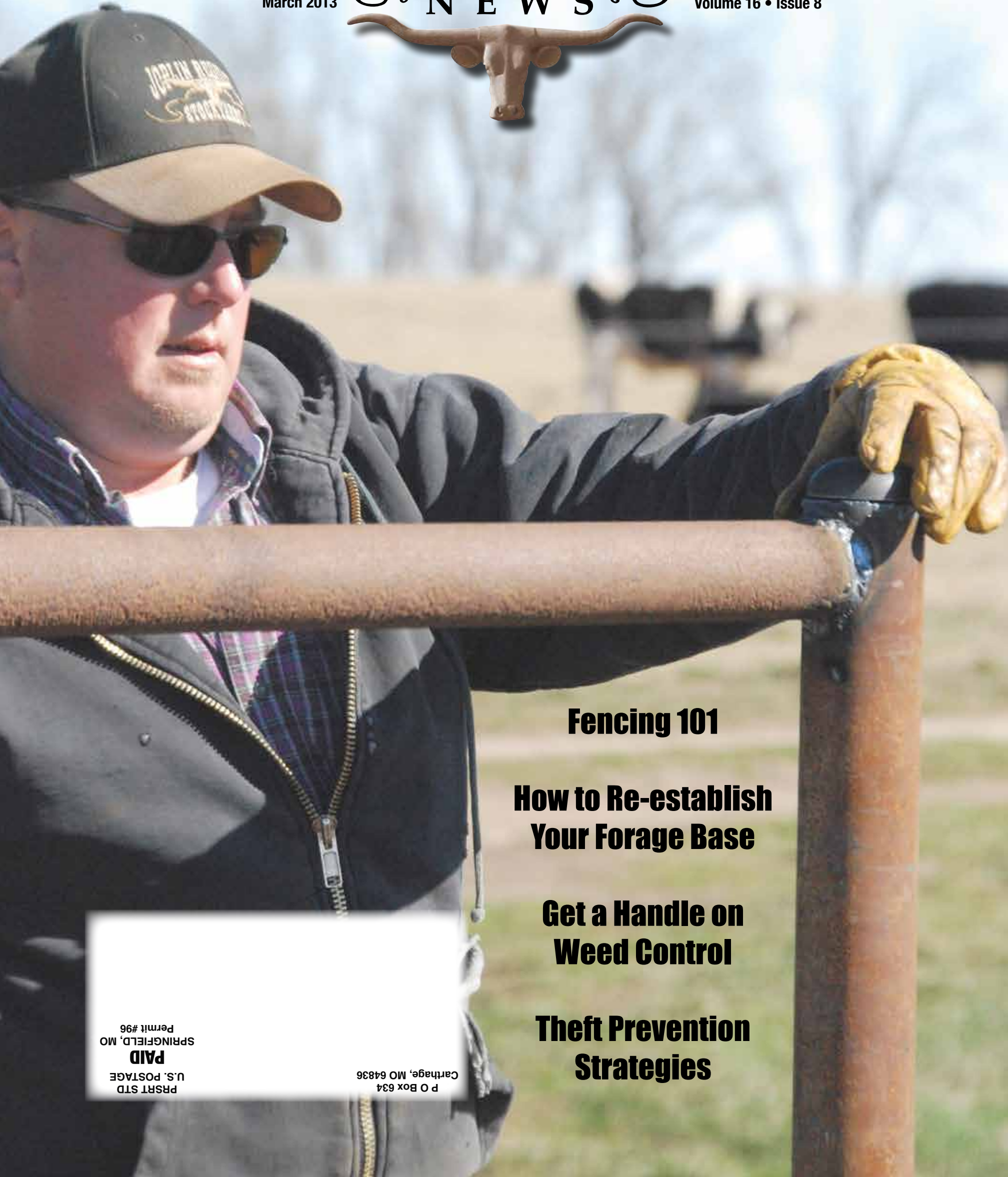


Joplin Regional Stockyards
CATTLEMENS

March 2013

NEWS

Volume 16 • Issue 8



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VIEW FROM THE BLOCK

The market has been a little bit tougher in recent weeks. We thought we'd be selling fat cattle at \$1.35 or \$1.40 and instead we're selling them for \$1.22-\$1.24. It's just a bloodbath out there in the feedyards the way feed prices have soared and the way fed cattle prices have dropped. Consequently, we're seeing yearling cattle trade \$5 to \$15 lower than where prices were at the first of the year.

As we get into spring, I expect to see the lighter weight cattle hold their own, maybe even get higher. Feeder cattle, though, likely will continue to struggle to stay at steady prices — especially the cattle that weigh 800 pounds or more



that will hit the fat cattle market during the summer months when prices are historically at their lowest levels of the year. We're seeing the fewest number of yearling cattle since 1949 and the market will continue to be tough on them despite that.

Our special cow sales in January and February were

really good. There seems to be some optimism among buyers now that we've gotten a little moisture. I expect the replacement cow trade to stay pretty good right along with the lightweight calf market. If you're a cow/calf producer, those cattle are still a really good buy if you have some feed. The prospects of having some grass this spring look pretty good. Slaughter cows are trending higher, too, as we're heading into spring. They are selling up to \$0.90/lb. and if we get some more moisture I think they will bring \$1.00 or more per pound. I think the female cattle trade — slaughter or replacement — will continue to be good.

We have a couple of special events coming up in the next few weeks. We're having a special grazer and yearling

video cattle sale coming up the 21st of March and then on the the 5th of April, we'll have another special replacement cow sale. These are two great opportunities for you whether you need to sell a few or are looking to buy some cattle. Give us a call at 417-548-2333 if you would like to consign cattle to either sale.

Good luck and God bless.

Jackie Moore



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Inside this Issue

About the Cover

Get fence and corral construction tips from builders like Jason Pendleton inside this issue.

—See page 28. Cover photo & design by Joann Pipkin

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BEEF IN BRIEF

Missouri Cattleman Named NCBA Vice President

Richland, Mo., cattleman Don Pemberton was elected vice president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association during the 2013 Cattle Industry Convention held recently in Tampa, Fla.

Pemberton is back in his native Missouri after spending time working in Kentucky where he was with Schering-Plough Animal Health. He grew up working on his family's cow/calf, stocker and livestock order buying business and graduated from Drury University in Springfield, Mo.

—Source: Missouri Cattlemen's Association release

USDA Comments on Russian Meat Import Suspension

United States Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk issued the following statement in response to Russia's suspension of U.S. meat imports:

"The United States is very disappointed that Russia has taken action to suspend all imports of U.S. meat, which is produced to the highest safety standards in the world. Russia has disregarded the extensive and expert scientific studies conducted by the international food safety standards body, the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which has repeatedly concluded that animal feed containing the additive ractopamine is completely safe for livestock and for humans that consume their meat. Russia's failure to adopt the Codex standard raises questions about its commitment to the global trading system. Despite repeated U.S. requests to discuss the safety of ractopamine, Russia has refused to engage in any constructive dialogue and instead has simply suspended U.S. meat imports. The United States calls on Russia to restore market access for U.S. meat and meat products immediately and to abide by its obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization."

—Source: USDA

MCA, MFB Want Traceability Advisory Group

Missouri Cattlemen's Association and Missouri Farm Bureau encourage Missouri Director of Agriculture Jon Hagler in a letter to reestablish the Missouri Animal Identification Advisory Committee to provide guidance on implementation of the Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) system. The USDA released its final rule to implement a national ADT system. The rule becomes final in March, following a 60-day comment period. Each state is responsible for implementing the final rule.

The new ADT rule applies only to animals moved in interstate commerce.

—Source: MCA, MFB Release

Report Forecasts Record-Breaking Corn Crop

Our nation's farmers will harvest a record 14.4 billion bushels of corn this year, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture report. The realization of this projection, which assumes the planting of 96 million acres and a national average yield of 163.5 bushels per acre, would require a return to more favorable weather patterns.

The forecast shows that the number of harvested acres will rise in the upcoming crop year

to 88.3 million despite a lower number of overall planted acres.

Additionally, despite higher forecast demand from every sector, the report indicates that end stocks will rise dramatically to more than two billion bushels. The higher supply, again despite increased demand, would also impact the average farm price per bushel, pushing the average for the 2013-2014 crop year down to \$5.40. This would be a significant decrease from the average price the prior year of \$7.25 per bushel.

The USDA will release the "Prospective Plantings" report, a survey of farmers' planting intentions, March 29.

—Source: National Corn Growers Association

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AUTO Gunn Pointe 1927
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LH Rodemaster 338R x Avo Jo DHVD 721R
BW: 1.4 WW: 58 YW: 106 MA: 30 SC: 0.8
DC: 18 CW: 48 RE: .26 YG: .30 MS: .11 SMI: 49
Adj. BW: 73 - Adj. WW: 702 - Adj. YW: 1,139



AUTO Grand Prix 1837
9/2/11 - DBL BLK - HOMO PLD - 50% LF
S A V Bismarck 5682 x MAGS Phantoms Prize
BW: 0.3 WW: 64 YW: 112 MA: 26 DC: 2
CW: 48 RE: .19 YG: .27 MS: .10 SMI: 51
Adj. BW: 75 - Adj. WW: 745 - Adj. YW: 1,099



AUTO Grand Am 1837
9/20/11 - HOMO BLK - HOMO PLD - 50% LF
S A V Bismarck 5682 x MAGS Phantoms Prize
BW: 0.3 WW: 64 YW: 112 MA: 26 DC: 2
CW: 48 RE: .19 YG: .27 MS: .10 SMI: 51
Adj. BW: 70 - Adj. WW: 835 - Adj. YW: 1,403



AUTO Brave Heart 1837
11/23/11 - DBL BLK - HOMO PLD - 75% LF
DHVD Trey 133R x BOHI Sunset 6156S
BW: 2.8 WW: 54 YW: 91 MA: 14 SC: 0.4
DC: 14 CW: 29 RE: .23 YG: .14 MS: .20 SMI: 52
Adj. BW: 62 - Adj. WW: 821 - Adj. YW: 1,216



AUTO Alibi 1947
9/17/11 - HOMO BLK - HOMO PLD - 75% LF
DHVD Trey 133R x BOHI Sunset 6156S
BW: 2.8 WW: 54 YW: 91 MA: 14 SC: 0.4
DC: 14 CW: 29 RE: .23 YG: .14 MS: .20 SMI: 52
Adj. BW: 62 - Adj. WW: 698 - Adj. YW: 1,060



AUTO Carbon Copy 1547
9/4/11 - HOMO BLK - HOMO PLD - 38% LF
G A R Predestined x AUTO Rebeca 292S
BW: 0.7 WW: 49 YW: 101 MA: 30 SC: 0.3
DC: 10 CW: 25 RE: .15 YG: .37 MS: .51 SMI: 61
Adj. BW: 68 - Adj. WW: 788 - Adj. YW: 1,159



AUTO Blaque Roc 1807
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NUTRITION KNOW-HOW

How to Manage Spring Pastures

Patience: most beneficial grazing management tool

BY JUSTIN SEXTEN FOR CATTLEMEN'S NEWS

Early spring pasture management affects pastures for the entire growing season. Pasture management following drought is increasingly difficult due to weakened and thinning stands and increased weed pressure. This month we will consider some aspects of pasture management to consider when developing a recovery plan.

The first pasture management decision to make this season is whether or not to preserve the current stand. Some pasture areas served as late summer sacrifice pastures or were inter-seeded with annuals and as a result the stand is thin and needs renovation. If renovation is planned continue feeding winter hay supplies in these areas and house cattle in these pastures while other pastures accumulate

adequate growth prior to turnout — more on this later.

Using renovation areas as winter feeding areas allows increased nutrient deposits via hay feeding waste and manure. Remember each ton of hay has approximately 39 pounds of nitrogen, 19 pounds of phosphate and 53 pounds of potash. The key to capturing nutrient credits is even distribution. Hay unrolling proves beneficial to hay feeders for uniform nutrient distribution.

To effectively renovate infected tall fescue pastures a smother crop such as sorghum-sudan grass, pearl millet, soybeans or corn should be planted in the spring after a glyphosate application. These smother crops serve two purposes — kill infected tall fescue and suppress weeds germinating



in open pasture areas. Most smother crops can be harvested as hay, or as many in 2012 discovered, as corn silage to allow expanded grazing on permanent pastures traditionally used for hay.

After haying or grazing, plan to seed a novel infected tall fescue back onto these acres in late August or early September. The first harvest of renovated pastures the following year will ideally be as hay to allow the stand to establish. For complete information regarding fescue pasture renovation of fescue pastures consider attending the **Alliance for Grassland Renewal's Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop on March 18th at the SW Research Center or March 21st at the**

Forage System Research Center.

If complete renovation is not planned the next step is to estimate if weed control is needed. Weeds compete with grasses for sunlight and water resources so minimizing competition will increase water resources during drought stress. Pasture stands stressed by overgrazing, annual inter-seeding or high animal traffic will likely have open areas permitting weed infestation due to reduced competition. Pastures with previous weed infestation problems will likely persist due to drought. Plan now to implement weed control measures early while weeds are easily killed and competition is minimized. Legumes will be killed by weed control so consider legume and weed prevalence before implementing weed control efforts. Consider weed control on an area basis rather than entire pasture if weed problems are isolated to feeding / watering areas.

If renovation or weed control is not planned, now is the time to implement legume inter-seeding. Legumes require greater soil pH (6.2) to establish and persist. If soil fertility permits, consider establishing red or ladino clover or annual lespedeza to increase forage quality, dilute fescue toxicosis or improve yearly forage distribution. Frost seeding legumes will help fill in open areas and assist with weed suppression. Remember — if weed control is planned, delay legume seeding.

Once a pasture management plan is established, the focus should shift to grazing management. Patience will be the most beneficial spring grazing management tool. With drought stressed pastures, producers should delay turnout until adequate leaf area is present to allow active photosynthesis. Plant root reserves are used to grow initial leaf material in the spring.

Producers turning cattle onto pastures at the first hint of green will challenge an already weak plant to re-grow new leaves from minimal root reserves. Early forage is mostly water, 20% DM. Cows needing to consume 30 pounds of dry matter must consume 150 pounds of this "washy" forage to get adequate nutrients. Delaying grazing until plants accumulate 2000 pounds of dry matter per acre, 4-5 inches

CONT'D ON NEXT PAGE



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NEWS TO USE

Interpreting USDA's Latest Cattle Report

Industry wants to expand; has trouble getting it done

While the overall animal inventory was unaltered in the latest USDA cattle report, revisions to the 2012 numbers in several categories have affected interpretations of the report.

The inventory of all cattle and calves was 89.3 million head, a decrease of 1.6% from the unrevised 2012 value. The estimated inventory of beef cows on Jan. 1, 2013, was 29.3 million head, down 2.9% from year-ago levels.

Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University (OSU) Cooperative Extension livestock marketing specialist, said the estimate for Jan. 1, 2012, was increased by 275,000 head, which means

the decrease from 2011 to 2012 was not as severe as earlier indicated.

"Though the drop in beef cow numbers in 2012 was larger in percentage terms than pre-report estimates, the overall level of inventory is pretty close to what was expected," he said. "In other words, we had a bigger drop from a bigger total and ended up about where we thought we would be."

Nearly all of the revision in beef cow numbers was in Oklahoma and Texas, suggesting that cow liquidation in 2011 was not as severe as earlier estimated in the two states. By contrast, Texas lost even more

PASTURES • CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

of growth during the spring, prevents cows from losing weight due to low DM intake while allowing the plant to accumulate root carbohydrates to re-grow leaves after grazing.

Once the grazing season starts, producers should manage the grazing system to turn in at 3,500 pounds per acre, 8-10 inches, and take out at 1,500 pounds per acre, 3-4 inches. Ideally the residual or take out height is as uniform as possible the first pass through the pasture.

Once a plant is un-grazed, the cattle will preferentially graze surrounding plants each successive grazing because of maturity. Mature plants are generally mowed mid-summer to reset the pasture to a uniform "maturity level". The best way to visualize the variability in grazed pastures is by comparing re-growth from grazed pastures to hay fields.

—Justin Sexten is state extension specialist, beef nutrition, University of Missouri-Columbia. Contact him at sextenj@missouri.edu.


beef cows in 2012 — a decrease of 12% — while Oklahoma beef cow numbers dropped a modest 1.3% in 2012.

Also revised in the recent report was the estimate for beef replacement heifers. For Jan. 1, 2012, an additional 50,000 head of beef replacement heifers was added to the estimates for Nebraska and Oklahoma, resulting in a 2.4% increase in the inventory of beef replacement heifers at the beginning of 2012. This sets the estimated inventory of beef replacement heifers for Jan. 1, 2013, as a year-over-year

1.9% increase.

"Revised data for the replacement heifers indicate, more than anything else, the contrast between what the industry would like to do compared to what they are able to do," Peel said. "Though the 2012 inventory of beef replacement heifers was up, the drought and continued beef cow liquidation meant that a very low percentage of those potential replacement heifers actually entered the herd."

—Source: Angus Productions, Inc.



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On Farm Food Safety Interventions in the Beef Industry

Producers, veterinarians work to develop pre-harvest safety strategies

BY DR. DAN THOMSON & DR CHRIS REINHARDT

We are blessed to live in a country that produces the world's safest food supply. Food safety is a high priority for U.S. beef consumers. Today, food safety in the beef cattle industry encompasses three main issues: prevention of foreign bodies, drug residue avoidance, and food-borne pathogen mitigation.

The most common foreign body potential in beef production is a broken needle entering a cow or calf during injection of vaccines or drugs. Broken needles are classified as an emergency event.

Broken needles migrate very quickly and are considered an adulterant of the beef product.

A broken needle found in a beef product could cause serious repercussions for the beef industry. The most common cause of broken needles is improper animal restraint. Proper animal handling is necessary to ensure the safety of the beef product we are providing. The best way to prevent a broken needle issue in cattle is to consider a bent needle to be a broken needle. Replace bent or damaged needles immediately and always restrain animals properly when administering an injection of any kind.

As soon as you see the needle break off in the animal, you should stop everything and

attempt to locate the needle for removal. You can find the needle by firmly rubbing your hand over the injection area. If you find the needle, remove it. If you are unable to locate the needle immediately, mark and record the area where the injection was given with paint or by clipping the hair in that area. Sort the animal off by itself and contact veterinary services immediately. If veterinary services are unable to remove the needle surgically, the animal should be uniquely identified for time of slaughter. At the time of slaughter this animal should be processed by a small processor that has been made aware of the presence of a needle and where it is located to trim a large area of that meat.



Judicious use of drugs and antibiotics is a huge responsibility for beef producers and veterinarians. Therefore, the producer should maintain a documented veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR). Producers and veterinarians should work together to document a drug residue avoidance protocol. When developing these protocols the veterinarian should provide a treatment protocol, which would include clinical indications for treatment of a sick or injured animal. It is the producer's responsibility to identify animals that receive treatments and document the date of product administration. From this data, a producer can easily calculate the date on which the animal is safe to ship based on mandatory drug withdrawal times. If a producer is using a feed grade antibiotic or if feed additives are being utilized, a feed delivery record for the drugs should be easily obtained. Lastly, there should be a document on the premises that indicates that no ruminant derived proteins are being fed to cattle.

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Lastly, producers and veterinarians are asked to work towards the development of pre-harvest food safety through the mitigation of food-borne pathogens in cattle on the farm. Management practices along with new technology have been shown to decrease the number of cattle shedding E. coli or decrease the concentration of the E. coli that is being shed by the cattle. There are some vaccines and feed additives that have been found to prevent or control the shedding of E. coli in the feces of beef cattle. These products do not act as silver bullets and pre-harvest food safety management strategies need to be put in place to help control this issue. First and foremost, developing low-stress cattle handling and facility management protocols should be in effect detailing techniques for loading, unloading, and general handling to minimize shedding of pathogens. Fly and rodent control is important for controlling the spread of food-borne microbial pathogens. All producers should strive for clean, functional feed bunks and water tanks to prevent fecal-oral transmission of E. coli

within the herd. Lastly, producers should never use the same loader to move feed directly after moving manure or dead animals. Cleaning the bucket of the loader or using a different implement is appropriate to stop the spread of food-borne pathogens.

Food safety starts on the farm. Our packer partners have done a fantastic job on implementing post-harvest food safety interventions to make beef a safe product for consumers to enjoy. Programs on beef cattle farms designed to for prevention of foreign bodies, drug residues and microbiological contaminants should be developed and documented with a valid veterinary-patient relationship. Working together for improving the health and well-being of our animals to produce a safe, wholesome, nutritious beef product is the goal of everybody on the beef industry team.

—Dr. Dan Thomson and Dr. Chris Reinhardt are with The Beef Institute, Kansas State University.

Review This Checklist, Avoid Being a Victim

FROM OUR STAFF

- ✓ Place corrals and feeding areas as far from the road as possible.
- ✓ Keep gates chained and locked, and secure gate's hinges to prevent removal.
- ✓ Make daily checks of livestock, alternating time checks.
- ✓ Alternate feeding time.
- ✓ Keep corral areas lighted when animals are penned overnight.
- ✓ Make certain neighbors and law enforcement officials are notified when you're not home for a day or more.
- ✓ Do not pen animals overnight in areas accessible from a road. If unavoidable, frequently check animals.
- ✓ Take photographs of animals and maintain other records of identification.
- ✓ Branding is recommended as the best permanent identification and is an excellent theft deterrent.
- ✓ Immediately report missing animals to law enforcement agencies.
- ✓ Don't be a hero. Call your local sheriff or police department when rustling is suspected.

—Source: Eldon Cole, University of Missouri Extension Regional Livestock Specialist.

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HELPING HANDS

NRCS Program Protects Prairies Perpetually

Bill and Helen White's Lawrence county land placed in permanent easement

BY CHARLIE RAHM

There won't ever be a little house or anything else on Bill and Helen White's prairie.

The Whites worked with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to place 118 acres of native prairie near Mount Vernon in a permanent easement under NRCS' Grassland Reserve Program (GRP). In exchange for the easement, the Whites receive \$1,125 per acre and retain ownership and use of the land.

Helen White says it is a good feeling knowing that the land that has been in her family since the late 1930s will be native prairie forever.

"I always said to my dad, 'don't sell the hay field,'" she says. "Now my daughter says the same thing."

The "hay field" is actually a remnant native prairie, says Diana Sheridan, NRCS resource conservationist in

Lawrence County. Remnant native prairies feature a combination of native, warm-season grasses and native forbs.

Carol Davit, development coordinator with the Missouri Prairie Foundation, says there are only 90,000 acres of remnant native prairie still surviving in Missouri. Before settlement, one-third of the state (about 15 million acres) was native prairie.

Davit says that in addition to being aesthetically pleasing, prairies provide habitat for pollinators, build rich soil, hold water, protect streams, and effectively sequester carbon in the soil. She applauds people who take measures to protect the prairies, either on their own or through programs like GRP.

"It's wonderful when landowners can protect remaining prairie," Davit says. "Prairie is one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world, and we have it right here

in Missouri to protect for future generations."

Statewide, 15 GRP easements have been completed covering about 1,100 acres of prairies and other grassland types. Another 14 easements for about 1,900 acres are pending. NRCS estimates that about half of those acres will involve prairies.

"GRP is a good example of a program that we have available today that will provide dividends for future generations," NRCS State Conservationist J.R. Flores says. "As an agency, we share the landowners' satisfaction of knowing that what we do today

will make a difference forever."

Sheridan says she enjoys working with landowners to protect and restore prairies because all prairies have intrinsic value.

"Our native ecosystems have value that goes beyond dollars," she says.

Sheridan says knowing that the land has never been plowed makes remnant prairies even more special. She adds that remnant prairies are easy to identify.

"On a planted prairie, there's a pattern," she says. "You can just tell that it's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



PHOTO BY CHARLIE RAHM

(above) Bill and Helen White of Lawrence County placed this prairie under a permanent easement through NRCS' Grassland Reserve Program. (below) A prairie violet in bloom on the White's prairie near Mount Vernon.



PHOTO BY DIANA SHERIDAN



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¹Data on file.

Prairie • Cont'd from Page 10

planted. On a remnant native prairie, the plants have found their niche over thousands of years. There is a certain random diversity not found in planted prairies."

Helen White says she and Bill had been considering putting the prairie into GRP for several years.

"We decided to go ahead and do it because (by enrolling the land in GRP) the land stays in our family and it stays income-producing," Helen says. She adds that the income comes from selling hay and seed.

Bill White says profitability is what kept Helen's father from tilling the prairie many years ago.

"He was proud of the fact that he didn't have to spend anything on lime or fertilizer and he always had plenty of high-quality hay to feed his cattle," Bill says.

Bill adds that when he looks across the fence separating the prairie from his neighbor's fescue pasture, he feels sure that the easement is the right thing to do because it transfers with the property if it ever is sold.

"Now we can be sure that this land will always be prairie," he says.

—Charlie Rahm is public affairs officer with Natural Resources Conservation Service, Columbia, Mo.

HELPING HANDS

Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program Deadline March 15

Sign-up through local USDA/NRCS office

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announces a March 15 deadline for landowners to apply for an easement program designed to protect prime, unique and important agricultural land from conversion to nonagricultural uses.

Through its Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), NRCS works cooperatively with state and local governments and nongovernmental organizations to purchase agricultural easements on privately owned farmland or ranchland.

To qualify for FRPP, the land must be part of a farm or ranch. The site also must have more than 50 percent of its soils rated as prime farmland soils or be a site that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Other eligibility requirements include: the current market value of the land must exceed the agricultural value of the land; the site must be large enough to sustain agricultural production; the site must be adjacent to other agricultural parcels; the site must have an NRCS-approved conservation plan; and there must be a pending offer for a conservation

easement with a qualifying entity, such as a land trust.

"Many farmers and ranchers with land near urban areas would like to preserve open space, but the financial incentive of selling land for development often is too enticing," says acting state conservationist Karen Brinkman. "The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program at least gives them an option."

Brinkman says NRCS does not yet have funding for new FRPP contracts, but the agency could receive funding in the future. She says farmers and ranchers with land that might be eligible for FRPP to contact their local NRCS office. NRCS personnel in local USDA Service Centers can help prepare applications and forward them to Brinkman in the NRCS state office in Columbia by the March 15 deadline.

More information about FRPP and other NRCS programs is available on the NRCS website: <http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/> The website includes a local service center locator.

—Source: Natural Resources Conservation Service Release

At a Glance

The **Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP)** provides matching funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural uses. Working through existing programs, USDA partners with State, tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations to acquire conservation easements or other interests in land from landowners. USDA provides up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value of the conservation easement.

To qualify, farmland must be, or have:

- part of a pending offer from a State, tribe, or local farmland protection program
- be privately owned;
- a conservation plan for highly erodible land
- large enough to sustain agricultural production
- accessible to markets for what the land produces
- adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services
- surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production

—Source: www.nrcs.usda.gov



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INDICATIONS FOR USE

LONGRANGE, when administered at the recommended dose
volume of 1 mL per 110 lb (50 kg) body weight, is effective in the
treatment and control of 20 species and stages of internal and
external parasites of cattle:

Gastrointestinal Roundworms	Lungworms
<i>Cooperia oncophora</i> – Adults and L ₄	<i>Dictyocaulus viviparus</i> – Adults
<i>Cooperia punctata</i> – Adults and L ₄	
<i>Cooperia surmabada</i> – Adults and L ₄	Grubs
<i>Haemonchus placei</i> – Adults	<i>Hypoderma bovis</i>
<i>Oesophagostomum radiatum</i> – Adults	
<i>Ostertagia lyrata</i> – Adults	Mites
<i>Ostertagia ostertagi</i> – Adults, L ₄ and inhibited L ₄	<i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i> var. <i>bovis</i>
<i>Trichostrongylus axei</i> – Adults and L ₄	
<i>Trichostrongylus colubriformis</i> – Adults	

Parasites	Durations of Persistent Effectiveness
Gastrointestinal Roundworms	
<i>Cooperia oncophora</i>	100 days
<i>Cooperia punctata</i>	100 days
<i>Haemonchus placei</i>	120 days
<i>Oesophagostomum radiatum</i>	120 days
<i>Ostertagia lyrata</i>	120 days
<i>Ostertagia ostertagi</i>	120 days
<i>Trichostrongylus axei</i>	100 days
Lungworms	
<i>Dictyocaulus viviparus</i>	150 days

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

LONGRANGE™ (eprinomectin) should be given only by
subcutaneous injection in front of the shoulder at the
recommended dosage level of 1 mg eprinomectin per kg body
weight (1 mL per 110 lb body weight).

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Withdrawal Periods and Residue Warnings
Animals intended for human consumption must not
be slaughtered within 48 days of the last treatment.
This drug product is not approved for use in female
dairy cattle 20 months of age or older, including
dry dairy cows. Use in these cattle may cause drug
residues in milk and/or in calves born to these cows.
A withdrawal period has not been established for
pre-ruminating calves. Do not use in calves to be
processed for veal.

Animal Safety Warnings and Precautions

The product is likely to cause tissue damage at the site of injection,
including possible granulomas and necrosis. These reactions have
disappeared without treatment. Local tissue reaction may result in
trim loss of edible tissue at slaughter.

Observe cattle for injection site reactions. If injection site reactions
are suspected, consult your veterinarian. This product is not for
intravenous or intramuscular use. Protect product from light.
LONGRANGE™ (eprinomectin) has been developed specifically
for use in cattle only. This product should not be used in other
animal species.

When to Treat Cattle with Grubs

LONGRANGE effectively controls all stages of cattle grubs. However,
proper timing of treatment is important. For the most effective
results, cattle should be treated as soon as possible after the end of
the heel fly (warble fly) season.

Environmental Hazards

Not for use in cattle managed in feedlots or under intensive
rotational grazing because the environmental impact has not been
evaluated for these scenarios.

Other Warnings: Underdosing and/or subtherapeutic
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may encourage the development of parasite resistance. It is
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adverse reproductive effects on beef cows at all stages of breeding
or pregnancy or on their calves.

Not for use in bulls, as reproductive safety testing has not been
conducted in males intended for breeding or actively breeding. Not
for use in calves less than 3 months of age because safety testing
has not been conducted in calves less than 3 months of age.

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1050-2889-02, Rev. 05/2012

Arkansas Cattle Numbers Decline Faster than the National Trend

Drought gets the blame

From Our Staff

It's dropped now for seven years in a row. The number of beef cattle in the U.S. declined for the seventh straight year, and the rate of decline in 2012 was faster for Arkansas than the rest of the nation – a trend that could mean higher prices for that lunchtime burger.

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the U.S. beef cowherd was down 3 percent, or 862,000 to 29.3 million head on Jan. 1 of this year. Arkansas saw a 6 percent decline in 2012 from 909,000 to 851,000.

Across the United States the number of dairy cows was unchanged but the number of dairy cows in Arkansas decreased 18 percent from 11,000 in 2012 to 9,000 in 2013.

“Severe drought across the state is the primary reason for the decline in cattle numbers,” said Tom Troxel, associate head-Animal Science, for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. “Without forage to support herds and hay hard to come by, many ranchers sold off cattle they couldn't support.”

For the U.S., all cattle and calves, including dairy, numbered 89.3 million head, down 2 percent from the previous year, and the lowest cattle inventory since 1952.

“This marks the sixth consecutive year for a decline in the total cattle inventory,” Troxel said. “Over the past six years the total cattle inventory has declined by 7.3 million head. In Arkansas, all cattle and calves were down 4 percent to 1.60 million head for the same time period.”

A year of unwanted records

Unfortunately, the 2013 numbers mark many superlatives for the cattle industry. Most of them negative.

“It's the seventh year in a row for a decline in the beef cow herd and the 15th out of the last 17 years in which the U.S. beef cow herd has declined,” he said. “This is the longest consecutive decline in beef cow numbers in history.”

There were no gains in the U.S. 2012 calf crop, either.

“It is estimated at 34.3 million head, down 3 percent, from 2011,” Troxel said. “This is the smallest calf crop since 1949.”

The Arkansas 2012 calf crop was estimated at 760,000 head, which was down 5 percent from the previous year.

“The big question is how much will the 2013 calf crop be affected due to the weather of 2012?” he said. “Many believe the 2013 calf crop will be even smaller.”

It's easy to see where drought's big footprint has been: the Texas beef cow numbers decreased by 12 percent, Kansas by 8 percent, Colorado by 6 percent and Missouri decreased by 5 percent. In states where the rain came, numbers increased: Illinois and Idaho up 9 percent, North Dakota, up 7 percent, and South Dakota up 5 percent.

Nationally beef replacement heifers were up 2 percent to 5.4 million head and

the same trend was true for Arkansas, where beef replacement heifers were up 12 percent to 129,000.

Bigger burger prices

With long-term climate projections that see drought continuing, “even though the market prices are signaling to expand, most Arkansas producers are not looking to expand their beef herds but rather to maintain their current herd size,” Troxel said.

What does this mean to the consumer?

“Beef and veal prices will continue to climb in 2013,” he said. “Before retail prices will come down, supply must increase, and significant cow herd rebuilding isn't forecasted until 2015 or later.”

Right now, “this should result in good calf prices for the cow-calf producer,” Troxel said. “There should be good profits ahead for the cow-calf producers as long as they can control cost and Mother Nature cooperates.”

—Source: University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension



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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: Do not treat within 48 days of slaughter. Not for use in female dairy cattle 20 months of age or older, including dry dairy cows, or in veal calves. Post-injection site damage (e.g., granulomas, necrosis) can occur. These reactions have disappeared without treatment.



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¹ Dependent upon parasite species, as referenced in FOI summary and LONGRANGE product label.

² LONGRANGE product label.

³ Morley FH, Donald AD. Farm management and systems of helminth control. *Vet Parasitol.* 1980;6:105-134.

⁴ Brunson RV. Principles of helminth control. *Vet Parasitol.* 1980;6:185-215.

HEALTH WATCH

Lepto Hardjo-bovis Could Be Lurking in Your Cowherd

Help avoid this quiet threat with a complete reproductive vaccine program

What's hiding in your herd? On many beef operations, *Lepto hardjo-bovis* (LHB) — a primary cause of bovine leptospirosis in U.S. cow herds and a leading contributor to reproductive loss — could be quietly harming cattle and costing producers.

Cattle infected with LHB typically appear clinically normal but can shed the bacteria for months or years, putting the

entire herd at risk for poor reproductive performance, early embryonic death, delayed breeding, abortions, weak or stillborn calves and unexplained infertility. Early abortions may precede pregnancy checking and be wrongly identified, leaving producers unaware of an underlying disease problem.

"There are often no obvious clinical signs for LHB infection — only decreased fertility and early

embryonic death. This is what makes it so difficult to detect," says Rich Linhart, DVM, DACT, Cattle and Equine Technical Services, Pfizer Animal Health.

The only way to help ensure a herd, and the producer's bottom line, is protected against LHB is to utilize a complete reproductive vaccine that provides protection where it matters most — the reproductive tract. For this, producers can look to the only viral combination vaccine, BOVI-SHIELD GOLD FP® 5 VL5 HB, which helps:

- Prevent establishment of LHB in the reproductive tract.
- Provide 365 days of superior protection against *Lepto hardjo-bovis* infections in the kidneys and shedding in the urine.
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- Prevent *Campylobacter fetus* (vibriosis), parainfluenza type 3 (PI₃) virus and bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV).

No other vaccines carry the "prevention of infection" label claim for *Lepto hardjo-bovis* — the highest label claim available, Dr. Linhart adds. And, BOVI-SHIELD GOLD FP 5 VL5 HB is fully supported by a Fetal Protection Guarantee for BVD PI-free calves and IBR abortion.

"To help prevent LHB infection, the best time to vaccinate is early in the calf's life," Dr. Linhart says. "In addition to vaccinating cows, all heifers should also be vaccinated as young as possible to help prevent infection before they can pass it on to their herdmates."

Additionally, Dr. Linhart recommends annual vaccination against LHB. According to the product's label directions, once cattle receive their initial vaccination series, generally the preferred time to administer annual vaccinations is four to six weeks prior to breeding.

"It's important that producers follow all label directions and indications because vaccines can't perform as expected if the timing of these vaccinations is off," Dr. Linhart says. "Also, cattle need to be provided with proper nutrition in order for the vaccine to be most effective."

Producers should work with their veterinarian to develop a reproductive vaccine program that will provide optimal results desired for their operation.

"Input and cattle prices are at all-time highs, so producers can't afford to risk losing even one calf to this preventable disease," Dr. Linhart says. "*Lepto hardjo-bovis* can negatively impact the fertility of the herd, and therefore, producers should take every precaution to help reduce the threat — starting with a complete reproductive vaccination program." —Source: Pfizer Animal Health

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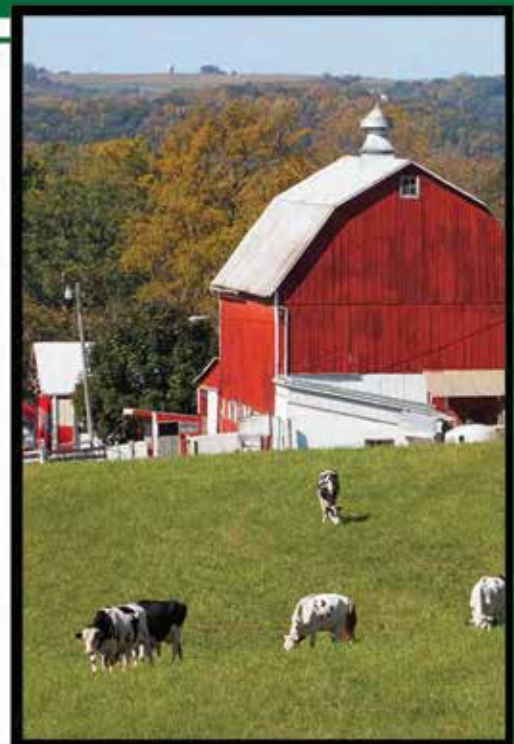
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Great facilities don't compensate for good management

BY MELISSA HUDSON, PHD

While having a great set of working pens and top-of-the-line chutes and corrals might make a rancher's life easier, unfortunately not all producers have the same facilities and set up for handling their livestock. In addition, great facilities won't compensate for good management. Fortunately, there are a few strategies that can be easily employed to make handling cattle safer, easier, and less stressful on both the animals and those who work them, no matter the facilities.

The first bit of advice is to bring cattle in with as little stress as possible, and preferably the night before. If a small pasture or holding pen isn't available for an overnight stay, bringing the herd in at least 30-60 minutes before you intend to start sorting and working them is advised. Allowing them to settle down and to acclimate to their new surroundings will make handling them easier, with fewer animals showing signs of aggression or flightiness.

The next thing is to sort calves from the cows. This will not only allow for faster processing through the chute, as the appropriate vaccinations and other processing items can be prepped and ready for each group, but it also reduces the risk of smaller calves being stepped on or squeezed as they are being moved down alleys and through chutes. In addition, processing the calves first will drastically improve the flow of cows through the alley and chute if they know they will soon be reunited with their calf. After working the calves, if possible, they should be penned or held close to the working facilities where the cows can see and hear them.

If the chute is located under a cover or in a barn and animals are being driven from the outside in, make sure that the opening is large and unimpeded by dark shadows or moving gates, chains, etc. Cattle are reluctant to walk from bright light into darker areas and will balk at shadows or unexpected movements and will often attempt to turn back, putting handlers at risk. Take advantage of natural lighting or install sufficient artificial light to make the entrance as well-lit and as inviting as possible.

Cattle will generally move better when handled in small groups. Be careful not to overcrowd pens or sorting areas. A good rule of thumb is to sort off only about half the capacity of the holding pen or ally at a



time. This allows for more natural movement by the animals and creates more space for handlers as well. Always avoid trying to move or work individual animals. The gregarious nature of cattle often means that isolated animals will attempt to return to the herd and can become more agitated and aggressive if by themselves. Often, it is safer to let the entire group circle back and then move them

all forward as a group, as opposed to trying to push one animal forward on its own.

Ultimately, our facilities and handling techniques should be based on an understanding of the animal's natural instincts and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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Biosecurity Plan Can Reduce Losses from Diseases

Work closely with veterinarian for assistance

BY DEKE ALKIRE

Infectious diseases cost cattle producers millions of dollars each year through decreased performance, treatment costs and death loss. While not all losses can be avoided, many can be prevented with a good biosecurity plan. Here are some things to consider when developing a biosecurity program for your operation.

Determine the Threat

Each group of animals will have a different level of risk. For example, a virgin bull from a reputable breeder with a complete vaccination and treatment record would pose less threat to your herd than a freshly weaned stocker calf from the sale barn. In addition, a mostly closed herd that produces its own replacements could be at a higher risk than operations that frequently introduce purchased

animals. Even healthy animals can be carriers of a disease that could affect naïve herds. Consider the economic impact of various pathogens and be sure that animals are vaccinated prior to purchase, or be prepared to manage them accordingly to minimize the impact. In any case, gather as much information as possible about the health management and vaccination history before purchasing animals, semen or embryos from an outside source. If possible, have your veterinarian contact the seller's veterinarian prior to purchase.

Prevent Commingling

Manage arrivals to prevent any fence line contact with existing animals for a minimum of 30 days. Do not use common feeding areas and water sources. Some groups may need to be separated longer, depending on

the level of risk that the animals pose to your operation and the level of risk you are comfortable with. This could be after an observation period or after negative test results for various diseases.

Bulls and replacement females from a reputable breeder may be able to go into the herd quickly. However, replacement females with questionable backgrounds should be managed as a separate herd until confirmed pregnant with their next calf. For high-risk stocker calves, it is best to manage each group separately for at least 45 days.

Limit Exposure

Pathogens can be transmitted in many ways, including vehicles, people, other livestock, pets and wildlife. Limit equipment use to prevent fecal contamination of feed and water sources. Also, plan your route to feed sick or quarantined animals last. Design facilities to minimize the exposure of healthy animals to sick ones, especially the sick pen, as well as the location of the loading and unloading area. Be aware of who you allow on your operation and where they have been, especially international visitors.

Always dispose of dead animals properly, as soon as possible. Dogs and wildlife are attracted to carcasses and can spread pathogens to healthy animals. Take precautions to prevent exposure to any bodily fluids from these animals. Thoroughly clean equipment and clothes after handling dead animals and avoid contact with other animals.

Sanitation

Keep working facilities, processing equipment and trailers clean. Remove fecal material and bodily fluids after processing or hauling cattle. Dehorers, castration knives, oral

tools and ear notchers should be disinfected and palpation gloves changed between animals. Needles should not be used on more than 10 animals and may need to be changed after each use, depending on the risk of transmission and the diseases you are managing against. Always wash your hands and clothes after processing and after exposure to sick or dead animals prior to contact with healthy livestock.

Also prevent or remove fecal contamination from feed bunks and water troughs. Drain and disinfect water troughs as needed or between animal groups.

Develop a Plan

Work with your veterinarian to develop a list of pathogens that you should monitor, test for and/or prevent, both in your existing herd and purchased animals. Outline quarantine, processing and treatment protocols that address biosecurity specific to your operation, including a vaccination program for various groups of purchased animals. Learn to identify foreign animal diseases and have a plan to report them quickly. Also understand which pathogens affect humans and the risks associated.

Consider the costs, benefits and logistics of implementing your plan. It must fit your operation to be successful. Having a biosecurity plan in place will help prevent disease transmission, protect the animals and people on your operation, and improve profitability.

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MANAGEMENT MATTERS

Give Free Fertilizer a Chance

Land application of bio-solids: check with your neighbors first

BY GEORGE PARSONS

It has been a couple of months since I've gotten an article in to Mark. I blame it on being busy as I've been trying to complete my obligations to Joplin Stockyards while working for another company looking at land application sites.

That is one reason I'd like to discuss bio-solids. I'm working in an area where the local residents are up in arms about land application of bio-solids. The allegations range from odor to over application and then to just using the area for a dumping site.

I personally believe that bio-solids are a great source of free fertilizer. The science of wastewater treatment and recycling are continually developing methods to utilize these by-products more efficiently but right now land application sure beats filling up landfills with this material. Anyone wanting to take advantage of this resource has to consider the reactions of his neighbors before agreeing to take any material.

I would highly recommend you inform your neighbors of your intentions first. I'm not saying you have to seek permission, just inform them. Ask if they're planning any big outdoor picnics. Tell them you will plow it in and complete the application. Make sure the company can get in and get the field done quickly. Neighbors get unhappy when bio-solids are continually applied for weeks, and thus dragging out their discomfort.

Make sure the company performing the land application is following all regulations. You as a landowner would have a minimum amount of liability; the liability usually stays with the company that produces the material and the company doing the land application. That doesn't mean you can turn a blind eye to operations on your property. If you knew they were taking actions that would cause pollution you could also be held

liable. Remember, in a civil lawsuit the plaintiff only has to prove 51% of the guilt.

When you are trying to take advantage of a resource like bio-solids you will probably make someone upset because, guess what, it stinks. Don't throw gas on the fire, don't try to cover it up, don't lie, don't bully your way through. If all issues on bio-solids are out in the open you may still make upset



from hoof or field all the way through any processing and all the way through the digestive tract.

—George Parsons is environmental specialist for Joplin Regional Stockyards.

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HELP STOP CATTLE THEFT

Keep Watchful Eye: Report Suspicious Activity

BY JOANN PIPKIN, EDITOR

Regardless of the county in which you live, from the coffee shops to the feed stores, the hot topic these days is cattle theft. A couple of meetings held in Lawrence and Stone Counties in recent weeks have set out to remind area cattlemen that they can take steps to help protect their stock.

"Theft is still a real thing and it affects real people," said Brad DeLay, Lawrence County sheriff at a cattle theft meeting held Feb. 7 at the University of Missouri Southwest Center in Mount Vernon, Mo.

DeLay pleaded for help from area residents as he encouraged folks to contact law enforcement if anything suspicious is seen. "Every little piece of information (is important)," he said. "It might not help us, but it might help others involved with the case."

Lawrence County detective Mike Madewell noted that theft reports are currently being compiled to determine if there is a pattern involved.

It was also announced at the meeting that Macs Vet Supply will work with cattlemen in Lawrence County to provide video surveillance cameras to those interested. A similar program was established in Greene County last summer. For a \$200 deposit, producers

can check out the camera and a sign to post on his/her property. The deposit is held until the camera is returned. Cameras are available at Macs Vet Supply in Springfield. A list of who has cameras is kept confidential. In Hurley, Mo., on Feb. 11, Mike Bracker with the Missouri Highway Patrol Rural Crimes Investigative Unit shared with farmers at the Stone County Livestock and Forage Conference tips for how to be more proactive against cattle theft. Bracker's recommendations include:

- ❖ Report suspicious activity
 - People scouting from the road
 - Watch for trespassing
 - Write it down!
 - > Get license plate numbers
 - > Record vehicle description
 - > Record direction of travel
 - > Record physical descriptions of subjects
- ❖ Know how many cows you have—and where they are
- ❖ Check cattle regularly
- ❖ Be able to identify your cattle
 - Brand
 - Tattoo
 - Ear tags



Mike Bracker
Missouri Highway Patrol



Brad DeLay
Lawrence County Sheriff

- Unique color/hair pattern
- ❖ Written Contracts vs. Verbal agreements
 - Write it down. A handshake or a man's word isn't always so any more.
- ❖ Get paid before cattle are loaded.
 - If you get paid with a check, call the bank.
 - > Confirm the check is not counterfeit
 - > Confirm it can be cashed that

day (balance is available)

> Note: This will not prevent stop check maneuvers.

Bracker also pointed out that if you do experience theft, you should check your fences and your neighbors, then call your local law enforcement agency. Be prepared to give "must have" information such as the number of cattle missing, a description of the cattle, the date the cattle were last seen and any suspicious activity surrounding the theft.

Missouri Highway Patrol Rural Crimes Investigative Unit
888-484-8477 | Fax Reports to: 573-751-9950
Email: ruralcrimes@mshp.dps.mo.gov

**FIND OUT HOW TO BRAND YOUR CATTLE
 AND GET THEFT PREVENTION TIPS ON PAGE 9 and 40.**

A standing-room-only crowd turned out on Feb. 7 at the University of Missouri Southwest Center to hear an update from area law enforcement on recent cattle thefts. Lawrence County Sheriff Brad DeLay encouraged farmers to be proactive and report any suspicious activity.

PHOTOS BY JOANN PIPKIN



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Is Beef in Danger of Becoming a 'Luxury' Item?

Forecasts show consumption may fall below 53 lbs. per capita by 2014

BY BRETT WESSLER

The cattle industry knew shrinking herd sizes and steady demand for beef would raise prices, but as the trend continues, some in the industry are worried.

Economists are wondering if beef prices will rise to the

point that consumers will see it as a luxury good and choose alternatives such as chicken, pork and fish.

USA Today reports beef prices have increased by an average of a dollar per pound since 2007 and are expected to increase by up to an additional 10 percent before this summer.

Grocers and restaurants are observing higher beef prices, and are searching for ways to maintain consumer demand. Restaurants have previously avoided passing on high food costs to customers by serving smaller portions. As prices continue higher restaurants will have to increase menu prices as well.

Mike Hoffman, meat director at Dahl's Foods supermarket in Des Moines, has adopted a similar strategy, selling higher-grade beef cuts in 12-ounce packages rather than the typical 16-ounce packs. He told USA Today he's also selling smaller, cheaper cuts for four dollars to "keep customers' taste for beef alive."

Oklahoma State Livestock Marketing Specialist Derrell Peel expects consumers to continue eating beef however, they may exchange middle meat products for cheaper options like ground beef and other value cuts. A similar pattern was observed during the recession, but the beef industry has since made a slow recovery.

Ed Greiman, president of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association, is also concerned with rising beef prices and the effect on demand and the cattle industry. "We can't let beef turn into lobster," he told USA Today.

Beef consumption in 2012 was 57.3 pounds per person, steady with the previous year but more than 8.5 pounds below 2006 levels. South Dakota State University's Darrell Mark expects beef consumption to fall as a result of smaller herds, but higher prices also play a role. Forecasts

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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show beef consumption may fall below 55.5 pounds per capita in 2013 and will likely drop under 53 pounds per capita in 2014.

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Beef Demand: What's Next on the Horizon

Increase doesn't come fast enough

BY DERRELL S. PEEL

There is understandably a lot of concern in the beef industry about beef demand in the coming months. The expected decrease in beef production in 2013 will likely represent a 3.3 percent decrease in domestic per capita supplies. The decrease could be even sharper in 2014 with consumers potentially facing another 5 percent decrease in domestic per capita beef supplies. The pressure for higher wholesale and retail beef prices will continue to grow at through 2014. The question often posed to me is "will beef be priced so high that consumers will quit buying beef?"

I don't believe there is much danger that consumers will entirely quit eating beef. Beef includes many different specific products and the question is more one of how consumers will adjust the mix of products and total expenditure on beef. One of the ongoing concerns is the slow recovery of beef demand from the 2009-2010 recession. Middle meat demand was weakened the most as consumers switched from steaks to hamburger and other value cuts. In that process, a higher percent of total carcass value was borne by the end meats, i.e. Chuck and Round portions of the carcass. In 2011 and 2012, middle meat values advanced along with end meat values, thus maintaining the relatively large contribution of end meats to total value. Though it has been very slow, beef demand has recovered from the recession. The All Fresh beef demand index provided by the Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC) shows significant recovery in the index from the 2010 lows. The 2012 annual beef demand index level is near levels not seen since 2008. The beef demand index for the fourth quarter of 2012 posted a sharp jump to the highest levels since the fourth quarter of 2007.

While beef demand is increasing, it is very likely not increasing fast enough relative to price pressure from falling beef supplies in 2013 and 2014. Retail beef prices will undoubtedly push to new record levels in the next two years. Several factors will influence exactly how those price increases will be manifest in various beef markets in the coming months. The availability

and price of pork and poultry will impact beef price increases. Both the pork and poultry industries have been resistant to production cutbacks. Production of both pork and poultry are currently forecast to be on either side of unchanged year over year in 2013. Relatively large supplies of pork and poultry will temper beef price increases to some extent.

International beef trade will also impact domestic beef markets by changing both the net available supply of beef in the U.S. but also by changing the mix of products in the U.S. market. Strong hamburger demand and higher prices in the U.S. market will likely support increased beef imports, especially from Australia and New Zealand who are major suppliers of processing beef. Beef imports from Mexico, Brazil

and Uruguay were also up in 2012. On the export side, the recent Russian ban on U.S. beef and pork could hurt 2013 exports to that market if a resolution is not found. The recent opening of the Japanese market to meat from animals up to 30 months of age will increase access to that market, certainly over time, and may provide valuable support for middle meats as it did in 2010 and 2011. However, high U.S. prices combined with recent devaluation of the Japanese Yen, which makes U.S. beef even more expensive, may temper the pace of expanded beef exports to Japan in 2013.

U.S. beef consumers will continue to adjust beef expenditures by adjusting the mix of products consumed. Consumers are likely to continue

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



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HEALTH WATCH

Stepped up Health Protocol Helps Producers Earn Profits

Management, nutrition key players in health care equation

BY JOANN PIPKIN, EDITOR

Vaccinations are important—but don't plan on them being the magical silver bullet to keeping calves healthy. Beef producers Rod and Christine Lewis say nutrition, environment and the weather all impact calf health care.

The Lewis' know firsthand the value in a rigid health care program. In December 2006, they shipped a load of cattle to a northwestern Kansas feedyard three days before a huge blizzard hit. Countless feeders died. When Rod called to check on the stock, he was only told the storm was so bad feedyard workers couldn't determine who owned the cattle that were lost.

But as it turned out, "We didn't lose one calf," Rod Lewis recalls. "That was a real deal. It convinced me we were on the right track."

The Lewis family runs about 400 head in a commercial cow-calf operation near Sarcoxie. They background at least 350 of their own calves each year, marketing them both directly to the feedlot and through the Joplin Regional Stockyards Value Added Program.

"I see the benefit (of our health program) in the price the calves bring at market," Rod notes.

At the Lewis' 4R Farms, they vaccinate calves for the first time at about three months of age for respiratory diseases and blackleg. Booster shots are given at weaning and post-weaning. "Some of the time our calves get three rounds of respiratory vaccinations," Rod says.

While vaccinations are a step in the right direction, the Lewis' realize there's more to keeping a calf healthy.

Vaccinations: Part one of the equation

Dr. Craig Payne, University of Missouri Extension beef veterinarian, says that when sickness occurs in an animal, the tendency is to focus on one thing. "The vaccine is only a small part of the equation," he says. "Only thinking about vaccines and not considering other factors is what gets vaccinated cattle sick."

Payne explains that despite improved technology and advances in veterinary medicine, the beef industry is not seeing a decrease in sickness of feedlot cattle. "The number of cattle getting treated in the feedlot really hasn't changed much since the 1950s," he says.

What has changed is that cattle today are being moved



farther than they were 50 years ago and they are more intensely managed. "The industry is different than it was and that plays a factor," Payne notes.

According to Payne, producers are doing their part to help ensure a healthy calf gets to the feedlot. The latest National Beef Quality Audit, conducted in 2011, showed that approximately 59% of cow/calf producers surveyed had attended a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) training session or had completed an online course. Of those, 98.5% follow best management practices consistent with BQA on their operation. This is important because the BQA program addresses everything from proper vaccine handling to low stress cattle handling which has an impact on health.

Still, there are a lot of unknowns about keeping

animals healthy. A survey of U.S. veterinary diagnostic laboratories suggests the proportion of respiratory-related disease in cattle caused by *Manheimia haemolytica* may actually be rising. Shipping fever, also known as bovine respiratory disease (BRD) complex, is the culprit in more than half of all cattle deaths in U.S. feedlots. It costs U.S. beef producers half a billion dollars annually, according to conservative estimates.

The Rest of the Story

At Lewis 4R Farms, nutrition and the environment are carefully monitored right along with herd health. The Lewis family ensures grain and forages for their backgrounded calves are top quality. They also practice pasture rotation when calving and group calves according to age as much as possible to help minimize comingling newborn calves with older ones.

If producers just focus on their animal health program, systematically, and don't rely on just one thing as the silver bullet, we can make some pretty good improvements, Payne says. Focusing on nutrition, deworming programs and management of the cattle—in effect, building their immunity and reducing the amount of harmful bacteria cattle are exposed to—goes a long way in protecting the health of your valuable livestock.

Rod Lewis knows vaccinations are important but he says weather, environment and nutrition also are key to keeping calves healthy.

PHOTOS BY JOANN PIPKIN



America's Farmers Are Under Siege. It's Time To Fight Back!



Who We Are: Protect The Harvest is an energetic new voice in the conflict between animal rights extremists and mainstream America. We represent farmers, ranchers, hunters and animal owners who want to preserve our traditional way of life and defend our food supply from radical animalists.

Why Now: Led by the misleadingly named "Humane Society of the United States," the modern animal rights movement is gaining momentum in their fight to end the use of animals for food, clothing, hunting and even ownership. Their strategies are more sophisticated. Their tactics are more subtle. Their message is more polished. But they still wish to impose their radical views and fringe values on all American families. It would almost be laughable...if they weren't winning.

What We're Doing:

Exposing The Animal Rights Agenda: Using cutting edge communication techniques and in-depth research, we're working to educate American leaders, consumers and voters about the growing danger of the modern animal rights movement. Too many people are sleeping on this threat, it's our job to wake them up!

Protecting Our Rights: We're working with state leaders to build lasting protections for farmers, ranchers, hunters and animal owners so that groups like HSUS can't trample on our way of life.

Fighting Back: Groups like HSUS have well-oiled campaign and litigation teams designed to overwhelm their opponents. Protect The Harvest will stand in the gap to stop these groups from imposing their will on their latest victims.

How YOU Can Help:

Get Educated: There are mountains of information available to you that detail the growing threat and effectiveness of the animal rights movement. Visit us online to start your journey of discovery. What you find will anger, frustrate and maybe even horrify you...but most of all it will motivate you to do something about this fight!

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LIVESTOCK HANDLING • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

behaviors. By knowing the flight zones, cattle can easily be encouraged to move forward, thus reducing the use of prods to sort or move animals. This will drastically reduce stress for animals and handlers. Keep in mind that the more often that cattle are handled, the gentler and more accustomed to procedures they become; however, animals that are handled frequently also have a smaller flight zone and will often require handlers to encroach further to get them to move forward. Be sure to know your animals well and know what is a safe but effective distance to maintain. Ultimately, cattle should be

able to be sorted without the use of prods or hotshots and little to no shouting on the part of handlers. Using “rattle” paddles to provide some noise to alert cattle to the handler’s presence should be sufficient. Negative reinforcement generally backfires. These animals are not dumb and they don’t forget a bad experience easily. So work to eliminate bad experiences (those that are stressful, frightening or unduly painful), so that cattle will be more at ease and can be handled more quickly and safely. —Melissa D. Hudson, PhD, is assistant professor of animal science, Missouri State University.

Older vs. Better Cows

Age may not trump herd improvement

“More longevity and fertility in the cowherd seem like a ‘no brainer.’ But when those pursuits come at the expense of uniformity or other functionality, it could pay to do some hard studying.

“The overwhelming cost and subsequent priority of cow-calf operations is related to cow maintenance and care,” says Nevil Speer, an animal scientist at Western Kentucky University. “The difference is huge between a cow that lasts until she is 10 versus 8.”

That’s why crossbreeding is the default, blanket prescription for commercial cattlemen looking to make reproductive improvements.

But South Dakota rancher Rich Blair says, “Been there, done that, and don’t want to go back.”

He and his brother Ed turned their once-straightbred Herefords into Continental crossbreds in the late 1970s and ‘80s, but gradually phased that out in the ‘90s when the family turned its focus to Angus.

“We always calved out quite a few first-calf heifers and you’d lose or cull 25% of those for one thing or another: disposition, udders, no milk, mothering ability,” he says. “Now we’re closer to 2% and we have a lot more consistency in our heifers.” He gives most of the credit to the breed association’s extensive database and the use of high-accuracy sires.

Heartland Cattle Company, near McCook, Neb., custom develops heifers for a large number of commercial Angus herds, and also sells bred heifers by forward contract. Many long-term heifer buyers say they want that hybrid vigor in black baldies, but those have been hard to come by.

Comparing the two sets of females, research and information director Janet Rippe says they’re fairly similar.



PHOTO BY JOANN PIPKIN

“Our first service conception rate is averages 71% and then after a 45-day AI season, we’ll send heifers out of here at about 91% to 92% percent pregnant,” she says. “If you get a true hybrid or an F1-cross or even just a quarter something else, those cattle are generally more fertile. But we might not see as much difference in the numbers because our long-term Angus customers have put so much selection pressure on fertility.”

All are subject to pre-breeding inspections that include pelvic measurements and reproductive tract scores, and outliers exit the program then at that point. Customers may opt to market “recommended culls” that fall out for things like disposition, too.

“What’s left should be pretty functional,” Rippe says.

Regardless of who is growing the replacements, all cattlemen have their initial priorities. According to USDA data, 62% of ranches sold cows for reasons other than just being open. Studies point to some of those reasons.

“The 2010 BEEF survey reveals that disposition, birth weight, hoof and leg soundness all ranked above weaning weight and yearling weight in terms of genetic prioritization among commercial producers,” Speer says. “In other words, time savings has more value than additional weight or production.”

Blair now relies on expected progeny differences (EPDs)

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within the breed because, he says, "I don't have time to deal with calving problems.

"Hard births cause a multitude of problems," he says. "It isn't just if that heifer had a hard time and you had to pull that calf, but now you wonder if she's going to breed back and if that calf is going to be healthy."

On the other hand, in a large herd with focused management, predictably shorter gestation periods from high-accuracy EPD bulls can allow a couple more weeks for heifers to breed back, Blair says.

Although no producer invites challenges, Speer says the issues become increasingly important as herds get larger.

"I have an additional benefit from heterosis, but if it costs me something in terms of functionality of traits, such as calving ease, I don't want to have to deal with those problems," he says. "That risk/reward becomes somewhat different when you put all of those factors in together."

Everybody seems to agree that it's a hard area to quantify.

"With fertility there are so many factors: was it weather, was it the technician, was it the bull, was it the sire line that came into it?" Rippe says, "It's pretty hard to get good enough data when you're looking at fertility."

Adding in longevity multiplies that difficulty.

"It's a lot more complex than just reproduction," Speer says. "Why else did she leave the herd? A bad eye, a structural soundness problem, disposition or all those other things you can readily select for?"

Those who are making steady progress in any number of traits may not place as much importance on longevity because of the reduced opportunity to make genetic change.

Blair remembers a particular bull they used a decade ago with a then-impressive Angus EPD of .4 for intramuscular fat (IMF). "That was really out there in 2000, and one of the big reasons I used him was for that number," he says. "Now you can find hundreds of bulls that are .4 IMF." In fact, that's about breed average today.

Longevity in outstanding individuals helps a program but across the herd, it may not be the highest calling. "If you're not turning that cowherd over, it's really hard to get much genetic improvement in your calves," Blair says.

The Blairs have been using all Angus since feedlot performance data showed them the top end of those calves kept up with the top end of their Charolais calves. Figuring in maternal traits and labor savings, it was starting to look like another kind of "no brainer." The deal clincher showed up when calves sold on the grid and they saw more than a \$200 spread in value.

"That was too much money to be giving away, so we wanted to move the bottom end up," he says.

Some Blair loads have hit 50% Prime, selling for \$200 above average Kansas price for the U.S. Premium Beef grid for the week.

"Everybody looks for the silver bullet, the quick fix, with no time for a long-range plan," Blair suggests. "If that's your attitude then heterosis is the quick way to get there. But if you really want to build something sustainable over a long period of time, you can find the data within one breed and design the cow to be exactly what you want her to be."

—Source: Angus Productions release

**BEEF DEMAND
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21**

adjusting the frequency and quantity of consumption of expensive middle meats. This process is being aided by increasing indications that some restaurants are reducing portion sizes in an attempt to reduce product cost and thus maintain margins with fewer menu price increases. There is concern that beef demand, especially steak demand, is becoming more of a "special occasion" meal rather than a regular part of beef consumption. Though this seems to be part of the consumer

response since the recession it is not clear whether consumer preferences have changed permanently. One thing is very clear; with steaks carrying a premium price the next two years or more, it is imperative that the beef industry do everything possible to ensure premium quality as well. Beef does not have to be the cheapest meat but it does need to provide the best value relative to price in order to preserve beef demand at record price levels. —Derrell S. Peel is Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist



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HEALTH WATCH

Colostrum is Key to Preventing Calf Scours

Multiple factors affect colostrum quality

BY DONA GOEDE

Ensuring that calves receive adequate high quality colostrum containing antibodies within two to four hours of birth is the key to preventing scours. There are a number of factors that influence the quantity and quality of colostrum the calf receives from the dam. These include age of the dam, pre-calving nutrition, pre-calving vaccination, calving difficulty and calf vigor.

Research indicates that adequate pre-calving nutrition is an important ingredient in ensuring calf survival. In 1975, a study showed that pregnant cows that were fed 70 percent of their calculated energy requirements over the last 90 days of pregnancy produced calves more likely to become sick or die.

To ensure delivery of a healthy calf, it is important to meet a pregnant cow's nutrient requirements. This maximizes the calf's chances of resisting environmental stress and disease.

First calf heifers have different nutrient requirements than older cows and tend to get less feed when fed with the herd.

It is recommended to sort 2-year-olds from older cows.

Body condition scoring is an excellent tool for ensuring that nutrient requirements are met for all cows. Those on the low side can be separated from the herd to ensure they receive better or more feed before calving. Targeting cows for a medium body condition score of 5.0 and first-calf heifers for an even higher score of 5.5 to 6.0 at calving is important. (The scale runs from 1 to 10, thin to fat.)

A number of vaccines on the market are designed to protect the calf through colostrum immunity after vaccination of the pregnant cow. The use of these vaccines should be based on herd history, disease risk, vaccine cost, and cattle accessibility. Typically, producers become interested in vaccinating against any disease after experiencing a problem with that disease.

Minimizing calving difficulty through adequate heifer development and female and bull selection can also decrease the incidence of calf scours. This may sound like a far-fetched means of scours prevention, but dystocia reduces vigor of both cow and calf and slows the time between birth and the calf's first nursing.

Plan to calve in the driest, most protected area possible, to reduce stress of both the dam and her newborn. Calves can stand a lot of cold if they are dry and out of the wind. More space is preferable to less, mainly because the disease is so highly contagious. The smaller the calving area, the easier it is to spread.

Consider moving the pairs to a different pasture periodically as they calve during the calving season.

Place first calf heifers in a group together since their calves' immunity levels are generally lower than those of mature cows.

If an outbreak occurs, act quickly because scours organisms are highly contagious and spread rapidly through contact and even inhalation. Isolate affected calves immediately and do not expose healthy calves. Your veterinarian may want a sampling of the stool of a sick calf to culture and identify the causative organism.

Dehydration is usually the most immediate concern with scours. Your veterinarian will surely outline a fluid therapy to be used. All products and tools should be on hand well in advance of the calving season.

Prevention is the key to dealing with calf scours but cases will occur. Producers should plan ahead and act quickly to limit the number of calf scours incidences

—Dona Goede is regional livestock specialist with University of Missouri Extension. Reprinted with permission from University of Missouri Extension Ag News and Views.

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CORNERS COUNT

Builders tell you the corners are the most important part of a fence

BY JOANN PIPKIN, EDITOR

What's the most important thing to know when building a fence?

Without missing a beat, Jason Pendleton says to make sure you have strong corners. "That's the most important part of a fence," he reiterates.

The Stotts City cattleman has been building fence for others for about eight years and recommends installing corners this way: 2, 5 1/2" pipes, driven into the ground and set 8 feet apart with a 2 3/8" pipe in between.

Jasper County's Matt Bales agrees. "The bigger the better," he says, adding, "The deeper you set pipe in (the ground) the more sturdy it is."

Bales, who built fence for a living before purchasing



Matt Bales
Superior Steel

Comparison of Fence Costs

Type	Cost Index*	Approx. Life (Years)	Upkeep
Wood	200	10-20	Medium
PVC/Vinyl	500-600	20	Low
Barbed Wire	35	33	Medium
Woven Wire	75	33	Medium
Steel Pipe	400-500	35-40	Low
Hi-Tensile of Perm. Electric	20	25	Medium
Temporary Electric	7-11	5-20	High

* Cost index figures show relative cost for materials only, not actual costs.

— Source: Bob Schultheis, University of Missouri Extension

Superior Steel at Carthage about four years ago, also says the corner pipe is the foundation of your fence. "So the deeper you set that pipe, the more stable the fence will be."

It is most common to set the corner pipe in the ground about 3-4 feet deep, Bales says.

Now that you know the corner will set the foundation for your whole fence, it's also key to remember other factors before you head to the field to set posts and tie wire. Bob Schultheis, University of Missouri resource engineering specialist, encourages you to ponder these questions, too, before you start your project:

- 1. Where will the fence be located?** If your fence is a division between neighbors, be sure to follow the Missouri Fencing and Boundary

Laws (<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/G810>).

- 2. What's the purpose for which the fence will be used?**

Livestock protection and confinement are the main reasons for considering fencing, Schultheis says. But the fencing needs vary depending on the type of livestock, age and breed, and type of grazing management system. Fencing types vary from physical barriers such as woven wire and board fences to psychological barriers such as electrified poly wire or tape. High tensile electric fences are a combination of both barrier types. Fencing can be minimal for docile

cattle trained to respect an electric fence.

- 3. How much fencing can I afford, and how big an area needs to be fenced?** Fencing material costs are highly variable depending upon material types, the post spacing, the size, shape and terrain of pastures and associated paddocks, and the use of permanent versus portable or temporary fencing. Schultheis also says labor costs vary depending upon fencing type and pasture terrain. Both Bales and Pendleton say a quarter mile of fence could cost as much as \$1500 to \$2000, depending of course on type and terrain. You might expect

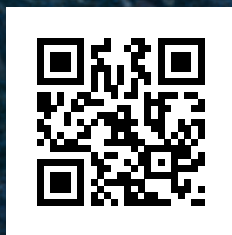
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FENCE CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

materials to average \$700-1000 plus that same amount in labor to construct the fence.



**JASON PENDLETON
FENCE BUILDER, STOTTS CITY**

4. **How will I maintain the fence?** Look at the initial cost versus the upkeep cost over its lifetime, Schultheis says. Pendleton adds that you should look at the fence as an investment. He prefers 5 or 6-strand barbed wire fences, noting that the maintenance is over after you first install that type of fence.

5. **How durable do I want my fence to be?** Consider how well the fence will stand up to abuse from animals and the weather. Bales notes that a lot of his customers inquire about continuous fence. While he prefers to use sucker rod and regular 2 3/8" pipe for the top rail because this makes a sturdier fence and also flows with the lay of the land, he realizes that's definitely more expensive to build.

When it comes to fencing materials, Schultheis notes that there are many choices, but barbed wire, high-tensile and wood are the most common. He offers some suggestions:

Wood is good for all livestock and working areas, is visually attractive and strong, but labor-intensive to install and needs regular maintenance. Posts are typically 8 ft. on center, with four 1"x6" boards attached.

PVC/vinyl is attractive and low maintenance, but has a high installation cost at about \$10 or more per foot. It might also not resist aggressive livestock, Schultheis notes.

Barbed wire is good, Schultheis says, for along roads and along property lines. A minimum of 4 wires is needed,



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ZOETIS AT A GLANCE

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but he recommends 5. You can use standard barbed wire or high-tensile. It's relatively inexpensive and relatively easy to install. Barbed wire is not recommended for working lots or horses, and needs good corners and braces.

Woven wire is harder to install, higher cost, needs good corners and braces and is good for working lots, Schultheis says.

Steel pipe fences are usually made with 3"-4" diameter posts and 3"-3" rails. They are strong, safe, durable, low maintenance, good for paddock fencing and can be expensive to build.

Regardless of the type of fence you install, there are plenty of considerations to be made ahead of time. Develop a plan and know what you can afford. After all, as Pendleton says, "If you do it once and do it right, (the fence) will last a long time."

TIP

Fence builder Jason Pendleton suggests installing the hinge of a gate at an angle so the gate can be tied back against the fence, preventing wear and tear on both the gate and fence.

Photo by Joann Pipkin



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PASTURE PROFITS

Alfalfa Delivers Consistency Year-in, Year-Out

Remember this high quality, protein forage

BY JOANN PIPKIN, EDITOR

While it might seem the past couple of years turnips and ryegrass have gotten all the glory when it comes to forage crops, don't turn your head on one consistent, high-quality forage — alfalfa.

"In this part of Missouri alfalfa hay or pasture complements fescue extremely well," explains Eldon Cole, livestock specialist with University of Missouri Extension.

Alfalfa is often called the queen of forages because of its high quality. For example, the 16 alfalfa entries in the 2012 Ozark Empire Fair Hay Show had an average crude protein level of 20.3 percent. The total digestible nutrients (TDN) value was 66.9 percent and the relative feed value (RFV) was 182.

"This high quality aids beef producers, both cow/calf and stocker programs," notes Cole.

Alfalfa is not adapted to all soil types, though. It does well on well-drained soils but you should avoid planting it on clay or hard pan soils.

"Alfalfa does require a high, near neutral pH so soil test and apply adequate limestone if you decide to plant it," says Cole. "Fertility must be watched annually since removing five or so tons of hay or haylage on a dry basis can deplete fertility levels.

And, alfalfa requires excellent management for insect and weed control. "Cole says if you don't like to bale hay several times a summer, alfalfa may not be for you.

To reap the highest dollar value alfalfa forage, many are turning to small rectangular

bales along with balage. It is not designed to be stored outside in big rounds. Barn storage or plastic helps preserve the high quality feed.

"Some argue that alfalfa is too valuable to feed to beef cows," says Cole. "That may be true if a producer overfeeds it. But for adult cows, five to eight pounds per day or twice that much every other day, supplements a cow nicely."

Alfalfa is also extremely good as a part of a stocker cattle ration. It can be used as a

creep feed for calves effectively. Cole suggests you keep in mind that the pounds you put on a calf are pretty valuable today compared to past years.

He concludes, "When you develop a pro and con list for your farm, maybe there are better options than alfalfa but at least consider it. Not every farm needs to grow alfalfa but some farmers in southwest Missouri need to rethink the merits of it as a cash crop and livestock feed."

10 Tips for Successful Alfalfa Establishment

- 1. Decide if you are up to the challenge.** Raising quality alfalfa is both time consuming and expensive but the return can be rewarding.
- 2. Select a site suitable for alfalfa.** Producers in the Ozarks should seek at least five years of consistently good yields from stands they establish. To reach this goal, it should be established on well-drained fertile soils.
- 3. Apply fertilizer and lime based on soil test recommendations.** Alfalfa is a heavy user of plant nutrients, particularly potash. The soil should have a pH in the field of 6.5-7.0 and high phosphorus and potassium levels at the time of alfalfa establishment.
- 4. Seed alfalfa at optimum times of the year.** Traditionally the late summer has been the ideal time to establish alfalfa. The best time for late summer seedlings is late August through early September. The best time to plant alfalfa in the spring is mid-March to mid-April.
- 5. Choose the right seeding method, rate and seed depth for your conditions.** No-till alfalfa has gained considerable interest in the Ozarks. But, regardless of planting method, the seed should be planted no deeper than 1/4" deep. Plant about 15 lbs. of inoculated seed per acre if seeking a pure stand.
- 6. Kill the existing vegetation prior to no-tilling seed.** Competition must be eliminated prior to no-till establishment.
- 7. Use an insecticide for fall alfalfa no-till establishment.** Fall establishment into killed residue usually risks seedling damage from crickets.
- 8. Use proven inoculated seed.** Ask local producers and extension staff about varieties that have worked well in the area. Roundup Ready alfalfa is tolerant to glyphosate applications. There is a \$2.50 per pound technology fee. This may be a good option for high-managed stands.
- 9. Control early weed infestations.** Perennial and biennial weeds will persist in stands if not controlled before establishment. Weeds growing during the first 60 days are the most destructive.
- 10. Make sure you have an acceptable stand.** The plant population will be as good as it will ever get during the first season. At four weeks after planting a stand count of 25-30 seedlings per square foot is considered a good stand.

—Source: Tim Schnakenberg, University of Missouri Extension Agronomy Specialist



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PASTURE PROFITS

Plenty of Variables When Rebuilding Forage Base

Pasture rationing essential during drought

From Our Staff

If you are like many other four-state area landowners, you are wondering how you're ever going to get pastures back in shape after two years of drought.

"There are two responses to have toward a drought: short term and long term," said Jill Scheidt, agronomy specialist with the

University of Missouri Extension in Barton County.

A short-term response refers emergency crops to plant to address a drought now. This spring, short-term planting options as an emergency crop include spring oats, cereal rye or turnips.

Long-term response options for drought are available in plantings like: over-seeding clover

or lespedeza; thickening a forage stand in the spring; planting annual Sudan or millet in May; partially converting to a warm season grass pasture; controlled grazing; and meeting fertility needs.

"To get back on track with a forage program a forage base needs to be established for the next season. If starting from a strong fescue base, 40 to 60 lbs. /ac of nitrogen needs to be applied in the fall and clover no-tilled into the ground no later than September 1," said Scheidt.

Another option is frost-seeding clover or lespedeza from December to February.

"If starting from a weak fescue base, frost seeding clover or lespedeza is still a good option," said Scheidt. "Clover and legume stands suffer in a drought, so it is imperative to rebuild a lost stand."

SEVERE INJURY

If the drought severely injured a fescue field infested with toxic endophyte, then the drought gives producers a chance convert fields over to Novel endophyte fescues.

"Converting fields to Novel endophyte fescue is the best option if a pasture is injured beyond repair," said Scheidt.

Legumes are an excellent addition to a pasture. Not only do legumes fix nitrogen, but they also provide additional benefits like: increase animal gain by 100 lbs. /ac; increase daily gains 0.1-1.0 lbs.; increase cow conception rates by 15-25 percent; increase forage quality; lower endophyte toxicity; and even out feed supply.

Another way to get better usage of a pasture is adding warm season grasses to the mix. Converting 10-30 percent of the pasture to warm season grasses such as Bermuda, Caucasian bluestem, or native warm season grasses provides pastures

with lush, growing grass during months when fescue growth begins to decline.

BEST TO NO-TILL

According to Scheidt, it is best to no-till grass seeds into an existing sod.

"No-tilling is the best option because it maintains the original sod, conserves moisture, provides competition to weeds and protects against erosion better than conventional tillage. One downside to no-till is the risk of not controlling planting depth," said Scheidt.

Grass seedlings need to be planted no more than 1/8-1/4 inch deep. If the drill does not provide good depth control, broadcasting is a more successful option.

HERBICIDE USE

Removal of competitive weeds is important when re-establishing a pasture. Just be sure to always read the herbicide label to determine when seedlings can safely be planted after an application.

A bio essay is a great way to test whether herbicide residue is still in the soil. A bio essay is performed by taking 5-8 samples of soil and planting seeds into those samples. If grasses emerge in 7-14 days, it is safe to plant; if not, wait a while then do another bio essay trial.

Pasture rationing is also essential in a drought. The more often livestock are rotated, the more recovery time grass has in between grazing periods.

"Different types of rotational grazing are available. No one pasture is the same; trial and error is the best way to determine how often to move fences or switch paddocks for optimum grass usage in your pasture," said Scheidt. —Source: University of Missouri Cooperative Media Group

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INDICATIONS

ZACTRAN is indicated for the treatment of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica*, *Pasteurella multocida*, *Histophilus somni* and *Mycoplasma bovis* in beef and non-lactating dairy cattle. ZACTRAN is also indicated for the control of respiratory disease in beef and non-lactating dairy cattle at high risk of developing BRD associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica* and *Pasteurella multocida*.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

As with all drugs, the use of ZACTRAN is contraindicated in animals previously found to be hypersensitive to this drug.

WARNING: FOR USE IN CATTLE ONLY. NOT FOR USE IN HUMANS. KEEP THIS AND ALL DRUGS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. NOT FOR USE IN CHICKENS OR TURKEYS.

The material safety data sheet (MSDS) contains more detailed occupational safety information. To report adverse effects, obtain an MSDS or for assistance, contact Merial at 1-888-637-4251.

RESIDUE WARNINGS: Do not treat cattle within 35 days of slaughter. Because a discard time in milk has not been established, do not use in female dairy cattle 20 months of age or older. A withdrawal period has not been established for this product in pre-ruminating calves. Do not use in calves to be processed for veal.

PRECAUTIONS

The effects of ZACTRAN on bovine reproductive performance, pregnancy, and lactation have not been determined. Subcutaneous injection of ZACTRAN may cause a transient local tissue reaction in some cattle that may result in trim loss of edible tissues at slaughter.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Transient animal discomfort and mild to moderate injection site swelling may be seen in cattle treated with ZACTRAN.

EFFECTIVENESS

The effectiveness of ZACTRAN for the treatment of BRD associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica*, *Pasteurella multocida* and *Histophilus somni* was demonstrated in a field study conducted at four geographic locations in the United States. A total of 497 cattle exhibiting clinical signs of BRD were enrolled in the study. Cattle were administered ZACTRAN (6 mg/kg BW) or an equivalent volume of sterile saline as a subcutaneous injection once on Day 0. Cattle were observed daily for clinical signs of BRD and were evaluated for clinical success on Day 10. The percentage of successes in cattle treated with ZACTRAN (58%) was statistically significantly higher ($p < 0.05$) than the percentage of successes in the cattle treated with saline (19%).

The effectiveness of ZACTRAN for the treatment of BRD associated with *M. bovis* was demonstrated independently at two U.S. study sites. A total of 502 cattle exhibiting clinical signs of BRD were enrolled in the studies. Cattle were administered ZACTRAN (6 mg/kg BW) or an equivalent volume of sterile saline as a subcutaneous injection once on Day 0. At each site, the percentage of successes in cattle treated with ZACTRAN on Day 10 was statistically significantly higher than the percentage of successes in the cattle treated with saline (74.4% vs. 24% [$p < 0.001$], and 67.4% vs. 46.2% [$p = 0.002$]). In addition, in the group of calves treated with gamithromycin that were confirmed positive for *M. bovis* (pre-treatment nasopharyngeal swabs), there were more calves at each site (45 of 57 calves, and 5 of 6 calves) classified as successes than as failures.

The effectiveness of ZACTRAN for the control of respiratory disease in cattle at high risk of developing BRD associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica* and *Pasteurella multocida* was demonstrated in two independent studies conducted in the United States. A total of 467 crossbred beef cattle at high risk of developing BRD were enrolled in the study. ZACTRAN (6 mg/kg BW) or an equivalent volume of sterile saline was administered as a single subcutaneous injection within one day after arrival. Cattle were observed daily for clinical signs of BRD and were evaluated for clinical success on Day 10 post-treatment. In each of the two studies, the percentage of successes in the cattle treated with ZACTRAN (86% and 78%) was statistically significantly higher ($p = 0.0019$ and $p = 0.0016$) than the percentage of successes in the cattle treated with saline (36% and 58%).

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Turnips: A Life-saver Forage

Producer panel shares first-hand forage experiences

BY JOANN PIPKIN, EDITOR

Two consecutive years of drought had livestock producers scrambling for forage last fall. Like many others in the area, Stone County farmers Kenneth Essary and Bo Chastain turned to turnips to help fill in the gaps.



Chastain, Essary and Kenneth Bowling were part of a producer panel during the Stone County Livestock and Forage Conference held Feb. 11 in Hurley. Chastain said that he started planting them five or six years ago when he was looking for a crop that could be planted in

the fall after corn.

Chastain says he added purple top turnips to a rye and wheat. "The turnips have really been a life-saver this year," Chastain said. "We were so low on forage anyway following the drought. We chopped our corn. Then put in a grazeable sudan and followed in the fall with wheat and turnips."

Essary has had similar experiences with turnips, planting them in the fall in dry years.



"We lost a lot of fescue and orchardgrass in our pastures," Essary explained.

"We've also put fescue or Marshall rye in with the turnips the last couple of years to help re-seed pastures."

Essary turned to aerial application this past year and reported good success rate in doing so. While more expensive than other application methods, Essary had recently cleared some land and with its rugged terrain, the aerial application was the way to go. "With the high price of hay and lack of availability the year, the application was well worth it," Essary said.

Chastain, who backgrounds cattle and has a small cow/calf operation, typically will begin grazing the turnips the end of November. And with an open winter, he said the forage could still be grazed into February.

"The cattle prefer the tops," Chastain noted, "but they will eat the bulbs and do like them once they start grazing them."

Bowling, who farms and does custom silage harvesting, baleage and forage wrapping, told the group that timing of harvest is the key to any forage crop.

Baleage can be done in a matter of

hours if the humidity and temperature is right, Bowling said.

"Baleage is easier to feed than traditional silage," Bowling said. "You do need to plan ahead of time. You don't want to cut it and then three days later decide you can't get the crop dry enough and tube it then. You should have the plan lined out before you cut the crop."

Bowling noted that turnips harvested in baleage can be done, but another crop to go with it is necessary to balance out the high moisture content of the turnips.

One question Bowling fielded from the audience focused on fescue as baleage. "It makes good baleage if you cut it early," he said. "Don't wait until June 15 to cut it."

Bowling went on to note that fescue in baleage is as good a crop coming out as it is going in. "It needs to be harvested at the boot stage."



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¹ Sifferman RL, Wolff WA, Holste JE, et al. Field efficacy evaluation of gamithromycin for treatment of bovine respiratory disease in cattle at feedlots. *Intern J Appl Res Vet Med*. 2011;9(2):171-180.

² ZACTRAN product label.

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PASTURE PROFITS

Timing Key for Nitrogen Application on Winter Wheat Be careful not to apply too early

FROM OUR STAFF

As winter wheat pastures green up, producers need to consider fertilizer management options. A University of Missouri Extension nutrient management specialist says proper timing of fertilizer application is important.

"Producers need to be thinking about how to deliver nitrogen to that crop in April and early May when it is taking up nitrogen like gangbusters," said Peter Scharf. "The key issue is the earlier you apply it, the more risk that it won't be there in April and May."

February is when a lot of producers top dress, but that might not be the ideal time. "In our research, March is a considerably better time," said

Scharf, who is also a professor of plant science in MU's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

In 17 tests comparing nitrogen application in February versus March, the March application averaged seven more bushels of wheat yield per acre. March beats January by 20 bushels, so even though it helps logistics to apply earlier, Scharf says it probably hurts in terms of delivering that fertilizer to the wheat crop.

However, if there is a very thin stand coming out of the winter, Scharf recommends that producers get out soon and apply fertilizer to stimulate new tillers.

"Each plant should have the main stem that was the first

leaf coming up, but it should also have at least two good tillers on it," he said. "Those are side shoots that come off to the side of the plant, and they will form heads that will have grain on them. They are a very important part of the total grain production. If there are not enough of them, grain production will be substantially limited."

Tiller formation has ended by the middle of March. Nitrogen applied between mid-February and March 1 will stimulate the formation of new tillers.

While nitrogen supports rapid shoot growth and grain fill as well as new tillers in the spring, applying phosphorus in the spring has little effect on yield, Scharf said. Although wheat is the most phosphorus-demanding grain, phosphorus is needed in fall application.

—Source: University of Missouri Cooperative Media Group

HEALTH WATCH

Stop BVD: Test Kits Available NCBA launches BVD surveillance program

BY JOHN MADAY

Bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) remains one of the costliest of cattle diseases, and a persistently infected (PI) animal can cause devastating losses at any production stage. To address the problem at a national level, National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) has teamed with Animal Profiling International, launching a BVD surveillance program during the Cattle Industry Convention in Tampa. The

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A PI calf can occur when a cow is exposed to the BVD virus between days 45 and 125 of gestation. Exposure to a PI calf can cause annual losses from \$15 to \$25 per cow in a cow-calf herd and between \$42 and \$93 per head in a feedyard.

certified as BVD PI-free earned significant premiums in Superior's sales. Those premiums averaged \$2.42 per hundredweight.

For more information on how to obtain test kits through the program and how to collect and submit samples, visit NCBA's BVD surveillance website.

For additional BVD resources and detailed information on BVD control and eradication, visit BVDinfo.org

—Reprinted with permission from *DroversCattleNetwork.com*. John Maday is managing editor, *Drovers*

identify where those calves originate.

Patterson notes that testing can add value to calves marketed for feeding and heifers sold as replacements, as it reduces the buyer's risk. According to recent data from Superior Livestock Auction, 2012 was the first year calves

program offers BVD testing at a reduced rate of \$2.25 per head for NCBA members with no minimum.

A PI calf can occur when a gestating cow is exposed to the BVD virus during the period between 40 to 125 days of gestation. The virus is transferred to the fetus, and if the calf is born alive, it can survive as a PI calf, constantly shedding the virus and infecting other cattle for as long as it lives. Exposure to a PI calf can cause annual losses from \$15 to \$25 per cow in a cow-calf herd and between \$42 and \$93 per head in a feedyard.

In addition to the special price of \$2.25 per head for testing, participants have access to telephone and e-mail support from a BVD expert at no extra cost, along with control and surveillance education.

Testing results from participants in the program will be used to create a national surveillance system, but individual results are confidential and will not be shared with NCBA. John Patterson, PhD, who manages the program as NCBA's executive director of producer education, says NCBA will track information on a state-by-state basis, but individual results will remain between producers and their veterinarian. Ultimately the group plans to use geographic data to identify hotspots to target for additional testing and education. Control begins at the cow-calf operation, where PI calves are created, but surveillance of disease incidence at feedyards can help

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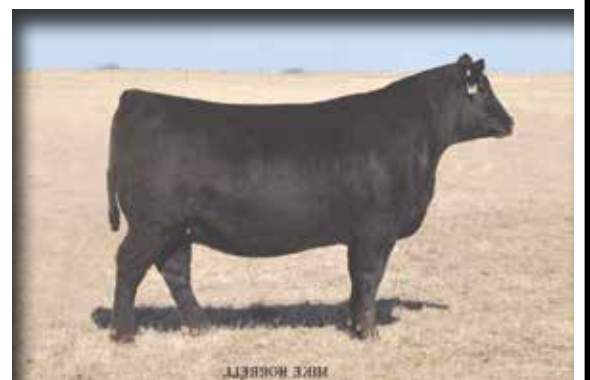
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PASTURE PROFITS

No Second Chances for Weeds

Resist the urge to tolerate weeds in your pastures after drought

BY LAURA WOLF FOR CATTLEMEN'S NEWS

You may be more willing to tolerate the presence of weeds in your pastures this spring following two consecutive years of drought, but that doesn't mean you should.

Tim Schnakenberg, an agronomy specialist with the University of Missouri Extension, told farmers at the Feb. 11 Stone County Livestock and Forage Conference in Hurley, that early and well-planned treatment will help avoid more serious weed control issues in future years.

Cattlemen bought and fed more hay from new sources this year because of the drought, so the risk of new weed problems

introduced by hay bales is higher than average. In southwest Missouri, hay can bring in pigweed, Johnsongrass and other weed problems.

Besides weeds introduced by fed hay, mowing and clipping forage on pasture ground has the potential to distribute existing patches of weed seeds throughout a much larger area. Schnakenberg suggests mowing early, before

weeds go to seed, and screening sources of hay and the hay bales themselves for weeds.

"If you have an invasive weed problem, you've got to deal with that," Schnakenberg said. It may be tempting this year to put up with a few weeds to keep clover and avoid stunting forage growth, but an invasive weed can affect a pasture for seven years or more, he said.

Restrictions for some common pasture weed and brush herbicides.

Herbicide	Grazing and Haying Restrictions Following Application (Days)				
	Beef		Lactating Dairy		Removal of meat animals before slaughter
	Grazing	Haying	Grazing	Haying	
2,4-D amine or ester*	0	0	7	30	3
Banvel/Clarity					
up to 1 pt/ac	0	0	7	37	30
up to 2 pt/ac	0	0	21	51	30
up to 4 pt/ac	0	0	40	70	30
Chaparral	0	0	0	0	
Cimarron (0.1-0.2 oz)	0	0	0	0	0
Cimarron Max (Rate 1)	0	0	7	37	30
Crossbow*	none	14	<2 gal-14	next season	
GrazonNext		7		7	
Glyphosate*					
renovation	56	56	56	56	0
spot application	14	14	14	14	0
Grazon P+D*	0	30	7	30	3
Tordon 22K*	0	>1 qt-14	14	14	3
Milestone	0	0	0	0	
PastureGard	0	14	next season	14	3
Remedy Ultra*	0	14	next season	14	3
Spike (spot treatment)	0	1 year	0	1 year	0
Surmount	0	7	14	14	3
Weedmaster	0	37	7	37	30

The label is the final word on all restrictions. Verify all information with the label on your container.

* A variety of trade names exist. Check product labels for specific restrictions.

Source: University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Local Extension Councils



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Weeds and Treatment Options

Thistles are invasive and are one weed that creates a prolonged problem and gets worse the longer they go untreated. Thistles and seeds can live in dormancy for five to seven years. Luckily, the weed itself lives in the rosette stage, which is the easiest to treat, for 70-80% of its lifespan. Seed disperses 7-10 days after blooming, so any clipping should be done before seeds disperse, ideally within two days after the terminal flower head blooms. However, thistles bloom over a 7-9 week period, so multiple mowings would be necessary to control thistles mechanically. Herbicide options exist, but need to be applied after several days of continuous warm weather so that the plants are growing and therefore taking up nutrients, water and applied herbicides through the taproots.

“A plant’s got to be happy to knock it out,” Schnakenberg said.

Flower head weevils will eat thistles and take care of part of the problem, but supplemental treatment methods are recommended. Herbicide application is least harmful to flower head weevils in July.

Velpar is the best treatment but can be cost-prohibitive at around \$25 per acre.

Buckhorn plantain is a cool-season broadleaf perennial that reproduces by seeds and roots and can dominate pastures. Chemical control such as 2,4-D ester or Grazon P+D can be applied in the fall or early spring at a rate of one quart per acre to combat buckhorn plantain.

Spotted knapweed is a perennial with herbicidal control options such as Milestone (5-7 oz/A), Tordon 22K (1 pt/A) and Grazon Next. Chemical control methods are ideally employed in the rosette to bud stage, before the weed reaches 12 inches in height. Biological control options include the release of flowerhead and rosette weevils.

Poison Hemlock cannot be controlled by application of 2,4-D. Control options include Tordon, Cimmaron, Remedy, Chaparral, and Grazon P+D. Tordon 22K at a rate of one pint per acre or Grazon at a rate of 1 quart per acre controls the weed effectively if applied before it bolts in the early spring. Some control can be achieved by the same treatment in the plant’s rosette stage in the fall.

An invasive species prevalent in Missouri, the base of the Johnsongrass stem contains high levels of Prussic acid in a mature plant, which can cause nitrogen toxicity for livestock animals. Johnsongrass is in the sorghum family.

Johnsongrass can be controlled by mowing and grazing to stunt rhizome development. Few herbicidal options exist to combat johnsongrass. Outrider, Panoramic and Pastora are effective chemical control methods. Outrider is the most effective, but users should expect stunted growth of forage according to Schnakenberg. Pastora is intended for native warm-season grasses, and may not be as effective in other applications. Spot treatment, renovation and rotation can also aid in the control of Johnsongrass. Since good controls exist for crops such as corn, rotating a pasture overrun with johnsongrass into corn production for a growing season would allow for proper treatment without sacrifice of profit or unused land.

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Branding 101

15 timely tips for branding cattle

FROM OUR STAFF

Editor's Note: The following information was distributed to farmers during the Stone County Livestock and Forage Conference held recently in Hurley, Mo.

1. Brands, either hot or freeze, provide identification that can help in theft, marketing or simply settling neighborly ownership questions.
2. Brands must be registered, \$35 initially, to be considered legal evidence in a court of law.
3. Brands must have two or more characters to be legal in Missouri. Acceptable locations are the hip, shoulder and rib in that preferred order on either side of the animal.
4. Choose a simple brand. Complicated brands may sound neat and look good on paper, but create nothing but a large scar on the animal.
5. Brands must be 3 inches or larger in diameter.
6. Electric branding irons are probably the most foolproof if electricity or a generator is available.
7. The face width of the branding iron should be ¼ to ½ inch with the surface edges slightly rounded. All circles and corners should be vented to prevent excessive scarring.
8. Heat non-electric irons with wood or propane. The desired temperature allows the iron to be about the color of ashes, not red-hot.
9. Secure the animal in a squeeze chute or a tilt-table works for calves.
10. Brush mud or manure from the brand site. Do not brand wet animals as it scalds the area and results in a blotch.
11. Firmly press the iron against the hide and rock the handle to allow for a uniform application of the entire character.
12. Lift the iron to check for the saddle tan appearance of the brand. Reapply the iron carefully to those spots not properly tanned.
13. Take your time as the animal will wear the brand for a lifetime. The brand will serve as your trademark.
14. Brush burned hair from branding iron. Protect heating irons from the wind.
15. Pour-on insecticides may be flammable so brand the animal before insecticides are applied. A light application of oil to the branded area will aid in smoother, faster peeling.

—Source: Eldon Cole, University of Missouri Extension Regional Livestock Specialist.

Get Additional Information on cattle branding on the web at:

www.agebb.missouri.edu
G2201, Freeze Branding Cattle
<http://mda.mo.gov/animals/livestockbranding.php>

Did You Know?

In Missouri, it is a felony to brand someone else's animals or to efface, deface or obliterate any livestock brand. It also is illegal to use any brand for branding horses, cattle sheep, mules or asses unless the brand has been recorded with the Department of Agriculture. For identification within the herd, livestock can be branded with unregistered Arabic numbers if they are used in conjunction with recorded brands. Brands used for identification within the herd are not considered proof of ownership.

Once brands are recorded with the Department of Agriculture they become the personal property of the owner. Registered brands may be transferred from one individual to another. When transferring a brand, the back of the certificate must be signed and notarized, then sent to the department along with the required transfer fee. A notarized document that proves a brand was sold, assigned or transferred will be accepted in lieu of the brand certificate.

In 1992, changes to the brand law made cryo-branding or freeze-branding legal and gives it the same status as hot-iron branding. Freeze branding is considered less painful for animals and shows up well on dark-colored livestock.

The fees for registering a brand are as follows:

- Registration fee: \$35
- Maintenance fee: \$20
- Transfer fee: \$10
- Additional copies of brand certificate: \$10

For further information, please contact the Division of Animal Health at (573) 751-2267 or e-mail Shelly.Witt@mda.mo.gov.

—Source: www.mda.mo.gov

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ECONOMIC INDICATORS

CattleFax: Decline in Beef Supply, Rising Prices in 2013

Difficult year expected for “margin” operators

Cattlemen and women gathered at the 2013 Cattle Industry Convention and National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show to hear CattleFax market analysts’ projections for the year ahead. Creighton University Professor Emeritus Art Douglas told the audience that there is a chance some regions of the

United States will see a return to more normal precipitation patterns during the upcoming spring and summer growing season. That was welcome news to participants, many of whom have been enduring an ongoing, multi-year drought, which has affected more than 70 percent of cattle country. If precipitation returns to near-

normal levels for the 2013 growing season, CattleFax predicts farmers in the U.S. will plant a record number of acres in both corn and soybeans. CattleFax Grain Market Analyst Chad Spearman told the audience that would lead to lower feed grain prices this year.

“If we see anything close to trend line yields, we’ll see relief on the supply side and the result will be price relief, particularly in the second-half of 2013,” said Spearman, who added that the additional moisture will help mitigate hay prices after harvest begins this summer.

“With a little help from Mother Nature, we will be in much better shape with regard to hay supply and prices during

the second half of the year,” he said.

Although input costs may provide relief, analyst Mike Murphy provided a note of caution, saying that a possible economic slowdown could put pressure on beef prices and demand among consumers. He projected that net income in the U.S. would be flat, with incomes struggling to keep pace with inflation. However, he predicted beef exports would continue to provide support for prices.

“We expect to see an increase in exports, due in large part to an increase in shipments to Japan since that market recently opened to beef from cattle under 30 months of age,” said Murphy. “Imports will also be up substantially as well, due to tighter supplies in the U.S. at a time when we have strong demand for 90 percent lean trim.”

Overall, CattleFax Senior Analyst Kevin Good predicted beef production in the U.S. will fall, with per-capita supply declining 2.2 percent. However, he said the decrease will be partially offset by increasing carcass weights. CattleFax projects the Wholesale Beef Demand Index will decline by 1 percent, due to a 1 percent decline in real income of consumers.

Good said he expects that there will be a shift in leverage with the loss of packing capacity in the U.S. after the closure of a southern Plains packing plant earlier this year.

“As a result of that decline in capacity, feedlots will get a smaller percentage of the wholesale value of beef,” said Good. He added that CattleFax is projecting average prices will be higher for all classes of cattle during 2013 compared to the prior year.

Prices are expected to average \$126 compared to \$123 during 2012, an increase of 2.5 percent. Yearling prices are expected to average \$155, an increase of 5 percent from the 2012 average of \$147. According to Good, calf prices will average \$175, up 5 percent from last year’s average of \$167.

“The cow-calf sector will remain in the driver’s seat during 2013, particularly if they have feed,” said Good.

CattleFax CEO Randy Blach summarized the year ahead

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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Budget Issues Continue to Delay Farm Policy

Getting five-year Farm Bill "far from sure thing"

BY JASON VANCE

“The sequester that is scheduled to take effect on March 1 will cut many spending programs, and some people have proposed farm programs cuts as well as other programs to try and avoid some parts of the sequester and pay for delaying it,” said Pat Westhoff at Ag Unlimited, an annual banquet held by the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

“Other things that are coming up are appropriations bills for fiscal year 2013 that need to be resolved fairly soon, and the specter of the debt limit will have to be discussed,” he said.

The debt limit discussion has been delayed until May, but fiscal year 2013 appropriations have a much shorter time, as the continuing resolution to keep the government running expires after March 27.

“Things are changing by the hour, but it appears that getting a five-year farm bill this year is far from a sure thing,” Westhoff said. “There is maybe a one-in-four chance of passing a bill that looks sort of like the bills that were discussed in Congress last year; a one-in-four chance of passing something that is much more severe in terms of budget cuts affecting agriculture; and maybe a 50-50 chance of simply extending current legislation yet another year.”

Westhoff also discussed commodities and suggested that even average weather conditions in 2013 could cause a sharp fall in crop prices. He reminded the audience that current prices are the result of last year’s low crop yield.

“If we were to plant the same number of acres of corn as we did in 2012 and we had a trend-line yield, that would give us more than 14 billion bushels of corn produced in 2013,” he said. “That would be enough to increase our feed use by

500 million bushels, ethanol by 500 million bushels, exports by 500 million bushels, and still increase the stocks of corn by more than a billion bushels. All of those things only happen if prices are much lower than they are today.”

While a more normal crop in 2013 would bring a drop in

CATTLE FAX • CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
by saying it will be a difficult year for margin operators in the cattle business. He emphasized the importance of risk management due to continued volatility and rising capital requirements. Packer margins, though, should see some improvement as the result of the decline in capacity,

prices, Westhoff said another year of drought would take prices as high or higher than they are currently.

“I think the market situation will affect the farm policy debate,” Westhoff said. “Since I think it is likely that we won’t resolve the current debate for

a trend that he expects to continue.

“Don’t be surprised if we see the loss of another one or two plants before we’re done with the consolidation phase,” said Blach. Likewise, he said the industry can expect cattle feeding capacity to continue its decline due to the current market situation.

— Source: NCBA Release

several more months, what happens with markets between now and then will probably affect the tenor of the debate.”

— Jason Vance is senior information specialist, University of Missouri Cooperative Media Group.

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JW

Sire: Upgrade • Simmental • BD: 1/01/12

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10.0	2.2	75.2	113.6	11.4	26.9	64.5	124.0	74.0



JW

Sire: Upgrade • Simmental • BD: 2/01/12

CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MK	MWW	API	TI
10.1	2.7	79.9	120.3	9.6	29.2	69.2	118.0	76.0



JW

Sire: Beef Maker • SimAngus™ • BD: 1/24/12

CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MK	MWW	API	TI
14.6	-1.1	66.6	96.9	6.3	23.0	56.3	140.9	81.4



JW

Sire: JT • SimAngus™ • BD: 1/04/12

CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MK	MWW	API	TI
10.6	2.3	79.3	118.0	7.4	20.3	60.0	116.0	75.4



JW

Sire: Sweet Meat • Simmental • BD: 8/30/11

CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MK	MWW	API	TI
8.5	1.8	63.4	86.0	8.5	28.5	60.1	112.8	67.8



JW

Sire: Upgrade • SimAngus™ • BD: 1/21/12

CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MK	MWW	API	TI
11.1	2.6	82.5	130.4	12.7	22.5	63.8	139.0	85.4

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FARM TO MARKET

Select for Profit

\$B improves carcass, feedlot traits

BY MIRANDA REIMAN

To make more money, try selecting for profit. That's what dollar-value indexes help cattle producers do.

"It's probably the easiest way to practice multiple-trait selection," says Megan Rolf, Oklahoma State University animal scientist. "It's also a pretty easy way to select for profit, because we're talking in

terms of economic values, so they either have profit or savings associated with them."

Commercial cattlemen who want to produce standouts in the feedlot and on the rail should look to the dollar-beef (\$B) index, offered by the American Angus Association.

"It's designed to aid in genetic decisions for post-weaning merit and carcass value," says Sally Northcutt,

genetic research director for the Association.

An updated technical summary shows the dramatic difference in progeny harvested 1997 through 2012, sired by bulls in the top 10% compared to the bottom tenth among registered Angus sires (see table).

"Selection of breeding stock based on a single trait is risky, as progress may come at the expense of others," the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) "Black Ink Basics" tech sheet states. "Using the breed's top 10% of beef-value sires can produce calves with higher quality premiums, lower yield-grade discounts and better feedlot performance."

It shows data to back that claim: Progeny from high \$B sires had five times more Prime grading carcasses, while Standard carcasses were cut by almost two-thirds, compared to low \$B progeny. *Certified Angus Beef*® brand qualifiers increased more than 28 percentage points.

"People will ask the question," Northcutt says, "can I really realize this difference in the feedlot and on the rail?" The top-vs.-bottom 10% comparison illustrates what's possible.

Quality grade is not the only place the top group won out. High \$B progeny had a 67-pound carcass weight advantage over low \$B calves. Coupled with the grid premiums, that adds up to a \$168.02 per-head advantage for the top group.

"The underlying economic assumptions are based on a three-year rolling average that represents the commercial cattle industry," Northcutt says.

Improvements in Angus genetics, along with stronger grid signals, contributed to an \$85-increase in the spread between the two groups, compared to a 2006 analysis.

"Quality has value in the industry and pounds have value," Northcutt says.

In order to use an index properly, it's important to know which traits are included, Rolf says.

"You want to select for the highest index values and limit the use of additional EPDs (expected progeny differences)," she says. "Otherwise if you're using something like dollar-beef

that already includes yearling weight and you also select for a higher yearling weight EPD, you place too much emphasis on yearling weight.

The exceptions are EPDs that could help you set needed limits for environment or ones that are not included in the index. For example, maternal traits should be included in selection decisions if replacement heifers are being kept, because having females that produce live calves and breed back needs to be a key consideration of any ranch.

"The dollar-beef index does not have any maternal components or calving ease," Northcutt notes, recommending the dollar-weaning (\$W) calculation as the "best kept secret for all producers."

That includes traits like mature size and milk, calving ease and a cow's energy requirements. The tech summary notes the higher \$B sires also had improved \$W values, showing that both goals can be reached in tandem, she says.

"But dollar-beef isn't just for those producers focused on retaining ownership. Those who sell at weaning still need to keep it in mind for the big picture of the industry," Northcutt says.

She recommends Angus bull buyers visit the Sire Selector on the Angus website (<http://www.angus.org/Nce/SireSummarySearchCriteria.aspx>) to search for animals that fit their criteria. It allows producers to enter minimum and maximum values for all 24 measured EPDs and dollar-value indexes.

"If you've already used registered Angus bulls on your cows, then you can use their EPDs as a benchmark of genetic values. You can use them as a conservative starting point," Northcutt says. "The hardest part is to sit down at the kitchen table and think about the goals and opportunities you'd like to seek out. What's the directional change I want to make?"

—Release by Certified Angus Beef



Injectable Baytril® 100 (enrofloxacin)

100 mg/mL Antimicrobial Injectable Solution

For Subcutaneous Use In Beef Cattle, Non-Lactating Dairy Cattle And Swine Only
Not For Use In Female Dairy Cattle 20 Months Of Age Or Older Or In Calves To Be Processed For Veal

BRIEF SUMMARY:

Before using Baytril® 100, please consult the product insert, a summary of which follows:

CAUTION:

Federal (U.S.A.) law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.
Federal (U.S.A.) law prohibits the extra-label use of this drug in food-producing animals.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Each mL of Baytril® 100 contains 100 mg of enrofloxacin. Excipients are L-arginine base 200 mg, n-butyl alcohol 30 mg, benzyl alcohol (as a preservative) 20 mg and water for injection q.s.

INDICATIONS:

Cattle - Single-Dose Therapy: Baytril® 100 is indicated for the treatment of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica*, *Pasteurella multocida*, *Histophilus somni* and *Mycoplasma bovis* in beef and non-lactating dairy cattle; and for the control of BRD in beef and non-lactating dairy cattle at high risk of developing BRD associated with *M. haemolytica*, *P. multocida*, *H. somni* and *M. bovis*.

Cattle - Multiple-Day Therapy: Baytril® 100 is indicated for the treatment of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) associated with *Mannheimia haemolytica*, *Pasteurella multocida* and *Histophilus somni* in beef and non-lactating dairy cattle.

Swine: Baytril® 100 is indicated for the treatment and control of swine respiratory disease (SRD) associated with *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, *Pasteurella multocida*, *Haemophilus parasuis*, *Streptococcus suis*, *Bordetella bronchiseptica* and *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*.

RESIDUE WARNINGS:

Cattle: Animals intended for human consumption must not be slaughtered within 28 days from the last treatment. This product is not approved for female dairy cattle 20 months of age or older, including dry dairy cows. Use in these cattle may cause drug residues in milk and/or in calves born to these cows. A withdrawal period has not been established for this product in pre-ruminating calves. Do not use in calves to be processed for veal.

Swine: Animals intended for human consumption must not be slaughtered within 5 days of receiving a single-injection dose.

HUMAN WARNINGS:

For use in animals only. Keep out of the reach of children. Avoid contact with eyes. In case of contact, immediately flush eyes with copious amounts of water for 15 minutes. In case of dermal contact, wash skin with soap and water. Consult a physician if irritation persists following ocular or dermal exposures. Individuals with a history of hypersensitivity to quinolones should avoid this product. In humans, there is a risk of user photosensitization within a few hours after excessive exposure to quinolones. If excessive accidental exposure occurs, avoid direct sunlight. For customer service or to obtain product information, including a Material Safety Data Sheet, call 1-800-633-3796. For medical emergencies or to report adverse reactions, call 1-800-422-9874.

PRECAUTIONS:

The effects of enrofloxacin on cattle or swine reproductive performance, pregnancy and lactation have not been adequately determined.

The long-term effects on articular joint cartilage have not been determined in pigs above market weight. Subcutaneous injection can cause a transient local tissue reaction that may result in trim loss of edible tissue at slaughter. Baytril® 100 contains different excipients than other Baytril® products. The safety and efficacy of this formulation in species other than cattle and swine have not been determined.

Quinolone-class drugs should be used with caution in animals with known or suspected Central Nervous System (CNS) disorders. In such animals, quinolones have, in rare instances, been associated with CNS stimulation which may lead to convulsive seizures. Quinolone-class drugs have been shown to produce erosions of cartilage of weight-bearing joints and other signs of arthropathy in immature animals of various species. See Animal Safety section for additional information.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

No adverse reactions were observed during clinical trials.

ANIMAL SAFETY:

In cattle safety studies, clinical signs of depression, incoordination and muscle fasciculation were observed in calves when doses of 15 or 25 mg/kg were administered for 10 to 15 days. Clinical signs of depression, inappetence and incoordination were observed when a dose of 50 mg/kg was administered for 3 days. An injection site study conducted in feeder calves demonstrated that the formulation may induce a transient reaction in the subcutaneous tissue and underlying muscle.

In swine safety studies, incidental lameness of short duration was observed in all groups, including the saline-treated controls. Musculoskeletal stiffness was observed following the 15 and 25 mg/kg treatments with clinical signs appearing during the second week of treatment. Clinical signs of lameness improved after treatment ceased and most animals were clinically normal at necropsy. An injection site study conducted in pigs demonstrated that the formulation may induce a transient reaction in the subcutaneous tissue.

U.S. Patent No. 5,756,506

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For use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Extra-label use in food-producing animals is prohibited. A 28-day slaughter withdrawal in cattle is required. This product is not approved for female dairy cattle 20 months of age or older, including dry dairy cows. Use in these cattle may cause drug residues in milk and/or calves born to these cows. Do not use in calves to be processed for veal.

*The clinical significance of *in vitro* data has not been demonstrated.

¹Data on file.

²Blondeau JM, Borsos S, Blondeau LD, Blondeau BJ, Hesje C. (2005). The killing of clinical isolates of *Mannheimia haemolytica* (MH) by enrofloxacin (ENR) using minimum inhibitory and mutant prevention drug concentrations and over a range of bacterial inocula. In: *ASM Conference on Pasteurellaceae*; 23-26 October 2005; Kohala Coast, Big Island, Hawaii: American Society of Microbiology; Abstract B12.

³Blondeau JM, Borsos SD, Hesje CH, Blondeau LD, Blondeau BJ. (2007). Comparative killing of bovine isolates of *Mannheimia haemolytica* (MH) by enrofloxacin, florfenicol, tilmicosin and tulathromycin using the measured minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) and mutant prevention concentration (MPC) drug values. In: *International Meeting of Emerging Diseases and Surveillance (IMED)*; Vienna, Austria; February 23-25, 2007; Figures 8-10.

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ON THE CALENDAR

Eastern Oklahoma Beef Cattle Summit set for March 26

Science-based information helpful with tight profit-loss margins

Cattle producers wanting to increase their awareness about trends in the beef industry that promote profitability should register now to attend the March 26 Eastern Oklahoma Beef Cattle Summit in McAlester.

"Tight profit-loss margins for most producers make it imperative they understand and employ the latest science-based information to make the best decisions possible for their operations," said Brian Freking, Oklahoma State University (OSU) Cooperative Extension southeast area livestock specialist.

The summit will take place from 8 a.m. to approximately 4 p.m. at McAlester's Southeast Expo Center, located at 4500 W. Hwy 270, just off the Indian Nation Turnpike.

Cost is \$10 per participant. Registration must be received no later than March 19. Registration forms are available at all OSU Cooperative Extension county offices, usually listed under "County Government" in local telephone directories and at <http://countyext2.okstate.edu/>.

Attendees are encouraged to pre-register for meal planning and take-home materials. Anyone seeking additional information about the March 26 Eastern Oklahoma Beef Cattle Summit should contact the Pittsburg County Extension Office at 918-423-4120.

— Adapted from a release by provided by OSU Extension.

Time to Check Soundness of Bulls at Special Clinics

Three Bull Breeding Soundness Clinics are scheduled in mid-March at Miller, Cassville and Aurora veterinary clinics.

Each clinic begins at 8 a.m. and appointments are made directly with the veterinary clinic.

Cooperating with University of Missouri Extension this spring are: March 12, Dake Veterinary Clinic in Miller, (417) 452-3301; March 15, Barry County Veterinary Services in Cassville, (417) 847-2677; and March 21, Countryside Animal Clinic in Aurora, (417) 678-4011.

"Cow-calf producers are encouraged to get as many of their bulls tested on these special days as possible," said Eldon Cole, a livestock specialist with University of Missouri Extension.

The semen evaluation, physical measurements and observation of the bull for structural soundness, done during these clinics enables owners to decide if the bull is capable of breeding cows in a 60 to 75 day breeding season.

In addition to a soundness critique, all bulls will receive vaccinations and parasite treatments at a reduced rate. Genetic and trichomoniasis testing are available but optional.

"Bulls with a low fertility will breed a few cows but their big fault is their calf crop will be scattered. An uneven set of calves present challenges in management and marketing after they hit the ground," said Cole.

One item the BSE does not cover is the bull's libido and ability to actually service a cow or heifer. Coles says that to analyze this phase of breeding requires the farmer to closely watch the bull early in the breeding season.

"If these dates and locations do not work for you, contact your nearest veterinarian and schedule an appointment for a BSE for your bull battery. This helps avoid the last minute rush to find a bull if one should be failed or deferred by the veterinarian," said Cole.

— Source: University of Missouri Extension Service



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VAR Rocky 80029



Connealy Final Product



GAR New Design 5050



SAV Net Worth 4200



SAV Brilliance 8077



SAV Brave 8320



SAV Iron Mountain 8066



SAV Prosperity 9131



SAV First Class 0207

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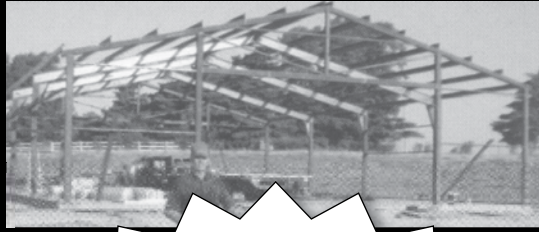


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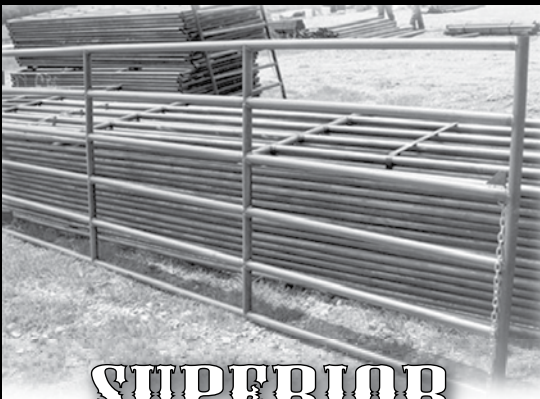
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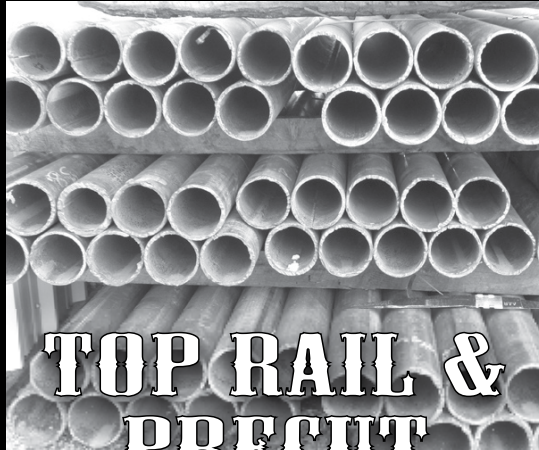
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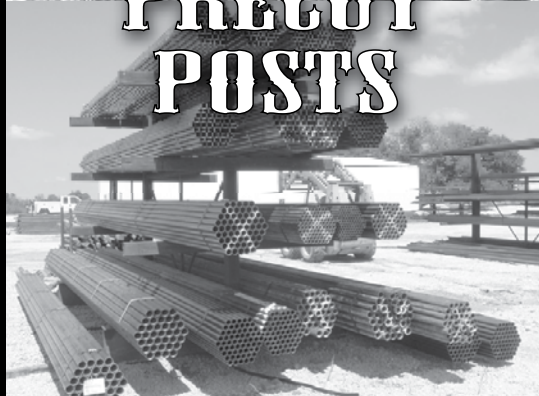


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ON THE CALENDAR

Alliance Sets New State Fescue Schools at Mount Vernon, Linneus

Learn how to test fescue fields for replacement

BY DUANE DAILEY

Out with toxic fescue and in with new novel-endophyte fescue. That is the theme for two one-day grazing schools, March 18 at Mount Vernon, Mo., and March 21 at Linneus, Mo.

“We’ve learned to eradicate Kentucky 31 fescue,” said Craig Roberts, University of Missouri Extension specialist. “Now we have several novel-endophyte fescue varieties to replace the toxic grass.”

Nontoxic fescues are best suited for managed grazing, Roberts said. Toxic fescues survive continuous grazing.

Livestock prefer new varieties so much they overgraze them. That can kill new plantings. “To be successful, the new varieties need careful grazing,” Roberts said. “Management protects the investment.”

The grazing schools will be held at the MU Southwest Research Center in Lawrence County and MU Forage

Systems Research Center in Linn County. The centers have comparison plots of all novel-endophyte varieties. The plots will be grazed this year.

The schools are planned by the Alliance for Grassland Renewal. The group brings fescue seed companies together with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, MU Extension and farmers.

“The schools are patterned after the popular grazing schools, now held statewide,” Roberts said.

After the two new grazing schools the specialists plan to conduct regional schools in future years.

“We’ve known for years that infected fescue reduced grazing gains and cut reproduction in livestock,” Roberts said. “Now we have varieties that boost livestock production.”

Early attempts to replace Kentucky 31 failed when endophyte-free fescue was

introduced. The plants need the endophyte.

Endophyte is a fungus that lives between the cells in grass plants. The old endophyte produced toxins that protect fescue against drought, diseases, insects and nematodes. The toxin also reduces animal grazing.

The novel endophytes protect the grass but don’t poison the livestock. “Farmers must control grazing on the new varieties to help maintain the stands,” explained Roberts.

Financial returns to grazing will increase, Roberts said. That becomes important with rising cattle prices and higher feed costs.

An early part of the schools will teach how to kill toxic fescue. “K31 variety is hard to kill,” Roberts said. “The replacement recipe must be followed closely. We want producers to be successful

and gain more returns from pastures.”

The school will show how to test fescue fields to determine if they should be replaced.

The Alliance limits enrollment in the first trial state schools. The fees will be \$60 single or \$110 per couple. That includes lunch, breaks and a notebook of materials.

To enroll at the Southwest Center, Mount Vernon, contact Carla at 417-466-2148 or RathmannC@missouri.edu. At FSRC, contact Tamie at 660-895-5121 or CarrTa@missouri.edu.

In addition to MU Extension and NRCS, seed company representatives will participate. Companies are Barenbrug, DLF, AgResearch, Pennington and Mountain View. A toxin-testing service, Agrinostic, will assist also.

— Duane Dailey is senior writer, University of Missouri Cooperative Media Group.

“Back to Grass” 2013

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You Just Never Know Where JRS Apparel Will Show Up



Danny Schilling (right), a local cattle producer and well-known Border Collie trainer from Bois D’Arc, Mo., has been traveling to Brazil since 2001 to judge cow and sheep dog trials. This past November Schilling was there to judge the National Cow Dog Trials and was happy to share some JRS apparel with his Brazilian friends — (from left) Marcelo de Mace do Monteiro, Sweetie Monteiro and Danny. The Monteiros are from South Brazil, Sidrolandandia. Their ranch name is Fazenda Quinzao (The Big 15) which comes from one pasture that’s 15,000 acres. The Monteiro family visited JRS three years ago when they were in Missouri visiting Schilling.

PHOTO SUBMITTED
BY DANNY SCHILLING

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BUSINESS BEAT

Take the LONGRANGE™ (eprinomectin), IVOMECS® (ivermectin) Spring Challenge

Producers guaranteed to recoup their spring parasite control investment

Merial introduces the LONGRANGE™ (eprinomectin)/IVOMECS® (ivermectin) Spring Challenge. Cattle prices are up, but so are production costs, and producers are feeling the strain on the profit outlook this year. To help promote greater profits and optimize herd health in 2013, Merial will help take on some of the production risks. Producers will benefit from taking advantage of the LONGRANGE/IVOMECS Challenge with a way to ensure spring parasite control pays. LONGRANGE is the first extended-release injectable cattle dewormer that provides cattle producers season-long persistent parasite control for 100-150 days in a single dose, depending on the parasite species. To participate in the challenge, producers simply purchase LONGRANGE between February 1, 2013 and June 30, 2013 and treat their cows and calves with it this spring. If the improvement in average weaning weight of your calves versus fall 2012 doesn't cover the purchase price of LONGRANGE, Merial will provide an equal amount of doses of LONGRANGE* or equal value of any Merial IVOMECS Brand Products* of your choice for fall 2013.

"Merial recognizes that in a tight economy, it's difficult to justify input costs if you aren't sure you are getting enough return, but nothing pays off like parasite control in the spring," says Joe Dedrickson, DVM, Ph.D., Director, Field Veterinary Services, Merial. "The goal is for producers to see a financial gain from their parasite control investment. Because we have confidence in our products, we are willing to back them

so that if improvements aren't achieved, producers won't risk a profit loss on treatment expenses.

If producers are not ready to step up to LONGRANGE, they can take the Spring Challenge with any IVOMECS Brand Product and save with valuable rebates.

"The gain alone will cover the cost of using LONGRANGE or other IVOMECS Brand Products in the spring," Dr. Dedrickson says. "There are a lot of variables that can rob producers of production and profits. But between the proven results of spring parasite treatment and the promise of the LONGRANGE Challenge, we are certain producers won't lose money on this input." Iowa State University research results show that parasite control tops the list of the most economically rewarding cow/calf pharmaceutical practices. Not controlling parasites can negatively impact a cattle producer's breakeven by up to \$201 per head.

Regardless of all of the uncertainty in the cattle business, one thing remains true — cattle producers can trust Merial parasite control products.

"Producers can't afford to take chances with a health practice such as parasite control," says Dr. Dedrickson. "By choosing a product they can trust, such as LONGRANGE, that is backed by a Product Satisfaction Guarantee, producers can help protect both their cattle and pocketbook."

For more information, producers should contact their local Merial sales representative or visit www.theLONGRANGElook.com.

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—Joplin Regional Stockyards

Thomson's "Doc Talk" Gets New Partner

Bovine Veterinarian, Drovers/CattleNetwork to work with KSU Vet

Drovers/CattleNetwork and Bovine Veterinarian and Trinity Marketing announce a strategic partnership for the production and promotion of DocTalk with "Dan Thomson" a television program airing weekly on RFD-TV.

DocTalk is a half-hour program that examines a variety of issues from production to plate by host Dan Thomson, DVM, PhD of Kansas State University. Thomson, an internationally recognized expert and leader in beef cattle production and health management, is director of K-STATE's Beef Cattle Institute. He is also the former chair of the OIE Beef Cattle Production and Animal Welfare Committee, an international animal health group that develops beef cattle production and welfare standards worldwide. A K-State faculty member since 2004, Thomson teaches courses in cow/calf, stocker and feed yard production medicine welfare and nutrition.

If you farm, ranch, own a pet or want to know how your food is produced, you'll find something of interest on every single episode now airing on Drovers/CattleNetwork and Bovine Veterinarian websites. Each week Dr. Dan Thomson and his guests will discuss important issues related to livestock welfare and management, including current animal agriculture research, ways to keep the food supply safe and companion animal health issues.

"I have spent my entire professional career in practice or in the education system working side by side with producers and veterinarians, learning from them and translating the best information to them about production animal practices and welfare" Dr Thomson said. "It brings a new level of excitement when you can combine the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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Website Offers Free Resources for Producers

A comprehensive one-stop shop for all things related to the beef industry offers guidance, advice and insight all from a website.

A collaborative effort between the animal science and agricultural economics departments in the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Oklahoma State University, the site targets producers and others in the beef in-

dustry. The website can be found at www.beefextension.com.

In addition to fact sheets related to the care and management of cow/calf and stocker cattle, the site includes links to beef-related initiatives as well as other materials such as research reports.

—Source: Oklahoma Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Spring Ag, Urban Fest in Springfield

Fairgrounds to host April event

The Ozark Empire Fairgrounds is proud to announce the inaugural Spring Ag and Urban Fest to be held April 5-7, 2013 in Springfield, MO. Admission is free to all, but there will be a fee for parking at the event.

Reflecting the fairground's strong agricultural heritage, the three-day event will showcase livestock, farming equipment, tractors, trailers, balers, hunting and fishing equipment, and so much more. The Urban Living Area, will feature products or services with only an ancillary connection to agriculture. Items such as home furnishings, health products, jewelry and home remodeling products will be on display. Show hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 5 thru Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Booth spaces are still available! For additional information, please visit www.ozarkempirefair.com or call 417-833-2660.

The Ozark Empire Fairgrounds is conveniently located near I-44 and Highway 13 in Springfield, Mo.

—Source: Ozark Empire Fairgrounds release

DOC TALK

CONT'D FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
professionalism and credibility of *Bovine Veterinarian*, *Drovers/Cattle Network* and *DocTalk-TV*."

Guests will include nationally and internationally known veterinarians and animal scientists, including Kansas State University faculty members who conduct clinical research on ways to improve the health and well-being of all kinds of animals. "This new collaboration will expand our offering of industry information to our readers, growing our educational resources and enhancing reader experience" said Greg Henderson, editor of *Drovers/CattleNetwork*.

"I have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Dan Thomson for many years, and his astute assessments of the issues facing the livestock industry are well respected worldwide" said Geni Wren, editor of *Bovine Veterinarian*. "I am so excited that our readers will get direct access to this educational opportunity."

You can watch *DocTalk* with Dr. Thomson on RFDTV Sunday at 6:30 AM CT with repeat episodes airing on Monday at 3:30 PM CT and Tuesday at 1:30 AM CT. You can also watch all episodes on www.doctalktv.com.

—Source: Vance Publishing news release

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MARKET CORNER

February Market Recap

Receipts 18,467 • Last Month 30,337 • Last Year 24,451

FEEDER STEERS					FEEDER STEERS				
Med. & Lg. 1					Med. & Lg. 1-2				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
29	300-350	332	205.00-227.00	\$216.15	44	600-650	609	136.00-150.00	\$140.59 Calves
57	350-400	375	186.00-227.00	\$210.29	41	600-650	642	145.0-157.50	\$155.41 Thin
12	350-400	379	212.50	\$212.50 Thin	362	650-700	672	129.00-148.00	\$141.43
127	400-450	423	182.50-205.00	\$192.35	10	650-700	682	132.00	\$132.00 Calves
205	450-500	478	167.00-195.00	\$180.74	517	700-750	727	134.00-144.00	\$139.35
11	450-500	494	165.00-172.00	\$168.21 Fleshy	19	700-750	706	136.00-150.00	\$136.00 Calves
338	500-550	528	162.00-185.00	\$175.72	472	750-800	775	130.00-141.50	\$135.73
30	500-550	533	154.00-173.00	\$164.64 Fleshy	208	800-850	828	130.00-141.85	\$137.90
79	500-550	537	186.00-227.00	\$186.00 Thin	14	800-850	810	131.00	\$131.00 Calves
338	550-600	576	154.00-178.00	\$164.28	349	850-900	868	127.00-136.00	\$130.46
14	550-600	569	150.00-153.00	\$151.30 Fleshy	267	900-950	925	123.00-131.50	\$128.50
24	550-600	551	188.00	\$188.00 Thin	65	950-1000	953	122.00-127.50	\$125.80
494	600-650	627	143.00-165.50	\$155.59	10	1000-1050	1001	129.50	\$129.50
33	600-650	623	140.00-161.00	150.25 Calves	22	1050-1100	1055	125.25	\$125.25
13	600-650	623	144.00	144.00 Fleshy	FEEDER HEIFERS				
126	600-650	635	169.00	169.00 Thin	Med. & Lg. 1				
398	650-700	672	138.00-155.00	\$146.96	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
25	650-700	677	136.00-143.50	140.30 Calves	13	250-300	384	168.00-182.50	\$172.86
11	650-700	682	137.00	137.00 Fleshy	38	300-350	322	157.50-198.00	\$181.08
721	700-750	729	135.00-149.60	\$143.44	93	350-400	379	155.00-189.00	\$172.93
95	700-750	748	147.00	147.00 Thin	11	350-400	369	177.50-181.00	\$178.83 Thin
402	750-800	777	130.00-145.00	\$138.74	141	400-450	431	154.00-180.00	\$166.28
295	800-850	826	133.25-141.25	\$137.96	20	400-450	437	172.00-182.00	\$178.63 Thin
16	800-850	805	132.00	132.00 Fleshy	318	450-500	483	143.00-171.00	\$158.88
324	850-900	870	127.00-140.50	\$135.52	20	450-500	485	145.00-152.50	\$147.69 Fleshy
155	900-950	927	129.75-137.00	\$132.36	348	500-550	528	143.00-163.00	\$151.96
46	90-1000	984	133.00-135.00	\$133.17	38	500-550	527	140.00-148.00	\$143.66 Fleshy
33	1000-1050	1013	126.50-127.50	\$127.32	195	500-550	518	170.00-170.50	\$170.39 Thin
FEEDER STEERS					349	550-600	581	129.00-154.50	\$141.38
Med. & Lg. 1-2					26	550-600	578	133.00-140.00	\$137.48 Fleshy
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	391	600-650	627	128.50-151.00	\$139.96
24	200-250	245	207.50-215.00	\$211.38	31	600-650	609	131.00-133.00	\$132.00 Calves
38	300-350	333	191.00-201.00	\$198.21	230	600-650	615	138.00-150.85	\$149.91 Thin
17	300-350	340	200.00	\$200.00 Thin	370	650-700	676	126.00-140.50	\$135.18
69	350-400	369	175.00-210.00	\$191.29	11	650-700	675	127.75	\$127.75 Fleshy
17	350-400	395	187.00-188.00	187.53 Thin	264	700-750	723	124.50-138.00	\$132.89
83	400-450	426	162.50-202.00	\$180.52	65	700-750	719	137.50	\$137.50 Thin
121	450-500	474	161.00-176.00	\$168.19	175	750-800	770	124.00-134.50	\$130.48
204	500-550	517	159.00-174.00	\$167.35	73	800-850	826	124.50-132.50	\$130.91
20	500-550	529	152.00-162.50	156.37 Fleshy	97	865-896	890	121.50-128.50	\$124.72
182	550-600	571	148.00-168.00	\$154.14	FEEDER HEIFERS				
28	550-600	567	149.00-158.00	151.74 Fleshy	Med. & Lg. 1-2				
61	550-600	561	160.00	160.00 Thin	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
259	600-650	629	141.00-160.00	147.06	25	250-300	277	155.00-170.00	\$162.05
					37	300-350	328	162.50-182.50	\$172.05

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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MARKET RECAP • CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

FEEDER HEIFERS Med. & Lg. 1-2					FEEDER HEIFERS Med. & Lg. 1-2				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
135	350-400	367	143.00-175.00	\$164.71	276	700-750	718	123.00-135.00	\$129.10
13	350-400	390	171.00-172.00	\$171.54 Thin	140	750-800	774	124.00-134.00	\$128.28
196	400-450	424	136.00-168.00	\$156.73	40	750-800	763	124.50	\$124.50 Thin
191	1450-500	480	131.00-162.00	\$148.80	77	800-850	820	120.50-131.00	\$127.40
347	500-550	530	132.00-152.00	\$143.30	34	850-900	863	119.00-124.50	\$123.53
16	500-550	528	132.00-141.00	\$136.80 Fleshy	HOLSTEIN STEERS Large 3				
31	500-550	514	153.00-157.00	\$155.41 Thin					
377	550-600	575	127.00-144.00	\$136.07	24	450-500	473	114.00-116.00	\$114.48
31	550-600	556	123.00-135.00	\$132.92 Fleshy	37	550-600	560	94.00-109.00	\$105.18
373	600-650	629	120.00-142.00	\$134.29	12	700-750	750	93.00	\$93.00
58	600-650	630	121.00-132.00	\$125.12 Calves	22	850-900	876	87.00-93.50	\$88.13
344	650-700	674	120.00-136.00	131.04	44	900-950	924	96.00	\$96.00
10	650-700	694	122.00	\$122.00 Calves					

Video Sales

Video Sales from 2/19/13 • Total Video Receipts: 507

The video auction is held directly following Joplin's Regular Monday feeder cattle sale. General weighing conditions: For yearling cattle loaded and weighed on the truck with a 2% shrink. Price slide will be .04 per lb. if cattle weigh 1 to 50 lbs over base weight; .06 per lb. if cattle weigh 51 to 90 lbs. over the base weight; contract is voidable by agent or buyer if cattle are more than 90 lbs over base weight. General weighing conditions on calves will be established on contract by seller and agent. Cattle weighed on the ground with certified scales will be agreed upon by seller and agent.

Date:	South Central	States:	Texas, Okla.	New Mexico,	Kansas & Mo.	Offering:	507				
2/19/13											
	FEEDER STEERS		MED & LG 1			FEEDER HEIFERS		MED & LG 1-2			
HEAD	WT RANGE	AVG WT	PRICE RANGE	AVG PRICE	DELIVERY	HEAD	WT RANGE	AVG WT	PRICE RANGE	AVG PRICE	DELIVERY
59	850	850	\$144.00	\$144.00	Jul	130	760	760	\$129.25	\$129.25	Current
	FEEDER STEERS		MED & LG 1-2								
HEAD	WT RANGE	AVG WT	PRICE RANGE	AVG PRICE	DELIVERY						
197	760-770	763	135.00-136.25	\$135.83	Current						
121	805-825	815	135.00-135.50	\$135.25	Current						

JRS Sale Day Market Phone: (417)548-2012 - Mondays (Rick Huffman) & Wednesdays (Don Kleiboeker). Market Information Provided By: Tony Hancock Mo. Department of Agriculture Market News Service. Market News Hotline (573)522-9244 • Sale Day Market Reporter (417)548-2012

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Event Roundup

March

- 7 Dallas County Soils & Crops Conference • O'Bannon Community Center, Buffalo, Mo. • PH: 417-345-7551
 - 8 Linthicum Beef Genetics Angus Bull Sale • at the ranch, Welch, Okla. • PH: 918-961-2004
 - 9 Jacs Ranch Angus Bull Sale • at the ranch, Bentonville, Ark. PH: 479-273-3030
 - 9 Wright Charolais Annual Bull Sale • Livingston Co. Fairgrounds, Chillicothe, Mo. • PH: 816-456-3792
 - 12 Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinic • Dake Veterinary Clinic, Miller, Mo. • PH: 417-452-3301
 - 15 Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinic • Barry County Vet, Cassville, Mo. • PH: 417-847-2677
 - 16 Pinegar Limousin 20th Anniversary Sale • at the farm, Springfield, Mo. • PH: 1-877-PINEGAR
 - 16 Circle A Angus Ranch Spring Bull & Heifer Sale • at the ranch, Iberia, Mo. • PH: 1-80-CIRCLEA
 - 16 Flying H Genetics Spring Bull Sale • Lowry City, Mo. PH: 417-309-0062
 - 18 Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop • MU Southwest Center, Mount Vernon, Mo. • PH: 417-466-2148
 - 18 Green Springs Bull Sale • Mo-Kan Livestock, Butler, Mo. PH: 417-448-7416
 - 21 "Back to Grass" 2013 Grazer & Yearling Video Special 1 p.m. • Joplin Regional Stockyards, Carthage, Mo. PH: 417-548-2333
 - 21 Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinic • Countryside Animal Clinic, Aurora, Mo. • PH: 417-678-4011
 - 22 Sunflower Genetics Angus/Simmental/SimAngus Production Sale • at the ranch, Maple Hill, Kan. • PH: 785-256-6461
 - 23 Aschermann Charolais Bull Sale • at the farm, Carthage, Mo. • PH: 417-793-2855
 - 23 Professional Beef Genetics Open House Bull Sale • Hwy H 4 miles west of Montrose, Mo. • PH: 888-724-2855
 - 24 Magness Land & Cattle Annual Limousin & Lim-Flex Bull Sale • Magness Southern Division, Miami, Okla. PH: 918-541-5482
 - 25 81st Southwest Missouri Performance Tested Bull Sale Springfield Livestock Marketing Center, Springfield, Mo. PH: 417-345-8330
 - 30 Seedstock Plus South Missouri Bull Sale • Joplin Regional Stockyards, Carthage, Mo. • PH: 877-486-1160
- ## April
- 5 Special Replacement Cow Sale 6 p.m. • Joplin Regional Stockyards, Carthage, Mo. PH: 417-548-2333
 - 5 3 Forks Ranch Angus Bull & Commercial Female Sale 5 p.m. at the ranch, Fort Gibson, Okla. • PH: 918-541-0418
 - 5-7 SpringFest & Ag Expo • Ozark Empire Fairgrounds, Springfield, Mo. • PH: 417-833-2660
 - 6 Four State Angus Association 84th Bull & Female Sale Springfield Livestock Marketing Center, Springfield, Mo. PH: 417-995-3000
 - 6 Ratcliff Ranches "Right off the Ranch" Spring Production Sale • Vinita, Okla. • PH: 918-256-5561
 - 13 Buford Ranches 5th Annual Spring Angus Bull & Female Sale • at the ranch, Welch, Okla. • PH: 918-929-3275
 - 14 Wallace Cattle Co. Angus Production Sale • Stotts City, Mo. PH: 417-461-6652

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*Economic analysis of pharmaceutical technologies in modern beef production, John D. Lawrence and Maro A. Ibarburu, Iowa State University, 2007.

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