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INSIDE WLJ

LAND ACQUISITION — American Prairie announces its second-largest land purchase to date. Page 6

TRADE DEAL — A new U.S.-Japan agreement is projected to add $8 billion in annual ag sales. Page 7

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

"Two juvenile wolves that have been killing livestock in Oregon's Baker County have finally been removed, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). According to officials, the two problem wolves were shot and killed from a helicopter by representatives of the USDA's Wildlife Services division on the morning of Sept. 5. These are the first wolves to be killed in Oregon as a result of livestock depredation," read the Sept. 14, 2009, *WLJ* cover article.

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BLM plans to rescind its Public Lands Rule

—Ag groups applaud recission

The Department of Interior is proposing to rescind the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 2024 Conservation and Landscape Health Rule, also known as the Public Lands Rule, which has drawn opposition from stakeholders since the final rule was introduced last spring.

"The previous administration's Public Lands Rule had the potential to block access to hundreds of thousands of acres of multiple-use land—preventing energy and mineral production, timber management, grazing and recreation across the West," said Interior Secretary Doug Burgum. "Overturning this rule protects our American way of life and gives our communities a voice in the land that they depend on."

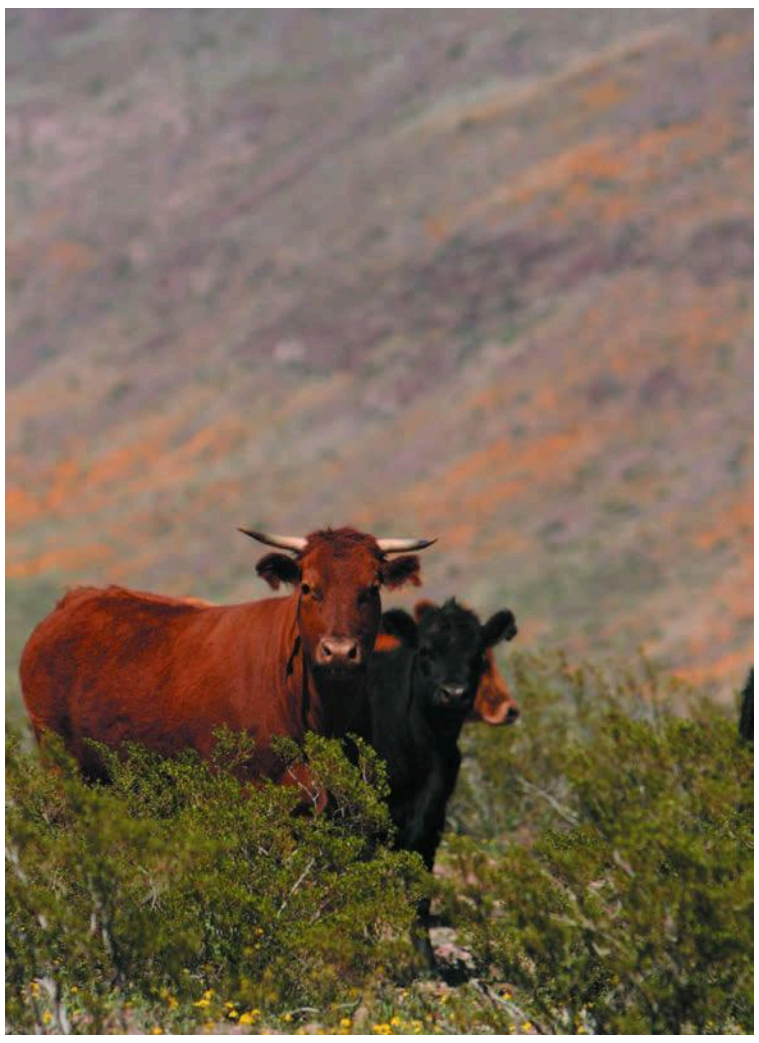
The proposed rule recission was published in the Federal Register on Sept. 10 and a public comment period will be open for 60 days. Comments may be submitted at regulations.gov by searching for docket ID BLM-2025-0001.

Rule details

The Public Lands Rule complemented President Joe Biden's America the Beautiful initiative, which was a 10-year effort to protect and conserve lands and waters. The Biden-era BLM said the rule would ensure the agency protected land health while managing for other uses, but ranching groups contended that the rule would tip the balance of multiple use away from grazing.

"Today's final rule helps restore balance to our public lands as we continue using the best-available science to restore habitats, guide strategic

See LANDS RULE on page 8



Michelle Ailport/BLM

The Bureau of Land Management is proposing to withdraw its controversial Public Lands Rule, which industry groups said would lead to a decrease of livestock grazing on public lands. Pictured here, cattle grazing on public lands near Safford, AZ.

MAHA strategy targets chronic childhood diseases

—Outlines 128 reforms for child health

The Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Commission, chaired by Health and Human Services Secretary (HHS) Robert F. Kennedy Jr., has released a plan to address what it calls the nation's "childhood chronic disease crisis."

Building on its May 2025 assessment, the commission argues that children's poor health stems from "poor diet, chemical exposure, lack of physical activity and chronic stress," along with what it calls the "overmedicalization" of children.

The new strategy lays out 128 proposals spanning research, regulation, agriculture, nutrition policy and vaccine oversight.

"This strategy will translate the work of the Make America Healthy Again movement to policies that make a transformative and lasting impact for Americans and end the childhood chronic disease crisis," the commission said.

Agriculture and food reform

Agriculture is central to the report. The USDA, in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is tasked with expanding precision agriculture technologies that can reduce chemical inputs and enhance soil health. The commission notes that "precision technology can help to decrease pesticide volumes, improve the soil microbiome, and have a significant financial benefit for growers."

The USDA will also directed to reform farm-to-school grants and eliminate red tape that hampers local producers. By reforming farm-to-school grants, supporting local dairy processing and expanding mobile meat and produce processing units, the agency aims to connect small producers directly with families and schools. This would reduce dependence on highly processed foods while increasing access to local protein and fresh produce, the report read. To ensure farmers can meet these new goals, USDA will streamline organic certification and cut red tape for small farms and community-supported agriculture programs.

The strategy strikes a sharp tone on diet, pointing out that "over 60% of children's calories now come from highly processed

See MAHA on page 13

Greens plan to sue over grazing in Arizona forest

—Cite threat to endangered species

The Center for Biological Diversity and the Maricopa Bird Alliance filed on Aug. 4 a notice of intent to sue the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), alleging that years of illegal cattle grazing have damaged critical habitat for endangered species in Arizona's Tonto National Forest.

Chris Bugbee, southwest conservation advocate at the Center, described the situation as both urgent and preventable. "It's outrageous that the federal agency tasked with protecting our public lands is instead facilitating their destruction," Bugbee said. "By looking the other way and being beholden to ranchers, our federal land managers at the Forest Service are abdicating their responsibilities and condemning endangered animals to extinction."

Criticism of BiOps

At the heart of the groups' notice are USFWS' Biological Opinions (BiOps), which authorize the USFS to allow continued grazing on 22

See ILLEGAL GRAZING on page 5

Cattle futures slide as market corrects

Cattle futures stumbled into a sharp correction last week, pressured by bearish sentiment early on before regaining some ground by Thursday.

Live cattle futures closed lower over the week. The October contract lost about $4 to close at $232.27, and the December contract lost about $4 to close at $234.12.

"It's been a dramatic correction week for CME cattle futures," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef on Thursday. "Plenty of bears have surfaced, convinced the market has made a major top and demand has already run out of steam."

Cash trade through Thursday totaled about 34,000 head. Live steers sold from $235-240 and dressed steers sold from $373-378.

"The anticipated cash market correction is underway, but so far, it's a healthy pull back as packers are willing to add inventory at lower money," Fish said.

Cash trade for the week ending Sept. 7 totaled 73,490 head. Live steers averaged $242.64, and dressed steers averaged $383.20.

The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of Sept. 1-8 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: $242.75.
- Formula net purchases: $246.60.
- Forward contract net purchases: $216.99.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: $251.53.

On a dressed basis:

- Negotiated purchases: $383.57.
- Formula net purchases: $387.37.
- Forward contract net purchases: $317.50.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: $387.05.

"Last week, there was

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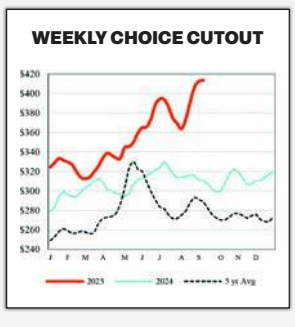

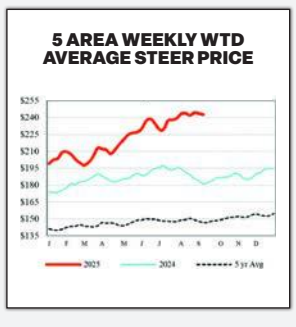

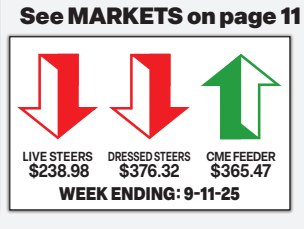

PERIODICAL : Time Sensitive Priority Handling

COMMENTS

Meat industry wins

IPSEN

In early September, the Make America Healthy Again Commission, led by Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., released a second report regarding health guidelines. The report boldly stated areas where the commission is challenging a multitude of areas to improve diets, lifestyles and guidelines for the American population with a specific interest in child health.

The report, which was initially released in May and touted more natural ingredients and healthier lifestyle choices, was updated in more detail across wide-ranging topics that surround the health of the U.S. population. The second report has all agricultural sectors hailing a major win. Keep in mind, the initial report wasn't as friendly to ag.

The report directly targeted highly processed foods, medications and vaccines, chronic illnesses and poor nutrition as culprits in adolescent illnesses. The report called on agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Veterans Affairs, USDA, HHS and Food and Drug Administration, and the American Heart Association, to work together to formulate strategies to improving diets, physical activity, education and resources.

In the wide-sweeping report pushing a more natural approach to ingredients, foodstuffs and lifestyle choices, it contained language that promoted nutrient-rich proteins, vegetables, fruits and ingredients. It combined this with guidelines that aim to reduce medication usage, increase physical activity, increase industry efficiencies to reduce input costs and make foods more readily available to the public, and include environmental health strategies. Overall, the report was summed up as promoting nutrition over regulation. After the report was released, meat organizations sounded off.

Meat Institute President and CEO Julia Anna Potts said, "Science has shown what American parents have known all along: nutrient dense meat and poultry products are essential to a well-balanced diet … For years, previous administrations have tried to discourage consumption of meat, primarily for reasons unrelated to nutrition, and as a result our most vulnerable populations—children, adolescent girls, nursing mothers and seniors—no longer consume enough protein and critical nutrients like iron and zinc."

National Cattlemen's Beef Association Senior Vice President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane said of the report, "Millions of American families build a healthy plate around our product every week. We will continue working with President Trump's administration to keep the supply chain moving and keep the safest, highest quality beef in the world on grocery store shelves."

Leslee Oden, president and CEO of the National Turkey Federation, said, "Thanks to the hardworking men and women of the U.S. turkey industry, Americans can enjoy high-quality turkey that is lean, nutrient-dense, naturally low in fat and rich in high-quality protein, essential vitamins and minerals."

National Pork Producers Council President Duane Stateler said, "We all want to help our children be healthy, yet there is still more work and understanding for this goal to best be accomplished. America's pork producers need the administration's continued partnership and receptiveness to agriculture and food industry education."

National Chicken Council Spokesperson Tom Super said, "Combined with its nutritional value, positive health benefits, popularity, versatility and affordability, chicken is poised to be a key contributor in Making America Healthy Again and a key source of protein in the upcoming Dietary Guidelines."

Going past meats, several commodity groups and farming associations also chimed in on the wins for agriculture in the report.

In an immediate follow-up to the report, USDA announced Sept. 10 that through a grant opportunity, USDA will invest up to $18 million in farm-to-school projects aimed at connecting child nutrition programs with local food procurement, agricultural education, school gardens and more.

"Yesterday at the MAHA Report announcement, alongside Secretary Kennedy, we announced one of the key actions USDA has already taken to contribute to making our children healthy again—Farm to School Grants," said USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins. "These initiatives are one of the best ways we can deliver nutritious, high-quality meals to children, while also strengthening local agriculture."

For context, according to the latest available data, there were roughly 15 million breakfast meals served and 30 million lunches served in the 2021-22 school year. Each meal is required to have a protein source, two vegetable choices, two fruit choices, two milk choices and a grain.

All things considered, this is a great win for agriculture. Support from an administration has been needed for a long time. For the farming industry in a year that is proving to be one of the toughest on record, any win is a big win. A continuation of positive news will be needed as we go forward. In my opinion, for far too long, agriculture has been broadcast as unsafe, harmful to the environment, inefficient and so on. For the population to trust and recognize agricultural products as safe, healthy, nutritious and valuable, the consumer must understand our promise to provide them with the best available products. Now it's our turn to follow through on that promise, and we all know we can bet on each other. — **LOGAN IPSEN**

DITTMER'S TAKE

THE PACE KEEPS UP

Recognizing that the screwworm is a big problem for Texas, state Gov. Greg Abbott (R) directed his parks and wildlife and animal health departments to form a New World Screwworm Response Team. They held their first meeting recently. Additionally, about one-third of the cattle crossing the border do so through New Mexico, according to the New Mexico Border Authority. We have heard no update from Mexico regarding efforts to push back the northernmost detection of the screwworm, a prerequisite for reopening the border.

Since the 2009 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) decided that humans cause all the warming—excuse me, climate change—on the planet, the Supreme Court has handed down momentous decisions. They have held that government agencies aren't always right and have been given too much deference in the past. Those landmark cases have drastically changed the way courts are to regard federal regulations.

That provides a great opportunity for the EPA's effort, under EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin, to get rid of the EPA's endangerment finding. The endangerment finding dealt with restricting greenhouse gas emissions and underpins all the restrictions on internal combustion engines the government has issued. The comment period has been extended until Sept. 22. To view documents supporting this proposed rulemaking as well as comments submitted, please visit regulations.gov and access the rule under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0194.

The federal district court in D.C. upheld the exemption for livestock operations' voluminous recordkeeping requirements on air emissions from manure. Environmental groups had sued, claiming the exemption was illegal. NCBA, Farm Bureau and the National Pork Council had intervened in the suit. The environmental groups might appeal the suit to the circuit court, according to Southern Ag Today.

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn "G.T." Thompson (R-PA-15) has discussed a Farm Bill 2.0 to cover the items not in the reconciliation bill. He said discussions have involved help for farmers damaged by tariffs and a provision designed to outlaw Proposition 12. The initiative passed by California's voters prescribed what management methods could be used in raising pigs if the pork was to be sold in California. Thompson said the Supreme Court, in refusing to strike down the law, had put any fix in Congress' court. The committee intends to do so.

The EPA has withdrawn proposed rules that would have added expensive, burdensome wastewater requirements on packing plants that would have put major costs on big packers and closed smaller ones.

For those who thought the jobs numbers turned out by our Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) were really much better than President Donald Trump claimed in firing the BLS chief, the revisions of the 12 months ending in March 2025 scotched that thought.

The BLS just released revisions indicating that 911,000 jobs reported were fictitious, an even bigger number than the downward revisions released in 2024 (600,000). Add that to the 258,000 revised downward for June and July and the trend continues. Obviously, the BLS doesn't have a clue. With the Federal Reserve relying on BLS figures to address one of their mandates—to control unemployment—the Fed has been flying blinder than we thought.

The media has featured several stories recently about the "new" Chinese negotiating approach of talking a lot but negotiating little. That is not a new tactic but resurrection of the normal one. The negotiations during the first Trump term were not typical, with the Chinese giving up more than was expected. But negotiations this summer have not yielded much, despite economic pressures on China. As an exporting nation, recent data has not been encouraging. China exports for August were reported as an increase of 4.4%, short of the 5.4% expected, and July's 7.2% year over year.

With the budget year's end approaching, Republicans and Democrats have been discussing how to approach a spending bill. As usual, congressional committees have not passed all their bills. Only three committees—out of 12—have done so and some members want more time to finish. But they have not agreed about how short a short-term continuing resolution should be, or how long a longer one is, and some want one until the end of the next fiscal year.

The Democrats want more input this time. Some are angered at the administration's introduction of another rescission bill, this one a "pocket rescission" that could pull back $9 billion in unspent funds without further congressional approval. A half dozen presidents have used rescissions and a couple have used pocket rescissions.

It's far from clear what will happen among congressional leaders and the White House. — **Steve Dittmer, *WLJ* columnist**

(Steve Dittmer is the author of the Agribusiness Freedom Foundation newsletter. Views in the column do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of* WLJ *or its editorial staff.)

GUEST OPINION

THE FIGHT OVER PRODUCED WATER RIGHTS

On June 27, the Texas Supreme Court issued the long-awaited decision in Cactus Water Services LLC v. COG Operating LLC. The state's landowners and ranchers hoped the court would recognize that groundwater, regardless of whether it's clean drinking water or produced water as a result of oil and gas production, belongs to the surface owner.

Regrettably, the court got it wrong, once again ruling that groundwater brought up through the oil and gas production process is considered oil and gas waste and, therefore, belongs to the operator.

The court's decision to relinquish control of produced water to the oil and gas operator through a standard, pre-established lease is deeply disappointing. The ruling ignores property rights, undermines established Texas water law and sets a dangerous precedent for future groundwater rights.

The groundwater beneath our feet is not waste, it is an asset. And landowners must be compensated fairly when that asset is used by others.

This belief guided the Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) in its consistent engagement throughout this case. Since 2020, our association has monitored the courts, submitting amicus briefs supporting landowners' rights to uphold the long-held Texas legal and constitutional principle that the surface owner owns all groundwater. This ruling is not a minor technicality, but instead a fundamental misstep.

Groundwater is not part of the mineral estate. It belongs to the landowner unless it has been expressly severed by contract. With this ruling, any typical oil and gas lease, even one that does not mention water, automatically gives the operator control over the produced water that surfaces with the oil and gas.

We recognize that disposing of produced water carries costs, regulatory burdens and environmental responsibilities, which result from the oil extraction process. However, the court has somehow confused responsibility with ownership.

While oil and gas operators have the responsibility to address the potential environmental impacts disposal of produced water may present, these issues do not change the ultimate ownership of produced water. As groundwater, it belongs to the surface owner.

The ramifications of this decision raise red flags. When companies go beyond disposal and utilize produced water by moving it to new well sites, treating it for resale or selling it for desalination, landowners are not compensated. Few contracts grant that right, resulting in the water being taken.

The Texas Supreme Court ruling opens the door for oil and gas operators to do just that—under the guise of implied rights. Unless explicitly reserved, landowners now risk losing control of an asset they may not even realize they are giving up in standard lease language.

This case sets a precedent with far-reaching consequences. Today, it's produced water. Tomorrow, it could be brackish water, surface water or even other underground resources that competing industries find profitable. If courts are going to expand implied rights in this way, what's left of the landowner's estate?

Rights given away are rarely regained. In a time when ranchers and landowners are fighting for every dollar to stay afloat, we cannot afford to let potential revenue streams be quietly taken without consent.

Let this case be a strict exception, not the beginning of a new rule. Landowners must stay vigilant when negotiating oil and gas leases.

Precise, protective language must be used to ensure water rights are not mistakenly conveyed. We urge landowners to seek legal counsel before signing away rights that could prove critical down the line.

As an association, we will continue to stand firm in our mission on this issue: to protect the rights of Texas landowners and defend the plain language and intent of the Texas Constitution.

The battle over produced water may seem like a niche legal fight, but its implications run deep. Texas must not allow private property rights to be chipped away in the courts or the legislature under industry pressure. If we do, we risk opening the floodgates to further erosion of landowner rights.

We will not stand by and let that happen. — **Dan Gattis, TSCRA second vice president**

WLJ

Letters to the editor: Letters for publication must be no longer than 675 words and must include the writer's name, location and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published. Letters may be shortened for space requirements. Obituaries must be no longer than 700 words. Send a letter to the editor or obituary by emailing editorial@wlj.net or mailing to Western Livestock Journal, Attn: Editorial Dept., 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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Cattlemen's Beef Board approves $38M budget

The Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB) will invest approximately $38.1 million into programs of beef promotion, research, consumer information, industry information, foreign marketing and producer communications during fiscal 2026, subject to USDA approval.

In action at the end of its Sept. 3-4 meeting in Denver, CO, the Beef Promotion Operating Committee (BPOC) approved Checkoff funding for a total of 14 authorization requests—or grant proposals—for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

The committee, which includes 10 producers and importers from CBB and 10 producers from the Federation of State Beef Councils, also recommended full CBB approval of a budget amendment to reflect the split of funding between budget categories affected by their decisions.

Nine contractors and three subcontractors brought 14 authorization requests worth approximately $49 million to the BPOC, approximately $10.9 million more than the funds available from the CBB budget.

"We continue to be impressed by the quality and creativity of the proposals our contractors bring forward each year, which makes funding decisions especially tough," said Ryan Moorhouse, chair of CBB and BPOC. "While we receive many outstanding proposals, our limited resources mean we can't fund everything we'd like. Inflation continues to reduce the impact of each Checkoff dollar, so prioritizing the most impactful programs is more important than ever."

In the end, the BPOC approved proposals from nine national beef organizations for funding through the fiscal year 2026 CBB budget, as follows:

- American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture: $705,000.
- CBB: $1,800,000.
- Meat Foundation: $650,000.
- Meat Import Council of America/Northeast Beef Promotion Initiative: $1,000,000.
- Meat Institute: $35,000.
- Meat Institute/New York Beef Council: $235,000.
- National Cattlemen's Beef Association: $25,100,000.
- National Institute for Animal Agriculture: $75,000.
- United States Cattlemen's Association/Kansas State University: $650,000.
- United States Meat Export Federation: $7,900,000.

Broken out by budget component—as outlined by the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985—the fiscal year 2026 Plan of Work for the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board budget includes:

•$9,235,000 for promotion programs, including beef and veal campaigns focusing on beef's nutritional value, eating experience, convenience and production.

•$9,300,000 for research programs focusing on pre- and post-harvest beef safety, scientific affairs, nutrition, sustainability, product quality, culinary technical expertise and consumer perceptions.

•$7,705,000 for consumer information programs, including Northeast influencer outreach and public relations initiatives; national consumer public relations, including nutrition-influencer relations and work with primary- and secondary-school curriculum directors nationwide to get accurate information about the beef industry into classrooms of today's youth.

Additional initiatives include outreach and engagement with food, culinary, nutrition and health thought leaders; media and public relations efforts; and supply chain engagement.

•$2,210,000 for industry information programs, including dissemination of accurate information about the beef industry to counter misinformation from other groups, as well as funding for Checkoff participation in the annual national industrywide symposium about antibiotic use.

Additional efforts in this program area include beef advocacy training and issues/crisis management and response.

•$7,900,000 for foreign marketing and education, focusing on 13 regions, representing more than 90 countries around the world.

•$1,800,000 for producer communications, which includes investor outreach using national communications and direct communications to producers and importers about Checkoff results. Elements of this program include ongoing producer listening and analysis; industry collaboration and outreach; and continued development of a publishing strategy and platform and a state beef council content hub.

The full fiscal 2026 CBB budget is approximately $42.4 million. Separate from the authorization requests, other expenses funded include $305,000 for program evaluation, $762,000 program development, $280,000 for Checkoff education resources, $575,000 for USDA oversight, $220,000 for state services, $200,000 supporting services and litigation, and approximately $2 million for CBB administration. The fiscal 2026 program budget represents an increase of slightly less than 1% percent, or $195,000, from the $42.2 million fiscal year 2025 budget.

For more information about the Beef Checkoff and its programs, including promotion, research, foreign marketing, industry information, consumer information and safety, contact CBB at 303-220-9890 or visit DrivingDemandForBeef.com. — **CBB**

July was another slow month for beef exports

Market access obstacles continued to weigh heavily on exports of U.S. beef, with the vast majority of plants still ineligible to ship to China, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF).

U.S. beef performed very well in July in leading market South Korea, as well as in the Caribbean, Central America, Chile, the Philippines and Africa. But with shipments to China nearly halted due to a lack of eligible plants, July beef exports were down 19% from a year ago to 89,579 metric tons (mt), the lowest in five years. Export value declined 17% to $752.5 million, the lowest since January 2023.

From January through July, exports were 8% below last year in volume (691,800 mt) and down 7.5% in value ($5.67 billion).

The decline was largely due to China's failure to renew registrations for the vast majority of U.S. beef plants and cold storage facilities, most of which expired in March. China has also suspended 11 U.S. beef facilities since June.

"The plant registration impasse with China unfortunately drags on, and it has left U.S. beef essentially shut out of the market after exporters worked through their eligible inventories," said USMEF CEO and President Dan Halstrom. "Demand elsewhere has remained fairly resilient, even in the face of higher pricing, but restoring access to China is clearly the urgent priority. Export value and share of production exported declined in July, reflecting the loss of competing bids from Chinese buyers."

July lamb exports trend higher

Larger shipments to Mexico, Canada, the Bahamas and Costa Rica pushed July exports of U.S. lamb muscle cuts to 239 mt, up 56% from a year ago, while value increased 35% to $1.34 million. For January through July, exports increased 45% to 1,829 mt, valued at $9.6 million (up 26%).

In leading volume market Mexico, USMEF positions U.S. lamb as a premium product with the versatility for use in a variety of dishes featuring cuts such as shoulder and flap meat. January to July exports to Mexico increased 68% from a year ago to 834 mt, while value jumped 81% to $2.94 million—already surpassing the full-year volume and value totals from 2024. — **USMEF**

THE VIEWPOINT

with Dan Genho

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

Courtesy photo

Dan Genho

For Dan Genho, Agri Beef director of quality and continuous development, the key to advancing beef production lies in understanding how data can transform decision-making across the beef supply chain.

Like many on the Agri Beef team, Dan comes from a cattle background and grew up working on some of the country's most respected ranching operations, including Deseret Ranches in central Florida and the King Ranch in South Texas. That hands-on foundation, combined with degrees in animal and meat science and extensive industry experience, informs how Dan oversees continuous improvement at the company.

"I work a lot with our livestock group as well as our plant," Dan told *WLJ*. "I spend a lot of time working between both groups and how they interface with each other. I also have a lot that I do with beef quality and yield grading."

Agri Beef is a family-owned Idaho beef company that has grown from a small feedlot into a vertically integrated operation that encompasses every step of the beef supply chain. The company has stayed true to the roots set by Robert Rebholtz Sr., maintaining strong partnerships with local ranchers and staying deeply engaged in the community.

As demand for Pacific Northwest beef grew, the company found itself with more customers wanting its product than it could supply. This challenge sparked the creation of True West Beef, a model that brought local producers into the entire process, from ranch to packing plant. By involving producers directly, Agri Beef could share consumer beef demands directly back to the producer level.

"We're fortunate because the cattle that tend to do well in the western climate tend to also have a high propensity for grading well," Dan said. "So, we get a little bit of the best of both worlds, and we have a lot of good pasture and good range here to produce really high-quality cattle."

Rather than dictating breeding or management choices, Dan said Agri Beef relies on the skills of producers across the region. Their expertise in raising cattle allows the company to focus on producing the best beef possible, while also sharing data back with producers, helping them to refine their herds and continue improving cattle and beef quality.

"We're not out telling ranchers, 'This is the cow you've got to make,'" he said. "We're fortunately a beneficiary of guys that really know how to do their job well on the producer side. It allows us to try to do our job to the best of our ability because they're doing theirs. We get to make and sell the best beef because they are producing the best cattle."

That partnership between rancher and packer, Dan added, reflects the company's Western roots. Unlike corporate firms that view beef as a short-term investment, Agri Beef is family-owned and operated by the Rebholtz family, which has been a stronghold in Idaho for more than five decades.

"The difference is the Rebholtzes feed and process cattle because they're cattle people," Dan said. "This is their home, this is their community, and this is their environment. It's integral to who they are."

True West Beef

True West Beef grew from a desire to showcase that Pacific Northwest cattle could compete with—and even surpass—Nebraska's longheld reputation for quality.

"Nebraska had been the gold standard everybody held themselves against," Dan said. "We've been really pushing to keep our plant grading above Nebraska levels so that we can honestly be the best beef in the U.S. from a quality standpoint."

Dan's work focuses heavily on beef quality grading at True West Beef. This year, the beef quality grades out of the plant have been far ahead of Nebraska. Much of that success, he notes, can be credited to the company's producer partners who are part owners in the plant and actively engaged in the process and eager to improve. While some have been feeding cattle for years, others are just starting, and Agri Beef works closely with them to navigate the learning curve.

"It's been a good experience for us being able to work with those guys and help them, seeing the growth and the improvement that has happened over the last few years," he said.

Refining grading data

Quality grading has long been the single piece of data in the beef industry that connects every step of the supply chain, from seedstock producers to the consumer's plate, Dan said.

"There are other pieces of data that matter, like weaning weights and yield grades, but they matter for one portion of the industry. Quality grade transcends the entire supply chain," he explained. "So I always start with it because if we're going to get one right, that's the one we should get right because so many decisions are made off of it."

Historically, quality grading was limited to broad categories like Prime, Choice and Select. But with the advent of camera technology in the early 2000s, marbling scores introduced continuous, precise data.

"Once that marbling score got into the hand of geneticists, you no longer had to use discrete data," Dan said. "You could only say this bull had eight Prime calves and 100 Choice calves, now we can see actual marbling scores."

The varying levels of continuous data using the marbling score could actually be utilized, allowing progress that wasn't possible historically. By using discrete data only, one bull could have a 680 mean marbling score and another a 660, but they would both end up in Choice even though there was a notable difference between the two.

Agri Beef has utilized camera grading technology for a long time, Dan said. The data allows them to not only make decisions on their own cattle and the cattle they buy, but also share information with suppliers and producers to help them with their decision-making.

"It's not like we're trying to hide anything and trying to keep them where they're at," he said. "We want them to continuously improve with us."

While quality grade is just one part of the picture, yield grade has historically remained a more static, discrete measure. Agri Beef is participating in research with the Red Meat Yield Round Table, which is coordinated by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, to further development and guidance on where the industry should be going with yield grade.

True West Beef will be part of the data collection process to build a model that will generate continuous data indicative of yield. Having this data, along with quality grade and marbling data, will allow a model to be built that will accurately predict the true value of an animal.

By collaborating with researchers through the Red Meat Yield Round Table, Agri Beef and other participating plants will be able to take CT scans and combine the data with 3D imaging and other technologies to develop an inline system that predicts yield in real time.

"Then we can actually breed to value rather than breeding just to ribeye area or backfat thickness, which might not be as predictive of value as we thought," Dan explained. He emphasized that fat thickness and ribeye area don't always tell the whole story, or allow a producer to truly understand the value of the animal they're producing.

"Ultimately, we're trying to create carcasses that produce what customers want and create a value proposition in the process," he said.

"My prediction is, by making this kind of data available to producers, we're going to be able to see the same kind of growth in yield and cattle performance that we were able to see with Prime," Dan said.

With this new data, it could create a formula that would combine yield and marbling score, rather than evaluating them separately. This would allow the two metrics to be weighed equally and ensure marbling wasn't overlooked.

"Good data drives good decisions," Dan finished. And as the director of quality and continuous development, he is committed to ensuring that every decision is informed by accurate and meaningful data.

— Anna Miller Fortozo, *WLJ* managing editor

Groups call to end grazing in West riparian areas

ILLEGAL GRAZING
(from page 1)

allotments within the national forest. According to the notice, these BiOps rely on "no-adverse-effect determinations" that grazing does not harm listed species or critical habitat—a position the groups call unlawful and arbitrary.

The groups argue that USFWS has repeatedly "rubberstamped" USFS' grazing plans, even when new evidence shows widespread degradation. The groups point to the 2025 BiOp for the Lower Verde Complex as emblematic of the problem, alleging that it again relies on ineffective monitoring, outdated standards and "new promises of more photo points in spite of documentation that the established photo points have not been checked for years."

The notice letter cites more than five years of field documentation claiming to show consistent riparian damage caused by cattle. The Center's 2025 survey found that of 52 miles of streams examined, 65% were moderately to severely damaged. Across four years of surveys, the group documented impacts on 176 miles of desert streams.

Charles Babbitt, conservation chair of the Maricopa Bird Alliance, said the continued grazing reflects a breakdown in accountability. "There's a crisis unfolding on the Tonto National Forest, where year after year, the fragile desert streams that endangered species need to survive are allowed to be damaged by cows that aren't supposed to be there," Babbitt said. "It's an abuse of our public lands and it is imperative that the responsible officials fix this."

Failures in oversight

The groups accuse USFS of failing to reinitiate consultation as required under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) when new information reveals harm to listed species, when grazing regimes are modified or when new species or habitats are listed. They also argue that many of the governing documents for grazing allotments are outdated.

"Many of the allotments contain listed species and/or designated critical habitat for which consultation has never been completed," the notice states, calling this a "clear violation of sections 7 and 9 of the ESA." Of the 25 allotments at issue, only 12 are covered by decision documents issued within the last decade, while nine rely on BiOps or concurrences so outdated they still reference impacts to the bald eagle, which was delisted in 2012.

Adding to the problem, the groups say, is widespread trespass grazing, both from non-permitted cattle and from cattle belonging to non-compliant permittees. The groups argue these permittees exploit the lack of agency monitoring and enforcement, knowing "there are no significant penalties for their non-compliance while they make money with their cows gaining weight and destroying the Tonto's riparian areas."

Riparian zones, though covering only 0.5% of Arizona's land, support 75% of the state's wildlife. Their loss has wide-reaching consequences. "Without a total ban on cow grazing in riparian areas and without diligent monitoring and strict, unbending enforcement, cow grazing authorizations are and will continue to result in destruction," the notice claims.

As this marks the fourth notice of intent in five years, the Center for Biological Diversity and Maricopa Bird Alliance say the agencies have been given ample opportunity to correct course. The failure to act, they argue, is not only unlawful but deepens the extinction crisis in the Southwest.

"There is no place for cow grazing in riparian areas in the arid West," the report notes. "Science, law and common sense demand its end."

— **Charles Wallace, *WLJ* contributing editor**

California predator work group formed

To address a surge of livestock kills, attacks and other conflicts caused by the state's growing predator population, the California Farm Bureau has formed a predator working group.

Led by Placer County rancher Joe Fischer, the working group includes 10 Farm Bureau members and met recently for the first time.

The group will work in conjunction with law enforcement and other advocacy groups as it examines the state's predator issue with a current focus on wolves. It will also expand to look at conflicts caused by other predators, including mountain lions and bears.

Since March, there have been more than 60 cattle kills in the Sierra Valley region of Plumas and Sierra counties.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has established a strike team in the Sierra Valley to try to deter wolves in the region.

Wolves remain fully protected as endangered under state and federal law, which means ranchers are prohibited from doing anything that could kill, harm or harass the species without facing criminal or civil penalties.

California Farm Bureau has helped secure more than $5.6 million in funding for the wolf livestock compensation program, which provides direct relief to ranchers who have lost livestock.

"This money, however, is meager payment for the emotional toll it takes on ranchers," said Steven Fenaroli, a policy advocacy director for the California Farm Bureau.

According to CDFW, there are 10 confirmed wolf packs in California: Ashpan Pack in eastern Shasta County; Beyem Seyo Pack in Plumas County; Diamond Pack in Plumas and Lassen counties; Harvey Pack in Lassen County; Ice Cave Pack in Shasta, Tehama, Lassen and Plumas counties; Ishi Pack in eastern Tehama County; Lassen Pack in southern Lassen and northern Plumas counties; Tunnison Pack in central Lassen County; Whaleback Pack in Siskiyou County; and Yowlumni Pack in Tulare County. — **California Farm Bureau**

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. 15 – The Montana Stockgrowers Association is encouraging students to apply for its 2025 Annual Convention and Trade Show internship program. The internship will take place Dec. 8-13 in Billings, MT. Details: www.mtbeef.org.

Sept. 15 – The Idaho Cattle Association is proud to once again announce the Heifer of the Year contest in 2025. The contest is open to students in grades 7-12. Details: www.idahocattle.org.

Sept. 19 – Graduate students pursuing careers in meat science and animal science are encouraged to apply for the annual W.D. Farr Scholarship program. The 2025 recipients will be recognized at CattleCon 2026, Feb. 3-5, in Nashville, TN. Details: www.nationalcattlemensfoundation.org.

Oct. 1 – The application period for the California Cattlemen's Association 2025 scholarships is now open. Any young, regular or feeder member is eligible to apply. Details: calcattlemen.org/scholarship.

Oct. 6 – The National Cattlemen's Beef Association has opened applications for spring 2026 semester internships in the association's Colorado headquarters and Washington, D.C. office. All internships run from January to May 2026 and are paid positions. Details: jobs.keldair.com/ncba.

Oct. 15 – The New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, in partnership with Purina Mills and Depot Farm and Ranch Agency, is thrilled to announce fall scholarship applications are open. Details: www.nmagriculture.org.

Oct. 15 – The New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association will welcome college interns at its 2025 Joint Stockmen's Convention in Albuquerque, NM. Details: 505-247-0584.

American Prairie announces new land acquisitions, access in Breaks

American Prairie announced it has acquired the Anchor Ranch, its second-largest land purchase to date, and it has reopened access to nearly 50,000 acres of public land in "a special area of the Breaks."

"This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to secure an important piece of ecologically and culturally significant land," said American Prairie CEO Alison Fox in a statement. "But this acquisition is equally important as a way to return public access to the people so they can explore, hunt and recreate on land that's been off limits for many years."

American Prairie launched in 2001 with a mission to ensure 3.2 million acres of prairie are protected, including roughly half that are already part of the Charlie M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

The new land comprises the Anchor Ranch and two additional properties in Blaine County, and it puts the total acreage American Prairie manages at 600,000, according to a news release announcing the acquisitions.

Anchor Ranch is 69 miles southwest of Havre and totals 67,960 acres, including 22,837 acres of deeded land and 45,123 of leased acres, "significantly advancing the organization's mission of prairie ecosystem conservation," American Prairie said.

It also opens up access to land previously tied up in a legal dispute along with Bullwhacker Road, which the Public Land Water Access Association described as "the only reasonable access" to acreage in the Breaks.

But a judge found the road was private in 2011.

In 2012, the billionaire Wilks brothers, among the largest land owners in Montana, bought the ranch. It was caught up in a controversial negotiation with the Bureau of Land Management, then put on the market again in 2022, according to a timeline from Lee Enterprises.

In its announcement about the new properties, American Prairie said a 3.8-mile section of Bullwhacker Road will be open to the public, providing access to nearly 50,000 acres of public land that have been a point of dispute and embroiled in lawsuits for years.

In a statement, Fox said the organization is proud to provide more permanent access to "this special area of the Breaks."

"While we will take some time to develop a comprehensive public access plan for this new property, the previously private stretch of Bullwhacker Road is now officially open to the public," Fox said.

Randy Newberg, founder of Fresh Tracks and Hunt Talk media, also praised the acquisition, especially for hunters.

"This is a win for anyone who cares about public access to our shared lands," said Newberg in a statement provided by American Prairie. "Our audience cares deeply about the Bullwhacker Allotment as it touts exceptional habitat and opportunities to hunt. It's an area that's both important to protect and for the public to access."

American Prairie has been controversial in Montana.

Some farmers and ranchers have opposed its purchases of land as detrimental to agriculture and beef production. Political leaders, including Gov. Greg Gianforte (R) and Attorney General Austin Knudsen, have opposed grazing by bison, reintroduced there in 2020 after being gone for 120 years, according to American Prairie.

But some former critics have started coming around, Saboe said. She pointed to an online forum where hunters are active, and one poster recently said they used to be on the "Save the Cowboy" side but appreciate the public access from American Prairie—and time will tell.

American Prairie broke a visitation record in 2024 for the seventh year in a row, the news release said. It saw 6,600 overnight visitors and more than 5,000 at its National Discovery Center in Lewistown.

In 2024, 56.6% of the bookings were from Montanans, but people from every state besides five—Hawaii, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Louisiana and West Virginia—were in the books, Saboe said.

Next month, American Prairie marks its 20th year of having bison, and Saboe said it's a big milestone. She also said the animals are doing their jobs, living their lives in a way that supports other creatures.

The news release said American Prairie acquired 1,888 deeded acres adjacent to the south side of Anchor Ranch. And in a third and separate transaction in the Cow Creek basin of Blaine County, the organization acquired an additional 5,401 acres.

These three acquisitions bring American Prairie's total habitat base to 603,657 acres, which comprises 167,070 deeded acres and 436,587 leased public acres.

On both the Anchor Ranch and the 5,401-acre property with public grazing leases, the ranching families who lease the properties will remain in place, and the land will continue to be used for agricultural production, the news release said.

"We are really pleased to have the existing lessees stay on the ground where their cattle have been grazing, and we look forward to working with these ranching families," Fox said in a statement. — **Keila Szpaller, Daily Montanan**

LEGAL LEDGER

Greens file prairie chicken appeal

The Center for Biological Diversity and Texas Campaign for the Environment on Sept. 8 filed an appeal against a district court's decision to remove federal protections from lesser prairie chickens. In August, Judge David Counts of the U.S. District Court for the western district of Texas ruled the Fish and Wildlife Service erred when it listed the species as endangered under the Endangered Species Act in 2022. "The lesser prairie chicken listing was carefully considered and checked all the legal and scientific boxes," said Jason Rylander, legal director of the Center for Biological Diversity's Climate Law Institute. "This is a pure Trump power play to put oil and gas industry profits ahead of these birds' survival."

Rollins slams CA dam removal plan

USDA Secretary Brook Rollins condemned the Pacific Gas and Electric Company for planning to tear down the Cape Horn Dam and Scott Dam and reduce water flows in California's Potter Valley. In an X social media post, Rollins wrote that the dams have been lifelines for farmers and over 600,000 residents for more than a century. "Once again, @CAgovernor and his legislature are putting fish over people, destroying century old farms and leaving families vulnerable to more drought and wildfire," Rollins said. "Is this really America?" She added that she was working with Interior Secretary Doug Burgum and other department officials to "deliver real solutions to secure Potter Valley's water supply."

Lab meat companies sue over TX law

Two California-based cultivated meat companies are filing suit over Texas' recent law banning lab-grown meat sales in the state for the next two years. UPSIDE Foods, which produces lab-grown chicken, and Wildtype, which produces lab-grown salmon, accuse the law of being government overreach. In June, Texas passed Senate Bill 261, which prohibits the sale of cell-cultured protein for human consumption until Sept. 7, 2027. The companies said the law closes the state's border to an out-of-state industry to protect the state's agriculture from lawful competition. The Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association supported the legislation, saying it "reinforces Texas' commitment to preserving the high standards of the beef industry and the livelihoods of the hardworking Texans who sustain it."

DOI order strengthens LWCF implementation

Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretary Doug Burgum announced a secretary's order to guide the implementation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Secretary's Order 3442 is intended the "improve the internal management of the Department" and clarify the roles and responsibilities to effectively manage outdoor recreation resources. This year's LWCF funding allocation, the largest in LWCF history, totals $437,377,607. "Outdoor recreation is part of our national heritage, and these historic investments will help communities across the country expand access to green spaces, restore natural areas and create more opportunities for people to get outside," Burgum said. The order directs Interior bureaus to work closely with state and Tribal governments to ensure LWCF investments support outdoor recreation infrastructure and expand opportunities in underserved and urban communities.

Peppered chub draft recovery plan released

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) released its draft recovery plan for the endangered peppered chub, a fish species native to prairie rivers in the Southwest. The plan's goal is to support multiple species populations into the foreseeable future. Threats to the fish include declines to its habitat such as river fragmentation and alterations from water diversions and impoundments, according to USFWS. "Specific recovery plan objectives include implementing a monitoring program, preventing habitat degradation, improving habitat quality, and reintroducing the chub to two historically occupied river segments," the agency said. To view the recovery plan and submit comment by Sept. 19, visit ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/532.

House overturns resource management plans

The House of Representatives in early September voted to roll back three Biden-era resource management plans that restricted resource development on federal lands. House Joint Resolution 104 passed on near-partisan lines, with only Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-01) breaking from his party's majority "yes" vote. The resource management plans are in place for the Central Yukon in Alaska, Miles City in Montana and North Dakota. The plan blocks energy and infrastructure development on more than 13.3 million areas in Alaska, locks up more than 2.75 million acres of land and 11.7 million acres of mineral estate in Montana and bars coal leasing and oil and gas development on more than 4 million acres in North Dakota. "At a time when energy demand is reaching record highs and Americans want to pay less for everything, locking up responsible energy development is the exact opposite of what we need," said Rep. Julie Fedorchak (R-ND-At large). The Senate will now consider the resolution.

STORY SHORTS

CPW concludes wolf removal attempt

On Aug. 16, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and USDA's Wildlife Services attempted to lethally remove a wolf responsible for six livestock depredations in Rio Blanco County. After fire activity from the Elk Fire subsided, crews resumed efforts but were unsuccessful due to dense terrain. Following six days of systematic searching, the operation was discontinued. No further depredations have been reported since. CPW Director Jeff Davis emphasized the agency's commitment to "maintaining a viable, self-sustaining wolf population" while minimizing conflicts, praising producers for working with CPW on non-lethal deterrents.

Brazil approves Marfrig-BRF merger

Brazil's antitrust authority, the Administrative Council for Economic Defense, has approved a merger between beef producer Marfrig and food processor BRF, the companies said in a joint filing. Reuters reported the deal creates MBRF, a new global food producer and exporter headquartered in Brazil, with factories in the U.S., the Middle East and China. Marfrig, already the controlling shareholder of BRF, announced in May a plan to acquire the remaining shares through a share-swap arrangement. Under the agreement, each BRF share will be exchanged for 0.8521 Marfrig shares.

FDA approves hydrogen peroxide for processing

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has amended food additive regulations to permit hydrogen peroxide as a safe antimicrobial, oxidizing and bleaching agent while removing sulfur dioxide from approved use. This action follows a petition by Cargill. Hydrogen peroxide, already affirmed as generally recognized as safe, must be removed from food during processing to meet safety standards. Any additional uses beyond existing limits require a separate food additive regulation. The order took effect on Sept. 3. Objections can be filed by Oct. 3 at regulations.gov under Docket No. FDA-2022-F-2725.

EIA case confirmed in Montana

On Aug. 28, the Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL) confirmed a positive case of Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) in a Musselshell County horse. The animal, identified through a required Coggins test for interstate movement, was later confirmed positive by USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service laboratories in Ames, IA. The property is now under quarantine while MDOL investigates the horse's movement and ownership history to identify potential exposures. "Cases of EIA in Montana are sporadic," said State Veterinarian Tahnee Szymanski. Szymanski said prevention relies on testing new purchases and interstate travelers. With no treatment available, infected horses face limited options: lifetime quarantine, euthanasia or donation for research.

Reclamation continues Sites Reservoir talks

The Bureau of Reclamation announced continued public negotiations with the Sites Project Authority on a partnership agreement for the proposed Sites Reservoir Project. The 1.5-million-acre-foot offstream reservoir, planned about 10 miles west of Maxwell, CA, aims to expand regional water storage. Negotiations outline terms for capacity interest and partnership responsibilities. The next session is scheduled for Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PST at the Tehama Colusa Canal Authority office in Willows, CA.

BOR launches EIS for CA water transfers

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) has published a Federal Register notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed North-to-South Water Transfers in California. Beginning as soon as 2028, the transfers would move water from willing sellers in Northern California, upstream of the Delta, to buyers south of the Delta and in the Bay Area. Designed to supplement declining supplies and meet existing demands, transfers would require annual approval. Two virtual scoping meetings are scheduled for September, with written comments accepted through Oct. 3 via email to Nicole Johnson at njohnson@usbr.gov. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/4rtxxds9.

Beyond Meat payment delays raise concerns

Beyond Meat is taking longer to pay its bills as the company struggles with declining sales, according to FoodDive. Creditsafe data shows its days beyond terms—the time it takes to pay bills beyond the due date—more than doubled in the past year, rising from eight days in August 2024 to 19 in July 2025. FoodDive said Beyond Meat ended June with $103 million in cash, down from $132 million at the end of 2024, and holds $1.2 billion in debt. Second quarter revenue dropped nearly 20% to $75 million as the company launched cost-cutting and restructuring measures.

Goldcrest Farm Trust closes $300M fund

Goldcrest Farm Trust, a private real estate investment trust, announced the closing of its third fund with $300 million in commitments from institutional investors, raising total assets under management to more than $1 billion. Edward Hargroves, co-founder and president, noted that farmland combines cash flows with long-term value. Goldcrest manages farmland across regions and crop types and will target row crop properties in the new fund, partnering with agricultural operators to strengthen production and asset value through long-term management strategies.

Trade deal with Japan set to boost US ag sales

President Donald Trump on Sept. 4 signed an order to implement a trade agreement with Japan that is expected to increase U.S. agricultural sales by $8 billion a year.

Over the past five years, Japan has bought on average just under $12.9 billion in annual farm goods from the U.S.

In detailing the agreement, the White House cited, "Critically, unlike any other agreement in American history, the Government of Japan has agreed to invest $550 billion in the United States."

Those investments will be chosen by the U.S. government and are expected to "generate hundreds of thousands of United States jobs, expand domestic manufacturing and secure American prosperity for generations."

Spelling out agricultural trade, the order stated, "Specifically, the government of Japan is working toward an expedited implementation of a 75% increase of United States rice procurements within the minimum access rice scheme and purchases of United States agricultural goods, including corn, soybeans, fertilizer, bioethanol (including for sustainable aviation fuel), as well as other United States products, in amounts totaling $8 billion per year."

USA Rice commented, "We appreciate the President's efforts to expand markets for U.S. rice and we look forward to working with our partners in Japan to increase our market access in what is already a top 5 market for our exporters, and to participating in the remaining FY2025 rice tenders that predate these latest announcements."

While noting the sales of sustainable aviation fuels, the U.S. last year only produced about 20 million gallons. Japan has a goal to use 10% sustainable aviation fuel in its commercial airlines by 2030.

The American Soybean Association said the agreement "helps further secure a top ten market for our crop. In Marketing Year 2023/2024, Japan imported $1.31 billion of U.S. soy products, making the country U.S. soy's sixth largest trading partner by volume, according to USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service."

Under the deal, the U.S. will set a baseline 15% tariff on nearly all Japanese imports to the U.S., though there will be separate sector tariffs for automobiles and auto parts, aerospace products, generic pharmaceuticals, and some natural resources.

Japan also agrees to accept U.S. automobiles without additional safety testing requirements and bill buy U.S.-made commercial aircraft and military equipment. — **Jerry Hagstrom, DTN political correspondent and Chris Clayton, DTN ag policy editor**

Ag groups challenged Public Lands Rule last year

LANDS RULE
(from page 1)

and responsible development, and sustain our public lands for generations to come," then-Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said at the time.

Perhaps the most controversial part of the rule was the allowance of conservation leasing, which stakeholders said put conservation on equal footing as fossil fuel extraction and grazing. The rule also called for more designations of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs).

Industry groups called the rule arbitrary and capricious, saying it provided virtually no guidance on when land could or would be set aside for mitigation or restoration and ACECs.

The Biden administration released the final rule on April 18, 2024, after first proposing the rule a year earlier. BLM said it received more than 200,000 comments during its 90-day comment period and five public meetings, which it said were mostly in favor of the rule.

Industry backlash

Industry groups challenged the rule last summer, contending that it violated the multiple use mandate under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and would have led to the removal of family ranches and other working uses.

"Cattle producers were blindsided with this rulemaking two years ago and were not asked to give any input until the rule was already drafted," said National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) President Buck Wehrbein in response to the rule's rescission. "This was not a rulemaking to improve daily life for Americans, it was a shot across the bow of an entire industry, and we responded in kind."

NCBA, along with the Public Lands Council (PLC), American Farm Bureau Federation, American Sheep Industry Association and several other stakeholder groups, filed suit with the U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming on July 12, 2024.

"As permittees, we saw the rule's clear intent: to remove us from our allotments and turn these lands into an unmanaged, unhealthy, unproductive liability," said PLC President Tim Canterbury.

Environmental groups had applauded the rule and condemned its recission.

"The revocation of this rule commits our National System of Public Lands to outdated management that will confound both science and sustainability," said Vera Smith of Defenders of Wildlife. "This rule provided for healthy habitats and now it's foolishly being yanked away in service of the 'Drill, baby, drill' agenda."

Stephanie Garcia Richard, New Mexico commissioner for public lands, had also commended the rule last year. "For too long our nation's land managers have placed too much emphasis on resource extraction above all other viable uses of public lands," she said. "It's great to see the BLM propose a rule that finally puts conservation of our land and natural resources on par with other uses." — **Anna Miller Fortozo, *WLJ* managing editor**

The 7% rule of BCS

The body condition scoring system (BCS) is used to assess body energy reserves in beef cows. The BCS system used for beef cattle ranges from 1 to 9. A score of 1 indicates cows that are thin and emaciated, cows of BCS 9 are fat and obese.

When condition scoring cows, producers should look beyond age, frame size, depth, length, pregnancy status and hair coat. The condition scoring system is intended to provide a consistent system to quantify relative fatness regardless of these other factors that create differences in cows' appearances.

There is a strong relationship between weight and BCS. For each unit change in BCS, cows should gain or lose approximately 7% of their BCS 5 weight. For example, a cow that weighs 1,200 pounds at a BCS 5 should reach a BCS of 6 at 1,284 lbs. or drop to a BCS 4 at 1,116 lbs.

Best time to evaluate BCS?

Typically, late summer/early fall when cows are slicked off and in second trimester of pregnancy is the most accurate and easiest time of the management cycle to evaluate BCS on cows. Weaning time or at time of fall pregnancy checks is realistically the most convenient time of the annual management cycle to capture a weight on cows. If cows need to be fed and managed to have adequate BCS by the start of calving season, managing for a target weight gain can be effective.

Why is BCS important?

One of the major constraints in the improvement of reproductive efficiency in cows is the length of post-partum anestrous. If cows are to maintain a calving interval of one year, they must breed back within 80-85 days after calving. In both old and young cows, it is well established that BCS at calving time determines the rebreeding performance of beef cows in the subsequent breeding season.

Cows maintaining body weight, therefore having ample energy reserves before parturition, exhibit estrus sooner than cows losing weight. Body weight change during pregnancy is confounded with fetus and placenta growth. Therefore, the estimation of body fat by use of BCS is more useful in quantifying the energy reserves of beef cows.

The process of fetal development, delivering a calf, milk production and repair of the reproductive tract are all physiological stresses. These stresses require the availability and utilization of large quantities of energy to enable cows to rebreed in the required 85 days. Cold and/or wet weather is often faced by spring-calving cows and adds additional environmental stress resulting in energy intake that is below body maintenance needs. The cow compensates by mobilizing stored energy or adipose tissue which is why adequate BCS at calving is so critical to reproductive performance.

The goal

Producers should manage their calving season, genetics, grazing system, supplementation program and herd health to achieve an average BCS of 5 to 6 (target 5.5) in the mature cow herd at calving time. The goal for first calf heifers is to have a BCS of 6 at calving. Typically, the greatest reproductive challenge in beef cattle is the breed back of two-year old females raising their first calf, lactating for the first time and still growing themselves, accordingly the higher BCS of 6 is recommended. — **Mark Z. Johnson, Oklahoma State University Extension beef cattle breeding specialist**

COMING EVENTS

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

Sept. 16-18 – The Public Lands Council 57th Annual Meeting will be held in Flagstaff, AZ, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Flagstaff. Details: publiclandscouncil.org.

Sept. 30-Oct. 5 – The National Sheepdog Finals will be held in Alturas, CA, where top border collies from the U.S. and Canada compete for the prestigious title of National Sheepdog Champion. Details: sheepdogfinals.org or contact Geri Byrne at 541-891-7518 or geri@bcollies.com.

WE HAVE YOUR CALVING EASE COVERED!

Cal Poly OCT. 5 - 1PM BULL TEST & SALE

LOT 125 BISHOP HEAT SEEKER M86

CED	11	15%
BW	0.2	
WW	69	
YW	127	
MK	30	25%
CW	69	20%
MB	1.25	15%
RE	0.82	
$M	91	10%
$W	76	25%
$F	126	10%
$G	82	15%
$B	208	10%
$C	361	3%

BALDRIDGE HEAT SEEKER H925 X MGR TREASURE
ADG 5.02 RATIO 135.2 ADJ. YW 1216 LBS.
RATIO 112.5 TEST INDEX 123.8

LOT 42 NJ / BISHOP CACHE 416

CED	9	
BW	-1.5	10%
WW	56	
YW	110	
MK	23	
CW	51	
MB	1.25	15%
RE	0.79	
$M	91	10%
$W	56	
$F	103	
$G	81	15%
$B	185	20%
$C	331	10%

GARDENS CACHE X BALDRIDGE ATLAS A266
ADG 4.3 RATIO 117.4 ADJ. YW 1109.3 LBS.
RATIO 97.2 TEST INDEX 107.3

9 OUTSTANDING PROSPECTS ON TEST! CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION!

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Cal Poly OCT. 5 - 1PM BULL TEST & SALE

OUR BULLS RANK IN THE TOP PERCENTILES OF THE ENTIRE ANGUS BREED FOR THE MOST ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT TRAITS!

WESTWIND JAMESON DJH 424

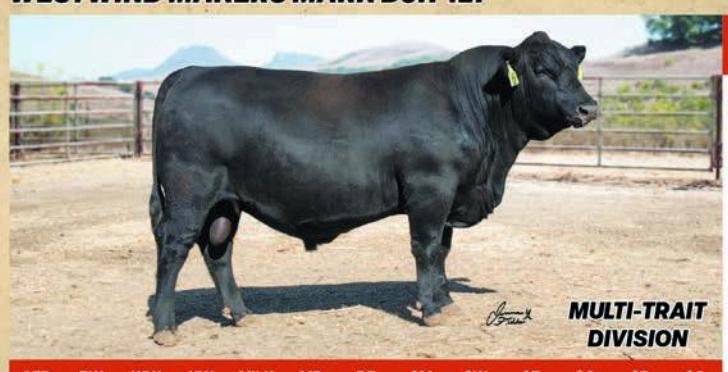
LOT 81

AAA#: 21027482
Sire: Basin Jameson 1076
MGS: DL Dually

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MB	RE	$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
11	0.6	96	155	25	1.37	1.07	87	108	115	92	207	355
15%		2%	10%		10%	15%	10%	1%	20%	10%	10%	4%

WESTWIND MAKERS MARK DJH 427

LOT 82



AAA#: 20711890
Sire: Basin Jameson 1076
MGS: Byergo Black Magic 3348

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MB	RE	$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
7	1.6	99	171	33	1.15	1.09	94	112	105	83	189	339
		1%	2%	10%	20%	15%	5%	1%	30%	15%	20%	10%

WESTWIND RANCH ANGUS
David J. Holden • (530) 736-0727
38 Montana Ave, Oroville. CA 95966
wstwind@hotmail.com | westwindangus.com

DIXIE VALLEY

CAL POLY *Bull Test Sale*
OCTOBER 5
SAN LUIS OBISPO

Cal Poly OCT. 5 - 1PM BULL TEST & SALE

Featuring 5 outstanding herd bull prospects!

LOT 2 STERLING CHARGE 451

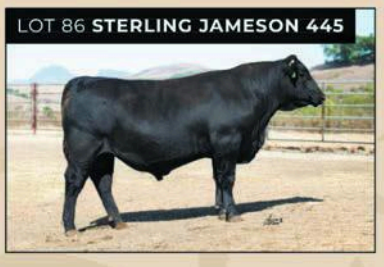
AAA 21034597 · 8/5/24
Sire: 44 Cavalry Charge 0155 · MGS: Spring Cove Reno 4021

CALVING-EASE DIVISION

CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	CW	MARB	RE	Fat
11	-1.5	74	134	19	45	1.13	0.82	-0.041
15%	10%							4%

$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
93	72	82	83	165	307
	10%		15%		

LOT 86 STERLING JAMESON 445



AAA 21062025 · 8/2/24
Sire: Basin Jameson 1076 · MGS: Basin Paywieght 1682

MULTI-TRAIT DIVISION

CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	CW	MARB	RE	Fat
6	2.9	11	189	25	89	0.97	1.05	-0.008
		1%	1%		2%			15%

$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
48	102	116	74	190	296
	1%	5%		15%	

Hunter Wheeler, Manager 530-520-8362 · Jason Gagnon, Marketing 559-723-6362

DIXIEVALLEY.COM

BORGES ANGUS RANCH

THESE BULLS WILL BRING YOU TO THE BEST KIND OF CONCLUSION!

LOT 91

MULTI TRAIT DIVISION

SIRE: VAR CONCLUSION 0234
MGS: TEHAMA TAHOE 8767

BW	WW	YW	CW	MB	RE	$W	$B	$C
1.6	91	166	70	0.92	0.58	98	176	290
	5%	3%	20%			2%	29%	

Cal Poly OCT. 5 - 1PM BULL TEST & SALE

LOT 93

MULTI TRAIT DIVISION

SIRE: VAR CONCLUSION 0234
MGS: EXAR INSTRUMENTAL

BW	WW	YW	CW	MB	RE	$W	$B	$C
3.2	106	189	95	1.11	0.87	110	214	325
	1%	1%	1%	20%		1%	10%	15%

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS YEAR'S BULL SALE AND PRIVATE TREATY OFFERING

ALSO CONTACT US ABOUT YOUR CATTLE HAULING NEEDS!

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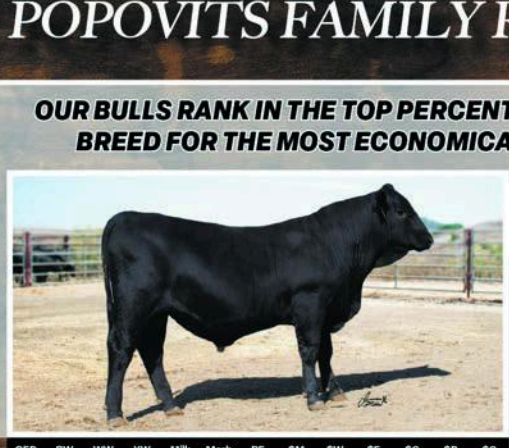
POPOVITS FAMILY RANCH

Cal Poly OCT. 5 - 1PM BULL TEST & SALE

OUR BULLS RANK IN THE TOP PERCENTILES OF THE ENTIRE ANGUS BREED FOR THE MOST ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT TRAITS!

LOT 23



PFR PARAMOUNT III 4049
GROWTH DIVISION

AAA# **21114309**
Sire: **Ankonian Paragon 0C4**
MGS: **V A R Signal 7244**

CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	Marb	RE	$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
2	2.6	89	171	31	0.72	0.86	65	82	156	60	216	345
	10%	2%	20%					15%	1%		1%	10%

LOT 24

PFR THOR 4054
MULTI-TRAIT DIVISION

AAA# **21109202**
Sire: **Basin Jameson 1076**
MGS: **GS Fireball 672**

CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	Marb	RE	$M	$W	$F	$G	$B	$C
7	2.4	91	151	29	1.64	1.13	40	91	102	110	213	320
		5%	10%		3%	10%		5%		2%	10%	15%

POPOVITS FAMILY RANCH
Brian Popovits • (408) 806-6828

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: 9/11/2025		Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	238.98	▼	242.48	180.61
CME Feeder Index	365.47	▲	365.43	241.90
Boxed Beef Average	400.79	▼	414.21	307.18
Average Dressed Steers	376.32	▼	383.00	289.84
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,415	▲	1,415	1,391
Weekly Slaughter**	487,000	▼	565,000	542,000
Weekly Beef Production***	421.7	▼	488.4	460.6
Hide/Offal Value	11.66	▼	11.78	11.33
Corn Price	3.98	▼	4.00	3.80

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

BEEF REPORT: Weekly Composite Boxed Beef

WEEK ENDING	COMPREHENSIVE Loads	COMPREHENSIVE Price	PRIME Loads	PRIME Price	BRANDED Loads	BRANDED Price	CHOICE Loads	CHOICE Price	SELECT Loads	SELECT Price	UNGRADED Loads	UNGRADED Price
September 5	5,747	409.20	185	459.04	1,082	416.17	1,583	409.54	601	385.31	2,297	362.78
August 29	6,471	404.37	219	452.60	1,198	411.59	1,850	403.63	705	380.12	2,498	363.76
August 22	6,368	393.98	223	438.02	1,133	400.56	1,725	392.87	620	369.48	2,666	355.37
August 15	5,940	379.51	197	418.62	1,129	387.55	1,686	380.00	582	356.06	2,347	344.58

Cutouts — FED BOXED BEEF

DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT	50% LEAN	90% LEAN
September 11	400.79	379.95	338.90	165.70	435.89
September 10	405.64	383.68	338.78	N/A	434.01
September 9	407.67	386.96	340.16	157.67	N/A
September 8	409.69	385.34	339.86	158.55	N/A
September 5	410.76	385.19	339.15	158.73	436.19

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle

	9/5	9/8	9/9	9/10	9/11	High*	Low*
Oct.	23598	23580	23575	23245	23410	24678	16853
Dec.	23745	23758	23755	23390	23575	24208	16668
Feb.	23868	23923	23923	23518	23688	24358	17005
Apr.	23860	23958	23938	23535	23698	24428	18068

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle

	9/5	9/8	9/9	9/10	9/11	High*	Low*
Sep.	35983	36095	36070	35568	35690	36643	21920
Oct.	35790	35918	35910	35278	35468	37000	22268
Nov.	35615	35813	35780	35063	35253	36938	22460
Jan.	35078	35265	35250	34493	34690	36765	24118

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

FED CATTLE TRADE

	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES			
Live FOB Steer	6,666	1,518	238.98
Live FOB Heifer	1,843	1,352	238.28
Dressed Del Steer	4,788	1,000	376.32
Dressed Del Heifer	1,382	885	375.36
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	2,880	1,505	242.48
Live FOB Heifer	689	1,335	242.42
Dressed Del Steer	2,887	999	383.00
Dressed Del Heifer	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	2,937	1,442	180.61
Live FOB Heifer	2,392	1,275	180.50
Dressed Del Steer	196	939	289.84
Dressed Del Heifer	78	788	288.00

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	18,244	4,275
Formula	222,641	1,470
Negotiated Cash	55,525	71
Negotiated Grid	34,127	1,123
Packer Owned	6,931	N/A
Total	**337,468**	**6,939**

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,579
Sep. '25	125,386	Neg. Sales 21+ days	558
Oct. '25	186,958	Formula sales	3,560
Nov. '25	172,681	Forward contract sales	51
Dec. '25	165,279	Domestic sales	5,166
Jan. '26	87,086	NAFTA Exports	84

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	224.23	+5.22
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	221.78	+4.52
Ontario Auctions		
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs	232.52	+5.54
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	230.58	+5.49
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs	163.59	+0.39

*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario
501-600 lbs	442.50	N/A	426.29
601-700 lbs	405.77	N/A	401.63
701-800 lbs	375.96	N/A	356.87
801-900 lbs	349.74	N/A	324.61
Heifers:			
401-500 lbs	435.96	N/A	428.87
501-600 lbs	393.16	N/A	391.15
601-700 lbs	376.86	N/A	340.72
701-800 lbs	350.49	N/A	320.99

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
	9/1/2025	8/25/2025		
Feeders	0	0	230,638	960,685

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE

September 11, 2025

Mexico to United States Feeder Cattle Import Summary

Receipts EST: N/A **Week Ago EST: N/A** **Year Ago Act: 11,200**

THIS REPORT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED AFTER MAY 12TH. THE BORDER WILL BE CLOSED FOR LIVESTOCK IMPORTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2		Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2	
500-600 lbs	N/A	500-600 lbs	N/A
600-700 lbs	N/A	600-700 lbs	N/A
700-800 lbs	N/A	700-800 lbs	N/A
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2		**Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2**	
500-600 lbs	N/A	500-600 lbs	N/A
600-700 lbs	N/A	600-700 lbs	N/A
700-800 lbs	N/A	700-800 lbs	N/A

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

Selected Auctions — Week Ending September 11, 2025

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

DATE / MARKET		200-300 lb.	300-400 lb.	400-500 lb.	500-600 lb.	600-700 lb.	700-800 lb.	800 lb. -up	SLAUGHTER COWS / SLAUGHTER BULLS	PAIRS / REPLACEMENTS	
September 5 Blackfoot, ID	N/A			390-466 380-480	350-450 310-460	320-370 300-365	290-368 275-352	270-348 260-340	145-172 168-187		NORTHWEST
September 4 Burley, ID	292		484-497.50 430-472.50	448-459 395-432.50	359-381 347-412	366-376 344	369	236	118-171 175-191		
No report available Emmett, ID											
September 6 Eugene, OR	1,422		330-465* 260-380*	350-495* 270-365*	335-450* 240-347*	310-400* 260-350*	245-330* 230-280*	215-270* 230-295*	140-165 160-178	2,900-4,000	
No report available Madras, OR											
September 3 Vale, OR	506		460-510	455-540 390-455	437-501 355-405	342-406.50 328-370	335-391 318-351	261-309	157-168 168-193	2,950-3,750	
September 10 Davenport, WA	610	430	350-505 270-445	367.50-500 330-455	257.50-425 250-380	164-363 200-342.50	151-354 280-327.50	210-320 195-285	119-250 146-435		
September 4 Toppenish, WA	1,030				380-382.50*	350-385*	340		158-173.50 171-207		
September 4 Orland, CA	2,856			350-440 330-412	300-433 280-415	270-430 250-396	250-389 230-362	200-347 180-320	140-179 150-199	2,800-4,025 2,200-3,900	FARWEST
No report available Escalon, CA											
September 8 Famoso, CA	702		400-580 400-525	450-495 375-452	400-456 375-418	375-418 315-361	320-355	285-300 300-330	85-225 150-185		
No report available Galt, CA											
September 9 Turlock, CA	1,630		430-530 390-492.50	425-492.50 377-442.50	400-447 375-444	390-425 355-388	340-369 295-339	310-332 270-305	130-170 150-190		
No report available Salina, UT											
September 8 Iowa	5,788	600-615 600-660	555-632.50 480-580	375-580 430-517.50	425-516 377.50-472	365-440 344-402.75	360-404 322-386	326.50-372.50 295-345	120-245 155-249		NORTH CENTRAL
September 9 Miles City, MT	1,153						350-367	312.50-353 295-350	136-177 164-221		
September 3 Bassett, NE	1,430				463 412-427.50	415-425 370-399	384.50-408.50 350	343-377 329-353.50			
No report available Ericson, NE											
September 9 Imperial, NE	1,195			485 455	406.50	341-386	332.25-345.50	350.50-365 316-337.25			
No report available Kearney, NE											
September 5 Lexington, NE	2,086		485-515	480-506 450-470	390-400		342-361	332-378 321-341.50		2,885-3,325	
No report available Ogallala, NE											
September 4 Valentine, NE	2,460				420-435	443-448 394-415	405-437	339-408.50 326-360.50			
September 5 Herreid, SD	3,270				415	397-411.50 382.50-391	384-403.50 355-362	337.75-389.50 317.50-365.50			
September 3 Torrington, WY	2,617		573-595 482-552	500-532 435-497	397-410	405-423 369-381	381-400 360-372	335-383 283.50-355			
September 4 Willcox, AZ	1,416	621.50-700 624-675	543-635 469-545	464-525 432.50-480	399.50-485 379-435	333-400 327-400			170-184 160-195	4,550-5,100 3,900-4,125	SOUTH CENTRAL
September 8 Colorado	1,224								85-197 165-220	2,300-3,100	
September 3 La Junta, CO	674		530-595 467.50-510	455-490 395-460	417.50-442.50 360-380	377.50-405 342.50-380	355-372.50	335-357.50 290-315	160-173 181-206	2,600-3,125	
September 8 Loma, CO	675		525-600 440-500	460-525 410-460	405-465 360-400	350-400 325-375	325-365 320-355	300-355 275-345	155-185 185-220	4,300-5,500 2,700-3,125	
September 10 Dodge City, KS	1,146		527-527.50 477.50	483-493 406-455	421-450 357.50-452	389-396 363-371	347-361 326-350	342.50 301-328	154-182 161-197.50	2,025-4,550 2,025-4,000	
September 11 Pratt, KS	1,311	509	487.50-607 460-507	490-564 435	417.50-484 400-416	387-412 365-381.50	359.50-384 322-358	330.50-360 275-325	159-181 185-208	3,350 2,450	
September 11 Salina, KS	1,684		550-560 442-490	447-467.50 408-445	402-445 367.50-395	374-430 354-374	347-387 331-349.50	314-355 300-340			
September 11 Clovis, NM	2,692	635-701 490-610	500-630 300-585	440-580 400-495	380-460 361-405	352-398 336-358	344-362 302-350	200-339 246-337	192-214	2,200-4,650 1,800-3,600	
September 10 El Reno, OK	7,130	550	530-630 440-465	430-540 420-480	380-465 350-445	355-390 335-412.50	325-381 320-355	318-365 323-333			
September 10 McAlester, OK	1,550		495-630 412-498	285-510 375-460	378-437 337-391	350-385 330-375	335-361 310-335	230-240 253-284	160-181 193-214	2,550-3,750 1,750-3,600	
September 9 Oklahoma City, OK	9,381	550	455-552.50 430-500	437.50-520 385-454	394-475 345-431	355-420 320-388	340-398 328-358	318-369 305-334.50			
September 5 Cuero, TX	1,577	538-810 501-600	499-615 430-580	415-515 382-485	366-435 344-435	358-380 332-405	329.50-361 310-340		152-177 188-205	3,300-3,700 2,350-3,350	
September 4 Dalhart, TX	1,862	580	565-582 475-517.50	452.50-482.50 390-437.50	425-455 352.50-403	375-387.50 320-365	371-392.50 300-330	250-315	130-182.50 183-205	2,700-2,975 2,300-3,000	
September 11 San Angelo, TX	745		400	420-430 405	420 327.50-370	335-400 312.50-330	315-334 295-307.50	307.50-325 290	133-164 173-214	3,200-3,900	
September 4 Tulia, TX	602		495	495-550 450-497	410-525 379-442	390-417 366-368	377 335-355		168.50-174 175-185	2,000-3,000	
September 5 Alabama	6,331	560-590 455-540	425-580 410-487.50	430-510 370-447	368-455 340-425	343-404 315-385	315-380 300-340	318-349	140-187 165-213	2,300-4,400 1,475-3,800	EAST
September 8 Lexington, KY	1,823	592.50* 412.50-520*	460-517.50* 400-470*	407.50-482.50* 302.50-417*	322.50-411* 300-405*	347.50-401* 300-386.50*	323-357* 280-349*	313-346.10* 187-281*	145-181 159-215	1,850-2,675	
September 8 Joplin, MO	11,852		540-580 450-500	460-530 395-480	405-530 377-455	388-435 350-395	360-405 337-358	308-370 310-332.50			
September 8 Tennessee	8,351	410-730 340-590	410-600 390-520	365-491 335-450	335-432.503 310-405	315-416 282-384.50	315-378 280-348.50	307.50-350 260-301	139-195 159-220	1,875-5,000 1,650-3,675	
September 8 Virginia	3,651	555 400-460	435-535 365-445	390-505 320-442.50	371-490 315-389	345-425 297.50-375	285-405 275-340	275-377 257.50-307.50			
CANADA											
September 10 Lethbridge, Alberta	N/A		850-919 742-786	770-821 737-840	726-772 546-562	547-571 496-554.50	517-552 464-498	447-533.50 440-465	209-228 242-327		

Find out how YOUR AUCTION MARKET can become a PREFERRED *WLJ* partner!

At no cost to you, we'll send you weekly copies of the *Western Livestock Journal* that you can share with your customers to keep them informed of what's happening in the beef industry. There is no obligation or downside! Contact Hannah at 720-370-8275 for more information.

AUCTION MARKET FOCUS

Feeders hit limit down before recovering

MARKETS
(from page 1)

little difference in live prices between north and south," the Cattle Report wrote on Thursday. "Falling placements in Texas, when compared to other regions, are directly related to the closing of the border. Texas beef plants will struggle to acquire inventory in the coming months leaving Kansas plants to look north for fed supplies to supplement Kansas feedlot supplies."

Slaughter through Thursday totaled about 459,000 head, compared to 363,000 head a week earlier (which was the week of Labor Day). Total slaughter for a week earlier is projected at 487,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending Aug. 30 was 566,581 head. The average steer dressed weight was 953 lbs., 1 lb. above the prior week.

"Bottomline, the 3.4% shortfall in domestic production will likely be 'covered' by imports and less exports than a year ago," Fish said. "The U.S. consumer has paid more for beef this year than any other. Perhaps a saving grace is that many items cost more than a year ago."

Boxed beef prices lost momentum, with the Choice cutout losing about $14 to close at $400.79 and the Select cutout losing about $10 to close at $379.95.

Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures also closed lower over the week. The September contract lost about $4 to close at $355.22, and the October contract lost about $6 to close at $352.35.

Feeder cattle tumbled lower on the board on Tuesday, closing limit down.

"What's important to keep in perspective here is that even though it's frustrating, and even though so many factors say that today's actions simply shouldn't be, traders don't have to obey sound logic, and not every move complements the reality of the countryside's fundamentals," ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, wrote in her Wednesday midday comments.

By Thursday afternoon, feeder cattle futures were trending higher again by a couple of dollars.

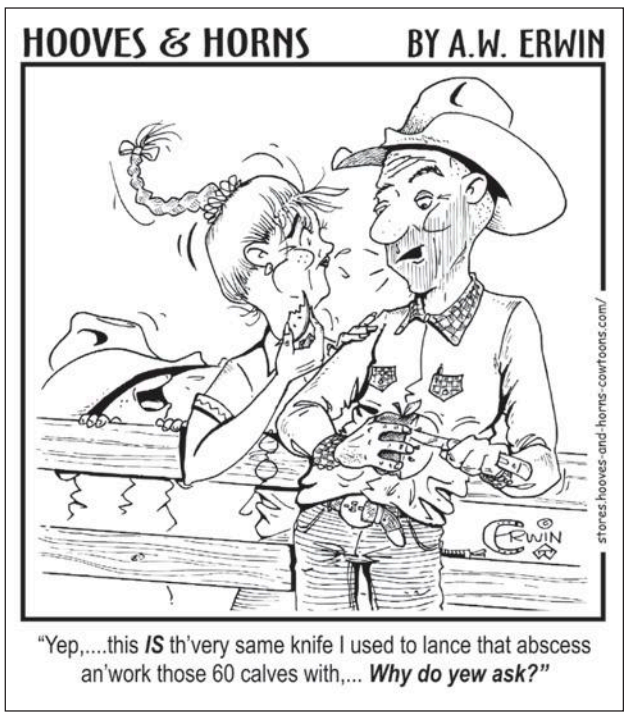
The CME Feeder Cattle Index lost 4 cents to close at $365.47.

Corn futures traded sideways over the week. The September contract was unchanged at $3.99, and the December contract was also unchanged at $4.19.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Missouri sold 13,500 head on Monday. Compared to the last sale held two weeks earlier, feeder steers under 450 lbs. sold $5-10 lower and heavier weights sold steady to $10 higher. Feeder heifers sold unevenly from $10 lower to $12 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 766 lbs. sold from $361-383, averaging $369.10.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 9,400 head on Monday. Compared to the last test two weeks earlier, feeder steers sold steady to $3 lower and feeder heifers sold mostly steady. Benchmark steers averaging 773 lbs. sold from $360-374, averaging $368.12.

South Dakota: Sioux Falls Regional in Worthing sold 3,339 head on Monday. Compared to two weeks earlier, there were few comparable sales of feeder steers and heifers, but they sold steady to firm. A group of steers averaging 822 lbs. sold from $364-376, averaging $372.26. — **Anna Miller Fortozo, *WLJ* managing editor**



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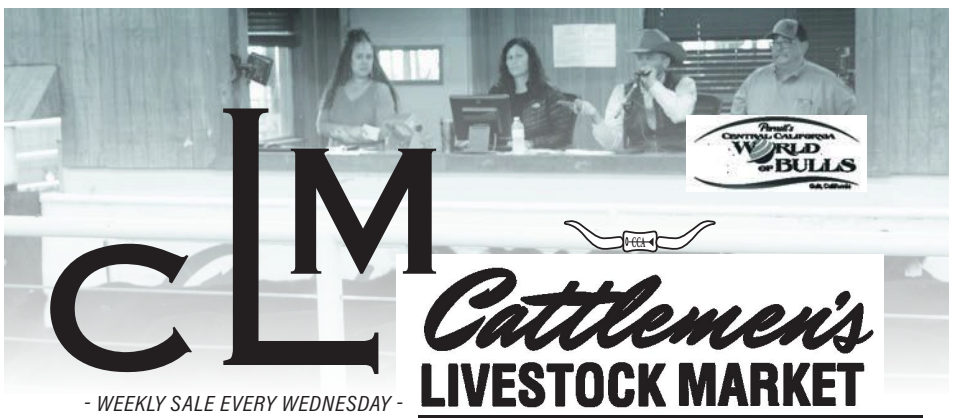
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Extending the grazing season provides numerous benefits

As the weather cools down, ranchers have several options to consider for extending their grazing season, according to North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension specialists.

Extended season grazing systems provide ranchers the opportunity to graze longer into the fall or even the winter, reducing winter feeding and overall production costs. These systems also have the potential to improve nutrient cycling, enhancing soil health and forage quality.

Several winter grazing strategies are available, including grazing annual forages, swath grazing and bale grazing. Extended season grazing options should be selected based on resources available and production goals.

"It is critical to select an approach that works as part of your production system," said Kevin Sedivec, NDSU Extension rangeland management specialist.

Annual forages can be used to extend grazing in the fall or provide early spring grazing, depending on the species selected. For late-season grazing, annual forage mixtures should include a cereal or grass that is high in fiber and brassicas, which will maintain high forage quality even after a killing frost.

"When fall grazing winter annual forages, be aware of the risk for nitrate toxicity," said Sedivec, "and consider testing prior to grazing."

If the mix contains sorghum, sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass, there is a potential for prussic acid toxicity during or following hail or a frost. Fall-seeded winter cereals such as winter rye, winter triticale and winter wheat can provide early spring grazing and, when seeded early enough, fall grazing.

"One disadvantage of grazing annual forages is that they lose quality as they mature," said Miranda Meehan, NDSU Extension livestock environmental stewardship specialist, "so supplementation may be required."

Swath grazing can mitigate this loss in quality, as forages are swathed during the late summer when quality is high, then grazed in the swath in the fall and winter months. Bale grazing involves the grazing of baled hay that is placed in a tame grass pasture or hay field or on cropland, and it also addresses losses in quality associated with grazing a standing forage.

One limitation of extended season grazing strategies is the potential for increased feed waste, according to Meehan. However, implementing strip grazing, a method of limit feeding within grazing systems, can reduce feed waste and increase the number of grazing days. While this method may be more labor-intensive, research has shown an increase in grazing days when strip grazing. When grazing annual forages, strip grazing increased the stocking rate by an average of 47% and 23% in Nebraska and North Dakota, respectively.

Limiting access in a swath grazing access can reduce feed waste to 5% when moving daily, from 26% when moving every 10 days. In contrast, waste tends to be much higher in bale grazing systems—between 20% and 40%, depending on management. To put these numbers in perspective, the estimated loss when feeding hay averages between 15% and 40%, depending on storage and delivery methods. The amount of acceptable waste must be balanced with the labor required to move fence and the performance goals for the animals grazing.

"Extended season grazing systems improve nutrient cycling by directly distributing nutrients on fields and speeding up the breakdown of plant material into plant-available nutrients," said Sedivec.

These benefits vary between grazing systems and are dependent on the length of the grazing period. When grazing annual forages, changes in nutrient availability take time in North Dakota's semiarid environment. However, most short-term studies have shown minimal changes in soil nutrients, but increased yields in the subsequent crop. Whereas long-term research has documented an increase in soil nitrogen, phosphorus and carbon.

Research has shown that bale grazing increases soil nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium after just one grazing period.

"Interestingly, we found that when supplementing cattle grazing bales, there was a greater increase in soil nitrogen where animals were fed a supplement with higher crude protein," said Meehan.

In turn, these benefits to soil health led to improved forage quality—specifically, increases in crude protein and digestibility. — **NDSU Extension**

Water shutoffs happening earlier than usual for some Yakima Basin irrigators

Water shutoffs are happening earlier than usual for some irrigators in the Yakima River Basin.

Reservoir levels are at the lowest seen since 1971. Nonsenior water rights holders in the Yakima basin are expected to receive 40% of their allotment this year, an estimate that has held since August's meeting, according to a release from the Bureau of Reclamation. Senior water rights holders will continue to receive full allotment.

Storage in the reservoirs on Sept. 1 was 20% full with 218,000 acre-feet of water, or 44% of average.

The Yakima Basin has been in a drought since 2023.

A decline in snowpack and early meltoff, especially this past winter, have led to current conditions. Sometimes called the "sixth reservoir," snowpack makes up the difference in water supply and allotments. Reclamation's Yakima Project has about a million acre-feet in storage, but there are about 2.5 million acre-feet in water rights allocated in the basin.

Scott Revell, manager of the Roza Irrigation District, estimates deliveries will end on Sept. 23, about a month earlier than usual.

"It's better than it could have been. I'm glad that the percentage didn't drop further," Revell said.

There wasn't enough precipitation to help the storage situation this year. April through July rain was a little less than half of average, Revell said, adding, "It's been terrible."

The early shutoff has implications for the late harvest crops of the Roza. About two-thirds of the district's crops, such as apples and wine grapes, are harvested after Sept. 15.

Growers like to "put the crop to bed wet" because a plant's cold tolerance is diminished when dry, he said. Not having late season water is already a disadvantage for the following growing year.

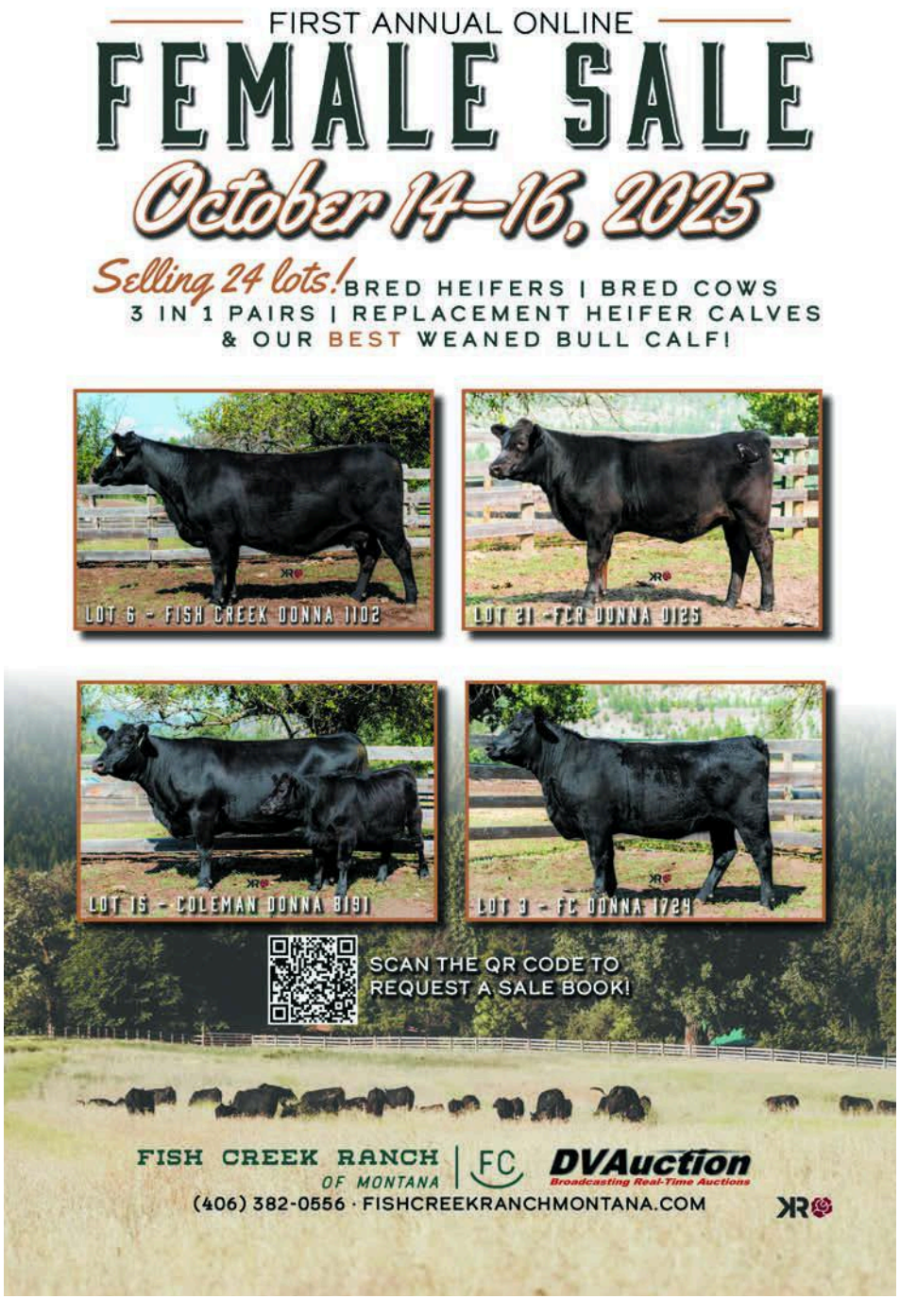
But Revell looks at bright spots in challenging years like this one, such as the conservation efforts taken and strong relationship the district has with the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Bureau of Reclamation saw staff cuts at the start of the year, but "they did a really good job keeping everybody up to speed," Revell said, including giving midmonth updates so that districts can adjust and plan accordingly. "Our communications with the Bureau are very strong."

The Kittitas Reclamation District shut off on Aug. 13, about two months early, because of the lack of water. The Ellensburg-based district supplies water for hay and tree fruit growers.

District Manager Urban Eberhart said that the year was "tremendously difficult" for the district's growers.

Kittitas Reclamation District and Roza Irrigation District are working with state agencies and Washington State University on a study to better understand the impacts to production and quality of crops in multiyear droughts, Eberhart said. — **Questen Inghram, Yakima Herald-Republic**



Cattle and beef market margins

Cattle and beef markets started a strong run up about three years ago in late 2022. Price increases at various levels of cattle and beef markets have had differing impacts on the complex set of market levels in the industry.

Calf and feeder prices

Combined Oklahoma auction prices for 500-pound steers (M/L, No.1) pushed higher for the 11th consecutive week for the first week of September, averaging $471.51/cwt, and a value of $2,358/head. The current price is up 55.4% year over year and up 135.6% since the same period in 2022. Prices for 800-lb. steers (M/L, No. 1) averaged $369.71 /cwt, or $2,958/head, up 52.1% for the same week last year and up 107.4% since 2022.

Fed prices

The five-area fed price averaged $242.90/cwt, with an average weight of 1,500 lbs. and a value of $3,644/head. The price was up 34.1% year over year and up 70% for the same week in 2022.

Boxed beef prices

Choice boxed beef prices averaged $413.60/cwt, up 33.1% from one year ago and up 59.2% since 2022. The monthly retail All-Fresh Beef price in July was $8.90/lb., up 9.2% year over year and up 21.3% since July 2022.

Margin squeeze

The price changes reported above illustrate what happens when tight supplies drive cattle and beef markets. Higher calf prices do eventually get passed on to consumers, but only partially. All the margin levels in between also share in the margin squeeze. Since 2022, calf prices have increased by 135.6%, feeder cattle prices are up by 107.4%, fed prices have increased 70%, boxed beef prices are up 59.2%, and retail prices have increased by 21.3%. For all the margin sectors—stockers, feedlot, packers and retailers—the cost of inputs has increased more and faster than the value of outputs.

The time dynamics between cattle and beef market sectors are complex. Not all margins adjust by the same amount and at the same time. Up to this point, packers have faced most of the losses due to lousy buy-sell margins. Feedlots have avoided much of the margin challenges thus far, largely due to the strongly up trending market combined with the time lag between placements and marketings (extended by more days on feed in most cases) and a sharp decrease in feed costs.

Feedlot cost of gain is down over 28% since the peak in early 2023. Stocker producers are being squeezed hard from both directions as high calf prices increase stocker purchase cost and feedlots are competing more for limited feeder supplies (including lighter weight feeders) due to the relatively low cost of gain. Retailers have faced relatively less of the margin challenge up to this point due to strong consumer beef demand and ample beef supplies. Beef production is declining faster now, and retailers will face more challenges as beef production continues to decline in the coming months.

Margins for the various cattle and beef sectors will continue to adjust with the general squeeze expected to persist as prices continue to move higher until several months after heifer retention begins (no sign of that yet!). Cow-calf producers will continue to enjoy strong returns and the higher calf prices that encourage herd rebuilding. Those higher calf prices will continue to work their way through the industry up to consumers in a complex set of market dynamics affecting the various sectors in a variety of ways. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Latin American buyers study US processing, innovations

The U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) led a team of Latin American importers, distributors and processors to Colorado for a symposium about U.S. meat industry innovations in food safety, processing, packaging and value-added production. The team included 19 buyers from 10 countries—current customers of U.S. red meat—and was accompanied by USMEF representatives from those markets. USMEF's Denver office coordinated with Colorado State University (CSU) professors on the design and implementation of the Global Innovation Symposium.

"We brought commercial partners to CSU to learn from the technical expertise available here and the professors' experience in working with the industry," said Paige Parker, USMEF's manager of technical programs. "We designed this symposium so team members could learn new concepts and new ideas and then have discussions with the professors, our staff and each other about how to apply what they learned to their own operations."

USMEF Central America Representative Lucia Ruano stressed the value to her team of being able to engage with the professors about how things are done in the U.S.

"Our commercial partners wanted to learn about the raw materials that are being used in the U.S. for processed products and about the equipment that U.S. plants are using. They are hungry for knowledge about innovations, different processing techniques, trends in packaging and the way these products are merchandised and sold in retail stores," said Ruano.

The team learned from professors about U.S. production processes, safety standards and meat processing basics in a classroom setting at CSU. Instruction also took place in CSU's meat lab where they experienced hands-on training while learning about innovations in food safety, yield management and processing. Adding value was a focus of the classroom curriculum and meat lab experiences. One of the hands-on challenges involved sous vide, a cooking method in which food is placed in a vacuum-sealed bag and cooked in a temperature-controlled water bath.

"They learned about sous vide, what it is, how it works and how it can be applied commercially," explains David Velasco, director of food science innovation at Colorado Premium, a USMEF member. "We then had them go into the meat lab to design new sous vide products from scratch. The next day, the team participated in a taste panel of the cooked products they had developed."

The opportunity to participate in hands-on training and practical activities in the meat lab was a major reason team members had invested their time and resources to come to the U.S. Throughout the symposium, they asked the professors about the equipment and processing configurations, often drawing comparisons between how things are done in the U.S. and in their respective companies' practices.

"All the courses were really helpful but the area that caught my attention was sous vide," said Sergio René Garza, a project director in Mexico. "We're not running sous vide in our plant but I think we can implement it for some of our soup products for foodservice. That way we can regulate how it is processed and have clear specifications for our cooks."

Lorenzo Elizalde, USMEF trade manager in Mexico, sees strong potential for products developed through the sous vide cooking process in Mexico's foodservice sector.

"Sous vide products from the U.S. are safe and high-quality. The products are already cooked, and restaurants simply finish them on the grill. They are convenient, save time and the result is a consistent, high-quality eating experience for customers."

Following the symposium, USMEF led the team on tours of a JBS value-added plant, the Colorado Premium sous vide plant, Five Rivers Cattle Feeding and retail visits

"A major benefit of having our in-country representatives accompany their teams to the symposium is the follow-up. It gives us the opportunity to continue engaging with our partners in-country about their products and processes while continuing to share new ideas related to raw materials and value-added products," said Parker.

The symposium was made possible through funding from the Beef Checkoff Program, the National Pork Board, National Corn Growers Association, South Dakota Soybean Research & Promotion Council and USDA's Market Access Program and Regional Agricultural Promotion Program. — **USMEF**

Ag groups welcome MAHA plan

MAHA
(from page 1)

foods"—a shift the report ties to obesity, diabetes and other chronic conditions. For the first time, USDA, HHS and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are directed to create a government-wide definition of "ultra-processed food" to guide research and possible policy changes.

Updated Dietary Guidelines for Americans (2025-2030) will emphasize whole proteins, fruits and vegetables while minimizing added sugar and artificial additives. The FDA will restrict the use of petroleum-based food dyes, encouraging the use of natural alternatives from domestic agriculture.

To raise public awareness, HHS and USDA will launch a campaign called "Real Food First," urging families to choose nutrient-dense foods over packaged, high-sugar options. Another initiative, "Food for Health," will highlight the role of proper diet in preventing and even reversing chronic disease.

Nutrition research will also expand. The National Institute of Health Office of Nutrition is tasked with "large-scale randomized control trials" on dietary patterns. At the same time, the USDA will focus on "precision nutrition" that identifies how individual dietary exposures affect health outcomes.

Chemical exposure

The report highlights chemical exposure as one of the four leading threats to children's health. Regulators will develop a cumulative exposure framework across chemical classes, with pesticides singled out for closer scrutiny. According to the commission, "EPA will focus on pesticides acting through a common mode of action" and expand the use of New Approach Methodologies—including computational and human-relevant models—to improve the assessment of risks.

EPA will also expand public communication about its pesticide review process. "EPA, partnering with food and agricultural stakeholders, will work to ensure that the public has awareness and confidence in EPA's pesticide robust review procedures," the report said.

Vaccine and medical oversight

In addition to food and agriculture, the MAHA strategy takes a direct stance on vaccines and overmedicalization. HHS is directed to develop a new childhood vaccine framework that ensures schedules are backed by what the commission calls "gold-standard science." This framework will also focus on addressing vaccine injuries, modernizing vaccine technology and correcting conflicts of interest in the pharmaceutical sector.

The commission stresses that too many children are being prescribed medications unnecessarily, often influenced by financial conflicts in research and regulation. As a corrective measure, HHS and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services will strengthen prescribing safeguards in programs such as Medicaid and the Child Health Insurance Program, while promoting non-pharmaceutical approaches, including nutrition, exercise and school-based wellness programs.

Reactions

Several industry groups commented on the release of the report, sharing their perspectives.

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) welcomed the release of the MAHA Commission's report, which highlighted the benefits of high-quality protein and the role cattle producers play in improving the nation's health.

"This report confirms the science-based recommendation that making America healthy again has to start with safe, nutritious, fresh, whole-ingredient food—and American beef hits the target on all of the above," said NCBA Senior Vice President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane. "As this administration has pointed out before, beef is the crown jewel of American agriculture. Millions of American families build a healthy plate around our product every week."

The Meat Institute praised the MAHA strategy as a sweeping reform that rightly recognizes the role of nutrition, including meat and poultry, in children's health.

"Science has shown what American parents have known all along: nutrient-dense meat and poultry products are essential to a well-balanced diet," said Meat Institute President and CEO Julie Anna Potts.

She criticized past administrations for discouraging meat consumption, leaving children, mothers and seniors lacking protein, iron and zinc. Potts added that the new strategy "finally gives Americans encouragement to eat meat."

The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) stressed the importance of crop protection tools and the nutritional value of grain products. "American wheat farmers rely on safe and effective crop protection tools to ensure a stable and abundant wheat supply," said NAWG President Pat Clements. He urged the commission to strike a balance between productivity and stewardship, noting that farmers "need the flexibility to use the best tools available." Clements also defended enriched and refined grains, calling them vital sources of fiber, iron, folic acid and nutrients.

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) criticized the final MAHA report, accusing it of abandoning its promise to ban "toxic" farm chemicals. Instead, EWG said the plan embraces "pesticide industry rhetoric," touting precision agriculture and confidence in EPA reviews while ignoring harmful pesticide bans. "It looks like pesticide industry lobbyists steamrolled the MAHA Commission's agenda," said EWG President Ken Cook, adding that Kennedy and President Donald Trump "cynically convinced millions they'd protect children—promises now exposed as hollow." — **Charles Wallace, *WLJ* contributing editor**

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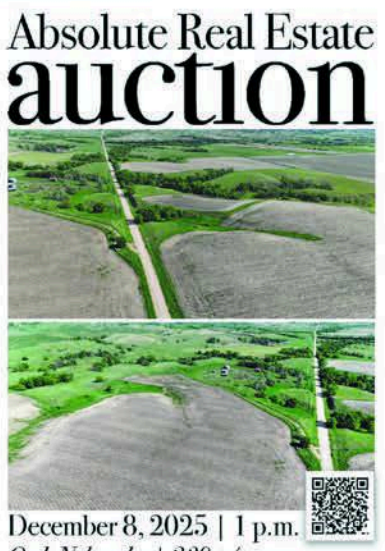

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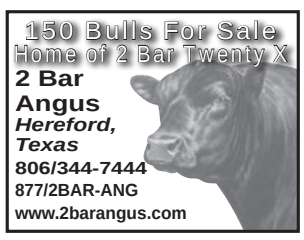

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Pasture Wanted 24

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Real Estate Opportunities 20

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Breathtaking views of the Sutter Buttes. Close to Lake Oroville for boating & fishing. Everything in one. Fully fenced property. Gravel drive leads past two pastures. Livestock/horse property: 4-stall barn with stall runs off of each stall, breezeway & hay storage. Round pen set up & cross-fenced into 3 pastures with ditch water irrigation available. Loafing sheds in pastures with feed bunks. Room for an arena. Living room has plantation shutters, dining room & kitchen. Three large bedrooms & two full bathrooms. Stepping down from the dining room, you will find the gentleman's bar. Once out back, the panoramic views have to be seen; words just can't describe. Breezeway to the detached garage with laundry, freezer & half bath make it ideal that the rancher can clean off before dinner. Closet in primary bathroom could convert to laundry room with stackable washer/dryer; water accessible. Pull-out drawers in kitchen. Furniture negotiable; lawn equipment & tools negotiable. Move-in ready, turn-key. Fruit orchard: apricot, plum, fig, apple, pear, almond, walnut, pomegranate, orange & grapes. The Palermo setting. South Feather Water Project ditch water for irrigation, landscape & livestock purposes. Well by the pond is for the house. Hearst family old Victorian home in view.

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1,486± acres bordering public lands, with a natural spring, lush meadow, and timbered draws. Great access via maintained roads. **$2,675,000**

Price: $29,950,000

23,600± deeded-acre high-quality organic alfalfa farm and cattle operation located in northeastern California. The ranch's excellent water resources irrigate approximately 3,700 acres of organic alfalfa, utilizing 14 pivots on 2,928 acres and 824 acres of flood-irrigated and pasture fields. The ranch includes a 224,971-acre BLM grazing allotment, currently allowing for 4,452 animal unit months (AUMs).

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Schools 43

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Real Estate Southwest 20D

Real Estate Southwest 20D

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SALE REPORTS

VINTAGE ANGUS RANCH BULL SALE
Sept. 4, La Grange, CA
222 Angus bulls $14,540
20 Hereford bulls 5,653
14 Angus open heifers 3,571
Auctioneer: Rick Machado

TOPS: V A R Wesson 4238, 2/8/2024 by Poss Winchester; to Grimmius Cattle Co., Hanford, CA, $390,000. V A R Landman 4194, 1/25/2024 by BA7 Oaks Bold Ruler; to Grimmius Cattle Co., Hanford, CA, $290,000. V A R Jameson 4018, 1/1/2024 by Basin Jameson 1076; to Grimmius Cattle Co., Hanford, CA, $30,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

BYRD CATTLE CO. BULL & FEMALE SALE
Sept. 5, Los Molinos, CA
100 Angus bulls $12,972
48 Angus females 34,600
3 Angus pregnancies. 34,166
1 Angus embryo package 13,500
Auctioneers: Rick Machado & Jayden Byrd
Sale Manager: Parker Friedrich

TOPS—Angus bulls: BYRD Rawhide G739-4082, 2/21/2024 by Poss Rawhide; to The Hay Ranch, Red Bluff, CA, $72,500. BYRD Hustler 1609-4533, 7/27/2024 by FF Rito Hustler 1B69; to Friendship Farms, Savannah, GA, $30,000. BYRD Fault Free 2569-4546, 7/28/2024 by BYRD Fault Free 6276-2531; to Boekenoogen Ranches, Carmel Valley, CA, $25,500. BYRD Hustler 1B69 2532-4514, 7/22/2024 by FF Rito Hustler 1B69; to Baker Angus, Vale, OR, $25,000. BYRD Fireball 7237-4080, 2/21/2024 by GB Fireball 672; to Hornung Livestock, Stratton, CO, $23,000. BYRD Fireball 0065-4024, 2/5/2024 by GB Fireball 672; to Erik Steen, Diamond, OR, $23,000. BYRD Hustler B017-4543, 7/28/2024 by FF Rito Hustler 1B69; to Tommy Cartrite, Sunray, TX, $22,500. **Open cow:** RSA Forever Lady 9204, 8/21/2019 by EXAR Monumental 6056B; to 4 Sons Farm, Cynthiana, KY, $215,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

DUNIPACE ANGUS RANCH W/ BAR KJ ANGUS BULL SALE
Sept. 6, Farmington, CA
132 Angus bulls $12,092
7 SimAngus bulls 6,178
Auctioneers: Rick Machado & Jake Parnell
Sale Manager: Parnell Dickinson

TOPS: Dunipace True Balance 4150, 2/19/2024 by RSA True Balance 1311; to 6-X Genetics, Oakdale, CA, $44,000. Dunipace Spurs Up 3494, 12/22/2023 by EZAR Spurs Up 1125; to Grimmius Cattle Co., Hanford, CA, $40,000. Dunipace Gettysburg 4089, 1/29/2024 by EZAR Gettysburg 1061; to Commercial bull buyer, WA, $27,000. Bar KJ Iconic 4009, 1/25/2024 by DB Iconic G95; to Phillip Martin, Lemoore, CA, $27,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

RHOADES ANGUS BULL & RANCH HORSE SALE
Sept. 6, Cambria, CA
115 Angus bulls $8,365
12 Angus females . . . 26,063
7 Ranch horses 32,142
5 Stock Dogs 9,130
Auctioneers: Wes Tiemann & Randy Baxley
Sale Manager: CK6 Consulting

TOPS—Angus bulls: Rhoades Certified 4017, 3/15/2024 by J Trademark 1037; to Hornung Livestock, Stratton, CO, $27,000. Rhoades Crosswind 3667, 12/9/2023 by V A R Crosswind 1361; to Bengard Ranches, Red Bluff, CA, $15,000. Rhoades Remington 4409, 1/17/2024 by Poss Remington; to Clay Avilia, San Ardo, CA, $13,500. Rhoades Jordan 3003, 12/8/2023 by Baldridge Jordan; to Bengard Ranches, Red Bluff, CA, $13,000. **Open heifers:** Rhoades Lady 5004, 1/7/2025 by EXAR Tomahawk 2836B; to Grimmius Cattle Co., Hanford, CA, $200,000. Rhoades Fireball Lass 4138, 8/20/2024 by EZAR Gettysburg 1061; to Dixie Valley Angus, Montague, CA, $25,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

HERITAGE BULL SALE
Sept. 7, Wilton, CA
68 Angus bulls. $10,650
Auctioneer: Jake Parnell
Sale Manager: Parnell Dickinson

TOPS: Bar R Jet Black 4049, 6/18/2024 by Bar R Jet Black 5063; to Double Bar J, Maxwell, CA, $24,000. Bar R 5074 Dynamic 4025, 3/2/2024 by B A R Dynamic; to Double Bar J, Maxwell, CA, $19,000. Bar R Bold Ruler 4002, 1/16/2024 by BA7 Oaks Bold Ruler; to Double Bar J, Maxwell, CA, $18,000. Bar R Dynamic 4006, 2/14/2024 by B A R Dynamic; to Clayton Koopman, Sunol, CA, $15,000. Bar R 4057 Man In Black 4056, 7/15/2024 by LAR Man in Black; to Martin Livestock LLC, Ione, CA, $15,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

GENOA LIVESTOCK BULL SALE
Sept. 8, Minden, NV
51 Hereford bulls. . . $10,867
Auctioneer: Rick Machado

TOPS: GENOA 9985 Harvester 23259 ET, 8/20/2023 by UPS Harvester 9985; to Waggoner Cattle, Carthage, MS, $22,000, 1/2 interest. GENOA 0065 Key West 24026 ET, 2/24/2024 by C Key West 0065; to Sandrock Ranch Herefords, Benton, WI, $17,000. GENOA 8339 High Noon 24127 ET, 4/7/2024 by Churchill Highnoon 8339F ET; to Hoffman Ranch, Thedford, NE, and Elwood Ranch, Montague, CA, $16,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

O'NEAL RANCH BULL SALE
Sept. 9, Madera, CA
82 Angus bulls $8,042
Auctioneer: Jake Parnell

TOPS: O'Neals Resilient 4220, 1/8/2024 by Tehama Resilient K746; to Michelle Lasgoity, Madera, CA, $16,000. O'Neals Dynamic 4317, 2/5/2024 by B A R Dynamic; to Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bakersfield, CA, $13,000. O'Neals Growth Fund 4201, 1/1/2024 by Deer Valley Growth Fund; to Ortiz Brothers, Hornitos, CA, $13,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

TEIXEIRA CATTLE BULL SALE
Sept. 10, Pismo Beach, CA
47 Angus bulls $10,957
6 Angus fall pairs 7,875
63 Commercial fall pairs 4,540
Auctioneer: Rick Machado

TOPS—Angus bulls: TEX Able 4241, 2/19/2024 by TEX Able 8528; to Hollow Top Angus, Pony, MT, $50,000. TEX Able 4228, 2/16/2024 by TEX Able 8528; to SNWA, Ely, NV, $13,500. TEX Commerce 4147, 1/30/2024 by Connealy Commerce; to Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bakersfield, CA, $13,500. TEX Armstrong 4148, 1/30/2024 by S Armstrong; to Shane & Karlie Kirkland, Lompoc, CA, $13,500. **Fall pair:** TEX Blackcap 3483, 8/15/2023 by Tehama Patriarch F028 with a TEX Lookout 2038 heifer calf by side; to Elwood Ranches, Montague, CA, $15,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

SALE CALENDAR

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

ALL BREEDS

Oct. 4 – California Breeders, Bull & Female Sale, Turlock, CA
Oct. 5 – Cal Poly Bull Test Sale, San Luis Obispo, CA
Oct. 18 – FAMOSA All Breeds, Bull Sale, McFarland, CA

ANGUS

Sep. 15 – The Chosen Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
Sep. 16 – Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 17 – Bullseye Breeders, Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
Sep. 18 – Rancho Casino & Dal Porto Livestock, Bull Sale, Denair, CA
Sep. 19 – Dixie Valley Angus w/ O'Connell Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
Sep. 20 – Ward Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Gardnerville, NV
Sep. 25 – Beef Solutions, Bull Sale, Ione, CA
Sep. 28 – Traynham-Cox LLC, Production Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
Oct. 3 – Elwood Ranch, Bull Sale, Red Bluff, CA
Oct. 4 – Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
Oct. 10 – Kern Cattle Female Sale, Visalia, CA
Oct. 11 – Evergreen Exclusive Sale, Ellensburg, WA
Oct. 11 – Vintage Angus Ranch, Female Sale, Modesto, CA
Oct. 12 – Arellano Bravo Angus, Female Sale, Walnut Grove, CA
Oct. 14 – 9 Peaks Ranch, Bull Sale, Fort Rock, OR
Oct. 14 – Coleman Angus, Female Sale, Charlo, MT
Oct. 14 – Fish Creek Ranch of Montana, Female Sale, Online
Oct. 15 – Montana Ranch, Female Sale, Big Fork, MT
Oct. 16 – Thomas Angus Ranch, Production Sale, Baker City, OR
Oct. 17 – Basin Angus, Female Sale, Billings, MT
Oct. 17 – Hall Ranch, Complete Dispersal Sale, Bassett, NE
Oct. 18 – NILE Angus Female Sale, Billings, MT
Oct. 24 – Birch Creek Angus, Bull Sale, Ruby Valley, NV
Oct. 25 – Bear Mountain Angus, Female Sale, Palisade, NE

CHAROLAIS

Oct. 18 – Fink Beef Genetics, Production Sale, Randolph, KS

HEREFORD

Sep. 18 – Churchill Cattle Company, Complete Dispersal, Manhattan, MT
Sep. 20 – Ehlke Herefords, Female Sale, Townsend, MT
Oct. 4 – Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
Oct. 18 – Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

RED ANGUS

Sep. 21 – Stegall Cattle Co., Bull & Female Sale, Colusa, CA
Sep. 27 – McPhee Red Angus, Production Sale, Lodi, CA

SIMANGUS

Sep. 24 – Eagle Pass Ranch, Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
Sep. 25 – Beef Solutions, Bull Sale, Ione, CA
Sep. 28 – Traynham-Cox LLC, Production Sale, Fort Klamath, OR

COMMERCIAL

Sep. 15 – Northern Livestock Video Auction, Fall Premier, Billings, MT
Sep. 16 – Western Video Market Sale, Ogallala, NE
Oct. 17 – Western Video Market Sale, Cottonwood, CA

HORSE

Sep. 20 – Weaver Quarter Horses, Horse Sale, Great Falls, MT
Oct. 12 – Will Gill & Sons, Horse Sale, Madera, CA

JAMISON QUARTER HORSES

22nd Annual Breeders & Ranchers Production Sale

Lot 22 • JA Dandy Streaker x JA Frostem Bella
Born: 5/1/25 • Stud Colt. • Reg. Pending

Thursday

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12 NOON at the ranch

Quinter, Kansas

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***PREVIEW** on Oct. 8th starting at 1:00 (CDT)*
***SALE** on Oct. 9th - 12 Noon (CDT)*
***ADDITIONAL PREVIEW** at 9:00 AM the morning of sale*
Previews on www.JamisonRanch.com
or www.TheLivestockLink.com

Videos & Preview by: The Livestock Link

Lot 70 • JA Wades Rooster
Born: 4/29/22 • Bay Gelding
Sire: Courage of the Heart Dam: CS Bella Rooster

Lot 80 • JA Setumup Wilywood
Born: 4/22/20 • Gay Roan Gelding
Sire: DVA Setumup Wiley Dam: JA Wily Thrice

Selling

120 QUARTER HORSES

55 Seasoned Ranch Horses &
Started Performance Prospects
55 2025 Foals
10 Jamison Program Broodmares

Guest Consignors:
Hanging b Quarter Horses
Bar HH Quarter Horses

Lot 82 • JA Si Max Drift
Born: 5/23/20 • Dun Gelding
Sire: JA Frostwood Drift Dam: DVA SI Max

Lot 84 • JA Frostem Frosty
Born: 5/21/19 • Sorrel Gelding
Sire: PC Frost Em Peppy Dam:JA Fancy Frosty Wood

Lot 91 • Spottedtails Playgun
Born: 4/20/22 • Buckskin Gelding
Sire: Docs Shinin PlayGun Dam: SpottedTails Rose

Lot 107 • Docs Driftwood Frost
Born: 5/28/19 • Dun Gelding
Sire: SNW Northern Frost Dam: Dells Revenita

Lot 114 • JA Miss Amber Lacy
Born: 5/4/22 • Bay Roan Mare
Sire: JD Dandy Streaker Dam: JA Lacy Cline

Lot 117 • JA Dandy Clinefrost
Born: 6/5/22 • Bay Roan Mare
Sire: JD Dandy Streaker Dam: JA Sunfrost Susita

VIDEOS online by mid-September at JamisonRanch.com or TheLivestockLink.com

For more information contact:

JAMISON QUARTER HORSES

Merle High (717) 821-0309 • Gerald High (717) 821-0324
Aden Glaze (785) 475-4125 • Gordon Jamison (785) 299-0441
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