

# Smoky Hill Prescribed Burn Association to hold annual meeting January 29

**By Paul Finnell**  
Hey, Smokey Bear, you and your slogan "Only you can prevent wildfires" are being replaced with Burnie the Bobcat and "Let's start good fires!" Prescribed fire is a management tool that has been used for centuries to maintain healthy rangelands. Burnie the Bobcat encourages controlled application of fire to a specific area to achieve specific management objectives. The Smoky Hills Prescribed Burn Association annual meeting is January 29th at the Rolling Hills Zoo Conference Center with doors opening at 6 p.m. Attend the meeting to learn more about increasing prescribed fires in the Smoky Hills.

Prescribed fire management must consider the landowner's goals and the season. The fire must be conducted under specific weather conditions, such as wind speed, humidity, and temperature, to ensure that the fire is safe and effective. The fire must also be conducted under specific fuel conditions, such as fuel moisture content

and fuel load, to ensure that the fire is not too intense and does not damage the soil. All these issues are addressed in a properly designed prescribed burn plan. Membership in the SHPBA provides landowners the shared labor, shared equipment, shared knowledge and a burn plan to decrease the fear and concerns of fire on the land. In addition to prescribed fire, mixed animal grazing can also be used to promote forage growth. Over thousands of years, fire and mixed animal grazing helped shape the Smoky Hills, which cover millions of acres across portions of 20 Kansas counties. Prescribed fire management utilizes controlled patch burns to promote forage growth. Research has shown a wide range of benefits from using prescribed fire to minimize wildfire fuel (Fighting Fire with Fire) and to create ecologic biodiversity that supports wildlife and livestock operations.

Prescribed burning improves rangeland health by increasing forage produc-

tivity and protein content, reducing invasive plant species and the epidemic of encroaching red cedar, and making forage available earlier in the year. It also improves plant diversity and maintains native species. Perennial grasses and forbs can start to regenerate with less pressure from competing annuals. Nutrients can be made more available to plants as well. With the improved soil and rangeland vegetation comes better wildlife habitat and nesting. The increase in crude plant protein is a benefit for both livestock and wildlife grazers.

There are two types of prescribed burns: cool-season burns, and warm-season burns. Cool-season burns are conducted during the dormant season when the grasses are not actively growing. Warm-season burns are conducted during the growing season when the grasses are actively growing. Burning can occur anytime during the year and the timing of the burn is critical to achieving the desired management

objectives. SHPBA is encouraging landowners to utilize warm season burns because of the benefits and increased control. SHPBA has learned that back burns during the first half of August help to control the invasion of Old World Bluestems. Come to the annual meeting to learn more.

Prescribed fire is an important management tool for maintaining healthy rangelands in the Smoky Hills. The Smoky Hills PBA is working to increase the burned acres in Saline and surrounding counties. Research has shown a wide range of benefits from using prescribed fire to minimize wildfire fuel and to create ecologic biodiversity that supports wildlife and agricultural operations. Attend the SHPBA annual meeting to learn more on how joining the cooperative will help to improve rangeland health in the Smoky Hills. Please consider attending the SHPBA annual meeting at the Rolling Hills Zoo Conference Center at 6 p.m. on January 29th.

## NASS releases December grain and hay stocks

Kansas corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2023 totaled 388 million bushels, up 6% from 2022, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Of the total, 160 million bushels are stored on farms, up 3% from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 228 million bushels, are up 8% from last year. Wheat stored in all positions totaled 206 million bushels, down 15% from a year ago. On-farm stocks of 5.10 million bushels are down 61% from 2022, and off-farm stocks of 201 million bushels are down 12% from last year.

Sorghum stored in all positions totaled 123 million bushels, up 14% from last year. On-farm stocks of 23.0 million bushels are up 140% and off farm holdings of 100 million bushels are up 2% from last year. Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 88.4 million bushels, down 9% from last year. On-farm stocks of 32.0 million bushels are up 14% from a year ago, and off-farm stocks, at 56.4 million bushels, are down 18% from 2022. Oats off-farm stocks totaled 1.15 million bushels, up 143% from 2022. Hay stocks on Kansas farms totaled 3.60 million tons on December 1, 2023, down 12% from a year earlier.

Grain storage capacity in Kansas totaled 1.61 billion bushels, up 20.0 million bushels from December 1, 2022. Total grain storage capacity is comprised of 385 million bushels of on-farm storage, unchanged from last year, and 1.22 billion bushels of off-farm storage, up 20.0 million bushels from 2022.

MANHATTAN

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Our CONSIGNMENTS can now be viewed after 12 Noon on Mondays by going to [www.grassandgrain.com](http://www.grassandgrain.com) & logging onto the online subscription

**ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE AT [LMAAUCTIONS.COM](http://LMAAUCTIONS.COM)**

<p><b>With the cold temperature and many of the country roads being slick, we had many cancellations for our sale held on Friday, January 19th. However, cattle that made it in found good interest at mostly steady prices according to quality and condition. Weigh cows and bulls sold \$5-\$15 higher on the big heavy cows. Several young bred cows and heifers were offered and were finding good interest according to size and pregnancy.</b></p>	<p><b>HEIFER CALVES — 300-500 LBS.</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Cuba</td><td>4 blk</td><td>301@275.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Cuba</td><td>4 Cross</td><td>375@269.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Marion</td><td>5 blk</td><td>497@269.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Marion</td><td>4 Cross</td><td>455@254.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Marion</td><td>4 blk</td><td>440@250.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Yates Center</td><td>4 Cross</td><td>543@239.00</td></tr> </table> <p><b>FEEDER HEIFERS — 575-850 LBS.</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Green</td><td>15 blk</td><td>584@234.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Yates Center</td><td>8 blk</td><td>580@228.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Green</td><td>33 blk</td><td>690@223.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Green</td><td>7 Red Ang</td><td>587@223.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Green</td><td>20 Red Ang</td><td>679@222.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Olsburg</td><td>5 Cross</td><td>726@211.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Yates Center</td><td>9 Cross</td><td>827@202.75</td></tr> </table> <p><b>COWS &amp; 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### EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR JAN. 26

SELLING AT 12:00 NOON

- 35 Angus Cows (mostly 3-6 yrs) calving March & April from a 25 year closed herd. Built on AI & Angus bulls from Moser Ranch & Nemaha Valley Angus and selected for maternal, feedlot, & carcass traits. Cows are current in their biannual vaccinations & carrying calves by Nemaha Valley Angus & Fink.
  - 10 Angus OCV heifers, AI and pasture bred to Angus for Feb/March calving. From a 25-year AI-bred closed herd, selected for maternal, disposition, performance and carcass traits.
  - 11 Ang 1st calf hfrs, sired by Nemaha Valley Embryo Angus bulls. Resource, Payweight, Alpine, bred 6-7 mo. to LBW Angus son of Justified bull. All shots, Blackleg, Tirangle S, Scourbos.
  - **COMPLETE DISPERSAL OF JEFF & JOE HAUG CONSISTING OF:** 36 big Angus cows & bred hfrs (2 yrs to SS), 20 of these cows are AI sired. (4 yr olds & older) are AI bred to LBW Blk Sim bull. (2 & 3 yr olds) are AI bred to LBW Herf bull. All were cleaned up with a Nemaha Valley Angus bull, to start calving Feb 25 for 60 day calving period. Current on all shots.
  - 20 homeraised blk 1st calf hfrs, bred Woodbury or Sunflower genetic bulls. CED 14/-2 BW. Start calving Feb. 1 for 60 day calving period.
- 
- 55 home raised Gill Red Angus sired str & hfrs. Weaned October 29, 2 complete rd shots, no implants. 525-625#
  - 220 choice reputation blk str & hfrs, weaned 110 days, 2 complete rd shots, 550-750#
  - 40 Red SimAng str, 3 rds shots, weaned Oct. 1, no implants, 550-600#
  - 167 choice reputation Angus & Char Angus cross str & hfrs, weaned 100 days, 2 rds shots, no implants, 600-825#
  - 50 blk, few Char cross str & hfrs, weaned Oct., 2 rds shots, wormed, 525-725#
  - 90 Fancy Angus str & hfrs, 2 complete rd shots, weaned 75 days, no implants, 550-700#
  - 25 Red Ang cross str & hfrs, weaned Oct., 2 rd shots, 500-700#
  - 35 blk & BWF mostly str & hfrs, weaned, bunk broke, shots, 600-750#
  - 35 blk BWF str, weaned Nov. 1, 2 rd shots, no implants, 600-700#
  - 90 blk BWF str & replacement quality hfrs, all shots, weaned 75 days, 600-750#
  - 90 choice reput. blk & blk Baldy str & repl quality hfrs, weaned 85 days, 2 rd shots, 750-850#
  - 25 Blk hfrs, weaned, 2 rds shots, 450-500#
  - 165 choice Blk feeder str & hfrs, 3 rds shots, 750-950#
  - 65 SimAngus & Red Angus cross feeder str, 825-875#
  - 88 choice reputation Angus str, 2 rds shots, weaned Nov. 1, green, no implants.
  - 48 choice reputation Angus hfrs, 2 rds shots, weaned Nov. 1, green, no implants.
  - 20 blk & bwf hfrs, long weaned, 2 rds shots, 500-625#
  - 11 blk yearling hfrs, long weaned, 3 rds shots, 500-700#

### EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR FEB. 2

SELLING AT 12:00 NOON

- 50 choice reputation homeraised Angus Sitz & Conneally genetics 1st calf hfrs, several AI sired, AI bred to Domain and Genex Architect, cleaned up SMM registered proven calving ease bulls, to start calving Feb. 21 for 70 day calving period.
- 107 choice Ang str & replacement quality hfrs, running out, long wean., 2 rd shots, 600-750#

### EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR FEB. 9:

• 242 blk bwf str & hfrs, 2 rds shots, bunk broke, weaned 60 days, 450-650#



## SPECIAL STOCK COW & BRED HEIFER SALE

**WED., FEB. 14 • STARTING 11:00 AM**

— ONLINE BIDDING AT [LMAAUCTIONS.COM](http://LMAAUCTIONS.COM) —

**JOHN E CLINE 785 532-8381 • CINDY NELSON 785 770-2416**

- BICHELMAYER LAND & LIVESTOCK:**
- 13 Fancy Red Angus 1st calf, OCV, hfrs, bred Pieper Red Angus bull for Mar & April calving. Current on vaccinations & worming.
  - 70 big Red Angus Cows (5 yrs) bred Pieper Red Angus bulls for March & April calving. Current on vaccinations & wormed.

- COW/CALF PAIRS**
- 10 blk cows (3 to 5 yrs) with 45-60 day calves by side. (Cows had Fall shots)
  - 12 blk cows (4 yrs to SS) with Sept-Oct calves by side. (Calves bandad/ 1 rd shots) exposed Cline Angus bull since Nov 1.
  - 20 blk BWF cows (3 to 6 yrs) with Nov-Dec calves by side. (Cows & calves worked/ been running with bulls since Dec 1.

- BRED COWS**
- 70 blk cows, 3 to 5 yrs, bred Angus & SimAngus for Spring calving. Cows have had Fall shots.
  - 13 Fancy South Dakota origin F-1 Baldy cows, 3 yrs, bred to Advantage Herf bull for March-April calving.
  - 25 blk cows, 3 to 6 yrs, bred registered Blk bulls for Feb.-March calving.
  - 15 Angus Cows, 3 to 4 yrs, bred Dix Angus bulls to start calving Feb. 25th.
  - **COMPLETE DISPERSAL OF GREG BENNETT CONSISTING OF:** 20 gentle Char & Char Red Ang cross & few Shorthorn Cows, 6 yrs to SS, bred to BJ Ang & Char bulls for Feb. 1 calving.
  - 30 Gentle home raised Blk & BWF OCV cows (4 yrs-SS) bred to SimAngus & Angus bulls for March & April calving.

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**2024: February 14 • March 13 • April 10 • May 1**

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# Kansas Hay Market Report

Compared to the last report, demand remains low, and prices softened prior to the winter storms. However, with the frigid temperatures and snow on the ground those prices have stalled. Overall, total hay bought and sold was down a tick, with most folks reporting that they are still not trading much hay, with most deliveries being previously contracted. Many producers anticipate more movement over the next couple weeks, due to the cold temperatures and winter storms. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for January 9th, storminess in recent weeks has resulted in widespread improvements across the Central Plains, where a couple of storm systems brought wintry precipitation, with weekly snowfall totals of over five inches for many areas (locally more than ten inches), further increasing short-term precipitation surpluses. The categorical percent area for abnormally dry conditions (D0) decreased to 25%, moderate drought (D1) increased to 35%, severe drought (D2) decreased to 16%, extreme drought (D3) decreased to .50%, and no exceptional drought (D4) was recorded.

### Southwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa steady, ground and delivered 10.00 lower; movement slow. Alfalfa: Dairy, 1.35-1.45/point RFV. Good, Stock or Dry Cow 235.00-245.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large

rounds 180.00-190.00, large square 3x4's and 4x4's 180.00-190.00 delivered. Ground and delivered locally to feed lots and dairies 220.00-230.00. Alfalfa pellets: Sun cured 15 pct protein 315.00-325.00, 17 pct protein 325.00-335.00. Grass Hay: Bluestem CRP large rounds 75.00-100.00. Sudan, none reported. Corn stalks: 3x4's 95.00-105.00. The week of 1/07-1/13, 5,411T of grinding alfalfa and 50T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold. The average paid by feedlots on January 1 for alfalfa ground and delivered was \$277.95, up \$2.38 from the previous month, usage was 557T/day, up 13% from last month and total usage was 17,280.5T.

### South Central Kansas

Dairy alfalfa steady, grinding alfalfa and ground and delivered 10.00 lower; alfalfa pellets 10.00-15.00 lower; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, small squares 13.00/bale; Dairy 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Good, Stock cow, 225.00-235.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds 190.00-200.00 delivered, 3x4 and 4x4's 190.00-200.00 delivered. Alfalfa ground and delivered 220.00-230.00. Alfalfa pellets: Sun cured 15 pct protein 300.00-315.00, 17 pct protein none reported, Dehydrated 17 pct protein: 410.00-420.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, large rounds 150.00-160.00, large square 3x4's none reported, small squares: 200.00-205.00; Brome, small squares: none reported. Sudan, large rounds 95.00-105.00. The week of 1/07-1/13, 6,055T of grinding alfalfa and 100T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold. The average paid by feedlots on January 1 for alfalfa ground and delivered was \$217.26, up \$.88 from the previous month, usage was 258T/day, up 3% from last month and total usage was 7,983T.

### Southeast Kansas

Grass hay mostly steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse or goat, none reported. Dairy 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Good, stock cow 255.00-265.00 delivered. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds none reported, large square 3x4's none reported. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 200.00-205.00, large round 140.00-150.00, large square 3x4 and 4x4's 180.00-190.00. Brome, small squares 200.00-205.00, large rounds none reported, large square 3x4 and 4x4's 180.00-200.00. The week 1/07-1/13, 988.5T of grass hay was reported bought or sold.

### Northwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, steady, movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, small squares 12.00/bale. Dairy, Premium/Supreme 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Stock cow, good, 200.00-230.00, Fair/good grinding alfalfa: 180.00-200.00. Alfalfa ground and delivered none reported. Sudan, weedy, large round 85.00-95.00, delivered.

### North Central-Northeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground and delivered and grass hay mostly steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: Dairy 1.40-1.50/point RFV; Horse hay, premium small squares: none reported; Stock Cow 3x4's none reported; Fair/good, grinding alfalfa, large rounds none reported, large square 3x4's 210.00-220.00. Alfalfa ground and delivered 240.00-250.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, large rounds 140.00-150.00, large square 3x4 and 4x4's 175.00-185.00. Brome: large square 3x4 and 4x4's 190.00-200.00. Milo stalks: 75.00-85.00. The week of 1/07-1/13, 384T of grinding alfalfa and 500T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold.

\*\* Prices above reflect the average price. There could be prices higher and lower than those published.

\*RFV calculated using the Wis/Minn formula.

\*\*TDN calculated using the Western formula. Quantitative factors are approximate, and many factors can affect feeding value. Values based on 100% dry matter (TDN showing both 100% & 90%). Guidelines are to be used with visual appearance and intent of sale (usage).

Source: Kansas Department of Agriculture -Manhattan, Kansas. Kim Nettleton 785-564-6709.

## Beef forecast raised in January WASDE report

In the January World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report, the beef forecast for 2024 is raised with higher expected first-half cattle slaughter, as well as higher dressed weights. USDA's Cattle report, which will be released Jan. 31, will provide an indication of the number of cattle available for placement during 2024 as well as producer intentions for retaining heifers for addition to the breeding herd.

Beef export estimates for 2023 are lowered and imports are raised on recent trade data. For 2024, beef imports are raised largely on higher expected imports from Oceania. The export forecast is lowered on weaker sales to a number of markets in Asia. For 2024, cattle prices are unchanged.

**GUN CONSIGNMENT AUCTION**  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 \* 10:00 AM  
1100 W. Ash Street - SALINA, KANSAS 67401  
**Entire Sale will be both ONSITE & ONLINE on PROXIBID**  
Approximately 200 Guns & a wide variety of Bows, Ammo, Accessories & Related Items.  
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Monday, January 29, Noon-3 PM  
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Tuesday, January 30, 6 PM

**REMOVAL:**  
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**POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY LAND AUCTION**  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 \* 6:00 PM

**AUCTION LOCATION:** Westmoreland Community Center, 201 Main Street, WESTMORELAND, KANSAS

**DESCRIPTION**  
Here is a unique opportunity to purchase 80 acres right off of Hartwich Road outside of Westmoreland. The property will be offered in two 40-acre parcels and then in its entirety. Previously it was broke ground but currently is a hay meadow.  
**Tracts like this in this location do not come up for sale very often so make sure to join us for this great auction!**

Tract 1: 40+/- acres  
Tract 2: 40+/- acres  
Tract 3: Tract 1 & 2 Combined  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:**  
S11-T08-R09 E2 NW4

**SELLER: MARY BAIROW**

**REAL ESTATE TERMS:** Property sells AS-IS, WHERE IS. 10% non-refundable down payment is required on the day of sale by check. Buyer must be able to close on or before March 18, 2024. Buyer needs a bank letter of loan approval or funds verification. Cost of Owner's Title Policy to be split equally between Buyer and Seller. Buyers are responsible for understanding all zoning, building & other regulations associated with the property prior to the day of auction. All announcements day of sale take precedence over written materials. Crossroads Real Estate & Auction LLC is representing the Seller.

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# Kid's Corner Feature

Send in a completed Kid's Corner page/craft, picture of a completed page/craft, OR a picture of your kid working on a Kid's Corner page/craft for a chance to be featured in the paper or on social media!

Photos, crafts, and pages can be mailed to:  
P.O. box 1009, Manhattan, KS 66502

Photos can be emailed to:  
gandqclass@agpress.com

OR Send them to us on Facebook or Instagram

Please include your name and city with submissions, and any other info you want shared about your submission. Photos sent may be published in the paper and online editions of Grass & Grain, as well as to our social media accounts.



## Polar Bear in a Snowstorm

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Fingerpaint paper
- Newspaper
- Scissors
- Blue Paint
- Old Toothbrush or Wide Paintbrush

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut a simple polar bear shape from newsprint.
2. Spritz the newsprint with water and smooth it onto the paper.
3. Fingerpaint a layer of blue paint over the entire paper. When the desired effect is achieved, remove and discard the bear shape.
4. Finally, dip the brush in white paint and run your finger over the bristles, spattering the picture with paint to resemble a snowstorm.



### SUDOKU

In the grid below, fill in the missing numbers so that every grid, column, and row contains the numbers 1-9 once.

4	6	9	8	7				3
5		3		9	6	7		
	7	2	3			6	9	8
	3	8		6				4
				3	7		6	1
6	1		5					9
7	2	5		1		9	8	
3		1	6		9			
			7	2				

printablecreative.com

### Dot-To-Dot

Connect the dots in the image below, then color the image!



WooJr.com

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**RATES AND DISCOUNTS**

**CLASSIFICATIONS**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

TIPS: Phone numbers & hyphenated words count as one word. Words separated by a / count as two.

**WRITE YOUR AD HERE**



**FIGURE YOUR COST HERE:**

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Number of words: \_\_\_\_\_ @ 70¢ each

Cost for one week: \_\_\_\_\_

Multiply one-week cost times number of weeks you want ad to run.

Run ad \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive weeks.

CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks: \_\_\_\_\_

DISCOUNTS: (For PRE-PAID orders only)  
deduct 10% if ad runs 2 or 3 weeks;  
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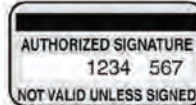
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- SWINE
- HORSES
- FERTILIZER
- FEED & SEED
- AUTOMOTIVE
- REAL ESTATE
- SERVICES
- IRRIGATION
- HARVESTING
- LIVESTOCK OTHER
- LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT
- BUILDINGS-BUILDING MATERIALS
- BINS - DRYERS - VACS
- MOBILE HOMES
- SPRAY EQUIPMENT
- BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
- WELDING
- MISCELLANEOUS
- GOAT
- SHEEP
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- MACHINERY
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- PASTURE
- WANTED
- PETS

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- NO REFUNDS!
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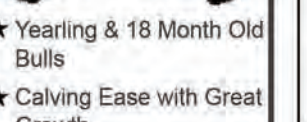
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**Saline Co.**- 115 acres m/l with 109.5 acres crop land and the balance in Waterways. Immediate possession. Located on the Saline/Lincoln County line. Call Chris, 785-493-2476.

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# Nemaha County Conservation District will hold 77th annual meeting Feb. 8

The Nemaha County Conservation District will hold their 77th Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Seneca. The public is invited to attend. A free meal, furnished by the Nemaha County Bankers Association, will be served from 6 to 7 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

An election of two supervisors of the Nemaha County Conservation District Board will be held. The term of office for both James Dobbins and Marya Haverkamp will expire. James Dobbins is not seeking re-election. Other current board members are Aaron Georg, Dennis Deters & Ken Kramer. Prizes will be presented to the winners of the conservation district's poster and photo contests, as well as state awards.

Presentations of the Kansas Bankers Association Soil Conservation Award, Buffer, Grassland, Energy and Windbreak Award will be made. A Wildlife Habitat Award will be presented by Pheasants Forever.

# NCBA continues to push for death tax relief

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) strongly supports the Death Tax Repeal Act, led by Reps. Randy Feenstra (IA) and Sanford Bishop (GA). The Senate companion bill is led by Sen. John Thune (SD). Repealing the federal estate tax, also known as the Death Tax, is a top priority for NCBA.

"It is unconscionable for cattle producers to face a tax that forces them to sell all or part

of their family's farm or ranch due to the death of a family member. With the cost of farmland rapidly rising, the Death Tax presents a significant threat to the future of family farms and ranches," said NCBA president and South Dakota cattle producer Todd Wilkin-son. "Most cattle producers have significant assets but are cash-poor and operate on thin margins, leaving them with few options

when they are saddled with an unexpected tax liability. Some producers are forced to sell off assets including land, livestock, farm equipment, or even their home. This is an incredible loss, and it starts a vicious cycle where future generations continue to face punitive taxes their ancestors paid multiple times. Rural America needs a tax code that promotes multi-generational, family-owned

businesses instead of chopping them up."

Current Death Tax relief is set to expire at the end of 2025, and it is vital that Congress acts soon and provide permanent relief for family operations. If the federal estate tax exemption reverts to pre-2017 limits, coupled with the rapid inflation of farmland values, many more families will be subject to the Death Tax.

# USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service to conduct hemp survey

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will mail the 2023 Hemp Production and Disposition Inquiry to Kansas producers on January 22. The survey will collect information on the total planted and harvested area, yield, production, and value of hemp in the United States in 2023. "The Hemp Production and Disposition Inquiry will provide critical data about the hemp industry to assist producers, regulatory agencies, state governments, processors, and other key industry entities," said

Doug Bounds, NASS Kansas State Statistician. NASS estimated the total value of hemp production nationally at \$238 million in 2022. Planted area for industrial hemp grown in the open for all utilizations in the United States totaled 28,314 acres. Area harvested for all utilizations totaled 18,251 acres. These and other statistics can be found in the 2022 National Hemp Report. Survey recipients are asked to respond securely online at [agcounts.usda.gov](https://agcounts.usda.gov), by mail or fax. Those who do not respond by January 31 may be contacted to

arrange an interview to complete the survey. As defined in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill), the term "hemp" means the plant species *Cannabis sativa* L. and any part of that plant such as the seeds, all derivatives, and extracts with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis.

The Domestic Hemp Production Program established in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 allows for the cultivation of hemp under certain conditions. All information

reported by individuals will be kept confidential, as required by federal law. The National Hemp Report will publish on April 17 and will be available on the NASS website at [nass.usda.gov](https://nass.usda.gov) and in the NASS Quick Stats database at [quickstats.nass.usda.gov](https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov). For more information about the 2023 Hemp Production and Disposition Inquiry, visit the hemp survey web page at [www.nass.usda.gov/go/hemp](https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/hemp). For assistance with the survey, producers are encouraged to call the NASS Kansas Field Office at (800) 582-6443.

# New video series shares wheat stories of stewardship

Launched on January 10, 2024, a new video series features U.S. farmers explaining how they responsibly manage the land and natural resources entrusted to their care. "Stories of Stewardship" was produced by U.S. Wheat Associates, the industry's export market development organization. Each episode focuses on how wheat producers help feed the world while acting as stewards of soil, water and the environment.

"Consumers around the world want to know how their food is grown and U.S. wheat is definitely a food ingredient," said USW vice president of communications Steve Mercer. "Here at home, we know U.S. farmers work every day to nourish and improve the land and produce a sustainable source of high-quality wheat. The purpose of the 'Stories of Stewardship' series is to share this information with international buyers, millers, wheat food processors, and consumers who value the quality and reliability of U.S. wheat."

USW developed the video series to share the impressive stories of stewardship across the different U.S. wheat production regions. The six-episode series features five wheat farmers in five

states. Each episode provides a look into how the concept of stewardship is deeply ingrained in farmers who feel responsible for continually nourishing and improving their land to contribute to a sustainable source of high-quality wheat for the world.

Episode 1 focuses on the variety of sustainable practices applied by these families to produce different classes of wheat across the wide range of growing conditions in the United States. In the episode, the producers discuss their shared commitment to farm in ways that sustain economic viability for the next generation while producing safe, wholesome wheat for the world — all while ensuring the land is passed on in better condition than when they started farming it.

The series is part of USW's larger efforts to communicate how wheat farmers are committed to adapting to challenges while making choices that are best for the environment and their individual farms. Just as each U.S. production region is different and faces unique challenges, the concept of stewardship and sustainability has as many meanings as there are stakeholders. The USDA defines

sustainable agriculture as "farming in such a way to protect the environment, aid and expand natural resources and to make the best use of nonrenewable resources."

Farmers representing all six classes of U.S. wheat agree and would expand upon that agronomic definition to include "farming in a way that sustains the economic viability of their family's operation to produce safe, wholesome wheat for the world, while ensuring the land is passed on in better condition for the next generation."

In addition to the video series, USW has gathered resources for global wheat buyers, flour millers, bakers and wheat food processors to promote a deeper understanding of how U.S. wheat farmers produce more and better-quality wheat while using methods that are better for a shared planet.

Watch episode 1 of "Stories of Stewardship" now and learn more about the series and wheat farmers' role as stewards of the land at <https://www.uswheat.org/stories-of-stewardship>. Future episodes will be released on January 24, February 7, February 21, March 6 and March 20.

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# Nitrogen's amigos: sulfur and chloride

**By James Coover, Wildcat Extension District crop production agent**

The need for nitrogen in wheat is well known, but often farmers forget about the other two mobile soil nutrients; sulfur and chloride. Sulfur deficiency looks a lot like nitrogen deficiency and chloride deficiency looks just like a fungal disease; that is, if either can be seen at all. While commonly associated with sandy soils, sulfur and chloride deficiency is possible in our heavy clay soils. No-till fields tend to have more trouble with sulfur. Besides wheat and corn, sulfur and chloride are needed in fescue pastures as well. Fescue forage yields have been shown to increase 500 to 800 lbs. in some research fields top-dressed with sulfur in addition with nitrogen compared to nitrogen alone.

### Sulfur in Wheat

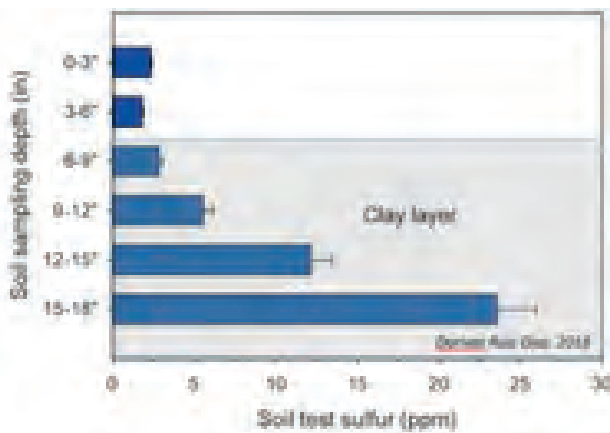
The need for sulfur in wheat starts slow in the fall and early spring, but then takes off shortly after green-up. Sulfur deficiency looks like nitrogen ex-

cept the yellowing occurs in younger leaves rather than older leaves. The wheat will be stunted and spindly with slowed growth and fewer tillers.

Sulfur is generally half as mobile in soil as nitrogen but will eventually move down in lower soil profiles. There it can collect on the heavy clays. It is quite possible that sulfur amounts can increase with soil depth. Sulfur deficiencies can follow plow pans, tire tracks, or any other feature that restricts root depth.

Most biological soil sulfur is mineralized from organic matter and is therefore biologically tied to anything that slows down soil microbes. In early spring, cold soil temperature is the main culprit for lack of biological sulfur.

Saturated soil is another common microbial limiter due to the lack of oxygen required to break down organic matter. Saturated/unsaturated soil cycle can also convert sulfate to gaseous forms much the same way as de-



nitrification. Our cold and saturated heavy clay soils can mean less mineralization during a time when wheat starts to green-up. In some extreme cases, excess nitrate can reduce the plant uptake of the sulfate that is available.

Ideally, top-dressed sulfur needs to go on before Feekes 5, which is green-up. Concern needs to be taken with leaf burn for sulfur liquid fertilizers combined with nitrogen fertilizers. Application rates are generally ten to 15 lbs. S per acre.

It's important to keep in mind that mineral forms of sulfur, like gypsum or elemental sulfur, dissolve slowly over a long period, often a couple of years.

These sulfur fertilizers need to be applied at twice the rate of chemical sulfur forms but half as often. A good sulfur plan is to apply around 30 lbs. of gypsum or elemental sulfur along with the pre-plant corn fertilizer. This should supply sulfur for the full corn, wheat, and soybean rotation.

### Chloride in Wheat

Chloride is an anion like sulfate and nitrate. It will move through soil and has a gaseous form. However, it is more elusive than the other two as deficiency is often hidden. The benefits and yield improvement from top-dressing chloride are variable but can be important for suppression of fungal diseases and enzyme

production. Chloride deficiency looks very similar to a fungal problem with yellow spotting on the upper and lower leaves.

In southeast Kansas, deficiency is less common but only because potash (potassium chloride) or poultry litter are common fertilizer applications. Fields without these applications can be easily susceptible to hidden chloride deficiency. Application rates of 15 to 25 lbs. Cl per acre is usually plenty. Ammonium chloride is a liquid that can be applied top-dressed and mixed with the sulfur and nitrogen application. Potash is 45% chloride.

When top-dressing

wheat this spring, remember all three of the mobile nutrient amigos; nitrogen, sulfur, and chloride. Each has their role in wheat development and can improve grain yields. Usually, sulfur and chloride are fairly affordable because they are needed in small quantities, and they can be parts of other fertilizers. Remember that soil testing for mobile nutrients requires a full depth soil sample, as close to 24" as possible, with at least ten soil cores per sample.

For more information, please contact James Coover, Crop Production Agent, at [jcoover@ksu.edu](mailto:jcoover@ksu.edu) or (620) 724-8233.



# Reduce hay feeding waste with bale feeders

**By Eric Bailey, University of Missouri**

Use bale feeders to reduce hay waste. When large round bales are fed without a feeder, cattle have unrestricted access, leading to substantial waste. Bale feeders designed to restrict access and control hay consumption minimize wastage. Studies show using bale feeders can lead to notable hay savings. While the exact amount varies, it is possible to reduce waste from 40% of a bale to less than 10%.

**Feeder design:** Feeders with solid bottoms and suitable heights prevent cattle from pulling out and trampling on hay. Cone-shaped or tapered feeders restrict access to hay, allowing only small amounts to be consumed at a time, reducing waste.

**Feeder placement:** Provide ample space to accommodate all animals without overcrowding, which can lead to trampling and wastage. Put enough rings out so no more than ten cows stand around a feeder at one

time.

**Controlled feeding:** Unrolling bales on pasture can reduce wastage. Feeding one day's worth of hay will reduce waste compared to putting out enough hay to last multiple days. Evaluating feeding frequency and adjusting can reduce losses due to bedding and fouling hay spilled outside feeders and encourage complete consumption.

**Quality assessment:** Regularly assessing hay quality is crucial. Poor-quality hay may be less palatable, lead-

ing to wastage. Monitoring hay moisture levels prevents mold or bacterial growth, which can render hay unappetizing or unhealthy.

**Hay storage:** Storing hay in a dry, well-ventilated area, preferably on pallets or racks, prevents moisture absorption from the ground. Rainfall or snowmelt can be avoided by covering hay with tarps or storing it in barns.

**Supplementary feeding:** Assessing the nutritional requirements of the herd and considering appropriate feed or concentrate supple-

ments can minimize hay wastage by ensuring cattle consume required nutrients without excessive reliance on hay.

**Monitoring and adjustment:** Regularly evaluating hay consumption and wastage

rates allows for identification of areas for improvement. Feeding strategies can be adjusted based on observed patterns and feedback from the herd. Look at BCS change for 30 days to see if a feeding plan is working.

# Winter wheat seeded acres decline, while canola sees increase

Winter wheat seeded area for 2024 is estimated at 7.50 million acres, down from last year's seeded area of 8.10 million acres, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Canola seeded area is estimated at 3,000 acres, up from last year's seeded area of 1,500 acres.

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**SALE CANCELED FOR JANUARY 17TH, 2024**

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• 65 CharX hrs, H.R., long wean., shots, 600-700#  
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Wednesday Sale, Hogs NOON • Cattle 12:30 PM

Report from January 17th, 2023  
Only butcher cows sold - butcher cow and bull market is very active and getting higher.

Be sure to check our Facebook page  
- Junction City and Clay Center Livestock Sales -  
for latest consignments & weather notices!

Watch online with [cattleusa.com](http://cattleusa.com) (Tab J.C. Livestock Sales)  
Must register to bid.

If you need assistance in marketing your cattle please call & we will be happy to discuss it with you.

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Seth Lauer 785-949-2285, Abilene

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Cell: 785-499-2945

**MITCH LANGVARDT**  
Cell: 785-761-5814

**LYNN LANGVARDT**  
Cell: 785-761-5813

CLAY CENTER LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Cattle sales Tuesday, 11:00 AM.

JANUARY 16TH, 2024  
SALE CANCELLED  
due to unfavorable weather conditions.

Stay safe and we look forward to having a good large run on January 23rd!

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR JAN. 23

- 36-36 complete dispersal of fall pairs, 3-9 years old. Cows have been running back with Angus bull.
- 325 Blk x s/h, 650-800#, w,v
- 210 Ang x s, 575-800#, w,v
- 60 Ang x s/h, 600-700#, w,v
- 130 Ang x s/h, 650-800#, w,v
- 50 Char x s/h, 600-750#, w,v
- 140 Ang x s/h, 600-800#, w,v
- 50 Ang x s/h, 650-800#, w,v
- 100 Blk x s/h, 600-800#, w,v
- 29 Ang x s/h, 650-800#, w,v
- 45 Red Ang x s/h, 550-800#, w,v
- 70 Char x s/h, 675-900#, w,v
- 60 Blk x s/h, 500-675#, w,v
- 40 Blk x s/h, 775-850#, w,v
- 36 Blk x s/h, 650-775#, w,v
- 10 Blk x s/h, 700-890#, w,v

PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME

SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR LATEST CONSIGNMENTS AND WEATHER UPDATES!

Clay Center, Ks • Barn Phone 785-632-5566  
Clay Center Field Representatives:  
Tom Koch, 785-243-5124, Lance Lagasse, 785-262-1185

83RD ANNIVERSARY SALE  
JANUARY 24, 2024  
(CONTINUING FROM JAN. 17 DUE TO WEATHER)

- 27 red Ang str & hrs-longtime weaned, 400-600#
- 160 blk str & hrs-longtime weaned & shots-Connealy Ang, 400-650#
- 70 mix str & hrs-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 400-700#
- 60 blk & red str & hrs, longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 450-600#
- 20 rwf str-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 500-700#
- 55 blk str & hrs-longtime weaned & shots, 500-700#
- 60 blk str-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 500-700#
- 60 blk str & hrs-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 500-750#
- 86 bwf str & hrs, longtime weaned & shots, 500-750#
- 160 blk & blkwf str & hrs-longtime weaned & shots-no implants on hrs, 550-750#
- 51 blk hrs, longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 550-800#
- 75 blk & red str & hrs-longtime weaned & shots, 550-800#
- 12 red str, longtime weaned & worked, 550-850#
- 230 blk str & hrs, longtime weaned & shots, 575-800#
- 21 blk & red str & hrs-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 600-700#
- 60 blk & red str & hrs-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 600-750#
- 32 blk str & hrs-longtime weaned & 2 rds shots, 600-800#
- 60 mix str & hrs-longtime weaned & shots, 600-800#
- 500 mix str, 800-900#
- 60 mostly blk str, 850-900#
- 58 mostly blk str, 900-950#

PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR JAN. 31

- 320 mix str, 800-950#

PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!

Check our website for consignment and sale updates!

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DALTON HOOK, Field Representative, 785-219-2908  
WIBW 580 - 6:45 A.M. Thurs; KVOE 1400 - 6:30-6:45 A.M. Thurs. & Fri.

To see more consignments go to: [emporialivestock.com](http://emporialivestock.com)

# National Corn Growers Association expresses disappointment with International Trade Commission decision on fertilizer tariffs

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) said that it is deeply disappointed in a decision released by the International Trade Commission, which upholds an earlier opinion that found material injury to U.S. fertilizer companies during a time of rising on-farm fertilizer prices that went on to reach record highs.

The decision comes after the U.S. Court of International Trade asked the U.S. Department of Commerce and ITC to reconsider earlier decisions they issued on the matter.

“The idea that major fertilizer conglomerates were materially injured even as they were posting substantially higher profits during the time in question sounds dubious to me,” said Minnesota farmer and NCGA president Harold Wolle. “ITC’s

decision flies in the face of the U.S. Court of International Trade’s request to seriously reconsider this issue and ignores the negative impact these tariffs continue to have on America’s farmers who are facing higher prices for fertilizers that are critical to the success of their crops. We will continue to make a vigorous case for eliminating or lowering these tariffs.”

The ITC opinion upholds an earlier decision by the agency that the trade practices of a Moroccan-based company caused harm to U.S. fertilizer companies. The decision comes almost a week after the U.S. Department of Commerce announced it was lowering duties on these products from 19.97% to 7.41%, and introduces uncertainty on the fate of tariffs as it could be used as an argu-

ment to keep tariffs on phosphate fertilizers high.

The U.S. Court of International Trade will now review the remand decisions and issue a final ruling. The Department of Commerce is also set to make another decision regarding its administrative review later this year.

Commerce and the ITC originally acted on a petition by The Mosaic Company, a U.S.-based fertilizer producer, which had requested the tariffs over what it called unfair trading practices. Over the past three years, NCGA has advocated for growers who were facing record-high phosphate prices by filing an amicus brief in the case, sending letters to the White House and federal agencies, and informing members of Congress about the impact of the high prices on corn farmers.

# Dairy cattle genomics is quietly improving sustainability

U.S. dairy producers are increasingly leveraging the power of genomic science to optimize the genetic potential of their herds for milk production, animal health and operational efficiency. Since genomic testing became commercially available in 2008, over eight million U.S. dairy animals have been genotyped for dozens of key genetic traits related to milk production and quality, feed efficiency, reproductive viability, and cow health.

The investment has paid off handsomely for the overall industry in terms of production output and efficiency. While the U.S. dairy herd is only 1% larger than it was in 2008, milk production has climbed by 19.2% and butterfat rose an impressive 32.2% from 2008 levels. Some of those gains have come from improved nutrition and cow comfort initiatives, but genomics has played a crucial role. Improvements in milk composition, in-

cluding higher levels of protein and butterfat, are also directly attributable to the use of genomics to inform breeding decisions and mating selections.

According to a new report from CoBank’s Knowledge Exchange, an often-overlooked benefit of the dairy industry’s adoption of genomics is the impact it is having on sustainability. By optimizing genetics within their herds, dairy producers have successfully bred new generations of cows to produce more milk, butterfat and protein with fewer resources.

“The sustainability aspect of dairy genomics is largely an untold story,” said Corey Geiger, lead dairy economist for CoBank. “With each passing year, the U.S. dairy industry needs fewer cows to produce the same amount of milk. That translates to less methane production, a smaller carbon footprint and less feed required for each unit of milk. Genomics is having a profound impact on dairy sustainability and the upside potential is enormous.”

Genomic science centers on the comparison of an individual an-

imal’s DNA to the phenotypic performance of the entire population. The comparison allows producers to evaluate each animal within their herd for a wide variety of genetic traits and make informed breeding and retention decisions that advance overall herd genetics.

While several indexes track genetic progress, the Net Merit Index — or NM\$ — is the most universally implemented index across all major dairy breeds as it combines over 40 traits into one measurement based on U.S. dollars. The NM\$ index, which serves as a proxy for genetic progress on sustainability, is formulated by the geneticists at the USDA and published by the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding.

Data from the NM\$ indicates that genomic selection has delivered \$70 in additional value per cow per year. That calculation is based on the difference between the \$13.50 in annual genetic improvement prior to the availability of genomics and the \$83.33 annual genetic gain from 2010 to 2022. The financial incentive has fueled a rapid increase in the adoption of genomics among

dairy producers in the U.S. and abroad.

“The exciting part of dairy genomics is that we’re really just scratching the surface and major advances are likely coming in the years ahead,” said Geiger. “For example, genomic science has the potential to identify new traits that will further reduce methane production and the carbon footprint of dairy operations.”

Toward that end, the CDCB is working with the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research to collect data to further study the opportunities for methane and carbon

reduction. In addition, the Greener Cattle Initiative and its research consortium have awarded \$5 million to support research to mitigate enteric methane emissions.

“The ultimate goal is to collect the data needed to create a national genomic evaluation for methane emissions,” said Geiger. “When fueled by the power of genomics, this work will open the next chapter in breeding more sustainable cows.”

Watch a video synopsis and read the report, Dairy Cattle Genomics is Quietly Improving Sustainability.

# November U.S. pork exports set new records in key world markets

Fueled by record performances in Mexico, Central America, and Colombia, November exports of U.S. pork reached the highest value since mid-2021, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

- November pork exports to leading market Mexico set a value record, up 5% from a year ago. Export volume (100,313 mt) increased 14% and was the second-largest on record, trailing only October 2023.

- Led by outstanding growth in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, pork exports to Central America set monthly records in November. Shipments increased 35% from a year ago to 16,565 mt.

- November was an excellent month for pork exports to South Korea, up 19% from a year ago to 17,406 mt.

- Pork exports to Oceania made an impressive rebound in 2023 and this trend continued in November, with shipments nearly tripling from a year ago to 6,414 mt (up 186%).

- Exports accounted for 30.1% of total November pork production and 26.2% for muscle cuts only, each up about 1 percentage point from a year ago.

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**Market Report for 1-18-24. 514 Head Sold.**

STEERS/BULLS	Individual Report	COWS-HIGH YIELDING:
<b>BEEF</b>		
300-400#	\$337.00-\$302.00	7 blk 400@314.00
400-500#	\$314.00-\$290.00	5 blk 726@234.00
500-600#	\$278.00-\$254.00	69 red 854@221.00
600-700#	\$248.00-\$237.00	29 red 941@208.00
700-800#	\$234.00-\$210.00	
800-900#	\$221.00-\$206.00	
900-1,000#	\$208.00-\$200.00	
<b>HEIFERS</b>		
300-400#	\$302.00-\$280.00	
400-500#	\$281.00-\$250.00	
500-600#	\$249.00-\$227.00	
600-700#	\$231.00-\$209.00	
700-800#	\$217.00-\$189.00	
800-900#	\$203.00-\$180.00	

FIELDMEN	Jeff Cook	Greg Anderson
Jim Dalinghaus	402-239-9717	785-564-2173
785-799-5643	Odell, Nebraska	Hanover, KS
Baileyville, KS		Waterville, KS
Trevor Lundberg	Taylor Schotte	Bill Keesecker
785-770-2271	785-268-0430	785-410-6117
Frankfort, KS	Marysville, KS	Washington, KS

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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

**VALENTINE LIVESTOCK AUCTION CO. Valentine, Neb.**

275... angus & blk (7-12 yrs; 1100-1300#) bred angus; cf 3-10 for 70 days.

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**\*THE BRED FEMALE SALE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 18, 2024 HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO FEBRUARY 8\***

**MORE LIQUIDATIONS & DISPERSIONS FROM:** Most (100- 3 yrs), Stack Lazy 3 (177-3 yrs), J Kime (140), L Johnson (116 rd), Tom Cox (75), Brannon (22). Over 800 bred heifers; including bwf, Hereford, angus, blk & rd angus.

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**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024**

**Special Feeder Sale**

S.T. 12:00 Noon Expecting 3000 hd

**Listings:**

400 Ang strz Sitz & Logterman genes	525-700#	Ramm Rn Cattle LLC
270 blk & Ang strz NI	500-600#	Burdick Ranch
240 blk, blk-x NI hayfed	475-600#	Burney Ranch Ptshp
190 bwf, blk strz NI Bwf sired by Holden	600-725#	David & Matthew Bachelor
180 blk strz NI great condition	500-650#	Bob & Jody Dexter
150 blk strz NI cake & hay hair & look!	650-750#	Iverson Ranch
120 blk strz NI	625#	Larry, Danny & Craig O’Kief
100 blk strz NI	575-650#	Vandermay Cattle & Grain
160 blk (80s-80h) NI	675-775#	L & C Cattle
160 Ang (90s-70h) NI kind & quality! Hfns not topped	550-700#	Brad & Chris Warmke
90 .blk hfrs NI	600-625#	Larry, Danny & Craig O’Kief
50 .rd & blk hfrs NI	500-600#	Sage Ranch
45 .blk & Ang hfrs NI	600-650#	Kevin Vandermay
40 .blk (2 bwf) hfrs	450-550#	Tara & Dustin Bryant
30 .blk & Ang hfrs NI	500-550#	Ted & Bonnie Swendener
62 .Ang Littau genes	550-700#	Travnick Rn (Chad & Troy)
56 .blk, bwf (4 rd & char-x) NI	650-750#	Dakota Walking
40 .blk (20s-20h) NI	500-600#	Ron Deamont
20 .Ang strz	550#	Guy Anker
40 .blk NI	600#	Travis & Jody Hissong
30 .Ang (15s-5h) NI	500-550#	Dale & Tammera Stoner
25 .blk	500-600#	Brenda & Jay Lovitt
23 .blk, bwf (2 rd) NI hayfed	500-600#	Roger & Matt Glynn
19 .blk (2 bwf-1 heref) strz NI	450-550#	CC Ranch Inc
26 .blk, few rd & char	450-500#	Brian & Sarah Schied

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Hay Auction- Every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.  
Cattle Auction- Every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.  
Sheep/Goat Auction- Every 3rd Saturday at 11:00 a.m.  
Horse/Tack Auction- Every 2nd Saturday

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> - Calf and Yearling Special**  
**January 30<sup>th</sup> - Cattle Sale**  
**February 6<sup>th</sup> - Cattle Sale**  
**February 10<sup>th</sup> - Horse Sale**  
**ALL WEIGH COWS & BULLS SELL AT THE END**

**Holton Livestock Exchange, Inc.**

1/2 mile East of Holton, KS on 16 Highway  
Livestock Auction every Tuesday at 11:00 AM  
\*\*\*\*STARTING TIME: 11:00 AM\*\*\*\*

MARKET REPORT FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024  
**NOT ENOUGH SOLD TO REPORT.**  
FOR FULL RESULTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM](http://WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM)

**SPECIAL COW SALE: HAS BEEN MOVED TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 6:00 PM**

- Complete Cow Herd Dispersal for Casey & Sharon Bloom of 263 cows. A big portion of these cows are home raised with the balance being heifers developed by Casey.
- 104 3yr 2nd calf cows, 96 blk bwf, 5 char, 3 rwf, bred to Oleen blk Angus bull to start calving Feb. 15-20.
- 32 blk bwf red cows 5-7 yrs bred Oleen blk Angus or Sounderup char to start calving Feb. 15-20
- 118 cows 8 yrs-aged; blk cows bred to Sounderup char; bwf & red cows bred to blk Angus bulls to start calving Feb. 15-20
- 9 blk cows 5-6 yrs bred to blk Angus, char or herf bulls to start calving Feb. 15-20

**Other Consignments**

- 14 blk 1st calf (9 hd) & 2nd calf (5 hd) hfrs bred to SydGen Slash 1461 blk Angus bull for March 12 calves **D Pickering**
- 11 blk cows 5-10 yrs bred blk Angus bulls for March calves **Meyer L&C**
- 7 blk bwf cows 7-9 yrs bred blk Ang or Simm/Ang bulls for March 1 calves **L Hanzlicek**
- 20 blk cows, 5-6 yrs bred NVA blk Angus bull for March-April calves **B Hasenkamp**
- 30 blk Simm/Ang open replacement heifers, 750-850, OCV & vacc **Double B Ranch**

**Dan Harris, Auctioneer & Owner • 785-364-7137**  
**Danny Deters, Corning, Auct. & Field Rep • 785-336-1622**  
**Dick Coppinger, Winchester, Field Rep. • 913-683-5485**  
**Steve Aeschliman, Sabetha, Field Rep. • 785-284-2417**  
**Larry Matzke, Wheaton, Field Rep. • 785-268-0225**  
**Craig Wischropp, Horton, Field Rep. • 785-547-5419**  
**Mark Servaes, Atchison, Field Rep. • 816-390-2549**  
**Barn Phone • 785-364-4114**  
**WEBSITE: [www.holtonlivestock.com](http://www.holtonlivestock.com)**  
**EMAIL: [dan@holtonlivestock.com](mailto:dan@holtonlivestock.com)**

**View our auctions live at [Imaauctions.com](http://Imaauctions.com)**

**EL DORADO LIVESTOCK AUCTION, INC.**

**316-320-3212**  
Fax: 316-320-7159  
2595 SE Highway 54, P.O. Box 622, El Dorado, KS 67042

**Market Report - Sale Date 1-18-24.**  
**Special Cow Sale. 968 head.**

300-400 lb. steers, \$295-\$310; heifers, \$240-\$281; 400-500 lb. steers, \$254-\$313; heifers, \$235-\$260; 500-600 lb. steers, \$300; heifers, \$230-\$260; 600-700 lb. heifers, \$215-\$218.

**Trend on Calves:** Not enough for good test. **Trend on Feeder Cattle:** No test. **Butcher Cows:** High dressing cows \$100-\$109; Avg. dressing cows \$90-\$100; Low dressing cows \$75-\$90. **Stock Cows:** Bred Cows \$1800-\$2790; Cow/Calf pairs \$1700-\$2600. **Butcher Bulls:** Avg. to high dressing bulls \$110-\$131.50. **Trend on Cows & Bulls:** \$8-\$12 higher.

**Some Highlights Include:**

55 blk/bwf	bred hfr	@\$2525
10 SimAngus	bred hfr	@\$2600
38 blk	3 yr	@\$2790
12 bwf	4-5 yr	@\$2525
8 blk	5 yr	@\$2500
5 red	5 yr	@\$2275
10 blk	6-7 yr	@\$2375

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024, 11 AM**

- 80 blk st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 600-800lbs
- 25 blk st, 700-750lbs
- 2 loads blk st, 950-1000lbs
- 40 blk st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 500-800lbs
- 45 blk Angus/Sim Angus st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 650-800lbs
- 25 Sim cross st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 550-700lbs
- 55 mx st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 700-800lbs
- 150 Angus st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 575-700lbs
- 1 load mostly blk st, 850-900lbs
- 1 load mostly blk st, 850-900lbs
- 70 mx st, LTW, 900-925lbs
- 30 Angus cross cows, HR, bred to Reg. Angus bulls 5-7 yr old to calve in Feb/Mar
- 75 mostly blk st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 600-800lbs
- 20 blk st & hf, HR/LTW/shots, 550-700lbs

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE FOR DAILY CONSIGNMENT UPDATES**  
[WWW.ELDORADOLIVESTOCK.COM](http://WWW.ELDORADOLIVESTOCK.COM)

**We welcome your consignments!**  
If you have cattle to consign or would like additional information, please call the office at 316-320-3212

**Check our website & Facebook for updated consignments: [www.eldoradolivestock.com](http://www.eldoradolivestock.com)**  
**To stay up to date on our latest announcements you can "Like" us on Facebook**

<b>Josh Mueller</b> Owner/Barn Manager (316) 680-9680	<b>Van Schmidt</b> Auctioneer/Fieldman (620) 345-6879
<b>Seth Greenwood</b> Asst. Barn Manager/Fieldman (620) 583-3338	<b>Charly Cummings</b> Auctioneer/Fieldman (620) 496-7108
<b>Kyle Criger</b> Fieldman (620) 330-3300	<b>Brandon Fredrick</b> Fieldman (620) 204-0841

**Cattle Sale Every Thursday 11:00 AM**

# Expanding excellence: meet the new faces of MJE Livestock Equipment's sales team

MJE Livestock Equipment is on a path of growth, and as part of this journey, they proudly introduce two exceptional additions to the sales force under the leadership of sales director, Michael Cowley. With a shared commitment to providing superior efficiency and unmatched customer service, Ethan Cantrell and Jenna Hlavaty are set to elevate the experience of LE's devoted customers.



Ethan Cantrell



Jenna Hlavaty

and cattle ranching. His journey, steeped in the rich traditions of rural life, has shaped him into the passionate professional he is today.

### Building relationships, one dealer at a time

Ethan's philosophy is simple: enter as a representative, leave as a friend. His approach to dealer management re-

volves around creating deep, personal connections. His long-standing relationship with Cowley, and his extensive network in the ranching industry are testaments to his ability to forge lasting bonds.

### A rancher at heart

Beyond his professional life, Ethan is an avid outdoorsman. From riding horses to barbecuing with friends and family, his

love for the outdoor ranching lifestyle reflects his dedication to the industry.

### Jenna Hlavaty: rooted in Kansas agriculture

Jenna Hlavaty will serve as the new Inside Sales Representative at MJE Livestock Equipment. Born and raised in Kansas, Jenna's life has been deeply intertwined with the cattle industry. Her family's background in cattle backgrounding yards and her extensive experience in feedlots have ingrained in her a profound understanding of the agricultural lifestyle.

### From feedlot to sales floor

Jenna's recent work in a feedyard has equipped her with valuable insights that she is eager to bring to the sales team at MJE. Her understanding of the practical chal-

lenges ranchers face makes her a vital asset in matching them with the right equipment for their herds.

### Industry expertise meets personal touch

Jenna's profound industry knowledge and her enthusiasm for customer service make her an excellent fit for facilitating local sales. Her dedication to understanding and meeting the specific needs of ranchers underscores her commitment to the MJE Livestock Equipment family.

### Beyond the office

Outside work, Jenna's interests include baking and her alma mater, Kansas State University. Her diverse interests reflect her well-rounded personality and ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Her expertise, passion for agriculture, and commit-

ment to local ranchers make her an invaluable team member. Jenna's unique perspective and dedication will enhance service to the local ag community.

### A bright future ahead

With Ethan and Jenna on board, MJE Livestock Equipment is poised to reach new heights in customer service and industry expertise. Their diverse backgrounds, shared passion for agriculture, and commitment to enhancing our sales capabilities exemplify the core values of MJE.

Join MJE Livestock Equipment in extending a warm welcome to Ethan and Jenna. Their arrival marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for MJE Livestock Equipment as they continue to serve the agricultural community with dedication and excellence.

## 'Communicating With Farmers Under Stress' webinar aimed at ag professionals

An upcoming Penn State Extension webinar, "Communicating With Farmers Under Stress," is aimed at helping participants learn the signs of stress and how to help. This webinar will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on February 15, 2024.

The program is designed for agriculture industry professionals, loan officers, family members of farmers and concerned citizens. The session will cover how to communicate with and respond to farmers and their family members when they need assistance.

The webinar will help participants to:

- Build awareness of the stressors affecting farmers and their families.
- Recognize the signs and symptoms of anxiety and warning signs of suicide.
- Assess, approach and assist farmers who are showing changes in their mental health.
- Access local, state and national resources.

This webinar is free, but attendees must register prior to the start of the webinar to get the access link. Those who register also will receive a link to watch the recording of the program.

For more details and to sign up, visit the Penn State Extension website at <https://extension.psu.edu/communicating-with-farmers-under-stress-webinar> or call 1-877-345-0691.

## Protecting sheep in winter weather

Sheep need extra protection in harsh winter weather.

"The end goal for the producer is to ensure sheep and goats thrive through cold winter months," said David Brown, University of Missouri Extension small-ruminant specialist.

Brown has a new publication that outlines best practices for protecting sheep in cold weather. The free publication, "Preparing Sheep for Winter Months," is available at <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g2619>.

### Shelter

Their thick coats protect sheep from extreme weather, Brown said, but the challenge comes from low temperatures combined with snowfall and high winds or prolonged extreme conditions.

"Producers should provide some kind of winter shelter for their sheep," he said. "Shelters should be built on elevated ground with good drainage and adequate ventilation, but they do not have to be elaborate. Also, lambs require special attention as temperatures drop to ensure their

survival."

### Winter feed and water

"Sheep require more energy in cold weather to maintain their body temperature," Brown said. "Producers should provide good-quality hay or forage to sheep to meet their energy demand."

Sheep kept in the barn should have access to fresh, clean water, and producers should check the drinking trough at least twice a day when temperatures drop below freezing.

### Monitor flock health

Barns should always be dry, and water spillage should be avoided to minimize breeding sites for pathogens.

"Animals kept together are predisposed to diseases," said Brown. "Producers should monitor sheep for signs of illness and cull sick animals to prevent the spread of diseases."

Brown advises producers to contact their veterinarian or local Extension center to create a treatment plan for any sick ewes or lambs.

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**THE SUNFLOWER PACKAGE**

4 YEAR BULL GUARANTEE - EXCLUSIVE BRED HEIFER OPTION  
FREE DELIVERY TO KS, MO, NE, OK & AR

**MARCH 15TH 2024**

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

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Pat: (402) 209-4094 | [www.SUNFLOWERGENETICS.com](http://www.SUNFLOWERGENETICS.com)

### Grass & Grain Weather Report

Jan. 24, 2024

Seven Day Forecast	In-Depth Local Forecast	Today's Local Outlook																																														
<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Cloudy High: 39 Low: 30</p> <p><b>THURSDAY</b> Scattered Rain High: 41 Low: 33</p> <p><b>FRIDAY</b> Cloudy High: 37 Low: 27</p> <p><b>SATURDAY</b> Cloudy High: 38 Low: 30</p> <p><b>SUNDAY</b> Partly Cloudy High: 39 Low: 29</p> <p><b>MONDAY</b> Sunny High: 41 Low: 33</p> <p><b>TUESDAY</b> Cloudy High: 40 Low: 30</p>	<p>Today we will see cloudy skies with a slight chance of isolated rain, high of 39°, humidity of 96%. East wind 7 mph. The record high for today is 63° set in 2017. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 40% chance of scattered rain, overnight low of 30°.</p> <p><b>Last Week's Almanac</b></p> <table border="1" style="font-size: x-small;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Hi/Lo</th> <th>Normals</th> <th>Precip</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1/12</td><td>13/1</td><td>40/16</td><td>0.02"</td></tr> <tr><td>1/13</td><td>4/-7</td><td>40/16</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>1/14</td><td>1/-10R</td><td>40/16</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>1/15</td><td>4/-8R</td><td>40/17</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>1/16</td><td>11/-10R</td><td>41/17</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>1/17</td><td>33/14</td><td>41/17</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>1/18</td><td>32/8</td><td>41/17</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Rainfall ..... 0.02" Normal rainfall ..... 0.13" Departure ..... -0.11" Average temp ..... 6.1° Average normal ..... 28.5° Departure ..... -22.4°</p>	Date	Hi/Lo	Normals	Precip	1/12	13/1	40/16	0.02"	1/13	4/-7	40/16	0.00"	1/14	1/-10R	40/16	0.00"	1/15	4/-8R	40/17	0.00"	1/16	11/-10R	41/17	0.00"	1/17	33/14	41/17	0.00"	1/18	32/8	41/17	0.00"	<p><b>Washington</b> 45/37</p> <p><b>Blue Rapids</b> 37/29</p> <p><b>Seneca</b> 37/29</p> <p><b>Clay Center</b> 39/30</p> <p><b>Manhattan</b> 39/30</p> <p><b>Wamego</b> 39/30</p> <p><b>Ogden</b> 40/30</p> <p><b>Junction City</b> 39/31</p> <p><b>Abilene</b> 40/31</p> <p><b>Council Grove</b> 39/30</p>														
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<p><b>Local UV Index</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure</p>	<p><b>Weather History</b></p> <p>Jan. 24, 1916 - The temperature at Browning, Mont. plunged 100 degrees in just 24 hours, from 44 degrees above zero to 56 degrees below zero. It was a record 24-hour temperature drop for the United States.</p>	<p><b>Growing Degree Days</b></p> <table border="1" style="font-size: x-small;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Degree Days</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Degree Days</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1/12</td><td>0</td><td>1/16</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>1/13</td><td>0</td><td>1/17</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>1/14</td><td>0</td><td>1/18</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>1/15</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days	1/12	0	1/16	0	1/13	0	1/17	0	1/14	0	1/18	0	1/15	0																												
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<p><b>This Week's Sun &amp; Moon Chart</b></p> <table border="1" style="font-size: x-small; width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day</th> <th>Sunrise</th> <th>Sunset</th> <th>Moonrise</th> <th>Moonset</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Full 1/25</td> <td>Wednesday</td> <td>7:39 a.m.</td> <td>5:37 p.m.</td> <td>4:32 p.m.</td> <td>7:22 a.m.</td> <td rowspan="4">New 2/9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday</td> <td>7:39 a.m.</td> <td>5:39 p.m.</td> <td>5:35 p.m.</td> <td>8:01 a.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday</td> <td>7:38 a.m.</td> <td>5:40 p.m.</td> <td>6:38 p.m.</td> <td>8:33 a.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>7:37 a.m.</td> <td>5:41 p.m.</td> <td>7:40 p.m.</td> <td>8:59 a.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Last 2/2</td> <td>Sunday</td> <td>7:37 a.m.</td> <td>5:42 p.m.</td> <td>8:39 p.m.</td> <td>9:22 a.m.</td> <td rowspan="3">First 2/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday</td> <td>7:36 a.m.</td> <td>5:43 p.m.</td> <td>9:38 p.m.</td> <td>9:43 a.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday</td> <td>7:35 a.m.</td> <td>5:44 p.m.</td> <td>10:36 p.m.</td> <td>10:03 a.m.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset		Full 1/25	Wednesday	7:39 a.m.	5:37 p.m.	4:32 p.m.	7:22 a.m.	New 2/9	Thursday	7:39 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	5:35 p.m.	8:01 a.m.	Friday	7:38 a.m.	5:40 p.m.	6:38 p.m.	8:33 a.m.	Saturday	7:37 a.m.	5:41 p.m.	7:40 p.m.	8:59 a.m.	Last 2/2	Sunday	7:37 a.m.	5:42 p.m.	8:39 p.m.	9:22 a.m.	First 2/16	Monday	7:36 a.m.	5:43 p.m.	9:38 p.m.	9:43 a.m.	Tuesday	7:35 a.m.	5:44 p.m.	10:36 p.m.	10:03 a.m.
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# Sell At St. Marys

Sell Or Buy **Cattle** By Auction **STARTING TIME 10:30 AM** Tuesdays

We sold 296 cattle January 16 with a light run due to cold weather. There weren't enough calves to test the market. Feeder steers were steady with the last test of the market.

BULL CALVES		HEIFERS	
2 blk/sim bulls	265 @ 291.00	3 blk/bwf hfrs	453 @ 239.00
2 blk/sim bulls	343 @ 251.00	28 blk hfrs	623 @ 227.00
2 wf/bwf bulls	443 @ 246.00	1 bwf hfr	555 @ 220.00

STOCKER & FEEDER STEERS		COWS	
24 blk/char	555 @ 286.00	1 blk cow	1405 @ 92.50
100 blk str	616 @ 281.00	1 blk cow	1190 @ 90.50
2 blk/bwf hfrs	560 @ 254.00	1 blk cow	1160 @ 90.00
1 bwf str	675 @ 220.00	1 bwf cow	1115 @ 82.00
57 mix str	879 @ 218.25		
62 mix str	870 @ 217.00		
1 wf str	650 @ 200.00		

WATCH OUR AUCTIONS LIVE ON DVAuctions.com

CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024:

- 33 blk bwf str & hfrs, 500-550 lbs., weaned, vaccinated
- 60 blk str & hfrs, 550-700 lbs., weaned, vaccinated
- 40 blk str & hfrs, 450-500 lbs., vaccinated
- 100 blk str & hfrs, 550-625 lbs., weaned, vacc., no implants, home raised
- 88 blk str, 475-500 lbs., weaned in Sept., vaccinated
- 66 blk str & hfrs, 600-700 lbs., Nov. weaned, vaccinated
- 39 blk str, 700-750 lbs., long time weaned, vaccinated
- 150 blk str, 700-850 lbs., home raised, Sept. weaned, vaccinated
- 40 Angus hfrs, 575-600 lbs., home raised, Sept. weaned, vacc.
- 35 blk str & hfrs, 600-700 lbs., long time weaned, vacc.
- 60 blk steers, 900-925 lbs.
- 60 blk char steers, 925-950 lbs.
- 61 blk xbred steers, 900-925 lbs.
- 140 SimAngus str, 750-775 lbs., homeraised, Sept. weaned, Stuewe Ranch

Our CONSIGNMENTS can now be viewed after 12 Noon on Mondays by going to [www.grassandgrain.com](http://www.grassandgrain.com) & logging onto the online subscription

FOR INFORMATION OR ESTIMATES:			
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AUCTIONEERS: DENNIS REZAC, REX ARB & JASE HUBERT

Livestock Commission Company, Inc.

## RezAC

**St. Marys, Ks.**