t5y).



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Considerations for breeding season in confinement for beef cattle

Whether confinement feeding of beef cows is part of a cropping and livestock integrated system, or if cows have been displaced due to drought or fire, there are several key concepts to keep in mind when breeding season occurs in confinement.

Bunk or feeding space needs to be about 2 feet for cows and bulls and about 1

foot for calves. This is especially true if a nutrient dense, limit-fed ration is being used. Feedlot pens are not the only place cow-calf pairs can be confined. Producers may also be able to use fallow ground, pivot corners or calving pastures. However, a minimum of 500 square feet per pair is recommended.

When possible, it is also

recommended that calves have their own loafing space inaccessible to the cows. This reduces exposure to pathogen loads, may provide shade or wind protection, and during breeding season can shield calves from getting stepped on.

Lactation is a huge energy drain on the cow. Feeding a diet similar to what the cow

received during gestation will not meet her needs, causing her to draw from her energy reserves to feed her calf, and thereby decrease her chances of rebreeding.

A lactation diet similar in intake and quality to green grass is needed. Additionally, the calf is beginning to eat forages, so extra feed needs to be provided to ensure the calf

is not eating feed that was assumed to be for the cow, thereby causing her to lose body condition.

Due to the size of mature bulls, the growth requirement of young bulls, and the activity level during the breeding season, bulls also need a high-quality diet. Maintaining bulls in a body condition score of 5 or 6 on a 1-9 scale

helps keep them healthy and productive. Producers needing assistance with ration balancing for confined cow-calf pairs during the breeding season can contact the Nebraska Extension beef team.

One positive aspect of maintaining cows in confinement is that they may be in close proximity to working facilities providing an opportunity to employ artificial insemination (AI) or allow producers to tighten the calving window by synchronizing cows while still using natural service.

Older bulls tend to dominate the breeding season, and this can be especially true in confinement. If possible to divide cows into groups, consider pairing younger bulls together, giving them the appropriate ratio of cows for their age. When dividing bulls into groups for confinement breeding, strong fences between groups are critical. Giving bulls two or three weeks to acclimate to breeding groups before turning in with cows when possible, also helps reduce fighting.

Drought and fires can take a toll on cattle. While it is always recommended to have a breeding soundness exam on bulls before turnout, it is especially important when bulls have experienced stressful situations that may impact structural soundness and fertility. — **Karla Wilke, Nebraska Extension**

Ranchers: Plans leave too much discretion to BLM

HORSE REMOVAL (from page 1)

Background

The dispute arises from BLM management plans for two herd areas in central Nevada: the Little Fish Lake Joint Management Area and the Stone Cabin Complex. Both areas contain wild horse populations significantly above the federally established appropriate management level (AML), the threshold used to maintain a "thriving natural ecological balance" on public lands.

In the Stone Cabin Complex alone, the agency determined that at least 689 excess horses were present above the lower AML limit. According to BLM assessments, the overpopulation has contributed to heavy forage utilization, riparian damage and increased vehicle collisions involving wild horses along nearby access roads.

In response, BLM issued environmental assessments and decision records outlining a 10-year management plan. The plans included three primary components: an initial gather to remove excess horses, fertility control measures to slow population growth and follow-up maintenance gathers if populations again exceeded AML.

However, the ranchers contend the plans fail to specify when the initial gather will occur. They argue that by allowing gathers to be delayed depending on factors such as funding, national priorities or corral capacity,

the agency effectively gives itself the discretion to postpone removal indefinitely.

Ranchers' argument

At the center of the case is a single statutory term: "immediately." The WHA directs the secretary of the Interior to "immediately remove excess animals from the range" once an overpopulation determination has been made.

Representing the ranchers, attorney W. Alan Schroeder argued that once the agency determines excess animals exist under the statute, it triggers a legal duty to remove them quickly.

"If there's a determination of excess ... that should trigger action to remove them, and at that point in time it must be done as expeditiously as possible," Schroeder said during the hearing.

He told the court the BLM plans contain no meaningful limits on when removal will occur. The plans describe initial gathers, fertility control and follow-up actions, but fail to include any "temporal sideboards" governing when the first gathers must take place. Without those parameters, he argued, the plans leave too much discretion to the agency.

Government position

Representing the federal government, attorney Tamara Rountree argued that the statute does not require the agency to include specific deadlines in the gather plans.

According to Rountree, the WHA mandates certain procedures—such as identifying sick or lame animals, facilitating adoptions and ensuring humane removal—that inherently take time.

She told the court that the statute addresses the agency's obligation to act but does not dictate how quickly a gather must begin or end.

To illustrate the ambiguity of the term "immediately," Rountree offered a courtroom analogy. If a building is on fire and someone is told to leave immediately, she said, that likely means exiting without delay. But if a judge orders someone to leave immediately, it may still allow time to collect belongings before departing.

"Immediately" oddly escapes specificity," she said,

suggesting the statute allows for reasonable logistical considerations.

Judges press both sides

The panel—comprised of judges Mark Bennett, Gabriel Sanchez and visiting district judge John Holcomb—pressed attorneys on whether the statute truly requires the type of timeline the ranchers seek.

Bennett pointed out that the law requires several steps beyond simple removal, including adoption programs and humane treatment provisions. Sanchez similarly questioned whether the dispute was largely semantic, asking whether the case ultimately boils down to "the difference between 'prompt' and 'expeditious.'"

The panel also referenced

the Supreme Court's 2024 decision in *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*, which curtailed judicial deference to agency interpretations of statutes. Bennett questioned whether requiring BLM to include precise timelines would effectively force courts to make policy decisions that Congress left to the agency.

The judges appeared to grapple with whether the case concerns the adequacy of BLM's planning documents or the agency's eventual implementation of them. One judge suggested that if the agency fails to act quickly enough, the ranchers could challenge the delay later under the Administrative Procedure Act rather than attacking the plan itself.

The 9th Circuit panel did not immediately rule on the case. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**



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Minimal amount of farmland expected to become available

FARMLAND (from page 1)

entities who rent out agricultural land under a variety of ownership arrangements, including privately owned, trust, family entity, non-family entity or other. Of the land rented out by non-operating landowners, more than 251 million acres were rented out by private landowners (38%), trusts (27%) or family entities (26%).

Rented farmland acres, including buildings, were valued at \$1.6 trillion in 2024. Landlords received \$34.1 billion in rental income, and incurred \$12 billion in total operating expenses.

Most landlords acquired their land prior to 2014, with less than 25% of landowners acquiring land in the past five years. Non-operating landlords acquired the majority of their land through inheritance, trusts and gifts,

while operating landlords and operators of owned farmland acquired the majority of their land through purchases.

A small share of owned acres are expected to transition in the next five years, meaning only a small percentage of farmland will be available for purchase. About 5% of all farmland is expected to transfer, or about 43 million acres. An estimated 2.6% of all farmland (23 million acres) is expected to be sold to a non-relative, while 2.3% of all farmland (20 million acres) is expected to be sold to a relative or given as a gift.

Approximately 227 million acres are expected to transition via will or trust in the next five years. Landowners expect to keep or put 135 million acres in a will and 91.5 million of those acres in a trust.

The study also surveys the demographics of landlords.

The average age of principal landlords was 69 years old, exceeding the age of the average farmer—58 years old, according to the 2022 Census of Agriculture. Only 12% of all principal landlords were under 55 years old. Nearly 52% of all the principal landlords have never farmed.

More than one-third of non-operating landlords were 75 years and older, and they rented out more than 40% of total acres, received more than 40% of the rent, and held more than 40% of the total asset value of land and buildings. Older landlords held little debt, about 20% of the debt owned by non-operating landlords. Landlords 64 years old or younger held most of the debt.

The complete report is available at tinyurl.com/59dp66ux. — Anna Miller Fortozo, *WLJ* managing editor



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COMING EVENTS

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

April 21-22 – Registration is now open for the Public Lands Council 2026 Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Details: tinyurl.com/5cwkxaj7.

April 21-23 – The U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef will host its 2026 General Assembly meeting in Tampa, FL. Details: tinyurl.com/3x6axz7j.

May 21-22 – The Stockmanship & Stewardship event in Farmington, NM, will help ranchers gain practical, hands-on knowledge that strengthens animal care, enhances cattle handling skills and supports the sustainability of their operations. Details: stockmanshipandstewardship.org.

May 27-29 – Registration is open for the 142nd Montana Stockgrowers Association Mid-Year Meeting in Great Falls, MT, at the

Great Falls Civic Center. Details: mtbeef.org/event/midyear-meeting.

June 1-3 – The International Year of the Woman Farmer ACE Summit in Washington, D.C. will empower, equip and connect women farmers, ranchers and agribusiness professionals. Details: tinyurl.com/2unszpen.

June 16-18 – Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, USA will host its 2026 National Convention and Trade Show at The Monument in Rapid City, SD. Details: rcalfconvention.com.

Sept. 15-17 – The Stockmanship & Stewardship event in Grand Island, NE, will help ranchers gain practical, hands-on knowledge that strengthens animal care, enhances cattle handling skills and supports the sustainability of their operations. Details: stockmanshipandstewardship.org.



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.)

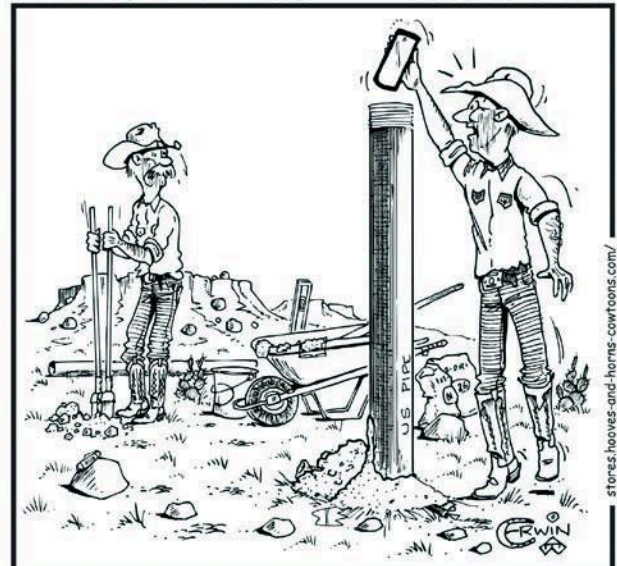
April 15 – Undergraduate college students pursuing agricultural communications careers can apply now for up to \$3,000 in

scholarships from the Agricultural Communicators Network. Details: agcommnetwork.com/scholarships.

April 16 – Purina Animal Nutrition, along with the Land O'Lakes Foundation, has opened its scholarship program designed to assist students with experience in agriculture and livestock production in pursuing their passions and furthering their education. Details: purinamills.com/scholarship.

HOOVES & HORNS

BY A.W. ERWIN



"Life's 'bout to git a *whole* lot simpler 'round here!"

STORY SHORTS

WSU halts equine surgery course after protest

Washington State University (WSU) acknowledged intense scrutiny surrounding its veterinary elective in large animal surgery after receiving a surge of threatening communications. Citing safety risks to students, faculty, staff and animals, the university canceled the equine component of its large animal surgery course for the spring term and will not bring eight horses to campus. The move aligns with a previously planned phaseout of the course's equine segment after this spring, as the college shifts toward clinical training and advanced simulation. The decision comes after animal activist groups, including People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and Our Honor, claimed that the horses and 60 goats faced unnecessary euthanasia following practice surgeries by veterinary students. They said sanctuaries are available and urged the university to adopt non-terminal training models already used by many veterinary schools nationwide.

La Niña conditions predicted to weaken

According to the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center, La Niña conditions persisted through February, but are expected to weaken significantly within the next month. Forecasters indicate a transition to ENSO (El Niño-Southern Oscillation) neutral conditions is likely by late spring, with a 55% probability of neutral conditions continuing from May through July. While ocean-atmosphere patterns still reflect La Niña, warming subsurface temperatures and shifting wind patterns signal a gradual breakdown. Looking ahead, models suggest El Niño could develop by summer, with a 62% chance of forming between June and August and persisting through the end of 2026. However, forecasters caution that the strength of any El Niño event remains uncertain at this time.

ASA releases heifer pregnancy EPD

The American Simmental Association (ASA) released a new Heifer Pregnancy (HP) EPD in a research format, aimed at improving reproductive success and long-term herd profitability. The HP EPD predicts the likelihood that a sire's daughters will become pregnant and calve at 2 years of age, expressed as a percentage, with higher values being more favorable. Developed by International Genetics Solutions, the tool relies on data from ASA's Total Herd Enrollment program. The release reflects ongoing efforts to provide producers with economically relevant genetic selection tools. Members with feedback or questions should contact Elizabeth Dressler, ASA geneticist, at edressler@simmgene.com.

Niman Ranch launches certified beef program

Niman Ranch announced the launch of its Regenerative Organic Certified beef program sourced from U.S. ranches, beginning with 105,000 acres and targeting 250,000 acres by 2028. The effort comes as the U.S. cattle herd reaches a 75-year low and organic beef demand increases, with more than 95% of organic beef currently imported. The program aims to expand domestic supply while providing market access for ranchers. It features Angus genetics, grass-fed and finished production, and rotational grazing systems. The result is USDA Choice and Prime beef designed to deliver consistency while aligning production with regenerative organic standards, the company said.

Idealyst launches think tank for agriculture

Idealyst Innovation announced the creation of the Center for American Food Power, a think tank focused on strengthening U.S. agriculture through a national agrifood strategy tied to national security priorities. The center will serve as a nonpartisan platform for analysis, coordination and policy development to improve long-term resilience, competitiveness and global positioning. As part of the launch, the group established the American Food Power Council, bringing together leaders from agriculture, policy and related sectors. The council includes Brett Sciotto, CEO of Idealyst Innovation, with additional members expected to join to broaden representation and input across the food and agriculture system. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/3hjfbkck.

Coleman reenters ground beef category

Coleman All Natural Meats has reentered the beef category with new ground beef offerings. The company launched 80/20 and 90/10 products in January at Raley's stores across California, marking a return to its cattle ranching roots. Coleman traces its origins to an 1875 Colorado cattle operation and later helped define "natural" meat standards in the U.S. The new ground beef products follow those same production practices, including no antibiotics or added hormones, vegetarian-fed diets and sourcing from U.S. family ranches.

Interior funds water projects across the West

The Department of the Interior announced \$889 million for water infrastructure projects across the West, supporting systems that serve agriculture and communities. Funding will flow through the Bureau of Reclamation to improve conveyance, expand storage and update aging infrastructure in six states. California will receive \$540 million for major Central Valley systems, while additional investments target projects in Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. These include irrigation upgrades, canal repairs, pipeline replacements and tunnel rehabilitation to improve water-delivery reliability and reduce the risk of system failures across key agricultural regions.

Resources available for NE ranches affected by fires

WILDFIRES (from page 1)

Producers who need assistance can contact the department via a hotline at 1-800-831-0550 or online at bit.ly/ndadonationsupplies. Individuals willing to donate supplies are also encouraged to report their available resources. State officials said information collected will be used to match donations and volunteer help with ranchers who need it most.

The Nebraska Cattlemen Disaster Relief Fund was activated to provide financial assistance to affected cattle producers. Donations can be mailed to the relief fund at 4611 Cattle Drive, Lincoln, NE 68521, or online at tinyurl.com/25mpem5e.

Funds will be distributed only to producers who experienced property loss or damage in areas where fires were reported, including disaster-declared regions affected by the Morrill County and Cottonwood fires. The Nebraska Cattlemen notes that membership is not required to ap-

ply; applications are open until further notice, and payments will be issued after the application period closes.

The Nebraska Sandhills Rancher Fire Relief Fund, administered through the Kearney Community Foundation as a 501(c)(3), was established to assist victims of recent wildfires by supporting disaster recovery and helping restore quality of life. Donations can be made online via the provided link or by mailing checks payable to "Nebraska Sandhills Rancher Fire Relief" to PO Box 291, Oshkosh, NE 69154, or online at tinyurl.com/y7n6ff5u. A local grants committee will review applications and distribute funds based on demonstrated need.

Aftercare and documentation

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Extension is urging producers to prioritize livestock safety and to monitor closely in the aftermath of wildfires. UNL Extension

advises keeping cattle out of recently burned areas due to risks from ash, hot spots and smoldering debris that can injure hooves and soft tissue. Producers should evaluate animals repeatedly in the days and weeks following a fire, watching for delayed signs of burn damage—particularly to hooves—and respiratory issues from smoke exposure.

UNL Extension recommends checking vulnerable areas such as udders, eyes and reproductive organs, minimizing cattle handling during smoky conditions, and working closely with veterinarians on treatment decisions, including pain management or humane euthanasia when necessary. Access to clean water and short-term nutritional support is also critical, especially where forage losses have occurred.

UNL emphasized the need for thorough documentation for affected producers. Before moving carcasses or repairing infrastructure, UNL recommends taking clear,

time-stamped photographs of livestock losses, injuries and damage to fences, feed supplies and water systems, while also recording tag numbers, brands and locations. Maintaining veterinary records and sale receipts for animals lost after the fire is also critical, as compensation may still apply.

Producers should contact insurance providers early and follow state-approved carcass disposal methods, as timing and procedures may affect claims. UNL further advises coordinating with USDA's Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service before making grazing or fencing changes to ensure eligibility for disaster assistance programs.

Finally, the stress of wildfire recovery should not be overlooked. The Nebraska Rural Response Hotline (800-464-0258) offers confidential support for emotional, financial and legal concerns related to disasters. — Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor

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SALE REPORTS

TOPP HEREFORDS BULL SALE

Feb. 13, Grace City, ND
153 Hereford yearling bulls \$22,765
114 Hereford 2-year-old bulls 22,351
44 Black white face fall bred heifers 4,800
Auctioneers: Roger Jacobs and Greg Goggins
TOPS—2-year-old bulls: TH 321E 2833 Merit M88, 6/12/2024 by Birdwell Merit 2833ET; to River Valley Polled Herefords, Newburgh, ON, \$145,000. TH 272G 2157K Sherman M12, 4/30/2024 by Churchill W4 Sherman 2157K ET; to Commercial buyer, SD, \$87,500. **Yearling bulls:** TH 149H K510 Dominion 190N, 1/6/2025 by KCF Bennett Dominion K510; to Golden Oak Livestock, Olds, AB, and Glen Lees Polled Herefords, Arcola, SK, \$80,000. TH 353G K510 Dominion 47N, 12/14/2024 by KCF Bennett Dominion K510; to Commercial buyer, SD, \$80,000. TH 226K 2157K Sherman 138N, 12/29/2024 by Churchill W4 Sherman 2157K ET; to Commercial buyer, SD, \$65,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

STEVENSON ANGUS BULL SALE

March 1, White Sulphur Springs, MT
78 Angus 2-year-old bulls \$15,455
89 Angus yearling bulls 10,573
13 Angus spring open heifers 7,384
79 Commercial spring open heifers 3,114
Auctioneers: Joe Goggins and Roger Jacobs
TOPS—Angus 2-year-old bulls: Down T Venerate 4036, 3/29/2024 by Basin Keystone 2021; to ST Genetics, Navasota, TX, \$180,000. Down T Armstrong 4117, 4/9/2024 by S Armstrong; to D Lazy M Livestock, Wellington, CO, \$24,000. Down T Justification 4027, 3/29/2024 by Boyd Justification; to Spring Cove Ranch, Bliss, ID, \$20,000. Down T Justification 4075, 4/3/2024 by Boyd Justification; to Commercial buyer, MT, \$20,000. Down T Armstrong 4087, 4/4/2024 by S Armstrong; to Commercial buyer, OR, \$17,000. **Spring open heifers:** Stevenson Clova Pride 5066,

1/25/2025 by Boyd Bedrock; to Tim Hoke, Sinks Grove, WV, \$10,000. Stevenson Clove Pride 5008, 1/5/2025 by Poss Vigilante 2506; to Rick Peterson, Alderson, WV, \$10,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

CLEAR CREEK ANGUS PRODUCTION SALE

March 2, Chinook, MT
70 Angus yearling bulls \$11,350
15 Hereford yearling bulls 10,833
89 Commercial spring open heifers 2,947
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS—Angus yearling bulls: Clear Creek Jameson 566, 2/9/2025 by Basin Jameson 1076; to Nissen Angus, Chinook, MT, \$20,500. Clear Creek Jameson 581, 2/14/2025 by Basin Jameson 1076; to Kellam Ranch, Chinook, MT, \$17,000. Clear Creek Exclusive 565, 2/9/2025 by Musgrave 316 Exclusive; to MY Angus and Gordan Young, Chinook, MT, \$17,000. Clear Creek Reckoning 5418, 2/10/2025 by Mohnen Reckoning; to U2 Ranch Inc., Loring, MT, \$16,000. **Hereford yearling**

bulls: DW 899 Valor 2517, 2/9/2025 by RV Valor Lad 899K; to Fred and Katie Olson, Havre, MT, \$14,000. DW 899 Valor 2515, 2/9/2025 by RV Valor Lad 899K; to Allen Weaver, Big Sandy, MT, \$14,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

APEX ANGUS PRODUCTION SALE

March 3, Valier, MT
110 Angus yearling bulls \$8,005
160 Commercial spring open heifers 3,169
Auctioneer: Roger Jacobs
TOPS: Apex Rangeland 875, 1/22/2025 by Basin Rangeland 3511; to Heuchert Willow Creek Ranch, Hensel, ND, \$17,000. Apex Man In Black 245, 1/13/2025 by LAR Man In Black; to Heuchert Willow Creek Ranch, Hensel, ND, \$15,000. Apex Rangeland 4355, 1/29/2025 by Basin Rangeland 3511; to Vasboe Ranch, Cut Bank, MT, \$13,000. Apex Exclusive 75, 1/13/2025 by Apex Exclusive 550; to Willow Ridge Ranch, Galata, MT, \$12,500. Apex Black Rifle 305, 1/13/2025 by Math Black Rifle 5099; to Gollehon Ranch, Choteau, MT, \$12,000. Apex Black Rifle 895, 1/24/2024 by Math Black Rifle 5099; to Len Vandebos, Valier, MT, \$12,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

OX BOW RANCH BULL SALE

March 4, Wolf Creek, MT
20 Angus 2-year-old bulls \$9,025
61 Angus yearling bulls 9,014
Auctioneer: Roger Jacobs
TOPS: OX Prolific 5133, 1/30/2025 by Ellingson Prolific; to Frank Thompson, Wolf Creek, MT, \$20,000. OX 1236 5114, 1/27/2025 by OX Mytty 1236; to Tanner Jensen, Phillipsburg, MT, \$16,500. OX 2167 5157, 2/2/2025 by OX Vindicator 2167; to Dean Kape, Hot Springs, SD, \$16,500. OX Vindicator 5149, 2/1/2025 by OX Vindicator 0017; to Mosher Ranch, Augusta, MT, \$14,000. OX Vindicator 5013, 1/7/2025 by OX Vindicator 0017; to Shotgun Ranch, Post, OR, \$14,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

SUTHERLIN FARMS RED ANGUS PRODUCTION SALE

March 6, Stevensville, MT
81 Red Angus yearling bulls \$7,441
165 Commercial spring open heifers 3,162
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS: 3C Revitalize 5133, 2/13/2025 by 3C Revitalize 3112; to Tash Livestock, Polaris, MT, \$19,000. 3C Revitalize 5094, 2/7/2025 by 3C Revitalize 3112; to Tash Livestock, Polaris, MT, \$18,000. Suth Free Style 236N, 2/21/2025 by Suth Free Style 38G; to Tash Livestock, Polaris, MT, \$16,000. Suth Redemption N358, 3/7/2025 by Red Redemption 254; to Chad Stephenson, Salmon, ID, \$14,000. 3C Playmaker 256N, 2/23/2025 by WSM Playmaker 1080J; to Quigley Ranch Company, Avon, MT, \$12,000. Suth Stockyard 134N, 2/4/2025 by LEM Stockyard 2001 ET; to McGown Ranch, Drummond, MT, \$12,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

3C CATTLE ANGUS BULL SALE

March 7, Stevensville, MT
51 Angus yearling bulls \$7,765
43 Commercial spring heifer calves 3,223
Auctioneer: Collin Gibbs
TOPS: 3C Dynamic 5085, 2/6/2025 by B A R Dynamic;

to Leadore Angus, Leadore, ID, \$31,000. 3C Reality 5025, 1/26/2025 by Woodhill Reality; to Daryn Cederberg, Three Forks, MT, \$12,500. GC 3C Diamond Logo 5270, 3/7/2025 by Diamond Logo 7L01; to Jones Leather & Livestock, Stevensville, MT, \$11,500. 3C Reality 5111, 2/8/2025 by Woodhill Reality; to Steve Seleg, Rosebud, MT, \$10,500. —KEVIN MURNIN

HOLDEN HEREFORDS PRODUCTION SALE

March 9, Valier, MT
6 Hereford fall yearling bulls \$27,667
126 Hereford yearling bulls 20,579
29 Hereford spring open heifers 11,275
59 Black white face spring heifers 3,628
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS—Fall yearling bull: HH Advance 4275M, 9/5/2024 by HH Advance 0043H; to L Bar W Cattle Company, Absarokee, MT, \$70,000. **Spring open heifer:** HH Miss Advance 5051N ET, 12/30/2024 by HH Advance 2106K; to Dan Bixler, Newton, IL, \$30,000. **Yearling bulls:** 5265, 1/29/2025 by HH Advance 3037L ET; to EF1 Cattle, Carpio, ND, \$90,000. HH Advance 5198N ET, 1/19/2025 by HH Advance 1128J ET; to Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE, \$75,000. HH Advance 3007N ET, 12/5/2024 by CL 1 Domino 241K; to W4 Ranch, Morgan, TX, \$90,000. HH Advance 5211N ET, 1/21/2025 by HH Advance 3037L ET; to Wilhelm Cattle Co., Sundance, WY, \$70,000. HH Advance 5156N ET, 1/15/2025 by HH Advance 1128J ET; to Coates Ranch, Mertzon, TX, \$65,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

COOPER HEREFORD RANCH PRODUCTION SALE

March 10, Willow Creek, MT
99 Hereford yearling bulls \$21,126
27 Hereford spring open heifers 17,314
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS—Spring open heifers: CL 1 Dominette 5160N 1ET, 1/15/2025 by CL 1 Domino 381L; to W4 Ranch, Morgan, TX, and Swinging H Herefords, Brockton, MT, \$45,000. CL 1 Dominette 5124N 1ET, 1/12/2025 by HH Advance 3027L; to Dan Bixler, Newton, IL, \$42,500. **Yearling bulls:** CL 1 Domino 5228N, 2/6/2025 by HH Advance 3027L; to Stevenson Herefords, Salmon, ID, \$19,000. CL 1 Domino 549N 1ET, 1/7/2025 by HH Advance 3027L; to Stroh Herefords, Killdeer, ND, \$60,000. CL 1 Domino 5177N 1ET, 1/18/2025 by CL 1 Domino 1115J ET; to Carmichael Herefords, Meadow, SD, and BB Cattle Co., Connell, WA, \$75,000. CL 1 Domino 581N 1ET, 1/10/2025 by HH Advance 3044L ET; to W4 Ranch, Morgan, TX, \$55,000. CL 1 Domino 514N, 1/3/2025 by HH Advance 3027L; to Spillman Ranch, Jewett, TX, \$55,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

RANCHO CASINO/COX RANCH BULL SALE

March 16, Purdum, NE
73 Angus bulls \$11,150
Auctioneer: Matt Lowery
TOPS: CR Dominator 5101, 12/13/2024 by Poss Dominator; to Giles & Smith Ranch, Elsmere, NE, \$30,000. CR MT Varsity 5148, 2/4/2025 by S A V Varsity 2750; to Teaford & Simonson, Purdum, NE, \$22,000. Casino Constable Y184, 2/17/2025 by Casino Constable T34; to Kyle Cantrell, Anselmo, NE, \$20,000. CR MT Man In Black 5133, 1/31/2025 by LAR Man In Black; to Thayne Rodocker, Halsey, NE, \$20,000. —TY GROSHANS

HARRELL RANCH BULL SALE

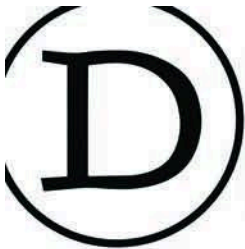
March 2, Baker City, OR
54 Angus bulls \$11,958
135 Hereford bulls ... 11,474
29 Hereford open heifers 6,267
80 Commercial open heifers 3,850
11 Geldings 19,909
8 Mares 19,250
Auctioneer: Rick Machado
Sale Managers: United Livestock Brokers & M3 Marketing
TOPS—Angus bulls: H5 70L Signature 28N, 1/25/2025 by Harrell Signature 70L; to Corky Ullman, Santa Ynez, CA, \$19,500. H5 10208 Resilient 24N, 1/25/2025

260 Commercial Heifer open heifers

..... 3,374
Auctioneers: Joe Goggins and Greg Goggins
TOPS: Sitz Phenom 692N, 1/14/2025 by HF Hi-Country 7L; to Harrell Herefords and Angus, Baker City, OR, and Scott Angus, Belgrade, NE, \$120,000. Sitz Equity 671N, 1/15/2025 by Sitz Insignia 12031; to Grimmus Cattle Company, Hanford, CA, \$120,000. 8, 1/17/2025 by HF Hi-Country 7L; to Ridl Angus, Dickinson, ND, and Bruner Angus, Drake, ND, \$110,000. Sitz Prototype 729N, 1/10/2025 by HF Hi-Country 7L; to Lindskov LT Ranch, Isabel, SD, \$100,000. Sitz Hi-Country 694N, 1/14/2025 by HF Hi-Country 7L; to Wilson Angus, Watford City, ND, \$45,000. Sitz Eternity 685N, 1/15/2025 by Sitz Eternity 739L; to Chapman Cattle Co., Stettler, AB, \$45,000. Sitz Insignia 618N, 1/20/2025 by Sitz Insignia 12031; to Bill Brennan, Pony, MT, \$45,000. Sitz Hi-Country 738N, 1/8/2025 by HF Hi-Country 7L; to Botts Angus, Huntley, MT, and Rolling Rock Angus, Pilot Rock, OR, \$40,000. Sitz Hindsight 698N, 1/13/2025 by Sitz Heritage 8732; to Select Sires, Plains City, OH, and Bruner Angus, Drake, ND, \$40,000. —KEVIN MURNIN

HORNUNG LIVESTOCK BULL SALE

March 11, Stratton, CO
24 SimAngus bulls \$10,104
75 Angus bulls 9,866
34 Commercial pairs 5,352
Auctioneer: Cody Lowderman
TOPS: HLS Mr Keystone 5053, 1/28/2025 by Basin Keystone 2021; to Sappa Valley Ranch, Kanorado, KS, \$20,000. HLS Mr Craftsman 5034, 1/25/2025 by Connealy Craftsman; to Pierce Cattle Co., Springfield, MO, \$19,000. CCC Jameson 2400, 1/19/2024 by Basin Jameson 1076; to Diamond E Cattle, Miller, NE, \$19,000. HLS Mr Top Gun 5008, 1/20/2025 by Schiefelbein Top Gun 522; to Ryan & Katie Dobler, Burlington, CO, \$18,000. —TY GROSHANS



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CHAMPION ADG BULL OVERALL (5.27/day) & CHAMPION JUNIOR BULL

Lot 137 | AAA# 21426159 | Sired by Crouch Congress
 WW+101 YW+174 HP+14.5 Angle+.41 DOC+40 PAP-2.85 CW+76 MARB+1.65
 \$M+88 \$W+100 \$B+207 \$C+356 MBT 120



Lot 138 | AAA# 21419044 | Sired by Spring Cove Grant 200K
 WW+92 YW+163 SC+1.81 Claw+.28 Angle+.34 DOC+29
 CW+90 \$M+101 \$W+89 \$B+188 \$C+345 MBT 104



Lot 139 | AAA# 21420369 | Sired by Deppe WW SFF Duracell 279
 CED+9 BW+.5 WW+77 YW+131 HP+16.0 Milk+35 PAP-.47
 Marb+1.18 \$M+99 \$W+92 \$B+167 \$C+316 MBT 107



CHAMPION INDEXING FALL ANGUS BULL (MBT 118)



Lot 269 | AAA# 21383740 | Sired by Deppe GFF Capitalist 1092
 HP+13.7 Milk+34 RE+.89
 \$W+74 \$B+113 \$C+207 MBT 104



2nd Place ADG Fall Angus Bull (5.18/DAY)



Lot 271 | AAA# 21386156 | Sired by Connealy Craftsman
 WW+86 YW+139 HP+13.1 Claw+.31 Angle+.37
 CW+62 \$M+89 \$W+96 \$B+158 \$C+294 MBT 98

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by Sitz Resilient 10208; to Flying W Ranch, Whitebird, ID, \$19,000. **Hereford bull:** H5 2323 Doc Holiday 514, 1/22/2025 by Churchill Doc Holiday ET; to Wagenblast Richardson Ranch, Morrow, OR, and J Bar E, MT, \$54,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

ALLEN BROTHERS CATTLE BULL SALE

March 3, North Powder, OR
59 Angus bulls \$10,541
29 SimAngus bulls 9,138
1 Angus pair 37,500
9 SimAngus open heifers 8,850
11 Angus open heifers 7,772

Auctioneers: Rick Machado & Jake Parnell
Sale Manager: M3 Marketing

TOPS—Bull: ABC Kenetrek 5280, 1/30/2025 by ABC Legend 3091; to Rafter B Cattle Company, Hamilton, MT, \$21,000. **Open heifer:** ABC Donna 5918, 2/12/2025 by Coleman Below Zero 2106; to Obendorf Farms, Parma, ID, \$17,000. **Pair:** S A V Emblynette 9338, 3/18/2019 by Coleman Charlo 0256 with a ABC Emblynette heifer calf by side; to Skyline Angus, Darby, MT, and Rafter B Cattle Company, Hamilton, MT, \$37,500. — **JARED PATTERSON**

DILLE RED ANGUS BULL SALE

March 3, Buhl, ID
68 Red Angus bulls \$6,636
16 Red Angus open heifers 3,306

Auctioneer: Trent Stewart
TOP: Dille Guidance N577, 2/1/2025 by PIE Guidance 209; to Brent Hillman, Shelley, ID, \$10,500. — **JARED PATTERSON**

IPSEN CATTLE PRODUCTION SALE

March 3, Dingle, ID
10 Black white face bulls \$9,210
16 Angus bulls 8,463
4 Hereford bulls 7,225
6 Black white face bred heifers 6,167
1 Hereford bred heifer 5,500
8 Angus bred heifers 4,863
Auctioneer: Online-Close Out

SNAKE RIVER VALLEY GENETICS BULL SALE

March 4, Idaho Falls, ID
19 LimFlex bulls \$11,184
47 Angus bulls 9,276
Auctioneers: Butch Booker & Cotton Booker

CANNON ANGUS BULL SALE

March 5, Preston, ID
41 Angus bulls \$5,423
Auctioneer: Jake Parnell

CROUTHAMEL CATTLE BULL SALE

March 6, Stanfield, OR
108 Angus bulls \$7,337
6 Charolais bulls 4,750
Auctioneers: Rick Machado & Jake Parnell
Sale Manager: Parnell Dickinson Inc
TOPS: Crouthamel Justified 4658, 11/1/2024 by LCC Justified 272; to Commercial buyer, OR, \$13,000. Crouthamel Rapport 5034, 1/17/2025 by BCC Rapport; to Commercial buyer, OR, \$13,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

INTERMOUNTAIN GENETIC ALLIANCE BULL SALE

March 6, Heber City, UT
4 Hereford bulls \$8,875
5 SimAngus bulls 8,750
44 Angus bulls 8,340
7 Red Angus bulls 8,107
6 Angus open heifers 5,916
Auctioneer: Eric Duarte

Sale Manager: M3 Marketing

TOP: RRR Zeus, 1/30/2025 by Basin Jameson 1076; to Alta Genetics, AB, \$13,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

TRINITY FARMS BULL SALE

March 7, Ellensburg, WA
167 SimAngus bulls \$11,124
71 SimAngus open heifers 3,969

Auctioneers: Butch Booker, Cotton Booker, Kyle Colyer

TOPS: TFS Monsoon 4615M, 9/12/2024 by TFS Monsoon 1756J; to Commercial Buyer, WA, \$21,000. TFS Rainfall 4293M, 9/15/2024 by S A V Rainfall 6846; to Commercial Buyer, WA, \$28,000. TFS Bold Ruler 4672M, 10/1/2024 by KBHR Bold Ruler H152; to Commercial Buyer, AZ, \$22,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

SPRING COVE RANCH BULL SALE

March 9, Bliss, ID
227 Angus bulls . . . \$12,386
32 Angus open heifers 5,255
12 Commercial open heifers 3,825
Auctioneer: Rick Machado
Sale Manager: M3 Marketing

TOPS: Spring Cove Arthur 5N, 1/7/2025 by Spring Cove Grant 200K; to SCR Arthur 5N Group, ID, \$220,000. Spring Cove Top Gun 5001, 1/17/2025 by Schiefelbein Top Gun 522; to Flat Top Cattle, Aberdeen, ID, \$50,000. Spring Cove Feat 158M, 8/26/2024 by Spring Cove Feat 158M; to Tehama Angus Ranch, Gerber, CA, \$44,000. Spring Cove Warbucks 54N, 1/26/2025 by Pine View Warbucks L114; to Flat Top Cattle, Aberdeen, ID, \$34,000. Spring Cove Sterling 533, 3/10/2025 by Pine View Warbucks L114; to Valley View Ranch, Jerome, ID, \$30,000. Spring Cove Grant 3N, 1/6/2025 by Spring Cove Grant 200K; to Pat Hendren, Montevieu, ID, \$28,500. Spring Cove Grant N26, 1/16/2025 by Spring Cove Grant 200K; to Jared Brackett, Rogerson, ID, \$24,000. Spring Cove Red State 208M, 8/21/2024 by Pine View Red State; to Flat Top Cattle, Aberdeen, ID, \$22,000. Spring Cove Grant 23N, 1/16/2025 by Spring Cove Grant 200K; to Cannon Ranch, Hiko, NV, \$21,000. Spring Cove Grant N3, 1/1/2025 by Spring Cove Grant 200K; to Ira Brackett, Kimberly, ID, \$20,000. Spring Cove Top Gun 5008, 1/23/2025 by Schiefelbein Top Gun 522; to Shandar Angus Ranch, Payson, UT, \$20,000. Spring Cove Red State 204M, 9/2/2024 by Pine View Red State; to Helmick Cattle Co., King Hill, ID, \$20,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

UDY CATTLE BULL & FEMALE SALE

March 11, Rockland, ID
32 Hereford bulls . . . \$9,860
52 Angus bulls 9,692
26 Red Angus bulls . . . 9,106
17 Black white face bulls 8,559
3 Hereford bulls 4,633
8 Black white face open heifers 4,512
17 Angus open heifers 4,291
20 Red Angus open heifers 4,087
Auctioneer: Butch Booker

SUNNY OKANOGAN ANGUS RANCH BULL SALE

March 12, Omak, WA
107 Angus bulls \$8,352
Auctioneers: Butch Booker & Cotton Booker
TOPS: SO Iconic F017-24,

9/4/2024 by DB Iconic G95; to Midvale Cattle Co., Sunnyside, WA, \$15,000. SO Man In Black 552-25, 1/22/2025 by LAR Man In Black; to Mill Iron O, Sunnyside, WA, \$15,000. SO Top Gun 020-25, 1/6/2025 by Schiefelbein Top Gun 522; to J2 Cattle Co., Outlook, WA, \$14,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

ROLLIN' ROCK ANGUS BULL SALE

March 13, Pilot Rock, OR
134 Angus bulls . . . \$11,308
23 Hereford bulls . . . 11,239
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS: RR Man In Black 5056, 1/7/2025 by LAR Man In Black; to WT Ranch, Weston, OR, \$29,000. RR Firesteel 5052, 1/6/2025 by LT Firesteel 1123; to John Davis, Midvale, ID, and Noah's Angus Ranch, Cambridge, ID, \$25,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

YARDLEY CATTLE BULL SALE

March 14, Beaver, UT
151 SimAngus bulls \$8,709
Auctioneer: Steve Bonham
TOP: Yardley Infinite N380, 3/7/2025 by Yardley Limitless; \$39,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

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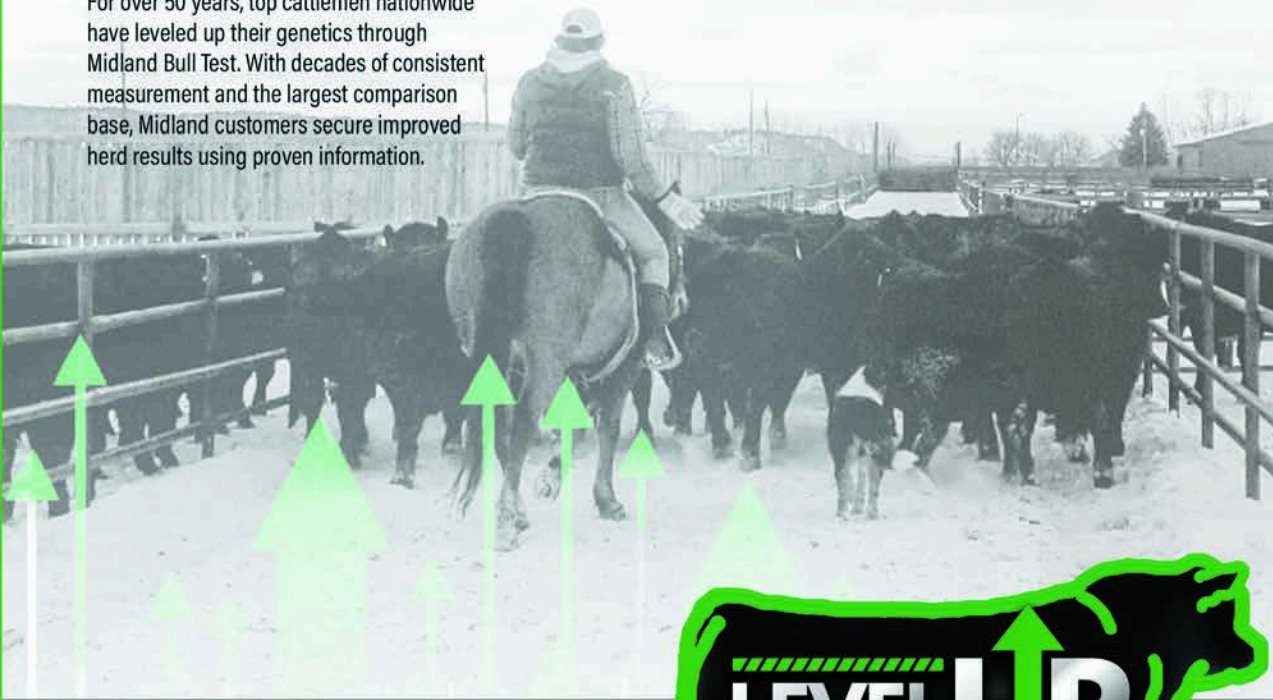
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MARKET NEWS

MARKET SITUATION REPORT

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

MARKET AT A GLANCE	This Week: 3/19/2026	Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	N/A ▲	234.70	202.00
CME Feeder Index	358.32 ▼	364.80	284.65
Boxed Beef Average	400.30 ▲	398.34	N/A
Average Dressed Steers	N/A ▲	372.05	N/A
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,469 ▲	1,468	1,435
Weekly Slaughter**	525,000 ▲	521,000	587,000
Weekly Beef Production***	469.4 ▲	465.6	511.9
Hide/Offal Value	12.25 ▲	12.21	11.43
Corn Price	4.70 ▲	4.53	4.70

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

BEEF REPORT: Weekly Composite Boxed Beef												
WEEK ENDING	COMPREHENSIVE Loads/Price		PRIME Loads/Price		BRANDED Loads/Price		CHOICE Loads/Price		SELECT Loads/Price		UNGRADED Loads/Price	
March 13	6,258	390.66	269	399.99	1,208	393.95	1,969	388.16	450	381.30	2,361	368.81
March 6	6,463	381.17	274	391.98	1,133	385.13	1,927	379.00	561	371.21	2,569	358.47
February 27	6,133	373.86	316	385.27	1,188	376.42	1,864	371.62	488	364.17	2,277	351.53
February 20	6,294	367.12	257	381.45	1,190	369.97	2,014	365.62	516	358.29	2,317	343.67

CUTOUTS						FED BOXED BEEF					
DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT		50% LEAN	90% LEAN					
March 19	400.30	392.45	343.81		190.12	443.44					
March 18	401.75	396.17	342.23		186.81	N/A					
March 17	403.31	396.72	342.25		193.01	445.42					
March 16	402.66	394.51	337.70		N/A	433.15					
March 13	397.92	391.54	338.33		192.93	N/A					

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	3/13	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/19	High*	Low*
Apr.	23090	23325	23570	23568	23495	24775	16853
Jun.	22895	23188	23413	23433	23348	24830	16668
Aug.	22683	22968	23175	23193	23105	25018	17005
Oct.	22523	22798	22990	23000	22930	25093	18068

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	3/13	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/19	High*	Low*
Mar.	34948	35545	36013	35970	35758	38103	21920
Apr.	34310	34985	35535	35468	35160	38280	22268
May	33918	34555	35130	35050	34700	38020	22460
Aug.	33948	34530	35113	35038	34710	37860	24118

*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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Live FOB Heifer	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dressed Del Steer	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dressed Del Heifer	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	8,568	1,615	234.70
Live FOB Heifer	4,215	1,418	235.05
Dressed Del Steer	9,164	1,021	372.05
Dressed Del Heifer	1,290	913	372.00
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	64	1,525	202.00
Live FOB Heifer	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dressed Del Steer	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dressed Del Heifer	N/A	N/A	N/A

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: MARCH 15, 2026		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	34,422	1,369
Formula	225,601	448
Negotiated Cash	65,335	158
Negotiated Grid	25,368	1,115
Packer Owned	9,998	N/A
Total	360,724	3,090

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS			FORWARD BEEF SALES			
Delivery Month	Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,503	Neg. Sales 21+ days	1,012	Formula sales	3,717
Mar. '26	146,644		Forward contract sales	25	Domestic sales	5,501
Apr. '26	183,977		NAFTA Exports	80		
May '26	84,888					
Jun. '26	99,691					
Jul. '26	67,500					

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		234.93	+0.90
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		233.31	+0.98
Ontario Auctions			
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs		234.31	+0.32
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		232.36	+0.32
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs		142.36	-1.70

*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Tuesday, March 17, 2026			
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario
501-600 lbs	521.54	518.94	442.52
601-700 lbs	468.25	448.07	412.69
701-800 lbs	412.18	402.78	394.65
801-900 lbs	369.35	371.03	365.41
Heifers:			
401-500 lbs	515.83	520.75	401.74
501-600 lbs	464.00	471.25	388.20
601-700 lbs	423.05	413.58	355.95
701-800 lbs	372.81	377.58	340.98

USDA MEXICO TO U.S. WEEKLY LIVESTOCK IMPORTS				
Species	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Year-to-date	Previous Year-to-date
Feeders	3/9/2026	3/2/2026	0	230,638

IMPORTS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE			
March 19, 2026			
Mexico to United States Feeder Cattle Import Summary			
Receipts EST: N/A	Week Ago EST: N/A	Year Ago Act: 4,350	
THIS REPORT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED AFTER MAY 12TH 2025. THE BORDER WILL BE CLOSED FOR LIVESTOCK IMPORTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.			
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2		Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2	
500-600 lbs	N/A	500-600 lbs	N/A
600-700 lbs	N/A	600-700 lbs	N/A
700-800 lbs	N/A	700-800 lbs	N/A
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2		Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2	
500-600 lbs	N/A	500-600 lbs	N/A
600-700 lbs	N/A	600-700 lbs	N/A
700-800 lbs	N/A	700-800 lbs	N/A

Selected Auctions Week Ending March 19, 2026

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	PAIRS	
									SLAUGHTER BULLS	REPLACEMENTS	
No report available	Blackfoot, ID										
March 12	Burley, ID	445	627-660 594-620	498	489 429-483	378-381 404	352	284-335	141-200 181-206		
No report available	Emmett, ID										
March 14	Eugene, OR	1,262	450-562* 350-530*	430-540* 400-535*	365-506* 365-542*	330-430* 310-375*	316-345*		155-162 176-181	2,500-3,050 1,550-3,150	
No report available	Madras, OR										
March 11	Vale, OR	297		495-535	450-489				171-184 185-210		
March 16	Davenport, WA	135	515	355-470 350-455	340-450 160-450	342.50-375 330-382.50	330-350 292.50-329	220-325 131-260	139-174 163-293	3,150-4,100 3,050	
March 12	Toppenish, WA	850		370*		370-380*			187.50-199	4,100-4,350 2,450-2,950	
March 12	Orland, CA	1,306	400-660 380-600	400-645 380-570	350-550 320-500	300-458 280-436	300-397 280-346	300-345 280-315	150-184 155-199	2,500-4,900 2,500-4,000	
No report available	Escalon, CA										
March 16	Famoso, CA	108	440-550 375-480	425-540 375-470	380-480 350-430	350-400 305-360	310-350	270-320 280-310	70-240 125-193		
March 18	Galt, CA	1,238		530-580 440-535	450-520 400-510	370-470 335-425	330-425 300-385	300-352.50	100-178 150-200	3,000-5,275 2,900-3,850	
March 17	Turlock, CA	1,200		450-522.50 387-449	442-495 380-441	380-415 315-379	350-380 312-349		155-195 140-177		
No report available	Salina, UT										
March 16	Iowa	8,332	601-615 464-565	470-542.50 425-500	412-525 365-490	374-469 341-427.50	355-412.50 307-435.50	294.50-368 245-385	140-310 150-257		
March 17	Miles City, MT	1,490		535 472-522.50	460-497 466-477.50	416-458 372-420	380-418 349-381	355.50-367 319-352	145-181 150-197		
March 11	Bassett, NE	1,985			424-457.50	380-423	326.50-372	311-357 313-319			
March 14	Ericson, NE	3,040	610-700 605	545-602.50 457.50-540	448-540 452.50-460	410.50-476 363-412.50	378.50-425 340-370	330-366 314		3,800-3,950 2,550-3,950	
No report available	Imperial, NE										
No report available	Kearney, NE										
No report available	Lexington, NE										
March 12	Ogallala, NE	5,638	597.50-650 542.50-582.50	520-545 507.50-560	469-537.50 440-492.50	416-475 400.50-441	365-427.50 340-408	314.50-377.50 326-415			
March 12	Valentine, NE	3,830		548-602 450-481	482-554 425-482	420-484.50 376-438	380-435 355-382	370 345-372			
March 13	Herreid, SD	1,980		495-512.50	410-464	434-451 371-418	375.50-407 336	320-366.75			
March 18	Torrington, WY	3,440	612-615	575-610 500-545	478-525 435-501	409-472 385-434	375-405 342-379	337.50-372.50 301-343			
March 12	Willcox, AZ	N/A	545-550 527.50-540	562.50-645 447.50-530	512-550 433-490	454-525 372-400	387-409 353-382		140-265 188-202	3,250-4,050 3,150-3,550	
March 16	Colorado	8,257	670 640-650	582.50-640 475-670	512.50-612.50 442.50-560	440-528 392.50-467.50	370-485 302.50-422.50	356.25-430 300-395	290-357.50 272.50-338	138-172 178-216	3,700-4,200 2,200-3,300
March 11	La Junta, CO	960		585-640 475-530	495-580 425-495	440-480 360-432	410-430 323-380	340-367.50 297.50-305	160-181		
No report available	Loma, CO										
March 18	Dodge City, KS	4,865	605-610 566	559-576 488-505	474-520 424-465	400-446 357-401	366-402 333.50-357	311.50-378.25 305-350	151-190 175-226	4,300 2,575-3,600	
March 12	Pratt, KS	4,481	645-700 480-522.50	530-601 470-527.50	435-525 404-487	403-467.50 356.50-399	358-397 330-361	304-363 290.50-343	161-187 172-218	3,800 2,450-3,300	
March 12	Salina, KS	3,400	675	615-620 540-600	580-600 495-545	489-551 425-494	436-474 360.50-426	364-419 318-365	320-359 302-375		
March 19	Clovis, NM	2,703	665-710	575-705 462-635	402-630 416-560	400-572 357-462	381-443.75 330-405	342-388 305-345	200-348.50 160-194.50	2,500-4,250 1,550-3,400	
March 18	El Reno, OK	4,806	670 630								

Workers strike at Colorado JBS meatpacking plant

Nearly 4,000 Colorado workers at one of the country's largest meatpacking plants began a strike March 16 over wages, working conditions and "unlawful union busting" by the plant's corporate owner.

Members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local (UFCW) 7 voted nearly unanimously last month to authorize the so-called unfair labor practices strike. The union has been in talks with JBS on a new collective bargaining contract since a previous four-year agreement expired in July.

"For months now, JBS has been insisting on poverty-level wages for workers at the plant, offering less than 2% in average annual wage increases, far below the level of inflation in Colorado, while at the same time putting all the risk of rising healthcare costs on workers," UFCW Local 7 President Kim Cordova said in a press release.

The Greeley, CO, walkout is believed to be the largest strike at a U.S. meatpacking facility in decades. UFCW Local 7 said that it had offered to meet with company representatives over the weekend to avert a strike, but the company refused.

JBS did not immediately respond to a request for com-

ment. A multinational company based in Brazil, it maintains its U.S. corporate headquarters in Greeley, and its sprawling meatpacking facility there is one of the largest in the country, accounting for roughly 5% of U.S. beef-processing capacity.

Workers say the company has created dangerous working conditions by increasing processing speeds while cutting worker hours and failing to provide "life-saving personal protective equipment." The union also alleges that the company has violated federal labor laws by refusing to bargain in good faith and retaliating against union members.

"We want to be treated like human beings. We will not be intimidated, retaliated against, or suffer in silence," Deborah Rodarte, a worker at the Greeley plant, said in a statement. "We work very hard, in difficult conditions, and want JBS to negotiate fairly for a contract that will allow us to live with dignity. We will stand together on the picket line until JBS recognizes our value and treats us fairly."

UFCW Local 7 said they plan for the unfair labor practices strike to last two weeks. — **Chase Woodruff, Colorado Newswire**

Cattle on feed report set for Friday release

MARKETS (from page 1)

to close at \$392.45. USDA was set to release its latest Cattle on Feed report on March 20.

"Friday's USDA Cattle on Feed report will confirm that the market is front end loaded," Fish wrote on Wednesday. "Average estimates are cattle on feed at 99.2% of a year ago; placed at 99% of a year ago and marketing at 92.3% of a year ago."

Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures gained back some losses. The March contract gained about \$7 to close at \$355.27, and the April contract gained \$4.75 to close at \$347.75.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index lost more than \$6 to close at \$358.32.

Corn futures closed higher, up 7 cents on the May contract to \$4.69 and up 7 cents on the July contract to \$4.80.

"Receipts at major livestock auctions are in decline from prior year making price adjustments more difficult," the Cattle Report said on Thursday. "The combination of rising grain prices, feedlot and beef plant closures, and consumer resistance to high beef prices are negatives but a curtailed supply of animals is forcing competition in the marketplace."

Iowa: Russell Livestock in Russell sold 1,278 head on Monday. Compared to the sale last held two weeks earlier, steers sold mostly steady to \$15 higher and heifers sold mostly steady to \$5 lower. Benchmark steers averaging 726 lbs. sold

from \$386-415, averaging \$399.75.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 6,000 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers and heifers sold \$5-15 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 711 lbs. sold from \$380-393, averaging \$390.12.

Montana: Miles City Livestock in Miles City sold 1,348 head on Tuesday. All feeder cattle were too lightly tested a week earlier to develop an accurate market trend, but higher undertones were noticed on all steers. Heifers were too lightly tested to develop a market trend, but steady-to-higher undertones were noted. Benchmark steers averaging 717 lbs. sold between \$390-418, averaging \$417.31.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 4,305 head on Monday. Compared to the previous sale, feeder steers and heifers sold \$10-15 higher. Steer calves sold \$10-20 higher. Heifer calves sold \$5-15 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 777 lbs. sold from \$355-367, averaging \$360.76.

South Dakota: Sioux Falls Regional in Worthing sold 786 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, there were too few comparable weights of feeder steers and heifers for a good comparison. Benchmark steers averaging 710 lbs. sold for \$387.

Utah: Producers Livestock in Salina sold 1,148 head on Tuesday. Compared to the previous auction, feeder cattle sold unevenly, with calves and yearlings steady. Benchmark steers averaging 783 lbs. sold between \$361-365, averaging \$363.22. — **Anna Miller Fortozo, WLJ managing editor**

Matthew Brent
(719) 740-3268
matthewbrent@hotmail.com

BRENT CATTLE COMPANY


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Maywood, NE 69038


APRIL 6, 2026

1PM (CST)


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BC PAYWEIGHT 507 - REG # 21514565




Lot #12
BC PAYWEIGHT 506 - REG # 21514560




Lot #13
BC TRUE GRIT 514 - REG # 21514836

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Selling 90 Angus Bulls




Hilltop Angus Ranch
DENTON, MONTANA




Hilltop Rapport 214N
reg: 21450454

calved:	01/27/25	tattoo:	214N														
CED	+9	BW	+0.9	WW	+74	YW	+135	Milk	+30	Marb	+0.68	RE	+0.33	\$M	+64	\$W	+81



Hilltop 2394 Program 344N
reg: 21450469


calved:	02/13/25	tattoo:	344N														
CED	+3	BW	+1.4	WW	+73	YW	+129	Milk	+20	Marb	+0.48	RE	+1.05	\$M	+83	\$W	+65




Hilltop Bar None 208N
reg: 21450450

calved:	01/23/25	tattoo:	208N														
CED	+10	BW	+0.0	WW	+90	YW	+153	Milk	+24	Marb	+0.64	RE	+0.67	\$M	+81	\$W	+92

Annual Production Sale
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APRIL 14th 2026
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Sale at 1:00 p.m.
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 Bulls - Females - Embryos - Semen
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Livestock Supplies 18

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Real Estate Mountain 20C

Real Estate Mountain 20C

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Schools 43

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SALE CALENDAR

Sale Calendar is a service to our advertisers. There is a minimum advertising requirement to be eligible to be listed in the Sale Calendar. Contact your fieldman for more information or to have your date added to the Sale Calendar. We will only run auction sale dates or private treaty start dates.

ANGUS

Mar. 24 – Bar JV Angus, Bull Sale, Fairview, MT
Mar. 25 – Peterson Grain and Cattle, Bull Sale, Havre, MT
Mar. 26 – Vermilion Ranch, Bull Sale, Billings, MT
Mar. 28 – Basin Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Klamath Falls, OR
Mar. 28 – Diamond Peak Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Loma, CO
Mar. 28 – Sinclair Cattle, Bull Sale, Buffalo, WY
Mar. 28 – Star Gate Ranch, Bull Sale, Twin Falls, ID
Mar. 30 – Silver Bit Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, May, ID
Apr. 1 – Nissen Angus, Bull Sale, Chinook, MT
Apr. 2 – Arntzen Angus, Bull Sale, Hilger, MT
Apr. 2 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT
Apr. 4 – Botts Angus, Bull Sale, Huntley, MT
Apr. 4 – Brooks Chalky Butte, Bull Sale, Bowman, ND
Apr. 6 – Brent Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Maywood, NE
Apr. 6 – FBA Ranch, Bull Sale, Havre, MT
Apr. 7 – Hinman Angus, Bull Sale, Malta, MT
Apr. 13 – C Spear Angus, Bull Sale, Billings, MT
Apr. 14 – Hilltop Angus, Bull Sale, Denton, MT
Apr. 15 – Milk River Angus, Bull Sale, Chinook, MT
Apr. 17 – DeGrand Angus, Bull Sale, Baker, MT
Apr. 17 – Timberline Angus, Bull Sale, Manhattan, MT
Apr. 18 – Lindskov's LT Ranch, Bull Sale, Isabel, SD
Apr. 21 – Treasure Test, Bull Sale, Great Falls, MT
May. 9 – Queen Ann Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Loma, CO

BALANCER

Apr. 2 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT

CHAROLAIS

Mar. 24 – Romans Ranch, Bull Sale, Westfall, OR
Mar. 28 – Valley View Charolais, Bull Sale, Polson, MT
Apr. 2 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT
Apr. 3 – Brevig Charolais, Bull Sale, Lewiston, MT
Apr. 11 – Hebbert

Charolais, Bull Sale, Hyannis, NE
Apr. 18 – Lindskov's LT Ranch, Bull Sale, Isabel, SD

HEREFORD

Mar. 25 – NJW Polled Herefords, Production Sale, Decker, MT
Apr. 6 – Stuber Ranch, Bull Sale, Bowman, ND

LIMOUSIN

Apr. 2 – XYZ Ranch & TL Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Delta, CO

LIM-FLEX

Apr. 2 – XYZ Ranch & TL Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Delta, CO

OPTIMIZER

Apr. 2 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT

Apr. 7 – Doubet Ranch, Bull Sale, Billings, MT

RED ANGUS

Mar. 25 – Westphal Red Angus, Bull Sale, Grass Range, MT

Mar. 30 – Axtell Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Sterling, CO

Apr. 2 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT

Apr. 2 – Northern Lites Red Angus, Production Sale, Glasgow, MT

Apr. 11 – Redd Ranches, Bull Sale, Paradox, CO

May. 7 – Koenig Ranch Red Angus, Bull Sale, Glasgow, MT

SALERS

Apr. 2 – Midland Bull Test, Bull Sale, Columbus, MT

Apr. 7 – Doubet Ranch, Bull Sale, Billings, MT

SIMANGUS

Mar. 24 – Open Gate Simmentals, Bull Sale, Augusta, MT

Mar. 28 – Diamond Peak Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Loma, CO

Mar. 28 – Star Gate Ranch, Bull Sale, Twin Falls, ID

Apr. 4 – Big Country Genetics, Bull Sale, Cody, WY

SIMMENTAL

Mar. 24 – Open Gate Simmentals, Bull Sale, Augusta, MT

Apr. 4 – Big Country Genetics, Bull Sale, Cody, WY

STABILIZER

Mar. 23 – Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Meriden, WY

Apr. 11 – Bar T Bar, Bull Sale, Winslow, AZ

May. 2 – Leachman Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Meriden, WY

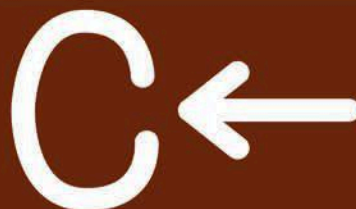
COMMERCIAL

Apr. 10 – Western Video Market Auction, Cottonwood, CA

May. 1 – Western Video Market Auction, Coalinga, CA

HORSE

May. 2 – Cattle Barons, Horse Sale, Pendleton, OR



C SPEAR DYNAMIC N003 AAA 21305652
 B A R Dynamic x Sitz Resilient 10208
 CED +8 BEPD +0.7 WEPD +90 YEPD +139
 WW 793 YW 1339



C SPEAR JVC PROSPER N26 AAA 21190648
 Ellingson Prosper x G A R Ashland
 CED +8 BEPD +3.0 WEPD +100 YEPD +156
 WW 739 YW 1405



C SPEAR DYNAMIC N114 AAA 21305673
 B A R Dynamic x Ellingson Three Rivers 8062
 CED +5 BEPD +1.9 WEPD +101 YEPD +165
 WW 744 YW 1350

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- Ellingson Prolific
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- Vermillion Three Rivers K179
- BAR Dynamic
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Monday **APRIL 13** 2026
 Billings Livestock Commission || Billings, MT
 1:00 PM MT

SELLING 125 ANGUS BULLS

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and guarantees.

- Fertility Tested
- Good Dispositions
- Free Delivery
- **ANGUS** Tested
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of Heifer Bulls!**

HA PSI 5876



+21422095	
CED	+8
BW	+2.9
WW	+70
YW	+120
MILK	+26
MARB	+0.06
RE	+1.09
FAT	-.039
\$M	+73
\$W	+64
\$F	+92
\$G	+33
\$B	+126
\$C	+236

Sire HA PSI K031 MGS S A V Bismarck 5682

HA PSI 5581



21422011	
CED	+8
BW	+2.0
WW	+103
YW	+171
MILK	+13
MARB	+0.85
RE	+1.09
FAT	+0.010
\$M	+67
\$W	+85
\$F	+132
\$G	+68
\$B	+201
\$C	+328

Sire HA PSI K031 MGS Hoffman Thedford

HA Rapport 5853



+21429972	
CED	+9
BW	+0.4
WW	+69
YW	+124
MILK	+28
MARB	+0.86
RE	+0.60
FAT	+0.051
\$M	+85
\$W	+75
\$F	+86
\$G	+60
\$B	+146
\$C	+274

Sire BCC Rapport MGS HA Value Added 7578

HA Courage 5686



21425158	
CED	+11
BW	+0.8
WW	+72
YW	+129
MILK	+21
MARB	+0.58
RE	+0.79
FAT	+0.024
\$M	+86
\$W	+66
\$F	+99
\$G	+50
\$B	+150
\$C	+281

Sire S A V Courage 3003 MGS Spring Cove Reno 4021

HA Incentive 5572



21422007	
CED	+0
BW	+3.0
WW	+94
YW	+168
MILK	+13
MARB	+0.21
RE	+0.61
FAT	+0.002
\$M	+32
\$W	+65
\$F	+95
\$G	+32
\$B	+127
\$C	+197

Sire HA Incentive L959 MGS HA Cowboy Kind 8157

HA PSI 5533



21421987	
CED	+6
BW	+1.5
WW	+91
YW	+160
MILK	+26
MARB	+0.57
RE	+0.98
FAT	+0.034
\$M	+72
\$W	+91
\$F	+135
\$G	+51
\$B	+187
\$C	+315

Sire HA PSI K031 MGS Deer Valley Growth Fund 3893

HA Badger 5652



21425162	
CED	+8
BW	+1.8
WW	+85
YW	+146
MILK	+15
MARB	+0.64
RE	+0.63
FAT	+0.046
\$M	+94
\$W	+73
\$F	+100
\$G	+50
\$B	+151
\$C	+290

Sire Baldrige Badger MGS Basin Payweight 1682



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