

INSIDE WLJ

NUTRITION, FEED & HEALTH
— This issue includes a special feature on Nutrition, Feed and Health. Dive in to read about vaccines, innovations in feed, best practices in grazing and more! **Page 11**

BACK TO WORK — After month-long break, Congress comes back into session with potential shutdown looming. **Page 4**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
The debate on horse slaughter has gone on for decades. Let's look back 17 years to the U.S. House of Representatives passing a bill to ban horse slaughter nationwide. "The vote of attention on behalf of agriculturalists, as well as animal rights activists, was House Resolution 503, the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act. Legislators said yes by a 263 to 146 vote to a ban that has the potential of leaving approximately 1%, or 92,000 horses, in the U.S. with an undetermined fate ... if the Senate follows suit, it will immediately cease all horse slaughtering in the U.S.," read the Sept. 11, 2006, article. The bill did not end up passing the Senate.

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Petitioners in Oregon are pushing a measure that would criminalize killing livestock for food, animal husbandry practices, and fishing, hunting and trapping.

Adobe Stock

OR initiative to criminalize ag practices makes headway

— IP3 gathers signatures

Producers may recall Oregon animal activists' 2021 efforts to put an initiative on the state's 2022 ballot that would redefine animal cruelty and sexual assault in the state statutes. Known as Initiative Petition 13 (IP13), the measure failed to receive enough signatures and never made it to the ballot. However, the petitioners did not end their campaign there, and are back with a new initiative that would go even further to criminalize basic animal husbandry practices, along with hunting and fishing.

The latest petition, IP3, now aims to make it on the 2024 ballot. The initiative is largely similar to IP13 but contains even stricter language that criminalizes intentionally killing animals, breeding animals and raising livestock for food.

The proponents' website claims they are pushing IP3 "not to be punitive towards anyone currently involved with the injuring, killing or breeding of animals, but rather to be protective of the needs of the animals and to codify their right to

life and bodily autonomy in law." The signature gathering process began this summer, and according to the "Yes on IP3" Facebook page, over 30,000 signatures had been gathered by July. To qualify for the ballot, the petition must have about 120,000 signatures for verification to the Oregon Secretary of State by July 8, 2024.

The proponents' website asks for donations and volunteers, and notes that for every \$3,000 they raise, they are able to hire one full-time petitioner to spend one month collecting signatures. The group's Facebook page announces opportunities for volunteer and paid petitioners, paying petition circulators a base pay of \$19.38 an hour and even offering hundreds of dollars in biweekly bonuses.

As of early August, the campaign had received about \$120,000 in donations. According to the Oregon Secretary of State, the largest entity donation, \$50,000, came from the out-of-state Karuna Foundation, a group that supports vegan and

See IP3 on page 19

Klamath Basin water users will not face cuts

— Allocation will remain at May levels

The Bureau of Reclamation announced on Sept. 5 that the Klamath Project water supply allocation would not be curtailed further for water users. In mid-August, irrigation districts and Tribes were informed that a curtailment may happen due to a potential shortfall in water supply.

"Due to improved hydrology in the Klamath Basin over the last two weeks, opportunities for Upper Klamath Lake water conservation this fall and winter, and coordination with Tribal partners and water users, no curtailments will be necessary," Reclamation said in news release.

The agency is required to meet a minimum water elevation in the Upper Klamath Lake for endangered Lost River and shortnose

suckers and provide streamflows in the Klamath River for threatened salmon.

"While this recent development is a relief, it also serves as a poignant reminder of the broader challenges surrounding water management," the Klamath Water Users Association (KWUA) wrote in a Facebook post. "The uncertainties of this year are emblematic of a more profound issue of systemic water mismanagement."

The Klamath Project water supply will remain at 260,000 acre-feet (an acre-foot is 325,851 gallons). In April, the agency allocated 215,000 acre-feet for Klamath Project water users. A month later, Reclamation increased the allocation to 260,000 acre-feet.

"The Department appreciates the willingness of our partners to

See WATER on page 9

Judge drops Easterday's monopoly suit against Tyson

— Second suit still pending

A federal judge has dismissed with prejudice a lawsuit filed by Cody Easterday claiming Tyson Fresh Meats Inc. created a monopoly market in the Northwest and violated federal and state statutes.

U.S. District Judge Stanley Bastian in the Eastern District of Washington ruled Easterday does not have standing to sue Tyson on any of the claims as the contracts were between the company and Easterday Ranches, not Cody Easterday individually.

Lawyers for Easterday filed a suit against Tyson Fresh Meats Inc. in February 2023, alleging it created an anti-trust atmosphere where cattle feeders, including Easterday, had to contract with Tyson. Easterday claimed that he and Easterday Ranches for a decade were subject

to being charged erroneous fees, interest and commissions in violation of federal and state law. The suit states Tyson violated the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 and the Washington State Consumer Protection Act.

Complaint

Until the bankruptcy liquidation, Easterday Ranches operated three feedlots with a combined capacity of 75,000 head and also contracted with other feedlots under a 50/50 arrangement where both parties assumed the risk.

The suit stated that in the spring of 2010, Tyson changed the terms of the agreement and determined Easterday Ranches should bear 100% risk for any shortfall related to purchasing, feeding and delivery of cattle to Tyson's Pasco, WA, process-

ing plant. To minimize risk, Easterday Ranches had "the option to use (Tyson) CME contracts, both basis and actual basis, to help manage his risk."

Between 2010 and 2020, both parties negotiated changes and amendments to the cattle feeding agreement. The suit claims Easterday "understood at the time he signed each agreement that he did not have the ability to negotiate with Tyson any of the terms or conditions of such agreements."

The suit showed beginning in 2016 and until November 2020, Easterday submitted false invoices to Tyson under the cattle feeding agreement. On Dec. 7, 2020, Easterday agreed to transfer ownership of cattle owned by Easterday Ranches to Tyson.

The suit claimed Easterday
See EASTERDAY on page 21

Feeders find momentum higher; cash trade steady

The market moved higher during the holiday-shortened week, although cash trade was slow to get moving.

Live cattle futures found gains over the week. The October contract gained \$2.83 to close at \$183.65, and the December contract gained \$2.70 to close at \$187.50.

Cash trade over the week was slow to get started. Through Thursday afternoon, only about 16,000 head sold. Live steers sold from \$179-184, averaging \$182.69, and dressed steers sold from \$286-288, averaging \$287.90.

"Given how quiet the market is at this point, it's seeming like trade could wait to develop until Friday unless packers show better interest and offer up steady bids from the get-go," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her Thursday midday comments.

Cash trade for the week ending Sept. 3 totaled 68,750 head. Live steers averaged \$182.81, and dressed steers averaged \$290.33.

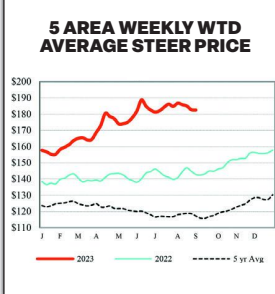
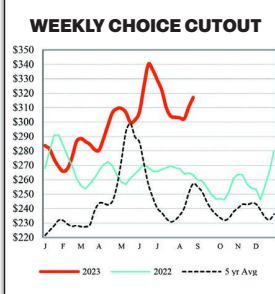
The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of Aug. 28 to Sept. 4 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$182.52.

- Formula net purchases: \$186.22.
 - Forward contract net purchases: \$178.06.
 - Negotiated grid net purchases: \$185.25.
- On a dressed basis:
- Negotiated purchases: \$290.90.
 - Formula net purchases: \$292.06.
 - Forward contract net purchases: \$277.13.
 - Negotiated grid net purchases: \$298.07.

"In the real world, cattle feeders sold 68k head of negotiated fed cattle for two consecutive weeks," Cassie Fish, market analyst, wrote in The Beef on

See MARKETS on page 17



LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$182.90	\$288.19	\$249.33
WEEK ENDING: 9-7-23		

PERIODICAL: Time Sensitive Priority Handling

EZ ANGUS RANCH

Angus Female Sale

Selling 100 Angus Females

SAT., OCTOBER 7

Brunch at 10 a.m. Sale at 11 a.m.

EZ Angus Ranch Headquarters, Porterville, CA



EZAR RITA 2236 20376325

SIRE: T/D Doc Ryan 049 DAM: Paf Rita 7096 (Confidence Plus)

Offering a direct daughter of the \$420,000-valued Paf Rita 7096 sired by the \$525,000 T/D Doc Ryan. This big-bodied, stout-made, spring-bred heifer has dynamic birth-to-yearling spread and still ranks in the top 10% for both Marbling and Ribeye EPDs. She sells safe in calf to the \$132,500 EZAR Step Up 9178 that was leased to Select Sires this past year.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+14	-2.0	+79	+138	+1.20	+1.01	+81	+200	+340

Fall Pairs



EZAR RITA 1502 20302044

SIRE: Basin Safe Deposit 9324 MGS: Connealy Confidence Plus

Stout, square-hipped female with extra body and a quality look. She sells with a fall calf at side sired by VAR Creed 1555.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+10	+0	+73	+134	+1.15	+.91	+77	+189	+322



EZAR BLACKCAP 1467 20296473

SIRE: EZAR Step Up 9178 MGS: Summitcrest Complete 1P55

This powerful female is a maternal sister to \$90,000 EZAR Gold Rush 6001. She sells with a fall calf at side by VAR Creed 1555.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+9	+2.1	+74	+128	+1.30	+0.64	+84	+179	+316



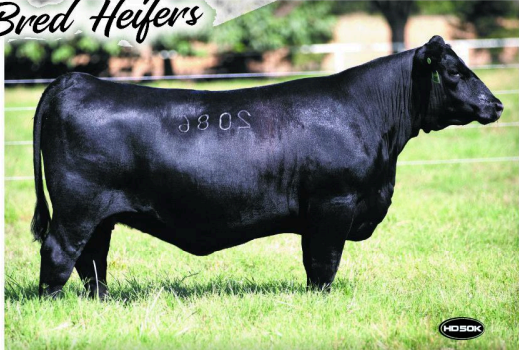
EZAR BLACKCAP 1387 20296449

SIRE: EZAR Step Up 9178 MGS: Summitcrest Complete 1P55

This deep-sided, powerfully built, fall-calving 2-year-old sells with a fall calf at side sired by Virginia Tech Statesman.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+5	+4.3	+75	+124	+.93	+.93	+69	+185	+309

Bred Heifers



EZAR FANNY 2086 20347755

SIRE: EZAR Step Up 9178 MGS: Bar R Jet Black 5063

Long-bodied, wide-based, spring bred heifer that traces back to the Mile High 9360 donor. She sells bred to Basin Jameson 1076.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+11	+.9	+72	+138	+1.37	+.92	+75	+205	+341



EZAR RITA 2145 20350557

SIRE: Basin Safe Deposit 9324 MGS: V A R Legend 5019

High index-ranking female here that in the top 3% for Marbling and Foot Angle and top 1% for Claw Set. She sells bred to Virginia Tech Statesman.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+10	+1.1	+76	+136	+1.51	+.82	+61	+218	+344



EZAR RITA 2133 20347766

SIRE: EZAR Step Up 9178 DAM: Paf Rita 7096 (Confidence Plus)

This maternal sister to the \$170,000 EZAR Gettysburg 1061, is a massive-middled, broody individual that sells due to calve to the \$50,000 VAR Creed 1555.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+10	+1.1	+76	+136	+1.51	+.82	+61	+218	+344

Spring Heifer Calves



EZAR RITA 3011 20661567

SIRE: V A R Conclusion 0234 MGS: Connealy Confidence Plus

This January heifer calf is sired by V A R Conclusion 0234 – the \$350,000 (two-thirds interest) top-selling bull of the 2021 Vintage Bull Sale out of Paf Rita 7096.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+13	-.1	+90	+161	+1.08	+1.26	+64	+189	+309



EZAR LUCY 3032 20664172

SIRE: SG Salvation MGS: EXAR Monumental 6056B

This January heifer calf by the \$72,000 SG Salvation is out of EZAR Lucy 8190, the \$100,000 (half-interest) high-seller at EZ in 2018.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+10	+.4	+74	+136	+1.52	+.80	+61	+215	+340



EZAR RITA 3027 20658567

SIRE: EZAR Step Up 9178 MGS: Deer Valley Growth Fund

This January heifer calf is a daughter of the \$135,000 Step Up and out of a full sister to the \$100,000 Deer Valley Optimum 9246.

CED	BW	WW	YW	MA	RE	\$M	\$B	\$C
+14	-.1	+79	+145	+1.37	+.77	+70	+199	+328

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DAL PORTO MC ICONIC J2193

REG #20436238
SIRE: DB ICONIC G95
MGS: G A R METHOD

CED	+5
BW	+2.8
WW	+82
YW	+145
MILK	+30
CW	+73
MARB	+1.37
RE	+67
\$W	+73
\$F	+111
\$G	+90
\$B	+201
\$C	+312

DAL PORTO OPTIMUM A164

REG #20672634
SIRE: DEER VALLEY OPTIMUM 9246
MGS: PRAIRIE CREEK B GRANITE 5033

CED	+9
BW	+5
WW	+79
YW	+143
MILK	+27
CW	+68
MARB	+95
RE	+73
\$W	+77
\$F	+112
\$G	+64
\$B	+176
\$C	+303

DAL PORTO SURPASS A180

REG #20672638
SIRE: BJ SURPASS
MGS: DPL CHICO U18

CED	+10
BW	+2
WW	+77
YW	+137
MILK	+35
CW	+54
MARB	+87
RE	+55
\$W	+79
\$F	+90
\$G	+62
\$B	+152
\$C	+269

CASINO SURPASS V275

REG #20652196
SIRE: BJ SURPASS
MGS: CASINO BOMBER N33

CED	+9
BW	+2.0
WW	+92
YW	+140
MILK	+29
CW	+70
MARB	+85
RE	+63
\$W	+94
\$F	+103
\$G	+62
\$B	+166
\$C	+322

CASINO SURPASS V273

REG #20652194
SIRE: BJ SURPASS
MGS: CASINO BOMBER N33

CED	+11
BW	-1
WW	+81
YW	+128
MILK	+41
CW	+71
MARB	+76
RE	+88
\$W	+96
\$F	+106
\$G	+61
\$B	+168
\$C	+318

CASINO CONSTABLE V238

REG #20646457
SIRE: CASINO CONSTABLE T34
MGS: CASINO BOMBER N33

CED	+2
BW	+2.2
WW	+91
YW	+146
MILK	+20
CW	+64
MARB	+76
RE	+119
\$W	+83
\$F	+99
\$G	+68
\$B	+168
\$C	+320

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Rural land grab in Solano County prompts hearing

Alarmed by a company that they say has been operating in the shadows buying large swaths of farmland in Solano County, CA, farmers and their advocates say the state should bolster its toolbox to protect agricultural resources and open space.

The call came during a hearing at the state Capitol, where the state Senate Agriculture Committee held a panel discussion on “navigating threats to California agriculture.” The meeting was prompted by concerns that a group known as Flannery Associates LLC since 2018 has amassed 400 parcels spanning nearly 55,000 acres of agricultural-zoned land near Travis Air Force Base.

The group—now the largest landowner in Solano County—formed the limited liability company so as not to expose the source of more than \$800 million used to purchase the land. That 75% of the land surrounds the air force base raises national security concerns, local officials and state lawmakers have said.

Recent news reports revealed the group is made up of Silicon Valley billionaire investors whose goal is to build a new city with tens of thousands of homes east of Fairfield. They plan to use a voter initiative, which overrides local zoning that protects Travis Air Force Base and area farmers.

The land acquisitions occurred despite state conservation programs such as the Williamson Act and other mechanisms designed to restrict urban sprawl and protect farmland.

U.S. Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA-08), whose district includes much of Solano County, said the firm is “using secrecy, bullying and mobster tactics” to force farmers to sell their land. Those tactics include hiring “big city lawyers” to file a federal lawsuit against seven farm families, claiming they colluded to inflate the price of the land. Garamendi called the legal action “a heavy-handed, despicable intimidation tactic” and said the “bigwig billionaires” behind it “should be shamed” and held to account.

He said keeping the county’s unincorporated land in agricultural production is the best way to prevent encroachment and to protect the military base, which “cannot operate surrounded by skyscrapers, wind turbines, tracked homes or other kinds of development right up to the fence line.” One way to keep the land in agriculture, he said, is through conservation easements, which ensure farmers are compensated for the value of their open space.

Himself a rancher, Garamendi and his wife, Patricia, in 1999 donated to the California Rangeland Trust a permanent

conservation easement on his ranch in Calaveras County. He noted \$40 million is available this year through the U.S. Department of Defense Readiness Environmental Protection Integration Program to purchase easements from willing landowners.

“I hope agricultural landowners across the state will take a hard look at placing easements on their property,” the congressman said.

He encouraged the state to direct additional state funding and tax incentives to encourage more agricultural landowners to permanently conserve their property as open space.

State Sen. Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield) who chairs the Senate Agriculture Committee, said she called the hearing because she has “grown significantly concerned” about the threat that agricultural land acquisitions pose, with some purchases done by other nations and anonymous companies.

Last year alone in the Central Valley, one brokerage firm that specializes in farmland sales oversaw transactions covering 6,024 acres in specialty crops, more than 8,479 acres in dairy sales and more than 17,329 acres in open land development properties, she noted.

Hurtado said she’s had “tough conversations with many farmers” who are “living in fear of having to go bankrupt or being forced into selling because they feel being pushed out by outside interests.” She said the concern is not just about protecting farmland but the rights to resources such as water on the land.

The Williamson Act, which gives landowners property tax breaks if they don’t develop the land, has not been effective in slowing the pace of acquisitions in Solano County, said Christopher Cabaldon, former mayor of West Sacramento, who is running for the District 3 seat in the state Senate. He noted the land Flannery purchased is almost entirely Williamson Act holdings, which served as “a flag, like buy here” because the conservation program “has kept prices low for potential buyers to swoop in.”

Landowners who terminate their Williamson Act contracts early must pay a 15% penalty of the current market value of the land, but Cabaldon said such a penalty “is of no consequence” to buyers such as Flannery, which has often paid above-market prices for its Solano County land acquisitions.

He said even if the Flannery project is rejected locally, “you can’t reset the clock” and return to the way the community was because the farmers who sold their land will have left, and the supportive infra-

structure that existed will have been eliminated.

“If you’re a farmer or rancher in this area now, you may be completely surrounded by incompatible uses that will make it impossible for you to survive,” he said.

He said changes to state laws are necessary to ensure local communities and agriculture “have at least a fighting chance” as projects such as the one Flannery has proposed come forward.

Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner Melissa Cregan said she has seen abandoned

crops on purchased farmland harbor pests that move on to nearby farms. Such was the case on the west side of Fresno County, where a Canadian pension fund bought and left 7,000 acres, “causing millions of dollars in damage to the neighbors.”

Current abatement laws “don’t work,” she said, as the abatement process first requires agricultural commissioners to determine who the property owner is, which she said is difficult to do. If the property owner does not cooperate, she would need to re-

move the abandoned crops. In the case of the 7,000 acres, she said, it would cost \$20 million to \$25 million—more than double her department budget.

Madonna Lang, a fifth-generation farmer and second-generation realtor in Bakersfield, said there needs to be better transparency in real estate transactions to identify property owners. This includes collecting information such as a verified physical address, email, phone number and foreign status for corporations, LLCs and individuals owning

land in the state.

She noted California law requires sellers to declare if they possess nonforeign status, but the requirement does not apply to buyers.

Even though the Williamson Act may not have stopped the Flannery acquisitions, Michael Delbar, CEO of California Rangeland Trust, said the program can provide “a huge benefit” to farmers and ranchers by lowering their taxes and helping to keep them in business. — **Ching Lee, assistant editor of Ag Alert, California Farm Bureau Federation**

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Vilsack calls for Congress to maintain funding flexibility

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack visited the Farm Progress Show (FPS) earlier this month, rolling out new renewable energy funding while defending his use of federal funds to help stimulate both farm income and the rural economy.

Vilsack is facing possible limits on his ability to use the \$30 billion annual funds USDA receives for the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The fund gives him the latitude to use CCC funds to help farmers market and sell commodities. The secretary of Agriculture used the fund to spend \$3.1 billion on 141 climate-smart grants from USDA over the past year. Now, the GOP House funding bill essentially restricts USDA's ability to use that fund except for emergencies.

"It's important for us to keep all of these tools available and flexible," Vilsack said about USDA programs.

In talking about the

farm bill, he said it's important to note USDA "has a number of other tools" to help stimulate the rural economy.

Like others in the Biden administration, Vilsack keeps pointing to legislative impact over the past two-plus years, including the American Rescue Plan, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, all of which have boosted USDA spending in areas like renewable energy, broadband development

and funding for supply chains such as processing.

Vilsack sees efforts in Congress, including the farm bill, to limit USDA's use of those funds and programs.

"I'm hopeful that there isn't any effort to restrict the ability and capacity of the department to use all of its tools, including the Commodity Credit Corporation, and we'll continue to work with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to try to find creative ways to try to deal

with the challenges of putting a farm bill together."

While the House Appropriations bill for USDA makes significant cuts and ends some programs from the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act, Vilsack said he hopes Congress will pass the Senate version, which doesn't make all those changes. Congress will return after Labor Day with a short window to either pass spending bills or pass a continuing resolution to keep the government operating.

"We're hopeful at the end of the day that the Senate Ag bill represents the model for our future budget, knowing full well that it's going to be a tight budget because of the debt-ceiling negotiations and legislation," he said.

Adding income opportunities

Vilsack also rolled out \$266 million in loans and grants under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) to fund 1,334 renewable energy and energy-efficiency projects in 47 states, Guam and Puerto Rico.

Speaking to the FPS crowd, Vilsack used a whiteboard to highlight his focus on broadening the revenue streams for farmers in different ways. He pointed out that while net farm income was at record levels over the past couple of years, just 11% of farmers accounted for that increase. He then criticized the "get big or get out" philosophy for farming.

"The critical question for all of us is if we are satisfied with all of that," he said. "I don't think we are, and I don't think we should be."

Vilsack added that the imbalance of farm income is "the biggest challenge today" in agriculture. Highlighting other farmer income options, Vilsack pointed to various initiatives at USDA. They include the 141 climate-smart agricultural projects, REAP funding and a separate funding pool of \$9.7 billion for rural electric cooperatives to build out renewable energy projects. The agency is also working to stimulate more local and regional processing in areas like meat production and fertilizer.

The secretary also talked about tax credits for sustainable aviation fuel.

"Production agriculture is incredibly important, and we should continue to support it," Vilsack said. "But we have to make sure we also support the small- and mid-sized farmers as well ... This is not just important for agriculture. This is also important for small communities. If you have fewer farmers, you have fewer farm families."

Biofuels and EVs

Asked about the Biden administration's focus on electric vehicles (EVs), Vilsack took some umbrage with the question. He noted the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program got to 15 billion gallons under the Biden administration.

"What administration finished the work on E15? What administration has made E15 year-round available?" Vilsack said. "What administration has put billions of dollars into the development of sustainable aviation fuel? What administration ended the rather liberal use of waivers to allow petroleum companies to basically skirt the responsibilities under the Renewable Fuel Standard, OK? The answer to every one of those questions is it's the Biden administration. So, it's not as if the Biden administration has forgotten about biofuels. It hasn't forgotten about ethanol ... So, there are a lot of firsts here."

Carbon pipelines

With a plane buzzing the farm show site carrying a banner "No Dangerous CO2 Pipelines," Vilsack was asked about what role USDA should play on carbon pipelines.

The secretary noted "full disclosure" that his son works for a carbon pipeline, and as governor of Iowa, Vilsack vetoed a bill to further restrict eminent domain. He said people need to find more ways to get along and understand the balance and importance of certain industries, like ethanol production, for the economy.

"In addition to basically providing additional farm income and stabilizing corn prices and soybean prices, it also is a job creator and a job supporter," Vilsack said. He also pointed to the impact biofuels have had on lowering gas prices.

"So, consumers are saving money every single day. I believe it's an environmental benefit from an air quality standpoint. So, there are lots of benefits to this industry so it seems to be we should be figuring out ways in which we can help," he said. — **Chris Clayton, DTN ag policy editor**

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WW	66
YW	131
MK	13
CW	39
MA	1.08
RE	.57
SB	168
SC	236

TRAYNHAMS MONUMENTAL 2738 3-28-22
Traynhams Monumental 1773 x Colburn Primo 5153

ANGUS



BW	0.7
WW	71
YW	131
MK	38
CW	60
MA	.34
RE	.51
SB	130
SC	225

TRAYNHAMS FUNDAMENTAL 2765 4-1-22
EXAR Fundamental 9186B x Traynhams Forefront 8521

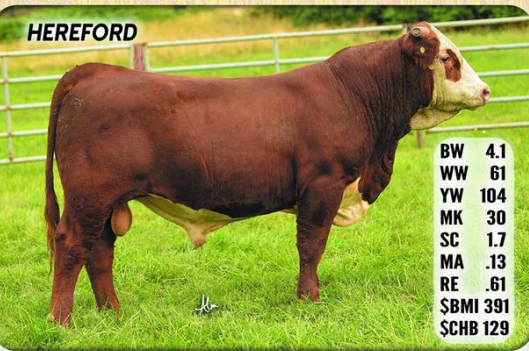
PUREBRED SIMMENTAL



BW	2.3
WW	69
YW	96
MK	15
CW	17
MA	.08
RE	.71
\$API	111
\$TI	69

TRAYNHAMS HUSKER 2771 4-3-22
KMJ Husker 814 x GCC Nickels n Dimes 124Z

HEREFORD



BW	4.1
WW	61
YW	104
MK	30
SC	1.7
MA	.13
RE	.61
\$BMI	391
\$CHB	129

TRAYNHAMS KING AIR 2747 3-29-22
EXR King Air 8133 ET x NJW 73S M326 Trust 100W ET



This SimAngus Cow with her PB Simmental March Heifer Calf Sells

TRAYNHAM CHARISMA F1149 (COW)
WS Revival x Yardley Aspen A425 W/HEIFER CALF
Traynhams Charisma L3018 by Traynham Loaded Up F988



This Angus Cow with her April Heifer Calf Sells

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Lot 33 — Spotted Tails Drift X JA Matty Wood Frost
Born: 2023 • Bay Roan Stallion**Lot 6**

Born: 2023 • Sorrel Stallion

Sire: Gallo Simpatico Dam: JA Fancy Frostywood

**Lot 73 • JA Orphan Vaquero**

Born: 2012 • Red Roan Gelding

Sire: Wily Vaquero Dam: JA Orphan Rain

**Lot 66 • JA Roan Bar Oaks "Flame"**

Born: 2019 • Sorrel Gelding

Sire: Roan Bar Valentine Dam: JA Deluxe Cline

**Lot 1**

Born: 2023 • Bay Mare

Sire: Gallo Simpatico Dam: JA Sunfrost Kate

**Lot 95 • JA Rooster Martwood**

Born: 2020 • Buckskin Mare

Sire: Roosters Shorty Dam: JA Cajun Martwood

**Lot 94 • JA Deluxe Courage "Kitten"**

Born: 2020 • Bay Mare

Sire: Courage of the Heart Dam: PC Laughing Delluxe

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Softer global demand leads to lower cattle prices in most regions

—U.S. noted as exception

Aside from the U.S., most beef markets are seeing softer consumer demand, resulting in lower prices for producers, according to Rabobank in its latest Beef Quarterly Q3 report.

Rabobank noted that cattle prices have split into two groups: those in North America and Europe, and the rest of the world. Softer consumer demand, particularly in Asian markets, has made it challenging to move beef purchases made through 2022 and into 2023 in anticipation of recovery from COVID-19, the bank said.

The slower demand has resulted in softer prices in the rest of the world. In comparison, strong consumer demand and declining supply have led to higher prices in the U.S.

Compared to 12 months ago, U.S. cattle prices have increased by almost 30%, while Australian cattle prices have dropped by more than 30%.

"This price split is the largest we have seen in the last ten years and compares to the period in 2014 when U.S. prices were also at high levels," said Angus Gidley-Baird,

senior analyst for the Animal Protein sector at Rabobank. "Such a separation in prices will have consequences for beef exporters' competitiveness, and we expect to see some shift in trade volumes as a result." Overall, Rabobank anticipates beef production to decline slightly in the third quarter before returning to levels seen in the last quarter of 2022.

Global outlook

In addition to soft consumer demand, Rabobank said prices eased on producer concern about the seasonal outlook, resulting in lower buying activity as cattle numbers were building in Australia. Processors remained constrained as they balanced whether to increase capacity with the available cattle and demand in the end markets. Slaughter numbers are up 23% through July as compared to 2022. Australian beef exports are also up 30% year over year, especially to the U.S., where volume is up 103% for July.

Brazil's beef export volume was also higher in June, the second highest in history at 135,000 metric tons. China remains the main destination for Brazilian beef exports, accounting for half of the country's exports, with the U.S. the

second largest at 7%. Rabobank said it is unclear if the record pace for exports will continue due to a higher availability of pork in China, and the export quota has already been reached in the U.S. Live cattle prices were 22% lower due to lower domestic consumption due to cheaper proteins such as chicken.

Prices for domestic and imported beef were down 23% year over year in July for China due to high inventory levels and the slaughter of dairy cows in some regions. However, Rabobank said that chilled and fresh beef imports remained relatively strong in the first half of the year. Prices for frozen beef began to climb after July, and Rabobank anticipates it is due to a rebound of lower prices. Still, with the high inventory levels, Rabobank expects imports to decline in the second half of 2023.

Beef imports were lower in Japan by 23.4% year over year in June and were down 4.2% for the second quarter. Rabobank attributed the decline to the high beef stock level, soaring local U.S. beef prices and the weakening yen. Rabobank wrote that the country's per capita consumption of beef was 6% lower than the previous year, resulting in ending stocks of beef being 25.4% higher. Rabobank estimates there is a three-month supply of consumption stocks and the volume will limit any increase in imports.

North America

Beef exports from Canada are down 3% compared to last year, primarily to Japan, South Korea and the U.S. Cattle slaughter is down 5% compared to the first half of last year. According to Rabo-

bank, this was driven by a 7% reduction in fed steer and heifer slaughter. However, cow and bull slaughter were up 6%, driven by drought conditions, particularly in southern Alberta. Calf and feeder prices continue to trend upwards, with the Alberta markets trading near \$235/cwt in early August. Despite being down 5% from June highs, it remains 33% higher than a year ago.

Drought also remains a concern in Mexico's coastal region and center of the country. These regions are feedstuff-producing regions and Rabobank said it bears watching in the next several months. With U.S. cattle and calf supplies at levels rivaling 2014, demand for Mexican feeder cattle was up 38% in the first half of the year. Steer prices remain strong, with prices reported by USDA through ports av-

eraging \$200/cwt for 500-pound steers. Despite the strong prices, exports to the U.S. were down 6% year over year.

Rabobank said with the downward trend for the U.S. cow herd and cattle supplies, the beef trade is in transition. Beef exports are down 14% compared to last year and imports were 5% higher in the last quarter. The higher imports are attributed to current beef prices attracting cheaper imports from Australia, Canada and Mexico. USDA reported the All-Fresh Beef prices were 6% higher than last year at \$7.79/lb. Despite higher beef prices reaching consumers, demand remains at the fifth highest in the last 30 years, and Rabobank anticipates the higher prices will test demand. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**

Crops worth millions of dollars remain in ground

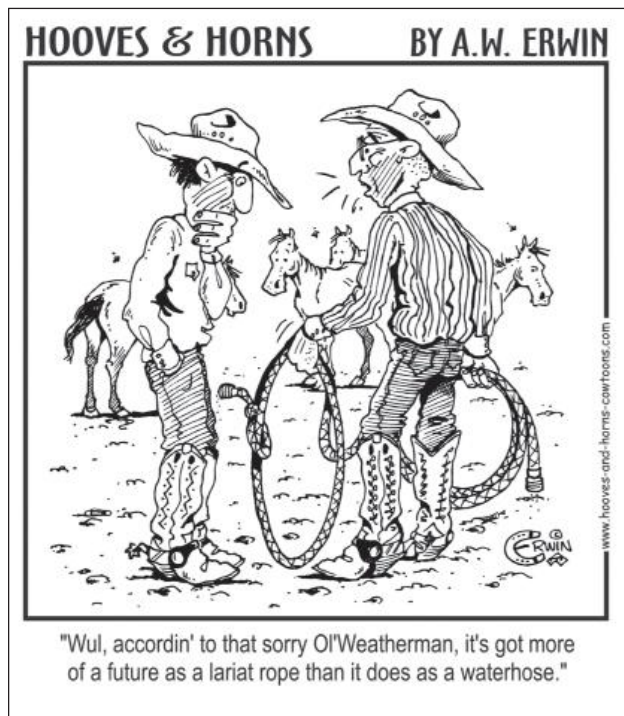
WATER (from page 1)

engage in productive conversations to work through the past couple of weeks," said Matthew Strickler, Department of the Interior deputy assistant secretary for fish and parks. "We landed in a place that confirms our commitment to water users and fulfilling environmental needs."

The KWUA estimates there are more than \$100

million worth of crops still in the ground in the Klamath Project, mostly potatoes, onions and garlic.

"We're relieved to get some assurance that farmers won't see further cuts that threaten crops almost ready to harvest," wrote Paul Simmons, KWUA executive director and attorney, in a Facebook post, "but there was never any need to go through this whole chaos." — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**



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THE SOURCE FOR HYBRID VIGOR

Legislation seeks to expand access to disaster relief

In January, atmospheric river storms devastated much of Davis Ranch, a south Sacramento County, CA, farm known for its produce market selling corn, cucumbers, summer squash, green beans and peppers.

"We had quite a disaster," said Rick Grimshaw, owner of the farm based in Sloughhouse, CA. He said flooding after a levee break severely damaged farm fields. He applied for federal disaster assistance but is still waiting for reimbursement for costs to put the farm back in order.

Earlier in September, Grimshaw had the ear of Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA), who used Davis Ranch as a backdrop to announce legislation to improve disaster relief to help specialty crop farmers recover from catastrophic events.

Along with the bill's co-au-

thor Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC), Padilla introduced the Fair Access to Agriculture Disaster Programs Act. The legislation waives adjusted gross income restrictions that prevent some farmers from receiving disaster relief under USDA programs.

Padilla said the measure could help California growers who produce high-value specialty crops but are saddled with high land costs and escalating expenses.

"Our federal disaster safety-net programs don't account for the realities facing farmers today," Padilla said.

He noted that restrictions prohibit growers with adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$900,000 or more from accessing disaster assistance programs. Padilla said the AGI standard restricts assistance to "far too many farmers trying to survive from season to season because the

land values in California or the input costs for a lot of specialty crops are not reflected or accounted for in the disaster assistance programs."

Navdeep Dhillon, farm program chief for the USDA Farm Service Agency in California, said lifting the AGI standard for people earning 75% or more of their income from farming or ranching can significantly increase access to disaster assistance.

"It would increase the number of participants in our programs and allow farmers to continue farming," she said.

After following crops during three years of drought, California farmers this year suffered massive losses from flooding, with strawberry growers on the Central Coast and dairies in the Central Valley hit particularly hard during January and March storms. Padilla noted the recent

Tropical Storm Hilary, which damaged farms in the Coachella Valley, underscored the urgency for the legislation.

Mark Martinez, vice president of public policy for the California Strawberry Commission, joined Padilla for a discussion at Davis Ranch along with representatives of USDA and the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

"This has been a very difficult year for California strawberry production, with millions of dollars in losses such as in Ventura, Santa Maria and the Pajaro and Salinas valleys, where we had the largest flooding in decades," Martinez said. "It's critical to provide storm-impacted growers the financial assistance needed to produce crops like strawberries that are so important to the American diet." — **Ag Alert, California Farm Bureau Federation**

LEGAL LEDGER

New MCOOL bill introduced

Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At large) has introduced the Beef Origin Labeling Accountability Act to reinstate mandatory country-of-origin labeling (MCOOL) for beef products. The bill directs the U.S. trade representative and secretary of Agriculture to determine a process to reinstate MCOOL without breaking World Trade Organization rules. "Consumers don't know where their beef comes from. It could be South Dakota, Brazil or Canada," Johnson said in a news release. "U.S. producers raise better beef, and they're not getting the credit for it. My bill takes a step in the right direction to get accurate labels back on these products to increase consumer confidence in American-made and grown products." The legislation would also require the USDA and Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to report to Congress on their progress in determining trade-compliant MCOOL regulations. In addition, the bill would direct the USTR to enter discussions with Canada and Mexico to resolve outstanding MCOOL trade disputes.

Tofurky sues TX over labeling law

The meat-alternative company Tofurky has filed a complaint against the state of Texas, challenging its newly implemented labeling law. The law requires that plant-based meat-alternative products use labels that clarify the product does not contain meat in the same size font as surrounding text. The law went into effect on Sept. 1, and Tofurky's suit contends the new law "imposes additional burdensome, impractical and unclear disclosure requirements on plant-based meat producers that go beyond federal law." The company argues that plant-based companies will have to redesign product labels and marketing materials to comply with the law, which would cost millions of dollars. "Texas is using the same unconstitutional playbook as states such as Arkansas and others in an attempt to tip the balance of the market in favor of animal products while consumers show increasing interest in choosing products that take into account the well-being of animals, the environment and their own overall health," claimed Animal Legal Defense Fund Managing Attorney Amanda Howell in a statement.

WDFW considering squirrel ESA status

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is proposing to update the state listing status of the western gray squirrel from threatened to endangered. If changed, the new listing status would bring an increased penalty for unlawfully harming or killing the squirrel. WDFW said the listing proposal is based on the information found in a recent periodic status review. Members of the public may comment on the proposal through Oct. 2. To submit a comment, visit publicinput.com/gray-squirrel, call 855-925-2801 with project code 6483 or send mail to WDFW ATTN: Wildlife Program, PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504.

Changes to RMA protection policies

USDA is improving crop insurance options for small and diversified farmers through the Whole-Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) and Micro Farm insurance plans. "These are two of the most comprehensive risk management plans available, and they are especially important to specialty crop, organic, urban, and direct-market producers," said Risk Management Agency Administrator Marcia Bunker in a statement. Some improvements to WFRP include allowing all eligible producers to qualify for 80% and 85% coverage levels, expanding yield history to a 10-year maximum (from 4 years) for all crops not covered by another federal crop insurance policy, and making the policy more affordable for single commodity producers. Some Micro Farm improvements include moving the sale's closing date to a less busy time of year to help agents dedicate time to marketing the program, allowing producers to purchase other federal crop insurance with Micro Farm, and allowing vertically integrated entities to be eligible for Micro Farm. For more information on the policies and recent updates, visit rma.usda.gov.

Lizard comment period extended

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is extending its public comment period on a proposal to list the dunes sagebrush lizard as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The comment period now closes Oct. 2. The lizard is found in West Texas and southeastern New Mexico in the shinnery oak sand dune ecosystems. The agency said the species is threatened by oil and gas development, sand mining and changing climate. To provide comment on the proposal visit regulations.gov and search for docket ID FWS-R2-ES-2022-0162.

Comments open for BLM rec plans

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has opened a public comment period on a plan for recreation management on public lands. The new Blueprint for 21st Century Outdoor Recreation will guide BLM decisions in meeting demands for recreation on public lands. "BLM hosted more than 81 million visitors on our public lands last fiscal year—a 40 percent increase since 2012," said BLM Director Tracy Stone-Manning in a statement. "The Blueprint aims to help BLM meet the growing demand for exceptional recreation experiences on our public lands." The blueprint can be read in its entirety at tinyurl.com/3edubkne. Comments can be emailed toblm_hq_recreation_feedback@blm.gov by Sept. 30.

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NUTRITION, FEED AND HEALTH

FEATURED SECTION

Merck reveals data on first vaccine to reduce *C. parvum* infection

Merck Animal Health announced two sets of pivotal field study data evaluating the efficacy of an experimental vaccine to provide protection against *Cryptosporidium parvum* (*C. parvum*) in newborn calves.

"*Cryptosporidium parvum* is a highly infectious zoonotic parasite that is associated with neonatal calf

diarrhea, the leading cause of calf morbidity and mortality. There is a critical need to treat and prevent this harmful infection," said Geert Vertenten, Ph.D., DVM, global technical director of ruminant biologics at Merck Animal Health. "The data we will present at the European Buiatrics Congress 2023

strongly support the advancement of a gp40-based vaccine to obstruct the development of *C. parvum* in newborn calves."

The first set of data being presented at the European Buiatrics Congress 2023 at the end of September evaluated an experimental *Cryptosporidium* vaccine for protection against *C.*

parvum infection in neonatal calves by passive immunization.

In the study, healthy pregnant heifers were given the experimental *Cryptosporidium* vaccine and *Bovilis Rotavec Corona* during the third trimester of pregnancy. After the calves were born, researchers collected colostrum from the vac-

inated heifers, then randomly assigned viable newborn calves to receive the colostrum within four hours of birth before being exposed to *C. parvum* oocysts up to four hours later.

The results showed that newborn calves fed with colostrum from *Cryptosporidium*-vaccinated heifers had a significantly lower chance of having diarrhea, as measured by health and diarrhea scores.

Merck Animal Health will also share a second set of analyses that investigated the antibody response of the same *Cryptosporidium* vaccine in cattle in relation to *C. parvum* parasitic infection stages and an in vitro infection model. The results showed that high level anti-gp40 in vitro neutralizing antibodies were significantly increased in animals that were given the *Cryptosporidium* vaccine compared to the non-vaccinated control group. These data further validate that gp40 is an important protein expressed on the exterior of different *C. parvum* infection stages.

"At Merck Animal Health,

we are taking the lead in protecting cattle against the most common and harmful pathogens, as well as offering solutions that guide herd management decisions to help improve animal welfare and operational efficiency. That responsibility begins with equipping those in bovine herd health management with the tools they need to keep animals healthy and minimize the need for treatment," said Philippe Houffschmitt, DVM, MBA, associate vice president of the global ruminant business at Merck Animal Health.

"We are excited to share our latest research in *C. parvum* prevention, which we hope adds to the growing body of scientific evidence that is enhancing the comfort and care of livestock and helping bovine production medicine specialists make better decisions about health interventions for animals."

Full data from both *C. parvum* studies will be published in the journal *Vaccine* or *Veterinary Vaccine* following the congress.

— Merck Animal Health



Planting wheat when grazing is the goal

When wheat is used only for grazing, the desired planting date should be much earlier than when planting wheat for grain production. Profitability of grazing usually depends on providing the earliest pasture for grazing in the fall and winter, so planting dates are often pushed by producers to as early as the end of August or early September.

When fields are planted earlier, soil temperatures are higher and soil moisture is usually limiting, therefore:

- Higher soil temperatures limit the length of the emerging shoot (coleoptile) of the plant so planting depth should be very shallow (<1 inch).

- In freshly planted clean-till fields hard rains can cause the seed bed to crust over hindering emergence of the wheat plant.

- Earlier seeding makes it difficult to control cool-season broadleaf and grassy weeds, so rotation of crops or seeding dates becomes necessary to clean up these issues.

- Insect pests, such as grasshoppers and fall army worms, are a bigger issue for early planted wheat, so scouting and control are important.

- Seeding rates for early planted wheat are recommended to be higher than later planted wheat at 1.5 to 2 bushels per acre (90 to 120

pounds per acre).

Compared with tilled seedbeds, no-till fields with good residue cover have cooler soil temperatures, improved moisture retention, and less soil crusting potential. The cooler soil temperatures slow seedling emergence for late fall plantings but can be of benefit for early planted wheat.

Recent research showed that fall forage production in no-till wheat plantings in mid-August and early September were similar to forage production of clean-tilled fields in early September. When planting was delayed until mid-September, fall forage production in tilled fields was better than in no-till. Stocker calf gains were the same for early planted no-till and clean-tilled fields. When planting dates were delayed no-till fields had later stocking dates and lower calf gains than clean-till fields.

There is a lot of give and take when planting wheat and other cool-season annuals for pasture. Each year is different, but when aggressively pursuing the earliest planting dates for maximizing fall forage production, producers must be ready to intervene if crusting occurs and control pests ... or replanting may be necessary. — Paul Beck, Oklahoma State University Extension beef nutrition specialist

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— Tyson Narjes, Narjes Cattle Company, Sidney, Nebraska

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NUTRITION, FEED AND HEALTH

FEATURED SECTION

Feeding the future with innovative bunks

The Cal Poly Bull Test and Sale is incorporating innovative feed bunks as they look to change future feeding efficiency.

Bull Test Adviser and Cal Poly Professor Dr. Zachary McFarlane shared how conversations around the equipment started. "The discussion first began with Jeff Clark at C-Lock, Inc. after meeting up with him at the American Society of Animal Science. As a former Bull Test manager, Jeff agreed with me that the test needed an upgrade."

McFarlane had a specific goal in mind when it came to improving the Cal Poly Bull Test. "I wanted feed efficiency equipment that provided highly accessible data from a company on the cutting edge," he said.

Because the program received a USDA Capacity Building Grant for Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture Program (NLGCA), opportunities for investing in better technology presented themselves.

Jeff Clark is in business development with C-Lock Inc. and worked as a former Bull Test General Manager in 2010. Watching the industry change over time, Clark understands the relevance and importance of updating the Cal Poly Bull Test and Sale for modern day consignor expectations.

"All bulls in the program have an electronic identification (EID) tag in their ear. The feed bunks have a radio frequency identification (RFID) unit that reads each of the EID tags every time a bull's head passes the plane of the headgate," McFarlane said. "Load cells underneath the feed bunk collect a weight every second so that an individual feed intake can be collected."

Each plastic bin attached to the feed bunks can hold up to 800 pounds as the load cells provide data to a hundredth of a pound change in feed. Feed efficiency helps organize management strategies and breeding decisions.

McFarlane added, "The data provided allows us to determine the number of visits a bull takes to the feed bunks, the duration of the feeding bout and the amount of feed consumed."

New, smart feed bunks in the Cal Poly Bull Test and Sale are striving to meet industry expectations. Embracing Cal Poly's motto, "Learn by Doing," the student management team is excited to see how this modern feeding technology and data collection will improve their consigners' operations.

Clark concluded, "These students are being trained in this precision livestock management equipment. This equipment adds to the long-term sustainability and reliability of the Cal Poly Bull Test and Sale."

For more information about the sale, visit bulltest.calpoly.edu or @cpbulltest on Instagram. — **Cal Poly Bull Test and Sale**

Annual forages can offer fast-growing grazing option

Warm-season annual forage grazing offers cattle producers a quick-growing option for those who are short on traditional perennial grass pastures. While these forages can supplement grazing plans, producers should be aware of the management differences when grazing cool-season pasture versus running livestock on warm-season forages.

The University of Nebraska Extension hosted a pasture walk during the morning of Aug. 23 at a field at the Eastern Nebraska Research, Extension and Education Center south of Mead, NE. University of Nebraska Extension Beef Systems Specialist Mary Drewnoski led the field tour and informed field day attendees of their successes and failures grazing warm-season annual forage this growing season.

Grazing on warm-season annual forages requires a different mindset for livestock producers, according to Drewnoski. Grazing cool-season forages requires some care and caution, while warm-season forages must be grazed immediately when it's time.

"They are two totally different mindsets, which is hard for some to do," Drewnoski said.

One of the major challenges with warm-season annuals is to keep the forage immature and not allow the forage to mature before grazing can occur—otherwise, the crop gets too advanced or decreases the forage quality considerably.

Half a field at the research center was planted this spring to a sudangrass/sunn hemp mixture and the other half of the field with sudangrass monoculture. Both stocker

cattle and cow-calf pairs would then graze the forage, which was divided up into smaller paddocks, for three to four days at a time.

Data shows that pre-graze, there was an average of 1,850 pounds of forage per acre for the sudangrass/sunn hemp mixture. There was 1,874 lbs./acre for the sudangrass monoculture.

Drewnoski said cattle must be turned out onto the warm-season annuals at 18 inches to 2 feet of growth, which is generally about 45 days after planting. Waiting to graze when the crop is too mature will lower quality but will also lead to much less regrowth because of waiting too long to graze.

"You almost have to graze faster than you think," she said.

Drewnoski said one of the interesting things they learned this summer with their research is how fast the forages' regrowth is affected by when grazing is begun and the stocking rate.

Daren Redfearn, University of Nebraska Extension forage crop residue specialist, said the earliest-grazed paddocks featured plants with more tillering. These tillers emerge from the plant after being grazed and are key to quick regrowth and continued grazing, he noted.

These plants are meant to be grazed to roughly 8 inches of growth and then sit for some regrowth, Redfearn said.

"As little as three days after the cattle are removed, regrowth can be seen," Redfearn said.

Initial stocking rates were 2.3 stockers per acre and 1.2 pairs per acre (with bull). The stocking rates were lowered as the growing season pro-

gressed to 1.5 stockers per acre and 1.1 pairs per acre (with bull).

The advantage of fast growth can also be a disadvantage, as cattle need to graze when the forage reaches a certain height. Having enough cattle to be able to graze down the forage is required. Another challenge with grazing warm-season annual forages like sudangrass is how to handle the end-of-the-season grazing with frost. The forage releases prussic acid at a killing frost, which can kill livestock.

Drewnoski said that ideally, producers should pull the cattle off the forage before the first frost. They should keep the cattle off the forage for at least seven days after the first killing frost, which occurs when the temperature is at 28 F or lower.

The cattle can return to grazing after that time to the end of the grazing season, Drewnoski said.

"Some of our producers will plant pearl millet, as that crop does not have any issue with prussic acid," Drewnoski said. "Some will even plant both crops."

Redfearn said the seeding rate for warm-season annual forages is 20 to 30 lbs./acre. In the field shown during the walk, it was seeded on May 29 after cereal rye was terminated. Sudangrass was seeded at 26 lbs./acre, while the sudangrass mixed with sunn hemp was seeded at 29 lbs./acre.

No nitrogen was added to the field, but 40 lbs./acre residual nitrogen was present. Drewnoski said student research assistants and she debated whether the field would have benefited from additional nitrogen. — **Russ Quinn, DTN staff reporter**



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YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

(In an effort to serve the next generation of livestock producers, WLJ's Youth Opportunities calendar lists internship and scholarship information for agricultural- and livestock-focused students, listed by

application deadline. If you have an internship or scholarship to announce, please email it to editorial@wlj.net.)

Sept. 14-15 – The Red Angus Association of America has established the Elevate Collegiate

Leadership Conference, which will be held in conjunction with the National Red Angus Convention in Denver, CO. Registration: redangus.org.

Sept. 22 – The National Cattlemen's Foundation is accepting applications for the annual V.D. Farr Scholarship program. Two \$15,000 grants are awarded to graduate students who demonstrate superior achievement in academics and leadership and are committed to the advancement of the beef industry. Details: www.nationalcattlemenfoundation.org.

Oct. 1 – Applications for the 2023 California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) scholarships are being accepted now. Current CCA members that are currently enrolled at a university or college are eligible to apply. Details: calcattlemen.org/scholarships.

Oct. 6 – The New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association Allied Industry Committee will be hosting college interns at the upcoming 2023 Joint Stockmen's Convention. To apply, visit www.nmagriculture.org, call 505-247-0584 or email nmcga20@gmail.com.

Oct. 10 – Internship applications are open for the 2023 California Cattlemen's Association Convention happening Nov. 29-Dec. 1 at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, NV. Apply here: calcattlemen.org.

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NUTRITION, FEED AND HEALTH

FEATURED SECTION

BETSY delivers sophisticated phenotyping system

"OneCup AI has designed an artificial intelligence (AI) technology using computer vision that is named BETSY, which stands for Bovine Expert Tracking and Surveillance," explained Mokah Shmigelsky, OneCup AI. Shmigelsky was a featured speaker during the 2023 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Symposium July 5 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

According to Shmigelsky, BETSY was created because of the lack of permanent traceable identification in the livestock industry. Visual Identification was the first developed product, followed by seven other value propositions.

ing, and estrous and breeding. Shmigelsky said cattle tend to leave the herd or not face the camera, making it difficult to collect data.

"In computer vision models you need to have a robust data set and all the data needs to be annotated as well," Shmigelsky said. "Instead of tracking individual symptoms we were going to track what the animal's behavior was."

Once the animal is detected, BETSY identifies different behaviors and what is going on with the animal and alerts the producer. The user interface is an easy-to-understand system that gives the pro-

is the bounding box; it depicts the entire body of the animal and pulls out the relevant pixels needed for the next levels. Level 2 has 52 key points and angles which allow us to identify limping and changes in the animal. Level 3 is identification and can pair the final data to an individual animal

as well as read the tag. Level 4 gets into the behavior and growth changes in the animals."

OneCup AI worked closely with the Canadian Angus Association to identify hooves, claws, udders and teats as the highest importance phenotypes. To identify these, they created additional points to

the hooves and udders, as well as created a 3D visual. Clean animals made it easier to get a good ratio and analysis, whereas mud and walking through grass affects accuracy.

"We are working on getting a more accurate reading so we can identify more than just the good things," Shmigelsky

explained.

To watch Shmigelsky's full presentation, visit youtu.be/loMEQaDu7iA. For more information about this year's Symposium and the Beef Improvement Federation, including additional presentations and award winners, visit BIFSymposium.com. — BIF

Feed prices favor limit-feeding stockers a high energy diet

"As we went through the developmental process, we discovered there were a lot of different things on farm that producers didn't have access to because many of these processes are very manual."

— Mokah Shmigelsky

"As we went through the developmental process, we discovered there were a lot of different things on farm that producers didn't have access to because many of these processes are very manual," Shmigelsky said.

In the beef and dairy cattle industry, the use cases that were identified were calving, feed tracking, shipping and track-

ducer information graphically and visually, along with alerts.

The BETSY brain is broken down into levels that classify each animal by detection, bounding box, key points, identification, instance and time-series.

"Level 0 is detection it identifies different animals in the scene as well as humans and vehicles," Shmigelsky said. "Level 1

For cattle producers that are set up to feed calves in a bunk, limit-feeding a high energy diet may be a cost-effective option for growing calves this fall and winter. While limit-feeding is not a new concept, current forage prices relative to grain/co-products may make it an attractive alternative to feeding high roughage growing diets.

For instance, hay priced at \$200/ton with a total digestible nutrients (TDN) value of 52% equates to approximately \$0.22 per pound of TDN. However, \$4.80/bushel corn (88% TDN) and wet distillers grains priced at \$75/ton (108% TDN) each come out to about \$0.11 per pound of TDN.

Research at Kansas State (K-State) University has looked at limit-feeding calves a high energy diet at 2.2% of body

weight compared to a full-fed high roughage diet (2.8% of body weight) for a 90-day backgrounding period. Both diets included 40% wet corn gluten feed (dry matter basis) and varying amounts of corn, alfalfa, prairie hay and a supplement.

Stockers limit fed the high-energy diet were more efficient and gained 2.5 lbs./day whereas stockers full-fed the high-roughage diet gained 2.9 lbs./day. The backgrounding system had little to no effect on finishing performance or carcass characteristics.

There are several advantages to a limit feeding approach for growing calves:

- Reduced mixing time and loads of feed due to less forage in the diet.
- Less feed falling out of bunks and being wasted, reducing rodent issues.
- More efficient use of

bunkspace. If time, labor, and pen design allow, consider leveraging the amount of bunk space in a pen by feeding one group of calves in the morning and then rotating in a second group in the evening.

- Improved health management of calves. Healthy calves will be eager to approach the bunk at feeding time, making lethargic, sick calves easier to spot.

- Improved pen conditions and maintenance due to less manure. Research from K-State has shown a 40-45% reduction in manure output when limit feeding stockers. That is huge!

Tips for limit-feeding stockers

When getting calves started on feed, place long-stemmed hay in bunks pri-

or to calves arriving. For the first day's feed delivery of the limit-fed diet, start calves at an intake of approximately 0.75% of body weight (dry matter basis) and work up to 2.2% of body weight within about 14 days.

As calves grow, be sure to adjust the amount of feed delivered so that target gains can be maintained. Feeding at a consistent time each day and providing adequate bunk space (at least 15 inches per head) can help prevent digestive upsets and set calves up for success.

For assistance with evaluating cost differences of feedstuffs, consider using the Feed Cost Cow-Q-Lator. The Nebraska Extension Beef Team is always available to help producers evaluate feeding options and develop rations to meet cattle nutrient needs. — Nebraska Extension

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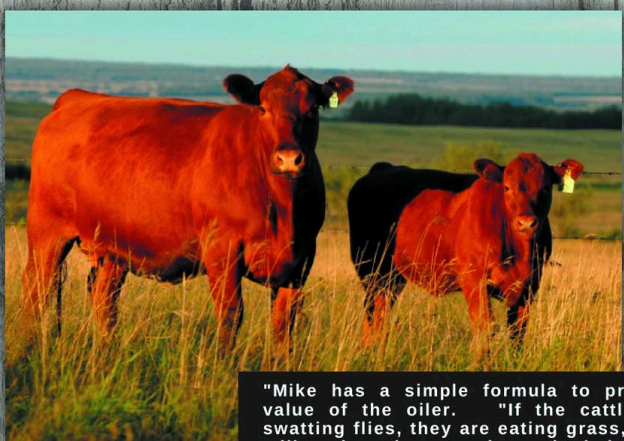
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NUTRITION, FEED AND HEALTH

FEATURED SECTION

Options for feeding hay to newly weaned calves

When dining at a new restaurant and the eating utensil is unexpectedly chopsticks instead of a fork, it can make for a challenging experience.

Similarly, newly weaned calves also have to adjust when they transition from a pasture to a dry lot and are expected to eat from an unfamiliar feedbunk, said the experts at Kansas State (K-State) University's Beef Cattle Institute on a recent "Cattle Chat" podcast.

"Cattle need to know that there is feed in the bunk and if you just dump the concentrate in there they may not find it, so I recommend producers also put some long-stem hay in with the feed so the cattle see it," said K-State beef cattle nu-

tritionist Phillip Lancaster.

He also advises starting cattle out on high-quality hay.

"It will take calves two to three days to get adjusted to eating from the bunk," Lancaster said.

Another decision that producers must evaluate is whether to deliver hay from a round bale feeder or grind the hay and mix it with the other feed-stuffs, he said.

Lancaster and the other experts agreed there are pros and cons to that decision.

"Hay that has been mechanically chopped and offered as feed is a smaller particle size so it is more easily digested and will break down faster in the rumen than long-stem hay," Lancaster said. "Because of

this, cattle will consume more energy on a daily basis than they would if they were eating hay from a round bale."

Cattle eating from around a bale will digest the hay slower and more of that will be absorbed in the digestive tract, he added.

"A downside of feeding hay from the round bale is that cattle will waste

hay as they pick through the bale to eat and it ends up falling to the ground and getting stepped on," said K-State veterinarian Bob Larson.

He added that the benefit of grinding the hay and adding it to the feed is that it is easier to control the portion size, especially in a limited feeding situation.

"Grinding the hay and

mixing it with the concentrates allows me to control what they are eating," Larson said.

While that is true, K-State veterinarian Brian Lubbers said there are drawbacks to grinding the hay.

"The downside to this feeding strategy is the cost of the equipment and the labor it takes to grind the hay and feed it," Lubbers said.

But for producers who already have the equipment and labor available, the experts agree adding chopped hay to the ration is a good strategy.

"If I've got the ability to mix all my ingredients together, it is going to improve the feed efficiency of the calves," Lancaster said. — **K-State Research and Extension**

Grasshoppers may cause problems for winter wheat

Throughout much of the northern Plains, 2023 grasshopper populations have been problematic due to increased population densities and dry conditions. Many of these grasshoppers will be present until the first hard frost, which means they could cause issues for newly emerging winter wheat, as other food availability will continue to decrease through the fall.

As winter wheat begins emerging, it is important to monitor field edges for grasshopper activity and feeding injury. This is especially true in areas where large populations have been observed throughout the summer. Newly emerged winter wheat is a very attractive host to grasshoppers and can suffer stand loss due to grasshopper feeding.

Field edges are the hardest hit areas, because the grasshoppers often reside in road ditches or nearby crops.

Monitoring fields and determining grasshopper densities before and after planting can prevent large populations from causing stand losses shortly after the winter wheat emerges.

Before planting, scout the vegetation around the field edges and count the number of grasshoppers that are present in approximately one square yard. Management should be considered if 11 to 20 grasshoppers per square yard are present in the non-crop borders.

Management options to consider include:

- **Delaying planting:** Delay planting in areas where grasshopper populations are high to reduce the time that grasshoppers will be feeding on the emerging wheat.

- **Increasing plant stands:** In areas with increased grasshopper population densities, winter wheat planting population can be doubled in a 60-to-120-foot-wide strip around the field edge. As grasshoppers move into the field, they will feed on the emerging wheat.

However, the increased plant stands around the

edge will slow the movement of the grasshoppers into the rest of the field. The increased plant stand will compensate for the lost seedlings and allow for a reasonable stand to exist after grasshoppers have finished foraging for the year.

- **Insecticide seed treatments:** Insecticide seed treatments are labeled for grasshopper management in winter wheat and can provide protection during emergence by deterring feeding. For grasshoppers, treated seed can be planted along field edges in a strip that is 60-to-120-feet-wide, or it can be planted to the entire field. For effective management of grasshoppers, the highest registered rate of the product should be applied to the seed.

Please refer to the latest South Dakota Pest Management Guide - Wheat for insecticide seed treatment options and recommended rates.

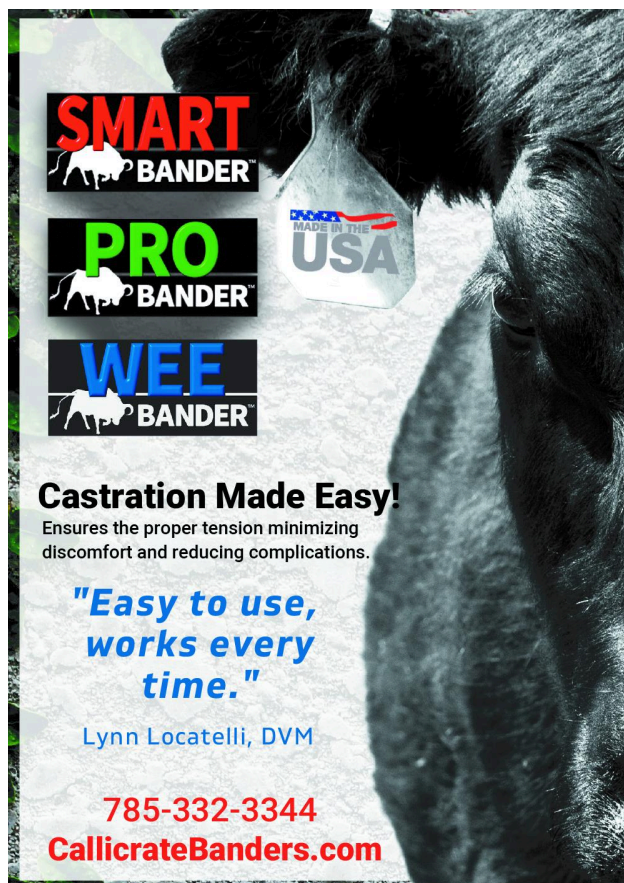
- **Foliar insecticides:** Foliar insecticide sprays may be applied to the non-crop field edges to prevent the grasshoppers from moving into the wheat fields. Before selecting an insecticide,

check the label to ensure that it can be sprayed on non-crop areas.

If grasshopper populations are causing severe defoliation or clipping in newly emerged winter wheat, it is important to determine if their populations are above 8 grasshoppers per square yard. Additionally, determine how far into the field the grasshopper populations are.

When grasshoppers are only present around the field edge, a foliar insecticide application to that area may be sufficient for reducing feeding pressure. It is important to remember that there will be residual activity of the foliar insecticides due to the limited leaf area of emerging wheat. Please refer to the latest South Dakota Pest Management Guide - Wheat for a list of foliar insecticides that may be applied to wheat.

If injury to the field edge is severe due to heavy grasshopper feeding pressure, it is possible to replant those areas after the first hard frost occurs. At this time, grasshopper populations will have declined significantly. — **South Dakota State University Extension**



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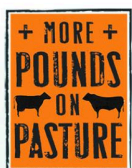
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MARKET NEWS

MARKET SITUATION REPORT

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

MARKET AT A GLANCE					This Week: 9/7/2023		Week Ago		Year Ago	
Choice Fed Steers		182.90		▼	184.77		141.42			
CME Feeder Index		249.33		▲	248.95		180.31			
Boxed Beef Average		311.66		▼	313.79		258.01			
Average Dressed Steers		288.19		▼	290.82		226.80			
Live Slaughter Weight*		1,351		▼	1,354		1,361			
Weekly Slaughter**		629,000		▲	626,000		638,000			
Weekly Beef Production***		514.5		▲	510.6		520.1			
Hide/Offal Value		13.69		▲	13.69		13.95			
Corn Price		4.71		▲	4.61		6.75			
* Average weight for previous week. **Total slaughter for previous week. ***Estimated year-to-date figure in million pounds for previous week.										

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	9/1	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	High*	Low*
Oct.	18015	N/A	17995	18270	18365	18365	14003
Dec.	18418	N/A	18415	18650	18750	18750	15388
Feb.	18833	N/A	18848	19038	19140	19140	15310
Apr.	19238	N/A	19248	19403	19495	19495	16853
CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	9/1	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	High*	Low*
Sep.	25185	N/A	25138	25315	25558	25558	17595
Oct.	25465	N/A	25430	25648	25888	25888	18303
Nov.	25638	N/A	25620	25820	26028	26028	18755
Jan.	25543	N/A	25570	25758	25938	25938	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		3,763	1,501	182.90
Live FOB Heifer		1,422	1,345	182.91
Dressed Del Steer		2,214	955	288.19
Dressed Del Heifer		845	850	287.78
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK				
Live FOB Steer		3,989	1,506	184.77
Live FOB Heifer		1,038	1,284	183.83
Dressed Del Steer		4,246	945	290.82
Dressed Del Heifer		780	839	291.51
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR				
Live FOB Steer		2,656	1,457	141.42
Live FOB Heifer		922	1,337	141.30
Dressed Del Steer		3,191	971	226.80
Dressed Del Heifer		287	839	226.23

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: SEPTEMBER 3									
		Domestic		Imported					
Forward Contract		17,876		3,876					
Formula		278,587		1,423					
Negotiated Cash		77,927		994					
Negotiated Grid		43,576		1,157					
Packer Owned		12,924		N/A					
Total		430,890		7,450					

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS			FORWARD BEEF SALES		
Delivery Month			Neg. Sales 0-21 days		
Sep. '23			Neg. Sales 21+ days		
Oct. '23			Formula sales		
Nov. '23			Forward contract sales		
Dec. '23			Domestic sales		
Jan. '24			NAFTA Exports		

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		N/A	N/A
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		N/A	N/A
Ontario Auctions			
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs		171.58	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		106.73	+5.87
*Price comparison from one week ago.			

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, August 25, 2023			
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario
501-600 lbs	276.58	281.16	266.00
601-700 lbs	254.78	250.91	237.81
701-800 lbs	246.11	244.26	220.55
801-900 lbs	236.30	236.43	224.10
Heifers:			
401-500 lbs	268.77	280.79	235.49
501-600 lbs	248.18	N/A	219.57
601-700 lbs	235.72	240.70	201.64
701-800 lbs	225.08	232.09	199.40

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
	8/28/23	8/21/23		
Feeders	26,229	16,479	756,222	546,118

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE				
September 7, 2023				
Mexico to United States Feeder Cattle Import Summary				
Receipts EST: 11,350		Week Ago Act: 8,950		Year Ago Act: N/A
Columbus, NM		Santa Teresa, NM		
Compared to Tuesday, steer calves and yearlings sold steady. Heifers steady. Trade active, demand good. Supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-600 lbs.		Compared to Tuesday, steer calves and yearlings sold steady. Heifers steady. Trade active, demand good. Supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-600 lbs.		
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2		Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2		
300-400 lbs		300-400 lbs		250-260
400-500 lbs		400-500 lbs		240-250
500-600 lbs		500-600 lbs		230-240
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2		Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2		
300-400 lbs		300-400 lbs		300-310
400-500 lbs		400-500 lbs		280-290
500-600 lbs		500-600 lbs		260-270
(slide 10 cents on steers and heifers basis 300 lbs. All sales fob port of entry.)				

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	
September 1	5,917	312.36	177	350.76	1,136	320.13	1,685	312.54	759	294.26	2,160	273.63
August 25	6,147	310.79	174	347.09	1,158	317.40	1,737	311.40	780	296.64	2,298	267.47
August 18	6,457	301.73	215	338.27	1,245	309.03	1,930	303.59	715	279.63	2,352	267.88
August 11	6,683	297.17	176	335.40	1,311	306.83	1,909	299.74	850	276.47	2,437	262.59
Cutouts												
FED BOXED BEEF												
DATE	CHOICE		SELECT		COW BEEF CUTOUT		50% LEAN		90% LEAN			
Sep 7	311.66		286.17		244.06		151.18		310.20			
Sep 6	313.57		287.61		245.12		130.15		311.86			
Sep 5	315.48		289.54		243.06		N/A		309.44			
Sep 4	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A			
Sep 1	314.49		290.29		244.13		133.56		309.02			

Selected Auction										
Week Ending September 7, 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
September 1 Blackfoot, ID		N/A	240-295	235-305 210-256	225-275 210-265	215-269 205-247	205-269 200-240	195-239 190-236	93-107.50 114-125	
No report available Burley, ID										
No report available Emmett, ID										
No report available Eugene, OR										
No report available Madras, OR										
No report available Vale, OR										
No report available Davenport, WA										
August 31 Toppenish, WA		1,400	307.50* 290*	265-275* 245-285*	251-259.50* 242-255*	215*			90.50-119.50 115-125.50	
Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2										
August 31 Orland, CA		870		200-290 180-270	185-290 165-251	175-271 155-251	170-245 150-238	150-234 130-213	97-121 100-141	1,700-2,200
September 6 Escalon, CA		N/A							75-100 90-130	
No report available Famoso, CA										
September 6 Galt, CA		811		250-332	240-319 200-289	220-280 200-250	200-250 175-235	180-225	85-120 100-145	1,700-2,750 1,500-2,200
August 29 Turlock, CA		1,320		300-330 275-300	290-320 260-285	250-280 240-260	235-256 220-240	220-237 200-220	95-128 105-140	
August 29 Salina, UT		742	380-425 295-370	310-427.50 282.50-340	275-335 257.50-312.50	242.50-300 225-265	225-290 172-237.50	190-247.50 187.50-232	162.50-235 160-210.50	88.75-126.85 129.20-141
September 5 Iowa		11,579	325-330 301-350	291-380 285-330	243-351 240-310	271-344 226-300	246-299 221-274	237-276 195-260	221-269.60 190-239	101-174 94-162
No report available Miles City, MT										
September 6 Bassett, NE		3,565			284.50	276-294 271.25	269-283.50 248-258	237.50-267.25 223.50-247		2,275-2,860
No report available Ericson, NE										
No report available Imperial, NE										
No report available Kearney, NE										
September 1 Lexington, NE		2,000		280	321		240-255.50	238-256.50 221-247		
August 31 Ogallala, NE		1,133		292	280	271-276 247-255	262.50-275 242.50-254	218-255 212.50-249.50		
No report available Valentine, NE										
No report available Herreid, SD										
September 6 Torrington, WY		2,726	330-340 272-287	285-329 255	260-277 230	267	254-262 239-249.50	238-250 221-236		
August 31 Willcox, AZ		1,732	385-399 343-350	360-373 281-301	280-326 249-288	263-287 223-240	231-252 214-233		90-120 115-141	1,425-1,650 1,300-1,425
September 5 Colorado		603							52.50-133 100-166	
August 30 La Junta, CO		946		291-330 260-284	266-322 261-280	260-292 250-260	249-265 240-251	226-248 238-248	101-123 125-141	2,025-2,550
No report available Loma, CO										
September 6 Dodge City, KS		1,152	272.50-308 251	300-315 215-291	270-287 258-265	243-281.50 230-257.50	242-271 240	244.25-248.25 229-234	202.50-241	94-119 108-137
September 7 Pratt, KS		529	343	339-370 282-309	301-311 252-284	290-306 231-251	259-270	203 237-240.50	100-132 109-132.50	1,550 1,725
August 31 Salina, KS		4,446		322-340 287-300	285-307 269-286	284-325 253-273	270-306 244-257.50	250.50-283 231-248	231-254 232-240.50	
September 7 Clovis, NM		2,459	296-351.50 290-315	280-342 265-304	267-321 225-294	256-290 224-256	231-256 226-240	201-232 201-216	120-230 175	95-110 105-132.50
September 5 El Reno, OK		1,800		315-345 290-295	284-295 235-265	272.50-292.50 236-256	245-274 230			1,325-2,300 835-1,500
September 6 McAlester, OK		1,398		275-315 233-265	267-288 235-254	251-267 232-247	230-244 215-253	219-236 214-221	182-217 152-215	98-114 109-124
No report available Oklahoma City, OK										
September 1 Cuero, TX		1,924	183-270 168-254	212-306 209-312.50	207-276 209-284	209-270 202-250	216-248 201-232	211-227 152-214		94-110 105-130
September 1 Dalhart, TX		1,285	200	235-300	290 250	269-271 256	246-260 230	249-254.50 213-229	224-247 213-229	70-115 122-138
August 31 San Angelo, TX		1,042					241-243	223		95-113 103.50-133
August 31 Tulia, TX		1,072		272-275 232-252	251-287 232-244	236-260 215-233.50	240-244 228-235	210-236.50		90-105 1,500-1,550
Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2										
September 1 Alabama		11,136	240-285	270-316 232-260	250-302 225-250	230-280 210-248	220-240 185-228	215-244 180-210		85-119 95-135
No report available Lexington, KY										
No report available Joplin, MO										
September 5 Tennessee		7,258	242.50-305* 218-275*	234-307.50* 200-270*	220-293* 191-259*	220-277.50* 192-264.75*	216-272.50* 180-239*	141-255* 164-219*	190-250* 144-198*	77-126 105-142
September 5 Virginia		2,732		222.50-290 185-235	217-275 167.50-233	189-262 174-237	194-247 170-228	215-239 181-224	139-227.50 142.50-205	

CANADA									
September 6 Lethbridge, Alberta		1,155					331-342 315-328.50	322-334.75 282-314.50	125-141 150-165

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Cattle prices march higher and higher

Feeder cattle prices have increased sharply in 2023. Figure 1 shows the increase in Oklahoma combined auction feeder prices that started in late 2022. In the last four weeks, prices for

lightweight calves and stockers under 600 pounds have averaged about 45% higher year over year, with heavier feeder cattle prices up slightly less, from 37% to 40% over last year.

Cattle prices are trending higher in response to ever-tightening cattle and beef supply fundamentals. The beef cow herd on Jan. 1, 2023, was the lowest since 1962 and is still getting smaller. The projected 2023 U.S. calf crop is 2.5 million head smaller than the recent peak in 2018 and leads to an estimated July 1 feeder cattle supply down 3.6% year over year and the smallest since 2017.

Feedlot inventories have been smaller year over year since September 2022. Cattle slaughter is down 3.9% so far this year, leading to a 4.9% year over year decrease in beef production for the year to date.

Feeder cattle prices have reached record levels or are rapidly approaching record levels. Table 1 shows record weekly Oklahoma steer and heifer prices by weight group. As seen in the table, all feeder steer and heifer prices for animals over 600 lbs. are already at new record levels. Prices for lightweight feeders are expected to reach new record levels in the coming weeks and months. Table 1 will soon be out of date as feeder cattle prices are expected to continue moving higher.

Cattle prices have advanced quickly, in some ways, faster than expected. The highest cattle prices will occur when herd rebuilding begins in earnest. The retention of heifers and reduced cow culling will squeeze feeder cattle supplies, cattle slaughter and beef production to sharply lower levels. This process has not yet started and is expected to proceed rather slowly when it does begin.

Herd rebuilding is expected to take three to four years or more. Heifer retention may

begin in late 2023 but is likely to consist primarily of weaned heifer calves that will not increase beef production until 2026. Cattle prices are expected to average higher through 2024 and 2025 at least. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

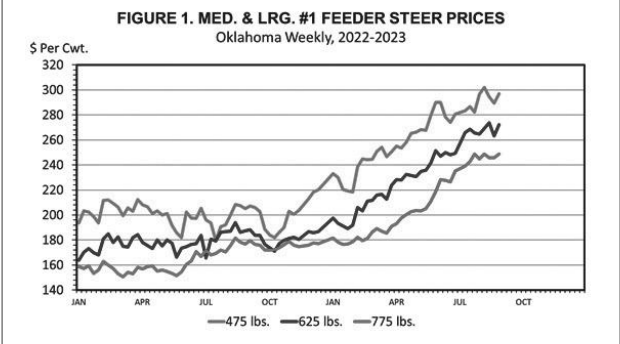


Table 1. Oklahoma Combined Auction Prices for Steers and Heifers, Record Weekly Prices and Dates as of Sept. 1, 2023*

Steers				
Weight Lbs.	2023 High	Price \$/cwt.	Previous High	Price \$/cwt.
400-450	8/11/23	\$309.40	12/5/14	\$351.41
450-500	8/11/23	\$302.05	1/9/15	\$322.56
500-550	8/18/23	\$288.54	12/12/14	\$306.42
550-600	8/18/23	\$285.04	11/14/14	\$286.73
600-650	8/18/23	\$273.72	12/12/14	\$271.70
650-700	8/11/23	\$260.79	10/10/14	\$253.41
700-750	8/11/23	\$257.50	10/10/14	\$253.13
750-800	9/1/23	\$248.91	10/10/14	\$244.71
800-850	9/1/23	\$247.25	10/10/14	\$238.87
850-900	9/1/23	\$241.62	12/5/14	\$230.22
900-950	7/21/23	\$242.50	10/10/14	\$221.87
950-1,000	8/11/23	\$234.47	1/9/15	\$216.75

Heifers				
Weight Lbs.	2023 High	Price \$/cwt.	Previous High	Price \$/cwt.
400-450	8/18/23	\$275.14	12/5/14	\$305.55
450-500	9/1/23	\$266.31	12/5/14	\$288.64
500-550	8/18/23	\$260.00	12/12/14	\$273.07
550-600	9/1/23	\$259.18	12/5/14	\$262.49
600-650	9/1/23	\$252.35	11/21/14	\$244.76
650-700	8/11/23	\$243.30	10/31/14	\$237.95
700-750	8/11/23	\$237.86	10/10/14	\$234.36
750-800	8/18/23	\$232.66	10/10/14	\$227.19
800-850	8/25/23	\$225.81	11/21/14	\$216.04
850-900	9/1/23	\$220.54	10/10/14	\$213.90
900-950	8/11/23	\$217.49	12/12/14	\$198.50

*Record prices and dates in red.

Market sales limited due to holiday

MARKETS (from page 1)

Wednesday. “The difference today is packers are black at least \$100/head and adding harvest days is appealing. Estimates for this week’s holiday-shortened slaughter are 570k to 585k head, all depending on how many plants run Saturday.”

Slaughter through Thursday was projected at 383,000 head, down about 100,000 head from a week earlier due to the short kill week. Total slaughter for a week earlier is estimated at 629,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending Aug. 26 was 626,595 head. The average dressed steer weight was 906 lbs., up 1 lb. from the prior week.

Boxed beef prices were several dollars lower. The Choice and Select cutouts each lost about \$3 to close at \$311.66 and \$286.17, respectively.

Feeder cattle

Feeder futures closed several dollars higher. The September contract gained over \$2 to close at \$255.57, and the October contract gained \$2.85 to close at \$258.87.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index gained about 40 cents to close at \$249.33.

Corn futures traded mostly sideways. The September contract gained 9 cents to close at \$4.70, and the December contract gained 8 cents to close at \$4.86.

“So long as this relationship continues (supportive live cattle market, steady corn

prices), the feeder cattle complex should have absolutely no issue maintaining these levels,” Stewart said. “And if the cash cattle market sees steady to somewhat higher trade, then a bold move may even be in the works.”

Several markets did not host a sale due to the Labor Day holiday.

Kansas: Winter Livestock in Dodge City sold 1,009 head on Wednesday. Compared to the week prior, there were not enough feeder steers and heifers for a market test, but a lower trend was noted. Benchmark steers averaging 725 lbs. sold from \$246-248.25, averaging \$247.08.

Nebraska: Bassett Livestock Auction in Bassett sold 3,450 head on Wednesday. There were no comparable offerings from the sale held two weeks prior. Benchmark steers averaging 754 lbs. sold for \$269.

New Mexico: Roswell Livestock Auction in Roswell sold 831 head on Wednesday. Compared to the last sale in August, steer calves 350-450 lbs. sold

steady to \$3 lower, 450-500 lbs. sold \$7 higher and 500-600 lbs. sold \$17 lower. Feeder steers 600-700 lbs. sold \$8-17 lower, and 700-750 lbs. sold steady. Heifer calves 350-400 lbs. sold steady to \$1 lower, and 400-500 lbs. sold \$6 lower. Feeder heifers had insufficient numbers to compare. Benchmark steers averaging 755 lbs. sold from \$222-229, averaging \$227.13.

Oklahoma: OKC West in El Reno sold 1,800 head Tuesday. Compared to the last auction, steer and heifer calves that were weaned sold \$2-3 lower. The bulk of the supply was unweaned or short-weaned bawling calves. A group of steers averaging 685 lbs. sold for \$257.

Wyoming: Torrington Livestock in Torrington sold 2,726 head on Wednesday. Compared to the week prior, yearling steers traded \$2-4 higher on comparable trades and yearling heifers sold mostly steady. Benchmark steers averaging 762 lbs. sold from \$254-262, averaging \$258.34. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**



COMING EVENTS

(Send calendar of events information to editorial@wlj.net.)
Sept. 15-16 – The upcoming 2023 Stockmanship and Stewardship event will be held in Ontario, OR. Producers who attend not only receive hands-on training in best management practices to help improve their operation, but also the chance to get BQA or BQA-T certified! Details: www.stockmanshipandstewardship.org.

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.



TURLOCK LIVESTOCK AUCTION YARD
The Central California Livestock Marketing Center

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

TLAY ANNUAL FALL FEMALE SALE & CALIFORNIA BREEDERS BULL SALE SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

9 A.M. FEMALE SALE • 1 P.M. BULL SALE

FEATURING 500 COW-CALF PAIRS & BRED FEMALES

IN-HOUSE VIDEO SALE

- 20 FANCY BLACK BALDY 1ST-CALF HEIFER PAIRS, FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED AND QUALIFY FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS. FROM SL CATTLE CO. / ART ANDERSON.
- 20 FANCY ANGUS 1ST-CALF HEIFER PAIRS, FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED AND QUALIFY FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS. FROM SL CATTLE CO. / ART ANDERSON.
- 120 OUTSTANDING 2ND AND 3RD-CALF ANGUS AND SIMANGUS PAIRS, FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED. CALVES WILL QUALIFY FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS. INCLUDING GAP LEVEL 4. SELLING IN 4 LOTS FROM GILLILAND LIVESTOCK.
- 25 FANCY 1ST-CALF ANGUS HEIFER PAIRS, ANAPLAS AND FOOTHILLS EXPOSED. FROM RONNIE SEEVER.

THROUGH THE RING

- 25 TOP-QUALITY ANGUS AND BWF 1ST-CALF HEIFER PAIRS FROM ONE RANCH.
- 10 1ST AND 2ND-CALF FANCY ANGUS PAIRS FROM ONE RANCH.
- 10 OUTSTANDING ANGUS AND BLACK BALDY FALL-CALVING HEIFERS FROM JOHN GINOCHIO.
- 40 TOP-QUALITY ANGUS AND BWF 2ND-CALF TO 8-YEAR-OLD BRED COWS, FOOTHILLS AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED. FROM JON COOPER.
- 60 RED ANGUS LATE FALL-CALVING COWS, 4-7-YEAR-OLDS FROM ONE RANCH.
- 60 HIGH-QUALITY F1 BLACK BALDY 18-24-MONTHS FANCY OPEN HEIFERS FOOTHILLS AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED READY TO BREED. FROM WIEDEMANN RANCH.

JOIN US SEP. 28 ANNUAL BULL & FEMALE SALE PRE-SALE DINNER FEATURING A MARKETING PRESENTATION PRESENTED BY TLAY AND ZOETIS WILL TAKE PLACE THURSDAY, SEPT 28.

TLAY FALL ROUNDUP FEEDER SALES

EXPECTING LARGE RUN OF CALVES AND YEARLINGS AT 9 A.M.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 26 SPECIAL FEEDER SALE

FEATURING CONSIGNMENTS FROM PRODUCERS WITH 50 HEAD OR LESS
& CONSIGNMENTS FROM THE FUTURE OF OUR INDUSTRY,
THE YOUNG CATTLE PRODUCER

TUESDAY, OCT. 10

TUESDAY, NOV. 7

TUESDAY, OCT. 24

TUESDAY, NOV. 14

SALE DAY IS PAY DAY

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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

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Study: Grid pricing system has boosted cattle profits

Kansas State (K-State) University agricultural economists have completed a broad analysis of the impact of grid pricing in the cattle industry, concluding—among other findings—that producers and consumers have benefitted from negotiated pricing agreements.

K-State livestock economist Ted Schroeder said grid pricing of fed cattle refers to valuing a lot of cattle based on carcass merit, including premiums or discounts for such traits as quality grade, yield grade, preferred weight, special branded programs and more.

He added that most cattle sold under a grid pricing system use a marketing agreement with packers, including a base price and a schedule of premiums or discounts applied to cattle that are delivered to the packer.

“Marketing agreements and grid pricing have evolved because producers strive to link consumer preferences for high quality beef with farm gate, fed cattle values,” Schroeder said. “The data we’ve reviewed clearly demonstrates that sending clear value signals to producers through premiums for high quality carcasses and discounts for less desired quality has transformed the beef industry.”

Schroeder and K-State agricultural economics graduate student Katy Doumit have identified recent trends in grid pricing, and the implications for the cattle industry. Their paper, “Fed Cattle and Beef Premiums and Discounts,” is available online through agmanager.info, a website maintained by K-State’s Department of Agricultural Economics.

“Over the last 20 years, as the use of marketing agreements has increased dramatically, producers have responded resoundingly by increasing the percentage of steers and heifers that grade Choice and higher, from 55% in the early 2000’s, to consistently over 80% today,” Doumit said.

“Producers have benefitted by having higher prices for fed cattle, and consumers have benefitted by having higher quality beef that they prefer in retail stores.”

Schroeder notes that producers who are considering entering into a marketing agreement should first study the array of alternative grids available and match those with their own cattle procurement, production and marketing strategies.

“The two go hand-in-hand,” he said. “Premiums and discounts that we’ve

summarized in our report have considerable variation across grids. Knowing the type of carcass quality traits that a producer can attain relative to cost is critical.”

Schroeder encourages producers to “shop around to find the grid to match the type of carcasses the producer can effectively produce.”

“That will make a big difference between a grid system increasing or reducing profit,” he said. “Launching a grid system is less about chasing targets than it is about knowing the type of cattle one has available and the feeding management system that can match the grid with the cattle.”

More information, including Doumit’s and Schroeder’s full report, is available online at tinyurl.com/bdhemyjt. — **K-State Research and Extension**

STORY SHORTS

Wolves removed in OR and WA

Wildlife officials have removed wolves from packs in Oregon and Washington following chronic depredation episodes and after non-lethal deterrents have proved to be ineffective. On Aug. 15 and Aug. 29, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) issued lethal removal permits to two producers to remove two wolves from the Wildcat Pack following depredations of one cow and two calves. On Aug. 31, ODFW announced two wolves, a 2-year-old male and a yearling male, were removed by USDA’s Wildlife Services on the private forest allotment of one of the producers impacted. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) announced on Aug. 28 the lethal removal of two wolves, an adult male wolf and a yearling female wolf, from the WA139 Pack in Asotin County following a permit issued on Aug. 23 by Director Kelly Susewind. WDFW documented four depredation events affecting four livestock producers, resulting in six dead livestock since May 21, all attributed to the WA139 group. Prior to depredations in WA, the wolves were involved in several depredations in southeast Oregon, where an Oregon producer removed one wolf. The WA139 Pack originated from a collared wolf who left the Tucannon Pack (WA139f).

New wolf packs found in CA

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) reported in its latest wolf management update the presence of four new wolf packs in the state. The new packs are unnamed, resulting from wolves known in California or dispersed from packs in Oregon. The unnamed Plumas County pack consists of at least two adults and two pups who may have dispersed from the existing Beckwourth Pack. A suspected depredation occurred in the area of the pack, but the carcasses were too old for determination. The second pack from Lassen County consists of at least two adults, with the female from a 2021 litter of the Whaleback Pack and an unknown number of pups. Preliminary genetic analyses show the male is not from any known California packs or Oregon’s Rogue Pack. The third pack was documented on a trail camera in March, consisting of three wolves in Tehama County, and CDFW officials continue to survey the pack. The southernmost and the most recently pack identified is in Tulare County. According to CDFW, the new pack consists of at least five individuals not previously detected in California. It consists of an adult female—a descendant of OR7—and two females and two males.

MO beef plant faces opposition

A beef processing plant under construction in Warren County, MO, is facing opposition over concerns about water pollution. According to the St. Louis Post Dispatch, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources has received comments from neighbors regarding the American Foods Group’s prospective plant on the eastern edge of Wright City. Under the plan, waste from the facility would be processed and then released into Peruque Creek, where it flows past two city parks and eventually into Lake St. Louis, 14 miles from the plant. An attorney for the Lake St. Louis Community Association has asked the department to determine if there are alternatives to releasing the treated waste into the creek. The \$800-million facility has been in the works for several years and is expected to process up to 2,400 head per day.

Tyson deploying autonomous trucks

Tyson Foods Inc. and Gatik AI Inc. are collaborating to deploy autonomous refrigerated box trucks along Tyson routes in northwest Arkansas. The Gatik trucks will operate 18 hours a day on short-haul, predetermined routes to support product flow from the plant to storage facilities. The autonomous trucks are equipped with a 26-foot temperature-controlled box purpose-built to quickly transport refrigerated and frozen goods. Safety drivers will initially be in the cab to monitor the autonomous system. “At Tyson Foods, we are innovating and using automation throughout our business, including in transportation,” said Patrick Simmons, vice president of transportation for Tyson Foods. “This partnership allows us to strategically place our drivers where they are needed most while still reliably and safely transporting protein from the plant to distribution centers.”

Hillshire Brands sausage recalled

USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service announced the recall of 15,876 pounds of blended meat and poultry smoked sausage products manufactured by Hillshire Brands Company for bone fragments. The sausages were manufactured on June 14 under the “Hillshire Farm Smoked Sausage made with pork, turkey, beef” label with EST. 756A printed on the front of the package. Consumers who have purchased these products are urged not to consume them. These products should be thrown away or returned to the place of purchase.



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SCC KEYSTONE 2009K
#4607699 – LOT 4



SCC KITTLE 2003K
#4607891 – LOT 3



SCC KRYPTONITE 2012K
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Study shows toxicant effective tool to reduce feral hog populations

A warfarin-based toxicant has been shown to be an effective option for landowners in the control of feral hog numbers and damage on their property, according to a study by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

The two-year study was conducted by Department of Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management associate professor and AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist John Tomecek, Ph.D., and Michael Bodenchuk, director of Texas Wildlife Services. The evaluation took place on 23 sites in 10 counties across the various regions of the state. Tomecek said his and Bodenchuk's team were able to reduce feral hog numbers effectively and

efficiently with diligent application of the product.

"Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service was tasked with evaluating the product's ability to reduce feral hog numbers and damage in regions across the state and seasons of the year," Tomecek said. "We found that it can be highly effective when utilized correctly and saw no access to the toxicant by non-target species when all feeder devices functioned properly."

John Sharp, chancellor of the Texas A&M University System, said the study is an important step in the fight to curb the economic and environmental impact of feral hogs in Texas and across the nation.

There are more than 3 million feral hogs that

cause more than \$500 million in damage to agriculture and private property throughout Texas each year, according to the most recent economic estimates. Feral hogs are a burden on native wildlife and responsible for widespread disturbances within native ecosystems.

"Texas A&M AgriLife experts are the leading authorities on feral hog control in the nation, and we are the first to test this in a real-world application and to show that this warfarin-based toxicant can be effective for reducing these pests," Sharp said. "Unabated feral hog populations threaten our natural resources, our livelihoods and our quality of life, and our goal, as a land-grant institution, is to provide safe, effective science-backed solutions for all Texans."

Evaluating toxicant as a tool

The goals of the study were to conduct field evaluations of a low-dose warfarin-based toxicant to determine its efficacy in various regions of the state and to assess the product's ability to help landowners prevent property damage and economic harm from feral hogs.

The team of AgriLife Extension specialists worked with private landowners on recommended application methodologies to provide real-world testing conditions for the product and the suggested best practices.

Bait that included warfarin was placed in specially designed dispensers that prevent access by non-target species, Tomecek said. Feral hogs were conditioned to access the bait before the product was ap-

plied. Once the product was applied, feral hogs consumed lethal doses within five days of consistent access to the bait.

The product is not considered acutely toxic to non-target animals in the event some might gain limited access to the bait nor is it found at lethal levels within the tissue of deceased feral hogs, Tomecek said.

Correctly and consistently are the key words for effective use of warfarin, Tomecek said.

After a trial period of close supervision and instruction, landowners in the study applied and managed the bait themselves. During the project, the Texas A&M AgriLife team made several discoveries that will help increase efficacy of the product when applied.

Landowners who checked the feeder for me-

chanical issues and replaced bait consistently as part of their regular maintenance schedule reported sharp declines in feral hog numbers and damage levels over the seasons of the year. Landowners who did not adhere to instruction reported mixed to low success in curbing feral hog numbers on their property. These results were true, regardless of the season of the year or the region of the state where the trial was being conducted.

Rick Avery, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension director, said AgriLife Extension is dedicated to providing effective, science-backed tools and information to Texas landowners dealing with feral hogs.

"This toxicant is a new tool to have in the toolbox as we deal with feral hog populations across the state," Avery said. — **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**

IP3 would affect a broad range of livelihoods

IP3 (from page 1)

vegetarian lifestyles and condemns eating animal products. An individual is also recorded as donating \$50,000.

The Oregon Farm Bureau and Oregon Cattlemen's Association, along with dozens of other industry and recreational groups, have launched a campaign against IP3 called "No on IP3."

In a Facebook post, the Oregon Farm Bureau wrote, "The passage of IP-3 would create a 'no kill' sanctuary state forcing Oregonians to a vegan lifestyle or to have their meat and dairy shipped in from other states, making us increasingly more reliant on the national food network for our food resources."

The opponents said that not only would IP3 put ranchers, farmers and fishermen out of business, but it would also close food processors and impact farm suppliers, restaurants, transportation companies, workers and retailers, all the way to consumers at the grocery store.

Ag industry groups said to join the fight against the initiative, visit www.NoIP3.com, do not sign anything to support the measure, register to vote, donate to Feed Oregon PAC and educate everyone around you about how harmful IP3 would be to every Oregonian.

IP3 details

The initiative petition would remove most of the current exemptions from Oregon's cruelty laws against animal abuse, neglect and sexual assault. The measure would criminalize injuring, killing, "forced impregnation" and masturbation of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish in the state of Oregon.

The proponents claim the initiative would not affect food security in Oregon, and that "we are already producing far more food than needed to feed everyone." Petitioners write on their website, "Because IP3 does not ban any specific industry and does not dictate how industries or the government respond to the proposed changes in statute, it is ultimately up to them to do what they feel best meets their needs as long as it also protects the animals' needs to be free from suffering."

In addition to criminalizing AI and other breeding practices and killing livestock for food, the measure would ban hunting, fishing and trapping.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation said IP3 would "severely hamstring the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in carrying out its mission to protect and enhance the state's fish and wildlife and their habitats." The group said about 40% of the department's budget is generated from hunting and fishing licenses and fees that are used to manage all wildlife species.

The measure would also drastically alter youth organizations such as 4-H and FFA, along with rodeo and exhibitions. It would ban animals from being used in scientific or agricultural research, and teaching. Pest and vermin control practices would be limited. Commercially grown poultry would be outlawed.

This measure could have widespread implications for all of agriculture and the livelihoods that depend on it.

To view the initiative in its entirety, visit tinyurl.com/8e49skt6. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**




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August hay production estimates are encouraging

USDA's August Crop Production report serves as an initial estimate of the size of the year's hay crop and includes state-by-state estimates. This has implications for winter feed supply and winter feed costs for cattle operations. This year's hay crop will be especially important following the widespread drought across much of the U.S. last year.

Estimated May 1 hay stocks were down by more than 13% nationally this spring (see the chart), which was driven by a combination of the small hay crop last year and a large number of hay feeding days last winter. Like any estimate, a lot can still happen for the remainder of the growing season, but it does provide some perspective on what can be expected from hay

supplies going into fall.

For the purposes of this discussion, we will focus on what USDA refers to as "all other hay." In most states, this means that alfalfa and alfalfa mixes are excluded. That is the category that is most associated with winter feeding implications for cow-calf operations.

At the national level, all other hay production is estimated to be up by 8% from 2022 as a result of increased acreage and yield. Certainly, this is encouraging and suggests improved hay supply is likely at the national level. But hay is a unique product with high transportation costs, so markets tend to be very localized. For this reason, hay prices can vary a lot from one area to the next. While overall conditions are better this

year, there are still large cattle-producing areas that are dealing with drought.

In the table, there are some state-level all hay production estimates from the August report. Hay production was projected to be higher in Arkansas and Kentucky, while being down a bit in Mississippi. Tennessee was included as another state in the Southeast, where hay production is projected to increase by nearly 10%.

Beyond the Southeast, there are some states that were of particular interest due to the scale of hay production or the change from last year. Missouri stood out with an estimated decrease in production of more than 20%. After significantly reduced production levels last year, Oklahoma and Kansas

Non-Alfalfa Hay Production Estimates in Selected States and US (2022 and 2023)

State	2022 Production (1,000 tons)	Est. 2023 Production (1,000 tons)	Change from 2022 to 2023
Arkansas	2,180	2,320	+6.4%
Kansas	3,315	3,900	+17.6%
Kentucky	4,224	4,680	+10.8%
Mississippi*	1,180	1,140	-3.4%
Missouri	5,490	4,350	-20.8%
Oklahoma	3,500	5,610	+60.3%
Tennessee	3,570	3,916	+9.7%
Texas	6,150	6,900	+12.2%
United States	64,843	69,894	+7.8%

*Mississippi Estimates include Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures
Source: USDA-NASS August Crop Production Report

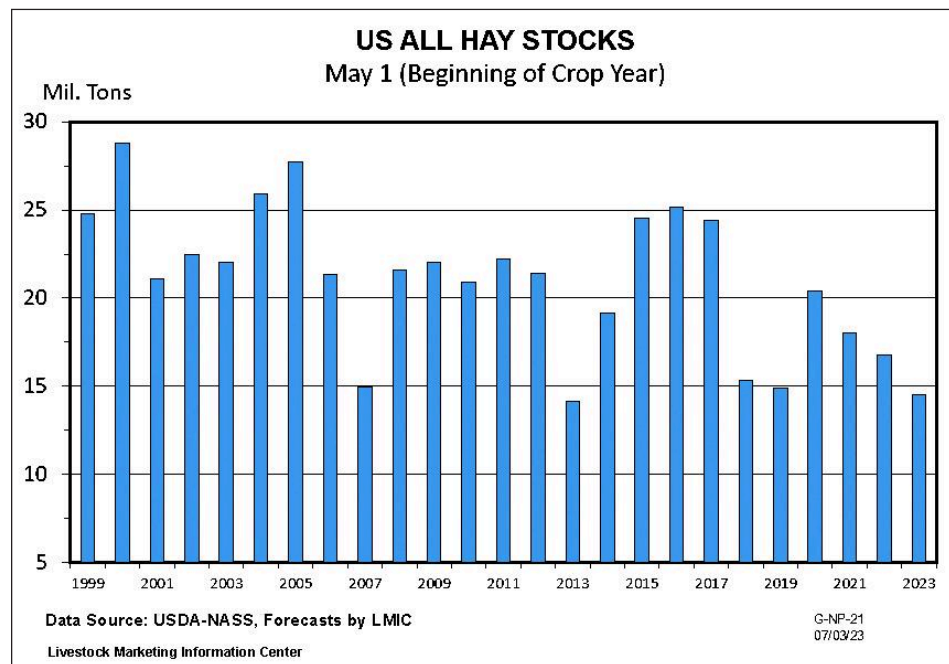
stood out for the opposite reason, with projected increases of 60.3% and 17.6%, respectively. Texas is the largest hay-producing state in the U.S. and is projected to produce over 12% more hay in 2023.

The August Crop Production report serves as an im-

portant reminder of how different production can be across states and even within individual states. Further, conditions are constantly evolving and fall weather will impact production levels and hay feeding days this winter.

While discussing USDA's estimates provides some con-

text, the real message is that producers should already be making plans for their winter hay needs. It's never too early to assess likely hay needs for the upcoming winter and make certain that a sufficient supply is available. — **Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky Extension**



Hearing set for November for second Easterday suit

EASTERDAY (from page 1)

thought Tyson owned the cattle at all times prior to delivery as part of the feeding agreement and that Tyson paid him an anticompetitive suppressed price due to Tyson's exertion of a monopoly market.

"Plaintiff has suffered injuries as a result of Defendant's actions, including but not limited to the loss of income that he would have received as President and owner of Easterday Ranches absent Defendant's conduct, as well as damage to the value and forced liquidation of land comprising of his real estate and improvements, which were owned, in part, in Plaintiff's personal capacity, and not by Easterday Ranches. Plaintiff has further suffered injury as a result of personal guarantees he was forced to undertake," the suit read.

Tyson filed a motion to dismiss the case in April 2023, stating Easterday lacked standing to sue and that Easterday Ranches should bring the claims against the company.

However, Tyson continued that Easterday Ranches resolved any standings through bankruptcy proceedings following Easterday's "criminal fraud scheme." Easterday is

serving an 11-year sentence after pleading guilty to one count of wire fraud.

Tyson said Easterday does not allege antitrust conduct and harm to competition under the statutes of the federal claims.

Ruling

Bastian ruled that Easterday did not personally contract with Tyson and that Easterday Ranches was the entity that suffered the direct injury. Bastian said if Easterday was allowed to assert antitrust claims, double recovery would be possible. Easterday would fall out of the zone to be protected by the statutes of the federal claims.

Bastian ruled that Easterday does not have standing in the district court to file federal claims because the court does not have subject matter jurisdiction and therefore will not exercise jurisdiction over the state claim.

Second suit

Easterday also filed a second lawsuit shortly after his conviction pending in the same court.

Easterday filed suit against Tyson Fresh Meats Inc., contending the company breached its contract to sell "Cody's Beef" to Japanese consumers.

Easterday said that in 2013 the two parties agreed to use Easterday's likeness to sell beef to the Japanese food processing company Nippon Ham under the "Cody's Beef" label and they would share the risks and profits of supplying beef.

In April 2023, Bastian granted Tyson Fresh Meats Inc. a partial dismissal of the charges as lawyers for Easterday failed to provide enough essential details in the complaint showing where and who approached Easterday, and how and where the negotiations took place for the case to have merit in the Washington District Court.

Bastian allowed lawyers for Easterday to file an amended complaint, which was completed on May 5. The amended complaint included information dismissed previously.

Again, Tyson filed a motion to dismiss in June, claiming Easterday "treats a documented business deal between Tyson and Easterday Ranches as including an undocumented personal deal between Tyson and himself. He puts forward no facts to support that theory, and the new complaint includes writings that contradict it."

A hearing is scheduled for November. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**



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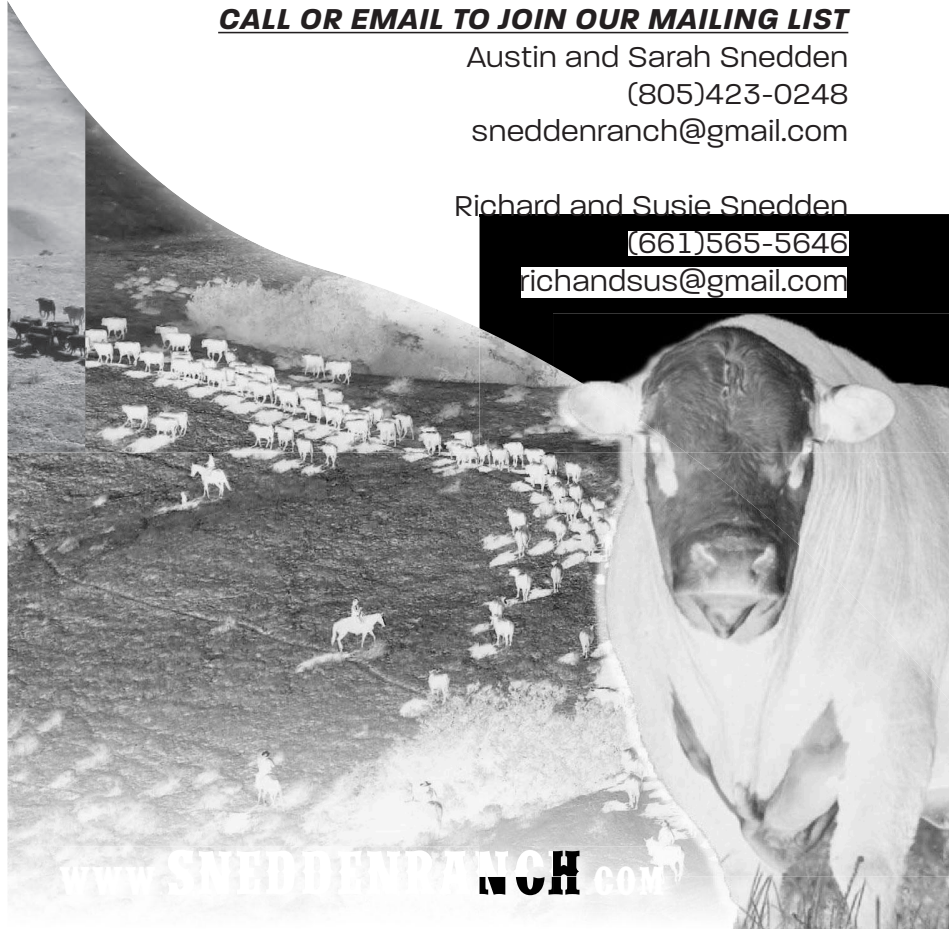
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Sep. 12 — Turlock Livestock Auction Yard, Feeder Sale, Turlock, CA
Sep. 17 — Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA
Sep. 18 — Central Oregon Livestock Auction, Bull Sale, Madras, OR
Sep. 22 — Montana Livestock Auction, Cream of the Crop II Sale, Ramsay, MT
Sep. 26 — Turlock Livestock Auction Yard, Feeder Sale, Turlock, CA
Sep. 30 — Turlock Livestock, All Breeds Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
Oct. 1 — Cal Poly Bull Test Sale, San Luis Obispo, CA
Oct. 2 — Central Oregon Livestock Auction, Feeder Sale, Madras, OR
Oct. 7 — Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Aromas, CA
Oct. 14 — FAMOSO All Breeds Bull Sale, Famoso, CA
Nov. 4 — World of Bulls Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Nov. 11 — Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Fort Collins, CO
Nov. 18 — Baldrige/Tiedeman & Frank Cattle, Female Sale, Chappell, NE
Nov. 20 — Central Oregon Livestock Auction, Female Sale, Madras, OR

ANGUS

Sep. 12 — O'Neal Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA
Sep. 13 — Teixeira Cattle, Bull Sale, Pismo Beach, CA
Sep. 14 — Donati Ranch Bull Sale with O'Connell Ranch, Oroville, CA
Sep. 15 — Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA
Sep. 16 — Arellano Bravo Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 16 — Jorgensen Land & Cattle, Female Sale, Ideal, SD
Sep. 17 — Bar KJ Angus, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA
Sep. 18 — Rhoades Angus, 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. 25 — Gardiner Angus Ranch, Production Sale, Ashland, KS
Sep. 26 — Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 27 — Eagle Pass Ranch, Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
Sep. 28 — Beef Solutions Bull Sale, Ione, CA
Sep. 29 — Jorgensen Land & Cattle, Bull Sale, Ideal, SD
Sep. 29-30 — NextGen Cattle Co., Production Sale, Paxico, KS
Oct. 5 — RS Angus, Female Sale, Brownell, KS
Oct. 7 — Colyer Herefords & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
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. 21 — Fink Beef Genetics, Bull & Female Sale, Randolph, KS
Oct. 21 — Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

Oct. 27 — Birch Creek Angus, Bull Sale, Ruby Valley, NV
Oct. 27 — Ruggles Angus, Female Sale, McCook, NE
Oct. 28 — 44 Farms, Bull Sale, Cameron, TX
Oct. 28 — California Angus Days Female Sale, Modesto, CA
Nov. 2 — Stokrose Land & Livestock, Bull Sale, Moses Lake, WA
Nov. 10 — TD Angus, Female Sale, North Platte, NE
Nov. 11 — HD Dunn Angus, Bull Sale, Tetonia, ID
Nov. 14 — Huwa Cattle, Female Sale, Roggen, CO
Nov. 14 — Skinner Ranch, Female Sale, Ramsay, MT
Nov. 16 — JR Ranch, Female Sale, Othello, WA
Nov. 18 — TLC Ranch & Sugar Top Angus, Bull Sale, Jerome, ID

BEEFMASTER

Sep. 29-30 — NextGen Cattle Co., Production Sale, Paxico, KS

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Sep. 29-30 — NextGen Cattle Co., Production Sale, Paxico, KS
Oct. 21 — Fink Beef Genetics, Bull & Female Sale, Randolph, KS

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Sep. 11 — Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV
Sep. 14 — Holden Herefords, Female Sale, Valier, MT
Sep. 16 — Ehlike Herefords, Female Sale, Townsend, MT
Sep. 20 — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Oct. 7 — Colyer Herefords & 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
Sep. 27 — Eagle Pass Ranch, Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
Nov. 4 — Bet on Red Sale, Reno, NV
Nov. 13 — Ludvigson Stock Farms, Bred Heifer Sale, Billings, MT

SIMANGUS

Sep. 20 — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Sep. 24 — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
Sep. 24 — Stegall Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Colusa, CA
Sep. 27 — Eagle Pass Ranch, Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
Sep. 28 — Beef Solutions Bull Sale, Ione, CA
Oct. 14 — Trinity Farms, Female Sale, Ellensburg, WA
Nov. 18 — Yardley Cattle Co., Female Sale, Beaver, UT

STABILIZER

Oct. 14 — Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Ozark, AR
Oct. 28 — Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Dinuba, CA
Nov. 18 — Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Wytheville, VA
Nov. 18 — Leachman Cattle, Bull Sale, Gering, NE

COMMERCIAL

Nov. 17 — Rollin' Rock Angus, Bred Heifer Sale, Pilot Rock, OR
Nov. 27 — Spring Cove Ranch, Female Sale, Bliss, ID

HORSE

Sep. 16 — Weaver Quarter Horses, Great Falls, MT
Oct. 5 — Jamison Ranch Quarter Horse Sale, Quinter, KS
Oct. 13-14 — Fall Round Up Horse Sale, Heber City, UT

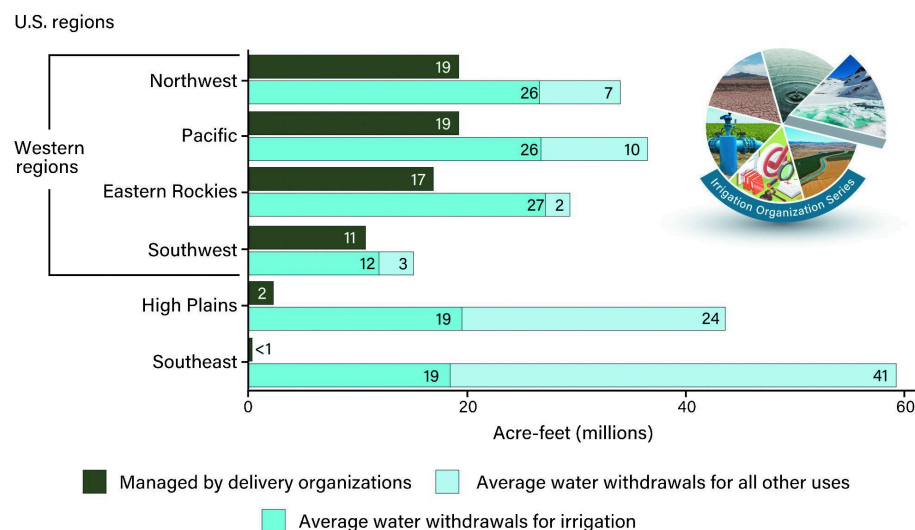
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Irrigation delivery organizations play an important role in the West

Water managed by delivery organizations, average annual water withdrawals by region

USDA Economic Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Note: **Managed by delivery organizations** includes total inflows to delivery organizations from surface and groundwater sources in 2019. These do not include withdrawals by farmers not in delivery organizations or by domestic, commercial, industrial, or other water users. **Average water withdrawals for irrigation** and **Average water withdrawals for all other uses** are the average of 2005, 2010, and 2015 total estimated freshwater withdrawals from groundwater and surface water for irrigation and all other uses respectively. Regions: Northwest (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington); Pacific (California and Nevada); Eastern Rockies (Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming); Southwest (Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah); High Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas); and Southeast (Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina). Discrepancies between bars and numbers are due to rounding.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service analysis using data from the USDA 2019 Survey of Irrigation Organizations. Water withdrawals data are from the 2005, 2010, and 2015 U.S. Geological Survey Water Data for the Nation.

Water is withdrawn from surface and groundwater sources for agricultural, industrial and municipal use. Farmers in the

U.S. source water for irrigation by diverting it from on-farm surface water bodies like rivers or streams, directly pumping

groundwater, or receiving water via the canals and ditches of water delivery irrigation organizations. In the four regions of the

western U.S., the Northwest (Idaho, Oregon and Washington), Pacific (California and Nevada), Southwest (Arizona, New Mexico and Utah) and eastern Rockies (Colorado, Montana and Wyoming) regions, irrigation water delivery organizations accounted for almost 60% of the water that is withdrawn for all uses in an average year.

In contrast, in the High Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Texas) and Southeast (Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina), where surface and ground water resources for irrigation are available without large-scale coordination, these organizations conveyed water that amounted to about 3% of all water withdrawn in an average year.

Irrigation water delivery organizations play a particularly large role in the Southwest, where in 2019 they conveyed 11 million acre-feet of water, which is 73% of the 15 million acre-feet withdrawn for all uses in an average year. — **USDA Economic Research Service**

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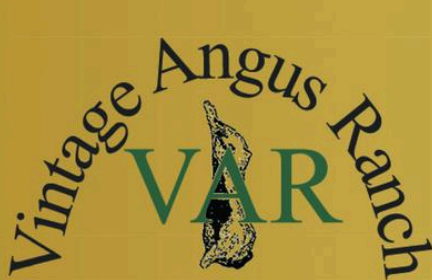
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RAR Power Play 9204 • Reg 19433820

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
84	145	1.54	.56	62	78	101	97	199	320

Proven V A R donor!
Sells with V A R
Crosswind calf at
side. Also selling
three featured
daughters.

Vintage Ivory Enamel 3107 • Reg 20587789

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
89	161	1.41	1.3	77	83	129	103	232	378

Breakthrough daughter of 9567 with depth, style and
substance. Outcross donor prospect!



Vintage Blackcap 3050 • Reg 20584364

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
98	171	1.28	.98	76	88	130	88	218	359

Vintage Blackcap 3050 is one of the best we have ever produced.
Sired by LAR Man In Black out of Power Play 9204.



Vintage Ivory Enamel 9567 • Reg 19669832

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
68	122	1.35	.9	63	49	108	92	199	321

Proven Vintage donor
will sell bred to calve
10/29/23. Look for her
outstanding daughters
selling as features in this
sale!



Vintage Blackbird 3182 • Reg 20587789

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
96	161	1.74	1.02	69	93	114	115	229	366

Vintage Blackbird 3182 is an outstanding
donor prospect from this first calf crop by Basin
Jameson dan goes back the Legend 8809.



Vintage First Lady 3131 • Reg 20584437

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
93	158	1.44	.94	72	89	117	98	215	351

Vintage First Lady 3131 sired by Exponential,
this beautiful female has all the data and
phenotype to be a future donor.



Vintage Ivory Enamel 3290 • Reg 20603154

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
86	159	1.63	.79	79	77	118	101	219	363

Vintage Ivory Enamel 3290 is another featured
daughter of donor 9567 pictured above. Sired
by Virginia Tech Statesman, outcross donor
prospect here.



Vintage First Lady 3169 • Reg 20584458

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
76	145	1.54	1.12	74	78	109	104	213	350

Vintage First Lady 3169 is a beautiful Veracious
daughter. Her proven donor dam by Power Play
also sells.



Vintage Blackcap 3098 • Reg 20584408

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
70	120	1.2	1.06	67	60	136	88	224	358

Vintage Blackcap 3098 is from the last mating
of dam of 9319, sired by Salvation.



Vintage Blackbird 2230 • Reg 20587789

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
65	116	1.24	1.27	119	79	107	93	200	378

Vintage Blackbird 2230 is the top \$M female at
VAR. Sells bred to Rawhide due Jan. 8, 2024.
This one needs to be flushed.



Vintage Lucy 2537 • Reg 20434210

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
93	180	1.4	1.17	47	65	152	99	251	373

Vintage Lucy 2537, a Sterling Pacifico 904
daughter, is sure to make the donor pen. Her
dam is a \$180,000 valued Vintage donor.



Vintage Blackcap 1561 • Reg 20131090

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
77	131	1.53	.82	59	62	117	102	219	343

Vintage Blackcap 1561 is a powerhouse Step Up
daughter from now deceased 9319 cow. Sells
bred to VAR Cornerstone, the top selling bull at
VAR in 2022. Due Jan. 8, 2024.



Vintage First Lady 3184 • Reg 20584464

WW	YW	MARB	REA	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C
87	163	1.29	1.34	56	87	134	95	228	352

Vintage First Lady 3184, great donor prospect
from the first calf crop by the \$350,000 VAR
Conclusion.



Jim Coleman, Owner
Doug Worthington 209-604-4513
Alexandra Gaarde 209-521-0537
Brad Worthington 209-613-0723

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