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Dale Strickler shared his passion for soil health as well as research showing the benefits of cover crops at a recent meeting in Hanover.



A rainfall simulator shows the effects of a two-inch rain on different soil treatments, such as conventional till, no-till with residue and no-till with residue removed.

Benefits of cover crops examined at Hanover meeting

By Donna Sullivan, Editor

Dale Strickler has a passion. The former agronomy instructor at Cloud County Community College, now a cover crop and forage specialist for Star Seed, is passionate about soil health.

"I've been messing around with cover crops for 26 years and I feel like I've just scratched the surface," he told producers gathered recently for a cover crop meeting. The growing interest in cover crops was apparent, as the Kloppenberg Senior Center was filled with producers who had traveled to Hanover to hear the latest research.

DeAnn Presley, KSU Extension specialist, presented her research on cover cropping systems, followed by Paul Gallagher of the Risk Management agency discussing the effect of cover crops on crop insurance. After lunch Matti Kuykendall, a KSU graduate student, shared research ex-

amining soil water usage by cover crops.

A photo of a farm from the Dust Bowl at the beginning of Strickler's presentation got the attention of the audience.

"The Dust Bowl – the greatest ecological disaster in human history – and it happened right here in our back yard," he said. "What caused it?"

"The plow," someone quickly responded. The second cause named by Strickler is less commonly thought of.

"Tillage and fallow were the two things that created this situation," he asserted. "Are we still doing both? We are coming to realize that more tillage is not better; we've discovered that less tillage is better. But we're still kind of hanging on to that fallow thing. Because we have the idea that we need to store moisture." He believes that just as producers came to understand and accept the idea of no-till farming, they will one day come to realize that fallow is another destructive practice in agriculture.

Strickler says that the one thing he always hears is that there isn't enough annual rainfall for cover crops. He comes from southeast Kansas where their annual rainfall is 38" and naysayers told him it wasn't adequate for cover cropping. "But I planted them, and it worked," he said. Then he moved to Concordia, where they receive 26" of annual rainfall, planted his cover crops, and found it worked there as well.

"The only place I've been where they haven't told me they don't get enough rain for cover crops is Burleigh County, North Dakota, where they average 12" of

rain a year," he said. "That's an inch and a half more than the city of Phoenix, Arizona gets per year. The whole county is cover cropped and they're raising 150-bushel dryland corn on 12 inches of annual rainfall."

Referring to the 30-inch annual rainfall pattern found in the north central part of Kansas, Strickler said that on average, five of those inches fall in the month of June. "If you harvest wheat on July 1 and plant milo on June 1, in that time period you'll average 25 inches of rain. Your soil profile three feet deep on a silt loam will hold about six inches. What happened to all that water that is supposed to be in that soil? It either ran off or evaporated. What did it produce for you? Nothing."

"What if you could use that rainfall that occurs during our otherwise fallow periods and create a more drought-tolerant crop the next year?" he continued. He explained that a cover crop can improve infiltration, decrease evaporation, improve soil biology, create a deeper root zone and provide more organic matter. A slide showing the NRSC rainfall simulator depicted the affect of rain on soils that included conventional tillage, no-till, no-till with residue removed and no-till with residue intact. The run-off from the pans was funneled into glass jars. "Notice the amount of water on the conventional till pan and the color of water," he pointed out. "You donate a lot of water downstream with conventional tilling. And look at the color. How many of you are planning to deduct the value of the soil that you sent to Louisiana this year?" He then showed a slide with the pans flipped over. The soil

bottom of conventionally tilled soil was dry. "A two-inch rainfall didn't soak in two inches. What's going to happen in the next 24 hours? It's going to evaporate. It might not have gotten in, but it's going to leave pretty quick."

Along with retaining more moisture, Strickler said that the cover crops have the ability to deepen the root zone for the growing plants. "People think compaction is a barrier to roots because it's hard," he said. "I've got a picture where soybeans broke through a six-inch layer of concrete. Hardness is not a barrier to roots, lack of oxygen is a barrier to roots." He went on to explain most of the oxygen use in soil is by microbes and their peak activity is in the summer. Once the temperature drops below 55 degrees, there is suddenly a great deal of oxygen in the soil. "If you're in a corn-bean rotation, you will never improve your root depth, no matter how long you no-till," he said. "You're always fighting against the oxygen gradient. Without something that produces roots, like this annual ryegrass, during cool temperatures when there's oxygen available, you're not going to get the root structure you want." A slide showing corn roots 31" deep in the prairie sod drove his point home. Since the roots can only extract moisture as far as they can reach, Strickler said the cover provided a three-foot and still growing water tank on the prairie sod, where there was only a 12" to 18" root zone for the crop land.

"It's all about making better soils," said Strickler. "Fallow results in the starvation of most of the beneficial organisms, particularly

mycorrhizal fungi. They colonize the roots and extend out in the soil and take up water and nutrients and bring them back to the roots. They aren't miracle workers, but they do improve drought tolerance and soil structure." A glue produced by the mycorrhizal fungi adheres the aggregates together and improves soil structure, which means better water infiltration and better rooting depth.

According to Strickler, it all comes down to the organic matter. "More organic

matter means more crops, and more crops mean more organic matter next year," he described. "It's like compound interest. Every time you add an additional percentage of organic matter, that adds an additional 16,000 gallons of water holding capacity. That's equivalent to six-tenths of an inch of rain. If you've got 4% organic matter instead of 1%, you can hold about an additional two inches of rain. It's like putting one of those 50,000 gallon water towers on every acre."



Dr. Luis Mendonca uses a model cow to show how to safely deliver a calf.

Calving Management School features model cow

A crowd of over 90 attended the Calving Management School held at the Girard High School Cafeteria on Wednesday, January 15th. A model cow was used to demonstrate techniques in calf-pulling.

Larry Hollis, DVM, K-State Research and Extension beef veterinarian, and Luis Mendonca, DVM, K-State Research and Extension bovine reproduction specialist, were the speakers for the night. Dr. Hollis focused on the first few hours of the calf's life and Dr. Mendonca used the model cow along with a calf that had died during delivery to demonstrate how to safely deliver a calf if assistance is needed.

Attendees came from six counties to the event. The brisket meal was sponsored by Producer's Co-op of Girard and catered by Happy Chef catering.

If you have any questions about this event or others the Wildcat Extension District will be hosting, contact the Altamont office at 620-784-5337, the Girard office at 620-724-8233, or the Independence office at 620-331-2690.



Water vision

By John Schlageck,
Kansas Farm Bureau

You never miss the water till the well runs dry.

No truer words have been spoken about Kansas water needs. Mired in the midst of a four-year drought, the Ogallala Aquifer continues to decline. Reservoirs—critical water storage structures for much of the state—fill with sediment.

At the current pace throughout the next 50 years, the Ogallala Aquifer could be 70 percent depleted while Kansas reservoirs may be 40 percent filled with sediment.

What does this bode for the future of the Sunflower State? How do we sustain the lifestyle we enjoy? How do we grow the economy? How do we ensure life in Kansas will continue to be desirable?

These questions are relevant to all Kansans. And while the Ogallala Aquifer is often viewed through the nozzle of a center pivot system, this topic is far more than that.

Irrigation stimulates higher land values, greater crop production and increased production inputs that result in enhanced

county, regional and state prosperity. It has supported the world's largest animal industry whose feed yards and packing plants grow and sustain Kansas communities and the people who live there.

Water usage in Kansas is not just an irrigation issue. It affects citizens whether they live in western or eastern Kansas.

Nearly two-thirds of this state's population depends upon water stored in our reservoirs. Each and every day this water supply dwindles as sediment slowly creeps downstream settling in and diminishing valuable reservoir storage space.

To address these issues, Gov. Brownback recently called for the development of a 50-year vision for the future of water in Kansas. The Ogallala Aquifer and Kansas reservoirs will re-

ceive top priority in this plan.

Key players include the Kansas Water Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Water Authority. Throughout a one-year period, this team will seek input from water users, compile data, conduct research and chart a path for future water use.

All Kansans have a stake in this issue. Every citizen of our state will be impacted by the decline of the Ogallala Aquifer and sedimentation of our reservoirs.

It does not matter if you are rural or urban, young or old, a student or working, everyone needs water in their lives.

As farmers, ranchers and landowners of Farm Bureau in Kansas, each and every member will have an opportunity to provide grass roots input in creating this water plan for the Sunflower State. Through educational materials and district issue

surfacing meetings, farmer and rancher members will have the opportunity to express their ideas and opinions on the future of water in Kansas.

Plan to attend these meetings and voice your opinions and concerns.

"This is a defining moment in our state's history and with each member's input, we intend to help establish a water legacy that is good for agriculture and generations to come," says Steve Baccus, an Ottawa County farmer and Kansas Farm Bureau president. "We must engage in this process and help define the vision for these precious water supplies, or others will do so for us."

John Schlageck is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. Born and raised on a diversified farm in northwestern Kansas, his writing reflects a lifetime of experience, knowledge and passion.

NRCS report: cropland erosion stable, specialty crop acres boom

A new report on the status and conditions of America's agricultural lands shows cropland erosion rates remained stable between 2007 and 2010, despite a growth in agricultural land use and more extreme weather events.

"We expected to see an increase in the erosion, but our numbers told a different story," said Dr. Patrick Flanagan, national statistician for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

NRCS' latest National Resources Inventory summary report features data on how U.S. non-federal rural lands are being used. Data come from 800,000 sample locations across the country.

NRI data also show that between 2007 and 2010:

- Fruit, nut and flower production acreage surged from 124.8 million to almost 273.8 million.

- Cropland acres increased by 2 million acres, this following a steady decline over the previous 25 years.

- Pastureland increased by 847,000 acres.

- Developed land increased by 2 percent from 111.1 million to 113.3 million acres.

- Palustrine wetlands slightly increased. These include swamps or marshes, and estuarine wetlands.

- Acres enrolled in NRCS programs grew from about 17 million acres in 2007 to about 40 million in 2010.

"The NRI summary report is the only report of its kind and is one of our most comprehensive tools to understand what's actually happening on the country's landscape," said NRCS chief Jason Weller.

For more information, contact the NRI Help Desk at nri@wdc.usda.gov.



This past week I was given the opportunity to testify before the Kansas House of Representative Committee on Local Government. It was a fascinating experience. I know, I am strange because I am intrigued by the whole legislative process. It had been some time since I had sat through a legislative committee meeting and my hat is off to those who can do it every day.

The bill I testified against was one that would provide counties with the ability to declare rural areas nuisances, clean them up and charge the land owner for the expense. Sounds pretty straightforward; cities have the power to do so, why shouldn't counties? After all we have people buying or building their dream houses out in rural areas only to be confronted by so-called nuisance properties.

This bill is pretty open-ended and included such nuisances as; rank grass, weeds, unsafe buildings, abandoned vehicles and ponds. One of the examples given by proponents of this bill was a farmstead with a rusty stock trailer, flatbed trailer and a scrap metal pile. Now, I don't know about your place, but I have a spot that closely resembles this and I have seen many others as I drive around in rural areas.

Most of us do have a "bone yard" with scrap metal, pieces of equipment and vehicles that we use for parts, so this bill hits pretty close to home. I suspect many of us have livestock areas that when in use do not smell very good and at other times may be grown up in weeds. The smells and the weeds are just part of the natural cycle of what we do. As for the "bone yard," we are the original recyclers; nothing goes to waste and with the cost of new equipment and repairs, we keep that area out of self defense.

I try to see both sides of any issue, so I put myself in the new rural property owner's shoes. You have always admired the beauty and tranquility of rural areas... the idea of breathing fresh air off the porch while you watch the stars twinkle at night with the only sounds being the rustle of the wind and an occasional coyote howling. Why wouldn't every-

one want to live out here in paradise?

Well, maybe you should have looked around a little more and done a little more investigation before you built your dream house on your little slice of heaven. My guess is that the farmer or rancher was there many, many years before you came along. We really don't mind our neighbors and we want to be friendly but we have to make a living also. The truth is that you have moved right into the middle of our work area.

Contrary to popular belief, the life of a farmer or rancher is not always so pristine. Sure we enjoy the beauty of rural America as much as anyone that is why we chose the life we did. However, we understand that at times things may not smell real good, wild animals do not understand no trespassing signs, dust does blow occasionally and not everything looks like a landscape painting. Our ponds may not always have water in them, they might even not smell real good at times, but they do serve a very important purpose. I don't mean to be antagonistic or to pick a fight. We probably ought to look at our homesteads and maybe even do a little cleaning up. However, you must also realize that there are good and logical reasons for what we do. We should probably try to do a better job of explaining and communicating those reasons with you, but remember one important thing. You chose to move here, and we are simply trying to do our job and make a living.

I hope this bill does not become law. It is far too open-ended, much too ambiguous and a threat to agriculture as it is written. All of the municipalities who spoke in favor of this bill stated that they would not come after agriculture and I believe them. However, it does erode away our private property rights and leaves the possibility that someone along the line will use it against a farmer or rancher who is just doing their job on their private property. Just keep in mind, the job farmers and ranchers are doing and the nuisances we create all contribute to producing the food you eat.

COW POKES

By Ace Reid



"This summer vacation circular leaves me sorta cold, but I bet it made my mail carrier's temperature go up when he had to drive clear out here to bring it!"



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Antimicrobial use, resistance symposium white paper released

Point A: The science behind the emergence, amplification, persistence and transfer of antibiotic resistance is highly complex and open to interpretation—and sometimes misinterpretation—from a wide variety of perspectives and misuse. If you think you understand antimicrobial resistance, it hasn't been explained properly to you.

Point B: The extremely complex relationship between animal health, human health and environmental health is driven by two premises: 1) Antimicrobial resistance is a naturally occurring phenomenon that is present with or without the use of antimicrobials; and 2) Anytime an antibiotic enters the ecosystem, it has the potential to contribute to the development of antibiotic resistance.

These two points were among the many shared during the "Bridging the

Gap between Animal Health and Human Health" symposium sponsored by the National Institute for Animal Agriculture and conducted Nov. 12-14, 2013, in Kansas City, Mo. These points and additional information synthesized from the symposium comprise a 27-page "Bridging the Gap between Animal Health and Human Health" symposium White Paper recently released by NIAA.

"This White Paper highlights information delivered during the symposium by 20 different speakers—including antibiotic use and resistance experts representing animal health, human health and public health as well as a consumer advocate organization, grocery retailers, staff members and selected media representing agriculture and consumer advocates," states Dr. Nevil Speer, Ph.D., Western Kentucky University,

and co-chair of the "Bridging the Gap between Animal Health and Human Health" symposium.

"Open and candid presentations and discussions emphasized that those in human health and in animal health are committed to continuous improvement and are working to find common ground so a collective path forward can be formulated. Having a tug-of-war of human versus agricultural use of antibiotics doesn't advance a solution. This paper underscores the importance of taking a 360-degree view and addressing antibiotic resistance from an all-inclusive, science-based perspective."

The Antimicrobial Use and Resistance White Paper is available online at www.animalagriculture.org. Many of the symposium's PowerPoint presentations, including the audio, are available in full online at www.animalagri

culture.org.

The 2013 symposium was funded in part by The Beef Checkoff, Our Soy Checkoff, Missouri Farmers Care, DairyBusiness, Vance Publications (Bo-

vine Veterinarian, Dairy Herd Management, Drivers/CattleNetwork and PorkNetwork), Merck Animal Health, Pork Checkoff, U.S. Department of Agriculture - Veterinary Serv-

ices, Bayer, Missouri Farm Bureau, Elanco, Dairy Farmers of America, BEEF magazine, BEEF Vet, Midwest Dairy Association and Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

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CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MM	MWW	MB	SAPI	STI
8	3	63	92	8	19	50	.22	106	62

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CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MM	MWW	MB	SAPI	STI
10	9	79	124	11	20	59	.43	131	83

Diamond D APride 11G 9A
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CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MM	MWW	MB	SAPI	STI
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CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MM	MWW	MB	SAPI	STI
12	9	72	103	14	22	57	.27	147	78

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***** By G&G Area Cooks *****

Sharon Dwyer, Lawrence, Wins G&G Weekly Contest & Prize

Winner Sharon Dwyer, Lawrence: "I enjoy giving this as a holiday gift or using for a party finger food. My grandkids love it as an after school snack."

SWEET CHEX MIX

- 3 cups Wheat Chex
- 3 cups Rice Chex
- 3 cups Corn Chex
- 2 cups pretzels, round, squares or sticks, break in half
- 2 cups dry roasted peanuts, salted or unsalted
- 20 ounces white almond bark
- 1 cup miniature chocolate chips, optional

Mix together the three kinds of Chex cereals, pretzels and peanuts. Melt the white almond bark in a double boiler. **DO NOT OVERCOOK.** Pour the melted almond bark over the Chex mixture. Stir until coated. Let this cool for 2 minutes then add 1 cup miniature chocolate chips and stir. Be careful not to add the chocolate chips too soon as they will melt. Spread out on a long sheet of waxed paper. Allow to set for 30 minutes. Break apart and enjoy.

Claire Martin, Salina:
GINGER PEACH CRUMBLE
1 pound frozen unsweetened sliced peaches (3 cups fresh)

- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 10 gingersnaps (crumbled)
- Vanilla ice cream (to serve)

Butter an 8-inch baking dish. Evenly distribute peaches on bottom of dish. Sprinkle with cinnamon, sugar and lemon juice. Top with crushed gingersnaps. Bake at 350 degrees about 20 minutes until bubbly or until peaches are tender when pierced with a fork. Serve warm over scoops of vanilla ice cream. Serves 4.

Lydia J. Miller, Westphalia: "The lemon yogurt helps keep them moist."

BLUEBERRY MUFFINS W/SPLENDA

- 1 large egg
- 3 tablespoons canola oil
- 1/2 cup Splenda granulated sugar
- 8 ounces (1 cup) low-fat lemon yogurt
- 6 tablespoons 1% milk
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup blueberries (don't thaw if frozen)
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar (optional for tops)

Preheat oven to 375 de-

grees. Spray 12 muffin cups in muffin tin with nonstick cooking spray. In a medium bowl whip egg until frothy. Add oil, sweetener, yogurt, milk and vanilla; whisk until smooth. In a large bowl mix flour, baking powder, baking soda and stir. Add blueberries and lemon zest. Make a well of dry ingredients and pour in yogurt mixture, using a large spoon or spatula, stir just until dry ingredients are moistened. Spoon batter into tins, filling each cup 2/3 full. If desired, sprinkle sugar lightly over muffins. Bake 18 to 20 minutes before removing to a wire rack.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
CHOCOLATE CARAMEL WALNUT OATMEAL BARS
2 cups quick-cooking oats
2 cups flour
1 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 1/4 cups butter
1 cup chocolate chips
1 cup chopped walnuts
11-ounce jar caramel ice cream topping

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with heavy duty foil. Spray with nonstick spray. In a large bowl, combine oats, flour, brown sugar and baking soda. Cut in butter until mixture is crumbly. Reserve 2 cups mixture, press remaining flour mixture into prepared pan. Bake for 20 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes. Sprinkle chips and walnuts over baked crust. Drizzle with caramel. Sprin-

kle reserved 2 cups oatmeal mixture over caramel. Bake for 20-25 minutes or more until golden brown. Let cool completely.

Doris Shivers, Abilene:

CRANBERRY SPINACH SALAD

- 8 cups fresh baby spinach
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- 2 medium pears, cored & chopped
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 5 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon dried minced onion
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds
- 1 teaspoon poppy seeds
- 2 tablespoons chopped pecans, toasted

In a large bowl, combine the spinach, cranberries and pears, in a blender, combine the vinegar, sugar, onion, Worcestershire sauce, mustard and paprika; cover and process until blended. While processing, gradually add oil in a steady stream. Add sesame seeds and poppy seeds. Pour over salad and toss to coat. Sprinkle with pecans.

Recipe from online:
SOUFFLE HOPPIN JOHN
1 1/3 cups water
2/3 cup long grain rice
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)

1/2 red sweet pepper, finely chopped

- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups milk, half-and-half, or light cream
- 1/8-1/4 teaspoon ground red pepper or several dashes bottled hot pepper sauce
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/4 cup finely chopped prosciutto or ham (about 2 ounces)
- 2 cups cooked black-eyed peas or frozen black-eyed peas, thawed, or one 14-ounce can black-eyed peas, drained
- 2 egg whites
- 1/3 cup snipped fresh parsley

Bring water to boiling in a medium saucepan. Add rice and salt. Reduce heat to low. Cover and cook for 15 minutes or until rice is tender and liquid is absorbed. Set aside.

For sauce, melt butter or margarine in another medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onion, sweet pepper, and garlic; cook and stir for 3 minutes or until onion is tender. Add flour; cook and stir 1 minute more. Add milk, half-and-half, or light cream; cook and stir for

3 to 5 minutes or until sauce has thickened slightly. Remove from heat. Add salt, ground black pepper, and ground red pepper to taste.

Place 1/4 cup of the sauce into a small bowl; stir in egg yolks. Stir egg yolk mixture into sauce in saucepan. Add rice, prosciutto or ham, and black-eyed peas.

Beat egg whites with an electric mixer on high speed until stiff peaks form (peaks stand straight). Gently fold egg whites into black-eyed pea mixture in saucepan. Spoon mixture into a lightly greased 2-quart square baking dish.

Bake in a 400-degree oven for 20 minutes or until puffed and golden and a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. To serve, sprinkle with parsley. Makes 10-12 servings.

Make Ahead Tip: Refrigerate cooked rice and cooked or thawed black-eyed peas, covered, up to 2 days.

Nutrition information (per serving): cal. (kcal) 175, Fat, total (g) 6, chol. (mg) 52, sat. fat (g) 2, carb. (g) 22, fiber (g) 2, pro. (g) 8, vit. A (RE) 154.54, vit. C (mg) 9.45, sodium (mg) 353, Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet

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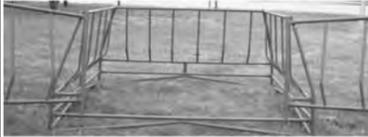
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Flavorful, Nutritious And Versatile: Enjoying The Goodness Of Grains

(NAPSA) — With one look down the grocery store aisle or a quick glance at a restaurant menu, it's clear that whole-grain options are popping up everywhere. From quinoa to buckwheat and farro to freekeh, the number of grain possibilities is growing, leaving home cooks and diners puzzled by how to choose the right one and know how to prepare it.

Not only do whole grains provide an array of health benefits, but they can also be an excellent base for hearty dishes that taste great and are remarkably filling. Whether featured in a salad, formed into a patty as a vegetarian burger option, warmed up for breakfast, or used as the base of a thick stew, grains are extremely versatile and can be enjoyed as part of breakfast, lunch, dinner or dessert.

"Chefs are always looking for creative ways to bring their cooking to the next level, and thanks to the versatility of grains, chefs can use them in countless ways to bring new twists to classic dishes," says Chef Kirk Bachmann, president of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Chicago. "At Le Cordon Bleu, we educate our students on a range of trendy and classic ingredients and teach them the skills and techniques to create delicious yet wholesome meals."

Although cooking with grains can seem like a daunting task, the chef instructors at Le Cordon Bleu encourage home cooks to soak their long-cooking grains, whether for a few hours or overnight, to minimize the cooking time. This also ensures that any resin left on the grain that can cause a bitter taste will get washed off.

The chef instructors at Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts share the following tips for choosing and preparing whole grains:

- Whole-grain options can be customized for each meal of the day. Make a big batch of steel-cut oats on Sunday evening and eat it for breakfast throughout the week. Add quinoa to lunchtime salads-add the dressing in advance so the grain fully absorbs the flavors of the dish. For dinner, add wheat berries or barley to soups for a hearty, filling meal.

- Resist the urge to stir grains as they are cooking. Stirring causes whole grains, especially rice, to become sticky and clump together, making it difficult to prepare a fluffy, flavorful dish.

- After they are cooked, whole grains stay fresh for several days in the refrigerator. You can cook a large pot of brown rice or quinoa at the beginning of the week and use it in dishes throughout the week to save cooking time.

"If you're looking for more creative ways to incorporate grains into your cooking or want to sharpen your skills in the kitchen, I suggest attending the Le Cordon Bleu-Ribbon Kitchen workshops," says Chef Bachmann. "They're offered at our campuses around the country, and foodies can step inside our kitchens and learn from Le Cordon Bleu chef instructors."

Meanwhile, you may care to try this recipe:

Quinoa Spinach Soufflé

- Olive oil cooking spray
- Bread crumbs
- 1 pound spinach leaves
- 2 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, peeled & diced
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled & minced
- 1 tablespoon picked fresh thyme leaves
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh rosemary
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 cups cooked quinoa (1 cup uncooked quinoa), made

according to package directions

- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/3 cup Parmesan cheese
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray an 8-by-8-inch glass baking dish with olive oil spray. Coat dish with bread crumbs and set aside. Fill a large bowl with ice and water and set aside. Bring a medium pot of water to a boil and add spinach. Blanch until bright green, about 10-12 seconds, and immediately transfer to ice bath. When spinach is cold, remove from ice bath, squeeze out all water and finely chop; set aside.

In a medium sauté pan, heat olive oil and add onion, garlic, thyme, rosemary and red pepper flakes. Sauté until translucent and remove from heat; transfer to a medium bowl.

Add spinach, quinoa, cottage cheese, pepper, Parmesan cheese and eggs to the onion mixture and stir until combined. Pour the mixture into the baking dish and place in the oven. Bake until set and edges are brown, 60 to 70 minutes. Slice and serve warm or at room temperature.

To learn more about Le Cordon Bleu and check out upcoming workshops, visit www.chefs.edu



Sharing the pie

By Lou Ann Thomas

When someone receives an opportunity you want or recognition you believe you deserve, do you ever feel as though they're getting your piece of pie?

Don't get me wrong; I'm happy when my friends succeed and I celebrate the recognition of their gifts and achievements with great heart and joy, but sometimes I struggle with the idea that when someone gets something I want it may mean that there's not going to be enough for me. It's as though there's a big pie of good stuff from which we each get a limited serving. Deep down, I don't really believe in that kind of pie and I don't believe there is any limitation on the good that each of us can have or deserve.

Yet, there are times when someone receives

something that I desire, despite doing my best to be supportive and joyful that they are recipients of such good in their lives, I really feel like screaming, "I wanted that, worked for that, was in line for it. That's mine!"

That's when I realize there is a part of me that still believes there may be a limited pie from which our good flows and I can still, on occasion, feel as though someone else has gotten my piece of it. If I ride those feelings far enough they can even snowball into the belief that someone has intentionally taken something from me, or prevent-

ed me from getting what I want. In other words, someone has, with great premeditation, eaten my pie.

When I find my plate empty and someone else savoring the pie I thought should be mine, I find it helpful to stop and remind myself that if that opportunity, opening, chance had truly been mine, then I'd be standing here with a fork in my hand, crumbs on my chin and a satisfied look on my face.

If that's not how it is, then that opportunity wasn't really mine at all. It might have shown up on someone else's plate so I could get a small taste of it, but maybe I wasn't ready for the whole piece yet. Maybe an even better opportunity is just ahead for me. And, maybe, just maybe, the fact that someone else is enjoying the chance to grow and excel actually creates a bigger pie for all of us.

And there's no denying, more pie is a very good thing.



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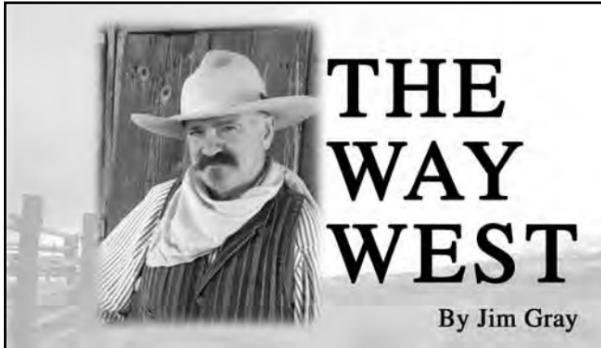
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The Hadricks are founders of Advocates for Agriculture advocatesforag.com/ They have traveled the world helping people involved in agriculture find their voice and the confidence to share their story.

* Dinner will consist of NY Strip Steak, baked or mashed potatoes, vegetable, roll, tossed salad, drinks, and red velvet cupcakes.

Space is limited and tickets can be purchased for \$5 from county board members, or by calling 785-479-7032.

ADVOCATES for AGRICULTURE



The Harmonious Prairie

Spanish explorer Francisco Vázquez de Coronado ventured into the vast expanse of the North American prairie in 1541. Village Indians were living in small, scattered collections of huts along creeks. The smaller water courses provided refuge and livelihood. For hundreds of years all species had lived in a relative balance with man. Dan Flores, author of *The Natural West: Environmental History of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains* recognized the human role in that ecological balance.

"...Human interaction with the Plains has been so transformative for so long that rather than a howling wilderness untouched by the human hand, for at least 350 human generations the Great Plains have been...an occupied landscape much shaped by human activity..."

Prairie ecosystems are often mistakenly viewed as wonderfully dreary, found-

ed in a land of unbroken vistas, and offering little in the way of diversity. Diversity, however, was the principle by which the prairie flourished. Intersected by fingers of woodland environs the great expanse of upland prairie sod supported a veritable garden of vegetation. Grasses and forbs intermingled to provide a complete diet for grazing animals, while at the same time serving as a protective home for the life forms sheltered beneath the prairie thatch.

Imagine the unique ecosystem that provided a full living to the Queracho-Teya, a wandering band encountered by Coronado. The short grass prairie supported an amazingly abundant natural system. The American buffalo (bison) was the dominate species. Great herds of the shaggy, snorting beasts spread over the prairie in unimaginable numbers. Their presence gave every impression that above all else the prairie

and the American buffalo were synonymous, living in symbiotic relationship. But there was much more to the prairie. Further inspection would have revealed a grand ballet of continual interplay between a host of species.

Following close behind and sometimes intermingling with the great herds of buffalo, a subspecies of the gray wolf was so often present that it was designated the buffalo wolf. Tribal people of the eighteenth century reported that buffalo wolves scavenged approximately one-third of all calves born to the American buffalo.

The playful coyote followed the buffalo, but in a less threatening manner than the wolf. Buffalo seemed to understand the difference between the wolf and coyote, often allowing the coyote within its ranks while the brooding wolf hovered just beyond, waiting for an opportunity to gain a meal.

The coyote might dine on an old bull that had lost his will to live, but even then, all the stalwart buffalo wolf had to do was snarl ominously and the coyote would slink away, tail between its legs and head turned over

his shoulder.

But the coyote was not without sustenance, for the vast prairie offered a cornucopia of delights to satisfy his hunger. The desert cottontail rabbit and two species of jackrabbit offered plenty of sport and fare. Pocket gophers, prairie dogs, and several varieties of mice provided a diverse menu for the gregarious coyote.

Prairie dog villages covered thousands of acres, especially in short-grass country. Their villages provided another unique habitat, beneficial not only to the burrowing rodent itself but to rattlesnakes, burrowing owls, and the black-footed ferret.

A prairie dog village is a virtual labyrinth of family tunnels with one specific tunnel to water. Abandoned dog holes are regularly occupied by the small burrowing owl. The owl fills the hole with rubbish, making a comfortable nest just underground while the resourceful rattlesnake relies upon both young prairie dogs and owl eggs for food. Prairie dogs make up ninety percent of the black-legged ferret's diet.

The Queracho-Teya witnessed herds of pronghorn

antelope on the high plains, while the majestic elk reigned supreme along wooded watercourses, venturing into the open grasslands only during the cool of the evening. Mule and white-tail deer ranged more commonly over the prairie, although their range also remained close to timbered streams.

The black bear and the grizzly could also be found on the grasslands and although many have called the American buffalo the Monarch of the Plains, the Grizzly Bear was unquestionably at the top of the food chain. Other predators included the bobcat, mountain lion, gray fox, and swift fox. Eagles and several species of hawk and owl hunted from high above.

The prairie may have supported over four hundred species of birds that feasted on innumerable multitudes of insects that in turn pollinated the plants and trees. Six hundred years ago each life form provided its own complement to the harmony of a prairie culture that once existed on The Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier*; publishes a historical paper, the *Kansas Cowboy*, *Old West history from a Kansas perspective*, and is Executive Director of the *National Drivers Hall of Fame*. Contact *Kansas Cowboy*, Box 62, Ellsworth, KS 67439. Phone 785-531-2058 or www.driversmercantile.com.



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NRCS announces deadline for Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program

Eric B. Banks, state conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Kansas, has announced a ranking cutoff date of April 4, 2014, for the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP). Working through FRPP, the USDA partners with state, tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations to acquire conservation easements on private lands. USDA provides up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value of the conservation easement.

"In 2013, NRCS provided \$1,809,450 in matching funds to enroll 7,325 acres in the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program," said Banks.

Eligible Applicants

To be eligible to receive FRPP funding, applicants must demonstrate a commitment to long-term conservation of agricultural lands; a capability to acquire, manage, and enforce easements; a sufficient number of staff dedicated to monitoring and easement stewardship; and have the funds available needed for the acquisition of conservation easements. Applicants must be a federally recog-

nized Indian tribe, a state or local unit of government, or a non-governmental organization. Applicants must have an established farmland protection program that purchases agricultural conservation easements for the purpose of protecting agriculture use and related conservation values by limiting conversion to non-agricultural uses of the land.

Eligible Lands and Landowners

Eligible land must be privately owned farm or ranch lands; contain at least 50 percent prime, unique, statewide, or locally important farmland

soils; have a historical or archaeological resource; or have land that supports the policy of a state or local farm and ranch lands protection program. The land must also be part of a pending offer by an eligible entity; have cropland, rangeland, grassland, pasture land, or forest land that contributes to the economic viability of an agricultural operation, or serves as a buffer to protect an agricultural operation from development. Landowners that are associated with eligible lands are required to meet Adjusted Gross Income and Highly Erodible Land and

Wetland Conservation provisions as set forth in the 2008 Farm Bill.

If you need more information about FRPP, visit the Kansas NRCS web page at www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ks/programs/easements/farmranch/ or contact your

local USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government or on the internet at offices.usda.gov). Follow us on Twitter at @NRCS_Kansas.

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Wheat industry leaders attend IGP flour milling course

Wheat growers from across the nation gathered at the Kansas State University Grain Science complex recently to learn more about the process wheat undergoes after it leaves the farm. Through a course offered by the International Grains Program, 15 wheat industry leaders learned about flour milling and baking processes.

Throughout the week, participants attended presentations from Mark Fowler, milling specialist and IGP associate director; Justin Gilpin, CEO of Kansas Wheat; and Dave Krishock, flour quality and baking specialist. For portions of the course, participants learned about classes and quality of wheat, milling math and blending, and also had the opportunity to get hands-on experience in an operating flour mill.

"A great opportunity during the course was our visit to the Hal Ross flour mill," said Gary Millershaski, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers president and course participant. "Seeing the mill in operation for the first time gave me a much better understanding of how the flour milling process works."

Participants gained a greater understanding of the relationship between wheat quality and flour performance through lectures, hands-on milling labs in Shellenberger Hall, the Hal Ross Flour Mill and a bakery lab.

The course condensed three semesters of classes into three days, giving attendees the full knowledge of the journey wheat takes from kernel to flour.

"This course was designed for wheat commissioners to experience the entire milling process from wheat selection and processing to flour quality and the finished product



Mark Fowler shows participants how different wheat classes react according to first and second break in the Shellenberger Hall lab.

produced for the consumer," said Fowler.

The diverse group of industry leaders who attended the course gave participants the opportunity to learn from each other. Representatives from wheat organizations across the country brought the unique perspective of the wheat industry from the areas where they produce.

"It was great to have a couple members from the Washington Grain Commission attending the course," said Millershaski. "They supplied several tons of soft white wheat that we were able to mill side by side with the Kansas hard red winter wheat. It gave us a chance to see the difference between wheats and how mill settings need to be adjusted to switch between

different types of wheats."

Participants also had the opportunity to learn about the significance of wheat quality in export markets to U.S. wheat producers. Chad Weigand, U.S. Wheat Associates staff member based in Mexico, said the course gave him the ability to have more educated conversations with overseas buyers of U.S. wheat.

"This course gives you a basic understanding of milling and baking processes," said Weigand. "That understanding is essential when meeting with overseas buyers and millers. It helps us understand our

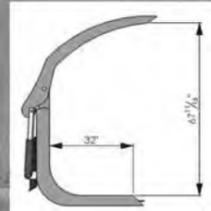
customers' desires when we are meeting with them in their flour mills, highlighting the advantages of U.S. wheat."

This course is just one of the specialized trainings offered through IGP's flour milling and grain processing curriculum. In addition, IGP offers courses in the areas of feed manufacturing and grain management, and grain marketing and risk management. For more information visit the IGP website at www.grains.k-state.edu/igp.



Participants measure and mix ingredients during a bake lab where cookies and cakes were made to demonstrate flour quality.

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Boswell named director of communications for Kansas Wheat

Kansas Wheat welcomes an accomplished communicator with expertise in the wheat industry. Marsha Boswell, who worked at Kansas Wheat from 1999 to 2008, has been named the new director of communications, effective Jan. 13, 2014. Kansas Wheat is the cooperative agreement between the Kansas Wheat Commission and Kansas Association

of Wheat Growers.

"I am confident she will be a great addition to our team, and she is very excited to hit the ground running," said Justin Gilpin, Kansas Wheat CEO.

Boswell was public relations specialist for Kansas Wheat from 1999 to 2008. During her first tenure at the KWC, Boswell developed successful promotion-

al campaigns, implemented communications strategies, and was responsible for printed materials, online, and radio communications. She was instrumental in the development of the Kansas Wheat Commission's anniversary book, *Kansas Gold: Historical Notes and Heritage Recipes from the First Fifty Years of the Kansas Wheat Commission*.

In 2008, Boswell began working at Washburn University School of Law, where she was director of marketing communications. At Washburn Law, she managed production and design

of printed materials, developed and implemented communication strategies, and oversaw the complete overhaul of the website.

Boswell is a 2008 graduate of Kansas State Univer-

sity's Master of Agribusiness program. Her thesis was on Determining Effective Communication Strategies for Kansas Wheat Producers to Improve Willingness to Pay for Services.

K-State Winter Ranch Management Seminar coming to Cloud County Community College

On February 12th, 2014, specialists from the Animal Science department at Kansas State University will be presenting the "Winter Ranch Management Seminar" at Cloud County Community College. There is a new format to the meeting this year which has traditionally been webinar based. This new "town hall" format provides a unique opportunity to bring your own questions on cow/calf animal health, nutrition, genetics, reproduction, and management, and ask the experts. There will be no set agenda; a panel of four to five animal science specialists will be present to field your questions and discuss the issues you want more information

about.

Dr. Bob Weaber, cow/calf Extension specialist, Dr. Larry Hollis, beef production medicine Ext. specialist, Dr. Sandy Johnson, northwest area livestock specialist, Dr. Chis Reinhardt, feedlot cattle Extension specialist, and possibly Justin Waggoner, southwest area livestock specialist, are all scheduled to appear.

The evening will start with registration at 5:15 p.m. and dinner served from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Please use the cafeteria entrance. The town hall meeting will run from 6:30 p.m. -8:30 p.m.

A \$5 registration (payable at the door) will include dinner and the program, but you must pre-

register by February 7th. This program is being hosted jointly between the River Valley Extension District and Central Kansas Extension District, so contact Robin Reid (robinreid@ksu.edu) 785-325-2121 or Anthony Ruiz (aruiz@ksu.edu) 785-392-2147 to register. FFA members receive free registration if RSVP'd as well. This event is sponsored by K-State Research and Extension and Land O'Lakes Purina.

This will be the last meeting of the 2014 Winter Ranch Management series. To see the complete list of dates and locations, visit <http://www.asi.k-state.edu/species/beef/ranch-management-seminars.html>

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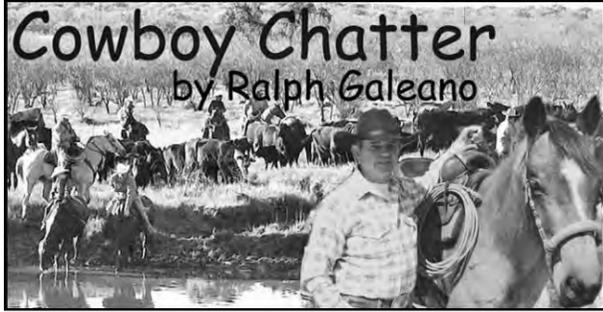
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Cowboy Chatter

by Ralph Galeano

Cowboy Legends — Charles Goodnight

The cowboy is a symbol of America. They ride in every state of the United States of America. I'm not talking about the shoot 'em up cowboys on TV and in the movies but the real life article on working ranches in our great country. Their way of life is a mark of American independence. They are what legends are made of.

Legends like Charles Goodnight, who made famous the Goodnight-Loving cattle trail in the 1860s. He was born in Illinois in 1836 and moved with his family to Texas in 1846. Charles rode his horse, Blaze, bareback on the 800-mile journey from Maricoupin County, Illinois all the way to Texas when he was ten years old.

By age twenty, he developed an interest in cattle. He began dealing in cattle on the northwest Texas frontier while also serving with the militia riding against renegade Coman-

che. As the Indian raids increased, Goodnight joined the ranks of Captain Jack Cureton's Rangers as a guide and scout to help restore order on the frontier.

It was Goodnight who found a Comanche encampment on the Pease River in December of 1860. He guided the Rangers to the camp and took part in the attack on the renegades. They found Cynthia Ann Parker in the camp and recaptured her. She was the mother of Quanah Parker who later became a famous Comanche leader.

During the Civil War, Cureton and his Rangers, including Goodnight, were attached to the Frontier Regiment. Goodnight spent most of the war chasing marauding Indians and outlaws while ranging from the Canadian to the Colorado and Brazos headwaters. He gained an intimate knowledge of the vast rolling Texas prairies and the Llano Estacado, one of the

largest tablelands or mesas on the North American Continent. It stretches from eastern New Mexico into northwestern Texas.

When he was released from the service in 1864, he returned to Palo Pinto County, Texas where he left his herd of cattle. He spent the next year with other cattlemen rounding up stray cattle that had wandered away during the war years. He moved his herd to a new range in Throckmorton County where the Comanche ran off 2,000 head of his cattle in September of 1865.

The cattle markets in Texas in 1865 were almost nonexistent and Goodnight began to look for new markets. In the spring of 1866, beef was in demand on the Army posts and Indian reservations. He teamed up with another cattleman, Oliver Loving, and with 18 armed cowboys, they drove a herd of 2,000 longhorn cattle from Fort Belknap, Texas south to the Pecos River at Horsehead Crossing. Goodnight had a special wagon built for the trip. It carried provisions and supplies and was equipped with cooking utensils, pots and pans. It was the first chuck wagon used on trail drives.

They lost 300 head on the trail from Fort Belknap to the crossing and another 100 in the river. The thirst-crazed cattle fell beneath

stampeded hooves and drowned in swirling water or sank in quicksand.

From the crossing, they turned north up the Pecos to Fort Sumner in New Mexico. Goodnight called the Pecos "the graveyard of a cowman's hopes."

At Fort Sumner they sold the steers for eight cents a pound. That was a huge profit in those days and Goodnight headed back to Texas while Loving trailed the mother cows to Colorado. Between them, they had realized \$12,000 for the sale of the steers. That trail between Fort Belknap in Texas and Fort Sumner in New Mexico became known as the Goodnight-Loving cattle trail. The difficulties of blazing the first cattle trail were the start of Charles Goodnight's legendary fame.

On their third cattle drive to Fort Sumner, Loving was wounded in a skirmish with Comanche warriors and subsequently died from the wounds. He asked Goodnight before he died to return his body to his family in Texas for burial. Goodnight honored his partner's request and returned Loving's body 600 miles back to Weatherford, Texas where he was buried in 1867. That journey was depicted in the classic movie, *Return to Lonesome Dove*, when Captain Call carried Gus's body back to Texas for burial.

In 1876, Goodnight consolidated his operations in Texas; he explored the Palo Duro Canyon in the Texas Panhandle. He built a home ranch in the canyon and began crossbreeding cattle. The next year, he formed a partnership with an Irish investor, John G. Adair, and their ranch soon covered more than a million acres, with a herd of one hundred thousand head. A pioneer in cattle breeding, Goodnight crossed the tough but scrawny Texas longhorns with the more traditional English Herefords to produce a longhorn breed that was both independent and commercially lucrative.

Goodnight spent his last winters at his winter home in Phoenix, Arizona. As a living frontier legend, he was often interviewed by Western authors and journalists, as well as such scholar-historians as Lester F. Sheffy, Harley T. Burton, and J. Evetts Haley. Not until July 1929 did he officially join a church, even

though he had helped found churches at Goodnight, Texas, a Panhandle town named for him. On the morning of December 12, 1929, Goodnight died at his winter home in Phoenix at the age of ninety-three. He was buried next to his first wife in the Goodnight community cemetery.

Charles Goodnight gained fame as one of the first Texas cattle barons and the trail boss of pioneer cattle trails. Goodnight was one of the first five cowboys voted into Oklahoma's National Cowboy Hall of Fame when it was founded in 1958. He was included with such greats as Theodore Roosevelt, Will Rogers, Charles Russell and Jake McClure. His legacy will live forever in the annals of Texas history. Charles Goodnight is certainly at the top of the list of Cowboy Legends.

Contact Ralph Galeano at horseman@horsemanspress.com or www.horsemanspress.com

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Cover crops or crops that cover?

**By Josh Coltrain,
Crop Production Agent
Wildcat Extension District**

The idea of cover crops is not a new one, but interest in the concept is definitely on the rise. As with any cropping system, there are positives and negatives, but first, let's begin with just what a cover crop is.

Webster's defines cover crop as "a crop planted to prevent soil erosion and to provide humus." Humus is just a fancy word for soil organic matter. The Oxford Dictionary defines it as "a crop grown for the protection and enrichment of the soil." The benefits for the soil that this definition alludes to include: the aforementioned building of soil organic matter, reducing soil erosion, enhancing nitrogen cycling, and pest suppression including weeds and diseases.

While these definitions sound great, there are also some potential drawbacks to cover crops that must be mentioned. Cover crops, by their very nature, develop residue cover on soils. In our region of the state,

residue often leads to wetter soils which can wreak havoc on planting and emergence of the more traditional crops. Another potential drawback is that cover crops can actually tie up nutrients in the soil depending on the plant or plants chosen. However, if the residue is left in the field, the nutrients can potentially become available over time. Cover crops also have the potential of becoming a weed which no producer wants more of.

Probably the most important drawback to cover crops, however, is the fact that to be a true cover crop, the material cannot be harvested in any way. Even though double-crop soybeans are actually covering the ground, they are not considered cover crops. Also, if the cover crop is harvested for a forage crop, either through haying or grazing, it is not technically a cover crop, even though this is where cover crops are most likely to be utilized.

Cover crops are categorized into different groups.

First, they are categorized by their season of growth. The next distinction is between legumes and non-legumes. Some common spring/summer legumes include soybean (including forage types), sunn hemp, and cowpeas among others. Spring/summer non-legumes include sudangrass, sorghum-sudangrass hybrids, spring oats, buckwheat, and annual ryegrass. Fall/winter legumes include plants like hairy vetch, winter pea, and crimson clover. Fall/winter non-legumes include rye, barley, triticale, radishes, and canola/rape-seed.

As you can see by this list, some are fairly well known crops that can masquerade as cover crops. Others might seem a little intimidating in their uniqueness. To further complicate matters, most cover crop advocates promote planting a mixture, or cocktail, of species. Some of these mixtures include as few as two or three of the crops. Other mixtures include up to nine (or more) of these. Diversity is great when it comes to

soil health. There is a distinct advantage to having multiple species in respect to soil micro-organisms. However, a major drawback to planting the cocktails is the lack of an ability to control weedy species that may infest the field.

K-State Department of Agronomy has two teams working on cover crops across the state. Kraig Roozeboom, associate professor in cropping systems focuses on eastern Kansas while John Holman, cropping systems agronomist focuses on western Kansas.

At a recent In-Depth Agronomy Update, both gentlemen presented their findings of the past few years. The data presented by Dr. Roozeboom indicated that more of the state should be utilizing double-crop soybeans in their rotation. Dr. Holman's take-home message was that for cover crops to be economical, a forage crop must be harvested. Once again, technically this makes it a crop that covers rather than a cover crop. If you have questions or would like more information, please

call me at the office (620) 724-8233, or e-mail me at jcoltrain@ksu.edu, or visit the Wildcat Extension District website at www.wildcatdistrict.ksu.edu.

Upcoming Meetings:
January 15 – Calving School, Girard High School Cafeteria, 5:00 p.m.

January 21 – Winter Ranch Management, Heppler, 5:30 p.m.

January 22 – Agronomy Night, Girard High School Cafeteria, 5:00 p.m.

February 25 – In Depth Soybean School, Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

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ANTIQUe AUCTION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 — 10:00 AM
Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo 900 Greeley SALINA, KANSAS

<p>COLLECTABLES Minton 1800 urn signed; earthenware oil portrait plaque signed 1859; Bristol glass: (portrait urn, portrait vase, biscuit jar, hand vase); Warwick portrait vase & pitcher; cobalt blue (Victorian lady biscuit jar, miniature tumble up, dresser jar w/sterling lid); 9 pcs. cut glass; elegant cranberry nude stems; large cranberry vases w/gold floral etching; Mary Gregory cranberry cordials; Sabino: (figurines, perfume bottles); Lalique (sparrow paperweight, cupid plate); Swarovski: (candelabra, figurines); Capodimonte: (urn, candelabras, lamp); Gone with the Wind & Cupids lamp; Czech glass (white cut to green lamp, nude vases, cigarette lighter); Franz Porcelain 25 pcs; water sets; Fenton aqua coin spot; Cambridge amethyst; pink depression; art glass pitcher w/unusual rope handle; satin glass: (pitchers, syrup decanters); Bavaria berry bowl set; large Van Briggle lamp w/reclining nude; 12 pcs Dryden pottery; bronze busts ("Seule" by E. Villanis, "Retour du Bal" by E. Villanis, 1 by Morelli, 1 by J. Rennofer); bronze sculpture "Dancing Couples" by L. Livi; blue Jasperware (wall plaques, vase); 10 nude flower frogs; Fenton (vases, baskets, bells, pitchers, shoes); Frankoma; Hall china pitcher & casserole</p>	<p>set; Elegant glass figurines (Duncan Miller, Fostoria, Cambridge, Heisey); RS Prussia trays; "Intaglio Sunflower"; pressed glass 10 pc set; pressed glass punch bowl set; Rubena Verde vase; Victorian jewelry casket collection; Victorian dresser set collection; perfume bottles; pin tray collection; Tumble Up night set collection; china teapot collection; 100 pc Theodore Haviland china set pre 1925; Cordey Lady figurines; Seraphim Angels: (1st edition "Alyssa", "Surrounded by Joy"); 10 kerosene lamps; Aladdin floor lamp; Aladdin Washington Drape; bisque angels; prints (1800 Japanese block print, 4 Amish block print by Kermes, "Daybreak" by Parrish, 1900 "Returning From Milking" by Francis Wheatley, "Gossip" by Wotherspoon); cast iron nude bookends; Art Nouveau metal: (candleholder, vase, pitcher); Kunde Anniversary clock; 1893 crazy quilt; Iten biscuit tin; Helmet shell cameos; brass school bell; large Satsuma urn; unique glass fly trap; advertising calendars (1907, 1933); Carlsbad Austria: (porcelain bowls, pr wall plaques); Tapes try bud vase; Pickard "Golden Melody" tray; Precious Moments figurines & dolls; Nickel Special punchboard; sheet music; viewer w/cards; crocks (2 gal Redwing, 6 gal Buckeye, Blue Ribbon); egg basket;</p>	<p>Avon Honor Society cup & saucer collection; Boy Scout handbooks; matchbook collection; Weatherman's Fostoria book First 50 years; antique books; Dr. Pepper truck; Farmall tractor & plow; Sunny Suzy washing machine; Charley Weaver bartender toy; die cast banks; large assortment of other collectables.</p> <p>FURNITURE Quarter sawn Mission oak buffet; 1916 quarter sawn oak secretary; quarter sawn oak drop front desk; oak 5 drawer highboy; cherry music cabinet; B & C organ stool; game table; oak office chair; Victorian gentleman's chair; bustle chair; Ingram kitchen clock; tobacco cabinet; 3 curio cabinets; Windsor rocker; lamp tables; bookshelves; corner shelves; ice cream chairs, rockers; doll table & chair set; plants stands; Mission oak bed no rails; 48" oak table leaves; oak highboy mirror; oak crowns; framed wall art; wall mirrors.</p> <p>JEWELRY • 150 PCS 14k yellow/white gold sapphire diamond ring; 14k yellow/white gold amethyst/diamond pendant enhancer; 10k gold rings (7); 14k gold heart pendants; vintage rhinestone pins (24); bracelets; necklaces; earrings; Sarah Coventry Midnight Magic set; sterling silver; Mickey Mouse watch & pins; Hummel mini pendants.</p>
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Star Seed remains committed; will recover and rebuild after fire

Before the fire was extinguished Monday evening January 13, plans were already in motion to relocate Star Seed offices to an interim location just one block north of the damaged facility. By Tuesday afternoon the business phones and computer systems were coming back online while all hands-on-deck remained committed to recovery, restocking, and rebuilding the business operations.

"Although the fire virtually destroyed our plant and caused millions of dollars of damage to our operation, it has not damaged Star Seed's spirit or commitment to the seed business and the local Osborne community," said Tom Lutgen, president of the company. While Lutgen admits that the devastation to the operation seemed overwhelming in the immediate hours following the tragic fire, the many counts of good fortune amidst the destruction quickly became apparent.

"Our first blessing is that we had no injuries and no loss of life; that, coupled with the tremendous dedication of our employees, emergency workers, firefighters, community, and industry friends, is almost more overwhelming than the fire itself," said Lutgen. He went on to explain that with the help of so many so fast, in less than three days the offices were relocated, restocking shipments of new seed from industry friends was committed to Star, and an interim seed plant facility was secured for processing the immediate spring needs of the company's forage and cover crop seed business.

Another significant blessing

included protection to the company's newer 20,000 sq.-ft. warehouse and its contents, despite standing next to the devastated building. This warehouse, along with another significant storage location at nearby Corinth, means that a significant amount of the spring and early summer seed supply was not impacted by the fire.

While many difficult and challenging days lie ahead in the recovery process, the reality of rebuilding is an exciting prospect and opportunity. "We have more than 90 years of company experience to put towards a clean start at rebuilding and restructuring a modern, high-tech facility" said Lutgen. He continued, "The brainstorming process is in high gear right now with considerations for new capabilities, more capacity, and greater efficiencies. When the chapter is finished on this part of the Star Seed history book, we want the result to be a stronger and more valuable partner in greater service to our customers, the larger seed industry, and the communities for which we live and work."

In a similar way that Mother Nature uses fire to burn and then restore a native prairie, Star Seed is committed to refreshing and rebuilding stronger than before the recent fire. On behalf of the company and its employees, the shareholders of Star Seed wish to thank all those who have helped manage through the immediate days that have passed and for the continued patience with and confidence in Star Seed while operations are restored and rebuilt.

K-State Research and Extension offers Board Leadership series

K-State Research and Extension is conducting a series of Board Leadership workshops across the state in February. Designed to provide basic training for members of community-based boards, the series will be hosted by local Extension educators at locations across the state.

"Informed and committed board members are the key to healthy, effective boards and committees in our Kansas communities," said Trudy Rice, community development specialist. "K-State Research and Extension's Board Leadership Series will provide an opportunity for board members to learn the basics of being a good board member. Whether you are a member of a church board, a township board, a United Way agency board, or a rural water board, this training is appropriate for you."

The series will kick off on February 19 with "Conducting Effective Meetings." During this session, participants will learn about their roles and responsibilities as a board member, basics of parliamentary procedure, and strategies to make meetings more productive and effective.

The February 20 session, "Fundraising, Fund Management, Legalities, and Ethics," will explore a board's options for raising and managing money and understanding such things as articles of incorporation, bylaws, and policies.

On February 26, the topics will be "Understanding Fellow Board Members and Conflict Management." Participants will discuss ways that personalities and generational differences affect the decision-making process and learn how to manage conflict in a way that is productive, not destructive, to the board.

"Strategic Planning" will be the final topic on February 27. Participants will learn about establishing a common mission and vision for the board, and how to plan priorities for the future.

All sessions will be conducted from 6 to 8 p.m. Workshop participants will meet at host sites throughout the state to take part in web-based instruction and locally facilitated discussion. This series will be offered locally in Junction City at the 4-H/Senior Citizen Building.

Pre-registration deadline is February 7. The cost is \$40 per person for all four sessions. Each registration buys a seat, which may be rotated among participants. Contact Chuck Otte at cotte@ksu.edu or 785-238-4161 for a group rate. Registration includes refreshments and a Board Basics workbook. More information, including on-line registration is available at www.ksre.ksu.edu/boardseries.

CKD Coffee Shop agronomy meetings begin February 7

The Central Kansas Extension District (Ottawa and Saline counties) will host two Coffee Shop meetings during February on topics of interest to area crop producers. The Coffee Shop agronomy meetings will be held at the Mentor Fire Station in Mentor, starting at 10:00 a.m. and adjourning by 11:30 a.m. and then again at the Ottawa County Courthouse basement meeting room in Minneapolis, starting at 1:30 p.m. and adjourning at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting dates for 2014, topics and speakers are: Friday, February 7: "Row Crop Production and Management Update" will cover K-State research on dryland corn production and drought-tolerant corn hybrids, soybean and grain sorghum production. Presenter is Ignacio Ciam-

pitti, K-State Extension cropping systems specialist.

Thursday, February 27: "Cover crops for central Kansas cropping systems" will take a look at cover crop research in Kansas, effects of cover crops on the following crop, moisture use by cover crops and cover crop benefits. Presenter is DeAnn Presley, K-State Extension soil and water conservation specialist.

The Coffee Shop Agronomy meetings are sponsored by the Central Kansas Extension District and K-State Research & Extension. All interested farmers and landowners are welcome to attend and is free to the public. For more information contact Tom Maxwell, District Extension agent at the CKD-Salina office at 785-309-5850.



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9:00 AM

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- 1 car detached garage

Occupancy Restriction

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OSKALOOSA, KS 66066
10:00 AM

- 3 bedroom • 2 bathroom
- 1,208 sq. ft. • 0.22 ac. lot
- 2 car attached garage

ON SITE: 1114 S. 7th St.
ATCHISON, KS 66002
12:00 PM

- 3 bedroom • 1 bath
- 1,074 sq. ft.
- 1 car built in garage
- 0.31 acre lot

ON SITE: 810 Valerie Lane
GARDNER, KS 66030
3:00 PM

- 3 bedroom • 1.5 bathroom
- 2 car built in garage
- 0.16 acre lot

Ron Hinrichsen, Auctioneer/Owner:
785-770-0222
Kristy Bever, Listing Agent: 785-456-3456

OPEN HOUSES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18: 1114 S. 7th, Atchison 10-11 a.m.
810 Valerie Ln., Gardner 1:30-2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25: 202 Cherokee, Oskaloosa 10-11:30 a.m.
1003 Cherokee, Oskaloosa 12-1:30 p.m.

TERMS: Buyer to pay 10% non-refundable earnest money day of sale. Buyer must be able to close on or before March 13, 2014. Successful Bidder to supply letter of funding and/or funds verification. Property sales "AS IS-Without Warranty". Seller has the right to accept or decline any or all offers. Some properties may have occupancy restrictions - these are disclosed on the website at www.kscrossroads.com. Title policy and closing fees are the responsibility of the Buyer. Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC is representing the Seller. Statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material. Visit our website at www.kscrossroads.com for details about each property including open house information and/or deed restrictions.

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Emergency measures to control blowing soil from wind erosion

Kansas is no stranger to howling winds, but blowing soil has caused serious problems in northwest Kansas this winter, creating concern for the remainder of the winter and spring, said DeAnn Presley, K-State Research and Extension soil management specialist.

The blowing soil problem this year stems largely from high winds coupled with a lack of residue cover, she said. November through April is the peak time for soil erosion by wind.

Long term, keeping more crop residue on the soil surface or having living vegetation year-round through the use of cover crops, will keep soil in place during conditions such as those experienced recently, Presley said. For now, however, there are some emergency measures producers and landowners can take to try to reduce wind erosion and blowing soil problems this winter and spring.

Mulching. If wind erosion has already started, it can be reduced by mulching with manure or other anchored plant materials such as straw or hay. To be effective, at least 1.5 to 2 tons per acre of straw or grass or three to four tons per acre of corn or sorghum stover are needed to control areas of erosion, and the straw or hay must be anchored. Residue can be spread by hand, spreader or other mechanical equipment.

A stubble puncher or disk set straight may be used to anchor residue and prevent it from being blown away. Wet manure

application should be 15 to 20 tons per acre and not incorporated into the soil. Care should be taken to not add wheel paths parallel to the wind direction as the mulch is applied. Traffic areas and wheel paths can contribute to wind erosion.

Generally, mulches are practical only for small areas, so mulching is most effective when applied before the soil starts to move. Producers should scout fields to identify areas that might be susceptible to wind erosion (low vegetation cover and a high proportion of erodible-sized clods less than the thickness of a dime) if they plan to use mulch or manure to controls.

Emergency Tillage. Emergency tillage is a last-resort method that can be effective if done promptly and with the right equipment. The goal of emergency tillage is to make the soil surface rougher by producing resistant clods and surface ridges. A rough surface reduces wind speed. The larger clods and ridges resist movement and provide traps to catch the moving soil particles.

Chisels with single or only a few tool ranks are frequently used to roughen the soil surface. The combination of chisel point size, speed, and depth that produces the roughest surface with the most firm, resistant clods should be used for emergency tillage.

Research has shown that a narrow chisel (two inches wide) on 24- to 54-inch spacing, operated three to six inches deep will usually bring enough

resistant clods to the surface to control erosion on fine-textured (clay-based) soils. A medium shovel (four inches wide) can be effective for medium-textured soils (loamy soils). Spacings should typically be narrower where there is no cover and wider in areas of partial cover, such as a growing crop or plant residue.

If erosion conditions recur or persist, a second, deeper chiseling should split the first spacing. Tillage passes should be made perpendicular to the direction of the prevailing wind causing the erosion.

If emergency tillage is to be used in growing crops that are covered by crop insurance, producers should check with their insurance providers regarding emergency tillage insurance rules, Presley said. Performing emergency, clod-forming tillage across the field is effective in reducing wind erosion, she added.

"The degree of success of emergency tillage depends greatly on climatic, soil, and cover condition. It is often not necessary to till the entire field, but rather, it is very effective to perform emergency tillage passes across 50 percent of the field by tilling a pass, leaving a pass, and repeating. Narrow chisel spacing, 20 to 24 inches, is best for this method," Presley said.

If 50 percent of the area has been tilled and wind erosion persists, the omitted strips can be emer-

gency-tilled in a second operation to make result in full-cover tillage, she added. If a second tillage pass is needed, it should be at a greater depth.

Wide chisel spacings are used in the full-field coverage method, Presley said. The space between chisel grooves can be chiseled later should wind erosion persist.

All tillage operations should be perpendicular or across the direction of the prevailing or eroding wind. For most of Kansas, this means that an east-west direction of tillage is likely best, she said. The best wind erosion control is created with maximum surface roughness when resistant clods cover a major portion of the surface.

"Research shows that lower travel speeds of two to three miles per hour generally produce the largest and most resistant clods. However, speeds of five to seven mph produce the greatest roughness. Because clod resistance is usually reduced at higher speeds, the effect may not be as long-lasting as at lower speeds. As a result, higher speeds are recommended where erosion is already in progress, while lower speeds might be a better choice in anticipation of erosion," Presley explained.

The depth of tillage usually affects clod stability more than travel speed, but optimum depth is highly dependent on soil conditions, such as moisture

level, and compaction. Deeper tillage passes can produce more resistant clods than shallow passes, she said.

If the problem is severe and the wheat has already been destroyed or the ground is bare, chisels four to six inches wide on a 24- to 30-inch spacing will generally provide enough

clods to control erosion, Presley said. Operating depth should be four to six inches in that case.

More information is available in the K-State Research and Extension publication MF2206, Emergency Wind Erosion Control, at: <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore/pubs/MF2206.pdf>.

Winter Crop Update set for Feb. 12 in Kingman

The Kingman and Harper county extension offices will host a Winter Crop Update and sponsored lunch on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Kingman County Activity Center, 121 S. Main St. in Kingman.

"We will have K-State speakers discussing wheat disease and outlook, insects and scouting in wheat and canola, fertilizer and weed control in wheat and canola, and finally, the market outlook for wheat and canola," said Michael Owen, K-State Research and Extension agriculture and natural resources agent in Kingman County. There is no charge to attend, but attendees are asked to register by Friday, Feb. 7 to ensure an accurate head count for the meal, sponsored by Cody Bergman of American AgCredit in Kingman.

To register, call the Kingman County K-State Research and Extension office at 620-532-5131 or email Owen at mowen@ksu.edu.

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LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 110 acres in the Southeast 1/4 32-16-11
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This tract offers about 90 acres native pasture with a good pond, with 5 acres brome grass and 14 acres alfalfa. Mostly new fences. Property sits along a well traveled road. Rural water line is along the south side and the west side of the property.

TAXES: 2013 taxes were \$272.68. Buyer to pay 2014 taxes
TERMS: \$10,000 as earnest money day of auction. Balance of purchase price at closing prior to March 15, 2014. Buyer to pay one-half of an owner's policy of title insurance and title company closing fees.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 — 1:30 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: Onaga Senior Center,
200 Bypass Road — ONAGA, KANSAS

114 acres M/L, of Pottawatomie County Native Grass Pasture Land
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The North 114 and 2/7 acres of the Southwest Fractional Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 9, Township 6 South, Range 12 East of the 6 P. M., situate in Pottawatomie County, Kansas, subject to easements and restrictions of record.

PROPERTY LOCATION: From Havensville, KS, go 1 1/2 miles north on Hwy. 63 to Blakely Rd., then 1 mile west to Points Rd., then 3/10 mile north on the east side.

This property consists of 114 acres, M/L, of native grass pasture with creek, pond and a heavily wooded timber area including oak & hickory trees, making for excellent wildlife habitat and grazing potential. COME TAKE A LOOK!

For more information or viewing, please call John E. Cline, 785-889-4775 or check the website at: www.mcclivestock.com/clinerealty

TERMS & POSSESSION: The sellers require 10% down day of sale with the balance to be due on or before March 17, 2014. Possession to be upon closing. Buyers and Sellers will equally split title insurance and closing costs of the Pottawatomie County Abstract Company. Buyer will be responsible for the 2014 taxes in full and taxes thereafter. Statements made sale day take precedence over printed material. Cline Realty & Auction represents the seller's interests.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 — 7:00 PM

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320 ACRES m/l • 2 Tracts in Newbern Township

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TRACT #1: 140ac m/l Tillable; 7ac m/l Waterways; 4ac m/l Brome; balance in timber.

TRACT #2: 150ac m/l Tillable Ground; 7.5ac m/l Waterways.

Reynolds Real Estate & Auction Company will be acting as "Sellers Agents." Announcements made day of auction take precedence over printed matter.

See last week's Grass & Grain for complete info!

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Auctioneer: R.J. Reynolds:
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www.rrehomes.com and click on the auction link

GRASS & GRAIN Auction Sales Scheduled

January 29 — Real estate (car wash) at Ogden for Ogden Car Wash. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

January 29 — Tractors, combines, trucks, trailers, farm equipment of all kinds, lawn & garden & more online at (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

February 1 — Tractor, trucks, farm machinery at Gypsum for Richard & Betty Schmidt. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt.

February 1 — DAK Plastics Equipment auction at Minneapolis. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

February 1 — 18 mobile homes & 8 modular home carriers at Salina. Auctioneers: Omli & Associates, Inc.

February 1 — 4 house auctions, 4 locations ... Wamego, Leonardville, Junction City, Herington. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 1 — Real estate in Dickinson & Geary County auction held S. of Junction City for Jeff Adams. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

February 1 — Machinery, equipment, farm items etc. consignments at Axtell for Axtell Knights of Columbus.

February 2 — Dolls at Lawrence (donations to the Wakarusa River Valley Heritage Museum by Dr. "Gene" Hefner Hicks). Auctioneers: Wischropp & Elston Auc-

tions. February 3 — 3 homes in Riley at Riley for Thomas McLaughlin, Laura Knapt. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

February 5 — Tractors, combines, trucks, trailers, farm equipment of all kinds, lawn & garden & more online at (www.bigiron.com). Auctioneers: Stock Auction Co.

February 6 — Dickinson County farmland at Abilene for DT Myers Farms, LLC. Auctioneers: Reynolds Real Estate & Auction Co.

February 7 — Real estate & meat processing equipment at Tonganoxie for Alberta Greenwell. Auctioneers: Lindsay Auction Service, Inc.

February 8 — Antiques, jewelry, pictures, lamps, tapestries, buttons, hats, books, pockets knives, quilts, glass & much more at Salina for Dr. June Taylor Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 8 — 4 house auctions, 3 locations ... Osaloosa, Atchison, Gardner. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 8 — Bull sale at Leavenworth for J&N Ranch.

February 9 — Antiques & collectibles (glassware, figurines, Precious Moments & dolls & more), furniture, jewelry at Salina. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 10 — Real estate, cropland at Concor-

dia for Heirs of Shirley Laman. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 12 — Real estate acreage, native pasture, pond, new fences, good location near Emporia for Duane & Dorothy Mounkes. Auctioneers: Hancock Auction & Real Estate.

February 13 — Dickinson County farmland at Abilene for Eva Zumbrunn Trust. Auctioneers: Reynolds Real Estate & Auction Co.

February 13 — Clover Cliff Ranch acreage in 4 tracts (Flint Hills grass, dry-land farm ground, hunting land, multiple homes, 50% mineral rights) at

Emporia. Conducted by Hayden Outdoors Farm, Ranch & Recreational Real Estate.

February 15 — Tools, tools, tools at Salina. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

February 15 — Machinery, tractors, combines, trucks, farm equipment at Wellington for Allen Weber. Auctioneers: Ken Patterson Auctions.

February 15 — Old advertising signs, vintage Winchester items & military items, glassware, clocks & collectibles, furniture, electronics, musical instruments & misc. at Junction City for a local collector. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

February 15 — Potawatomi County native grass pasture land at Onaga for Jerold J.

Collins. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction, LLC.

February 17 — Real estate at Clay Center for Larry & Laura Gibbs. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz, salesman & auctioneer.

February 18 — Land & home (producing farmland, timber w/meadows, hunting, future development) at Manhattan. Auctioneers: Mayo Auction & Realty.

February 20 — Clay County & Washington County farmland at Clay Center for ICEF Oberg, Inc. & Oberg Farms, LP. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz, salesman & auctioneer.

February 21 — Machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

February 22 — SUV, Antiques & collectibles, jewelry, golf collectibles, household at Salina for Ada Wood Trust. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

February 22 — Household, glassware, furniture, quilts, antiques, collectibles, tools, lawn & garden items at Abilene. Auctioneers: Chamberlin Auction Service.

February 22 — Tractors, machinery, construction equip. & materials, outdoor equip., tools, building materials at Spring Hill for consignments. Auctioneers: Southern Johnson County Auction Service.

February 22 — Herefords & Quarter Horses at Cottonwood Falls for TS Ranch.

February 22 — Bull sale at

Rottinghaus Consignment Auction
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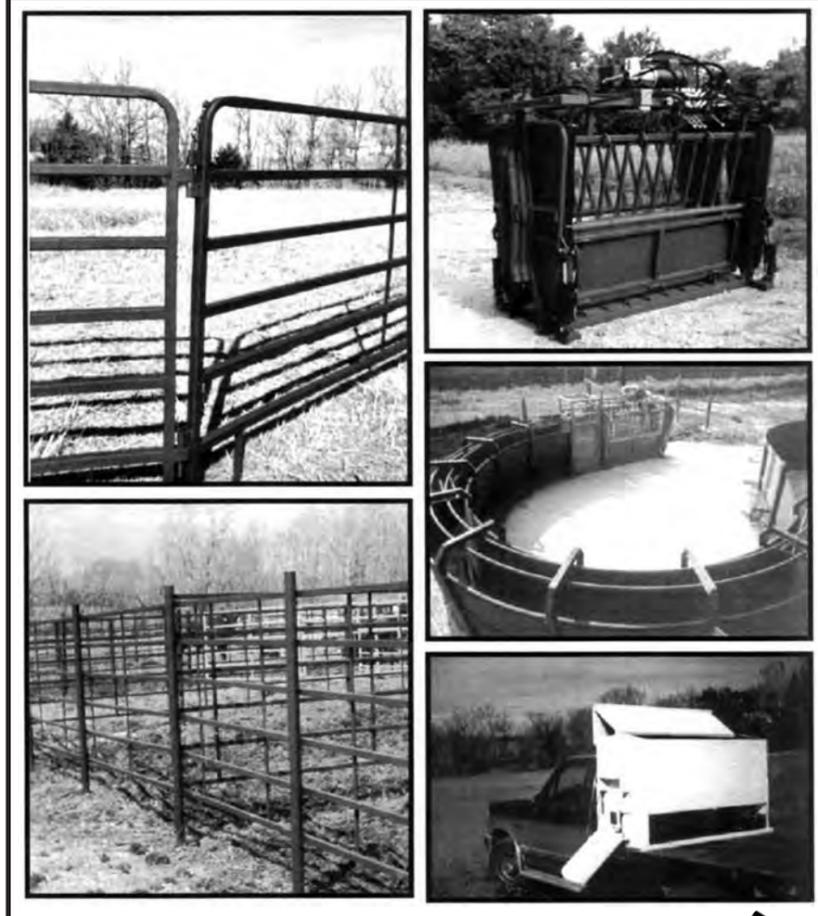
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Wamego for Gold Bullion Sale.

WEATHER DATE: February 25 (for February 20) — ICEF Oberg, Inc. & Oberg Farms, LP real estate auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz, salesman & auctioneer.

February 25 — Mill Creek Ranch “Brand that Works” production sale, Hereford & Angus bulls & female at Manhattan.

February 26 — Riley County acreage at Manhattan. Auctioneers: Farms National Company, Fred Olsen, farm manager/agent.

February 28 — Annual bull sale at Lost Springs for Cow Camp Ranch.

February 28 — Bull sale at Quinter for Jamison Herefords.

March 1 — Marshall County Real estate at Marysville (3 farms) for Jerry & Jean Nordhus; Josepha Nordhus Trust; and Nordhus Family. Auctioneers: Donald Prell Realty & Auction.

March 1 — Pottawatomie County real estate (native grass pasture, creek, timber, wildlife habitat) at Westmoreland for Michael & Joanna Carina. Auctioneers: Pearl Real Estate & Appraisal Service.

March 1 — Farm machinery & miscellaneous at Green for Bruce Dodds. Auctioneers: Kretz & Bloom Auction Service.

March 1 — Consignment sale at Salina. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

March 1 — Annual bull sale at Pomona for Judd Ranch.

March 1 — production sale at Pawnee Rock for Loving Farms.

March 3 — Late model farm machinery at Whiting for Royale Farms, Richard & Opal Featherston. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auctions, LLC.

March 3 — NW Kansas & SW Nebraska Farm &

Ranch land (irrigated, dryland, pasture, hunting, investment) at Colby. Auctioneers: Hall and Hall Auctions.

March 3 — 26th Annual Angus Bull Sale for Lyons Ranch at Manhattan.

March 5 — Farm & industrial consignments at Beattie for Rottinghaus Consignment Auction. Auctioneers: Rottinghaus Auction.

March 5 — Production sale at Agra for Spring Valley, LTD.

March 7 — Bull & female sale at Manhattan for KSU Legacy Sale.

March 8 — scissor lifts, trailers, forklift, welder/generator, ladders, ceiling tile at Salina for Delbert Chopp Co. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

March 8 — Harley Gerdes Consignment Auction at Lyndon.

March 8 — Concordia Optimist Club Annual Machinery auction at Concordia, KS.

March 8 — Production sale at Maple Hill for Mill Brae Ranch.

March 10 — Bull sale at Salina for Don Johnson Angus.

March 11 — Production sale at Phillipsburg for Bar Arrow Cattle Co.

March 12 — Production sale at Kingman for Stucky Ranch.

March 14 — Production sale at Olsburg for Good Farms.

March 14 — Production sale at Paradise for Bar S Ranch.

March 15 — Farm machinery & equipment at Ellsworth for Don Long Estate. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

March 15 — Bull sale at Westmoreland for R&L Angus.

March 17 — Production sale at Claffin for B&D Herefords & Beran Brothers Angus.

March 17 — Bull & female

sale at Leonardville for Lindell Angus.

March 18 — Production sale at Cottonwood Falls for Hinkson Angus Ranch.

March 19 — Production sale at Overbrook for May-Way Farms & Woodbury Farms.

March 20 — Production sale at Esbon for Benoit Angus Ranch.

March 22 — Farm machinery, tools, antiques, household S. of Wayne for Frank & Juanita Beneda. Auctioneers: Novak Bros. & Gieber.

March 22 — Car, pickup, coins, antiques, collectibles, tools, jewelry, household, furniture & appliances at Abilene for Melvin & Stella Rufener. Auctioneers: Chamberlin Auction Service.

March 22 — Older farm machinery, antique machinery, tools, unique collectible farm items, 4x4 side by side UTV, household W. of Alma for Esther & the late Kenny Brabb. Auctioneers: Murray Auction & Realty.

March 24 — Production sale at Dwight for Oleen Brothers.

March 25 — Consignment auction at Greensburg. Auctioneers: Ag Auctions.

March 25 — Bull sale at Eureka for Suhn Cattle Company.

March 25 — Production sale at Mankato for Black Velvet Cattle.

March 26 — Production sale at LaCrosse for Pelton's.

March 27 — Production sale at Strong City for Mushrush Red Angus.

March 29 — Farm machinery, tools, antiques, household NE of Cuba for Keith Zenger Estate. Auctioneers: Novak Bros. & Gieber.

March 29 — JD yard tractors, ATV, welder, torch, plasma cutter, power tools, hand tools, antiques & much more at

Abilene for Melvin & Stella Rufener. Auctioneers: Chamberlin Auction Service.

March 29 — Antique tractors, machinery, Cub Cadets, pickup, farm related items, IHC parts at Moundridge for Gregory & Janice Meyer. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt.

March 29 — Production sale at Gorham for Dickinson Ranch.

April 4 — Machinery, recreational & lawn care auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

April 7 — Production sale at Lorraine for Green Garden Angus.

April 27 — Household & antiques at Manhattan for Tom & Helen Unterberger. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

May 26 — Harley Gerdes 21st annual Memorial Day Consignment auction at Lyndon.

September 1 — Harley Gerdes 19th annual Labor Day Consignment Auction at Lyndon.

September 5 — Machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

September 26-27 — Kansas Barn Alliance BarnFest Conference/Tour, Dickinson County.

November 1 — Harley Gerdes Consignment Auction at Lyndon.

November 21 — Farm machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

January 1, 2015 — Harley Gerdes 30th annual New Years Day Consignment Auction at Lyndon.

Combustible grain dust prevention workshop for advanced mitigation methods planned in February

Kansas State University will offer a combustible grain dust prevention workshop teaching advanced mitigation methods on Feb. 25 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in Omaha, Neb. following the 2014 GEAPS (Grain Elevator and Processing Society) Exchange.

The three-hour advanced training will focus on housekeeping practices, proper grain unloading and grain handling, and controls, with a demonstration of sensors and other engineering controls. In this program, the emphasis will be on controlling dust in the grain receiving area, spouting design, bucket elevator safety, sensors for bucket elevators and other material handling equipment. In addition, the course will cover venting, explosion suppression and isolation.

“The past two years, we have focused on increasing awareness of basic grain dust explosion understanding and mitigation techniques. Now we will go beyond this to research-based mitigation methods,” said Kingsly Ambrose, project leader and K-State assistant professor in grain science and industry.

As a result of the workshop, participants will be able to identify active steps to mitigate immediate threats, improve their knowledge on dust mitigation methods and have a better understanding of equipment used throughout a grain handling facility.

“KSU’s extensive awareness programs of grain dust hazards and mitigation methods have had a profound effect on raising awareness about the prevention of grain dust explosions,” said Dirk Maier, grain science and industry department head. “Gaining a deeper understanding of the equipment and methods that individuals and facilities can employ to reduce the risk of explosions and loss in grain handling and processing facilities will help to prevent future grain dust accidents.”

The initiative is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Online registration for the workshops is available at www.grains.k-state.edu/igp. More information is also available by contacting Ambrose at graindust@ksu.edu or 785-532-4091.

ANTIQUUE AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 — 10:00 AM
Auction will be held in Kenwood Hall at the Saline Co. Expo 900 Greeley
SALINA, KANSAS

Large assortment of jewelry; large assortment of pictures; assortment lamps; tapestry's; shawl; jewelry boxes; assortment hats; ladies clothes; large assortment buttons; many photos; dolls; dresser boxes; Buda; ½ mannequin; Oriental (vases, figures, other pieces); canes; umbrellas; purses; 2 umbrella holders; scrap books; (movie stars, trade cards, other); paper weights; Army cut out; chalk lady; pin cushions; many hankies; head vases; 2' papier mache head; 2 radios; collar boxes; quilts; lighters; pocket knives; celluloid boxes; trade cards; valentines; calling cards; cigar tins inc.: Charles Denby; assortment glass items; assortment books inc. cook & other; large assortment of other items.

Note: This is a very large auction, there are many of each item. June loved to collect, she collected many of everything. For pictures check our website at www.thummelauction.com.

DR. JUNE TAYLOR ESTATE
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IN MEMORY OF PAUL GEIST

went on to receive his Bachelor's degree at Emporia State University. He married Cheril (Janssen) Geist November 25, 1984 in Solomon. She survives of the home.

He worked as an auctioneer around the Dickinson County area. Paul enjoyed softball and was very involved in coaching the girls' softball teams and was on the board of Dickinson County Softball League.

Paul is survived by his wife Cheril Geist of the home, daughter Adrian Hettenbach and husband Matt of Solomon and parents Marvin and Marion Geist of Buckeye.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 22 at Martin-Becker-Carlson Funeral Home in Abilene with burial following at the Bethel Cemetery north of Detroit.

Online condolences can be left at www.martinbeckercarlson.com. Memorials may be made out to the Dickinson County Girls Softball League and may be sent in care to Martin-Becker-Carlson Funeral Home, 414 NW Third, St., Abilene, Kansas 67410.

As Grass & Grain readers are aware auctions are a very large part of our newspaper and we have a very close working relationship with the auctioneers. So it is with great sadness that we must pass along the news of the death of Paul Geist, auctioneer and integral member of Reynolds, Mugler & Geist Auction Service of Abilene.

Our office phones will be a little quieter now and we will miss the weekly communication with Paul while working on auction advertising and sale bills.

We express our sincere sympathy to Paul's family and his co-workers.

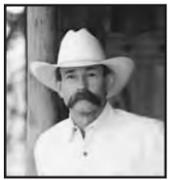
Paul Geist, 62, of Abilene, passed away Sunday, January 19, 2014 at Salina Regional Hospital in Salina.

He was born June 22, 1951 in Fayetteville, Arkansas, the son of Marvin and Marion (Page) Geist. Paul graduated from Chapman High School in 1969 and

SPECIAL EDITIONS

Every issue of Grass & Grain is a top-notch marketing tool for advertisers, but we publish annual editions that stand out more.

JanuaryTopeka Farm Show	JulyCounty Fair / Farming
FebruarySeed & Chemical	AugustState Fair
MarchSalina Farm Show	SeptemberFall Harvest
AprilSheep & Goat / Hay & Grazing	OctoberWinter Maintenance
MayCattle Empire	NovemberHoliday Gift Guide
JuneHarvest	



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Lookin' for Cowboys

So there I was, changing planes in the DFW Texas airport. A twenty-something lady looked up and said, "Well, it's good to see a cowboy again."

"Where have you been?" I asked.

"Arizona," she said.

I said, "There's cowboys in Arizona."

"Not that I saw," she said. "I was in Tucson."

They call'em a vanishing breed,

Take pictures like they're all dyin' out.

Like dinosaurs goin' to seed,

But that's my friends they're talkin' about.

"Yer right," I said, "Tucson isn't the best place to look for cowboys."

"I thought you were a Texan," she said.

"Well, there's plenty of cowboys in Texas," I said,

"But dang few in Dallas, unless you count Tomy Romo and the football team."

"That's right, I guess," she said.

"But," I offered,

"There's plenty of cowboys most places you go. When you're flyin' over the country you see square miles of open space between airports, look down. Some of it's green, or brown or yellow. In the Appalachians, Great Plains, Rockies, the Bread Basket, the Bible Belt and the Wild West."

"The open space you see between metroplexes is probably being used for cattle grazing. In that vast expanse are water holes, windmills, corrals, isolated ranch houses, cabins in the woods, in the palmetto or forest there are cowboys who know every water

tank, draw, canyon, bluff, fence, gate, and arroyo as well as you know your way to the refrigerator in the middle of the night.

"Granted, they are often spread thin but from 30,000 feet in the air you will see long dirt roads goin' somewhere. And if you watch long enough you'll see a pickup and stock trailer kickin' up dust.

"So, if you're lookin' for cowboys in Tucson or Dallas, the odds are against you. If you want to see a cowboy in real life, you're gonna have to get outta town."

Some say they're endangered species,

Destined to fade into footnotes like ropes that never get thrown.

To that I reply 'bull feces,'

They're just hard to see from the road!

Is your windbreak cutting it?

By David G. Hallauer, Meadowlark Extension District Agent

Crops & Soils/Horticulture

When you wake up in the morning and it's twelve degrees – or half that – I'm not sure there's anything that will make you feel 'warm'. If there's a breeze at all, however, that temperature feels really cold, really fast. They don't call it a wind chill for nothing.

Unfortunately, we've had a few days during the past month or so when we've gotten a chance to evaluate whether our windbreak is really doing its job. If you've found it lacking, it may be time for some renovation.

The calendar changes, we age, and so do our windbreaks. And while the trees may still be healthy and growing, they may not be as effective as they once were. In more mature stands, thinning may do some good and

allow the remaining trees to continue to grow together with a little less competition. In others, they may be past the point of renovation, leaving replacement as the only option. At that point, it's a good idea to do some further planning.

That planning should include a location assessment and measuring to determine how many trees are needed. It should also include forward planning to make sure the site can be adequately prepared come springtime. And last but not least, it should entail an evaluation of what species should be considered for planting.

If a windbreak renovation, tree planting, or tree replacement project is in your future, check out the windbreak planning publications available through your District Extension office. They can help you select trees as

well as give some guidelines about how to get a new stand laid out and started. Don't hesitate to contact the office as well – we can help when it comes to spacing, species selection, and care and maintenance once you get going.

And last but not least, don't forget the trees. There are plenty of sources, including conservation seed-lings available through the Kansas Forest Service. Orders from Forest Service stock are being accepted from now through the first full week in May – just in time for spring planting. Other tree sources are available as well. Just be sure to do a thorough evaluation of species to get one that will cut it in our sometimes harsh northeast Kansas Environment. There's no sense in putting a lot of work in to something that won't cut it when that cold north winds starts blowing!

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