

# Western Livestock Journal®

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## INSIDE WLJ

**TWO-STEPPIN' ACROSS TEXAS** — The annual WLJ Livestock Tour just wrapped up an amazing week in Texas. In this week's issue, you'll find tour recaps, photos and even a special poem penned by a tour attendee.

**DAIRY POSITIVE** — Meat from a condemned dairy cow tests positive for avian flu as the disease continues to affect herds. Page 3

**A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY**  
"A combined effort between a Japanese and U.S. company led to the development of the world's first BSE-resistant cattle embryo. Given the fact that BSE is a non-contagious disease, the engineering of this cow will be more beneficial to human health than animal health, researchers said," read the June 7, 2004, WLJ article.

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## Navajo Nation signs water rights agreements

### — Could cost billions

The Navajo Nation has signed two historic agreements to secure water rights on the Colorado River in Arizona and Rio San José in New Mexico. Once enacted by Congress, these agreements could potentially cost the federal government billions of dollars.

The Nation's agreement in Arizona secures its share of water rights for all its claims in the state, including the Colorado River's upper and lower basins and the Little Colorado River Basin. If approved by Congress, it will secure funding for water infrastructure that will provide access to water for tens of thousands of homes in Navajo communities

across Arizona.

Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren said that after decades of waiting since the 1960s, the settlement is a monumental step in ensuring the Navajo Nation can provide water to its people.

Navajo Nation Council Speaker Crystalyne Curley introduced legislation to approve the Northeastern

Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement to the 25th Navajo Nation Council. Curley said that passing this historic bill has been a top priority for the council since taking office in January 2023. She thanked her colleagues, attorneys and numerous advocates who

**See NAVAJO WATER on page 7**



Wikimedia

The Navajo Nation has signed agreements to secure water rights on two major rivers. Pictured here, Lake Powell, a reservoir on the Colorado River that straddles the border between Utah and Arizona.

## Livestock Tour attendees two-step across Texas

The 2024 "Two-Steppin' Across Texas" Livestock Tour presented by WLJ wrapped up a successful week in the Lone Star State from May 19-25. The six-day tour drew 120 attendees from 16 states, providing a deep dive into the heart of Texas ranching and agriculture. This year's tour marked the first time the planning and implementation were handled by Devin and Samantha Murnin, who took the reins under the guidance of Pete Crow and Jerry York.

From the opening banquet to the concluding walk along the Alamo and San Antonio River Walk, the tour was a testament to the passion, hospitality and pride that define those involved in Texas agriculture. Despite the heat and humidity of south and southeastern Texas, attendees enjoyed a week of ranch visits,

local historical attractions and scenic drives across the countryside.

### Night 1

The tour kicked off on Sunday, May 19 with a banquet dinner at the host hotel in San Antonio, TX. Attendees enjoyed a steak dinner with all the fixings, a fitting start to what would be a week of great meals. One thing is for sure: attendees did not go hungry over the week!

Merrie Hathaway, the tour's longest-attending participant, was recognized, along with Ray Prock, who drove the farthest all the way from central California. The night set the tone for the camaraderie that would be shared over the week.

### Day 1

Monday began with a visit to

HeartBrand Beef, where attendees learned about their Akaushi cattle operation. HeartBrand Beef, which started in 1994, was the first to import Akaushi cattle into the U.S. from Japan. The ranch now manages around 3,000 cows and processes 400 head weekly. Their all-natural program emphasizes high marbling and superior beef quality.

After a quick stop at Blue Bell Creameries for an afternoon ice cream treat, the tour moved to Collier Farms, a registered Beefmaster operation. Spanning three counties, Collier Farms runs 800-1,000 head annually. The ranch chose the Beefmaster breed for its adaptability and maternal qualities, which thrives under the ranch's low-input management strategy.

**See WLJ TOUR on page 5**

## Farm bill advances out of House ag committee

### — Ag groups applaud move

The House Agriculture Committee moved forward on a 33-21 vote to advance the \$1.5 trillion farm bill to the House floor, where it will face a party-line fight.

The bill, House Resolution 8467, the "Farm, Food and National Security Act of 2024," garnered bipartisan support, passing with the backing of four Democrats. Reps. Don Davis (NC-01), Yadira Caraveo (CO-08), Eric Sorensen (IL-17) and Sanford Bishop (GA-02) joined 29 Republican members in supporting the bill.

"I want to commend Reps. Caraveo, Davis, Sorensen and Bishop for their willingness to see through the hyperbolic partisan rhetoric and help advance the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024," Rep. Glenn "G.T." Thompson (R-PA-15) said. "I heard my Democratic colleagues loud and clear at markup, that there is a whole lot of common

ground and a few sticking points that can be resolved through conversation and negotiation."

The committee blocked by a 25-29 vote Democrat amendments such as:

- The restoration of mandates directing Inflation Reduction Act conservation funds towards climate-smart practices.
- Maintaining the USDA secretary's control over the Commodity Credit Corporation.
- Reinstating \$27 billion in funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program over the next decade.
- Ensuring meatpackers with USDA contracts comply with child labor laws.

The committee approved 19 amendments offered by Thompson, including:

- Ordering the comptroller general to report on the use of

**See FARBILL on page 12**

## Market momentum slips after holiday weekend

Futures headed lower following the Memorial Day holiday, jolted by outside market factors. Slaughter numbers for the week reflect the holiday's impact, with one less day online.

Cattle futures traded sideways to lower over the week. The June contract lost 17 cents to close at \$183.52, and the August contract lost 87 cents to close at \$181.07.

"The live cattle complex hasn't been able to shake the news that China has blocked beef imports from the JBS Greeley, CO, plant as traces of ractopamine were found in meat from that plant," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her Thursday midday comments.

Cash trade through Thursday totaled less than 10,000 head. Live steers sold from \$186-190, and dressed steers sold from \$298-304.

Cash trade for the week ending May 26 was 67,936 head. Live steers averaged \$190.01, and dressed steers sold for an average of \$303.43.

"Normally, but not always as we learned in 2023, cash fed cattle prices and boxed beef prices weaken into summer," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef on Thursday. "Will the cash cattle and beef markets trap sideways again

this summer as it did last year or not?"

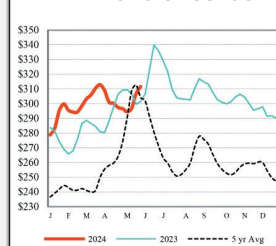
Slaughter through Thursday was projected at 375,000 head, about 111,000 head short from a week earlier due to the Memorial Day holiday. Total slaughter for a week earlier is estimated at 607,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending May 18 was 596,918 head. The average steer dressed weight was 921 lbs., 2 lbs. lower than the prior week.

"Normally, weights increase around 50 pounds from their spring low to their Q4 high but that would seem a stretch for this year," Fish said. "Or is the industry going to find out in 2024 just how big is too big?"

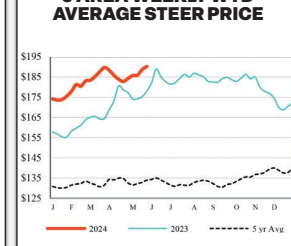
Boxed beef prices managed to climb higher following the holiday weekend.

**See MARKETS on page 9**

### WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT



### 5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE



↓	↓	↑
LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$190.00	\$298.00	\$249.28
WEEK ENDING: 05-30-24		

Time Sensitive  
Priority Handling  
**PERIODICAL:**

## COMMENTS

### Two-Steppin' Across Texas

The 2024 Livestock Tour presented by the *Western Livestock Journal* took place from Sunday, May 19 through Saturday, May 25. What a week we had in Texas! This year's Livestock Tour saw 120 attendees from 16 different states convene in Texas to traverse over 1,200 miles on three buses!



MURNIN

The geographical diversity was fascinating, and we were able to visit ranches with a variety of management techniques, a broad range of goals, multiple different species of livestock and so many great conversations that will be impossible to capture in this column.

The hospitality in Texas was second to none. Each stop along the tour was very gracious with their time and rolled out the red carpet for our group. I want to give a huge thank you to all 14 of our tour stops. No question went unanswered, and we left each stop feeling like old friends. Mr. Jim Williams from the V8 Ranch in Hungerford, TX, said it best when he welcomed the group. Paraphrasing Mr. Williams, he said he could tell right away when the group got off the buses that these were good people, his kind of people, who were interested in cattle and the ranching lifestyle.

Beyond the excellent stops during the week, the attendees of the tour deserve a lot of recognition as well. Spending a week with over 100 folks of similar interest results in life-long friendships being made. The group of attendees are all passionate about the ranching life. From multi-generational ranching families, to Saddle and Sirlain Club Portrait Gallery inductees, to livestock enthusiasts who do not own any livestock, the make-up of the groups is diverse yet focused. Many of the attendees have been on multiple tours. A special shoutout goes to the Rose family in Washington who had three generations on this year's tour! The Livestock Tour group often refers to themselves as a family and if you ever have been on a tour or get a chance to go on one in the future, you will see what I mean.

For those not familiar with the Livestock Tour, they began nearly 85 years ago when the *Western Livestock Journal* began touring ranches and looking at cattle that were for sale but not available at auction. Over the course of more than eight decades, the tour has transformed into what it is today. Sometimes referred to as "The University on Wheels," we strive to provide an enjoyable and informative week touring ranches and agricultural facilities. Lodging, transportation, the majority of meals, refreshments and details are all taken care of by our team. You simply get to show up and let us handle the rest. Our goal is to provide a memorable, enjoyable week of camaraderie, education, hospitality and fun.

Where else do you have the opportunity to see Akaushi, Angus, Beefmaster, Brahman, Brangus, Ultrablack, Hereford and diverse commercial cattle, along with goat ranching, racing Quarter Horses, ranch horses, working cur dogs and much more? Only on the Livestock Tour! Beyond the working ranches, we also got to hear from leading professors at Texas A&M University and saw the latest technology being used at Integrated Breeders and STgenetics. The tour stops at 44 Farms and Mound Creek Ranch were extremely memorable for each one's vision in their respective breeding programs and goals to impact the cattle herd through their genetic advancements. The diversification and generational legacy shared at Weinhiemer Ranch was extremely impactful to learn about. And seeing the value and opportunities created by Scarmardo Cattle Company through their order buying and cattle marketing business was eye-opening. I wish I could expand on all the tour stops, because there was valuable insight shared at each location.

A huge shoutout goes to Anna Miller, managing editor at *WLJ*, for all her efforts on social media. She provided daily updates through pictures and videos on Facebook and Instagram. You will also get a chance to read more about the tour and see some fun photos from the week in this issue. I would also be remiss if I didn't give credit to my wife, Samantha, for taking care of all the details. She made sure that nothing was overlooked, and that the week went off without a hitch. Thank you to the Crow family for starting the legacy of the Livestock Tours. Special thanks to Pete Crow and Jerry York who had been organizing the tours up until 2023.

We hope that you can join us in 2025. We promise that you will meet people and see things only available to the Livestock Tours crowd and become a member of the "Tour Family." If you're interested in future tours, watch for more information in the *Western Livestock Journal* and feel free to reach out to myself or Samantha. — **DEVIN MURNIN**



## KAY'S KORNER

### LIVE CATTLE PRICES DEFY ODDS

Cash live cattle prices continue to defy the odds that would appear to be stacked against them. Those odds include futures prices that are far below cash prices, a contra-seasonal increase in front-end cattle supplies and carcass weights that have declined far less than normal.

On a live cattle price basis, a five-area steer averaged \$182.67/cwt live or \$292.35/cwt dressed the week ended April 21. They have increased every week (five) since then and averaged \$190.09/cwt live or \$303.49/cwt dressed the week before last. Both prices were all-time record highs. Yet prices might have gone slightly higher last week. It is apparent that cattle are in strong hands and that cattle feeders are determined to get higher prices during the best two demand months of the year (May and June).

Meanwhile, I recently came across a fascinating report that said the global beef market in 2024 will be worth \$450.5 billion and its value is expected to reach \$645.6 billion by 2033, at a compound annual growth rate of 4.5% during the forecast period 2024-33. So says a new report from Custom Market Insights, a market research and advisory company. The global beef market is segmented by product type, distribution channel and region, says the report. The market is classified into loins, chucks, rounds, brisket ribs and others. Loins dominated the market in 2023 with a market share of 35% and are expected to keep their dominance during the forecast period. The beef industry is significantly impacted by consumer demand for multiple loin byproducts, which are essential components of the business. Sirloins, tenderloins and T-bone steaks fetch high rates due to their tenderness and flavor, says the report.

These high-value cuts increase profits for cattle ranchers and processors, says the report. Furthermore, loin trimmings and ground beef made from loin cuts are popular among consumers looking for low-cost, delicious solutions. Moreover, loin byproducts such as ribs and backbones are used in a variety of culinary applications, increasing the total flexibility and marketability of beef products. The demand for various loin byproducts varies according to customer tastes, culinary trends and economic circumstances, making them important drivers of the beef market's dynamics and profitability, says the report.

Rising consumer preference for protein intake is the first factor the report cites for the beef market's growth. The increasing consumer appetite for protein consumption is a major driver of the beef business. As consumers become more aware of the necessity of protein in a well-balanced diet, they seek

out high-quality protein sources such as beef. Beef is not only high in vital minerals such as iron, zinc and B vitamins but it also has a full amino acid profile required for muscle development and repair. The popularity of high-protein diets, fitness trends and the impression of beef as a satisfying and tasty protein source all add to its demand, says the report.

Beef's adaptability in many cultures and recipes also makes it a popular choice among consumers looking for healthful and enjoyable meals, says the report. The National Cattlemen's Beef Association, a contractor for the U.S. Beef Checkoff program, collects a wide range of consumer information about their attitudes and eating habits regarding beef. Interestingly, for the third year in a row, beef is listed in the top three proteins, whereas plant-based replacements and insect proteins score far below. Over 60% of consumers constantly see beef positively, with less than 15% viewing it negatively, says the report.

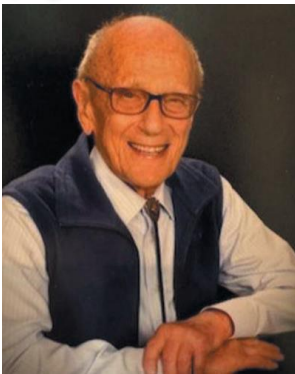
The increase in disposable income benefits the cattle industry in numerous ways, says the report. People tend to consume more high-quality protein sources such as beef due to its flavor and nutritional content. This increases the need for beef products. Customers with greater financial resources are more likely to purchase premium beef cuts and value-added goods, increasing beef producers' sales and earnings. Furthermore, increased disposable income is frequently associated with urbanization and lifestyle changes such as dining out and convenience food consumption, which fuels the popularity of beef-based meals and packaged beef products.

The rising popularity of internet channels has greatly increased sales in the frozen beef industry, says the report. Online platforms offer consumers easy access to a large range of frozen beef products, allowing them to purchase from the comfort of their own homes and quickly compare pricing. Furthermore, internet shops frequently provide coupons, sales and bulk buying opportunities, which appeal to price-conscious customers looking for good value for money. The convenience of accessing product descriptions, customer feedback and nutritional data online boosts consumer trust in buying frozen beef products. Moreover, the worldwide accessibility of internet platforms allows consumers to obtain niche or imported beef items that may not be available in local brick-and-mortar retailers, says the report. — **Steve Kay, WLJ columnist**

(Steve Kay is editor/publisher of *Cattle Buyers Weekly*, an industry newsletter published at P.O. Box 2533, Petaluma, CA, 94953; 707-765-1725. Kay's Korner appears exclusively in *WLJ*.)



## OBITUARY



### Craig Rowan; 1923-2024

Craig Rowan, 100, was born Sept. 24, 1923, in New York City, NY, and died May 17 in Boise, ID. Craig graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont and from the Veterinary School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Following graduation, he started his mixed animal veterinary practice in Weiser, ID. He retired from that practice in Weiser after 55 years to provide veterinary services for Simplot Company's cattle business until he was 95. Craig was passionate about his work. He received several awards from Idaho and nationally for outstanding medical innovations and achievements in his field.

Craig married his wonderful wife, Tensie (Hortense) Ford, a veterinary graduate from Cornell University (New York) in Weiser on July 19, 1953.

They practiced together for nine years until their growing family of six children, including one daughter (Peggy) who suffered severe brain damage immediately following her birth, dictated that it was more important for her to be a full-time homemaker.

Above all, Craig was devoted to his family. He and Tensie took multiple and very memorable cross-country driving trips with their young family visiting all of the states, except Hawaii. Craig enjoyed spending time with his family at Tensie's family's rustic log cabin on Payette Lake in McCall where the kids learned to water ski and explore nature. At one point, Craig decided it would be a great idea to introduce the family to snow skiing. As a result, the entire family started ski lessons on the same day. To help facilitate the family skiing adventure, Craig was involved with launching and building the ski lift at Hitt Mountain near Cambridge. When the family outgrew that mountain, the family made many trips to Brundage Mountain in McCall and Sun Valley.

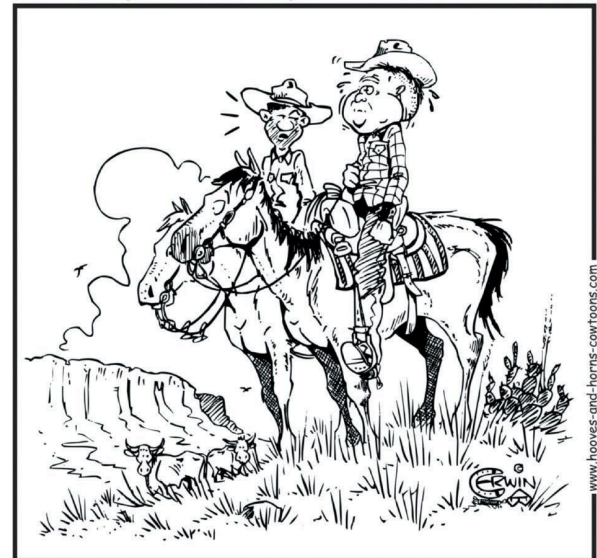
At their small ranch in Weiser, Craig and his family raised beef cattle, milk cows, sheep, hogs, and chickens, and various other animals both common and uncommon. Craig and Tensie loved animals and believed caring for the animals instilled in their kids a strong work ethic and important lessons in responsibility. Caring for the animals also gave the kids an opportunity to participate in 4-H programs with their animals. The family enjoyed

horseback riding, hunting, and riding and racing dirt bikes on the property and around the Pacific Northwest.

Craig lived a full and rewarding life. He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Tensie; youngest son, Bruce; and brother, Roy Rowan and sister-in-law Helen Rowan of Greenwich, CT.

He is survived by his five other children, Ron (Ann) Rowan of Baker City, OR; Barry (Linda) Rowan of Steamboat Springs, CO; Paul (Becky) Rowan of Boise, ID; Ann (Rob) Whyte of Paradise Valley, AZ; and Margaret (Peggy) Rowan of Meridian, ID; and eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

### HOOVES & HORNS BY A.W. ERWIN



"Have yew tried usin' an Antihistamine Decongestant?"

**Letters to the editor:** Letters for publication must be no longer than 675 words, must refer to an article that has appeared within the month, and must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published. Letters may be shortened for space requirements. Send a letter to the editor by emailing [editorial@wlj.net](mailto:editorial@wlj.net) or mailing it to Western Livestock Journal, Attn: Editorial Dept., 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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## THE VIEWPOINT

with Jean Barton

This exclusive column found only in WLJ features unique perspectives from some of the nation's top producers, marketers, animal health experts, economists and more.

Jean Barton has strong roots in Red Bluff, CA, with a rich family ranch history spanning back more than a century. Jean has traveled worldwide in pursuit of learning more about agriculture and promoting the beef industry. As part of her passion for travel, Jean has been a loyal attendee of the Livestock Tours presented by WLJ since the late 1980s.

### Red Bluff roots

Jean's great-grandfather came to Red Bluff in 1874. At the time, sheep were a popular choice in Northern California because they provided a dual income between wool and lamb, Jean told WLJ. In 1942, Jean's dad wanted to get into the cattle business, so he purchased a set of commercial Hereford cattle to begin the family's cattle ranching legacy. Jean attended the University of California, Davis, where she enrolled in the animal husbandry program and graduated with a home economics degree. At the time, of the 1,700 students, only 400 were women.

In 1951, Jean had the opportunity to become a foreign exchange student with the 4-H-sponsored International Farm Youth Exchange. She traveled to New Zealand over the course of 21 days on a



Anna Miller  
Lee Hall (far left) and Jean Barton (far right) with Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Gallery inductees Bob Hall and Jim Williams while on the 2024 "Two-Steppin' Across Texas" Livestock Tour.

ship, until she reached Auckland on Aug. 21, 1951. Over the next seven months, Jean lived with 28 farm families.

"It was a wonderful experience with these different farms," Jean said. "It was a different life."

After she graduated from college, Jean met her late husband, Bill, at a livestock show while he oversaw the show cattle for Emerald Angus in Elk Grove, CA. Their first date at an Angus banquet during Cow Palace was the start of a 55-year-long marriage that blessed them with two daughters and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Emerald Angus ranch dispersed in 1961, which led Bill to become the foreman at Jack's Valley Ranch in Carson City, NV, for five years. Shortly after, Jean and Bill moved back to Red Bluff to form the Willard and Barton Ranch with Jean's parents. Jean and Bill grazed cattle for many years in Lassen County on U.S. Forest Service lands on Eagle Lake.

But, Jean said, soon enough, "The tourists became more important than cows," and grazing as permittees was no longer possible. In 2005, Jean and Bill stopped grazing their cattle in the

mountains and instead fed hay in Red Bluff.

"I miss going to the mountains, but I really don't because our cabin was 100 years old or so," Jean said with a laugh.

### Tour memories

In 1988, Jean and Bill finally had the chance to attend their first Livestock Tour in New Mexico. They left the ranch in Tehama County to visit the Herefords and windmills of the scenic northeast New Mexico countryside. Over the years, the couple continued to enjoy the tours together until Bill's passing in 2012.

Since then, Jean has carried on the tradition of traveling. In recent years, Jean has traveled on the tours with her daughters, Linda Borrer and Kendra McCluskey. This year, Linda's husband, Kevin, even joined the tour, adding another family member to the tradition.

"You learn so much on

these tours," Jean said. "And you meet so many fascinating people." One of those individuals included New Mexico rancher Linda Davis, with whom Jean maintained a friendship for many years until Linda's passing earlier this year.

One of the tours that stuck out the most to Jean took place in Arkansas, when attendees could see an egg hatchery.

"That was fantastic," Jean said. "So different. That's something you don't see in Red Bluff."

Other tour memory highlights include seeing historical and natural attractions like Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon and the Alamo.

When she's not traveling and taking notes in her notebook for her weekly column in the Red Bluff Daily, Jean stays busy and active in the industry. She is involved in cattlemen groups from the local to the national level and has served in several leadership positions. Late last year, Jean was awarded the California Cattlemen's Association's 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award "for a lifetime of commitment and service to the California cattle industry."

Jean's steadfast involvement and passion over the years continue to inspire those around her in the agricultural community. — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor

## Avian influenza continues affecting dairy herds

Meat from a condemned dairy cow recently tested positive for H5N1 avian influenza as more dairy farms continue testing positive for the virus as well.

USDA's Food Safety Inspection System (FSIS) reported on May 24 that viral particles were found in tissue samples of one out of 96 cows that were tested. Each of the cows tested were condemned and thus prohibited from entering the food supply.

FSIS staff identified signs of illness in the positive

cow during a post-mortem inspection and prevented the animal from entering the food supply. "These actions provide further confidence that the food safety system we have in place is working," USDA stated.

USDA continues reporting more herd infections; 12 dairy herds tested positive from May 20-24, which included four herds in Michigan, three in South Dakota, two in Colorado and Idaho, and one in Texas.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and

Rural Development now reports 21 dairy herds have been infected with the virus across 10 counties.

Since late March, 63 dairy herds nationally have had confirmed cases of H5N1 across nine states.

Reuters reported that the U.S. and Europe are looking to develop H5N1 vaccines that could be used to help protect dairy and poultry workers. The U.S. has had two human cases since April, one involving a dairy worker in Texas and another involving a dairy worker in Michigan.

The Centers for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota as well as the National Institutes of Health also cited a New England Journal of Medicine report that mice fed raw milk infected with H5N1 "quickly became ill, with high virus levels in their respiratory tissues."

Since the beginning of the outbreak, officials from federal agencies have stressed the risks of drinking raw milk. — Chris Clayton, DTN ag policy editor

## Are we on the brink of a new trade war with China?

The Biden administration recently announced large, increased tariff rates for Chinese electric vehicles, solar cells, semiconductors, and aluminum and steel products. This raises the possibility of another trade war with China that could impact agriculture.

Economists from the University of California (UC), Davis, and North Dakota State University (NDSU) evaluated the potential implications of the U.S. revoking China's Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) status. They found that if China retaliated against a change in China's PNTR status, it could lead to a 9.5% increase in China's agricultural import tariffs, resulting in potential trade losses to California agriculture of around \$1 billion annually.

California agriculture was hit hard by the 2018-19 trade war with China, and many industries have still not recovered from its effects. Despite this, there is increasing support in Congress for further restrictions on trade with China, with proponents asserting that China is not complying with the World Trade Organization's regulations.

The authors' research suggests that some product groups, such as horticultural products, dairy, livestock and meats, would likely experience even steeper than average increases in import tariffs. "The impact on import tar-

iffs for non-agricultural sectors would be even larger, with the average import tariff going up from 3.9% to 32.5%," said Colin A. Carter, distinguished professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Davis and co-author of the study.

For all California agricultural exports, they estimated an average decline in export value between 28.4% and 34.8% when comparing a scenario where China's PNTR status is revoked to one where it is not. This translates into an estimated trade loss of between \$0.8 and \$1 billion, using 2023 California agricultural exports.

Some crops that rely heavily on China for exports, such as tree nuts, would be more severely impacted by these effects, particularly considering that some of them are still subjected to residual tariffs from the 2018-19 trade war.

The last trade war between the U.S. and China led to significant decreases in crop prices and lost export opportunities. And, as co-author Sandro Steinbach, associate professor in the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics and the Director of the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies at NDSU notes, "Once access to a market is lost, gaining it back is difficult, as the 2018-19 trade war has shown." — Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics

# FORT RANCH

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**Stylish Fever Prom**  
Playboys Buck Fever x Telenastyle

**Frank VanderSloot**  
2880 North 55 West  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
208-528-6635

**Mitch Jacobs**  
2496 North 2375 East  
Hamer, ID 83425  
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### Dams include own daughters of:

Bobalena Bob  
Bodee Boonsmal  
Cat Ichi  
CD Lights  
Dual Rey  
Gun Goes Boon  
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Metallic Cat

Mr Peppy Olena  
Mr Skyline Peppy  
One Time Pepto  
Playdox  
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## THE VIEWPOINT

with Jean Barton

This exclusive column found only in WLJ features unique perspectives from some of the nation's top producers, marketers, animal health experts, economists and more.

Jean Barton has strong roots in Red Bluff, CA, with a rich family ranch history spanning back more than a century. Jean has traveled worldwide in pursuit of learning more about agriculture and promoting the beef industry. As part of her passion for travel, Jean has been a loyal attendee of the Livestock Tours presented by WLJ since the late 1980s.

### Red Bluff roots

Jean's great-grandfather came to Red Bluff in 1874. At the time, sheep were a popular choice in Northern California because they provided a dual income between wool and lamb, Jean told WLJ. In 1942, Jean's dad wanted to get into the cattle business, so he purchased a set of commercial Hereford cattle to begin the family's cattle ranching legacy. Jean attended the University of California, Davis, where she enrolled in the animal husbandry program and graduated with a home economics degree. At the time, of the 1,700 students, only 400 were women.

In 1951, Jean had the opportunity to become a foreign exchange student with the 4-H-sponsored International Farm Youth Exchange. She traveled to New Zealand over the course of 21 days on a



Anna Miller  
Lee Hall (far left) and Jean Barton (far right) with Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Gallery inductees Bob Hall and Jim Williams while on the 2024 "Two-Steppin' Across Texas" Livestock Tour.

ship, until she reached Auckland on Aug. 21, 1951. Over the next seven months, Jean lived with 28 farm families.

"It was a wonderful experience with these different farms," Jean said. "It was a different life."

After she graduated from college, Jean met her late husband, Bill, at a livestock show while he oversaw the show cattle for Emerald Angus in Elk Grove, CA. Their first date at an Angus banquet during Cow Palace was the start of a 55-year-long marriage that blessed them with two daughters and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Emerald Angus ranch dispersed in 1961, which led Bill to become the foreman at Jack's Valley Ranch in Carson City, NV, for five years. Shortly after, Jean and Bill moved back to Red Bluff to form the Willard and Barton Ranch with Jean's parents. Jean and Bill grazed cattle for many years in Lassen County on U.S. Forest Service lands on Eagle Lake.

But, Jean said, soon enough, "The tourists became more important than cows," and grazing as permittees was no longer possible. In 2005, Jean and Bill stopped grazing their cattle in the

mountains and instead fed hay in Red Bluff.

"I miss going to the mountains, but I really don't because our cabin was 100 years old or so," Jean said with a laugh.

### Tour memories

In 1988, Jean and Bill finally had the chance to attend their first Livestock Tour in New Mexico. They left the ranch in Tehama County to visit the Herefords and windmills of the scenic northeast New Mexico countryside. Over the years, the couple continued to enjoy the tours together until Bill's passing in 2012.

Since then, Jean has carried on the tradition of traveling. In recent years, Jean has traveled on the tours with her daughters, Linda Borrer and Kendra McCluskey. This year, Linda's husband, Kevin, even joined the tour, adding another family member to the tradition.

"You learn so much on

these tours," Jean said. "And you meet so many fascinating people." One of those individuals included New Mexico rancher Linda Davis, with whom Jean maintained a friendship for many years until Linda's passing earlier this year.

One of the tours that stuck out the most to Jean took place in Arkansas, when attendees could see an egg hatchery.

"That was fantastic," Jean said. "So different. That's something you don't see in Red Bluff."

Other tour memory highlights include seeing historical and natural attractions like Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon and the Alamo.

When she's not traveling and taking notes in her notebook for her weekly column in the Red Bluff Daily, Jean stays busy and active in the industry. She is involved in cattlemen groups from the local to the national level and has served in several leadership positions. Late last year, Jean was awarded the California Cattlemen's Association's 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award "for a lifetime of commitment and service to the California cattle industry."

Jean's steadfast involvement and passion over the years continue to inspire those around her in the agricultural community. — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor

## Avian influenza continues affecting dairy herds

Meat from a condemned dairy cow recently tested positive for H5N1 avian influenza as more dairy farms continue testing positive for the virus as well.

USDA's Food Safety Inspection System (FSIS) reported on May 24 that viral particles were found in tissue samples of one out of 96 cows that were tested. Each of the cows tested were condemned and thus prohibited from entering the food supply.

FSIS staff identified signs of illness in the positive

cow during a post-mortem inspection and prevented the animal from entering the food supply. "These actions provide further confidence that the food safety system we have in place is working," USDA stated.

USDA continues reporting more herd infections; 12 dairy herds tested positive from May 20-24, which included four herds in Michigan, three in South Dakota, two in Colorado and Idaho, and one in Texas.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and

Rural Development now reports 21 dairy herds have been infected with the virus across 10 counties.

Since late March, 63 dairy herds nationally have had confirmed cases of H5N1 across nine states.

Reuters reported that the U.S. and Europe are looking to develop H5N1 vaccines that could be used to help protect dairy and poultry workers. The U.S. has had two human cases since April, one involving a dairy worker in Texas and another involving a dairy worker in Michigan.

The Centers for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota as well as the National Institutes of Health also cited a New England Journal of Medicine report that mice fed raw milk infected with H5N1 "quickly became ill, with high virus levels in their respiratory tissues."

Since the beginning of the outbreak, officials from federal agencies have stressed the risks of drinking raw milk. — Chris Clayton, DTN ag policy editor

## Are we on the brink of a new trade war with China?

The Biden administration recently announced large, increased tariff rates for Chinese electric vehicles, solar cells, semiconductors, and aluminum and steel products. This raises the possibility of another trade war with China that could impact agriculture.

Economists from the University of California (UC), Davis, and North Dakota State University (NDSU) evaluated the potential implications of the U.S. revoking China's Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) status. They found that if China retaliated against a change in China's PNTR status, it could lead to a 9.5% increase in China's agricultural import tariffs, resulting in potential trade losses to California agriculture of around \$1 billion annually.

California agriculture was hit hard by the 2018-19 trade war with China, and many industries have still not recovered from its effects. Despite this, there is increasing support in Congress for further restrictions on trade with China, with proponents asserting that China is not complying with the World Trade Organization's regulations.

The authors' research suggests that some product groups, such as horticultural products, dairy, livestock and meats, would likely experience even steeper than average increases in import tariffs. "The impact on import tar-

iffs for non-agricultural sectors would be even larger, with the average import tariff going up from 3.9% to 32.5%," said Colin A. Carter, distinguished professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Davis and co-author of the study.

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**Livestock Tours**  **Two-Steppin' Across Texas**  
 PRESENTED BY **Western Livestock Journal.** **May 19-25, 2024**



Tour attendees gathered outside of 44 Farms in Cameron, TX.



A Brahman cow-calf-pair at V8 Ranch in Boling, TX.

### Day 1

HeartBrand Cattle  
 Blue Bell Creameries  
 Collier Farms



A mount of the first Akaushi born in the U.S. at HeartBrand Cattle in Harwood, TX.

### Day 2

Scarmardo Cattle Co.  
 44 Farms  
 Granada Farms



Tour attendees gather around for a presentation at Scarmardo Cattle Co. in Caldwell, TX.

### Day 3

Integrated Breeders  
 Brewer Land & Cattle  
 Mound Creek Ranch



Tour attendees at Integrated Breeders Service in Hearne, TX.



A patriotic display at Blue Bell Creameries in Brenham, TX.



First-time tour attendees Rokelle Reeve, LaRene Layton and Steve Layton from Utah and Arizona at 44 Farms in Cameron, TX.



Cattle at Brewer Land and Cattle in Oakwood, TX.



First-time tour attendees Yolanda and Gregg Gibbons from Tucson, AZ.



Foals out on pasture at Granada Farms in Wheelock, TX.



Californian siblings Sandy Williams, Terri Beam, Toni Renz and Peter Caputo with Shelly Barrett at Mound Creek Ranch.

### Day 4: Texas A&M Beef Center, STgenetics



Attendees at the Texas A&M Beef Center in College Station, TX.



A cattle handling demonstration at A&M with Dr. Ron Gill.



Ray Page from Orland, CA, and Norma Hapgood from Lake City, CA, with fellow attendees at STgenetics in Navasota, TX.

# Livestock Tours

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Folks out on pasture at Granada Farms in Wheelock, TX.

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## Two-Steppin' Across Texas May 19-25, 2024

### Tours offer something for everyone

#### WLJ TOUR (from page 1)

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The tour then visited 44 Farms, known for its Angus genetics. The ranch produces around 2,000 bulls annually, in addition to procuring 240,000 head of cattle a year for Walmart's beef supply. 44 Farms' Prime Pursuits buy-back program under the McClaren Farms program supplies a steady flow of Angus beef to over 565 Walmart stores across the southeastern U.S. The ranch also emphasizes performance tracking through its Prime Intelligence program, which tracks metrics and provides reports back to producers.

The day ended at Granada Farms' racehorse breeding facility, where tour attendees were able to view horses in the stallion barn and witness some of the mare-foal pairs out on pasture. The facility offers a comprehensive service for clients to bring their mares to be bred, foaled out and the foals sold as yearlings. Prominent stallions were out on display, including One Famous Eagle, which is the all-time leading first-crop sire in history.

##### Day 3

Wednesday's morning began with an unexpected adventure for one of the bus drivers, who found himself stuck in the hotel elevator, adding a bit of humor to the day. The day's visits showcased the innovation in cattle breeding at both the ranch level and the commercial level.

The morning's first stop at Integrated Breeders Service gave an insight into the company's range of reproductive services, which includes semen collection and storage, AI and embryo transfer. A tour of the facilities gave attendees a chance to view the semen storage areas and learn more about the collection process. The company isn't limited to bull semen collection—they also offer services for horses, goats,

sheep, dogs and deer.

At Brewer Land and Cattle, the ranch utilizes Brahman genetics with Angus bulls. About 75% of the ranch's bulls come from 44 Farms, and most calves are sold back to the Prime Pursuits program. Vulture predation is a problem on the ranch and is mitigated by retaining horns on Brahman cows. With storms this year already delivering 40 of the expected 44 inches of annual rainfall, attendees witnessed the green pastures of the sprawling ranch.

Then it was onto Mound Creek Ranch, which got its start in the seedstock Brangus business in 1988. Owner Eddie Blazek and herd manager Tracy Holbert provided insights into the breed and the ranch's emphasis on the cow in the herd. As Blazek noted, "The strength of the Brangus cow herd is the cow that built it." Attendees were treated to 16-oz. rib-eye steaks and cobbler for dinner and received the true East Texas experience on the drive back to the hotel, with a big storm passing through.

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Three generations of the Rose family from Washington. (L-R) Shaun, Janie, Bob, Robyn, Jim, Brett and Drew Rose.

##### Day 5

Friday featured a visit to V8 Ranch, renowned for its Brahman cattle. Jim Williams, 2024 Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Gallery inductee, shared the ranch's rich history and led tour attendees on a tour of the ranch. With 400 Brahmans and 2,000 commercial Brahman cross cows, V8 Ranch exports cattle to 46 different countries. One of the ranch's biggest challenges is urban sprawl from Houston, which creeps closer every day.

The day concluded at the Luling Foundation, established in 1927 to teach diversity in agriculture and improve ranching families' lives in nearby counties. Bodey Langford, owner of Langford Angus and an active leader in the foundation, was set to host attendees at his ranch, but unfortunately a tornado hit the ranch shortly before the tour came to Texas. Langford and manager Mike Kuck shared the foundation's role in supporting the commercial cattleman and promoting agricultural literacy.

##### Day 6

The final day of the tour concluded with a visit to Weinhiemer Ranch, a family operation dating back to the late 1800s. The ranch is still family operated 146 years later and focuses on raising Hereford cattle in addition to Spanish goats. The family also raises Jacobs sheep, which have four horns growing in different directions, for the hunting market. The ranch is a true testament to adapting to a changing market amid decreasing cattle numbers in south Texas.

Attendees then headed to Luckenbach, TX, a place that may sound familiar if you are a Waylon Jennings or Willie Nelson fan. Attendees enjoyed lunch in the outdoor dancehall and even had a chance to sing in Luckenbach as it was attendee Kit Simmie's birthday! The tour finished up back in San Antonio, where attendees braved the 110-plus F temperatures to tour the historic

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#### V8 Ranch Luling Foundation

Alamo and enjoy a stroll along the San Antonio River Walk.



A Brahman at V8 Ranch in Boling, TX.

#### Reflections

The Livestock Tour is a great opportunity for seasoned attendees and new travelers alike to explore agriculture away from home. This year, tour attendees included the third-generation Rose family from Washington. The matriarch and patriarch of the family, Janie and Bob Rose, have been loyal tour attendees for 22 tours. This year, son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Robyn, joined along with grandsons Shaun, Brett and Drew.

Drew is credited with posing the idea to join the grandparents on the tour after hearing so many stories about their tour travels over the years. This year's tour lived up to past stories, and the family enjoyed experiencing the Texas countryside and especially noted the connections and ideas they discovered along the way. Some of the tour stops lent



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A presentation given at the Luling Foundation in Luling, TX.

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From state-of-the-art reproductive technologies to time-honored breeding practices, the tour highlighted the diverse approaches that allow beef and cattle industry to thrive in Texas. Stay tuned for more details about next year's tour! — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor



Spanish goats at the Weinhiemer Ranch in Stonewall, TX.



The old post office in Luckenbach, TX.



Robert and Kathleen Buchanan from Klamath Falls, OR, in Luckenbach, TX.



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**Two-Steppin' Across Texas**  
May 19-25, 2024

## Two-Steppin' Across Texas

By Zeke Frost, tour attendee from Happy, TX

The pioneers gathered in San Antonio  
It was really HOT, wouldn't you know.

The men sat down to watch the horse race  
Some women went to the Plaza, the shoppin'  
place.

Rebecca took her wagon and didn't hit a rut  
And that is when she got her Indian name,  
"Buzzer Butt."

Day 2, we loaded the wagons and headed to  
HeartBrand Cattle

Where the Beeman family put the Akaushi  
breed in the saddle.  
The breed they picked was not a flop  
The Akaushi cattle put the family on top.

After a great lunch, wagons headed south  
To the Blue Bell Creameries to fill up our mouth.

Onward now to Collier Farms we ventured  
Where the Beefmaster cattle were not  
censored.

The animals we saw in the pen  
Would give any ranch a win, win.

Back on the wagons and off we went  
To find a bed, but not in a tent.  
Some of the settlers went to chow down  
And 21/2 hours later they left with a big frown.

Scarmardo Cattle was first stop of the day  
Their lives are spent buying animals in a big  
way.

80 auctions they travel each and every week  
It is a family endeavor and is mighty sweet.

Back on the wagons we headed down the road  
To 44 Farms, where genetics and God helped  
them grow.

The lunch they served was mighty neat  
And the cake was oh so sweet.

Granada Farms was just down the trail

The ponies we saw were really swell.  
The big bosses are Pete Scarmardo and Johnny  
Trotter  
But you could see real quick the horses were  
not trotters.

Jerry said there was on that stood out  
It was One Famous Eagle he would bet on, no  
doubt.

The day was over and we headed back to town  
At the Dixie Chicken, there were very few Aggies  
to be found.

Everybody enjoyed a bite for the morning meal  
There Mike stood in the elevators, as they stood  
still.

Integrated Breeders was first stop of the day  
Lots of bulls and their straws were on display.

Brewer Land and Cattle, with Angus genetics  
their forte  
Spanned many acres of Texas along the way.

Mound Creek Ranch was up on the hill  
Brangus cattle is what gives them a big thrill.  
Their sale facility was really something to see  
The steaks we ate were big, and tasty to me.

With strong storms headed in, we were in a  
hurry to leave  
The margaritas we had lifted our spirits, and  
we left with glee.

Back at the hotel to get some shut-eye  
A good night's sleep should make us feel spry.

Day 5, we went back to school  
Texas A & M University was mighty cool.  
The instructors did what they said  
They put lots of science-based knowledge in  
our head.

ST Genetics was next on the trail  
Livestock genetics they taught us and did not

fail.  
The tools they use make ranchers' lives better  
But they've got to do it right to the letter.

On the way back to camp, we went by Kyle Field  
Then we did find out a pickup they really did  
steal.

The sixth day started off with not a lot of charm  
The people on floors 1, 2 and 3 woke up to the  
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V8 Ranch with Brahms, what a site  
All except that one that wanted to fight.  
The Brahman cattle brought lots of wows  
The magic they will tell you, is in the cows.

The Langford Cattle Co. was the next stop for  
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But it did not happen due to a tornado that blew  
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As we ate BBQ, we endured a temperature that  
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Day 7 the wagons headed north for such a  
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The Weinheimer Ranch history was so  
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Herefords were the main stay through the years  
Then came the Spanish goats, that's where they  
broke out the beers.

Off to Luckenbach to eat and have a brew  
Willie was not there, so we had a few.

Back to the home base in San Antonio  
To walk about the river and to see the Alamo.

Now we are finished Two-Steppin' Across Texas  
Thank you, Sam, Devin & W/L, y'all sure did  
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**Two-Steppin' Across Texas**  
May 19-25, 2024

## Two-Steppin' Across Texas

By Zeke Frost, tour attendee from Happy, TX

The pioneers gathered in San Antonio  
It was really HOT, wouldn't you know.

The men sat down to watch the horse race  
Some women went to the Plaza, the shoppin'  
place.

Rebecca took her wagon and didn't hit a rut  
And that is when she got her Indian name,  
"Buzzer Butt."

Day 2, we loaded the wagons and headed to  
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Where the Beeman family put the Akaushi  
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spring and an animal's overall wellbeing. A Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) expert

said despite their importance, trace mineral imbalances are easy to overlook—at least until a health issue occurs.

As Texas transitions into the summer season, the available nutrition and supplementation that was sufficient for livestock a few months ago may now be lacking. Brandon Dominguez, DVM, veterinary services section head at TVMDL, shares the importance of nutritional assessments and how livestock producers can mitigate future issues through diagnostic testing.

and production.”

## Signs of a mineral imbalance

Producers should consider testing animals for trace mineral imbalances if they begin to experience production problems, such as poor reproductive performance. Testing may also be considered when animals display clinical signs with no obvious infectious cause or if signs start after a change in feed.

“These minerals are parts of enzymes and molecules that the body needs. They help with oxygen transport and activate various metabolic pathways,” Dominguez said.

“When there is an imbalance, you can see a variety of symptoms. With a copper deficiency, for example, we may see a lightening or graying of the hair coat in cattle. Low copper levels can affect immunity and cause poor growth and reproductive performance. In sheep, low copper levels can cause lambs to experience spinal development issues and ultimately swayback, where the hind legs are paralyzed or limited in motion.”

Though many health conditions are associated with a deficiency in trace minerals, he said some can also be caused by an excess.

“Molybdenum doesn't have any known effects when it's

deficient. However, in excess, it can cause diarrhea, decreased growth, anemia and stiff-gaited lameness,” Dominguez said. “It also affects the hair, causing a loss of pigmentation; in wool sheep, it may cause a steely feeling wool.”

TVMDL can perform a panel test for all seven minerals at once or test for each mineral individually.

“The benefit of testing through the panel is that the minerals interact with each other,” Dominguez said. “If one is out of the normal range, it could be causing signs as if another mineral is out of range.”

TVMDL accepts various sample types, such as blood and serum, liver biopsies and feed. Testing can also be performed for a herd or an individual animal. For herd testing, Dominguez recommends sampling at least 10-15 animals to represent the herd's overall status.

Livestock producers interested in testing for mineral imbalances should consult their local vet first. Veterinarians can provide additional insight and provide treatment options if a mineral imbalance isn't the cause of clinical signs.

For more information on livestock test offerings, visit [tvmdl.tamu.edu](http://tvmdl.tamu.edu) or call the diagnostic labs in College Station at 979-845-3414 or Canyon at 806-651-7478. — **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**

## Tribe water settlement expected to cost \$243M

### NAVAJO WATER

(from page 1)

helped negotiate the settlement.

“This is a great day for the Navajo people!” Curley said. “This settlement prioritizes the need to provide essential water infrastructure to Navajo families and communities and provides the Nation an opportunity for growth and economic prosperity.”

The settlement involves 17 parties, including the U.S., the state of Arizona, and the Hopi and San Juan Southern Paiute tribes. Under the agreement, the Navajo Nation will receive a significant portion of Arizona's allocation of Colorado River Upper Basin water, some Lower Basin water, all groundwater beneath the Navajo Nation, and all surface water from the Little Colorado River that reaches the Navajo reservation.

Navajo Nation Attorney General Ethel Branch highlighted the settlement's importance for the long-term sustainability of the Navajo people. She noted that the agreement ensures water availability to support life on Navajo lands for the next century.

“If authorized and funded by Congress, this settlement will provide billions of dollars'

worth of water infrastructure and development for Navajo communities in Arizona,” Branch said in a statement. “The settlement offers the Navajo Nation an opportunity for growth and economic prosperity, and a pathway home for our children, our grandchildren and generations yet to come.”

According to the Associated Press, the Navajo, Hopi and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribes are seeking over \$5 billion as part of their settlement. Approximately \$1.75 billion would fund a pipeline from Lake Powell.

Separately, the Navajo Nation signed an agreement regarding water rights claims in the Rio San José stream system and the Rio Puerco Basin in New Mexico. The settlement agreement serves as an addendum to a larger agreement involving the Pueblo of Acoma and the Pueblo of Laguna.

According to the press release, the settlement is expected to cost \$243 million and will fund essential infrastructure for water delivery to several rural Navajo communities in New Mexico. The funding will be allocated for wastewater development, chlorination stations, water hauling stations, an operation and maintenance trust fund, a regional

water system for importing water, and a water acquisition fund.

The settlement will directly impact nine Navajo communities within the Rio San José Basin, many of whom have no running water and have relied on water deliveries.

“This Rio San José Water Rights Settlement legislation represents hope and vital resources for the Navajo communities in New Mexico,” Nygren said. “I urge Congress to act swiftly on the settlement. It's more than just water. It's about health, sustainability and the future of our people. We look to our allies in Congress to help make this a reality.”

There is a water rights settlement hearing in June for the House Natural Resources Committee before Congress adjourns, and it is imperative that the agreements be approved, Branch said.

At the water rights signing ceremony, Curley said the Nation will take their fight to Congress for their water rights “not only for our ancestors, but for future generations.” Curley urged federal and state leaders to support their voices and move the agreements for the president's signature. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**

## How to make the most of grazing summer grasses

Pastures can be thought of in the same light as bank accounts. If an account holder withdraws a lot of money early in the year, then they're left with nothing to spend on essential things down the line.

Beef producers who manage their pastureland in the same way can face similar repercussions.

Kansas State (K-State) University veterinarians spoke about summer grazing management techniques that can keep pastures “in the black” on a recent episode of the “Cattle Chat” podcast.

“When we have cool-season grasses right now, they should be doing pretty well in most parts of the country and are very productive. Our warm-season grasses, depending on where you are, maybe haven't quite come on yet,” K-State veterinarian Brad White said. “We need to think about our plan because both of those types of grasses have what are called dry spells where they're less productive.”

K-State nutritionist Phillip Lancaster suggests introducing annual warm-season

grasses to help balance out a pasture's nutritional value when cool-season plants start to decline.

“Adding some annual warm-season forages to your grazing land rotation can be very beneficial so that you get something that is peaking in production when cool-season grasses are slowing down because of the heat,” he said.

Lancaster added: “When we get into the July and August timeframe, the cool-season grasses are not able to tolerate the heat, so their productivity slows way down.”

After cattle have grazed down cool-season plants, planting warm-season grasses like sorghum-sudangrass, pearl millet or crabgrass straight into those pastures, or overseeding, serves as a great option for grazing cattle, according to Lancaster.

“Crabgrass is actually a very good (plant) that doesn't have the potential to introduce some of the animal health problems that sorghum-sudangrass can with nitrate toxicity, but those are still some good options as we're thinking about planting.”

For producers who employ a rotational grazing plan, frequently monitoring the growth of the plants within a pasture plays a key part in keeping grass in good condition.

“As you're rotating to new pastures, paying attention to previously grazed pastures and how they are recovering and regrowing can kind of tell you how fast you need to rotate animals to maintain that plant in kind of a vegetative state,” Lancaster said.

White agreed and added: “In terms of your pasture movement, some of those things need to be sped up or slowed down based on conditions. There's no static.”

To capture the full benefits of grazing the cool-season plants within a pasture, it's important they stay immature for as long as possible.

“One of our goals in some of these cool-season forage systems is to try to minimize that plant going into a reproductive stage,” Lancaster said.

White added: “So, keep it from going to seed and getting ‘stemmy.’” — **K-State Research and Extension**



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worth of water infrastructure and development for Navajo communities in Arizona,” Branch said in a statement. “The settlement offers the Navajo Nation an opportunity for growth and economic prosperity, and a pathway home for our children, our grandchildren and generations yet to come.”

According to the Associated Press, the Navajo, Hopi and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribes are seeking over \$5 billion as part of their settlement. Approximately \$1.75 billion would fund a pipeline from Lake Powell.

Separately, the Navajo Nation signed an agreement regarding water rights claims in the Rio San José stream system and the Rio Puerco Basin in New Mexico. The settlement agreement serves as an addendum to a larger agreement involving the Pueblo of Acoma and the Pueblo of Laguna.

According to the press release, the settlement is expected to cost \$243 million and will fund essential infrastructure for water delivery to several rural Navajo communities in New Mexico. The funding will be allocated for wastewater development, chlorination stations, water hauling stations, an operation and maintenance trust fund, a regional

water system for importing water, and a water acquisition fund.

The settlement will directly impact nine Navajo communities within the Rio San José Basin, many of whom have no running water and have relied on water deliveries.

“This Rio San José Water Rights Settlement legislation represents hope and vital resources for the Navajo communities in New Mexico,” Nygren said. “I urge Congress to act swiftly on the settlement. It's more than just water. It's about health, sustainability and the future of our people. We look to our allies in Congress to help make this a reality.”

There is a water rights settlement hearing in June for the House Natural Resources Committee before Congress adjourns, and it is imperative that the agreements be approved, Branch said.

At the water rights signing ceremony, Curley said the Nation will take their fight to Congress for their water rights “not only for our ancestors, but for future generations.” Curley urged federal and state leaders to support their voices and move the agreements for the president's signature. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**

## How to make the most of grazing summer grasses

Pastures can be thought of in the same light as bank accounts. If an account holder withdraws a lot of money early in the year, then they're left with nothing to spend on essential things down the line.

Beef producers who manage their pastureland in the same way can face similar repercussions.

Kansas State (K-State) University veterinarians spoke about summer grazing management techniques that can keep pastures “in the black” on a recent episode of the “Cattle Chat” podcast.

“When we have cool-season grasses right now, they should be doing pretty well in most parts of the country and are very productive. Our warm-season grasses, depending on where you are, maybe haven't quite come on yet,” K-State veterinarian Brad White said. “We need to think about our plan because both of those types of grasses have what are called dry spells where they're less productive.”

K-State nutritionist Phillip Lancaster suggests introducing annual warm-season

grasses to help balance out a pasture's nutritional value when cool-season plants start to decline.

“Adding some annual warm-season forages to your grazing land rotation can be very beneficial so that you get something that is peaking in production when cool-season grasses are slowing down because of the heat,” he said.

Lancaster added: “When we get into the July and August timeframe, the cool-season grasses are not able to tolerate the heat, so their productivity slows way down.”

After cattle have grazed down cool-season plants, planting warm-season grasses like sorghum-sudangrass, pearl millet or crabgrass straight into those pastures, or overseeding, serves as a great option for grazing cattle, according to Lancaster.

“Crabgrass is actually a very good (plant) that doesn't have the potential to introduce some of the animal health problems that sorghum-sudangrass can with nitrate toxicity, but those are still some good options as we're thinking about planting.”

For producers who employ a rotational grazing plan, frequently monitoring the growth of the plants within a pasture plays a key part in keeping grass in good condition.

“As you're rotating to new pastures, paying attention to previously grazed pastures and how they are recovering and regrowing can kind of tell you how fast you need to rotate animals to maintain that plant in kind of a vegetative state,” Lancaster said.

White agreed and added: “In terms of your pasture movement, some of those things need to be sped up or slowed down based on conditions. There's no static.”

To capture the full benefits of grazing the cool-season plants within a pasture, it's important they stay immature for as long as possible.

“One of our goals in some of these cool-season forage systems is to try to minimize that plant going into a reproductive stage,” Lancaster said.

White added: “So, keep it from going to seed and getting ‘stemmy.’” — **K-State Research and Extension**



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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: 5/30/2024	Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	190.00 ▼	190.38	175.62
CME Feeder Index	249.28 ▲	248.81	208.07
Boxed Beef Average	314.04 ▲	309.84	306.44
Average Dressed Steers	298.00 ▼	298.97	280.97
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,399 ▲	1,398	1,341
Weekly Slaughter**	607,000 ▲	598,000	625,000
Weekly Beef Production***	515.6 ▲	507.1	509.6
Hide/Offal Value	11.45 ▲	11.45	12.69
Corn Price	4.55 ▼	4.61	5.93

\*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	
May 24	7,018	308.12	303	326.57	1,356	313.60	1,941	306.47	806	296.14	2,612	279.85
May 17	6,984	302.13	296	320.18	1,341	304.55	2,072	301.72	661	290.19	2,614	275.20
May 10	6,944	297.43	251	318.00	1,256	301.60	2,159	295.57	818	289.16	2,460	275.01
May 3	6,467	298.71	236	321.11	1,229	301.01	2,063	296.02	669	290.84	2,268	275.23

Cutouts						FED BOXED BEEF					
DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT		50% LEAN	90% LEAN					
May 30	314.04	302.52	279.21		87.06	357.40					
May 29	313.62	302.48	275.51		69.82	N/A					
May 28	312.12	303.43	274.83		70.93	N/A					
May 27	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A					
May 24	310.45	301.72	274.78		71.17	350.98					

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	5/24	5/27	5/28	5/29	5/30	High*	Low*
Jun.	18370	N/A	18455	18335	18370	19633	15310
Aug.	18113	N/A	18183	18020	18050	19975	16853
Oct.	18395	N/A	18440	18245	18270	18510	16668
Dec.	18770	N/A	18850	18650	18668	18870	17005

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	5/24	5/27	5/28	5/29	5/30	High*	Low*
May	25014	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25723	21608
Aug.	26023	N/A	26460	26025	26098	26460	21920
Sep.	26175	N/A	26570	26180	26245	27095	22268
Oct.	26255	N/A	26625	26255	26313	26625	24910

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

FED CATTLE TRADE	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
<b>WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES</b>			
Live FOB Steer	701	1,388	190.00
Live FOB Heifer	200	1,274	190.00
Dressed Del Steer	243	957	298.00
Dressed Del Heifer	235	813	298.00
<b>SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK</b>			
Live FOB Steer	2,668	1,523	190.38
Live FOB Heifer	583	1,286	187.22
Dressed Del Steer	214	893	298.97
Dressed Del Heifer	140	825	298.00
<b>SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR</b>			
Live FOB Steer	1,144	1,431	175.62
Live FOB Heifer	691	1,213	171.00
Dressed Del Steer	335	834	290.97
Dressed Del Heifer	454	796	280.00

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: MAY 26, 2024		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	21,106	1,333
Formula	270,737	1,888
Negotiated Cash	79,000	152
Negotiated Grid	45,784	1,670
Packer Owned	6,682	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>423,309</b>	<b>5,043</b>

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,935
May '24	113,504	Neg. Sales 21+ days	1,383
Jun. '24	101,499	Formula sales	3,639
Jul. '24	87,336	Forward contract sales	62
Aug. '24	86,580	Domestic sales	5,666
Sep. '24	97,939	NAFTA Exports	82

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		191.02	+2.83
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		189.53	+2.98
Ontario Auctions			
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs		178.67	+1.19
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		N/A	N/A
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs		115.50	+2.69

\*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (GND) for week ending Friday, May 17, 2024				
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario	
501-600 lbs	311.84	331.88	313.13	
601-700 lbs	297.97	298.46	291.18	
701-800 lbs	267.92	265.32	265.14	
801-900 lbs	246.30	N/A	246.78	
Heifers:				
401-500 lbs	287.99	N/A	254.22	
501-600 lbs	276.40	N/A	254.33	
601-700 lbs	255.04	256.90	246.75	
701-800 lbs	235.50	238.30	231.28	

USDA MEXICO TO U.S. WEEKLY LIVESTOCK IMPORTS				
Feeder cattle imports weekly and yearly volume.				
Species	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Year-to-date	Previous Year-to-date
Feeders	5/20/2024: 32,788	5/13/2024: 27,243	584,904	497,770

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE			
May 30, 2024			
Mexico to United States Feeder Cattle Import Summary			
Receipts EST: 7,900	Week Ago EST: 8,000	Year Ago Act: 6,850	
<b>St Teresa, NM</b>		<b>Presidio, TX</b>	
Compared to Tuesday, steer calves and yearlings sold steady. Heifers steady. Trade active, demand good. Supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-700 lbs.		Compared to Tuesday, steer calves and yearlings sold steady. Heifers steady. Trade active, demand good. Supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-700 lbs.	
<b>Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&amp;2</b>		<b>Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&amp;2</b>	
300-400 lbs	270-280	300-400 lbs	268-278
400-500 lbs	250-260	400-500 lbs	248-258
500-600 lbs	230-240	500-600 lbs	228-238
<b>Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&amp;2</b>		<b>Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&amp;2</b>	
300-400 lbs	329-339	300-400 lbs	330-340
400-500 lbs	299-309	400-500 lbs	300-310
500-600 lbs	269-279	500-600 lbs	270-280

(slide 10 cents on steers and heifers basis 300 lbs. All sales fob port of entry.)

Selected Auctions										Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2	
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	NORTHWEST
									SLAUGHTER BULLS	REPLACEMENTS	
May 24	Blackfoot, ID	N/A		270-310	260-318	245-300	225-260	205-251	118-141		
May 23	Burley, ID	N/A	331	353	328-336	284	172-236	223-230	92-138.50		
	No report available		355	329	292-321	245	249-255		149.50-166		
	Emmett, ID										
	No report available										
	Eugene, OR										
	No report available										
	Madras, OR										
	No report available										
	Vale, OR										
	No report available										
	Davenport, WA										
May 23	Toppenish, WA	1,290		375*	315-340*	279-295*			128-144.50	2,450-2,650	
				287.50*	285*	269.50-285*			166-169.50		
	No report available										
	Orland, CA										
May 29	Escalon, CA								75-115		
									90-142		
May 27	Famoso, CA	913	275-350	280-352	280-334	260-285	225-239	190-200	110-165		
			250-330	280-330	270-334	220-260		200-240	120-150		
May 29	Galt, CA	2,114		300-370	270-330	230-313	200-285	200-253	80-141	2,000-3,100	
				240-326	240-310	210-286	200-260	200-238	85-130		
May 28	Turlock, CA	1,478		300-348	289-335	272.50-301	240-263	220-243	115-145		
			275-312.50	260-346	250-299	238-290	220-247	200-230	121-146.50		
	No report available										
	Salina, UT										
May 28	Iowa	11,683	375	362.50-430	322.50-405	290-370	266-340	240-299	217-265	103-159	
				321-394	294-359	262.50-324	241.50-308.50	224-265	215-241	129-175	
May 28	Miles City, MT	775				317*	280-288*			128-148	3,100
						286-309	268.50-290	252		141-170	
May 29	Bassett, NE	1,480		376-377	326-372.50	290-323	272-301.50	238-269			
			362.50	347.50-361	292.50-353.50	275-307	240-259				
	No report available										
	Ericson, NE										
	No report available										
	Imperial, NE										
	No report available										
	Kearney, NE										
	No report available										
	Lexington, NE										
	No report available										
	Ogallala, NE										
May 23	Valentine, NE	3,590	427.50-445	400-430	321-368.50	292-347.50	270.75-306.50	198-276			
				350-385	306-359	278-299.50	249-282.50	236-253			
	No report available										
	Herreid, SD										
	No report available										
	Torrington, WY										
May 23	Willcox, AZ	1,087	269.50-305	257-327	279-313	292.50-312.50	258-828		110-158		
			246.50-312.50	249-305	218.50-260	237-285	228-248		140-172	1,200-1,800	
May 27	Colorado	2,642	369-417.50	330-370	293.50-332.50			241-263	173-261	105-182.50	1,250-3,200
			304-362.50	286-357.50	258-259	230-231	223	185-220.50		111-172	825-2,650
May 22	La Junta, CO	1,650	367-417.50	301-370	286-311	246-275	250-263			124-151	2,085-2,800
			300.50-322.50	286-323	254-296	241-251				131-170	1,950-2,350
	No report										

# Latest feedlot inventories below last year

The latest USDA Cattle on Feed report pegged May 1 feedlot inventories at 11.554 million head, down 0.9% from one year ago. This is the first year-over-year decrease in feedlot inventories in eight months. Feedlots typically see a consistent seasonal pattern in inventories with peaks in the November to February period and summer lows in July-September. The average seasonal decrease from peak to trough has averaged just under 900,000 head in the past five years.

The May 1 inventory is down 462,000 head from the recent December 2023 peak. Feedlot inventories are expected to decrease seasonally for another three months or so, but the more important question may be the extent to which feedlot inventories will increase for the next seasonal peak.

The top four cattle feeding

states all have May 1 inventories lower year over year. Texas has the largest inventory at 2.77 million head, down 0.7% from last year. Nebraska is No. 2 with an inventory of 2.51 million, down 1.2% year over year. Kansas is the third largest cattle feeding state with a May 1 inventory of 2.30 million head, down 5.7% from one year ago.

Colorado is No. 4 with 0.950 million head, down 3.1% year over year. The top four feedlot states represent 73.8% of total inventories in feedlots with 1000 head or more of capacity. Other cattle feeding states, in descending order, include Iowa, California, Idaho, Oklahoma, Arizona, South Dakota and Washington.

April feedlot placements were 1.656 million head, down 5.8% year over year and the smallest April place-

ment total since the pandemic reductions in April 2020. In the first four months of 2024, total placements are down 4.3% year over year, with placements of cattle weighing less than 800 pounds down 6.7%. Placements of cattle weighing 800 lbs. and higher are unchanged from one year ago.

April feedlot marketings were 1.872 million head, up 10.1% year over year. April 2024 had two more business days compared to last year. After adjusting for the number of days, daily average marketings in April were about equal to April 2023. April marketings were 15.8% of the April 1 on-feed inventory, the highest monthly rate since August 2023. Nevertheless, the average marketing rate over the past 12 months remains historically low. Marketings in the first four months of this year are down

0.6% year over year.

The slow pace of feedlot marketings continues to push fed cattle weights higher. The latest weekly data shows steer carcass weights at 923 lbs., up 32 lbs. compared to one year ago, and heifer carcass weights of 848 lbs., up 28 lbs. from one year ago. Increased carcass weights are partially offsetting reduced cattle slaughter and keeping beef production higher than otherwise.

For the first 19 weeks of the year, beef production is down 2.1% year over year. Earlier forecasts called for 2024 beef production to be down nearly 5%, but those forecasts have been revised due to the heavy carcass weights to a smaller year-over-year decrease in beef production. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**



## COMING EVENTS

(Send calendar of events information to [editorial@wlj.net](mailto:editorial@wlj.net).)  
**June 26-27** – The California Cattlemen's Association Midyear Meeting will be held at the Nugget Casino Resort in

Sparks, NV. New this year, full meeting registration includes a ticket to the Reno Rodeo's Wednesday night performance. Details: [calcattlemen.org/events](http://calcattlemen.org/events).



## 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](mailto:editorial@wlj.net).)

**June 10** – The Select Sires Member Cooperative Board of Directors has set aside \$40,000 in scholarship funds that will be awarded to students currently enrolled in a two- or four-year

academic program. Applicants must be from current member families doing business with Select Sires Member Cooperative. Details: [bit.ly/ssmcscholarship](http://bit.ly/ssmcscholarship).

**Summer:** Western Video Market is offering a summer internship position for an ag major who is interested in gaining work experience in a fast-paced auction environment. Position is in-person in Cottonwood, CA. Send résumé and three references to [holly@wvmcattle.com](mailto:holly@wvmcattle.com).

## Insights on future meat, poultry prices

A new report from the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Agricultural Economics will help consumers understand and prepare for anticipated changes in the price of key cuts of beef, pork and chicken for summer and beyond.

The Texas A&M University Food Price Predictor study integrates historical data, current market trends and predictive models to offer a detailed projection of future retail meat prices. Timed with grilling season, this report assists consumers in effectively planning for summer barbecues.

The lead author for the report is Simon Somogyi, Ph.D., director of the Weston Agri-food Sales Program and Dr. Kerry Litzenberg Sales and Economics Endowed Chair in the Department of Agricultural Economics. Co-authors included David Anderson, Ph.D., professor and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist; Yong Liu, Ph.D., assistant professor; and Weifang Liang, a doctoral student—all in the department.

The team analyzed market data using statistical models to predict price changes for various meat products. The study focused on ground beef, chuck roast Choice, steak sirloin Choice, all pork chops and boneless chicken breast—all typical cuts of

meat consumed during the traditional grilling season. While a chuck roast is not considered a typical grilling cut, its prices provide some insight into other items such as ground beef and some steak cuts, such as flat iron steaks.

### Food Price Predictor

The Texas A&M University Food Price Predictor shows a modest increase in most meat prices for this summer. Notable trends include modest increases in beef and pork prices and a decrease in chicken breast prices. Price changes that occurred from September through February included:

- Ground beef: up 0.45%.
- Chuck roast: up 4.68%.
- Sirloin steak: up 0.77%.
- Pork chops: down 3.93%.
- Boneless chicken breast: down 2.93%.

According to the report, meat price changes expected from May to October are:

- Ground beef, 100% beef: up 0.1% to 0.7% or \$5.13-5.19/lb.
- Chuck roast Choice: up 0.7% to 1.3% or \$7.21-7.34/lb.
- Steak sirloin Choice: up 0.1% to 0.6% or \$11.72-11.78/lb.
- Pork chops: up 0.1% to 1% or \$4.24-4.28/lb.
- Boneless chicken breast: down 2.93% or \$4.06-3.91/lb.

Price expectations are av-

eraged across the U.S. The report notes retail prices are heavily influenced by retail location, price discounting and other market variables.

Some of the key observations for the report are:

- The anticipated slight increase in beef prices, particularly for ground beef and chuck roast, can be attributed to the seasonal surge in demand and reduced beef production.

- The trend in lower chicken prices is largely due to efficiencies gained in poultry production, increasing production and lower feed costs.

- The slight uptick in sirloin steak prices is a response to a shift in consumer preferences toward higher quality cuts, fueled by an improving economy and reduced beef supplies.

- The modest increase in pork chop prices aligns with the expected seasonal increase in demand combined with slightly constrained supply levels.

- Greater profitability and lower feed costs should keep chicken supplies plentiful.

"These report estimates will provide U.S. consumers with a better understanding of the factors that influence meat prices and help them estimate future meat costs, allowing households to budget more effectively," Somogyi said. — **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**

## Demand, support still high for feeders

### MARKETS (from page 1)

The Choice cutout gained about \$5 to close at \$314.04, and the Select cutout gained about \$2 to close at \$302.52.

USDA's Cattle on Feed report released on May 24 showed cattle on feed in the U.S. totaled 11.6 million head on May 1, down 1% from last year. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.66 million head, 6% below last year, and feed cattle marketings were 1.87 million head, 10% above 2023. Disappearance totaled 56,000 head, 10% higher than last year.

### Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures were also unable to find

support higher. The August contract lost about \$2.40 to close at \$259.07, and the September contract lost about \$2 to close at \$260.67.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index gained 47 cents to close at \$249.28.

"Fundamental demand and interest remain incredibly strong for feeder cattle and calves, but Wednesday's announcement that China will not be accepting beef from the JBS plant in Greeley, Colorado has rattled traders and consequently the feeder cattle contracts too," Stewart said.

Corn futures also experienced a decline, with the July contract down 16 cents to \$4.48 and the September contract down 16 cents to \$4.57.

**Oklahoma:** OKC West

in El Reno sold 7,329 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, feeder steers sold steady to \$1 higher. Feeder heifers traded \$1-4 higher. Steer and heifer calves sold mostly steady on limited comparable sales. Benchmark steers averaging 736 lbs. sold between \$254-270, averaging \$259.46.

**South Dakota:** Hub City Livestock in Aberdeen sold 2,175 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, steers were not well compared. Heifers 850-899 lbs. sold steady to \$4 lower, with other weight classes of heifers not well compared. Benchmark steers averaging 753 lbs. sold between \$288-290.25, averaging \$289.84. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

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The Commercial Cattle Issue hits mailboxes August 19.

# Latest feedlot inventories below last year

The latest USDA Cattle on Feed report pegged May 1 feedlot inventories at 11.554 million head, down 0.9% from one year ago. This is the first year-over-year decrease in feedlot inventories in eight months. Feedlots typically see a consistent seasonal pattern in inventories with peaks in the November to February period and summer lows in July-September. The average seasonal decrease from peak to trough has averaged just under 900,000 head in the past five years.

The May 1 inventory is down 462,000 head from the recent December 2023 peak. Feedlot inventories are expected to decrease seasonally for another three months or so, but the more important question may be the extent to which feedlot inventories will increase for the next seasonal peak.

The top four cattle feeding

states all have May 1 inventories lower year over year. Texas has the largest inventory at 2.77 million head, down 0.7% from last year. Nebraska is No. 2 with an inventory of 2.51 million, down 1.2% year over year. Kansas is the third largest cattle feeding state with a May 1 inventory of 2.30 million head, down 5.7% from one year ago.

Colorado is No. 4 with 0.950 million head, down 3.1% year over year. The top four feedlot states represent 73.8% of total inventories in feedlots with 1000 head or more of capacity. Other cattle feeding states, in descending order, include Iowa, California, Idaho, Oklahoma, Arizona, South Dakota and Washington.

April feedlot placements were 1.656 million head, down 5.8% year over year and the smallest April place-

ment total since the pandemic reductions in April 2020. In the first four months of 2024, total placements are down 4.3% year over year, with placements of cattle weighing less than 800 pounds down 6.7%. Placements of cattle weighing 800 lbs. and higher are unchanged from one year ago.

April feedlot marketings were 1.872 million head, up 10.1% year over year. April 2024 had two more business days compared to last year. After adjusting for the number of days, daily average marketings in April were about equal to April 2023. April marketings were 15.8% of the April 1 on-feed inventory, the highest monthly rate since August 2023. Nevertheless, the average marketing rate over the past 12 months remains historically low. Marketings in the first four months of this year are down

0.6% year over year.

The slow pace of feedlot marketings continues to push fed cattle weights higher. The latest weekly data shows steer carcass weights at 923 lbs., up 32 lbs. compared to one year ago, and heifer carcass weights of 848 lbs., up 28 lbs. from one year ago. Increased carcass weights are partially offsetting reduced cattle slaughter and keeping beef production higher than otherwise.

For the first 19 weeks of the year, beef production is down 2.1% year over year. Earlier forecasts called for 2024 beef production to be down nearly 5%, but those forecasts have been revised due to the heavy carcass weights to a smaller year-over-year decrease in beef production. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**



## COMING EVENTS

(Send calendar of events information to [editorial@wlj.net](mailto:editorial@wlj.net).)  
**June 26-27** – The California Cattlemen's Association Midyear Meeting will be held at the Nugget Casino Resort in

Sparks, NV. New this year, full meeting registration includes a ticket to the Reno Rodeo's Wednesday night performance. Details: [calcattlemen.org/events](http://calcattlemen.org/events).



## 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](mailto:editorial@wlj.net).)

**June 10** – The Select Sires Member Cooperative Board of Directors has set aside \$40,000 in scholarship funds that will be awarded to students currently enrolled in a two- or four-year

academic program. Applicants must be from current member families doing business with Select Sires Member Cooperative. Details: [bit.ly/ssmcscholarship](http://bit.ly/ssmcscholarship).

**Summer:** Western Video Market is offering a summer internship position for an ag major who is interested in gaining work experience in a fast-paced auction environment. Position is in-person in Cottonwood, CA. Send resumé and three references to [holly@wvmcattle.com](mailto:holly@wvmcattle.com).

## Insights on future meat, poultry prices

A new report from the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Agricultural Economics will help consumers understand and prepare for anticipated changes in the price of key cuts of beef, pork and chicken for summer and beyond.

The Texas A&M University Food Price Predictor study integrates historical data, current market trends and predictive models to offer a detailed projection of future retail meat prices. Timed with grilling season, this report assists consumers in effectively planning for summer barbecues.

The lead author for the report is Simon Somogyi, Ph.D., director of the Weston Agri-food Sales Program and Dr. Kerry Litzenberg Sales and Economics Endowed Chair in the Department of Agricultural Economics. Co-authors included David Anderson, Ph.D., professor and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist; Yong Liu, Ph.D., assistant professor; and Weifang Liang, a doctoral student—all in the department.

The team analyzed market data using statistical models to predict price changes for various meat products. The study focused on ground beef, chuck roast Choice, steak sirloin Choice, all pork chops and boneless chicken breast—all typical cuts of

meat consumed during the traditional grilling season. While a chuck roast is not considered a typical grilling cut, its prices provide some insight into other items such as ground beef and some steak cuts, such as flat iron steaks.

### Food Price Predictor

The Texas A&M University Food Price Predictor shows a modest increase in most meat prices for this summer. Notable trends include modest increases in beef and pork prices and a decrease in chicken breast prices. Price changes that occurred from September through February included:

- Ground beef: up 0.45%.
- Chuck roast: up 4.68%.
- Sirloin steak: up 0.77%.
- Pork chops: down 3.93%.
- Boneless chicken breast: down 2.93%.

According to the report, meat price changes expected from May to October are:

- Ground beef, 100% beef: up 0.1% to 0.7% or \$5.13-5.19/lb.
- Chuck roast Choice: up 0.7% to 1.3% or \$7.21-7.34/lb.
- Steak sirloin Choice: up 0.1% to 0.6% or \$11.72-11.78/lb.
- Pork chops: up 0.1% to 1% or \$4.24-4.28/lb.
- Boneless chicken breast: down 2.93% or \$4.06-3.91/lb.

Price expectations are av-

eraged across the U.S. The report notes retail prices are heavily influenced by retail location, price discounting and other market variables.

Some of the key observations for the report are:

- The anticipated slight increase in beef prices, particularly for ground beef and chuck roast, can be attributed to the seasonal surge in demand and reduced beef production.

- The trend in lower chicken prices is largely due to efficiencies gained in poultry production, increasing production and lower feed costs.

- The slight uptick in sirloin steak prices is a response to a shift in consumer preferences toward higher quality cuts, fueled by an improving economy and reduced beef supplies.

- The modest increase in pork chop prices aligns with the expected seasonal increase in demand combined with slightly constrained supply levels.

- Greater profitability and lower feed costs should keep chicken supplies plentiful.

"These report estimates will provide U.S. consumers with a better understanding of the factors that influence meat prices and help them estimate future meat costs, allowing households to budget more effectively," Somogyi said. — **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**

## Demand, support still high for feeders

### MARKETS (from page 1)

The Choice cutout gained about \$5 to close at \$314.04, and the Select cutout gained about \$2 to close at \$302.52.

USDA's Cattle on Feed report released on May 24 showed cattle on feed in the U.S. totaled 11.6 million head on May 1, down 1% from last year. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.66 million head, 6% below last year, and feed cattle marketings were 1.87 million head, 10% above 2023. Disappearance totaled 56,000 head, 10% higher than last year.

### Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures were also unable to find

support higher. The August contract lost about \$2.40 to close at \$259.07, and the September contract lost about \$2 to close at \$260.67.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index gained 47 cents to close at \$249.28.

"Fundamental demand and interest remain incredibly strong for feeder cattle and calves, but Wednesday's announcement that China will not be accepting beef from the JBS plant in Greeley, Colorado has rattled traders and consequently the feeder cattle contracts too," Stewart said.


Corn futures also experienced a decline, with the July contract down 16 cents to \$4.48 and the September contract down 16 cents to \$4.57.

**Oklahoma:** OKC West

in El Reno sold 7,329 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, feeder steers sold steady to \$1 higher. Feeder heifers traded \$1-4 higher. Steer and heifer calves sold mostly steady on limited comparable sales. Benchmark steers averaging 736 lbs. sold between \$254-270, averaging \$259.46.

**South Dakota:** Hub City Livestock in Aberdeen sold 2,175 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, steers were not well compared. Heifers 850-899 lbs. sold steady to \$4 lower, with other weight classes of heifers not well compared. Benchmark steers averaging 753 lbs. sold between \$288-290.25, averaging \$289.84. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

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# Should I trich test my mature bulls?

## —Devastating disease

We are nearing spring turnout and breeding season, and with that, many producers may be getting bulls tested right before turnout. So, what should producers consider when maintaining herd health within their mature bull battery?

Trichomoniasis (trich) is a venereal disease that causes infertility, open cows, and the occasional abortion in cows and heifers. Bulls carry the protozoa in their prepuce and transmit it to cows through breeding. Clean bulls can also become infected by breeding cows that are infected with trich.

There are no clinical signs of infection in bulls and very few in cows. Bulls that are infected do not show systemic disease, swelling, drainage or any other sign

that would lead us to suspect infection. The only way to identify infected bulls is to perform preputial scraping and diagnostic testing to identify the presence of the organism in the preputial folds.

Once infected, bulls remain infected for life. Because the organism lives in the preputial folds and is technically “external,” the bull’s immune system will not identify or respond to the organism to clear the infection. There is no treatment for trichomoniasis, and infected bulls should be culled through slaughter-only channels.

## What to consider

Bulls are the route of transmission through a cowherd and when an infected bull breeds a cow, she will likely be infected. Subsequent mat-

ings by other bulls in the herd transmit the organism to uninfected bulls, which is why it is common to find multiple infected bulls in a bull battery once a single trich-positive bull has been identified.

Trichomoniasis infection in the cow herd is often suspected when producers notice cows that should have settled early in the breeding season continue to come into heat, often two to three cycles later than expected. This is because cows will mate and conceive, but then later develop pyometras (uterine infections) and experience embryonic loss. Once this occurs, unlike bulls, the cow’s immune system will respond and clear the infection, but she will return to cyclicity only after the uterus returns to health, generally 60 days or more later.

While most cows will clear the infection and go on to

conceive and carry a calf to term, there is a danger that individual cows can develop a carrier state and serve as a continual reservoir of infection in a positive herd. This potential for a carrier state is why it is recommended to cull any open cows in a positive herd to slaughter-only channels, along with the infected bulls. There is no reliable test for trichomoniasis to screen for carrier cows.

## Regulations regarding testing

Trichomoniasis is a reportable disease in Nebraska, which means the State Veterinarian’s Office will have input on how positive cases are managed. This is mainly

to ensure that the disposal of infected individuals is through slaughter-only channels to prevent the spread of the disease to other operations. Additionally, movement of mature (greater than 18 months of age in most cases) and/or non-virgin breeding bulls across state lines will require trich testing to document negative status. Actual testing procedures and timing are determined by the state of destination. Producers that may be marketing bulls or moving bulls to grazing pastures out of state should consult with their veterinarian well in advance of shipment to ensure that all regulatory requirements can be met.

## Value of an exam

A breeding soundness exam is a point-in-time measurement that we encourage producers to have done on bulls about 4-6 weeks before the breeding season to ensure they are satisfactory breeders.

Producers should expect trich testing to be on the agenda when they book breeding soundness exams of their mature bull batteries. Trichomoniasis is a devastating venereal disease that can move through a herd silently until it is too late. The investment in identifying and removing infected bulls before the breeding season is a small price to pay to avoid reproductive failure of the cow herd. — **University of Nebraska-Lincoln**



## SALE CALENDAR

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### ALL BREEDS

**Sep. 15** – Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA

### ANGUS

**Jun. 22** – Baldrige Performance Angus, Female Sale, North Platte, NE  
**Jun. 29** – EZ Angus Ranch, Fall Calving Dispersal, Farmington, CA  
**Aug. 24** – Riverbend Ranch, Female Sale, Idaho Falls, ID  
**Sep. 5** – Vintage Angus, Bull Sale, LaGrange, CA  
**Sep. 6** – Byrd Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Red Bluff,

CA

**Sep. 7** – EZ Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Farmington, CA

**Sep. 8** – Heritage Bull Sale, Wilton, CA

**Sep. 9** – Rhoades Angus, Bull Sale, Cambria, CA

**Sep. 10** – O’Neal Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA

**Sep. 11** – Teixeira Cattle, Bull Sale, Pismo Beach, CA

**Sep. 12** – Donati Ranch & O’Connell Cattle, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

**Sep. 13** – Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA

**Sep. 14** – Arrelano Bravo, Bull Sale, Galt, CA

### HEREFORD

**Sep. 5** – Sierra Ranches, Bull Sale, LaGrange, CA

**Sep. 9** – Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV

### COMMERCIAL

**Jun. 6** – Western Video

Market Internet Sale, CA

**Jun. 20** – NLVA Early Summer Special, Billings, MT

**Jul. 8** – Western Video Market Reno Sale, Reno, NV

**Jul. 22** – NLVA Summertime Classic, Billings, MT

**Jul. 27** – Cattlemen’s Livestock Market Annual Female Sale, Galt, CA

**Aug. 3** – Turlock Livestock Auction Special Female Sale, Turlock, CA

**Aug. 12** – Western Video Market Cheyenne Sale, Cheyenne, WY

**Aug. 19** – NLVA Early Fall Preview, Billings, MT

**Aug. 24** – Mobile Cattle Marketing Female Sale, Petaluma, CA

### HORSE

**Jun. 1** – Ranchers Horse Sale, Juntura, OR

**Jun. 8** – Shelman Family Horse Sale, Burns, OR

**Jun. 22** – Fort Ranch Horse Sale, Corrinne, UT

**Jul. 12** – High Desert Quarter Horse Sale, Redmond, OR

**Aug. 17** – Memory Ranch Foal Sale, Wells, NV

## Caring for young calves

Driving around in the country and seeing the cows and calves out on pastures full of green grass in late spring is a welcome sight to many. And this is the time of year to begin routine processing for one- to two-month-old calves, and to develop a marketing strategy according to the experts at the Kansas State (K-State) University Beef Cattle Institute.

Speaking on a recent “Cattle Chat” podcast, the experts addressed calf health, nutrition and marketing strategies to maximize the likelihood of success.

“Now is a good time to do those basic processing procedures on young calves,” K-State veterinarian Brian Lubbers said. “On bull calves, this

is a good time to consider castration and then offer some protection against clostridial diseases depending on which castration method you use.”

Another management strategy that is good for young calves is to apply parasite control, K-State veterinarian Bob Larson said.

“Young cattle don’t have much resilience to internal parasites, so they respond well to a deworming treatment,” he said.

Regarding supplemental nutrition for one- to two-month-old calves, some producers may be considering whether or not to offer creep feed.

“Offering creep feed at this point may not be economical because the cow is at peak

milk production,” K-State beef nutritionist Phillip Lancaster said. “At this age, the calf’s rumen is starting to develop, and they will begin consuming more green grass and less milk as time goes on.”

Along with calf health and nutrition, the experts agree that late spring is a good time to develop a marketing plan and consider risk protection.

“Some marketing programs require calves to follow a health protocol, so that is important to review now,” K-State agricultural economist Dustin Pendell said. “There are also a couple of insurance policies available that offer livestock risk protection for feeder and fed calves.” — **K-State Research and Extension**

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# Should I trich test my mature bulls?

## —Devastating disease

We are nearing spring turnout and breeding season, and with that, many producers may be getting bulls tested right before turnout. So, what should producers consider when maintaining herd health within their mature bull battery?

Trichomoniasis (trich) is a venereal disease that causes infertility, open cows, and the occasional abortion in cows and heifers. Bulls carry the protozoa in their prepuce and transmit it to cows through breeding. Clean bulls can also become infected by breeding cows that are infected with trich.

There are no clinical signs of infection in bulls and very few in cows. Bulls that are infected do not show systemic disease, swelling, drainage or any other sign

that would lead us to suspect infection. The only way to identify infected bulls is to perform preputial scraping and diagnostic testing to identify the presence of the organism in the preputial folds.

Once infected, bulls remain infected for life. Because the organism lives in the preputial folds and is technically “external,” the bull’s immune system will not identify or respond to the organism to clear the infection. There is no treatment for trichomoniasis, and infected bulls should be culled through slaughter-only channels.

## What to consider

Bulls are the route of transmission through a cowherd and when an infected bull breeds a cow, she will likely be infected. Subsequent mat-

ings by other bulls in the herd transmit the organism to uninfected bulls, which is why it is common to find multiple infected bulls in a bull battery once a single trich-positive bull has been identified.

Trichomoniasis infection in the cow herd is often suspected when producers notice cows that should have settled early in the breeding season continue to come into heat, often two to three cycles later than expected. This is because cows will mate and conceive, but then later develop pyometras (uterine infections) and experience embryonic loss. Once this occurs, unlike bulls, the cow’s immune system will respond and clear the infection, but she will return to cyclicity only after the uterus returns to health, generally 60 days or more later.

While most cows will clear the infection and go on to

conceive and carry a calf to term, there is a danger that individual cows can develop a carrier state and serve as a continual reservoir of infection in a positive herd. This potential for a carrier state is why it is recommended to cull any open cows in a positive herd to slaughter-only channels, along with the infected bulls. There is no reliable test for trichomoniasis to screen for carrier cows.

## Regulations regarding testing

Trichomoniasis is a reportable disease in Nebraska, which means the State Veterinarian’s Office will have input on how positive cases are managed. This is mainly

to ensure that the disposal of infected individuals is through slaughter-only channels to prevent the spread of the disease to other operations. Additionally, movement of mature (greater than 18 months of age in most cases) and/or non-virgin breeding bulls across state lines will require trich testing to document negative status. Actual testing procedures and timing are determined by the state of destination. Producers that may be marketing bulls or moving bulls to grazing pastures out of state should consult with their veterinarian well in advance of shipment to ensure that all regulatory requirements can be met.

## Value of an exam

A breeding soundness exam is a point-in-time measurement that we encourage producers to have done on bulls about 4-6 weeks before the breeding season to ensure they are satisfactory breeders.

Producers should expect trich testing to be on the agenda when they book breeding soundness exams of their mature bull batteries. Trichomoniasis is a devastating venereal disease that can move through a herd silently until it is too late. The investment in identifying and removing infected bulls before the breeding season is a small price to pay to avoid reproductive failure of the cow herd. — **University of Nebraska-Lincoln**



## 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.

### ALL BREEDS

**Sep. 15** – Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA

### ANGUS

**Jun. 22** – Baldrige Performance Angus, Female Sale, North Platte, NE  
**Jun. 29** – EZ Angus Ranch, Fall Calving Dispersal, Farmington, CA  
**Aug. 24** – Riverbend Ranch, Female Sale, Idaho Falls, ID  
**Sep. 5** – Vintage Angus, Bull Sale, LaGrange, CA  
**Sep. 6** – Byrd Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Red Bluff,

CA

**Sep. 7** – EZ Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Farmington, CA

**Sep. 8** – Heritage Bull Sale, Wilton, CA

**Sep. 9** – Rhoades Angus, Bull Sale, Cambria, CA

**Sep. 10** – O’Neal Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA

**Sep. 11** – Teixeira Cattle, Bull Sale, Pismo Beach, CA

**Sep. 12** – Donati Ranch & O’Connell Cattle, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

**Sep. 13** – Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA

**Sep. 14** – Arrelano Bravo, Bull Sale, Galt, CA

### HEREFORD

**Sep. 5** – Sierra Ranches, Bull Sale, LaGrange, CA

**Sep. 9** – Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV

### COMMERCIAL

**Jun. 6** – Western Video Market Internet Sale, CA

**Jun. 20** – NLVA Early Summer Special, Billings, MT

**Jul. 8** – Western Video Market Reno Sale, Reno, NV

**Jul. 22** – NLVA Summertime Classic, Billings, MT

**Jul. 27** – Cattlemen’s Livestock Market Annual Female Sale, Galt, CA

**Aug. 3** – Turlock Livestock Auction Special Female Sale, Turlock, CA

**Aug. 12** – Western Video Market Cheyenne Sale, Cheyenne, WY

**Aug. 19** – NLVA Early Fall Preview, Billings, MT

**Aug. 24** – Mobile Cattle Marketing Female Sale, Petaluma, CA

### HORSE

**Jun. 1** – Ranchers Horse Sale, Juntura, OR

**Jun. 8** – Shelman Family Horse Sale, Burns, OR

**Jun. 22** – Fort Ranch Horse Sale, Corrinne, UT

**Jul. 12** – High Desert Quarter Horse Sale, Redmond, OR

**Aug. 17** – Memory Ranch Foal Sale, Wells, NV

## Caring for young calves

Driving around in the country and seeing the cows and calves out on pastures full of green grass in late spring is a welcome sight to many. And this is the time of year to begin routine processing for one- to two-month-old calves, and to develop a marketing strategy according to the experts at the Kansas State (K-State) University Beef Cattle Institute.

Speaking on a recent “Cattle Chat” podcast, the experts addressed calf health, nutrition and marketing strategies to maximize the likelihood of success.

“Now is a good time to do those basic processing procedures on young calves,” K-State veterinarian Brian Lubbers said. “On bull calves, this

is a good time to consider castration and then offer some protection against clostridial diseases depending on which castration method you use.”

Another management strategy that is good for young calves is to apply parasite control, K-State veterinarian Bob Larson said.

“Young cattle don’t have much resilience to internal parasites, so they respond well to a deworming treatment,” he said.

Regarding supplemental nutrition for one- to two-month-old calves, some producers may be considering whether or not to offer creep feed.

“Offering creep feed at this point may not be economical because the cow is at peak

milk production,” K-State beef nutritionist Phillip Lancaster said. “At this age, the calf’s rumen is starting to develop, and they will begin consuming more green grass and less milk as time goes on.”

Along with calf health and nutrition, the experts agree that late spring is a good time to develop a marketing plan and consider risk protection.

“Some marketing programs require calves to follow a health protocol, so that is important to review now,” K-State agricultural economist Dustin Pendell said. “There are also a couple of insurance policies available that offer livestock risk protection for feeder and fed calves.” — **K-State Research and Extension**

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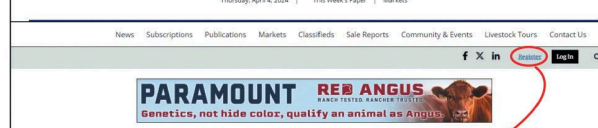
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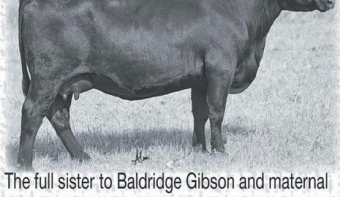

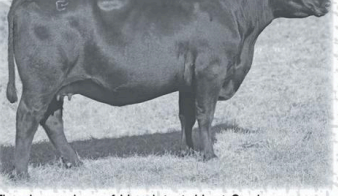
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**Selling 200+ head including:**  
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<p><b>Baldridge Isabel G724</b></p>  <p>The full sister to Baldridge Gibson and maternal sister to Moving On, Pappy, Instinct, Jigsaw, and Done Deal. Donor dam of Jedi, Linkage, and Linchpin.</p>	<p><b>Yon Sarah K801</b></p>  <p>Newly acquired donor dam who is an outcross pedigree of high fertility, performance, and carcass merit. An exciting breeding piece right for the times ranking in the top 1% for \$M.</p>	<p><b>Baldridge Isabel E048</b></p>  <p>The donor dam of Headstart, Heat Seeker, Incognito, Balance, and Omaha. Her daughter was the leadoff high seller of the 2023 female sale.</p>

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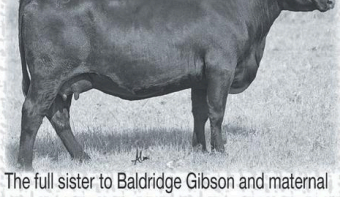

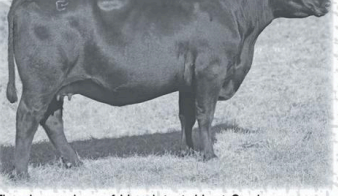
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<p><b>Baldrige Isabel Y69</b></p>  <p>A once-in-a-lifetime cow and multimillion dollar producer whose impact on this herd is significant. The fertility, flushing ability, and predictability of the Y69's will shape a majority of this sale through her genetics.</p>	<p><b>Baldrige Blackbird A030</b></p>  <p>A producer of attractive and well built Angus. The donor dam of Versatile, Alternative, Command, Velocity, Vortex, Kinsmen, Jiggs, Kingston, Eager, and Jacked.</p>	<p><b>Baldrige Isabel F047</b></p>  <p>The donor dam of Jordan and the maternal sister to Pacific and full sister in blood to Gibson. The now deceased F047 has been an large revenue producer through embryos and pregnancies sales across the country.</p>
<p><b>Erica of Ellston T220</b></p>  <p>The donor dam of War Cry, Grindstone, Lincoln, Bold Ruler, Credence, Landmark and Influence as well as many donor dams across the country.</p>	<p><b>Baldrige Isabel D753</b></p>  <p>The powerhouse donor dam of Limitless, Highlander, Harness, Sherman, Abrams, Pershing, Geronimo, Panzer, Homemade, and Jinks.</p>	<p><b>HPCA Momentum 18</b></p>  <p>An outcross donor dam of Jelly, Julius, July, Jalapeno, Jasper Keeper, Knack, Kegger, and Kodiak. She has 116 IMF and RE Ratios @101.</p>
<p><b>Baldrige Isabel G724</b></p>  <p>The full sister to Baldrige Gibson and maternal sister to Moving On, Pappy, Instinct, Jigsaw, and Done Deal. Donor dam of Jedi, Linkage, and Linchpin.</p>	<p><b>Yon Sarah K801</b></p>  <p>Newly acquired donor dam who is an outcross pedigree of high fertility, performance, and carcass merit. An exciting breeding piece right for the times ranking in the top 1% for \$M.</p>	<p><b>Baldrige Isabel E048</b></p>  <p>The donor dam of Headstart, Heat Seeker, Incognito, Balance, and Omaha. Her daughter was the leadoff high seller of the 2023 female sale.</p>

**Plan to join us in North Platte for a fun filled summer weekend. On Friday night, Parker McCollum will be in concert less than 2 miles from the sale site followed by Jelly Roll on Saturday night. Please contact Denise at 308-520-2339 or denise@baldrige.net for assistance with concert tickets and hotel rooms, or go to: nebraskalanddays.com**

*To request a sale book - call, text or email:*

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