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Special events 'Never Get Old' at the 2013 Kansas State Fair

There is a full slate of special events at the 100th Kansas State Fair, including:

Quilt Block Contest

The theme for 2012's quilt block contest was 100 Years of the Kansas State Fair. The 2012 quilt blocks were sewn together and will be auctioned off at the 2013 Kansas State Fair on Sept. 14 as part of the Chain-saw Woodcarving Auction, with proceeds going to the Clothing and Textiles Department. This year's quilt block contest theme is "Happy 100th Birthday, Kansas State Fair."

Fine Arts

100 Years of the Kansas State Fair - Never Gets Old Collection

Check out the collection celebrating 100 years of our great state's fair. This collection will feature badges, memorabilia, postcards and drawings/paintings depicting early Kansas State Fairs, and for county fairs only, there is a County Fair Historic Poster Contest. Each collection will have a story of its own.

Photography Competition Addition

A camera is usually nearby when it's time to blow out the candles. The photography competition has added a birthday party category in celebration of the Kansas State Fair centennial milestone.

Special Events

Bring a Veteran to Brunch Sponsored by Humana

Kansans have an opportunity to honor veterans and those serving in the armed forces through the Bring a Veteran to Brunch event. It's part of Sentimental Journey Day at the Kansas State Fair and is expected to have a full turnout. "We're grateful the Kansas State Fair provides such a great occasion to say thank you to the brave men and women who've served," said Connie Schmitt, Special Events and Sponsorship Director. "I have a soft heart for our veterans as my

dad served on the USS South Dakota battleship in WWII." The free brunch and program will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 10:30 AM in Dillion Hall located in the Encampment Building. Those who are interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP through the Kansas State Fair special events department.

Kansas Rides Rally and Parade

The Kansas State Fair is excited to announce its 12th annual Motorcycle Rally and Parade, sponsored by Bluegreen Vacations Unlimited. Don't miss it. Even Willie the Wildcat will be back to ride. Motorcyclists from across the state will join in an engine-revving good time on Sunday, Sept. 8. The parade begins at 5:00 p.m. through the Fairgrounds. This event is free, but a gate admission ticket is required to get into the Fair. Each participant will receive a commemorative ribbon.

Bingo at the Fair Sponsored by Humana

A classic pastime has finally returned to the Kansas State Fair. Bingo will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 11 from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. in Dillion Hall located in the Encampment Building. The Bingo game is part of the Kansas State Fair's Sentimental Journey Day. Warren Hardy will be announcing the game, and it's sure to be a good time. Please reserve your place at the bingo table by calling Joy at 620-669-3624.

"Senior" Spelling Bee

The Kansas State Fair knows you're never too old to enjoy spelling W-I-N-N-E-R. The Senior Spelling Bee is for those 50 years and older. This year's competition will be held Thursday, Sept. 12, at 10:15 AM in the Encampment Building Hansen Auditorium. Spellers are encouraged to RSVP through the Kansas State Fair special events department. The event is

Continued on page 18

State Fair special events never get old

Continued from page 17
sponsored by AARP.
Weird, wild and wonderful, the Kansas State Fair never gets old! Its world-class Midway, blue-ribbon animals and family-friendly activities make it pure Americana – an event not to be missed. Party with your pals and hear the hottest performers at the U.S. Cellular Grand-

stand. Tour the many agricultural and educational displays. Win prizes. Brave heart-pounding carnival rides. Sample culinary delights. Enormous vegetables, odd artifacts, homemade crafts and the infamous butter sculpture provide something for everyone. Scheduled for Sept. 6-15, 2013 – the 100th anniversary of the Kansas

State Fair – the event is the largest in the state of Kansas with crowds numbering more than 350,000. The fairgrounds are in centrally located Hutchinson. Mark your calendars now and plan to join Kansans from across the state. For more information, call 620.669.3600, toll-free 800.362.FAIR or visit www.kansasstatefair.com.

Kansas State Fair TV spot receives Telly Award

Winning Tellies never gets old. Marketing communications agency Greteman Group – working closely with the Kansas State Fair team headed up by Denny Stoecklein and Lori Mulch-Hart – just won a second Telly for fair creative.

A prestigious judging panel of more than 500 accomplished industry professionals, each a past winner of a Silver Telly and a member of the Silver Telly Council, judged the competition. The organization received 11,000 entries from all 50 states and numerous countries.

“The creative team plays off the fair’s quirky, anything-goes atmosphere, while graphics add whimsy and life,” says Sonia Greteman, agency creative director and president. “We appreciate the Fair’s belief in fresh, bold ideas.”

The award-winning 30-second 2012 Kansas State Fair commercial features a boater-hat-wearing, party-horn-blowing, cowboy-kicking barker. A ferris wheel adorned in colorful lights, carney game and shooting-gallery duck reflect the energy and thrill offered by the midway, and a starry night sky serves as a beckoning backdrop. The campaign tagline, “Never Gets

Old,” emphasizes 100 years of the Kansas State Fair traditions and good times that bring fairgoers back year after year. To view the spot, visit <https://vimeo.com/48032553>

Greteman Group’s creative team included Erik Lauritzen, independent art director and animator and Jon Flaming, illustrator. A band was created to produce original music for the

spot. Performers included Tom Page (vocal, guitar, mandolin), Richard Crowson (banjo), Jonathan Eaton (bass), Tommy Crabb (percussion) and Charlie King (voiceover).

Greteman Group was also awarded a Silver Telly for the 2011 Kansas State Fair “Raving Bull/Sheep Thrills” commercial. That spot can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/27917937>.



Kacey Butler showed her Dorset spring breeding ewe lamb to earn the grand champion breeding sheep award at the Geary County Free Fair.

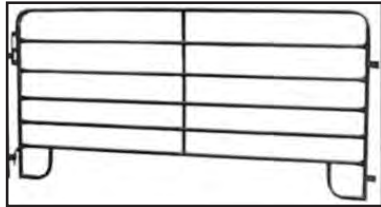
Final acts announced for 2013 U.S. Cellular Grandstand

The Kansas State Fair announced it has added Bridgit Mendler, Theory of a Deadman and Lynyrd Skynyrd to the 2013 U.S. Cellular Grandstand lineup. In addition, J.T. Hodges has been added as an opening act for Toby Keith on Sunday, Sept. 15 while Mockingbird Sun will open for Eli Young Band on Sunday, Sept. 8. The Demolition Derby (Monday, Sept. 9) and Outlaw Truck and Tractor Pull (Wednesday, Sept. 11) will also return this year for high-action entertainment on the fairgrounds. This year’s fair will run Sept. 6-15.

U.S. Cellular Grandstand concert tickets will go on sale May 11 at 8 a.m. and may be purchased at the Kansas State Fair ticket office, by calling 1-800-362-3247 or at www.kansasstatefair.tix.com. Unless otherwise noted, grandstand tickets include gate admission when purchased through Aug. 24. For most concerts, the 2013 Kansas State Fair will feature a premium seating area of approximately 160 seats.

Members of the Fair Fan Club get the first chance at the best tickets for U.S. Cellular Grandstand concerts. Club members earn the right to purchase up to two tickets to all grandstand shows prior to the general public on-sale. Premier, reserved seating applies, as well as other benefits. Membership dues to the Fair Fan Club are \$100 for the current year’s grandstand concerts year and memberships are available now. Tickets will go on sale for Fair Fan Club members beginning at 8 a.m. on April 15. For more information on joining the club, visit www.kansasstatefair.com.

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Beginning Farmer/Rancher call to focus on access to credit, capital

The Kansas Rural Center invites beginning farmers and ranchers searching for information on access to credit and capital to join a phone call Wednesday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m. The call will focus on known sources of access and tips on how to prepare for applying for credit. Participants on the call will be invited to share their experiences and challenges to better understand what resources and help are needed in Kansas.

Rosanna Bauman, farm manager of Cedar Valley

Farms in Garnett, will moderate the call. With much experience in financing her own farm, Rosanna brings a perspective of successfully gaining capital to grow her farm. Also joining the call will be Duane Hund with KSU's Farm Analyst Program and Rebecca Floyd with the Kansas Development Finance Authority. KRC is researching challenges that are reported by beginning farmers, including access to capital, equipment and land, or pricing and marketing. Funding for

this research and education project is provided by Farm Aid.

To participate in the call, please visit www.kansasruralcenter.org to sign up and receive the call number or contact Natalie Fullerton at nfullerton@kansasruralcenter.org, or 402-310-0177. Calls will also be held September 26 and October 24 and will

focus on other beginning farmer and rancher challenges such as pricing and marketing, and transitioning to certified organic. In addition, information for beginning farmers, and landowners who may be interested in meeting them, will be offered at KRC's annual Farm & Food Conference Saturday, November 2, in Newton.

More information about this call and other upcoming opportunities are available at www.kansasruralcenter.org. Or, please

contact Project Coordinator, Natalie Fullerton at nfullerton@kansasruralcenter.org, or 402-310-0177.



Rebekah Thomas was tapped as the reserve champion winner in the goat showmanship category at the Geary County Free Fair.



This Alpine Junior Doe shown by Kyler Langvardt was selected as the Reserve Champion Dairy Goat at the Geary County Free Fair.



Kaitlyn Butler earned grand champion market goat honors at the Geary County Free Fair with her 74-pound Boer goat.

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Special Days featured at Kansas State Fair

Friday, September 6 — Reunion Day
Saturday, September 7 — Legislators Day
Sunday, September 8 — Kansas Rides
Monday, September 9 — Dollar Day
Tuesday, September 10 — Never Gets Old
Wednesday, September 11 — Sentimental Journey
Thursday, September 12 — Welcome Master Farmers/Master Homemakers
Saturday, September 14 — Governor's Day
Sunday, September 15 — Last Chance

Farm business plans improve efficiency and profitability

Like any other business, a farm is more likely to succeed with a written business plan.

"A business plan can serve as a road map for your business," says Karisha Devlin, a University of Missouri Extension agriculture business specialist in Knox County.

"You are defining what your goals and objectives are," Devlin says. "You are saying who, what, when and where as far as what you produce, how you are going to market it, and the financing behind your business."

A written business plan is often a requirement when seeking financing to start a new business or expand an existing one, but a plan is a good idea even if you're not looking to borrow money.

"You are not setting the next generation up to be successful if you are keeping everything to yourself," Devlin says. "Putting everything down on paper, not only for yourself but for others in your operation, helps everyone feel like a team and understand the direction that the operation is going. It really does lead to improved efficiency and improved profitability."

Devlin says experienced producers can use business plans to make better-informed decisions, whether it be exploring market options, mapping out a transition on the farm, adding more family members or preparing to sell or transfer the business.

Developing a business plan might sound daunting if you've never done one, but don't get overwhelmed. A business plan, Devlin says, is just telling your story: What you want to do, what you presently do, and who's involved in it.

Local Extension business specialists can help with information and resources for putting together a business plan. Devlin also suggests a free online program called Ag Plan, at www.agplan.umn.edu, that provides a template that helps develop a plan.

Finally, once you develop your plan, you should use it.

"Don't just stick it on a shelf and forget about it," Devlin says. "Also remember to go through and revise it. Any time there are circumstances that change in your farming operation it's good to go back and review it and make sure it accurately reflects where you are."

Additional information on business plans is available from MU Extension at extension.missouri.edu/business.



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Ranchers eye restocking herds as pastures start to green up

(AP) – Recent rainfalls across most of the nation's key cattle grazing areas are greening up pastures and refilling farm ponds, fueling optimism among ranchers that they may soon begin the difficult process of rebuilding herds decimated by years of drought.

The recent rains that have soaked the Great Plains and most of the nation's cattle grazing region has spurred talk of rebuilding the herd.

"We have had enough rain to at least change our attitude," said Kansas cattleman Ken Grecian. "We are not out of the woods by any means, but we are green again."

Grecian, who ranches northwest of Hays, said he culled during the drought about 40 percent of his herd, sending to the auction barn more than 150 cows and calves to stretch his grass as far as he could. His ranch can support about 350 cows in a normal season, but it may be years before he restocks his ranch to those herd numbers again.

He now plans to keep the female calves from this year's calf crop, rather than sell them in the fall. To rebuild some of the genetics lost by selling so much of his herd, he artificially inseminated 100 of his cows this season in a move to get the quality up as he rebuilds the herd.

"I am a lot more optimistic, but we are not going to go out and buy cows," Grecian said. "We will grow back into it, so our grass has a chance to rest."

It's likely to take the beef industry years to recover from the widespread drought. Cows have a nine-month gestation period, and it can take up to two years after calves are born for them to grow big enough for slaughter. The time needed to repair drought-damaged pastures will only extend that timetable because ranchers must have grass for grazing before they can add animals.

"I think it will take us three years to get back to the numbers we were at – it might take a little longer than that," Grecian said.

It takes time for the grass to grow a healthy root system and it takes time for thin grass stands to recover enough to support a full stocking rate of cattle.

"My approach – and I have done it before in other droughts – is more of a plan to improve our resources back to the point that they were when we went into a drought," Grecian said.

While the nation's western grazing region – an area that includes New Mexico, California, Oregon, Idaho and Montana – have had worse pasture conditions this year than last, this region accounts for only 10 to 12 percent of the nation's beef cow herd. The parts of the country that encompass the vast majority of the grazing lands for cattle have seen improving pasture conditions, said Glynn Tonsor, an Extension beef specialist at Kansas State University.

Pastures in the Great Plains of Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas – where 30

percent of the cows graze – are in better shape. The Southern Plains of Oklahoma and Texas, with 20 percent of the cows, are also doing better than last year.

"The week-to-week cow slaughter numbers were still fairly high 90 days ago, but more recently they have been down," Tonsor said. "There is less forced liquidation – the cows that are going to market now are kind of by choice. It is no longer the case that there isn't pasture for them to be on."

Ranchers also will have more feed available to carry their cows through the next winter.

Steve Hessman, hay market reporter for the Agriculture Department's Dodge City office, said not only is there a better supply of forage and feed crops, the alfalfa crop itself is doing much better, and this cutting of alfalfa is expected to be the biggest. While there will be more tons of hay available, however, the quality is more questionable because there has been so much rain that the crop has bloomed and is past its prime for cutting into the good quality dairy hay.

"There is going to be a better feed supply than we were looking at earlier in the year, that is for sure," Hessman said. "You probably are not going to see as much culling of cow herds this fall – anything that is pregnant they should retain, whereas in the past they simply didn't have feed or it was too expensive to keep them."



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Controlling volunteer wheat an important step in protecting the crop

The recent wet weather through much of Kansas has caused volunteer wheat to emerge and grow rapidly, said Jim Shroyer, K-State Research and Extension crop production specialist. Wet soil conditions may keep producers out of the fields for an extended period, or result in multiple flushes emerging, making it even more difficult than usual to control the volunteer.

To protect the state's planted wheat crop, volunteer wheat must be controlled, Shroyer said.

"Volunteer wheat within a half-mile of a field that will be planted to wheat should be completely dead at least two weeks before wheat planting," he said.

Volunteer wheat that emerges during the summer and is still present when planted wheat emerges creates numerous problems for the crop. Shroyer and K-State Research and Extension entomologist Jeff Whitworth, reviewed some of the most serious potential problems.

* Wheat streak mosaic and associated viruses - The most important threat from volunteer wheat is the wheat streak mosaic virus complex, which is carried by the wheat curl mite. In most cases, infection can be traced to a nearby field of volunteer wheat, although

there are other hosts, such as corn, millet, and many annual grasses, such as yellow foxtail and prairie cupgrass. Control of volunteer is the main defense against the wheat streak mosaic virus complex.

* Hessian fly - Hessian flies survive over the summer on wheat stubble. When the adults emerge, they can infest any volunteer wheat that may be present, which will keep the Hessian fly population alive and going through the upcoming crop season.

* Barley yellow dwarf - Volunteer wheat is a host of barley yellow dwarf virus, and the greenbugs and bird cherry oat aphids which carry it. In that respect, destroying volunteer helps reduce the reservoir for the barley yellow dwarf viruses.

The aphids have to pick up the BYD virus from an infected host plant first in order to become a carrier that can transmit the disease to wheat.

* Russian wheat aphid - This aphid can also infest volunteer wheat during the summer and move onto planted wheat in the fall.

Another reason to control volunteer is that volunteer and other weeds use up large amounts of soil moisture, Shroyer said. When water storage is important, such as in summer fallow, volunteer must be destroyed.

For those reasons and more, all volunteer wheat should be completely killed within a half-mile of wheat fields at least two weeks before planting, Whitworth said.

"It is important to wait two weeks after the volunteer has died before planting wheat. This will allow enough time for any insects or mites present on the volunteer wheat to leave the area or die before the new wheat emerges," the K-State entomologist said.

Destroying volunteer after the new wheat emerges is too late, he added. Producers should


leave enough time to have a second chance if control is incomplete.

Where there is a heavy stand of volunteer, some producers may be tempted to leave it and graze it out or even harvest the grain next summer rather than kill it out and plant a new crop this fall. That's not a good idea, Shroyer said.

"The best option is to control the volunteer, then plant a new crop of wheat

two weeks later rather than leave the volunteer for grazing or harvest," he said. "This will protect you planted wheat and help your neighbors by reducing the chances of wheat streak mosaic, barley yellow dwarf, Hessian fly, or Russian wheat aphid."

For more information, see K-State publication MF-1004, *Be a Good Neighbor: Control Your Volunteer* at a local Extension office.



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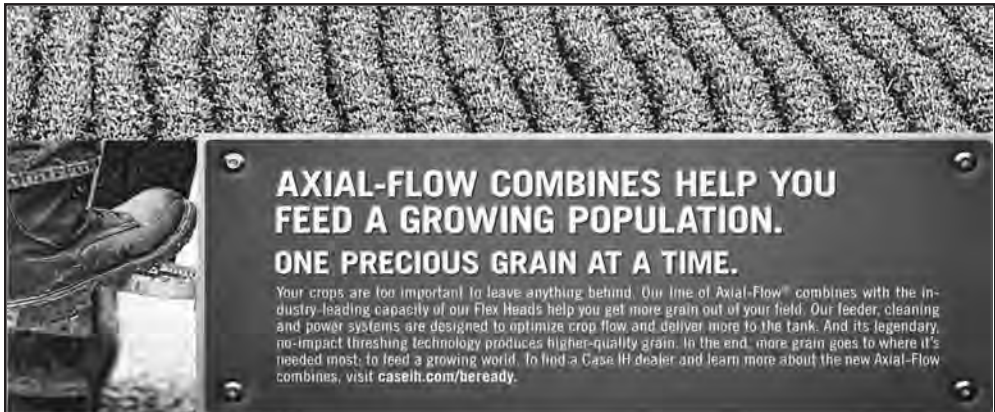
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Identifying southern rust in corn to minimize yield and profit loss

Small, light brown, circular lesions covering corn leaves this time of year are not a welcome sight.

Southern corn rust, a fungal disease caused by the *Puccinia polysora* pathogen, begins to show up in Kansas around Aug. 1 each year, according to K-State Research and Extension plant pathologist Doug Jardine. Corn producers, particularly those who farm north of Interstate 70, should evaluate each field for the disease and determine if fungicide treatment is necessary and economical.

Jardine identified southern corn rust in Kansas for the first time in 2013 on Aug. 1 in McPherson County. He said he has since seen it in other north-central Kansas counties including Riley, Clay, Cloud and Washington, but there may be more cases other crop scouts have identified elsewhere.

The disease does not live year-round in Kansas, as it requires a live plant to survive. It lives mainly in southern Texas and northern Mexico, where temperatures allow corn to grow all year, and it travels northward to the U.S. Corn Belt each summer. Because the disease is currently widespread in south central Nebraska, it would have had to blow over Kansas from those southern areas.

The negative impact of southern corn rust depends heavily on a number of factors:

- Weather forecast;
- Stage of crop development;
- Yield potential of the field;

- Amount of disease in the field; and
- Susceptibility of the hybrid.

Southern rust is favored by hot, humid conditions, which Kansas experienced in early August. However, mid-August temperatures cooled, which Jardine said slowed the spread of southern rust.

Although the recent weather has been a benefit to farmers, the stage of the corn might be a problem.

"The problem this year is corn was planted two to three weeks late," Jardine said. "This is a problem across the entire Corn Belt."

If corn is hit with southern rust and has not yet passed the soft dough stage — 35 days before maturity — it may be beneficial for farmers to spray fungicides. Products containing a triazole mode of action are recommended.

If the corn is already in the denting phase of maturity, Jardine said producers probably won't see an economic benefit to spraying, as the rust likely won't affect the yield too much. He said much of south central Kansas has reached that denting stage of development already and likely won't need to be sprayed.

Jardine said corn pro-

ducers should evaluate each field separately. If southern rust has hit a field of younger corn and the corn has good yield potential, spraying could be economical.

"There is some good corn this year, and some of it has 200 (bushel per acre) yield potential," Jardine said. "A field with a reasonable amount of rust could have 10 to 15 percent yield loss."

A 10 percent loss on a 200-bushel per acre yield is 20 bushels. If corn is at \$6 per bushel, that could mean \$120 loss per acre. Therefore, Jardine said, it would be economical to pay \$30

per acre to spray that field.

Jardine said the worst-case situation would be to see an epidemic of southern rust early on that is not treated, and producers could see as much as a 30 percent loss. With the current cooler-than-normal August temperatures, though, that is not a likely situation this year.

Another tip for producers is to research how susceptible their corn hybrid might be to southern rust. Genetic resistance to southern rust is limited, with most hybrids rating 5 to 7 on a scale of 1 to 9 (1 being resistant). In Kansas, great-

est yield losses to southern rust occur when susceptible hybrids are planted late or when the disease arrives earlier than normal. The crop that is two to four weeks behind and is more susceptible to southern rust should be examined very closely.

The K-State publication MF-3016, *Corn Rust Identification and Management in Kansas* (www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/plant2/mf3016.pdf) has more information on southern rust, as well as common rust, and outlines the differences in identification and management of these two diseases.



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Next-Generation Dynamic Pricing PlatformSM Graindesk mobile app tracks growers' grain contracts

With more growers relying on mobile technology for their daily farming operations, Farms Technology, L.L.C., a wholly owned subsidiary of DuPont Pioneer, has upgraded its Dynamic Pricing PlatformSM (DPPSM) Graindesk mobile app to reflect sellers' changing needs for updated grain-market information.

The free DPP mobile app puts your preferred buyers' bids at your fingertips, enabling you to make, monitor and manage offers to sell corn, soybeans and wheat 24 hours a day. "With the updated DPP Graindesk mobile app, a grain producer can now

make offers and monitor contracts anywhere, anytime," says Kevin Heikes, manager, Farms Technology. "Having access to contract and offer information helps growers manage logistics and the flow of grain to their local merchandisers."

The DPP Graindesk mobile app also delivers updated market information with the ability to create and manage futures-only and cash offers. Through mobile messaging, buyers can communicate with sellers directly through the mobile platform.

DPP Graindesk offers are monitored with every tick of the futures market

from 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 7:45 a.m. Utilizing the CME Group electronic markets, the DPP Graindesk facilitates an automatic connection between grower-approved offers and buyers' hedge orders. With patented e-Pit[®] services, DPP Graindesk can place a hedge order, receive confirmation of the fill, execute the cash purchase, and notify both buyer and seller in seconds. Before the DPP Graindesk and the upgraded DPP Graindesk mobile app, growers interested in selling grain contacted merchandisers to get a price or waited for a price notification via a scheduled text message.

tion via a scheduled text message.

"With the DPP Graindesk mobile app, the conversation between the grower and merchandiser is streamlined," Heikes says. "The DPP Graindesk helps growers set a target price with their preferred buyers, and conversations are enriched as discussions evolve from transactional to strategic." The DPP Graindesk mobile app is compatible with both Android[™] and iPhone[®] devices. Download the free mobile app at the App Store[™] or Google Play store.

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