

INSIDE WLJ

PAPERS PLEASE, PORKY—New guidelines for California pork distributors will require certification of compliance beginning July 1. **Page 4**

PUTTING AN AXE TO SLAUGHTER — Denver citizens rallying signatures to ban slaughter in the city. **Page 9**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

"Several poultry executives were indicted the first week of June on counts of price fixation and bid rigging. Since then, the executives from Clayton Poultry Farms and Pilgrim's Pride have pleaded not guilty. If convicted, the executives will face a maximum prison sentence of 10 years and a \$1 million fine. The indictment comes at a time during which the big four packers in the beef industry are also undergoing an investigation by the Department of Justice," reported the June 15, 2020, *WLJ* article.

INDEX

Opinion	P-2
Markets.....	P-8
Classifieds	P-10
Sale Calendar	P-11
Sale Reports	P-11

Corner-crossing hunters prevail in lawsuit

— Legality still up in the air

A federal judge ruled that four hunters from Missouri did not trespass when they corner-crossed the Elk Mountain Ranch in Wyoming held by Iron Bar Holdings LLC, as they did not touch the property or its airspace and did not damage the

property.

U.S. District Judge Scott W. Skavdahl for the District of Wyoming ruled in part for the hunters and in part for Iron Bar Holdings LLC, managed by Fred Eshelman.

Corner crossing is the practice of crossing from one corner of public land to another diagonally without setting foot on private property. Ac-

cording to a report by OnX, a mapping software recreationists use, there are 8.2 million acres across 11 Western states of corner-locked lands. OnX states there are 27,120 land-locked corners and no law states explicitly that stepping over a property corner from public land to public land is illegal.

History

The hunters, Phillip Yeomans, Bradley Cape, John Slowensky and Zachary Smith, all from Missouri, encountered two steel posts with a chain connecting the two and "No Trespassing" signs on their hunt in

See CROSSING on page 12



Tom Koerner/USFWS

Missouri elk hunters have prevailed in a suit alleging they trespassed onto private property when hunting in Wyoming.

Greens intervene for lesser prairie chickens

— Fight for listing of populations

A pair of conservation groups are intervening in a lawsuit challenging the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's (USFWS) decision to protect lesser prairie chickens under the Endangered Species Act.

The suit, one of two filed in Texas against the decision, was brought by the states of Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, along with the Texas General Land Office, Texas Department of Agriculture and Railroad Commission of Texas. The suit challenges USFWS' move to list the lesser prairie chicken's Northern District Population Segment (DPS) as threatened, and the Southern DPS as endangered under the act.

The agency announced last November it would protect the two populations. The Southern DPS includes populations in eastern New Mexico and across the southwest Texas Panhandle. The Northern DPS encompasses southeastern Colorado, south-central to western Kansas, western Oklahoma and the northeast Texas Panhandle.

"I'm not surprised that these states are prioritizing oil and gas profits over these imperiled birds, but we're not going to stand by and watch it happen," said Jason Rylander of Center for Biological Diversity, one of the suit intervenors, in a statement.

"The lesser prairie chicken is a Texas bird that needs protection or it faces extinction," said Robin Schneider, executive director of

Texas Campaign for the Environment, the other intervenor. "We are joining the fight to save all the species that call Texas home."

The Center for Biological Diversity sued the USFWS last October, which resulted in the agency listing the two populations.

Ken Paxton, attorney general of Texas, said the decision would force property owners to comply with new federal regulations wherever the birds are present.

"The lesser prairie chicken's change in classification puts many of Texas's conservation efforts at risk, all while bringing immeasurable harm to Texans' property rights," Paxton said. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

WLJ tour attendees venture into Sandhills country

From May 21-27, 130 participants from all over the world spent the week touring legacy ranches in the Sandhills of Nebraska. The tour kicked off Sunday evening in Rapid City, SD, with a social for everyone to meet and rekindle old friendships before spending the week together. A wonderful banquet dinner was enjoyed by all, and we even got to wish past *WLJ* fieldman and tour guide Jerry York a happy early birthday!

Monday morning found the buses loaded and heading to Mt. Rushmore. Tour goers were able to spend a couple of beautiful hours taking in the awe and history of this national treasure. After a scenic drive through the Black Hills, we stopped on the South Dakota/Nebraska state line for lunch before touring Juniper Cattle Company. Joel Rickenbach and his family ranch just north of the state line and manage two separate herds of cattle, one Red Angus herd and one black Angus herd. We were able to take the buses out into

his pasture and observe a set of their Red Angus mother cows, see native forage and hear about their management and marketing philosophies. That evening found us in Alliance, NE, to settle into the hotels for the next few nights.

Tuesday morning, we headed north out of Alliance to Meyring Livestock. The Meyring family provided a great display of cattle, along with friends and family on horseback, and a nice variety of breakfast treats for the tour attendees. Jerry Meyring and his son, Jay, and their families run this well-diversified operation, which includes operating a commercial cow-calf enterprise, feeding cattle and raising Simmental bulls that are sold annually at the Power Line Genetics sale. It was obvious from hearing from the family that their work ethic and passion is second-to-none. The buses were loaded to make our way to Gordon, NE, for lunch and a tour

See TOUR on page 7

Market hits new highs; Feeder cattle up \$4

It was a wild trading week, with cattle futures shooting up triple digits early in the week and then tapering off in the middle of the week. Cash trade continued its ascent, with live and dressed deals several dollars higher.

Live cattle futures closed mixed, with the June contract up \$3.78 to \$178.77 and the August contract down 12 cents to \$172.25.

Cash trade through Thursday totaled 71,150 head. Live steers sold between \$180-194, averaging \$190.31, and dressed steers sold between \$295-300.50, averaging \$299.39.

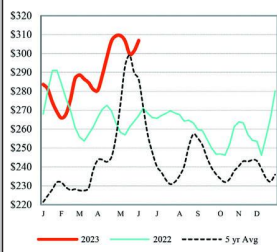
Cash trade for the week ending June 4 was 93,042 head. Live steers averaged \$182.39, and dressed steers averaged \$290.31.

"A light to moderate trade was reported in Nebraska and Iowa Wednesday with dressed deals marked at mostly \$300, \$10 higher than last week's weighted averages, there was even a few head that sold as high as \$304," ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, wrote in her Thursday midday comments. "Live sales in that area had a range of \$189-191, \$3-5 higher than last week's weighted averages. Just a handful of business has been reported in the South this week with a range of \$180-184, \$3-7 higher than last week's weighted averages."

The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of May 29-June 5 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$182.19.
 - Formula net purchases: \$178.13.
 - Forward contract net purchases: \$175.26.
 - Negotiated grid net purchases: \$175.16.
- On a dressed basis:
- Negotiated purchases: \$290.40.

WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT



5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE



- Formula net purchases: \$280.13.
 - Forward contract net
- See MARKETS on page 9

LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$190.05	\$299.29	\$222.20
WEEK ENDING: 06-12-23		

PERIODICAL : Time Sensitive Priority Handling

Do You or You and Your Neighbor Have 300+ Acres of Clean Farm or Pasture Land? Lease Us Your Land!



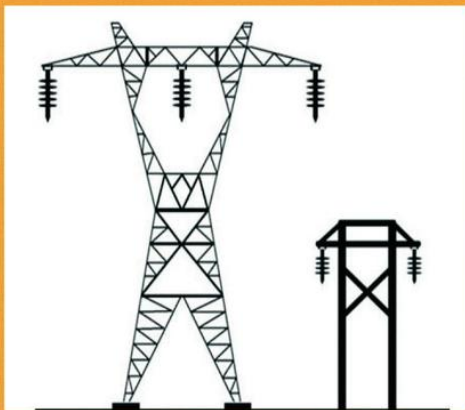
300 acres or more relatively level, clean farm or pastureland with a large transmission line crossing?

Lease Your Land for Solar Power Production

Extraordinary income to the right property owner(s)

If your property qualifies or your property along with neighbors qualify you may potentially receive long term income. (20 – 40-year lease)

\$800 - \$1500 Per acre Per year with incremental increases



Do You Have Power Lines Like This On Or Adjacent To Your Land?

- Can Not be Subtransmission Lines
- Must be Transmission Power Lines
- Must be 115 Kv to 345 Kv

Please Note the Four Essential Requirements Below

Transmission lines crossing or within 200 yards of property

300 or more acres (must be in recent cultivation or in pasture or clear open range)

No timberland or clear cuts

State or county maintained road bordering the property

CALL (828)-817-5400 or (828)-817-9101
Email Us at: InnovativeSolarFarms@gmail.com

Visit our website at innovativesolarsystemsllc.com to view recent projects

THE VIEWPOINT

with Lucy Rechel

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.

Lucy Rechel is a familiar figure in the West, known most prominently for her role as the feedlot owner and manager at Snyder Livestock. Lucy's experience and knowledge in the industry is vast, having worked in practically every sector in the beef supply chain. The legendary Bulls for the 21st Century Test and Sale presented by Snyder Livestock may have held its last sale in 2022, but the sale has continued forward under new management and a new name, the Great Basin Bull Sale. Lucy is maintaining her dedication to the event by continuing to manage the feeding and testing for the sale.

Early beginnings

Lucy can trace her ranching roots all the way back to the 1800s, when her family

began ranching in the Mason Valley of Nevada. Her father owned a cow-calf operation, summering cattle in the Bridgeport, CA, area and wintering in Yerington, NV. In the late '60s, the owner decided to sell the land the family was leasing in Bridgeport. Lacking the wherewithal to

purchase the land themselves, Lucy's dad turned to building a feedlot, working closely with Louie Isola of People's Packing Company to fabricate the facility. Thus, the Snyder Livestock feedlot got its start. The feedlot began finishing cattle but moved more

into backgrounding cattle on a custom basis. Upon Lucy's return to the feedlot after college and a few years of other jobs, she was tasked with how to fill the feedlot year-round. In an attempt to keep a more continuous supply of cattle on feed, Lucy began developing bulls, which eventually led to the creation of the Snyder bull test.

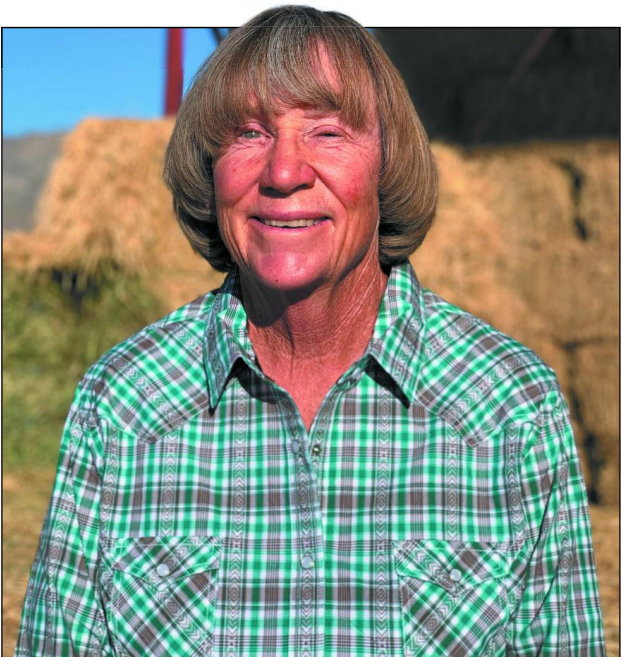
Trends

After decades of feeding and testing some of the best bulls in the West, Lucy has seen how the trend in using data for bull selection has developed, along with what consumers are looking for. "There's a lot of people who are thinking in terms of selling an end product and they're selecting cattle that will perform on their range operations, but they're also selecting cattle that get them premiums," Lucy told WLJ. "And those premiums come from feedlot performance and consumer satisfaction." When the bull sale was first starting out, Lucy said about half of the buyers, maybe more, were unfamiliar with EPDs. Now, there are very few

buyers who don't have a reasonable grasp of EPDs. "Nearly all ranchers are looking at EPDs that directly impact their herd, but mostly they're also looking at EPDs that impact what their cattle do as they move down the road to the consumer," she said. Lucy said one of the most prominent changes on the consumer side is how much the amount of Prime beef is growing. "It's mind boggling to me to go in Costco and see how big that Prime section is," she said. "Even three or four years ago it was nearly non-existent. Unless it was a special occasion, nobody thought of buying Prime." Now, the Costco case is full of Prime beef, signaling a shift in consumers' willingness to spend. Lucy accredits this partly to good promotional work in the industry, partly to consumers having more spending money. She added that she thinks there is a lot more interest in "good" cooking now, including the best way to prepare a good steak. Nutritional trends also benefit the industry, such as the uptick in keto and paleo diets. "As those lifestyles take hold, it not only means people eat more meat, but they cease to worry about fat," Lucy said. "And it can only help the move toward high-end products when people start thinking, 'Hey, I don't have to be afraid of eating fat. I don't have to limit myself to lean meats. My body needs fat.' That's going to really open the door for our industry and every other meat industry to improve quality." With consumer trends come familiar buzzwords, such as "sustainability." Lucy said sharing the rancher's environmental story is one of the most difficult challenges right now, and there needs to be more understandable metrics for sustainability. "People are going to start asking, 'What does that mean?'" she said. "I think we need some simple metrics that are believable and understandable. As we approach the sustainability question, we have to ask ourselves how we can answer that other than just saying, 'Oh no, we're doing a good job.'" At a time when input costs are record high, staying economically sustainable is another concern for agricultural operations across the board. "It scares us to death to look at the things we think we need to purchase," she shared. For Snyders, it is the time of the year in which they renew their operating credit line. "We also work with our banker to plan our equipment purchases. We thought we would be paying 3% and now it's looking north of 6-7% to buy a piece of equipment," she said. After a difficult spring and winter for many producers in Nevada, it's even tougher to manage rising input costs. Some producers lost upwards of 20% of their calf crop. Locally, Lucy projects there are going to be less calves, but bigger calves from all the grass.

The decision to move forward

Lucy said her decision to transfer ownership of the sale was the result of several opportunities lining up with each other, including the opportunity to lighten her load of responsibilities. The Nevada Cattlemen's Association operated a nearby competing bull sale for years in Fallon, NV, and the association wanted to go in a different direction. In addition, Jim Barbee, Churchill County manager, and Jesse Segura, operations deputy of the Rafter 3C Arena, opened up a brand new event center in Fallon and were looking to add a bull sale to the center's offerings. It seemed like the perfect opportunity for the two sales to be combined and hosted in the event center. "There will be a lot of work to do and a lot of learning to do, but I think they'll put it all together and it will end up being a very significant bull sale for Nevada, instead of Nevada having a couple small bull sales," Lucy concluded. Lucy will continue to feed and test the bulls for the sale. — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor



Lucy Rechel

Courtesy photo



TURLOCK LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Contra Costa-Alameda and San Joaquin-Stanislaus County Cattlemen's Associations

41ST
ANNUAL

Showcase Feeder Sales

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

ALSO SELLING CATTLE FROM THESE CALIFORNIA COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS:
Merced-Mariposa • Santa Clara • Napa-Solano • Madera • Calaveras • Tuolumne • Fresno-Kings • San Benito • Tahoe

SUMMER ROUNDUP TLAY SPECIALS

TUESDAY, June 13 • TUESDAY, July 18

SPECIAL FEMALE SALE

Tuesday, June 27

Featuring Jim O'Connell Dispersal

Offering 90 Angus BWF Red

Fall calving cows: 1st calf heifers through 10-years-old

Foothill and anaplasmosis vac. bred to Donati Ranch Angus Bulls

THE FALL CALVING FEMALE SALE OF THE YEAR

17TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA CATTLE PRODUCERS FEMALE SALE

Saturday, August 5

An outstanding line up that includes over 1,000 females from:

Dalporto Livestock
John Ginochio
Lawrence Ginochio
Billy Grissom

Art Anderson
Gilliland Livestock
Ronnie Seever
Pennington Ranch

Duane Martin Livestock
Jim Prewitt
RM Livestock
Haydn-Myer Ranch

SALE DAY IS PAY DAY

When marketing your calves at TLAY, don't forget how essential the 2nd round of shots is. Make sure to include a Modified Live vaccination.



2023 UPCOMING WESTERN VIDEO SALES

July 10 - 12

Call today to consign your cattle!

Max Olvera	209-277-2063	Tim Sisil	209-631-6054
Steve Faria	209-988-7180	John Bourdet	831-801-2343
Justin Ramos	209-844-6372	Celeste Settrini	831-320-1527
John Luiz	209-480-5101	Matt Miller	209-914-5116
Jake Bettencourt	209-262-4019	Brandon Baba	209-480-1267
Travis Johnson	209-996-8645	Bud Cozzi	209-652-4480
		Eddie Nunes	209-604-6848

Online Bidding at www.LMAAuctions.com

209-634-4326 • 209-667-0811 • WWW.TURLOCKLIVESTOCK.COM

CDFA releases Prop 12 pork guidelines

— Effective July 1

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and California Department of Public Health have released guidelines for distributors selling pork compliant with Proposition (Prop) 12 guidelines, set to take effect on July 1. Beginning July 1, distributors will need to submit a self-certification of compliance or valid third-party certification along with their application for distributor registration. CDFA said it recognizes this is a transition period and pork products will need to be cleared from existing inventory. This year the agency will focus on outreach to ensure distributors are registered and third-party certifying agents are accredited. Beginning Jan. 1, 2024, all distributors are required to submit a valid third-party certification along with their application for a new registration.

CDFA will be responsible for implementing Prop 12 regulations. After 2024, the agency will provide the framework for end-users, such as retailers and consumers, to have confidence pork products will be compliant with Prop 12 regulations. Retailers are not required to register with CDFA as they will receive a written certification of compliance from their distributors that whole veal meat, whole pork meat, shell eggs and liquid eggs were raised in compliance with Prop 12 guidelines. If retailers have documentation that all covered products are from registered distributors, those distributors should be able to trace products to compliant farms. More information, including compliance webinars, is available on CDFA's Animal Care Program website at www.cdfa.ca.gov/AHFFS/AnimalCare. — Charles Wallace, WLJ editor

1800

Elite Bred Red Angus Females Sell!

Billings, Montana • November 13th

All Zoetis Inherit DNA Tested!

All BVD PI Tested Negative!

Over 85% AI Bred to Elite Red Angus Bulls!

Ultrasounded for Due Date and Sex of Calf!

Selling in Trailer loads and Pot loads to suit buyer!

Ryan Ludvigson (515)450-3124

Conservation Reserve Program is regionally concentrated

The USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) covered 22 million acres of environmentally sensitive land at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2022, with an annual budget of roughly \$1.8 billion. This made CRP the USDA's largest single conservation program in terms of spending

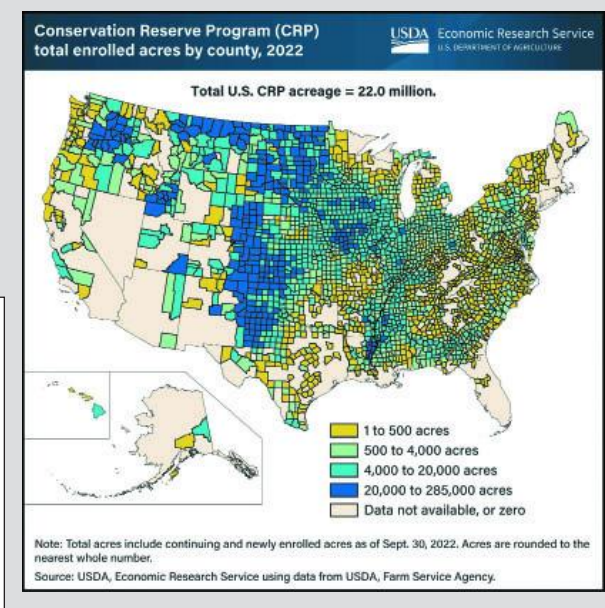
in FY 2022.

Enrollees receive annual and other payments (such as partial reimbursement for cover establishment and incentive payments for enrollment and certain practices) for taking eligible land out of production for at least 10 years.

Program acreage tends to be concentrated on marginally productive cropland that is susceptible to erosion by wind or rainfall. A large share of CRP land ranges from Texas to Montana across the Great Plains, where rainfall is limited and much of the land is subject to potentially severe

wind erosion.

Smaller concentrations of CRP land are found in eastern Washington, southern Iowa, northern Missouri, the Mississippi Delta, southeastern Idaho and northwestern Utah. — **USDA Economic Research Service**



Meat prices up, down as grilling season kicks off

Grilling season has begun, and consumers should expect a mixed bag when it comes to meat options for summer cookouts, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

David Anderson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist, said the summer grilling season typically kicks off during Memorial Day weekend, when Americans come together to celebrate and remember the nation's military veterans.

This year, consumers will likely see lower prices for some grilling favorites like pork spareribs and chicken wings, and higher prices on beef favorites like briskets and steaks, Anderson said.

"It looks like we should be able to find some deals on chicken and pork for cookouts, but retail beef prices continue to stay high on most cuts. Even ground beef for hamburgers is a little higher this year compared to this time last year," he said.

Brisket, burgers cost more

Wholesale beef prices are higher across primal cuts, and Anderson attributes the rising prices to lower beef production. Beef production is down 5% compared to last year, when the U.S. set a record.

"We've had a shrinking beef cattle herd the last few years, and so many cows and heifers went to market because of drought," he said. "Demand doesn't seem to be slowing, which is contributing to higher retail prices."

Wholesale 90% lean ground beef was up slightly—\$2.77/lb. this year compared to \$2.73/lb. last year, while 50% lean grinds were \$1.89/lb. compared to \$1.05/lb. last year.

Brisket prices stumbled after peaking at \$3.05/lb. for Choice primal cuts in September 2021, but they have been climbing in recent weeks. Anderson said wholesale Choice brisket was \$2.31/lb. recently compared to \$2.09/lb. this time last year, a slight discount from the five-year average of \$2.54/lb.

"Briskets got so expensive; prices were so high that people

were buying fewer, and I think some restaurants may have even cut back and been willing to run out of barbecue," he said. "Folks may notice higher brisket prices, but they've been higher."

Steaks were also priced higher this year compared to 2022. Anderson said Choice ribeye steaks were \$8.92/lb. wholesale compared to \$8.54/lb. a year ago. But the increase is well below the price for the same cut just last month—\$10.70/lb.

"I suspect some spot buying by grocers to make sure they had specials going into the holiday drove prices up some," he said. "But those prices came down in the runup to the Memorial Day weekend."

Pork, poultry prices fall

Chicken and pork prices have tumbled from record high prices, Anderson said.

For instance, chicken wing prices, after skyrocketing in recent years, have come back down to Earth. Anderson said wholesale wings were 88 cents/lb. compared to \$1.86/lb. last

year. Chicken breasts have also fallen from a record high of \$3.35 in May 2021. Wholesale breasts were \$1.39/lb. Recently compared to \$3.56/lb. this time last year.

Anderson noted that grocery stores were more willing to feature chicken cuts on special compared to last year. Features are items grocery stores run special prices on to attract customers. Grocery store special features on poultry were double—14% versus 7%—what they were last year.

Wholesale pork prices have experienced similar declines, he said. Spareribs, a classic barbecue offering, were \$1.44/lb. compared to \$2.41/lb. last year. Bellies, which deliver another pork powerhouse—bacon—were 97 cents/lb. compared to \$1.65/lb. Hams and pork butts are the only pork cuts that increased.

Low wholesale pork prices may translate into better prices for consumers, but they are hurting pork producers, Anderson said. Low cutout prices are making it difficult for farmers to break even despite lower feed prices.

"There are some pretty great items on the pork and poultry side for consumers," he said. "But the pork industry is struggling."

Consumers still seeing high prices

Anderson said wholesale prices for beef, pork and poultry may have experienced ups and downs, but that retail prices have remained relatively high.

The price margin between wholesale packer prices and what consumers pay at grocery checkouts is historically large, Anderson said. Higher fuel and electricity costs as well as wages, packaging and other costs all contribute to the wholesale-retail rift.

Retail pork, for instance, is lower than last year, \$4.73/lb. compared to \$4.89/lb., but much higher than the five-year average of \$3.90/lb.

Unemployment is very low, gas prices are lower, wages are higher and the economy is growing despite a difficult run of inflation, he said.

"Overall, people are still buying, and prices aren't high enough to change some habits that might make retailers drop prices on some items that are more in line with wholesale prices," he said. "But those changes are never immediate, and the ups and downs in retail are hardly ever as dramatic as wholesale because stores don't want to drive customers away with big price swings." — **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**

Texas flooding causes cattle losses

Recent severe flooding in the panhandle of Texas caused cattle losses in the largest cattle-feeding region of the country.

Ben Weinheimer, president and CEO of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, told DTN that producers in the Hereford area, as of May 31, were unsure about the extent of the livestock losses.

"The outpouring of support for our members has been tremendous and we are so thankful," Weinheimer said.

"We're still working to move water and it could be a few more days before we know the full extent of losses and damages," Weinheimer said. "However, the severity of the flooding caused by this unprecedented natural disaster has been devastating and we're working to do everything we can to support our members during this difficult time."

Laura L. Lopez, media and community relations manager at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), said the commission has been focusing its efforts

on helping clean up at the Circle 3 Feed Yard in Hereford. Circle 3 operates a 25,000-head facility.

"The TCEQ Amarillo office is providing assistance to the Circle 3 Feed Yard to ensure that dead livestock and any other debris are disposed of in accordance with TCEQ rules and regulations," Lopez told DTN.

"TCEQ cannot confirm the number of potential cattle lost," she said.

John Robinson, senior vice president for communications for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, told DTN the worst of the flooding happened in the Hereford area. Several large feedyards are located in the Hereford area, he said.

While all of the feedyards in the region saw large amounts of rain, only one saw significant flooding, he said. This was a smaller, family-owned facility. This feedyard was located in a low area with a nearby river, which caused the flooding, he said.

"Reports from the area that most all of the floodwaters

have now receded," Robinson said last week.

Robinson added it is difficult to assess how many cattle were lost in the flooding, but he did say social media accounts of mass losses were inaccurate.

Reb Wayne, director of communications at the Texas Department of Agriculture, told DTN on Wednesday, May 31, that officials hope to have a cattle loss estimate soon.

"Undoubtedly, there will also be crop losses as planting on a number of crops in the area had just been completed," Wayne said. "Drinking water is the immediate concern and issue."

ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, said that as of May 30, death toll counts were estimated to range anywhere from 3,000-10,000 head. This event could have a short-term effect on the cattle, she said.

"This could potentially have a positive effect on the cattle market in the immediate future as front-end supplies of market ready cattle are desperately thin," Stewart said.

"But, long term, this won't

have an effect on the market, as 10,000 head only accounts for 1.6% of the market's weekly slaughter production on a week where roughly 620,000 head are processed."

DTN Ag Meteorologist John Baranick said much of the rainfall fell the evening of May 26, into the morning of May 27. It wasn't a huge thunderstorm, but it just sat on top of the Hereford area, and it really did not move much.

Rainfall totals were estimated to be several inches in a fairly short period of time, with Hereford estimated to have received up to 10 inches of rain. "The city got it bad," Baranick said.

"It was a relatively small area. Flood warnings are gone in the region, the waters receded quickly from a combination of drought, sandy soil and low soil moisture," he noted.

On May 25, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed Deaf Smith County, where Hereford is located, was still under D3 Extreme Drought. — **Russ Quinn and Todd Neeley, DTN staff reporters**

Western Livestock Journal®

Your feedback is important to us!

In an effort to better address the needs of our loyal readers, *WLJ* asks readers to complete a brief survey. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. Your information is kept completely confidential and *WLJ* will never sell or share your contact information. To further ensure the confidentiality of the survey, *WLJ* is unable to collect any personal contact information and is only able to collect responses from the survey's completion.

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW.



We thank you for your time and look forward to better serving our readers!

SANDHILLS LEGACY
RANCH TOUR
MAY 21-27, 2023



Sandhills Legacy Ranch Tour attendees gather Friday evening at Buckboard Ranch.



Enjoying the lush pasture at Connealy Angus in Whitman, NE



Eldon Krebs and Ray Prock.



Talented Haxton Hoffman treated attendees to a beautiful performance of “God Bless America” on the bagpipes.



Hoffman Ranch of Thedford, NE, welcomed attendees with a magnificent display of American flags.



Green grass, horses and cattle on display at Meyring Livestock of Alliance, NE.

Day 1

Mount Rushmore, Juniper Cattle Co.,
Welcome Banquet



Marveling at the size and majesty of Mt. Rushmore.



A great display of cattle at Juniper Cattle Co. in Oelrichs, SD.



Wishing former WLJ Fieldman and Tour Host Jerry York a very happy birthday at the welcoming dinner.

Day 2

Meyring Livestock, Krebs Ranch,
Western Sire Services



Greeting some of the horses at Meyring Livestock in Alliance, NE.



Touring the excellent enterprise of Krebs Ranch in Gordon, NE.



Viewing cattle and the facilities at Western Sire Services in Gordon, NE.

Tour chock full of education, fellowship and fun

TOUR (from page 1)

at Krebs Ranch. Eldon Krebs and his family have created one of the most renowned seedstock enterprises in the world. They shared their story of building the ranch and cattle herd and treated us with a bus tour through the ranch, seeing many breeding groups of cattle and herd bulls. The afternoon finished up with a stop at Western Sire Services with a tour of their facilities and a look at the bulls they had on hand.

Wednesday morning found the buses heading east out of Alliance to the heart of the Sandhills. The first stop of the day was Connealy Angus. We met them at one of their pastures to see an outstanding set of cows with calves at their sides. They shared many interesting facts about the Sandhills and the Ogallala Aquifer, including that the groundwater at that location was only 8 feet below us and it was one of the deepest known spots of the aquifer. We traversed to the Connealy Angus headquarters to look at a large selection of bulls that had sold at their spring sale and enjoyed an excellent lunch prepared with their own branded beef.

After lunch, we stopped by the Rex Ranch and heard from ranch manager Austin Anderson and Seedstock Division Manager Jim Tomlinson. We got to hear about their vast holdings and management techniques, along with their breeding philosophies. Tour guests were greeted by a curious bull snake who wanted to come check everyone out before slithering back to its cool shade hole.

The final stop was at the historic Monahan Cattle Company to see the renowned Circle Dot brand. Bob Monahan, his family and ranch crew met the group and explained the vast history of the ranch. Their expansive holding and Hereford-influenced herd was an impressive sight for all. After touring around the headquarters, we were treated to a scenic drive through the ranch before returning to Alliance for the night.

Thursday morning was time for another move and buses were loaded and on their way to North Platte for a few nights. But first was a stop to the world-renowned Haythorn Ranch. Here we enjoyed a wonderful lunch, along with video presentations of the history of the ranch and a look into their previous methods of putting up hay with draft teams. The Haythorn family saw us off with a look at many great horses and some broodmares with colts.

The first stop when reaching North Platte was to see the progress being made on the new Sustainable Beef processing facility. This site was an active construction site with equipment and workers hustling to meet deadlines. We were able to hear from the project manager and investors who have big plans and innovative ideas to provide more opportunity for the industry. Following this was a trip to TD Angus to hear from Trey and Dayna Wasserburger about their seedstock operation and to see multiple groups of cattle on display. An excellent steak dinner was provided, along with a panel discussion and

Q-and-A session around the Sustainable Beef facility.

Friday morning was wet and rainy when we left North Platte for Thedford, NE. There we were able to tour Hoffman Ranch, seeing their feeding facilities, before making our way over to the ranch headquarters. They shared a rich history of the Hereford breed along with many show accolades on display. One of the most memorable events of the tour was when Haxton, son of Jason and Kaycee Hoffman, played bagpipes for the crowd and everyone joined in on singing "God Bless America." There were not many dry eyes in the house.

The afternoon and evening were spent at the Buckboard Ranch, owned by Mike Kelly and his family. They welcomed tour attendees with a description of their ranching operations along with some interesting insight on research projects they are doing with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The evening had an exclamation point put on it with a live band and dancing!

The final day had buses loaded and headed for Oshkosh, NE, to Van Newkirk Herefords. The Van Newkirk family gave attendees a warm welcome and had a wonderful display of registered cattle on-site. Tour goers were given the opportunity to guess some of the trait-leading bulls out of their 2024 bulls that were on display. Five lucky individuals won \$1,000 of "Bull Bucks" to be used at a future Van Newkirk sale! Joe and Cyndi Van Newkirk and their children and grandchildren were very accommodating hosts and insightful about their program and breeding philosophy.

The final destination on the tour was the Terrell Ranch between Alliance and Hay Springs, run by Vern, his son, Brock, and their families. This diversified commercial operation farms, runs cow-calf pairs, yearlings and a background lot. They have implemented an intensive grazing management system and shared valuable insight on their unique ranch management philosophies. They took us to see 2,700 head of yearlings on pasture, where we found out the Sandhills are no place for big tour buses and how unforgiving the sand can be when trying to navigate the back roads of Nebraska. With the assistance of a tractor, we were finally headed back to Rapid City, a few hours behind schedule, but with a full week of memories that are only created on the Livestock Tour.

If you have not had the pleasure of going on one of the Livestock Tours presented by the *Western Livestock Journal*, I would strongly recommend that you consider it. The insight provided by the ranches we toured, the life-long friendships made on the buses and the memories created are well worth the price of admission. Though there were many first-time tour goers, the familiar faces of those who have been on multiple tours are a testament to the quality of the tours. Thanks to Pete and Rita Crow, Jerry York and Michelle Morgan, and Devin and Samantha Murnin for planning a great event. If you are interested in future tours, please contact Devin and Samantha at devin.murnin@gmail.com or 406-696-1502. — **WLJ**

Day 3 | Connealy Angus, Rex Ranch, Monahan Cattle Co.



John and Rhonda Norris, Lovington, NM, at Connealy Angus in Whitman, NE.



Hearing from Rex Ranch manager Austin Anderson in Ashby, NE.



Peter and Karen Berwick, Ringarooma, Tasmania, at Monahan Cattle Co. in Hyannis, NE.

Day 4 | Haythorn Ranch, TD Angus, Sustainable Beef



Horses at Haythorn Ranch in Arthur, NE.



Cattle at TD Angus in North Platte, NE.



Touring the construction site for the new Sustainable Beef plant in North Platte, NE.

Day 5 | Hoffman Ranch, Buckboard Ranch



A historic truck on display at Hoffman Ranch in Thedford, NE.



Cattle at the Hoffman Ranch in Thedford, NE, see tour attendees off to their next stop.



A night of dinner and dancing at Buckboard Ranch in Sutherland, NE.

Day 6 | Van Newkirk Herefords, Terrell Farms



Cattle at Van Newkirk Herefords in Oshkosh, NE.



Wayne Farrell and Ray Page view cattle at Van Newkirk Herefords in Oshkosh, NE.



Cattle grazing at Terrell Farms in Hay Springs, NE.

MARKET NEWS

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

MARKET SITUATION REPORT

MARKET AT A GLANCE	This Week: 6/8/2023	Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	190.05	▲	175.62
CME Feeder Index	222.20	▲	208.07
Boxed Beef Average	328.73	▲	306.44
Average Dressed Steers	299.29	▲	280.97
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,353	▲	1,341
Weekly Slaughter**	573,000	▼	625,000
Weekly Beef Production***	467.1	▼	509.6
Hide/Offal Value	13.92	▲	12.69
Corn Price	6.10	▲	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
Jun 2	6,262	299.90	188	329.00	1,221	305.86	1,858	300.57	748	285.12	2,247
May 26	7,338	298.18	251	326.77	1,549	303.59	2,168	298.99	932	281.59	2,438
May 19	6,992	299.13	255	326.99	1,410	302.70	2,056	298.62	807	282.13	2,464
May 12	6,722	304.25	194	335.11	1,335	308.32	1,985	305.05	700	285.55	2,509
Cutouts ----- FED BOXED BEEF -----											
DATE	CHOICE			SELECT			COW BEEF CUTOUT			50% LEAN	90% LEAN
Jun 8	328.73			304.10			226.69			197.08	280.83
Jun 7	325.19			301.56			226.78			188.95	N/A
Jun 6	321.40			299.44			226.67			189.62	282.33
Jun 5	314.19			296.73			225.95			192.00	283.50
Jun 2	309.93			290.93			224.87			178.13	279.51

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	6/2	6/5	6/6	6/7	6/8	High*	Low*
Jun.	17643	17715	17983	17900	17878	17983	14003
Aug.	17290	17328	17550	17320	17225	17550	15388
Oct.	17600	17633	17825	17563	17470	17825	15310
Dec.	17918	17960	18125	17853	17753	18125	16853
CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	6/2	6/5	6/6	6/7	6/8	High*	Low*
Aug.	24190	24260	24325	23910	23865	24325	17595
Sep.	24500	24563	24653	24228	24148	24653	18303
Oct.	24700	24765	24883	24455	24345	24883	18755
Nov.	24780	24850	24995	24580	24458	24995	22750
*High and low figures are for the life of the contract.							

FED CATTLE TRADE		Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES				
Live FOB Steer		26,463	1,440	190.05
Live FOB Heifer		6,150	1,293	189.93
Dressed Del Steer		11,637	918	299.29
Dressed Del Heifer		1,714	818	299.73
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK				
Live FOB Steer		1,144	1,431	175.62
Live FOB Heifer		691	1,213	171.00
Dressed Del Steer		335	834	280.97
Dressed Del Heifer		454	796	280.00
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR				
Live FOB Steer		22,617	1,402	140.30
Live FOB Heifer		7,388	1,262	139.33
Dressed Del Steer		9,614	912	225.97
Dressed Del Heifer		1,618	842	226.00

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: JUNE 4		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	18,837	3,402
Formula	241,427	253
Negotiated Cash	85,692	190
Negotiated Grid	44,384	758
Packer Owned	11,442	N/A
Total	401,782	4,603

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,682
Jun. '23	109,533	Neg. Sales 21+ days	797
Jul. '23	69,810	Formula sales	3,613
Aug. '23	70,599	Forward contract sales	170
Sep. '23	84,136	Domestic sales	5,369
Oct. '23	83,525	NAFTA Exports	120

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		174.96	-0.88
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		173.60	+0.65
Ontario Auctions			
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs		N/A	N/A
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		N/A	N/A
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs		100.46	+0.31
*Price comparison from one week ago.			

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, May 26, 2023				
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario	
501-600 lbs	253.10	N/A	244.60	
601-700 lbs	241.59	N/A	232.24	
701-800 lbs	221.22	N/A	222.79	
801-900 lbs	203.23	N/A	211.67	
Heifers:				
401-500 lbs	231.31	N/A	204.28	
501-600 lbs	225.37	N/A	208.00	
601-700 lbs	212.07	N/A	188.59	
701-800 lbs	201.45	N/A	187.67	

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
	5/29/23	5/22/23		
Feeders	25,162	22,967	522,932	385,508

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE				
Friday, May 5, 2023				
Mexico to TX. & NM. Weekly Feeder Cattle Import Summary				
Receipts EST: 14,000	Week Ago Act: 21,251	Year Ago Act: 11,908		
Compared to last week, steer calves and yearlings sold mostly steady. Heifers mostly steady. Trade active to very active, demand active to very good. The bulk of the supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-700 lbs.				
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 239.00-250.00; 400-500 lbs 219.00-230.00; 500-600 lbs 199.00-210.00; 600-700 lbs 184.00-195.00. Medium and large 2&3, 300-400 lbs 224.00-235.00; 400-500 lbs204.00-215.00; 500-600 lbs 184.00-195.00.				
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 198.00-208.00,few 209.00; 400-500 lbs 188.00-198.00, few 199.00; 500-600 lbs 178.00-188.00, few 189.00; 600-700 lbs 168.00-178.00, few 179.00.				
(slide 10 cents on steers and heifers basis 300 lbs. All sales fob port of entry.)				

Selected Auction Week Ending June 8, 2023										
DATE MARKET	200-300 lb.	300-400 lb.	400-500 lb.	500-600 lb.	600-700 lb.	700-800 lb.	800 lb. -up	SLAUGHTER COWS SLAUGHTER BULLS	PAIRS REPLACEMENTS	
June 2 Blackfoot, ID	N/A	200-251	235-289	210-288	200-259	190-243		90-08		NORTHWEST
June 1 Burley, ID	425	260	275-299	195-264	259	242-248		115-134.25		
No report available Emmett, ID			250-265	218				86-112.50		
June 3 Eugene, OR	1,095	182-224	220-258	207-236	205-235	188-207	195-208	82-104	960-1,650	
June 5 Madras, OR	299		250-278	248-278	235-255	200-235	185-205	95-110	1,500-1,950	
			225-245	225-248	215-240	180-212		115-127		
May 31 Vale, OR	304							97-108.50		FARWEST
June 5 Davenport, WA	229	260	235	265	90-270	110-262	139-184	108-133		
June 1 Toppenish, WA	1,230	300-500	100-275	175-260	80-230	70-195	81-182.50	105-133	1,250-2,400	
No report available Orland, CA										
June 7 Escalon, CA								75-94		
May 29 Famoso, CA	745	250-296	225-296	175-265	170-289	150-245	135-150	85-130		
June 7 Galt, CA	3,707		250-305	250-291	230-280	200-251	175-216	100-109		NORTH CENTRAL
June 3 Turlock, CA	3,029		220-288	220-287	200-254	180-215	170-209			
May 30 Salina, UT	562	195-235	185-227	180-225.50	195-250	187.50-245	152.50-198	85.30-118.75		
June 5 Iowa	10,392	269	275-334	256-321.50	222.50-300	220-277.50	182-228.50	89-119.50		
June 6 Miles City, MT	1093		334-383	432-475	519-573	619-678	828-971	92-146		
No report available Bassett, NE					275* 225*	224*		92-110	1,875-2,000	
No report available Ericson, NE								108-131		SOUTH CENTRAL
No report available Imperial, NE										
May 31 Kearney, NE	2,500		282-306	268.50-300	240-271	219-239	203-216.50	100-123.50		
No report available Lexington, NE			257-270	227-270	216-237	209-219	208.50-217	114-130		
No report available Ogallala, NE										
No report available Valentine, NE										
No report available Herreid, SD										EAST
No report available Torrington, WY										
June 1 Wilcox, AZ	N/A	228-230	203-264	215-263	200-266	195-244		80-110	2,350-2,400	
June 5 Colorado	911	180-203	176-220	191-228	196-229	181-214		90-120	1,300-1,500	
May 31 La Junta, CO	661		300	270-289	250-271	220-250	151-215	52.50-118	1,475-2,300	
No report available Loma, CO			247	248-255	224-238	215	182-197.50	99-138		
June 7 Dodge City, KS	1,734		310-325	300-321	245-307.50	225-278	190-233	94-111	1,475-1,800	
June 8 Pratt, KS	1,800		202-259	215-265	211-242.50	204-226.50	217-223.25	110-133		
No report available Salina, KS					209-292.50	203-270	201-251	90-107		
June 7 Clovis, NM	1,460	328-333	287-319	280-311	211-251	200-239	212.50-214	105-129		
June 7 El Reno, OK	9,755	280	315-345	285-310	265-299	225-251	218-225	95-119	900-1,575	
June 7 McAlester, OK	1,780		262.50-310	258-277.50	235-287	210-258	175-202	106-115.50	1,00-1,400	
June 6 Oklahoma City, OK	10,248	300-325	275-314	260-285	260-290	242.50-252.50	227-252.50			
June 2 Cuero, TX	1,222		230-249	226-242	235-270	210-239	201-219	182-209		
June 2 Dalhart, TX	1,463		275-314	260-285	239-279	222-244	178-219	183-201	90-107	
June 1 San Angelo, TX	600		230-249	226-242	221-236	211-229	180-207	136-181	1,125-1,875	
June 8 Tulla, TX	894	331-382.50	307-370	285-313	251-307	220-271	218.75-239	200.75-229	950-1,400	
		293	262-287	239-277	229-265	210-235	200-220	178-209		
		260-300	210-304	236-300	229-256	206-229	187-210			
		226-292.50	227-296	220-254	206-262	196-219	159-206	80-103	1,300	
		261-307	285	239-251	256	226-233.50	216-231	70-116	1,685	
		212-234	267	289	230-240	222.50	188-200	98-117.50		
			308	260-292	242-250	224	209-218	93-116	1,650-2,000	
		</td>								

June heats up ... and not just the weather

Summer temperatures are not the only thing heating up as we move into June. Beef and cattle markets have been rising in recent weeks as well. Tighter supplies of beef and cattle are dominating market fundamentals and will continue to do so.

Choice boxed beef prices finished the last week of May at \$309.93/cwt, up \$6/cwt from the Friday before Memorial Day. Boxed beef prices had previously peaked in late April but decreased through May with holiday buying completed. The increase in Choice boxed beef prices into June suggests that post-Memorial Day beef demand remains strong. With few exceptions, wholesale beef cut prices are higher year over year and the Choice boxed beef price is 14.8% higher than this time last year.

Beef supplies continue to tighten with beef production down year over year every week this year except one week in January. For the first 20 weeks of the year, beef production is down 4.8% year over year. Total cattle slaughter is down 2.8% so far this year compared to last year, with fed slaughter down 2.4% and total cow slaughter down 4.1% year over year. However, heifer slaughter remains 0.6% higher year over year for the year to date, and total female (heifer plus cow) slaughter so far this year accounts for 52.4% of total cattle slaughter.

Beef cow slaughter is down 11.2% thus far in 2023 but is partially offset by a 4.7% increase for the year to date in dairy cow slaughter. Steer carcass weights have averaged 12.8 pounds lighter year over year, while heifer carcasses

are averaging 15.2 lbs. lighter this year. Cow carcass weights are lighter this year by 9.8 lbs. on average.

Cash fed cattle prices traded higher the last week of May, with an average live price of \$181.26/cwt, including some high-grading cattle trading as high as \$190/cwt late in the week. Fed prices decreased some after the early April peaks in an apparent seasonal decline but are now moving counter-seasonally higher.

Feeder cattle prices continue a strong uptrend with prices for lightweight stocker calves advancing the most. Oklahoma auction prices for 400-lb. steers, Medium/Large #1, averaged \$309.70/cwt for the week ending June 2. All steers below 925 lbs. were priced over \$200/cwt. Steer prices are higher year over

year by over 54% for animals under 600 lbs. and nearly 40% higher for those over 600 lbs.

Medium/Large, #1 heifers up to 750 lbs. also brought more than \$200/cwt. Slaughter cow prices ranged from \$114.93/cwt for high dressing breaking cows, to \$85.30/cwt for low dressing lean cows. The price for average dressing boning cows was \$103.16/cwt.

Recent improvement in drought conditions increases the odds that heifer retention will begin in earnest in the second half of the year. Increased heifer retention, combined with reduced cow culling will increasingly squeeze cattle slaughter for the remainder of the year and into 2024 and beyond. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Choice cutout up over \$22

MARKETS (from page 1)

purchases: \$267.44.

• Negotiated grid net purchases: \$284.11.

Slaughter through Thursday was estimated to be 495,000 head. Projected slaughter for a week earlier was 573,000, down 52,000 head from the previous week due to the holiday-shortened week. Actual slaughter for the

week ending June 8 was 625,035 head. The average dressed steer weight was 883 lbs., down 2 lbs. from the prior week.

Boxed beef prices were higher, with the Choice cutout up over \$22 to \$328.73 and the Choice cutout up over \$17 to \$304.10.

"Boxed beef values are in hot pursuit of the cattle prices, printing this morning at \$327.74, another new 2023

high, up \$2.55 from yesterday afternoon," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef on Thursday. "Remember, June is typically the largest fed cattle slaughter month of the year, so retailers are used to plenty to pick from. Debate continues on this week's slaughter estimate, still ranging from 620k to 640k head. Father's Day, a solid beef consumption day, is a week from Sunday."

Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures were higher, with the August contract up \$4.73 to \$238.65 and the September contract up \$4.37 to \$241.47. The CME Feeder Cattle Index was up \$14.13 to \$222.20.

"It doesn't matter if you spent your time tracking Superior's Corn Belt Classic sale or if you watched various sales throughout the country, feeder cattle prices continue to trek higher as buyers are worried about finding enough replacements to restock their empty pens later this year," Stewart wrote on Thursday.

Corn futures were higher, with the July contract up 18 cents a bushel to \$6.10 and the September contract up 4 cents to \$5.28.

Strategies for irrigating first-cutting alfalfa

Alfalfa is a tough, drought-tolerant perennial crop with rooting depths down to eight feet or more. Depending on deep soil profile moisture during drought, some varieties can move into a dormancy and survive up to 45 days without rainfall. However, forage yields drop dramatically since alfalfa requires about 6 inches of root available water to produce 1 ton of forage per acre.

So, what irrigation strategy is recommended for alfalfa under extreme moisture stress prior to the first cutting? Remember that once perennial fields lack spring moisture, it is hard to catch up with irrigation during the hot summer season due to high ET (evapotranspiration) water needs.

Also, stressed alfalfa, which may be dropping leaves prematurely, may be cut before the recommended one-tenth bloom development stage to salvage yield. This timing disruption may impact target

irrigation, which is usually applied, just prior to the first cutting to increase regrowth tonnage for the next cutting.

Moving forward, an advantage of early alfalfa cutting is that water use will drop sharply; because transpiration is lower when the leaf foliage is removed. Following the first cutting, irrigation might be delayed slightly in fields where weeds could respond quicker to the moisture than alfalfa regrowth.

Otherwise, full water irrigation or rainfall target amounts will be typically six to seven inches of water for each subsequent cutting. Spring water usage may only be one-quarter inch per day but will rapidly increase as summer temperatures rise. Peak water alfalfa usage in July and August can extend beyond the normal one-third inch per day (or two inches per week) to a half inch per day during extreme stress times. — **Todd Whitney, Nebraska Extension**

Initiative proposes to prohibit slaughter in Denver

A citizen-proposed initiative seeks to prohibit all use of livestock slaughterhouses in the city of Denver, CO. The proposal is currently in the signature gathering phase to make it onto next year's ballot.

The initiative would ban the construction, maintenance or use of slaughterhouses within the city, and require the city to implement a worker assistance program to assist those who were employed by the facilities. If passed, the proposal would go into effect Jan. 1, 2026.

"Slaughterhouses are nuisances upon the neighbor-

hoods in which they operate, due to the foul odors which they produce, their unsightly industrial facades, and the disagreeable nature of their operation," the ordinance read.

It continues that employment in such facilities is associated with "exceptionally high rates of workplace injury," along with "mental illness and addiction due to the unique psychological harms experienced by slaughterhouse workers."

The proposal also points to climate change, alleging that animal agricultural opera-

tions are a significant cause, and advocates for a plant-based food system.

"Eliminating slaughterhouses in Denver will promote community awareness of animal welfare, bolster the city's stance against animal cruelty, and in turn, foster a more humane environment in Denver," the ordinance read.

Petitioners have until Nov. 7 to collect about 26,000 valid signatures. Petitioner committee members are linked to various animal activist organizations. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**



COMING EVENTS

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

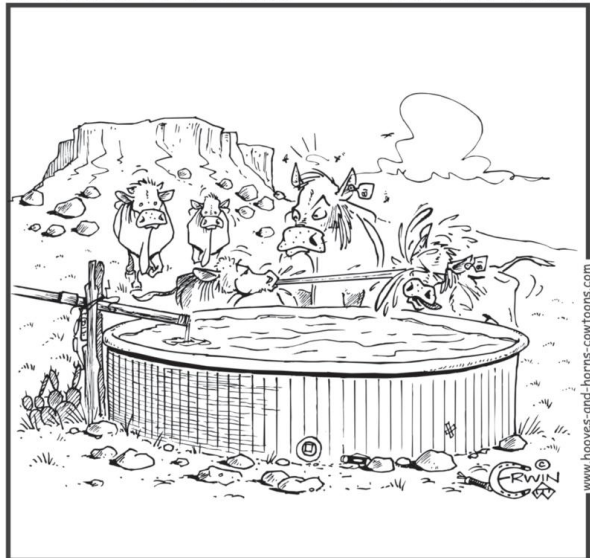
June 19-21 – The Colorado Cattlemen's Association's (CCA) 2023 Annual Convention will be held in Steamboat Springs, CO. To register, call the CCA office at 303-431-6422, or visit ccaa.memberclicks.net.

July 5-8 – The Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede will celebrate its 100th year in Wolf Point, MT. Tickets are available after June 21 by calling 406-653-1770.

Jan. 21-Feb. 2, 2024 – Mark your calendars for the 2024 Cattle Industry Convention & National Cattlemen's Beef Association Trade Show, which is heading to the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. Additional information is available at convention.ncba.org.

HOOVES & HORNS

BY A.W. ERWIN



"TREVOR! STOP THAT RIGHT NOW! There's little calves in the Panhandle that don't have even a drop to drink!"

FORT RANCH

46th Annual Production Sale

Saturday • June 24, 2023 • 35 Miles West of Brigham City

Prospects raised on 21,000 acres in the beautiful, rugged Promontory Mountains of Utah. Our foals are born and raised in the elements and on the mountainside. They have a rich history of being cow horses that excel on the ranch, in the arena, and in the show pen. We hope to see you at our annual production sale!



FOR INFORMATION & CATALOG REQUESTS CALL:
Landon Hall
208-680-9041
or www.fortranch.com

Saturday, June 24, 2023
10:00 Sale Preview
11:30 Fort Ranch Sale Begins
Complimentary lunch served throughout the sale

Reference Sires:

Quite A Boon
PeptoBoonsmal x Meradas Little Sue

Silver Savannah Moon
Once In A Blu Boon x Savannah Hollie

Cat Suep
High Brow Cat x Meradas Little Sue

Cow Kwacker
High Brow Cat x Kwackin

Kid Dunit
Dun It With A Twist x Melimelo Kid

Smart Zee Lena
Smart Little Lena x Zee Dually

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
208-662-5530
208-589-1951

Dams include own daughters of:

Bobalena Bob
Bodee Boonsmal
Cat Ichi
CD Lights
Dual Rey
Gun Goes Boon
Hickorydickory Doc
High Brow Cat
High Brow CD
Little Pistol Badge
Metallic Cat

Mr Peppy Olena
Mr Skyline Peppy
One Time Pepto
Playdox
Playin Stylish
Quite A Boon
Ricochets Sue
Smart Little Lena
Smooth As A Cat
TR Dual Rey
Zoom Zoom Shorty

Sale Terms: 1/3 down payment with balance to be paid in September when foals are weaned and picked up by their new owners. Foal guaranteed to be alive and sound or your down payment will be refunded.



CLASSIFIED CORRAL

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

 WWW.WLJ.NET

 303-722-7600

 1-303-722-0155

 CLASSIFIED@WLJ.NET

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
GENERAL INFORMATION

ADVERTISING RATES
BY THE WORD: 90 cents per word for each insertion.
MINIMUM WORD RATE: 17 words or fewer, \$15.30 one time.
MAD RATES: (Bold headline) \$2 more per insertion for your phone number, email and/or website, plus first 2 or 3 words in bold print. (Applies to word ads only)
BOXED AND BOLD: (Boxed with bold text) \$5 more per insertion. (Applies to word ads only)
BLIND BOX AD: We will assign your confidential number and forward replies to you. **Cost is \$12 per 3 issues** for mail and handling service.
BOXED DISPLAY ADS: \$30 per column inch for each insertion.
MINIMAL ARTWORK: No additional charge.
BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO: \$10, LIMIT OF ONE.
COLOR PHOTO: \$35 EACH.
DISCOUNTS: 5% for running your ad 3 to 5 times; 10% for 6 times or more; up to 35% for 52 times.
SUGGESTION FOR CORRECT WORD COUNT: Be sure to include your name, address and phone number in the count, as well as all initials and abbreviations. Hyphenated words count as two.
TEARSHEETS: Available upon request only. Can be faxed or mailed.
CONDITIONS
EMPLOYMENT WANTED ADS: Must be paid in advance.
DEADLINE: Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. MT, the week prior to publication date. Newspaper is published on Mondays.
LIABILITY: Advertiser is liable for content of advertisement and any claims arising therefrom made against the publication.
Publisher is not responsible for errors in phoned-in copy. Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising not considered in keeping with the publication standards.
COMMISSIONS: Classified advertising is NOT agency commissionable.

CLASSIFIED INDEX

1.....	Employment Wanted	20H.....	Northeast Real Estate For Sale
2.....	Help Wanted	20I.....	Foreign Real Estate For Sale
3.....	Situations Wanted	21.....	Real Estate Wanted
4.....	Distributors Wanted	22...	Real Estate Rent/Lease/Trade
5.....	Appraisers	23.....	Pasture Available
6.....	Auctions	24.....	Pasture Wanted
7.....	Auctioneers	25.....	Mineral Rights
8.....	Feedlots	26.....	Hay/Feed/Seed
9.....	Lost Cattle	27.....	Irrigation
10.....	Cattle for Sale	28.....	Ag/Industrial Supplies
11.....	Cattle Wanted	29.....	Fencing/Corrals
12.....	AI/Semen/Embryos	30.....	Equipment For Sale
13.....	Brands	31.....	Equipment Wanted
14.....	Dogs for Sale	32.....	Building Materials
15.....	Horses/Mules	33.....	Trucks/Trailers
16.....	Bison/Buffalo	34.....	Tractors/Implements
17.....	Sheep/Goats/Hogs	35.....	Business Opportunity
18.....	Livestock Supplies	36.....	Loans
19.....	Ranch/Livestock Services	37.....	Insurance
20.....	Real Estate Opportunities	38.....	Financial Assistance
20A.....	Pacific Real Estate For Sale	39.....	Tech/Books/Art/Etc.
20B.....	Intermountain Real Estate For Sale	40.....	Miscellaneous
20C.....	Mountain Real Estate For Sale	41.....	Lost/Found
20D.....	Southwest Real Estate For Sale	42.....	Personal
20E.....	Plains Real Estate For Sale	43.....	Schools
20F.....	Midwest Real Estate For Sale	44.....	Auctioneering Schools
20G.....	Southeast Real Estate For Sale		

CLASSIFIED CORRAL

1-800-850-2769 • Fax: 303-722-0155
www.wlj.net • classified@wlj.net

DO NOT PHONE IN RESPONSES TO BLIND BOX ADS.
ADVERTISERS' NAMES AND LOCATIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.
INCLUDE THE AD DEPARTMENT NUMBER IN YOUR EMAIL
RESPONSE OR ON YOUR ENVELOPE AND YOUR REPLY WILL BE
PROMPTLY FORWARDED.



2FOR1

PLACE A CLASSIFIED
AD, SEE IT IN PRINT
& ONLINE

CLASSIFIED ADS WORK!
www.wlj.net

Call & schedule your classified
ad today!
800-850-2769
classified@wlj.net
303-722-0155 Fax

Help
Wanted2

Cattle department manager wanted for historic, family owned ranch on California's Central Coast.

Send resume by email: Classified@wlj.net (Subject line: WLJ Box #917) or mail to: Western Livestock Journal, ATTN: Box #917, 7355 E. Orchard Rd. #300, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

Serving Ag Personnel for 63 Years

GET TOP DOLLAR!!!
Hansen Agri-PLACEMENT

CATTLE DEPT. MANAGER (CA).....\$75K±
RANCH UNIT MANAGER (NE).....\$60K±
RANCH ASSISTANT (MT).....\$55K±

Call Eric 308/382-7351
www.hansenagriplacement.com

Cattle
For Sale10

150 Bulls For Sale
Home of 2 Bar Twenty X

2 Bar Angus
Hereford, Texas
806/344-7444
877/2BAR-ANG
www.2barangus.com



Livestock
Supplies18

POWDER RIVER
LIVESTOCK EQUIP.

Best prices with delivery available.
Conlin Supply Co., Inc.
Oakdale, CA
Ask for Larry or Albert
209/847-8977

NEED EXTRA INCOME?

Advertise a hunting
or fishing lease!

CALL NOW!
800-850-2769

Real Estate
Southwest20D

Real Estate
Opportunities20



80 AC TURN-KEY CATTLE
RANCH:
ASH GROVE, MO. 2
SPRING-FED PONDS, BARN,
ELECTRIC, WELL, FENCED,
CONCRETE TROUGHS,
GOOD SOIL.
ASKING \$560,000
417-567-0808 | 417-859-3204
CASE REAL ESTATE

Real Estate
Pacific20A



KNIFE
LAND COMPANY
EST 1944

Owyhee River Hunting Ranch
PRICE REDUCED

205± acres with 1.4± miles of
Owyhee River frontage. 114±
acres are irrigated and rated
Prime Farmland by the USDA.
The land and old home are
leased. Great hunting and
fishing. Now \$2,495,000

Buying or Selling? Call today!
(208) 345-3163 • knipeland.com

Irrigation27



WESTERN
POLYPIPE

HDPE PIPE for Ranch Water Systems
Fair Prices • Good Service • Rancher Owned
DELIVERY THROUGHOUT THE WEST
CALL TODAY: 775-657-1815

Real Estate
Southwest20D

Real Estate
Opportunities20



HALL AND HALL®

SALES | AUCTIONS
FINANCE | MANAGEMENT
Dedicated to Land and Landowners Since 1946

SWEET GRASS FARM ON THE YELLOWSTONE
BIG TIMBER, MONTANA

Productive acreage with approximately
one mile of Yellowstone River frontage
located three miles northeast of Big Timber.
Approximately 366 of the 609± deeded
acres under five pivots. Updated livestock
facilities and expansive views.

OFFERED AT \$5,690,000

Contact: B Elfland | belfland@hallandhall.com

WWW.HALLANDHALL.COM | INFO@HALLANDHALL.COM | 406.587.3090

Real Estate
Southwest20D

Real Estate
Southwest20D

Scott Land Company, LLC

RANCH & FARM REAL ESTATE

We need your listings on any types of ag properties in TX, NM, OK & CO.

NEW LISTING! UNION CO., NM – 2,091.72 ac. (1,771.72 deeded, 320± ac. State Lease), well watered w/three wells, two sets of steel pens. Well located just off of the Clayton/Springer hwy. on Barney Road.

PRICE REDUCED! CEDARVALE, NM – 7,113 acre ranch (5,152± ac. deeded – 1,961± ac. State Lease) well fenced & watered w/good pens, new barn.

KINNEY CO., TX – 802± ac. Brush country w/some live oaks. Good Hunting!

www.scottlandcompany.com • 800-933-9698 day/eve
Ben G. Scott – Broker • Krystal M. Nelson – NM QB



Phone
IN
YOUR
Order

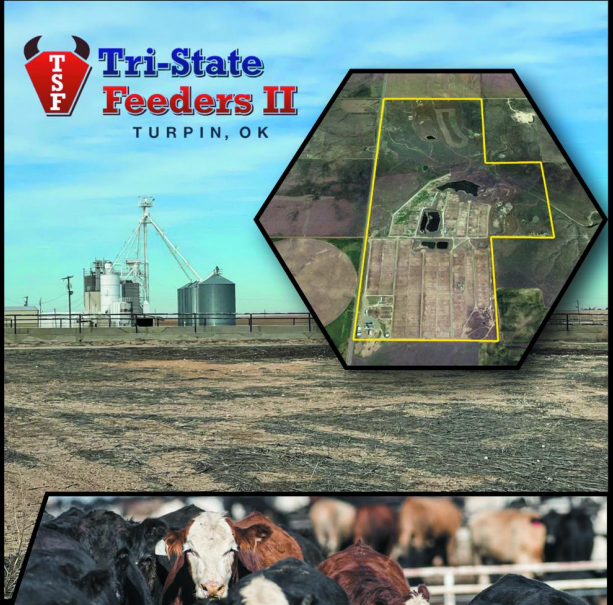
SUBSCRIBE TO WLJ
TODAY!
CALL HANNAH
720-370-8275

Real Estate
Southwest20D

Real Estate
Southwest20D

UNRESERVED ONLINE AUCTION >> 30,000-HEAD
FEED YARD <<

Tri-State
Feeders II
TURPIN, OK



The Tri-State Feeders II property is located 3 miles south of Turpin, Oklahoma on US-83. The real estate contains 560 acres± with 30,000 head capacity and is improved with a 3,535 sq. ft. office, 45,000-bushel grain storage, 30,000 feet of concrete bunk line, 4 electric water wells, 80' truck scale, 2 cattle scales, and multiple buildings. Property is agent owned.

Visit www.bigiron.com for more information

Information was obtained from sources deemed reliable, but broker makes no guarantees as to accuracy. All prospective buyers urged to fully inspect property and rely on their own conclusions. Copyright 2022 BigIron Realty. All rights reserved.

Bid Online
JULY 6-JULY 20, 2023
BIDDING ENDS AT 1 P.M. CDT
Get a salebill, register and bid at www.bigiron.com/realty

Legal:
The W ½ & W ½ SE ¼ Section
12-4-20E and NW ¼ Section
13-4-20E Beaver County, OK,
containing 560+/- acres

Location:
From the intersection of Hwy 83 & Hwy
3 at Bryan's Corner, go 12.5 miles north
to the property. From Liberal, KS, go 15
miles south on Hwy 83, or from Turpin,
OK, 3 miles south on Hwy 83.

Attend the Auction
Thursday, July 20, 2023
9 a.m. CDT until bidding ends
Comfort Suites
2891 Centennial Blvd, Liberal, KS 67901
BigIron Realty Agents will be at the Comfort Suites in Liberal, KS, on July 20, 2023, from 9:00 a.m., until the conclusion of the online auction. Please come during the times scheduled to discuss the farm. BigIron Realty Representatives will assist buyers with registering to bid online. You do not have to be present to bid online, but you must be available by phone. Sellers: Thinking of selling your property? Please attend this auction to see how it works!

BigIron
REALTY

[EXPERTS IN SELLING LAND]

Seller: Tri State Feeders II

Contact Your Listing Agent
RON STOCK
402.649.3705
ron.stock@bigironrealty.com

Short pasture concerns this summer

A cool spring and dry weather have resulted in lower-than-expected pasture production in parts of the Plains. With summer upon us, even ample moisture now may not return pastures, especially those that are cool season dominated, to full productivity. So, what can we do to stretch a limited forage supply?

While annual forages that prefer cool temperatures like brassicas and small grains may not be an option to plant, those needing summer forage are right on time to get heat loving species like sorghums, sorghum-sudan hybrids, millets and sudangrass in the ground. These annual grasses can produce large quantities of forage

for harvest. Different species lend themselves to different harvest methods, so know how you plan on feeding or grazing before you plant. Another way to stretch pasture is through improved utilization. Under typical grazing conditions, we only plan on cattle consuming 25-30% (harvest efficiency) of a pasture's

production. Half is left for plant health while another quarter is fouled or trampled. Something as simple as a single wire electric cross fence can improve harvest efficiency to 35%. When paired with a back fence, the rest provided to previously grazed plants can aid in recovery and provide regrowth for use later in the year.

Finally, begin looking at herd records now and make a plan for destocking later on in the year if conditions continue to deteriorate. Planning for a short forage year is not a task we want to undertake in June, but it may

be needed this year. If the worst does come to pass, looking at other forage options, better utilizing pasture, and planning for destocking now will be worth the effort. — **Ben Beckman, Nebraska Extension**



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. 17 — Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA
Sep. 30 — Turlock Livestock, All Breeds Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
Oct. 1 — Cal Poly Bull Test Sale, San Luis Obispo, CA
Oct. 14 — FAMOSO All Breeds Bull Sale, Famoso, CA

ANGUS

Jun. 24 — Baldridge Performance Angus, Female Sale, North Platte, NE
Jul. 29 — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 1 — Byrd Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Los Molinos, CA
Sep. 7 — Vintage Angus, Bull Sale, LaGrange, CA
Sep. 9 — EZ Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Farmington, CA
Sep. 10 — Heritage Bull Sale, Wilton, CA
Sep. 12 — O'Neal Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA
Sep. 13 — Teixeira Cattle, Bull Sale, Pismo, CA
Sep. 14 — Donati Ranch Bull Sale with O'Connell Ranch, Oroville, CA
Sep. 15 — Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA

Sep. 16 — Arrelano Bravo Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 18 — Rhodes Ranches, Bull Sale, Cambria, CA
Sep. 20 — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Sep. 21 — Rancho Casino/Dal Porto Livestock, Bull Sale, Denair, CA
Sep. 24 — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
Sep. 26 — Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 28 — Beef Solution Bull Sale, Lone, CA
Oct. 7 — EZ Angus, Female Sale, Porterville, CA
Oct. 8 — Vintage Angus Ranch, Female Sale, Modesto, CA
Oct. 10 — 9 Peaks Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Fort Rock, OR
Oct. 19 — Thomas Angus Ranch, Production Sale, Baker City, OR
Oct. 27 — Birch Creek Angus, Bull Sale, Ruby Valley, NV

HEREFORD

Sep. 11 — Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV
Sep. 22 — Sierra Ranches, Bull Sale, Oakdale, CA
Oct. 7 — Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
Oct. 21 — Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

RED ANGUS

Sep. 23 — McPhee Red Angus, Production Sale, Lodi, CA

Sep. 24 — Stegall Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Colusa, CA

SIMANGUS

Sep. 20 — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Sep. 24 — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
Sep. 27 — Eagle Pass Ranch, Bull Sale Dos Palos, CA
Sep. 28 — Beef Solution Bull Sale, Lone, CA
Oct. 14 — Trinity Farms, Female Sale, Ellensburg, WA

COMMERCIAL

Jul. 29 — Cattlemen's Livestock Market, Female Sale, Galt, CA
Jul. 29 — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA
Aug. 5 — Turlock Livestock Auction, Female Sale, Turlock, CA

HORSE

Jun. 24 — Fort Ranch Horse Sale, Corrinne, UT
Jun. 24 — Memory Ranches, Horse Sale, Wells, NV



SALE REPORT

STONE POINTE CATTLE CO.
June 2, Tecumseh, NE
20 Open heifers \$5,402
17 Bred heifers 4,288
17 Bred cows 5,835
1 Open cow 100,000
1 Spring pair 9,000
56 Total registered females 6,949
15 Embryos (no.) 586
11 Pregnancies 10,640
Auctioneer: Wes Tiemann
Sale Manager: CK6 Consulting
TOPS—Open heifer: Sterling Isabel 2146, 8/18/22 by Poss Rawhide; to Edgar Bros., Rockham, SD, \$27,000. **Open cow:** G A R Sunrise 2016, 8/19/16 by G A R Sunrise; ½ interest to Lancaster

Angus, Petersburg, TN, \$100,000. **Bred cow:** Baldridge Isabel F054, 1/9/18 by Hoover No Doubt, bred to Poss Deadwood; to Smith Farms, Purvis, MS, McMillan Angus Farm, Newton, MS, and McCloud Farms, Jayess, MS, \$28,000. **Pregnancy:** Female embryo out of FB Lucy 8142 Ascend 57, by SG Salvation, due 8/23/23; to GMC Angus, Frasers Bottom, WV, \$25,000. Female embryo out of Baldridge Isabel F047, by Poss Rawhide, due 8/23/23; to Spruce Mountain, Larkspur, CO, \$22,500. Female embryo out of Sterling Isabel 905, by EZAR Gettysburg 1061, due 9/16/23; to Poss Angus Ranch, Scotia, NE, \$22,500. — **JIM GIES**

SUPERIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION

America's Leader in Livestock Marketing - Working for You Since 1987

Consign in an upcoming video auction to take advantage of **current market conditions**, regardless of your location. Your cattle are marketed to a **nationwide buyer base** of more than **6,500 active buyers**. Plus, you **maintain control of weighing conditions, less shrink** and the **buyer pays shipping expenses**.

CONTACT YOUR SUPERIOR REP TO CONSIGN IN AN UPCOMING AUCTION

TALLGRASS VIDEO AUCTION JUNE 15

Emporia, Kansas
Consignment Deadline - June 12

WEEK IN THE ROCKIES JULY 10-14

Steamboat Springs, Colorado
Consignment Deadline - June 21

VIDEO ROYALE JULY 31- AUG. 4

Winnemucca, Nevada
Consignment Deadline - July 14

BIG HORN CLASSIC AUG. 21-25

Sheridan, Wyoming
Consignment Deadline - Aug. 4

LABOR DAY AUCTION SEPT. 8-9

Hudson Oaks, Texas
Consignment Deadline - Aug. 23

CALL TO CONSIGN TODAY
(800) 422-2117 | SUPERIORLIVESTOCK.COM
INFO@SUPERIORLIVESTOCK.COM



CLASSIFIED CORRAL

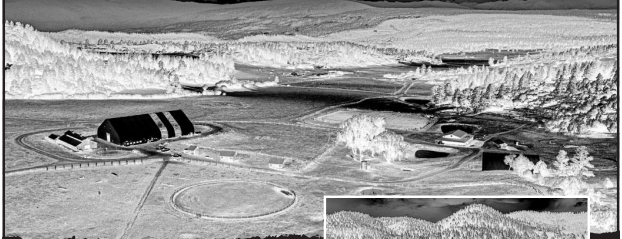
WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

Real Estate
Mountain 20C

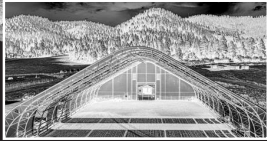
Real Estate
Mountain 20C

646± Acres* in Southwestern Colorado
AUCTION
ON-SITE FRIDAY, JUNE 30 • 3 PM

WORLD FAMOUS NATURAL HORSEMAN,
PAT PARELLI'S
Personal Ranch & Equestrian Center



WESTERN LAND
& LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES



970-986-2955
ParelliRanchAuction.com

Robert Gash, Broker/Owner • Tammie Bates, Associate Broker • Jerad Cotten, Associate Broker
Shawn Terrel, Auctioneer • Info@wesellthewest.com

*320 ± ACRES OF STATE-LEASED LAND (TRANSFERABLE, BUT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL)
VISIT WEBSITE FOR FULL AUCTION TERMS AND CONDITIONS. FRANCHISE OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED.



Human-caused Moose Fire trapped cattle for months

The Moose Fire was ignited on July 17, 2022, by sparks from an unattended campfire burning next to the Salmon River near Salmon, ID. A careless camper started what would become the nation's and Idaho's largest wildfire in summer 2022.

The wildfire started in Moose Creek Canyon, on the south side of the Salmon River. Fanned by high winds and hot temperatures, the fire raced into the crowns of trees, causing a giant plume of smoke.

Carmen Creek ranchers Jay and Chyenne Smith saw the smoke from their ranch, north of Salmon. Their cattle were grazing in the Diamond-Moose Grazing Allotment, high above where the fire started, in the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

"We see a plume of smoke, and get a phone call, 'There's a fire on your summer range,'" said Jay Smith. "From that point on, the summer was a whirlwind."

Initially, forest roads were open. The Smiths drove up into the forest to check on their cattle. They staged a lot of the cattle in Moose Meadow, a large, open grassy area next to their family cabin, hoping to keep them out of harm's way.

"Very first guy I talked to was in structure protection," Smith says. "He was up here doing sprinklers and pumps and thinning trees to protect our private property. We had a great meeting with him. I told him my objective was honesty and transparency, just tell me what to expect."

"He told us there was no chance of getting ahead of it, and that we were going to be dealing with it all summer long, but he gave us 95-98% odds that our private property would be OK. And he was right on every point."

Salmon-Challis National Forest officials called for fire crews, engines and air attack resources in hopes of stopping the fire with initial attack. First priority was to protect private property, and threats to people's lives and safety. Forest officials also notified local ranchers about the fire and asked them to remove as many cattle as possible, immediately.

Within minutes, the fire had grown from a quarter-acre to 300 acres on the first afternoon. By day 2, 12,000 acres. Day 3, 16,500 acres, mainly in the Moose Creek drainage—the Smith's summer range area.

The Smiths were told the fire would likely burn up the Diamond-Moose grazing allotment. For most of the summer, they had to wait on the sidelines, hoping their cattle didn't get killed by the blaze.

"It was horrible, watching your life go up in smoke," Chyenne Smith said. "It was frightening, it was stressful, you feel helpless."

The Moose Creek Fire ended up growing to about 130,205 acres in size. It burned for 4.5 months, from mid-July until Oct. 31. At times, it was the nation's largest wildfire, with 1,500 firefighters engaged. Fire suppression costs totaled \$100 million.

Initial attack focused on protecting the small roadside town of North Fork, extinguishing the fire on the north side of the Salmon River Canyon, and protecting structures immediately threatened by the wildfire along U.S. 93.

"I knew it was going to be severe fire behavior and we couldn't put any firefighters in (Moose Creek canyon), otherwise it would kill them," said Eric Platz, fire management officer for the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

The Salmon-Challis National Forest has had a history of ferocious fire behavior. Dead and dying trees littered across the forest floor have been accumulating for more than a century. When wildfires combine with high winds and hot temperatures, it's a lethal combination. Five firefighters have been killed fighting fires in the Salmon-Challis National Forest. Emergency shelters have been deployed 163 times as a last-ditch effort to save their lives from wildfires. On day 4 of the Moose Creek Fire, a helicopter crashed into the Salmon River, killing two pilots on board.

The fire kept spreading all summer. Every day, the Smiths rode up into the forest below the fire line to gather cattle. They also made quick plans to find safe harbor for their cattle in the valley below by renting extra pasture.

In early October, the Smiths received permission to go look for their cattle. They were overjoyed to see their family cabin had survived the blaze. Luckily, the Smiths were able to retrieve all of their cattle, too.

In the future, both the Smiths and the Forest Service would like to be more proactive about reducing dead and dying fuels in the forest.

"I understand prescribed burning, it should be one tool in the toolbox, not the only tool," Chyenne Smith says. "I'd like to see logging come back, I'd like to see these trees not just stand there and die. There's a lot that could be done. Grazing is one of those things, logging is one of those things, burning can be one of those things, we need to have conversations about how we can take better care of our natural resources, that's for sure."

By the way, no suspects have been charged in connection with leaving a campfire unattended and starting the Moose Creek Fire, forest officials said. There are no leads and the trail has gone cold, officials said. — **Steve Stuebner, writer and producer of Life on the Range, sponsored by the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission**

Trespassing case will most likely be appealed

CROSSING (from page 1)

2020. A survey marker between the two posts designated which sections were private and owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

According to court documents, since the chain presented an obstacle to passing over the survey marker, the hunters held onto the steel post. They swung around, crossing over the airspace of private property, but did not damage the property.

The plaintiff never consented to the hunters passing through the airspace. The property manager confronted the hunters and wanted the sheriff's deputy to issue a citation for trespassing, which they did not.

In 2021, the four hunters used a small A-frame ladder over a "No Trespassing" sign to cross from one parcel of public land to another while on an elk hunt in 2021. The property manager approached the hunter several times on public land and eventually contacted the prosecuting attorney's office after the game and fish officers and the sheriff would not issue a trespassing violation. The prosecuting attorney convinced the sheriff to issue a trespassing violation to the hunters, and a Fish and Game officer told the hunters they were not allowed on public lands again. The hunters were acquitted following a jury trial in 2021.

Iron Bar Holdings also brought a civil suit, claiming the hunters caused more than \$7 million in damage.

mon corners has yet to be decided in the state of Wyoming; this question should be certified to the Wyoming Supreme Court before it can be determined whether the act of corner crossing is considered a trespass," Karen Budd-Falen, attorney for the ag groups, wrote in the brief.

In analyzing the case, Skavdahl used the 1914 case of Mackay v. Unita Development Co., which concerned driving sheep across land and resulted in Mackay's arrest and a civil suit. The 8th Circuit Court of Appeals held that Mackay should have a reasonable right of passage over the company's lands to access public lands.

"The many similarities cause the court to conclude the core principle of Mackay, that private individuals possess 'a reasonable way of passage over the unenclosed tract of land without being guilty of trespass' within the checkerboard applies to the circumstances of this lawsuit," Skavdahl wrote.

The judge cited another 1974 case from the 10th Circuit Court. In that case, the court ruled that for someone to trespass into a property's airspace, they had to, in some other way, damage the property or interfere with the use of that property.

The suit also states the OnX app shows one of the hunters was on private property in 2020 when he designated it as "Waypoint 6" on the app. Skavdahl did not address the waypoint matter in his ruling, but stated any trespassing damages would be limited to "nominal damages."

Reaction

Eric Hanson, an attorney who represented Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA) on their amicus brief in the case, told OutdoorLife the ruling does not mean corner crossing is legal in every state and it has to work its way through more courts.

"This has to work its way up the chain of appeals before it becomes more binding," Hanson said. "This is a big first step, but it's not necessarily going to apply outside of Wyoming. The court was very careful to put this in just the context of the case, not a national context."

BHA President Land Tawney applauded the ruling, calling it "a win for the people, both in Wyoming and across the country."

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Deputy Director Dustin Temple said in a statement corner-crossing is unlawful in Montana and wardens will continue to report corner crossings to law enforcement.

Montana lawmakers have tried to settle the issue with previous legislation but have yet to be successful.

BHA stated the case would most likely be appealed, which could escalate the matter to have a precedent-setting impact.

Earthjustice called the ruling "a significant, positive development for public land users across the West," but cautioned it would be appealed to the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals where "a decision will have even more significant and far-reaching effect." — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**



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.)

June 15 – Tavaputs Ranch is honoring the memory of the late Tate Jensen through an annual \$2,500 scholarship for college students entering or currently enrolled in their senior year, or graduate students. Applicants must be studying any field in agriculture and will be required to submit an essay of no more than four pages long. Applications can be emailed to jennie.m.jensen@gmail.com

August 28 – The National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Public Lands Council 2024 public policy internship applications are now open. Applicants must be junior or senior undergraduate students, or graduate students, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and be available for the duration of the internship in Washington, D.C. (January 2024 – May 2024). A background in agriculture of the beef industry is preferred. Apply here: <https://jobs.keldair.com/ncba/jobs/58192/public-policy-internship-spring-2024>.



Cattlemen's LIVESTOCK MARKET

CLM REPRESENTATIVES

Jake Parnell.....	916-662-1298
George Gookin.....	209-482-1648
Rex Whittle.....	209-996-6994
Mark Fischer.....	209-768-6522
Kris Gudel.....	916-208-7258
Steve Bianchi.....	707-484-3903
Jason Dailey.....	916-439-7761
Brett Friend.....	510-685-4870
Tod Radelfinger.....	775-901-3332
Bowdy Griffin.....	530-906-5713

SPRING & SUMMER FEEDER SALES

MONDAY, JUNE 12*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

*ANNUAL AES CATTLEMEN'S SPECIAL FEEDER SALES

SPECIAL COW SALE

JUNE 28
Featuring
90 1-IRON, FOOTHILL RAISED COWS FROM STEVE KISTLER.
BRED TO GONSALVES ANGUS AND SONOMA MOUNTAIN HEREFORD BULLS

200 COWS 3-4 YEAR OLD FROM LAZY L LIVESTOCK.
ANAPLAS VACCINATED AND BRED TO POWERFUL ANGUS BULLS

AUCTION MARKET

ADDRESS.....12495 Stockton Blvd., Galt, CA
OFFICE.....209-745-1515
FAX.....209-745-1582
WEBSITE/
MARKET REPORT.....www.clmgalt.com
WEB BROADCAST.. www.lmauctions.com

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Butcher Cows.....	8:30am
Cow-Calf Pairs/Bred Cows.....	11:30am
Feeder Cattle.....	12pm

THE 2023 WESTERN LIVESTOCK MARKET

JULY 10, 11, & 12 - RENO, NV
CONSIGN BY JUNE 22
CLM WOULD BE PROUD TO REPRESENT YOUR CATTLE IN AN UPCOMING WYM SALE.

INSIDE WLJ

PAPERS PLEASE, PORKY—New guidelines for California pork distributors will require certification of compliance beginning July 1. **Page 4**

PUTTING AN AXE TO SLAUGHTER — Denver citizens rallying signatures to ban slaughter in the city. **Page 9**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

"Several poultry executives were indicted the first week of June on counts of price fixation and bid rigging. Since then, the executives from Clayton Poultry Farms and Pilgrim's Pride have pleaded not guilty. If convicted, the executives will face a maximum prison sentence of 10 years and a \$1 million fine. The indictment comes at a time during which the big four packers in the beef industry are also undergoing an investigation by the Department of Justice," reported the June 15, 2020, *WLJ* article.

INDEX

Opinion	P-2
Markets.....	P-8
Classifieds	P-10
Sale Calendar	P-11
Sale Reports	P-11

Corner-crossing hunters prevail in lawsuit

— Legality still up in the air

A federal judge ruled that four hunters from Missouri did not trespass when they corner-crossed the Elk Mountain Ranch in Wyoming held by Iron Bar Holdings LLC, as they did not touch the property or its airspace and did not damage the

property.

U.S. District Judge Scott W. Skavdahl for the District of Wyoming ruled in part for the hunters and in part for Iron Bar Holdings LLC, managed by Fred Eshelman.

Corner crossing is the practice of crossing from one corner of public land to another diagonally without setting foot on private property. Ac-

cording to a report by OnX, a mapping software recreationists use, there are 8.2 million acres across 11 Western states of corner-locked lands. OnX states there are 27,120 land-locked corners and no law states explicitly that stepping over a property corner from public land to public land is illegal.

History

The hunters, Phillip Yeomans, Bradley Cape, John Slowensky and Zachary Smith, all from Missouri, encountered two steel posts with a chain connecting the two and "No Trespassing" signs on their hunt in

See CROSSING on page 12



Tom Koerner/USFWS

Missouri elk hunters have prevailed in a suit alleging they trespassed onto private property when hunting in Wyoming.

Greens intervene for lesser prairie chickens

— Fight for listing of populations

A pair of conservation groups are intervening in a lawsuit challenging the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's (USFWS) decision to protect lesser prairie chickens under the Endangered Species Act.

The suit, one of two filed in Texas against the decision, was brought by the states of Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, along with the Texas General Land Office, Texas Department of Agriculture and Railroad Commission of Texas. The suit challenges USFWS' move to list the lesser prairie chicken's Northern District Population Segment (DPS) as threatened, and the Southern DPS as endangered under the act.

The agency announced last November it would protect the two populations. The Southern DPS includes populations in eastern New Mexico and across the southwest Texas Panhandle. The Northern DPS encompasses southeastern Colorado, south-central to western Kansas, western Oklahoma and the northeast Texas Panhandle.

"I'm not surprised that these states are prioritizing oil and gas profits over these imperiled birds, but we're not going to stand by and watch it happen," said Jason Rylander of Center for Biological Diversity, one of the suit intervenors, in a statement.

"The lesser prairie chicken is a Texas bird that needs protection or it faces extinction," said Robin Schneider, executive director of

Texas Campaign for the Environment, the other intervenor. "We are joining the fight to save all the species that call Texas home."

The Center for Biological Diversity sued the USFWS last October, which resulted in the agency listing the two populations.

Ken Paxton, attorney general of Texas, said the decision would force property owners to comply with new federal regulations wherever the birds are present.

"The lesser prairie chicken's change in classification puts many of Texas's conservation efforts at risk, all while bringing immeasurable harm to Texans' property rights," Paxton said. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

WLJ tour attendees venture into Sandhills country

From May 21-27, 130 participants from all over the world spent the week touring legacy ranches in the Sandhills of Nebraska. The tour kicked off Sunday evening in Rapid City, SD, with a social for everyone to meet and rekindle old friendships before spending the week together. A wonderful banquet dinner was enjoyed by all, and we even got to wish past *WLJ* fieldman and tour guide Jerry York a happy early birthday!

Monday morning found the buses loaded and heading to Mt. Rushmore. Tour goers were able to spend a couple of beautiful hours taking in the awe and history of this national treasure. After a scenic drive through the Black Hills, we stopped on the South Dakota/Nebraska state line for lunch before touring Juniper Cattle Company. Joel Rickenbach and his family ranch just north of the state line and manage two separate herds of cattle, one Red Angus herd and one black Angus herd. We were able to take the buses out into

his pasture and observe a set of their Red Angus mother cows, see native forage and hear about their management and marketing philosophies. That evening found us in Alliance, NE, to settle into the hotels for the next few nights.

Tuesday morning, we headed north out of Alliance to Meyring Livestock. The Meyring family provided a great display of cattle, along with friends and family on horseback, and a nice variety of breakfast treats for the tour attendees. Jerry Meyring and his son, Jay, and their families run this well-diversified operation, which includes operating a commercial cow-calf enterprise, feeding cattle and raising Simmental bulls that are sold annually at the Power Line Genetics sale. It was obvious from hearing from the family that their work ethic and passion is second-to-none. The buses were loaded to make our way to Gordon, NE, for lunch and a tour

See TOUR on page 7

Market hits new highs; Feeder cattle up \$4

It was a wild trading week, with cattle futures shooting up triple digits early in the week and then tapering off in the middle of the week. Cash trade continued its ascent, with live and dressed deals several dollars higher.

Live cattle futures closed mixed, with the June contract up \$3.78 to \$178.77 and the August contract down 12 cents to \$172.25.

Cash trade through Thursday totaled 71,150 head. Live steers sold between \$180-194, averaging \$190.31, and dressed steers sold between \$295-300.50, averaging \$299.39.

Cash trade for the week ending June 4 was 93,042 head. Live steers averaged \$182.39, and dressed steers averaged \$290.31.

"A light to moderate trade was reported in Nebraska and Iowa Wednesday with dressed deals marked at mostly \$300, \$10 higher than last week's weighted averages, there was even a few head that sold as high as \$304," ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, wrote in her Thursday midday comments. "Live sales in that area had a range of \$189-191, \$3-5 higher than last week's weighted averages. Just a handful of business has been reported in the South this week with a range of \$180-184, \$3-7 higher than last week's weighted averages."

The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of May 29-June 5 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$182.19.
 - Formula net purchases: \$178.13.
 - Forward contract net purchases: \$175.26.
 - Negotiated grid net purchases: \$175.16.
- On a dressed basis:
- Negotiated purchases: \$290.40.

WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT



5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE



- Formula net purchases: \$280.13.
 - Forward contract net
- See MARKETS on page 9

LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$190.05	\$299.29	\$222.20
WEEK ENDING: 06-12-23		

PERIODICAL : Time Sensitive Priority Handling

Do You or You and Your Neighbor Have 300+ Acres of Clean Farm or Pasture Land? Lease Us Your Land!



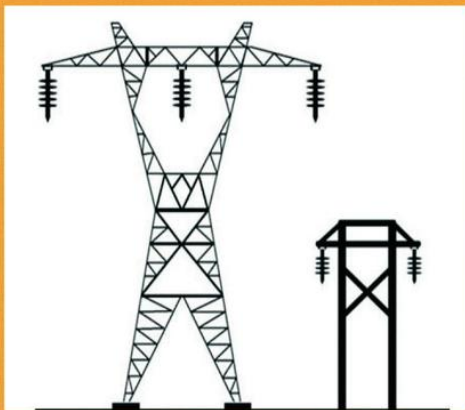
300 acres or more relatively level, clean farm or pastureland with a large transmission line crossing?

Lease Your Land for Solar Power Production

Extraordinary income to the right property owner(s)

If your property qualifies or your property along with neighbors qualify you may potentially receive long term income. (20 – 40-year lease)

\$800 - \$1500 Per acre Per year with incremental increases



Do You Have Power Lines Like This On Or Adjacent To Your Land?

- Can Not be Subtransmission Lines
- Must be Transmission Power Lines
- Must be 115 Kv to 345 Kv

Please Note the Four Essential Requirements Below

Transmission lines crossing or within 200 yards of property

300 or more acres (must be in recent cultivation or in pasture or clear open range)

No timberland or clear cuts

State or county maintained road bordering the property

CALL (828)-817-5400 or (828)-817-9101
Email Us at: InnovativeSolarFarms@gmail.com

Visit our website at innovativesolarsystemsllc.com to view recent projects

THE VIEWPOINT

with Lucy Rechel

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.

Lucy Rechel is a familiar figure in the West, known most prominently for her role as the feedlot owner and manager at Snyder Livestock. Lucy's experience and knowledge in the industry is vast, having worked in practically every sector in the beef supply chain. The legendary Bulls for the 21st Century Test and Sale presented by Snyder Livestock may have held its last sale in 2022, but the sale has continued forward under new management and a new name, the Great Basin Bull Sale. Lucy is maintaining her dedication to the event by continuing to manage the feeding and testing for the sale.

Early beginnings

Lucy can trace her ranching roots all the way back to the 1800s, when her family

began ranching in the Mason Valley of Nevada. Her father owned a cow-calf operation, summering cattle in the Bridgeport, CA, area and wintering in Yerington, NV. In the late '60s, the owner decided to sell the land the family was leasing in Bridgeport. Lacking the wherewithal to

purchase the land themselves, Lucy's dad turned to building a feedlot, working closely with Louie Isola of People's Packing Company to fabricate the facility. Thus, the Snyder Livestock feedlot got its start. The feedlot began finishing cattle but moved more

into backgrounding cattle on a custom basis. Upon Lucy's return to the feedlot after college and a few years of other jobs, she was tasked with how to fill the feedlot year-round. In an attempt to keep a more continuous supply of cattle on feed, Lucy began developing bulls, which eventually led to the creation of the Snyder bull test.

Trends

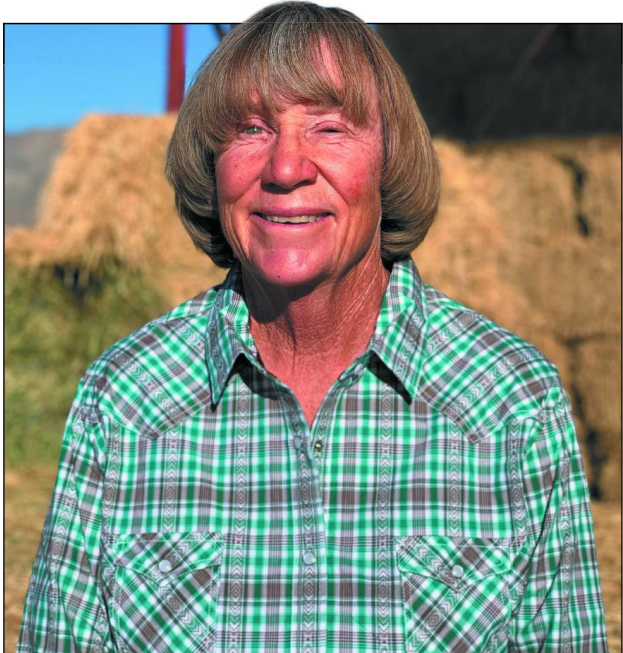
After decades of feeding and testing some of the best bulls in the West, Lucy has seen how the trend in using data for bull selection has developed, along with what consumers are looking for. "There's a lot of people who are thinking in terms of selling an end product and they're selecting cattle that will perform on their range operations, but they're also selecting cattle that get them premiums," Lucy told WLJ. "And those premiums come from feedlot performance and consumer satisfaction." When the bull sale was first starting out, Lucy said about half of the buyers, maybe more, were unfamiliar with EPDs. Now, there are very few

buyers who don't have a reasonable grasp of EPDs. "Nearly all ranchers are looking at EPDs that directly impact their herd, but mostly they're also looking at EPDs that impact what their cattle do as they move down the road to the consumer," she said. Lucy said one of the most prominent changes on the consumer side is how much the amount of Prime beef is growing. "It's mind boggling to me to go in Costco and see how big that Prime section is," she said. "Even three or four years ago it was nearly non-existent. Unless it was a special occasion, nobody thought of buying Prime." Now, the Costco case is full of Prime beef, signaling a shift in consumers' willingness to spend. Lucy accredits this partly to good promotional work in the industry, partly to consumers having more spending money. She added that she thinks there is a lot more interest in "good" cooking now, including the best way to prepare a good steak. Nutritional trends also benefit the industry, such as the uptick in keto and paleo diets. "As those lifestyles take hold, it not only means people eat more meat, but they cease to worry about fat," Lucy said. "And it can only help the move toward high-end products when people start thinking, 'Hey, I don't have to be afraid of eating fat. I don't have to limit myself to lean meats. My body needs fat.' That's going to really open the door for our industry and every other meat industry to improve quality." With consumer trends come familiar buzzwords, such as "sustainability." Lucy said sharing the rancher's environmental story is one of the most difficult challenges right now, and there needs to be more understandable metrics for sustainability. "People are going to start asking, 'What does that mean?'" she said. "I think we need some simple metrics that are believable and understandable. As we approach the sustainability question, we have to ask ourselves how we can answer that other than just saying, 'Oh no, we're doing a good job.'"

At a time when input costs are record high, staying economically sustainable is another concern for agricultural operations across the board. "It scares us to death to look at the things we think we need to purchase," she shared. For Snyders, it is the time of the year in which they renew their operating credit line. "We also work with our banker to plan our equipment purchases. We thought we would be paying 3% and now it's looking north of 6-7% to buy a piece of equipment," she said. After a difficult spring and winter for many producers in Nevada, it's even tougher to manage rising input costs. Some producers lost upwards of 20% of their calf crop. Locally, Lucy projects there are going to be less calves, but bigger calves from all the grass.

The decision to move forward

Lucy said her decision to transfer ownership of the sale was the result of several opportunities lining up with each other, including the opportunity to lighten her load of responsibilities. The Nevada Cattlemen's Association operated a nearby competing bull sale for years in Fallon, NV, and the association wanted to go in a different direction. In addition, Jim Barbee, Churchill County manager, and Jesse Segura, operations deputy of the Rafter 3C Arena, opened up a brand new event center in Fallon and were looking to add a bull sale to the center's offerings. It seemed like the perfect opportunity for the two sales to be combined and hosted in the event center. "There will be a lot of work to do and a lot of learning to do, but I think they'll put it all together and it will end up being a very significant bull sale for Nevada, instead of Nevada having a couple small bull sales," Lucy concluded. Lucy will continue to feed and test the bulls for the sale. — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor



Lucy Rechel

Courtesy photo



TURLOCK LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Contra Costa-Alameda and San Joaquin-Stanislaus County Cattlemen's Associations

41ST
ANNUAL

Showcase Feeder Sales

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

ALSO SELLING CATTLE FROM THESE CALIFORNIA COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS:
Merced-Mariposa • Santa Clara • Napa-Solano • Madera • Calaveras • Tuolumne • Fresno-Kings • San Benito • Tahoe

SUMMER ROUNDUP TLAY SPECIALS

TUESDAY, June 13 • TUESDAY, July 18

SPECIAL FEMALE SALE

Tuesday, June 27

Featuring Jim O'Connell Dispersal

Offering 90 Angus BWF Red

Fall calving cows: 1st calf heifers through 10-years-old

Foothill and anaplasmosis vac. bred to Donati Ranch Angus Bulls

THE FALL CALVING FEMALE SALE OF THE YEAR

17TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA CATTLE PRODUCERS FEMALE SALE

Saturday, August 5

An outstanding line up that includes over 1,000 females from:

Dalporto Livestock
John Ginochio
Lawrence Ginochio
Billy Grissom

Art Anderson
Gilliland Livestock
Ronnie Seever
Pennington Ranch

Duane Martin Livestock
Jim Prewitt
RM Livestock
Haydn-Myer Ranch

SALE DAY IS PAY DAY

When marketing your calves at TLAY, don't forget how essential the 2nd round of shots is. Make sure to include a Modified Live vaccination.



2023 UPCOMING WESTERN VIDEO SALES

July 10 - 12

Call today to consign your cattle!

Max Olvera	209-277-2063	Tim Sisil	209-631-6054
Steve Faria	209-988-7180	John Bourdet	831-801-2343
Justin Ramos	209-844-6372	Celeste Settrini	831-320-1527
John Luiz	209-480-5101	Matt Miller	209-914-5116
Jake Bettencourt	209-262-4019	Brandon Baba	209-480-1267
Travis Johnson	209-996-8645	Bud Cozzi	209-652-4480
		Eddie Nunes	209-604-6848

Online Bidding at www.LMAAuctions.com

209-634-4326 • 209-667-0811 • WWW.TURLOCKLIVESTOCK.COM

CDFA releases Prop 12 pork guidelines

— Effective July 1

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and California Department of Public Health have released guidelines for distributors selling pork compliant with Proposition (Prop) 12 guidelines, set to take effect on July 1. Beginning July 1, distributors will need to submit a self-certification of compliance or valid third-party certification along with their application for distributor registration. CDFA said it recognizes this is a transition period and pork products will need to be cleared from existing inventory. This year the agency will focus on outreach to ensure distributors are registered and third-party certifying agents are accredited. Beginning Jan. 1, 2024, all distributors are required to submit a valid third-party certification along with their application for a new registration.

CDFA will be responsible for implementing Prop 12 regulations. After 2024, the agency will provide the framework for end-users, such as retailers and consumers, to have confidence pork products will be compliant with Prop 12 regulations. Retailers are not required to register with CDFA as they will receive a written certification of compliance from their distributors that whole veal meat, whole pork meat, shell eggs and liquid eggs were raised in compliance with Prop 12 guidelines. If retailers have documentation that all covered products are from registered distributors, those distributors should be able to trace products to compliant farms. More information, including compliance webinars, is available on CDFA's Animal Care Program website at www.cdfa.ca.gov/AHFFS/AnimalCare. — Charles Wallace, WLJ editor

1800

Elite Bred Red Angus Females Sell!

Billings, Montana • November 13th

All Zoetis Inherit DNA Tested!

All BVD PI Tested Negative!

Over 85% AI Bred to Elite Red Angus Bulls!

Ultrasounded for Due Date and Sex of Calf!

Selling in Trailer loads and Pot loads to suit buyer!

Ryan Ludvigson (515)450-3124

Conservation Reserve Program is regionally concentrated

The USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) covered 22 million acres of environmentally sensitive land at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2022, with an annual budget of roughly \$1.8 billion. This made CRP the USDA's largest single conservation program in terms of spending

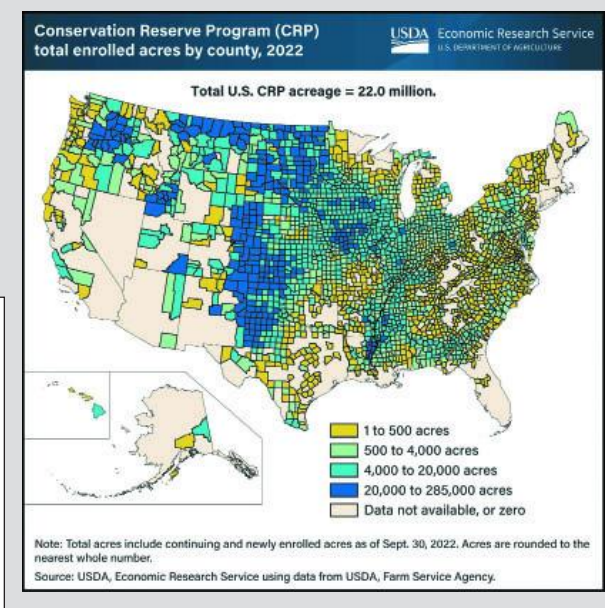
in FY 2022.

Enrollees receive annual and other payments (such as partial reimbursement for cover establishment and incentive payments for enrollment and certain practices) for taking eligible land out of production for at least 10 years.

Program acreage tends to be concentrated on marginally productive cropland that is susceptible to erosion by wind or rainfall. A large share of CRP land ranges from Texas to Montana across the Great Plains, where rainfall is limited and much of the land is subject to potentially severe

wind erosion.

Smaller concentrations of CRP land are found in eastern Washington, southern Iowa, northern Missouri, the Mississippi Delta, southeastern Idaho and northwestern Utah. — **USDA Economic Research Service**



Meat prices up, down as grilling season kicks off

Grilling season has begun, and consumers should expect a mixed bag when it comes to meat options for summer cookouts, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

David Anderson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist, said the summer grilling season typically kicks off during Memorial Day weekend, when Americans come together to celebrate and remember the nation's military veterans.

This year, consumers will likely see lower prices for some grilling favorites like pork spareribs and chicken wings, and higher prices on beef favorites like briskets and steaks, Anderson said.

"It looks like we should be able to find some deals on chicken and pork for cookouts, but retail beef prices continue to stay high on most cuts. Even ground beef for hamburgers is a little higher this year compared to this time last year," he said.

Brisket, burgers cost more

Wholesale beef prices are higher across primal cuts, and Anderson attributes the rising prices to lower beef production. Beef production is down 5% compared to last year, when the U.S. set a record.

"We've had a shrinking beef cattle herd the last few years, and so many cows and heifers went to market because of drought," he said. "Demand doesn't seem to be slowing, which is contributing to higher retail prices."

Wholesale 90% lean ground beef was up slightly—\$2.77/lb. this year compared to \$2.73/lb. last year, while 50% lean grinds were \$1.89/lb. compared to \$1.05/lb. last year.

Brisket prices stumbled after peaking at \$3.05/lb. for Choice primal cuts in September 2021, but they have been climbing in recent weeks. Anderson said wholesale Choice brisket was \$2.31/lb. recently compared to \$2.09/lb. this time last year, a slight discount from the five-year average of \$2.54/lb.

"Briskets got so expensive; prices were so high that people

were buying fewer, and I think some restaurants may have even cut back and been willing to run out of barbecue," he said. "Folks may notice higher brisket prices, but they've been higher."

Steaks were also priced higher this year compared to 2022. Anderson said Choice ribeye steaks were \$8.92/lb. wholesale compared to \$8.54/lb. a year ago. But the increase is well below the price for the same cut just last month—\$10.70/lb.

"I suspect some spot buying by grocers to make sure they had specials going into the holiday drove prices up some," he said. "But those prices came down in the runup to the Memorial Day weekend."

Pork, poultry prices fall

Chicken and pork prices have tumbled from record high prices, Anderson said.

For instance, chicken wing prices, after skyrocketing in recent years, have come back down to Earth. Anderson said wholesale wings were 88 cents/lb. compared to \$1.86/lb. last

year. Chicken breasts have also fallen from a record high of \$3.35 in May 2021. Wholesale breasts were \$1.39/lb. Recently compared to \$3.56/lb. this time last year.

Anderson noted that grocery stores were more willing to feature chicken cuts on special compared to last year. Features are items grocery stores run special prices on to attract customers. Grocery store special features on poultry were double—14% versus 7%—what they were last year.

Wholesale pork prices have experienced similar declines, he said. Spareribs, a classic barbecue offering, were \$1.44/lb. compared to \$2.41/lb. last year. Bellies, which deliver another pork powerhouse—bacon—were 97 cents/lb. compared to \$1.65/lb. Hams and pork butts are the only pork cuts that increased.

Low wholesale pork prices may translate into better prices for consumers, but they are hurting pork producers, Anderson said. Low cutout prices are making it difficult for farmers to break even despite lower feed prices.

"There are some pretty great items on the pork and poultry side for consumers," he said. "But the pork industry is struggling."

Consumers still seeing high prices

Anderson said wholesale prices for beef, pork and poultry may have experienced ups and downs, but that retail prices have remained relatively high.

The price margin between wholesale packer prices and what consumers pay at grocery checkouts is historically large, Anderson said. Higher fuel and electricity costs as well as wages, packaging and other costs all contribute to the wholesale-retail rift.

Retail pork, for instance, is lower than last year, \$4.73/lb. compared to \$4.89/lb., but much higher than the five-year average of \$3.90/lb.

Unemployment is very low, gas prices are lower, wages are higher and the economy is growing despite a difficult run of inflation, he said.

"Overall, people are still buying, and prices aren't high enough to change some habits that might make retailers drop prices on some items that are more in line with wholesale prices," he said. "But those changes are never immediate, and the ups and downs in retail are hardly ever as dramatic as wholesale because stores don't want to drive customers away with big price swings." — **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**

Texas flooding causes cattle losses

Recent severe flooding in the panhandle of Texas caused cattle losses in the largest cattle-feeding region of the country.

Ben Weinheimer, president and CEO of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, told DTN that producers in the Hereford area, as of May 31, were unsure about the extent of the livestock losses.

"The outpouring of support for our members has been tremendous and we are so thankful," Weinheimer said.

"We're still working to move water and it could be a few more days before we know the full extent of losses and damages," Weinheimer said. "However, the severity of the flooding caused by this unprecedented natural disaster has been devastating and we're working to do everything we can to support our members during this difficult time."

Laura L. Lopez, media and community relations manager at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), said the commission has been focusing its efforts

on helping clean up at the Circle 3 Feed Yard in Hereford. Circle 3 operates a 25,000-head facility.

"The TCEQ Amarillo office is providing assistance to the Circle 3 Feed Yard to ensure that dead livestock and any other debris are disposed of in accordance with TCEQ rules and regulations," Lopez told DTN.

"TCEQ cannot confirm the number of potential cattle lost," she said.

John Robinson, senior vice president for communications for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, told DTN the worst of the flooding happened in the Hereford area. Several large feedyards are located in the Hereford area, he said.

While all of the feedyards in the region saw large amounts of rain, only one saw significant flooding, he said. This was a smaller, family-owned facility. This feedyard was located in a low area with a nearby river, which caused the flooding, he said.

"Reports from the area that most all of the floodwaters

have now receded," Robinson said last week.

Robinson added it is difficult to assess how many cattle were lost in the flooding, but he did say social media accounts of mass losses were inaccurate.

Reb Wayne, director of communications at the Texas Department of Agriculture, told DTN on Wednesday, May 31, that officials hope to have a cattle loss estimate soon.

"Undoubtedly, there will also be crop losses as planting on a number of crops in the area had just been completed," Wayne said. "Drinking water is the immediate concern and issue."

ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, said that as of May 30, death toll counts were estimated to range anywhere from 3,000-10,000 head. This event could have a short-term effect on the cattle, she said.

"This could potentially have a positive effect on the cattle market in the immediate future as front-end supplies of market ready cattle are desperately thin," Stewart said.

"But, long term, this won't

have an effect on the market, as 10,000 head only accounts for 1.6% of the market's weekly slaughter production on a week where roughly 620,000 head are processed."

DTN Ag Meteorologist John Baranick said much of the rainfall fell the evening of May 26, into the morning of May 27. It wasn't a huge thunderstorm, but it just sat on top of the Hereford area, and it really did not move much.

Rainfall totals were estimated to be several inches in a fairly short period of time, with Hereford estimated to have received up to 10 inches of rain. "The city got it bad," Baranick said.

"It was a relatively small area. Flood warnings are gone in the region, the waters receded quickly from a combination of drought, sandy soil and low soil moisture," he noted.

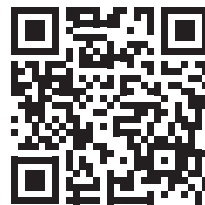
On May 25, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed Deaf Smith County, where Hereford is located, was still under D3 Extreme Drought. — **Russ Quinn and Todd Neeley, DTN staff reporters**

Western Livestock Journal®

Your feedback is important to us!

In an effort to better address the needs of our loyal readers, *WLJ* asks readers to complete a brief survey. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. Your information is kept completely confidential and *WLJ* will never sell or share your contact information. To further ensure the confidentiality of the survey, *WLJ* is unable to collect any personal contact information and is only able to collect responses from the survey's completion.

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW.



We thank you for your time and look forward to better serving our readers!

SANDHILLS LEGACY
RANCH TOUR
MAY 21-27, 2023



Sandhills Legacy Ranch Tour attendees gather Friday evening at Buckboard Ranch.



Enjoying the lush pasture at Connealy Angus in Whitman, NE



Eldon Krebs and Ray Prock.



Talented Haxton Hoffman treated attendees to a beautiful performance of “God Bless America” on the bagpipes.



Hoffman Ranch of Thedford, NE, welcomed attendees with a magnificent display of American flags.



Green grass, horses and cattle on display at Meyring Livestock of Alliance, NE.

Day 1

Mount Rushmore, Juniper Cattle Co.,
Welcome Banquet



Marveling at the size and majesty of Mt. Rushmore.



A great display of cattle at Juniper Cattle Co. in Oelrichs, SD.



Wishing former WLJ Fieldman and Tour Host Jerry York a very happy birthday at the welcoming dinner.

Day 2

Meyring Livestock, Krebs Ranch,
Western Sire Services



Greeting some of the horses at Meyring Livestock in Alliance, NE.



Touring the excellent enterprise of Krebs Ranch in Gordon, NE.



Viewing cattle and the facilities at Western Sire Services in Gordon, NE.

Tour chock full of education, fellowship and fun

TOUR (from page 1)

at Krebs Ranch. Eldon Krebs and his family have created one of the most renowned seedstock enterprises in the world. They shared their story of building the ranch and cattle herd and treated us with a bus tour through the ranch, seeing many breeding groups of cattle and herd bulls. The afternoon finished up with a stop at Western Sire Services with a tour of their facilities and a look at the bulls they had on hand.

Wednesday morning found the buses heading east out of Alliance to the heart of the Sandhills. The first stop of the day was Connealy Angus. We met them at one of their pastures to see an outstanding set of cows with calves at their sides. They shared many interesting facts about the Sandhills and the Ogallala Aquifer, including that the groundwater at that location was only 8 feet below us and it was one of the deepest known spots of the aquifer. We traversed to the Connealy Angus headquarters to look at a large selection of bulls that had sold at their spring sale and enjoyed an excellent lunch prepared with their own branded beef.

After lunch, we stopped by the Rex Ranch and heard from ranch manager Austin Anderson and Seedstock Division Manager Jim Tomlinson. We got to hear about their vast holdings and management techniques, along with their breeding philosophies. Tour guests were greeted by a curious bull snake who wanted to come check everyone out before slithering back to its cool shade hole.

The final stop was at the historic Monahan Cattle Company to see the renowned Circle Dot brand. Bob Monahan, his family and ranch crew met the group and explained the vast history of the ranch. Their expansive holding and Hereford-influenced herd was an impressive sight for all. After touring around the headquarters, we were treated to a scenic drive through the ranch before returning to Alliance for the night.

Thursday morning was time for another move and buses were loaded and on their way to North Platte for a few nights. But first was a stop to the world-renowned Haythorn Ranch. Here we enjoyed a wonderful lunch, along with video presentations of the history of the ranch and a look into their previous methods of putting up hay with draft teams. The Haythorn family saw us off with a look at many great horses and some broodmares with colts.

The first stop when reaching North Platte was to see the progress being made on the new Sustainable Beef processing facility. This site was an active construction site with equipment and workers hustling to meet deadlines. We were able to hear from the project manager and investors who have big plans and innovative ideas to provide more opportunity for the industry. Following this was a trip to TD Angus to hear from Trey and Dayna Wasserburger about their seedstock operation and to see multiple groups of cattle on display. An excellent steak dinner was provided, along with a panel discussion and

Q-and-A session around the Sustainable Beef facility.

Friday morning was wet and rainy when we left North Platte for Thedford, NE. There we were able to tour Hoffman Ranch, seeing their feeding facilities, before making our way over to the ranch headquarters. They shared a rich history of the Hereford breed along with many show accolades on display. One of the most memorable events of the tour was when Haxton, son of Jason and Kaycee Hoffman, played bagpipes for the crowd and everyone joined in on singing "God Bless America." There were not many dry eyes in the house.

The afternoon and evening were spent at the Buckboard Ranch, owned by Mike Kelly and his family. They welcomed tour attendees with a description of their ranching operations along with some interesting insight on research projects they are doing with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The evening had an exclamation point put on it with a live band and dancing!

The final day had buses loaded and headed for Oshkosh, NE, to Van Newkirk Herefords. The Van Newkirk family gave attendees a warm welcome and had a wonderful display of registered cattle on-site. Tour goers were given the opportunity to guess some of the trait-leading bulls out of their 2024 bulls that were on display. Five lucky individuals won \$1,000 of "Bull Bucks" to be used at a future Van Newkirk sale! Joe and Cyndi Van Newkirk and their children and grandchildren were very accommodating hosts and insightful about their program and breeding philosophy.

The final destination on the tour was the Terrell Ranch between Alliance and Hay Springs, run by Vern, his son, Brock, and their families. This diversified commercial operation farms, runs cow-calf pairs, yearlings and a background lot. They have implemented an intensive grazing management system and shared valuable insight on their unique ranch management philosophies. They took us to see 2,700 head of yearlings on pasture, where we found out the Sandhills are no place for big tour buses and how unforgiving the sand can be when trying to navigate the back roads of Nebraska. With the assistance of a tractor, we were finally headed back to Rapid City, a few hours behind schedule, but with a full week of memories that are only created on the Livestock Tour.

If you have not had the pleasure of going on one of the Livestock Tours presented by the *Western Livestock Journal*, I would strongly recommend that you consider it. The insight provided by the ranches we toured, the life-long friendships made on the buses and the memories created are well worth the price of admission. Though there were many first-time tour goers, the familiar faces of those who have been on multiple tours are a testament to the quality of the tours. Thanks to Pete and Rita Crow, Jerry York and Michelle Morgan, and Devin and Samantha Murnin for planning a great event. If you are interested in future tours, please contact Devin and Samantha at devin.murnin@gmail.com or 406-696-1502. — **WLJ**

Day 3 | Connealy Angus, Rex Ranch, Monahan Cattle Co.



John and Rhonda Norris, Lovington, NM, at Connealy Angus in Whitman, NE.



Hearing from Rex Ranch manager Austin Anderson in Ashby, NE.



Peter and Karen Berwick, Ringarooma, Tasmania, at Monahan Cattle Co. in Hyannis, NE.

Day 4 | Haythorn Ranch, TD Angus, Sustainable Beef



Horses at Haythorn Ranch in Arthur, NE.



Cattle at TD Angus in North Platte, NE.



Touring the construction site for the new Sustainable Beef plant in North Platte, NE.

Day 5 | Hoffman Ranch, Buckboard Ranch



A historic truck on display at Hoffman Ranch in Thedford, NE.



Cattle at the Hoffman Ranch in Thedford, NE, see tour attendees off to their next stop.



A night of dinner and dancing at Buckboard Ranch in Sutherlin, NE.

Day 6 | Van Newkirk Herefords, Terrell Farms



Cattle at Van Newkirk Herefords in Oshkosh, NE.



Wayne Farrell and Ray Page view cattle at Van Newkirk Herefords in Oshkosh, NE.



Cattle grazing at Terrell Farms in Hay Springs, NE.

June heats up ... and not just the weather

Summer temperatures are not the only thing heating up as we move into June. Beef and cattle markets have been rising in recent weeks as well. Tighter supplies of beef and cattle are dominating market fundamentals and will continue to do so.

Choice boxed beef prices finished the last week of May at \$309.93/cwt, up \$6/cwt from the Friday before Memorial Day. Boxed beef prices had previously peaked in late April but decreased through May with holiday buying completed. The increase in Choice boxed beef prices into June suggests that post-Memorial Day beef demand remains strong. With few exceptions, wholesale beef cut prices are higher year over year and the Choice boxed beef price is 14.8% higher than this time last year.

Beef supplies continue to tighten with beef production down year over year every week this year except one week in January. For the first 20 weeks of the year, beef production is down 4.8% year over year. Total cattle slaughter is down 2.8% so far this year compared to last year, with fed slaughter down 2.4% and total cow slaughter down 4.1% year over year. However, heifer slaughter remains 0.6% higher year over year for the year to date, and total female (heifer plus cow) slaughter so far this year accounts for 52.4% of total cattle slaughter.

Beef cow slaughter is down 11.2% thus far in 2023 but is partially offset by a 4.7% increase for the year to date in dairy cow slaughter. Steer carcass weights have averaged 12.8 pounds lighter year over year, while heifer carcasses

are averaging 15.2 lbs. lighter this year. Cow carcass weights are lighter this year by 9.8 lbs. on average.

Cash fed cattle prices traded higher the last week of May, with an average live price of \$181.26/cwt, including some high-grading cattle trading as high as \$190/cwt late in the week. Fed prices decreased some after the early April peaks in an apparent seasonal decline but are now moving counter-seasonally higher.

Feeder cattle prices continue a strong uptrend with prices for lightweight stocker calves advancing the most. Oklahoma auction prices for 400-lb. steers, Medium/Large #1, averaged \$309.70/cwt for the week ending June 2. All steers below 925 lbs. were priced over \$200/cwt. Steer prices are higher year over

year by over 54% for animals under 600 lbs. and nearly 40% higher for those over 600 lbs.

Medium/Large, #1 heifers up to 750 lbs. also brought more than \$200/cwt. Slaughter cow prices ranged from \$114.93/cwt for high dressing breaking cows, to \$85.30/cwt for low dressing lean cows. The price for average dressing boning cows was \$103.16/cwt.

Recent improvement in drought conditions increases the odds that heifer retention will begin in earnest in the second half of the year. Increased heifer retention, combined with reduced cow culling will increasingly squeeze cattle slaughter for the remainder of the year and into 2024 and beyond. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Strategies for irrigating first-cutting alfalfa

Alfalfa is a tough, drought-tolerant perennial crop with rooting depths down to eight feet or more. Depending on deep soil profile moisture during drought, some varieties can move into a dormancy and survive up to 45 days without rainfall. However, forage yields drop dramatically since alfalfa requires about 6 inches of root available water to produce 1 ton of forage per acre.

So, what irrigation strategy is recommended for alfalfa under extreme moisture stress prior to the first cutting? Remember that once perennial fields lack spring moisture, it is hard to catch up with irrigation during the hot summer season due to high ET (evapotranspiration) water needs.

Also, stressed alfalfa, which may be dropping leaves prematurely, may be cut before the recommended one-tenth bloom development stage to salvage yield. This timing disruption may impact target

irrigation, which is usually applied, just prior to the first cutting to increase regrowth tonnage for the next cutting.

Moving forward, an advantage of early alfalfa cutting is that water use will drop sharply; because transpiration is lower when the leaf foliage is removed. Following the first cutting, irrigation might be delayed slightly in fields where weeds could respond quicker to the moisture than alfalfa regrowth.

Otherwise, full water irrigation or rainfall target amounts will be typically six to seven inches of water for each subsequent cutting. Spring water usage may only be one-quarter inch per day but will rapidly increase as summer temperatures rise. Peak water alfalfa usage in July and August can extend beyond the normal one-third inch per day (or two inches per week) to a half inch per day during extreme stress times. — **Todd Whitney, Nebraska Extension**

Choice cutout up over \$22

MARKETS (from page 1)

purchases: \$267.44.

• Negotiated grid net purchases: \$284.11.

Slaughter through Thursday was estimated to be 495,000 head. Projected slaughter for a week earlier was 573,000, down 52,000 head from the previous week due to the holiday-shortened week. Actual slaughter for the

week ending June 8 was 625,035 head. The average dressed steer weight was 883 lbs., down 2 lbs. from the prior week.

Boxed beef prices were higher, with the Choice cutout up over \$22 to \$328.73 and the Choice cutout up over \$17 to \$304.10.

"Boxed beef values are in hot pursuit of the cattle prices, printing this morning at \$327.74, another new 2023

high, up \$2.55 from yesterday afternoon," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef on Thursday. "Remember, June is typically the largest fed cattle slaughter month of the year, so retailers are used to plenty to pick from. Debate continues on this week's slaughter estimate, still ranging from 620k to 640k head. Father's Day, a solid beef consumption day, is a week from Sunday."

Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures were higher, with the August contract up \$4.73 to \$238.65 and the September contract up \$4.37 to \$241.47. The CME Feeder Cattle Index was up \$14.13 to \$222.20.

"It doesn't matter if you spent your time tracking Superior's Corn Belt Classic sale or if you watched various sales throughout the country, feeder cattle prices continue to trek higher as buyers are worried about finding enough replacements to restock their empty pens later this year," Stewart wrote on Thursday.

Corn futures were higher, with the July contract up 18 cents a bushel to \$6.10 and the September contract up 4 cents to \$5.28.

Kansas: Winter Livestock in Dodge City sold 1,734 head Wednesday. Compared to the previous auction, steers 475-1,000 lbs. sold \$15-25 higher. Feeder heifers 600-750 lbs. sold \$15-25 higher. There were not enough heifer calf sales for a market test. Benchmark steers averaging 762 lbs. sold between \$222-233 and averaged \$232.39.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 13,000 head on Monday. Compared to the last sale held two weeks earlier, feeder steers sold \$7-14 higher and feeder heifers sold \$10-15 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 775 lbs. sold from \$216-229.50, averaging \$222.62.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma

City sold 10,500 head on Monday. Compared to the last sale two weeks prior, feeder steers sold \$10-15 higher and feeder heifers sold \$8-10 higher. Steer calves sold \$10-20 higher, and heifer calves sold steady to \$5 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 775 lbs. sold from \$218.75-238.25, averaging \$227.91.

South Dakota: Hub City Livestock in Aberdeen sold 5,270 head Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, steers 800-899 lbs. sold \$10-15 higher, with instances up to \$20 higher on 800-849 lbs. Heifers 650-699 lbs. and 750-799 lbs. sold \$10-15 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 786 lbs. sold between \$244.50-247.50 and averaged \$245.84. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**

Initiative proposes to prohibit slaughter in Denver

A citizen-proposed initiative seeks to prohibit all use of livestock slaughterhouses in the city of Denver, CO. The proposal is currently in the signature gathering phase to make it onto next year's ballot.

The initiative would ban the construction, maintenance or use of slaughterhouses within the city, and require the city to implement a worker assistance program to assist those who were employed by the facilities. If passed, the proposal would go into effect Jan. 1, 2026.

"Slaughterhouses are nuisances upon the neighbor-

hoods in which they operate, due to the foul odors which they produce, their unsightly industrial facades, and the disagreeable nature of their operation," the ordinance read.

It continues that employment in such facilities is associated with "exceptionally high rates of workplace injury," along with "mental illness and addiction due to the unique psychological harms experienced by slaughterhouse workers."

The proposal also points to climate change, alleging that animal agricultural opera-

tions are a significant cause, and advocates for a plant-based food system.

"Eliminating slaughterhouses in Denver will promote community awareness of animal welfare, bolster the city's stance against animal cruelty, and in turn, foster a more humane environment in Denver," the ordinance read.

Petitioners have until Nov. 7 to collect about 26,000 valid signatures. Petitioner committee members are linked to various animal activist organizations. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

COMING EVENTS

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

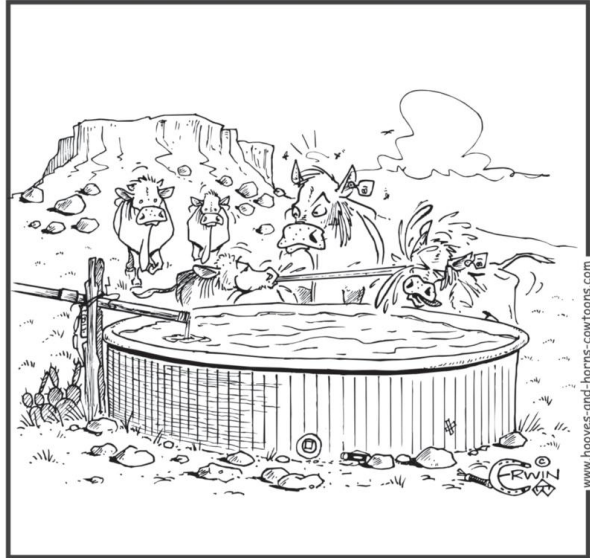
June 19-21 – The Colorado Cattlemen's Association's (CCA) 2023 Annual Convention will be held in Steamboat Springs, CO. To register, call the CCA office at 303-431-6422, or visit ccaa.memberclicks.net.

July 5-8 – The Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede will celebrate its 100th year in Wolf Point, MT. Tickets are available after June 21 by calling 406-653-1770.

Jan. 21-Feb. 2, 2024 – Mark your calendars for the 2024 Cattle Industry Convention & National Cattlemen's Beef Association Trade Show, which is heading to the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. Additional information is available at convention.ncba.org.

HOOVES & HORNS

BY A.W. ERWIN



"TREVOR! STOP THAT RIGHT NOW! There's little calves in the Panhandle that don't have *even* a drop to drink!"

FORT RANCH

46th Annual Production Sale

Saturday • June 24, 2023 • 35 Miles West of Brigham City

Prospects raised on 21,000 acres in the beautiful, rugged Promontory Mountains of Utah. Our foals are born and raised in the elements and on the mountainside. They have a rich history of being cow horses that excel on the ranch, in the arena, and in the show pen. We hope to see you at our annual production sale!



FOR INFORMATION & CATALOG REQUESTS CALL:
Landon Hall
208-680-9041
or www.fortranch.com

Saturday, June 24, 2023
10:00 Sale Preview
11:30 Fort Ranch Sale Begins
Complimentary lunch served throughout the sale

Reference Sires:

Quite A Boon
PeptoBoonsmal x Meradas Little Sue

Silver Savannah Moon
Once In A Blu Boon x Savannah Hollie

Cat Suep
High Brow Cat x Meradas Little Sue

Cow Kwacker
High Brow Cat x Kwackin

Kid Dunit
Dun It With A Twist x Melimelo Kid

Smart Zee Lena
Smart Little Lena x Zee Dually

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
208-662-5530
208-589-1951

Dams include own daughters of:

Bobalena Bob
Bodee Boonsmal
Cat Ichi
CD Lights
Dual Rey
Gun Goes Boon
Hickorydickory Doc
High Brow Cat
High Brow CD
Little Pistol Badge
Metallic Cat

Mr Peppy Olena
Mr Skyline Peppy
One Time Pepto
Playdoh
Playin Stylish
Quite A Boon
Ricochets Sue
Smart Little Lena
Smooth As A Cat
TR Dual Rey
Zoom Zoom Shorty

Sale Terms: 1/3 down payment with balance to be paid in September when foals are weaned and picked up by their new owners. Foal guaranteed to be alive and sound or your down payment will be refunded.



CLASSIFIED CORRAL

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

 WWW.WLJ.NET

 303-722-7600

 1-303-722-0155

 CLASSIFIED@WLJ.NET

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
GENERAL INFORMATION

ADVERTISING RATES
BY THE WORD: 90 cents per word for each insertion.
MINIMUM WORD RATE: 17 words or fewer, \$15.30 one time.
MAD RATES: (Bold headline) \$2 more per insertion for your phone number, email and/or website, plus first 2 or 3 words in bold print. (Applies to word ads only)
BOXED AND BOLD: (Boxed with bold text) \$5 more per insertion. (Applies to word ads only)
BLIND BOX AD: We will assign your confidential number and forward replies to you. **Cost is \$12 per 3 issues** for mail and handling service.
BOXED DISPLAY ADS: \$30 per column inch for each insertion.
MINIMAL ARTWORK: No additional charge.
BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO: \$10, LIMIT OF ONE.
COLOR PHOTO: \$35 EACH.
DISCOUNTS: 5% for running your ad 3 to 5 times; 10% for 6 times or more; up to 35% for 52 times.
SUGGESTION FOR CORRECT WORD COUNT: Be sure to include your name, address and phone number in the count, as well as all initials and abbreviations. Hyphenated words count as two.
TEARSHEETS: Available upon request only. Can be faxed or mailed.
CONDITIONS
EMPLOYMENT WANTED ADS: Must be paid in advance.
DEADLINE: Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. MT, the week prior to publication date. Newspaper is published on Mondays.
LIABILITY: Advertiser is liable for content of advertisement and any claims arising therefrom made against the publication.
Publisher is not responsible for errors in phoned-in copy. Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising not considered in keeping with the publication standards.
COMMISSIONS: Classified advertising is NOT agency commissionable.

CLASSIFIED INDEX

1.....	Employment Wanted	20H.....	Northeast Real Estate For Sale
2.....	Help Wanted	20I.....	Foreign Real Estate For Sale
3.....	Situations Wanted	21.....	Real Estate Wanted
4.....	Distributors Wanted	22...	Real Estate Rent/Lease/Trade
5.....	Appraisers	23.....	Pasture Available
6.....	Auctions	24.....	Pasture Wanted
7.....	Auctioneers	25.....	Mineral Rights
8.....	Feedlots	26.....	Hay/Feed/Seed
9.....	Lost Cattle	27.....	Irrigation
10.....	Cattle for Sale	28.....	Ag/Industrial Supplies
11.....	Cattle Wanted	29.....	Fencing/Corrals
12.....	AI/Semen/Embryos	30.....	Equipment For Sale
13.....	Brands	31.....	Equipment Wanted
14.....	Dogs for Sale	32.....	Building Materials
15.....	Horses/Mules	33.....	Trucks/Trailers
16.....	Bison/Buffalo	34.....	Tractors/Implements
17.....	Sheep/Goats/Hogs	35.....	Business Opportunity
18.....	Livestock Supplies	36.....	Loans
19.....	Ranch/Livestock Services	37.....	Insurance
20.....	Real Estate Opportunities	38.....	Financial Assistance
20A.....	Pacific Real Estate For Sale	39.....	Tech/Books/Art/Etc.
20B.....	Intermountain Real Estate For Sale	40.....	Miscellaneous
20C.....	Mountain Real Estate For Sale	41.....	Lost/Found
20D.....	Southwest Real Estate For Sale	42.....	Personal
20E.....	Plains Real Estate For Sale	43.....	Schools
20F.....	Midwest Real Estate For Sale	44.....	Auctioneering Schools
20G.....	Southeast Real Estate For Sale		

CLASSIFIED CORRAL

1-800-850-2769 • Fax: 303-722-0155
www.wlj.net • classified@wlj.net

DO NOT PHONE IN RESPONSES TO BLIND BOX ADS.
ADVERTISERS' NAMES AND LOCATIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.
INCLUDE THE AD DEPARTMENT NUMBER IN YOUR EMAIL
RESPONSE OR ON YOUR ENVELOPE AND YOUR REPLY WILL BE
PROMPTLY FORWARDED.



2FOR1

PLACE A CLASSIFIED
AD, SEE IT IN PRINT
& ONLINE

CLASSIFIED ADS WORK!
www.wlj.net

Call & schedule your classified
ad today!
800-850-2769
classified@wlj.net
303-722-0155 Fax

Help
Wanted

2

Cattle department manager wanted for historic, family owned ranch on California's Central Coast.

Send resume by email: Classified@wlj.net (Subject line: WLJ Box #917) or mail to: Western Livestock Journal, ATTN: Box #917, 7355 E. Orchard Rd. #300, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

Serving Ag Personnel for 63 Years

GET TOP DOLLAR!!!
Hansen Agri-PLACEMENT

CATTLE DEPT. MANAGER (CA)\$75K±
RANCH UNIT MANAGER (NE).....\$60K±
RANCH ASSISTANT (MT).....\$55K±
Call Eric 308/382-7351
www.hansenagriplacement.com

Cattle
For Sale

10

150 Bulls For Sale
Home of 2 Bar Twenty X

2 Bar Angus
Hereford, Texas
806/344-7444
877/2BAR-ANG
www.2barangus.com



Livestock
Supplies

18

POWDER RIVER
LIVESTOCK EQUIP.

Best prices with delivery available.
Conlin Supply Co., Inc.
Oakdale, CA
Ask for Larry or Albert
209/847-8977

NEED EXTRA INCOME?

Advertise a hunting
or fishing lease!

CALL NOW!
800-850-2769

Real Estate
Southwest

20D

Real Estate
Opportunities

20



80 AC TURN-KEY CATTLE
RANCH:
ASH GROVE, MO. 2
SPRING-FED PONDS, BARN,
ELECTRIC, WELL, FENCED,
CONCRETE TROUGHS,
GOOD SOIL.
ASKING \$560,000
417-567-0808 | 417-859-3204
CASE REAL ESTATE

Real Estate
Pacific

20A



KNIFE
LAND COMPANY
EST 1944

Owyhee River Hunting Ranch
PRICE REDUCED
205± acres with 1.4± miles of
Owyhee River frontage. 114±
acres are irrigated and rated
Prime Farmland by the USDA.
The land and old home are
leased. Great hunting and
fishing. Now \$2,495,000
Buying or Selling? Call today!
(208) 345-3163 • knipeland.com

Irrigation

27



WESTERN
POLYPIPE
HDPE PIPE for Ranch Water Systems
Fair Prices • Good Service • Rancher Owned
DELIVERY THROUGHOUT THE WEST
CALL TODAY: 775-657-1815

Real Estate
Southwest

20D

Real Estate
Opportunities

20

SALES | AUCTIONS
FINANCE | MANAGEMENT
Dedicated to Land and Landowners Since 1946

SWEET GRASS FARM ON THE YELLOWSTONE
BIG TIMBER, MONTANA
Productive acreage with approximately
one mile of Yellowstone River frontage
located three miles northeast of Big Timber.
Approximately 366 of the 609± deeded
acres under five pivots. Updated livestock
facilities and expansive views.
OFFERED AT \$5,690,000
Contact: B Elfland | belfland@hallandhall.com
WWW.HALLANDHALL.COM | INFO@HALLANDHALL.COM | 406.587.3090

Real Estate
Southwest

20D

Real Estate
Southwest

20D

Scott Land Company, LLC

RANCH & FARM REAL ESTATE
We need your listings on any types of ag properties in TX, NM, OK & CO.
NEW LISTING! UNION CO., NM – 2,091.72 ac. (1,771.72 deeded, 320± ac. State Lease), well watered w/three wells, two sets of steel pens. Well located just off of the Clayton/Springer hwy. on Barney Road.
PRICE REDUCED! CEDARVALE, NM – 7,113 acre ranch (5,152± ac. deeded – 1,961± ac. State Lease) well fenced & watered w/good pens, new barn.
KINNEY CO., TX – 802± ac. Brush country w/some live oaks. Good Hunting!
www.scottlandcompany.com • 800-933-9698 day/eve
Ben G. Scott – Broker • Krystal M. Nelson – NM QB

Phone
IN
YOUR
Order

SUBSCRIBE TO WLJ
TODAY!
CALL HANNAH
720-370-8275

Real Estate
Southwest

20D

Real Estate
Southwest

20D

UNRESERVED ONLINE AUCTION >> 30,000-HEAD
FEED YARD <<



560± ACRES BEAVER COUNTY, OK

Bid Online
JULY 6-JULY 20, 2023
BIDDING ENDS AT 1 P.M. CDT
Get a salebill, register and bid at www.bigiron.com/realty

Legal:
The W ½ & W ½ SE ¼ Section
12-4-20E and NW ¼ Section
13-4-20E Beaver County, OK,
containing 560+/- acres

Location:
From the intersection of Hwy 83 & Hwy
3 at Bryan's Corner, go 12.5 miles north
to the property. From Liberal, KS, go 15
miles south on Hwy 83, or from Turpin,
OK, 3 miles south on Hwy 83.

Attend the Auction
Thursday, July 20, 2023
9 a.m. CDT until bidding ends
Comfort Suites
2891 Centennial Blvd, Liberal, KS 67901
Bigiron Realty Agents will be at the Comfort Suites in Liberal, KS, on July 20, 2023, from 9:00 a.m., until the conclusion of the online auction. Please come during the times scheduled to discuss the farm. Bigiron Realty Representatives will assist buyers with registering to bid online. You do not have to be present to bid online, but you must be available by phone. Sellers: Thinking of selling your property? Please attend this auction to see how it works!

The Tri-State Feeders II property is located 3 miles south of Turpin, Oklahoma on US-83. The real estate contains 560 acres± with 30,000 head capacity and is improved with a 3,535 sq. ft. office, 45,000-bushel grain storage, 30,000 feet of concrete bunk line, 4 electric water wells, 80' truck scale, 2 cattle scales, and multiple buildings. Property is agent owned.
Visit www.bigiron.com for more information

Information was obtained from sources deemed reliable, but broker makes no guarantees as to accuracy. All prospective buyers urged to fully inspect property and rely on their own conclusions. Copyright 2022 BigIron Realty. All rights reserved.

BigIron
REALTY
[EXPERTS IN SELLING LAND]

Seller: Tri State Feeders II
Contact Your Listing Agent
RON STOCK
402.649.3705
ron.stock@bigironrealty.com

Short pasture concerns this summer

A cool spring and dry weather have resulted in lower-than-expected pasture production in parts of the Plains. With summer upon us, even ample moisture now may not return pastures, especially those that are cool season dominated, to full productivity. So, what can we do to stretch a limited forage supply?

While annual forages that prefer cool temperatures like brassicas and small grains may not be an option to plant, those needing summer forage are right on time to get heat loving species like sorghums, sorghum-sudan hybrids, millets and sudangrass in the ground. These annual grasses can produce large quantities of forage

for harvest. Different species lend themselves to different harvest methods, so know how you plan on feeding or grazing before you plant. Another way to stretch pasture is through improved utilization. Under typical grazing conditions, we only plan on cattle consuming 25-30% (harvest efficiency) of a pasture's

production. Half is left for plant health while another quarter is fouled or trampled. Something as simple as a single wire electric cross fence can improve harvest efficiency to 35%. When paired with a back fence, the rest provided to previously grazed plants can aid in recovery and provide regrowth for use later in the year.

Finally, begin looking at herd records now and make a plan for destocking later on in the year if conditions continue to deteriorate. Planning for a short forage year is not a task we want to undertake in June, but it may

be needed this year. If the worst does come to pass, looking at other forage options, better utilizing pasture, and planning for destocking now will be worth the effort. — **Ben Beckman, Nebraska Extension**



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. 17 — Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA
Sep. 30 — Turlock Livestock, All Breeds Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
Oct. 1 — Cal Poly Bull Test Sale, San Luis Obispo, CA
Oct. 14 — FAMOSO All Breeds Bull Sale, Famoso, CA

ANGUS

Jun. 24 — Baldridge Performance Angus, Female Sale, North Platte, NE
Jul. 29 — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 1 — Byrd Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Los Molinos, CA
Sep. 7 — Vintage Angus, Bull Sale, LaGrange, CA
Sep. 9 — EZ Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Farmington, CA
Sep. 10 — Heritage Bull Sale, Wilton, CA
Sep. 12 — O'Neal Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA
Sep. 13 — Teixeira Cattle, Bull Sale, Pismo, CA
Sep. 14 — Donati Ranch Bull Sale with O'Connell Ranch, Oroville, CA
Sep. 15 — Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA

Sep. 16 — Arrelano Bravo Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 18 — Rhodes Ranches, Bull Sale, Cambria, CA
Sep. 20 — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Sep. 21 — Rancho Casino/Dal Porto Livestock, Bull Sale, Denair, CA
Sep. 24 — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
Sep. 26 — Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 28 — Beef Solution Bull Sale, Lone, CA
Oct. 7 — EZ Angus, Female Sale, Porterville, CA
Oct. 8 — Vintage Angus Ranch, Female Sale, Modesto, CA
Oct. 10 — 9 Peaks Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Fort Rock, OR
Oct. 19 — Thomas Angus Ranch, Production Sale, Baker City, OR
Oct. 27 — Birch Creek Angus, Bull Sale, Ruby Valley, NV

HEREFORD

Sep. 11 — Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV
Sep. 22 — Sierra Ranches, Bull Sale, Oakdale, CA
Oct. 7 — Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
Oct. 21 — Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

RED ANGUS

Sep. 23 — McPhee Red Angus, Production Sale, Lodi, CA

Sep. 24 — Stegall Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Colusa, CA

SIMANGUS

Sep. 20 — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Sep. 24 — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
Sep. 27 — Eagle Pass Ranch, Bull Sale Dos Palos, CA
Sep. 28 — Beef Solution Bull Sale, Lone, CA
Oct. 14 — Trinity Farms, Female Sale, Ellensburg, WA

COMMERCIAL

Jul. 29 — Cattlemen's Livestock Market, Female Sale, Galt, CA
Jul. 29 — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA
Aug. 5 — Turlock Livestock Auction, Female Sale, Turlock, CA

HORSE

Jun. 24 — Fort Ranch Horse Sale, Corrinne, UT
Jun. 24 — Memory Ranches, Horse Sale, Wells, NV



SALE REPORT

STONE POINTE CATTLE CO.
June 2, Tecumseh, NE
20 Open heifers \$5,402
17 Bred heifers 4,288
17 Bred cows 5,835
1 Open cow 100,000
1 Spring pair 9,000
56 Total registered females 6,949
15 Embryos (no.) 586
11 Pregnancies 10,640
Auctioneer: Wes Tiemann
Sale Manager: CK6 Consulting
TOPS—Open heifer: Sterling Isabel 2146, 8/18/22 by Poss Rawhide; to Edgar Bros., Rockham, SD, \$27,000. **Open cow:** G A R Sunrise 2016, 8/19/16 by G A R Sunrise; ½ interest to Lancaster

Angus, Petersburg, TN, \$100,000. **Bred cow:** Baldridge Isabel F054, 1/9/18 by Hoover No Doubt, bred to Poss Deadwood; to Smith Farms, Purvis, MS, McMillan Angus Farm, Newton, MS, and McCloud Farms, Jayess, MS, \$28,000. **Pregnancy:** Female embryo out of FB Lucy 8142 Ascend 57, by SG Salvation, due 8/23/23; to GMC Angus, Frasers Bottom, WV, \$25,000. Female embryo out of Baldridge Isabel F047, by Poss Rawhide, due 8/23/23; to Spruce Mountain, Larkspur, CO, \$22,500. Female embryo out of Sterling Isabel 905, by EZAR Gettysburg 1061, due 9/16/23; to Poss Angus Ranch, Scotia, NE, \$22,500. — **JIM GIES**

SUPERIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION

America's Leader in Livestock Marketing - Working for You Since 1987

Consign in an upcoming video auction to take advantage of **current market conditions**, regardless of your location. Your cattle are marketed to a **nationwide buyer base** of more than **6,500 active buyers**. Plus, you **maintain control of weighing conditions, less shrink** and the **buyer pays shipping expenses**.

CONTACT YOUR SUPERIOR REP TO CONSIGN IN AN UPCOMING AUCTION

TALLGRASS VIDEO AUCTION JUNE 15

Emporia, Kansas
Consignment Deadline - June 12

WEEK IN THE ROCKIES JULY 10-14

Steamboat Springs, Colorado
Consignment Deadline - June 21

VIDEO ROYALE JULY 31- AUG. 4

Winnemucca, Nevada
Consignment Deadline - July 14

BIG HORN CLASSIC AUG. 21-25

Sheridan, Wyoming
Consignment Deadline - Aug. 4

LABOR DAY AUCTION SEPT. 8-9

Hudson Oaks, Texas
Consignment Deadline - Aug. 23

CALL TO CONSIGN TODAY
(800) 422-2117 | SUPERIORLIVESTOCK.COM
INFO@SUPERIORLIVESTOCK.COM



CLASSIFIED CORRAL

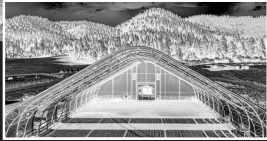
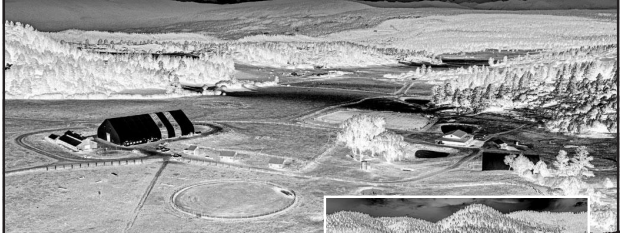
WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

Real Estate
Mountain 20C

Real Estate
Mountain 20C

646± Acres* in Southwestern Colorado
AUCTION
ON-SITE FRIDAY, JUNE 30 • 3 PM

WORLD FAMOUS NATURAL HORSEMAN,
PAT PARELLI'S
Personal Ranch & Equestrian Center



WESTERN LAND
& LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES

970-986-2955

ParelliRanchAuction.com

Robert Gash, Broker/Owner • Tammie Bates, Associate Broker • Jerad Cotten, Associate Broker
Shawn Terrel, Auctioneer • Info@wesellthewest.com

*320 ± ACRES OF STATE-LEASED LAND (TRANSFERABLE, BUT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL)
VISIT WEBSITE FOR FULL AUCTION TERMS AND CONDITIONS. FRANCHISE OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED.



Human-caused Moose Fire trapped cattle for months

The Moose Fire was ignited on July 17, 2022, by sparks from an unattended campfire burning next to the Salmon River near Salmon, ID. A careless camper started what would become the nation's and Idaho's largest wildfire in summer 2022.

The wildfire started in Moose Creek Canyon, on the south side of the Salmon River. Fanned by high winds and hot temperatures, the fire raced into the crowns of trees, causing a giant plume of smoke.

Carmen Creek ranchers Jay and Chyenne Smith saw the smoke from their ranch, north of Salmon. Their cattle were grazing in the Diamond-Moose Grazing Allotment, high above where the fire started, in the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

"We see a plume of smoke, and get a phone call, 'There's a fire on your summer range,'" said Jay Smith. "From that point on, the summer was a whirlwind."

Initially, forest roads were open. The Smiths drove up into the forest to check on their cattle. They staged a lot of the cattle in Moose Meadow, a large, open grassy area next to their family cabin, hoping to keep them out of harm's way.

"Very first guy I talked to was in structure protection," Smith says. "He was up here doing sprinklers and pumps and thinning trees to protect our private property. We had a great meeting with him. I told him my objective was honesty and transparency, just tell me what to expect."

"He told us there was no chance of getting ahead of it, and that we were going to be dealing with it all summer long, but he gave us 95-98% odds that our private property would be OK. And he was right on every point."

Salmon-Challis National Forest officials called for fire crews, engines and air attack resources in hopes of stopping the fire with initial attack. First priority was to protect private property, and threats to people's lives and safety. Forest officials also notified local ranchers about the fire and asked them to remove as many cattle as possible, immediately.

Within minutes, the fire had grown from a quarter-acre to 300 acres on the first afternoon. By day 2, 12,000 acres. Day 3, 16,500 acres, mainly in the Moose Creek drainage—the Smith's summer range area.

The Smiths were told the fire would likely burn up the Diamond-Moose grazing allotment. For most of the summer, they had to wait on the sidelines, hoping their cattle didn't get killed by the blaze.

"It was horrible, watching your life go up in smoke," Chyenne Smith said. "It was frightening, it was stressful, you feel helpless."

The Moose Creek Fire ended up growing to about 130,205 acres in size. It burned for 4.5 months, from mid-July until Oct. 31. At times, it was the nation's largest wildfire, with 1,500 firefighters engaged. Fire suppression costs totaled \$100 million.

Initial attack focused on protecting the small roadside town of North Fork, extinguishing the fire on the north side of the Salmon River Canyon, and protecting structures immediately threatened by the wildfire along U.S. 93.

"I knew it was going to be severe fire behavior and we couldn't put any firefighters in (Moose Creek canyon), otherwise it would kill them," said Eric Platz, fire management officer for the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

The Salmon-Challis National Forest has had a history of ferocious fire behavior. Dead and dying trees littered across the forest floor have been accumulating for more than a century. When wildfires combine with high winds and hot temperatures, it's a lethal combination. Five firefighters have been killed fighting fires in the Salmon-Challis National Forest. Emergency shelters have been deployed 163 times as a last-ditch effort to save their lives from wildfires. On day 4 of the Moose Creek Fire, a helicopter crashed into the Salmon River, killing two pilots on board.

The fire kept spreading all summer. Every day, the Smiths rode up into the forest below the fire line to gather cattle. They also made quick plans to find safe harbor for their cattle in the valley below by renting extra pasture.

In early October, the Smiths received permission to go look for their cattle. They were overjoyed to see their family cabin had survived the blaze. Luckily, the Smiths were able to retrieve all of their cattle, too.

In the future, both the Smiths and the Forest Service would like to be more proactive about reducing dead and dying fuels in the forest.

"I understand prescribed burning, it should be one tool in the toolbox, not the only tool," Chyenne Smith says. "I'd like to see logging come back, I'd like to see these trees not just stand there and die. There's a lot that could be done. Grazing is one of those things, logging is one of those things, burning can be one of those things, we need to have conversations about how we can take better care of our natural resources, that's for sure."

By the way, no suspects have been charged in connection with leaving a campfire unattended and starting the Moose Creek Fire, forest officials said. There are no leads and the trail has gone cold, officials said. — **Steve Stuebner, writer and producer of Life on the Range, sponsored by the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission**

Trespassing case will most likely be appealed

CROSSING (from page 1)

2020. A survey marker between the two posts designated which sections were private and owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

According to court documents, since the chain presented an obstacle to passing over the survey marker, the hunters held onto the steel post. They swung around, crossing over the airspace of private property, but did not damage the property.

The plaintiff never consented to the hunters passing through the airspace. The property manager confronted the hunters and wanted the sheriff's deputy to issue a citation for trespassing, which they did not.

In 2021, the four hunters used a small A-frame ladder over a "No Trespassing" sign to cross from one parcel of public land to another while on an elk hunt in 2021. The property manager approached the hunter several times on public land and eventually contacted the prosecuting attorney's office after the game and fish officers and the sheriff would not issue a trespassing violation. The prosecuting attorney convinced the sheriff to issue a trespassing violation to the hunters, and a Fish and Game officer told the hunters they were not allowed on public lands again. The hunters were acquitted following a jury trial in 2021.

Iron Bar Holdings also brought a civil suit, claiming the hunters caused more than \$7 million in damage.

mon corners has yet to be decided in the state of Wyoming; this question should be certified to the Wyoming Supreme Court before it can be determined whether the act of corner crossing is considered a trespass," Karen Budd-Falen, attorney for the ag groups, wrote in the brief.

In analyzing the case, Skavdahl used the 1914 case of Mackay v. Unita Development Co., which concerned driving sheep across land and resulted in Mackay's arrest and a civil suit. The 8th Circuit Court of Appeals held that Mackay should have a reasonable right of passage over the company's lands to access public lands.

"The many similarities cause the court to conclude the core principle of Mackay, that private individuals possess 'a reasonable way of passage over the unenclosed tract of land without being guilty of trespass' within the checkerboard applies to the circumstances of this lawsuit," Skavdahl wrote.

The judge cited another 1974 case from the 10th Circuit Court. In that case, the court ruled that for someone to trespass into a property's airspace, they had to, in some other way, damage the property or interfere with the use of that property.

The suit also states the OnX app shows one of the hunters was on private property in 2020 when he designated it as "Waypoint 6" on the app. Skavdahl did not address the waypoint matter in his ruling, but stated any trespassing damages would be limited to "nominal damages."

Reaction

Eric Hanson, an attorney who represented Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA) on their amicus brief in the case, told OutdoorLife the ruling does not mean corner crossing is legal in every state and it has to work its way through more courts.

"This has to work its way up the chain of appeals before it becomes more binding," Hanson said. "This is a big first step, but it's not necessarily going to apply outside of Wyoming. The court was very careful to put this in just the context of the case, not a national context."

BHA President Land Tawney applauded the ruling, calling it "a win for the people, both in Wyoming and across the country."

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Deputy Director Dustin Temple said in a statement corner-crossing is unlawful in Montana and wardens will continue to report corner crossings to law enforcement.

Montana lawmakers have tried to settle the issue with previous legislation but have yet to be successful.

BHA stated the case would most likely be appealed, which could escalate the matter to have a precedent-setting impact.

Earthjustice called the ruling "a significant, positive development for public land users across the West," but cautioned it would be appealed to the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals where "a decision will have even more significant and far-reaching effect." — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**



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.)

June 15 – Tavaputs Ranch is honoring the memory of the late Tate Jensen through an annual \$2,500 scholarship for college students entering or currently enrolled in their senior year, or graduate students. Applicants must be studying any field in agriculture and will be required to submit an essay of no more than four pages long. Applications can be emailed to jennie.m.jensen@gmail.com

August 28 – The National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Public Lands Council 2024 public policy internship applications are now open. Applicants must be junior or senior undergraduate students, or graduate students, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and be available for the duration of the internship in Washington, D.C. (January 2024 – May 2024). A background in agriculture of the beef industry is preferred. Apply here: <https://jobs.keldair.com/ncba/jobs/58192/public-policy-internship-spring-2024>.



CLM Cattleman's LIVESTOCK MARKET

CLM REPRESENTATIVES

Jake Parnell.....	916-662-1298
George Gookin.....	209-482-1648
Rex Whittle.....	209-996-6994
Mark Fischer.....	209-768-6522
Kris Gudel.....	916-208-7258
Steve Bianchi.....	707-484-3903
Jason Dailey.....	916-439-7761
Brett Friend.....	510-685-4870
Tod Radelfinger.....	775-901-3332
Bowdy Griffin.....	530-906-5713

SPRING & SUMMER FEEDER SALES

MONDAY, JUNE 12*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

*ANNUAL AES CATTLEMEN'S SPECIAL FEEDER SALES

SPECIAL COW SALE

JUNE 28
Featuring
90 1-IRON, FOOTHILL RAISED COWS FROM STEVE KISTLER.
BRED TO GONSALVES ANGUS AND SONOMA MOUNTAIN HEREFORD BULLS

200 COWS 3-4 YEAR OLD FROM LAZY L LIVESTOCK.
ANAPLAS VACCINATED AND BRED TO POWERFUL ANGUS BULLS

AUCTION MARKET

ADDRESS.....12495 Stockton Blvd., Galt, CA
OFFICE.....209-745-1515
FAX.....209-745-1582
WEBSITE/
MARKET REPORT.....www.clmgalt.com
WEB BROADCAST.. www.lmauctions.com

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Butcher Cows.....	8:30am
Cow-Calf Pairs/Bred Cows.....	11:30am
Feeder Cattle.....	12pm