



Hawk to retire after 39 years teaching ag at Highland Community College

By Donna Sullivan,
Editor

Classes are out for the summer at Highland Community College and on the second floor of Yost Hall, Clifford Hawk is cleaning out his classroom for the final time. After teaching ag classes at the college for 39 years, a grim health diagnosis has forced his hand. Hawk was diagnosed with ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease, in February.

After having a knee replaced three years ago, he noticed while faithfully doing his therapy that his balance just wasn't what it should be. It will come with time, they told him. It didn't. Many tests and several MRIs later, after ruling everything else out, they performed a muscle biopsy and determined it was ALS.

"It must be," Hawk conceded. "Because these aren't much for arms anymore, considering I used to shear sheep. There wasn't a ram in northeast Kansas I didn't upset and give a haircut. Now I can't lift much more than seven or eight pounds."

Sheep have been a part of Hawk's life since kindergarten. But first it was a pair of Brown Swiss bucklet calves that he faithfully cared for. When they got big enough that his father feared they would hurt him, they were sold, making for a very sad little boy. Then his dad, who ran the Effingham Auction Company, bought a pregnant gilt with the intention of selling her the next week. But in the meantime the babies were born and she didn't have any milk. So Clifford bottle-fed them then broke them to a pan. "One day I went to school, came home and the pigs were gone," he remembered. "A guy had driven in and saw they were really nice and wanted to buy them. I was upset and dad said, 'The next thing that comes up that won't kill him, I'm going to buy them,' and that's when he bought two sheep and I've had sheep ever since."

His dad started Effingham Auction Company in 1955 and sold it the year Clifford went to college. "I figure the free labor was gone," he laughed. "I'm the only person I know that started at the top and worked his way down." He recalled working the ring as a small child, pushing the pigs and baby calves around, then making way for the older, stouter help when the big cattle came in. From there he started working out back, penning the animals. "Then I worked up to where I was loading



A diagnosis of ALS has forced long-time ag teacher Clifford Hawk to retire from Highland Community College. Above, he is shown in front of his photo wall depicting his long career and students whose lives he touched.

Photo by Donna Sullivan

them out, then from there I went to sorting."

Along with his sale barn experience, Hawk was in 4-H and FFA. He went to Highland Community College for two years before they had an ag program. From there he went to Missouri Western, where they were trying to build a sheep program. "I got in on the ground floor of that," he said. "I really enjoyed that and had some really good teachers." An animal science major, Hawk says he got to playing with the numbers and realized if he took one extra class per semester and took all his free electives in agronomy, he could graduate with a degree in agronomy as well as animal science. "So I've got a degree in both, which is a little unique," he said.

He went to the University of Missouri to begin research for his master's degree in animal science, but says he didn't care for it much. So he went to Kansas State University to finish up. When the job opened up at Highland Community College, he took it with the intention of being there for a year or two, then going back to finish his doctorate. "Then a year or two turned into 39," he chuckled. "Amazing how that happens. But I don't regret it." He continued to take classes to stay up to date. The last couple of years, because of his health, he's taken the Beef Quality Assurance program online. "I usually encourage the kids to do that, too," he said. "Now we've gotten to where it's free, you're crazy not to do it. It just takes a little time."

When he first arrived on staff at Highland, which had by now started an ag program, there was another ag teacher. "He actually had a doctorate in soils," Hawk said. "But he didn't really know anything about animals. So they hired me to help recruit and also do animals." The other teacher left in 1984 and was never replaced, so Hawk began to do both.

When the ag program began in 1977, it was to be strictly a two-year program. "But when I came on board it wasn't hard to figure out that if you're going to have any kind of numbers, you have to have a transfer program, so we



This photo by Katy Blair of the *Atchison Globe* accompanied her story about Hawk's quest to show sheep in the County Fair for fifty years, a feat he did accomplish a few years ago.

concentrated on that quite a bit," said Hawk.

He used to take students out to his own farm for hands-on experience with the sheep. He laughed, recalling a girl who wanted to be a veterinarian but had never given shots before. "I showed them how to put the needle in and back off a little bit for the subcutaneous shot for overeating disease. She goes right through the skin and she shoots and hits the barn door. She looks at me and goes, 'What do we do now?' I said, 'Well, we reload the syringe and we re-vaccinate the sheep, but the barn door is protected.'"

"I've helped a lot of kids get into ag," he said, but reflected on others that he may have helped realize it wasn't the field for them. "It's always interesting when I have a kid say he wants to be a vet and I say, 'How are you in math and science?' and they say, 'I hate math and science.' And I say, this is not a career path for you."

As in any field, there have been many changes since Hawk began his ca-

reer, but leading the list is probably technology. Computers were just coming on to the scene when he first arrived at Highland, and the physics teacher had the first one on campus. One night over coffee, he told Hawk he needed to type some software he'd written for his class into the computer, and lamented the fact that it would take a while because he didn't really know how to type. Hawk offered to lend his typing skills to the project. "I did that a few times, then I realized, if you change this input statement and make it corn, and change this input and make it hay and change this to soybean meal and make the math equation do this, it would let you calculate rations," he described. From there he went on to write numerous software programs and had the first computer class approved for ag in the state of Kansas in 1981. He wrote a book on the subject and spent one summer teaching at K-State. "That was a good experience," he said.

He has also created games to use in class, such

as one for beef production with a Mission Impossible theme, one called Horse Race, and another he dubbed Who Wants To Be A Forage Millionaire?

While no doubt well-rounded, Hawk is extra-proficient when it comes to sheep, and is widely respected around the state. He raised registered Suffolk for many years, and used to feed about 1000 lambs a year. When his health problems forced him to sell out last October, it was the first time in 54 years he hadn't had sheep on his place. He showed sheep at the Atchison County Fair for 50 consecutive years before knee and back problems forced him to give it up. He traveled to New Zealand and Australia through a K-State program to see sheep production there, which he enjoyed immensely. "I always said I'd go back and now that I'll have time, I can't go back," he said wistfully.

Helping young people get started raising sheep was one of his passions, but he wanted to teach them to do it correctly, right down

to keeping proper records. "Everybody else was in it to make big bucks," he said. "I never did that. I always sold club lambs for about the same price as a market lamb, and that way the kids got a good lamb to take to the fair. But if you buy a club lamb from me, you have to keep records, then I would check on their records. If you give more than he was ever worth at the beginning, you'll never make any money at the other end. So I always tried to work it where they could make money."

Hawk was instrumental in the success of the sheep sale at the St. Joe Stockyards, as well. At their first sale, they had 395 head. Hawk knew that for it to be successful, it would need bigger lots to attract more buyers. He committed to bringing 115 head for the next sale, which turned into quite a project. "That thing took off and they've had sales with over 2000 head," he said. "They come from everywhere to buy." He misses the days of being able to go over and watch the sheep sale at St. Joe, his physical limitations now preventing him from navigating the long walks and stairs at the sale barn.

Now as he cleans out his office, he daily discovers treasures from his many years of teaching, and if it's something he thinks a former student would enjoy, he sends it to them. Like the notebooks he found from a class where he actually gave pairs of students pregnant ewes to let them go through the process all the way to marketing the lambs. "I'd thought they'd enjoy seeing those again," he said, adding that he's probably driving the mail room crazy.

While this particular path isn't the one he would have chosen – he says his retirement plans were to go north of town and have 12-15 ewes – Hawk remains cheerful and stays busy. A scooter that once belonged to his mother helps him get around when destinations are farther than he can walk.

He expects the ag program at Highland, which consistently has 22-30 students, to continue going strong. Two years ago they did away with out-of-state tuition, so Hawk has had students from Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Texas, Indiana and Florida. While it created more work for him, he was happy to do it. "For example, if you talk about soils and want to cover the soil for Kansas, which is Harney silt loam, that's fine. But what about the kid from Nebraska, the kid from Missouri or Iowa, the kid from Florida? Now when you give your lecture, you can't just give Kansas soils, you have to know all the soils. And that's more work, but it's what needs to be done."

More work was never something that deterred Hawk as he dedicated his life to giving students the best agriculture education he possibly could. He frequently hears from former students who have gone on to be successful in the industry, from veterinary medicine to the corporate world and a variety of other pursuits. He loves to hear their stories and he treasures every one.

Insight

KANSAS FARM BUREAU
The Voice of Agriculture

Protect Yourself From the Sun

By John Schlageck, Kansas Farm Bureau
The next time you take a few minutes out of the sun, dust off one of those old family albums. You know the ones that date back to the '30s, '40s and even the late '50s.

If your family farmed, you'll see photos of your relatives attired in wide-brimmed hats. Look at their shirts. They wore loose-fitting, long-sleeved, light-colored garments.

Now fast-forward to the photographs of the mid-1960s. Clothing styles

changed. You don't see too many long-sleeved shirts any longer. Broad-brimmed hats have been replaced with baseball caps proclaiming seed, feed, tractors, and organizations — just about any company logo under the sun.

Today's farmer no longer wears the clothing of yesteryear — clothing that afforded protection from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. Instead he or she wears a smaller, softer, snug-fitting cap that will not blow off and bump into

machinery. Farmers prefer their hats to be inexpensive or free, and they like them colorful.

While the ball cap is comfortable and affordable, it does not protect the temples, the tender, delicate ear tips and the back of the neck. The baseball cap doesn't extend far enough to offer protection needed to guard against the sun.

Health specialists in the agricultural field have been tracking skin cancer and the sun's harmful impact on farmers and other segments of society since 1983. While reports of deaths from skin cancer remains small, the number of tumors has increased significantly according to family physicians that treat farmers in rural communities.

Ultraviolet rays are one of the leading causes of cancer on farms today, researchers say. But with early diagnosis, treatment is possible. Farmers and ranchers should insist on inspection for skin cancer as part of their regular check-up.

Without protective measures, sun will eventually result in skin cancer. Dermatologists recommend that anyone working or playing in the sunshine protect their skin completely by wearing clothing and a wide-brimmed hat.

The American Cancer Society will tell you there is a skin cancer epidemic. The number of cases is rising faster than any other tumor being studied today.

One reason skin cancer may be on the rise is due

to more leisure time and more exposure to the sun. If anyone wanted evidence of this, they need only look at the thousands who attend the "Country Stampede" in Manhattan in late June. Ball caps, shirtless guys and gals wearing two-piece bathing suits parade everywhere.

How can we stem the tide?

Youngsters and young adults must be aware of possible skin cancer. If they learn about the sun's dangerous rays at an early age and practice prevention, skin cancer can be avoided in later years.

Farmers, ranchers — just about anyone who works or plays in the sun should avoid direct exposure during the midday sun. This period is roughly from 10 a.m. until about 4

p.m. in the Midwest.

If you can't wear a wide-brimmed hat and protective clothing, apply at least a 30 SPF sun protective lotion. Today's farmers and ranchers would be well-advised to take a page out of their family albums — to return to those days of floppy, wide-brimmed straw hats and long-sleeved, baggie cotton shirts.

Who knows, maybe they could start a new fashion craze as well as protect their skin from the damaging rays of the sun.

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.

Kansas State University researchers study ways to stabilize river banks

Along a two-mile stretch of the meandering Smoky Hill River, Kari Bigham is earning a nickname among the locals that she's pretty proud of.

Bigham, a graduate student at Kansas State University, has been called "The Streambank Lady," a tribute to her steady work to monitor changes in this part of the river.

"What drives this work," Bigham says, "is the fact that landowners in general are losing acreage to streambank erosion every year."

Streambank erosion is a natural process caused by the force of flowing water against the resistance of the bank. When the force of water wins out, adjacent land or sediment essentially 'falls'

into the waterway and is washed downstream along with sediment-attached pollutants.

Those pollutants create risk to aquatic life and humans, and in some cases, can end up in downstream lakes as well.

Bigham's work, which began in 2016, aims to slow erosion on parts of the Upper Lower Smoky Hill Watershed. She is currently monitoring six sites on the river between Salina and Lindsborg.

"The goal here is to protect land and improve water quality," Bigham said.

The team of researchers and engineers began this project nearly three years ago by installing dead trees and similar woody structures into the

bottom of the streambank, also called the 'toe' of the bank.

"What we're trying to do by putting these woody structures into the toe of the streambank is to try to dissipate that energy and move that erosive current (called a thalweg) to the center of the bend," Bigham said. "You're reducing the energy and the amount of stress being placed on the streambank."

The team is also looking at the effect that vegetation and re-shaping the slope of the bank has on reducing the rate of erosion.

"We put in these structures and it moves that erosive high-energy current away from the streambank, but what we

really want to happen is for the sediment that the stream is carrying to drop and build up between the structures so that vegetation can establish along the bank and protect it from further erosion," said Trisha Moore, an assistant professor of biological and agricultural engineering at Kansas State University who is supervising Bigham's doctoral work.

Before beginning classes for the doctoral degree, Bigham worked as a consultant for a company designing streambank stabilization systems, but she says there was no quantitative data collected after a system was installed to show that it works.

In this project, Bigham collected pre-construction data at some of the sites, and has been taking yearly measurements of the sites

to determine if the woody structures are helping to reduce the rate of erosion on the streambank.

"It's a great opportunity to be able to monitor streambank erosion," Moore said. "A lot of times we use the money to put the structures in, but we don't get to study. We can't understand if it's cost-effective if you don't have the data."

Bigham said the results are mixed. The design they have implemented in the sections she's working in "doesn't seem to work as well when we have banks with high sand content. That's not surprising."

The researchers are also learning more about the force of water around tighter curves in the river, and the benefits of having vegetation on the streambank. They also learned what trees not to use in a

woody structure.

"Mulberry trees... beavers like them," Bigham said. "The beaver went to town on it, so we had to replace it with a hedge. We learned the hard way what species of tree to use."

Bigham noted she's also interested in learning more about what effects installing a stabilization system has on areas upstream and downstream.

"My concern is that we are redistributing the energy and causing accelerated erosion downstream," she said. "I'm looking at a reach scale rather than just one site. Most of the research that's been done so far looks at just that particular site, and yeah, they work, but are we causing landowner B downstream more problems and that's why he had to do this project the next year?"

"That's the part that bugged me when I was working with these designs, I was afraid I was causing more harm than good. I wanted some quantitative data to show that I was or was not. Hopefully we can learn from it and have better solutions, or just keep with this one if it works."

The current project is expected to continue for at least two more years.

"We're not just interested in how erosion occurs or why it occurs or that these things are working, but really we want to improve the design of the structures that we are putting out there," Moore said.

Added Bigham: "This is engineering: Putting something out there to see if it works, and if it doesn't work, what can we do to fix it. This is applied science."



This past week we had all the planting done and the cows were all settled into their summer pasture. Things were quiet and for the first time in a while I felt almost — not quite, but nearly — caught up and I could focus on some tasks that needed to be done. One of those was thistles. Chopping thistles was one of those jobs I had as a kid that I really hated. It was not nearly as bad as picking up rocks, but close. At least you could tell where you had been at the end of the day.

One thing about being an adult is that I get to decide how I am going to control the thistles. Digging is for the birds, or rather teenagers; since I am not a teenager and I currently have no teenagers at home during the day, digging was not an option that was seriously considered. Chemical control seemed like the most prudent means.

I called the Noxious Weed Department to check on the use of one of their sprayers and to get some chemical. Apparently, everyone else in Pottawatomie County had the same idea I did and there was a long list of people waiting on the sprayers and I was at the bottom. Someday I really need to work on that procrastination problem of mine, but that will have to wait until later.

I decided to put a reservation in and to start working on them with our ATV and its 25-gallon sprayer. After all, how many could there be? Turns out there is a healthy population of thistles in the pasture I was working on and they seemed to be calling for reinforcements. Feeling optimistic I headed out with the hand nozzle, a full tank of gas and an adequate amount of spray.

I was only a few feet inside the gate when I sudden realized how Don Quixote felt. Funny, I drive by the pasture every day and through that gate often and it did not seem like that many. Maybe the ATV puts you at a different level and you see more; maybe I drive too fast or quite possibly, and most likely, I have a super strain of thistles that in a day can grow to maturity and produce a flower.

In any case, there were thistles everywhere I looked and squirting them with the hand nozzle was like fighting a forest fire with a garden hose, but that was all I had so I bravely set off driving and spraying and soon had almost perfect-

ed my one-handed driving and spraying technique. In my mind I was driving in a straight line and not missing a single thistle. In reality, I was getting about fifty percent and driving like a drunk on Saturday night. It didn't take long to realize that I needed larger artillery to fight this war.

That is why it was such a relief to get the call that a sprayer had become available if I was still interested. I assured them I was still very much interested and would be up as soon as possible to pick it up and please set me up with the most lethal thistle spray possible. I retreated to the house, but like General McArthur I assured the thistles I would return.

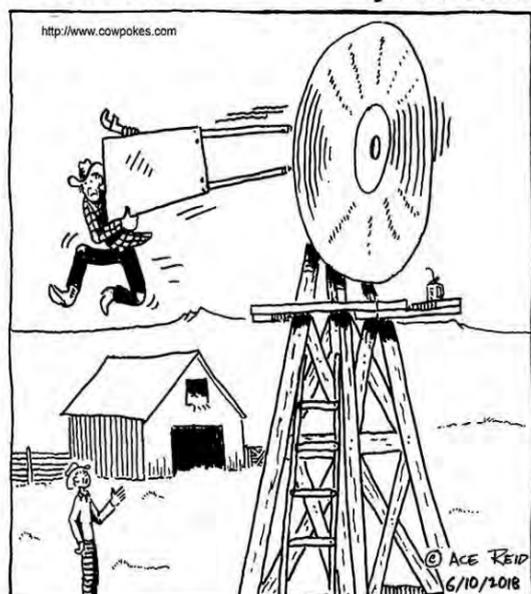
Return I did, and armed with a much larger sprayer and a much greater range, I waged a renewed war with the thistles. They must have called in backup, too or my theory of super-thistles is true. As I started to spray I found thistles in places I didn't think I had them and in numbers much higher than I remembered.

I gleefully filled the sprayer time and time again. Each time I returned I smiled as I turned the valve on and let the thistles have it. It also didn't hurt that there was plenty of dogwood, locust, hedge, buckbrush and various other invading species in the way. Anything that was not grass was fair game in my eyes. It seems like I get an advertisement about pasture spray once a week and they all have lush green pastures on the cover; I assure you that picture was in my mind's eye as I circled the pasture time and time again.

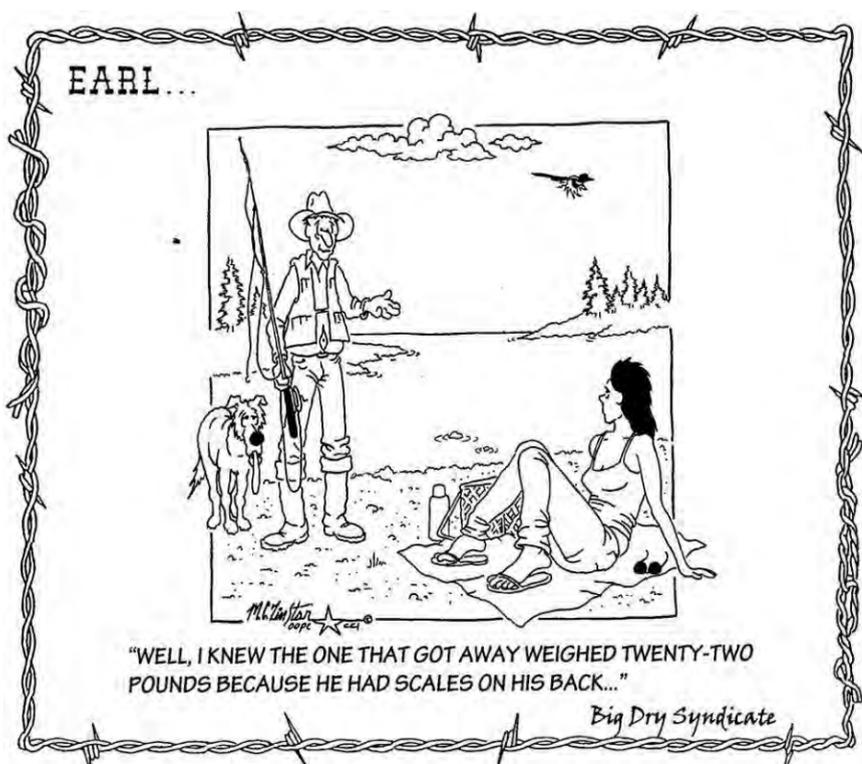
By the end of the day I had exhausted my supply of spray which had earlier exhausted my budget for spray. As the sun set, I stood over the empty jugs and looked out upon the horizon at the pasture I had just sprayed with kind of a satisfied feeling. I say "kind of" because there were areas of the pasture I did not get to and I am sure that, much like my hand-spraying experience, skippers would become apparent.

However, maybe I had knocked it down to where I could spray the rest and digging was still a distant option. It might take a lifetime of work but someday I am going to have that pasture looking like the cover of the advertisement for the spray I used. Yes, reality will set in, but for a moment just let me dream. Even Don Quixote had a goal.

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"Jake, ain't it a wonderful feelin' when you git a little breeze from nowhere!"



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Kansas net farm income climbs, but still far below three years ago

Kansas net farm income rose in 2017 for the second straight year, thanks in part to stronger livestock prices, but was still less than half what it was just three years earlier.

Net farm income statewide averaged \$62,944 in 2017, up about \$16,000 from a year earlier.

"There is much variability between farms, including differences in production ranging from record yields to drought, as well as differences in financial position and cost structure, and differences in decision-making and management of risk," said Kevin Herbel, executive director of the Kansas Farm Management Association. The data is derived

from a summary of the records of KFMA program members. Though not all farms across the state are KFMA members, the summary information provides a glimpse of the financial picture for Kansas farmers.

"While net income increased for the average farm, 31 percent of the farms had negative net income for the year," Herbel added. "The current financial position for KFMA farms continued to erode in 2017, a reflection of the tightening cash position faced by many farms," he said. This indicated that the average current ratio has decreased each year since 2012 and is currently at \$2 of current assets for

each \$1 of current liabilities, the lowest level since 2001.

Crop production costs and machinery costs decreased slightly during the year, helping the net income position. With tight margins and cash-flow constraints, KFMA member farms have updated less machinery and equipment in recent years with machinery investment down more than \$20 per acre after reaching a peak in 2014.

Grain prices continued at levels that created tight margins for much of the year, which weighed on farm income, Herbel said, but occasional price rallies provided selling opportunities. Also on the

plus side, the value of livestock produced increase 31 percent for the average farm - particularly resulting from those with cow-calf herds and involved in cattle feeding.

"Government payments had an impact by supporting net incomes around the state," he said. Average government payments per farm were \$27,689 which was 44 percent of the \$62,944 net income. Around the state the percent of net income ranged from 17 percent in southeast Kansas to 124 percent in south central Kansas, where government payments were \$37,964 and net farm income \$30,517.

Farm type and location
As is typically the case,

income varied widely from one part of the state to another, and by type of operation.

Average Kansas farm income, by region:
Southeast: \$102,671.
Northwest: \$94,071.
Southwest: \$78,092.
Northeast: \$54,418.
South central: \$30,517
North central: \$28,950.
Average net income on Kansas farms, by operation:

Background cattle (the intermediate stage of cattle production between weaning and feedlot): \$228,202.

Crop farms with 20 to 60 percent irrigated acres: \$101,102.

Dairy: \$81,003.
Crop farms with more

than 60 percent irrigated acres: \$75,070.

Dryland farms at \$53,658.

Recordkeeping
Keeping accurate records and benchmarking with those records to identify strengths and weaknesses can help agricultural producers focus their management efforts, Herbel said.

"These records can help identify production costs, provide a starting point for market planning, and help a farm manager understand the farm business better than anyone else," he said. "The investment of time into this process is important to manage today's economic environment successfully."

U.S. Grains Council engages international buyers on U.S. sorghum

Even in the toughest of times, the on-the-ground presence around the world and rapid response by U.S. Grains Council (USGC) staff can turn a crisis into an opportunity to build lasting markets.

Twenty vessels of U.S. sorghum were in transit to China when the country announced an immediate 178.6 percent preliminary anti-dumping duty on U.S. sorghum on April 18, 2018. The Council, as the export market development organization for the U.S. sorghum industry, went immediately to work - fielding calls by members and international customers looking for alternative markets for these sorghum shipments.

Buyers responded just as quickly to the situation and vessels were re-routed, albeit at a significantly discounted price, to markets including Spain, Saudi Arabia and many others. Now, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is reporting new sales of U.S. sorghum to even more markets, thanks in large part to the Council's efforts to prepare and keep buyers informed of the sorghum situation.

"The intense efforts of the Council's global network to find alternative markets for U.S. sorghum demonstrates how responsive we are as an organization," said Deb Keller, USGC chairman and farmer from Iowa. "This work is emblematic of who we are and what we have done since the organization was founded in 1960.

"This is the Council doing what it does best and we are very proud of it."

Sorghum has served as a cornerstone commodity of the Council since the organization's inception. Since that time, the Council has worked to develop worldwide markets for U.S. sorghum, resulting in a long list of countries with experience using the coarse grain, including Japan, Spain, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Morocco and Mexico.

For example, U.S. sorghum producers from Kansas and Texas tapped into logistical advantages during a direct sales mission to Mexico organized by the Council and the United Sorghum Checkoff Program (USCP) in June 2017. The duty-free provisions in the North American Free Trade Agree-

ment (NAFTA) have led to increasingly-integrated logistics for the grain trade in the second largest market for U.S. sorghum. Mexican end-users now prefer U.S. sorghum over local sorghum supplies for high-protein, quality feed, but the U.S. grain also must compete on price.

Japan and Spain have been long-time, significant markets for U.S. sorghum. However, in recent years, they have not purchased substantial quantities of U.S. sorghum due to strong demand by Chinese importers. Nevertheless, the Council has continued to maintain contacts in these countries.

The Council's long history working in China prepared the organization for the threat of another market shutdown. As a result, when China announced investigations against U.S. sorghum in February 2018, the Council had already laid the groundwork and immediately sprang into action to find potential alternative markets.

The Council worked with the Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Board and Association and the Texas Department of Agriculture to immediately redirect a trade team of U.S. farmers and agribusiness members to Spain from their originally scheduled visit to China. In March 2018, the team of six engaged with Spanish importers and end-users to promote the return of U.S. sorghum to the Iberian Peninsula. The delegation included a sorghum farmer from the Texas Panhandle and grain traders as well as representatives from farm cooperatives, the ethanol industry and the Texas Department of Agriculture.

"Spain knows U.S. sorghum," said Alvaro Cordero, USGC manager of global trade, who participated in the overseas mission. "We wanted to make sure they were fully aware of the market opportunity and ensure, when prices were right, Spain would be the first country to buy U.S. sorghum."

A delegation of U.S. farmers and agribusiness members shared information on U.S. sorghum with Spanish importers and end-users in March 2018.

The delegation spoke during two conferences in Barcelona and Madrid. Eighty Spanish end-users, feed millers and traders

attended the conference in Barcelona at La Llotja Grain Exchange, the oldest grain exchange in Europe, while 35 participants attended the second conference in Madrid at the Federation of Agri-Food Cooperatives and Traders. The delegation provided the Spanish audience real-time information on the U.S. sorghum crop and the outlook for prices. The group also answered questions from participants about logistics and timing of the crop.

"The message was very down-to-earth and clear," Cordero said. "We explained the situation of what is going on with the industry and prepared the ground in case China walked out of the market because of tariffs."

The Council continued to monitor developments and provide information to Spanish grain buyers after the trip concluded. When the sorghum tariff was announced by China, Spanish customers were among the first the Council contacted. Since the Chinese announcement, the Spanish market has purchased 430,000 tons (16.9 million bushels) of U.S. sorghum, including the shipments diverted from China and 49,500 tons (1.95 million bushels) of new sales of U.S. sorghum.

Elsewhere in the world, Cordero and Ramy Taieb, USGC regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, were on the ground in Saudi Arabia the week the new tariff was announced. Building on existing engagement in the market, the pair met with buyers to discuss the distressed sorghum vessels and how U.S. sorghum could help meet Saudi Arabia's growing feed demand.

The Saudi Arabian market is no stranger to U.S. sorghum. The Council regularly brings teams of Saudi buyers to the United States to learn more about U.S. sorghum production, quality and logistics.

After the meetings in April, seven Panamax shipments of U.S. sorghum, equaling about 500,000 tons (19.6 million bushels), were re-routed to Saudi Arabia. The two shipments of U.S. sorghum arrived at Saudi ports on May 5 and the subsequent vessels will discharge at the pace of two every two weeks.

"There is significant

interest in sorghum from local buyers," Taieb said. "They see an opportunity on not only price, but also an alternative coarse grain they can use and easily adapt to their processes."

In addition to these large markets, the Council continues to highlight the economic and nutritional advantages of U.S. sorghum to buyers, as the organization has done since the beginning. The Council has distributed the latest USCP feeding guidelines for sorghum and is talking candidly and frequently with customers to promote the coarse grain. The Council is aware of U.S. sorghum sales to the Philippines, Japan and South Korea. New sales are also now being reported to markets including Colombia and Taiwan.

"All of these sales represent an opportunity to turn these markets into future, consistent buyers of U.S. sorghum," Keller said. "The Council's sorghum promotion is not only helping find homes for the displaced Chinese shipments, but also driving new demand for the upcoming crop."

Back in the United States, representatives from the Council and the National Sorghum Producers are also in ongoing conversations with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) and USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) on responses to Chinese duties and new programming that could mitigate its long-term impacts on the sorghum industry.

The cumulative results of these direct conversations and information-sharing with end-users as the Chinese sorghum tariff situation continues

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- 1 can corn, strained
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup

Combine cooked hamburger and diced potatoes and remaining ingredients. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Cover pan and bake 40 minutes. Enjoy!

Lucille Wohler, Clay Center:

RHUBARB SALAD

- 3 cups diced rhubarb
- 2 cups water
- 1 2/3 cups sugar
- 6-ounce package strawberry gelatin
- 20-ounce can crushed pineapple

Cook the rhubarb and water for 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Add the sugar and gelatin to rhubarb and stir in thoroughly. Add the pineapple, stir and chill.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

POLISH POTATOES

- 1 pound Polish sausage, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 6 medium potatoes, peeled & quartered

3 cans golden mushroom soup

1 cup water

Place sausage and potatoes in the slow cooker. Mix soup and water and pour over potatoes. Cook on low for about 4 hours or until potatoes are tender.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

CHICKEN CROCK-POT

- 4 skinless chicken breasts
- 8-ounce package cream cheese
- 1 stick butter
- 1 large can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup chicken broth or wine
- Garlic, small amount
- Onion (a little), chopped
- Salt & pepper

Throw all together in crock-pot for 4-5 hours on high.

Lydia J. Miller, Westphalia:

CRUNCHY PEA SALAD

- 10-ounce package frozen baby peas
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 cup chopped cauliflower
- 1/4 cup diced green onions
- 1 cup chopped cashews
- 1 cup prepared Hidden Valley Ranch salad dressing
- Crumbed bacon, optional

Combine all ingredients and refrigerate.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

PEANUT BUTTER SQUARES

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup margarine melted
- 6-ounce package chocolate chips

Mix together first 4 ingredients. Pat into bottom of 9-by-13-inch pan. Melt chocolate chips and spread on top. Cut into small squares. Makes about 48 pieces.

Another from Millie Conger, Tecumseh:

NO PEEKY BEEF

- 2 pounds stew meat, 1-inch pieces
- 1 envelope onion soup mix
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 small can sliced mushrooms
- 1/2 cup beef broth
- Rice or chow mein noodles

Place meat in crock-pot. Mix all but rice or noodles in. Cook on low for 8-10 hours or on high 5-6 hours. Serve over rice or noodles.

Family Vacation Do's and Don'ts

By Patricia Gerhardt, Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences, Young Children & Families, River Valley Extension District

The saying, "The family that plays together, stays together" is supported by research. Strong families spend both work and leisure time together. This doesn't mean they do EVERYTHING together, but a balance of shared and individual activities is important. For most families, the leisure time spent together doesn't happen unless it has been planned.

The family vacation is an important way for families to strengthen their ties. However, you may like the beach, your spouse prefers the mountains, and the kids want to go to Worlds of Fun. Relax, differing leisure preferences are the rule – not the exception. What's a family to do so that everyone is happy?

Holding a family council meeting is a good way to reach a decision. It's not just calling the children together and informing them what Mom and Dad have decided. Follow these suggestions so that everyone feels they've contributed. Start by identifying the issue. Are you conflicted on deciding where to go? When to go? What to do? Brainstorm different ideas and get suggestions from everyone. Think about it for a few days and do more research if necessary (i.e., costs, schedules, distance, etc.). When the family gets together again to make the decision, ask for volunteers to plan specific parts of the vacation (i.e., activities, schedule, food, the route, etc.). Remember kids like to DO things, most adults like to SEE things.

Spending additional time together as a family can very likely create conflict. Be prepared for it. The family is not used to being cooped up in a few square feet of car space or spending all day together. It's a good idea to plan some free time and independent time. Maybe Dad and daughter can go shopping while Mom and son look for shells.

Travel logs, postcards, e-mail postings, photographs, and videos are all excellent ways to preserve vacation memories. The recollection of shared, happy experiences can be as important in creating closeness as the vacation itself. As children grow and leave home, these memories become more valuable than the things vacation money could have been spent on. The primary benefit of family vacations should be improved communication and closeness. Memories made can fill the reservoir of family unity and caring that will sustain the family through future problems and crises.

Things to Do When Money Is Short

By Cindy S. Williams, Meadowlark Extension District, FACS

Here are some things to think about when money is short.

- * Think about things you have been spending money on that you can do without – movies, magazines, music, extra snacks, sodas, etc.

- * Think about ways to earn money – babysitting, pet sitting, mowing lawns, delivering papers, etc.

- * Think about ways to stretch the money your family does have – sew or mend clothing, gardening, babysit for younger brothers/sisters, prepare meals, etc.

- * Turn off the lights, television, and other small appliances.

- * Take shorter showers to cut down on the hot water used.

- * Hang your clothes up after wearing so they will not need to be washed and dries as often and will last longer.

- * Do not stand with the refrigerator door open while deciding what to eat.

- * Drink water, milk, and juices, which are healthier and can be less expensive than soda.

- * Turn off the water while brushing your teeth, turn on (small stream) for rinsing.

- * Use less shampoo – only enough to clean the hair (too much lather is wasteful).

- * Buy generic brands of personal care products.

- * Don't be wasteful with food.

- * Give gifts to friends and family of your time and energy rather than money.

- * Think about the things you do that make other people in your family angry. Find ways

to avoid doing those things.

- * Do extra chores; help out without being asked.

- * Clean up after yourself.

- * Avoid picking fights.

- * Spend time caring for younger brothers/sisters.

- * Share your possessions and school supplies with other family members.

- * Be generous with your time.

- * Keep a good sense of humor.

- * Be enthusiastic about trying new ideas.

- * If a task needs to be done and you can do it, do it; it will be appreciated.

- * Treat your family with kindness. Be courteous using "please and thank you" generously.

- * Accept decisions of others in a positive manner.

Remember, no matter what your age, there are things you can do to help at home during tough times!

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Make Water Your Beverage of Choice



movements. Here are some tips to help make water your go-to beverage.

Acquire a taste for water. The more often you choose water over other beverages, the better it will taste. Think of sweet drinks as "candy drinks" and enjoy them occasionally.

Not all water tastes the same, either, so try water from different sources and at different temperatures. Water that has been infused with fruits or vegetables and herbs is refreshing.

Order water with your meal and drink before you eat. Your mind doesn't always know whether you are hungry or just need

a drink of water. Drinking a moderate amount of water before a meal or snack may suppress your appetite.

Know the signs of dehydration. Your body loses water every day. When the amount of water lost is greater than the amount of water you take in through drinking and eating, your body becomes out of balance - a condition called dehydration. Thirst is not the most reliable gauge of your body's need for water. The color of your urine is better indicator. Clear or light-colored urine is a sign you are well-hydrated.

Enjoy Simple Pleasures of Life

By Nancy C. Nelson, Meadowlark Extension District, Family Life

Water is considered the best beverage of choice because it is easy to acquire, relatively inexpensive, and it is free of calories. It is a natural thirst quencher and good for our bodies.

Enjoy Simple Pleasures of Life

By Deanna Turner, Extension Agent: Family & Consumer Sciences, Aging Programs, River Valley Extension District

Spring and summer are exciting times of the year. You plant flower seeds and wait for them to come up. You plant tomato plants and watch in anticipation for tomatoes to develop. Another fun aspect is watching birds in your backyard. Fill the bird feeder with sunflower seeds and the hummingbird and oriole feeders with sugar water. Watch for all the birds to arrive. Orioles especially like grape jelly put on a dish outside. These pleasures are one way to manage stress in your life.

No matter your age, we all experience stress which can affect us physically. Everyone experiences stress a little differently. While you cannot rid yourself of stress, you can learn to manage it.

The first step in stress management is to identify the stressors in your life. Are there any stressors you can change by avoiding, reducing exposure to, or eliminating completely? No single method works for everyone or in every situation; therefore, it is important to experiment with different stress-reduction strategies to lessen your feelings of stress. Focus on what makes you feel calm and in control.

Two common strategies for managing stress include changing the situation and changing your response to the situation. If there is a situation you can identify that causes stress, avoid it. For example, if the crowds and chaos of attending an event makes you feel anxious to the point that you do not like to go, stay home. In unavoidable situations, such as a family reunion with a cantankerous relative, you may have to change your reaction. Accept it for what it is, focus on what is really important, adapt to the environment, and move on.

Changing the situa-

tion is one way to manage stress. Evaluate your physical environment. You may need to paint the color on the walls a different color if it affects your mood. Take a look at the people in your life. Is there a person or a group of people who really cause you stress? If so, you may need to distance yourself or resign from that organization. Review your calendar. Learn to say "no." Look at your commitments. Are you over-committing yourself? If so, lessen your commitments if it is hurting your health.

Changing your reaction is another way to manage stress. Laugh, don't cry. Some things you just can't change. These are the things you need to learn to accept instead of letting them bother you. Compromise is another strategy. The need to be "right" often interferes with good communication and can cause stress when you are so focused on what the other person is doing. If you ask someone to change, you need to be willing to change yourself. Letting it go is another strategy. Ask yourself, "Does it really matter? Will it matter

in five years?" Sometimes you just have to pick your battles.

Set aside time every day to relax. Take a break from all your responsibilities and recharge your batteries. Connect with other people. Spend time with positive people who enhance your life. Do something you enjoy every day. Keep your sense of humor - including laughing at yourself.

Having realistic expectations of yourself, shifting your focus to looking at what is really important, and taking care of yourself emotionally and physically will also increase your confidence to deal with stressors. Sometimes, taking a deep breath, meditating, relaxing, or taking time to smell the roses allows you to appreciate the little things so you don't overreact to the big things. Enjoy the simple pleasures of life today.

For more information, read *Keys to Embracing Aging Stress Management*, K-State Research & Extension publication MF3264 available at the River Valley District Extension Offices in Belleville, Clay Center, Concordia, and Washington.



The Presence of Friends

By Lou Ann Thomas

There is little as warm and comfortable as easy conversation with a good friend with whom you may speak openly and freely without fear of judgment. You know that even if they believe you are a bit off the beam, they won't hold it against you because they are already familiar with your flaws, flakes and peccadilloes. Good friends know you and love you anyway.

I revel in having friends visit; especially those who make time together flow with ease and help fill the house with conversation, laughter and heart. But eventually they must return to their own lives and I to mine. And that's when I miss them the most. I stand on the front porch smiling and waving goodbye as they drive off, then turn back into the house where I am met with a lingering and palpable empty space. The house seems quieter than before they arrived.

As I sit on the deck, I can recall our conversation rambling on long and late into the first night of the visit. My friend may be gone, but pieces of them have been left

behind, which I now gently wrap into memories so I can pull them out at will and enjoy our time together once again.

For now, though, I am alone, so I busy myself tidying up the house. As I lift a wine glass I remember our toast to each other's long, happy lives. The glass is now empty except for the memory of your laughter as I spilled some down the front of my shirt as I heartily drank to the toast. The chair across the table from where I always sit is once again vacant. That is where you sat, quietly joining me in appreciating the long view across the valley as the sun rose over the hill each morning.

I even miss those si-

Home and Away

lences we shared. The spaces between conversations are often the most cherished parts of being with friends who know you well. But now the silence seems to echo through the house, which just hours ago rang with shared laughter and stories of heartaches, challenges, triumphs, dreams and goals. It is now quiet except for the sound of my footsteps in the hall or Boone's claws clicking across the floor.

My previously familiar solitude doesn't fit quite right for a while. Time stretches before me without anyone else to talk to, or laugh with, or bump into. Eventually I find my balance and cherish every memory that now fills the empty spaces.

You don't always have to be present to be friends, but when you do get to spend time with a good friend, it's the best present ever.

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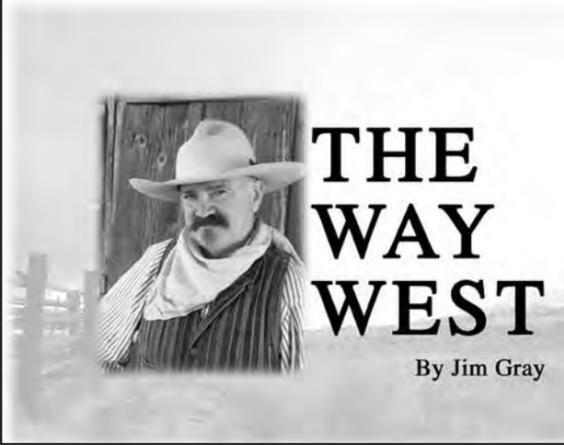
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THE WAY WEST

By Jim Gray

Pedro Vial, Trail Blazer

Pedro Vial wandered the plains long before well-known famous explorers made their reputations from the endless sea of grass. Vial was born in Lyons, France, in the approximate year of 1747. Little is known of his earliest years in North America. By the 1770s he had traversed the Missouri River, trapping and interacting with the native tribes that lived there.

His reputation reached all the way to Texas where in 1786 he was commissioned by Texas Governor Domingo Cebello to blaze a trail from San Antonio to Santa Fe, New Mexico. With one companion and a pack horse Vial traveled north from San Antonio. When he reached

the Red River he followed its course, crossing over to the Canadian River near the western border of the present-day Texas panhandle. The headwaters of the Canadian brought Vial close enough to Santa Fe for him to complete his mission.

The following year he traveled east to Natchitoches (Louisiana) before turning south for a triumphant return to San Antonio. Having learned from his first expedition across Texas, Vial again traveled to Santa Fe using a more direct route. Later historians have concluded that Vial was the only European of his time with accurate knowledge of the wide expanse beyond the lower Mississippi and upper

Missouri watersheds.

His connections to those watersheds served him well. In 1792, Governor Fernando de la Concha of New Mexico directed Vial to “open a line of communication” from Santa Fe to the trading village of St. Louis, in what was then known as Upper Louisiana. Traveling west into present-day Oklahoma along the Canadian River Vial and two companions turned north to strike the Nepeste (Arkansas) River somewhere southwest of the river’s big bend (present-day Great Bend, Kansas). Near the Big Bend their lives were threatened by a hunting party of Kansa Indians until one of the hunters recognized Vial from a previous meeting in St. Louis.

Even after his intervention, the Kansa man could not keep his companions from stripping Vial and his men of their clothing. Their horses and all of their belongings were taken from them. Unable to leave the camp, Vial’s party remained with the Kansa for several weeks. In August of 1792 they traveled with the Kansa to their home village on the Kansas River east of present-day Manhattan, Kansas.

A French trader traveling by pirogue on the

Kansas River stopped at the Kansa village in September. A pirogue, pronounced “pee row,” is a flat-bottomed boat, useful in shallow waters. Originally made from a hollowed-out log, French traders used more sophisticated tools to improve the original design, making the pirogue easier to paddle and portage. The trader, having good relations with the Kansa, clothed Vial and his men and escorted them all the way to St. Louis where they remained until late the following spring.

On June 14, 1793, Vial and his companions left St. Louis in a pirogue propelled by hired oarsmen. Another boat of traders accompanied them as they traveled on the Missouri River for the next two months. They passed the mouth of the Kansas River, rowing approximately fifty miles north of the present Kansas state line, to the mouth of the Little Nemaha River. The (Nebraska) site was a rendezvous for

trade with the Pawnee people. With Republic Panis (Pawnees) as overland guides, Vial left the Nemaha camp on September 12, 1793.

The Republic “Panis” led Vial and his men to the southwest on “the road through a large plain.” The Pawnees traveled by several established “roads” across the plains. Lieutenant James B. Wilkerson, with Zebulon Pike in 1806, described the road they were on as “the large Spanish trace” to the Arkansas River. The route from the Nemaha village led them to “an arm of the River of the Canses.” That “arm” was the Smoky Hill River. As they passed along the river, one of the Smoky Hill Buttes, Iron Mound, came into view. Vial described the “hill of great height which the Indians call Blue Hill.” Beyond Blue Hill the party camped on “a little stream” that entered into the Smoky Hill River, evidently Spring Creek flowing from west to east.

Sixty-five years later the Smoky Hill Trail followed the same route to the Colorado gold fields. U. S. 40 Highway followed the same path in the twentieth century.

One day after turning up Spring Creek, September 20, 1793, Vial arrived at a Republic Pawnee village of three hundred warriors near present-day Bavaria, Kansas. Following a route that would later connect Kansas military posts to the southwest, Vial arrived in Santa Fe on November 13th. From his early years on the Missouri River to his passage over the plains Pedro Vial was the first to blaze the great trails on The Way West.

“The Cowboy,” Jim Gray, is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier, Executive Director of the National Drivers Hall of Fame.* Contact Kansas Cowboy, P.O. Box 62, Ellsworth, KS 67439. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.

Study promotes cooperative weed management to help curb herbicide resistance

In the fight against herbicide resistance, farmers are working with a shrinking toolkit. Waterhemp, a weedy nemesis of corn and soybean farmers, has developed resistance to multiple herbicide modes of action, often in the same plant. Even farmers using the latest recommendations for tank mixtures are fighting an uphill battle, with long-distance movement of pollen and seeds bringing the potential for new types of resistance into their fields each year.

In a study released recently, scientists at the University of Illinois and USDA’s Agricultural Research Service offer a new tool that is not only highly effective, it’s free. All it costs is a conversation.

“I think we’re at a point now where farmers are looking for new tools. This tool is free, but it requires that people talk to each other and work together as opposed to doing everything on their own,” says Adam Davis, research ecologist with USDA-ARS and adjunct professor in the Department of Crop Sciences at U of I.

The tool is cooperative weed management – in other words, making decisions about how to manage herbicide-resistant weeds in cooperation with neighboring farms. The more farms working together, and the larger area covered, the better.

Davis and his team tested the efficacy of farmer cooperation using a computer simulation of waterhemp resistance evolution through time and space. They ran the simulation using real numbers and management practices from the past, starting in 1987, to arrive at a realistic representation of herbicide resistance in waterhemp in 2015. Then they forecast 35 years into the future to determine how resistance might change under different management and cooperation scenarios.

“The crux of the story is that if you do good stuff and you aggregate it at larger spatial scales, it gets even better. If you do bad stuff and you aggregate it at large spatial scales, it gets even worse,” Davis says.

The “bad stuff,” according to the simulation, is using a single herbicide mode of action year after year. Resistance to a single chemical evolved and spread very quickly throughout the simulated landscape, especially if everyone was spraying the same one every year.

“If you take the cheap route, you’ll save some money in the short term on your herbicide costs, but in the long term, you’ll have a much greater likelihood of developing resistance,” Davis notes.

But if farmers invested in tank mixtures of herbicides representing three or

four modes of action, the evolution and spread of resistance was delayed, and the delay got longer with increasing levels of cooperation.

“The message is not to use the most expensive herbicide program possible; the message is to use the available tools to manage your weeds better,” Davis says. “If you do that on your own farm, certainly it’s going to help. If you do it on a bunch of adjoining farms, it’s going to help even more. You can buy a couple of decades of time, in terms of delaying herbicide resistance evolution, by aggregating the best practices at large spatial scales.”

The simulation looked at management on individual farms, cooperatives of ten neighboring farms, and cooperative weed management areas, comprising ten neighboring farmer cooperatives. Davis says the specific number of farms making collective weed management decisions isn’t as important as the spatial scale they cover. He suggests forming weed management areas at the township scale and above.

The concept is simple, but farmers treasure their independence. How will it work?

Davis points to existing regional farm associations, such as drainage districts or commodity groups, as possible models for how weed management cooperatives might operate. He also suggests involving custom applicators in decision-making and implementation, since they’re already out there servicing multiple farms in a region.

The researchers are asking additional questions of the simulation, adding non-chemical control options like cover crops, crop rotation, and the Harrington Seed Destructor, to see how much more effective they get at larger scales. They’re also trying to quantify how much non-compliance a cooperative weed management area can withstand before its effectiveness falls apart.

But for now, the study suggests preserving the effectiveness of existing herbicides is worth the trouble of making nice with the neighbors.

The article, “Confronting herbicide resistance with cooperative management,” is published in *Pest Management Science* [DOI: 10.1002/ps.5105]. Co-authors include Jeffrey Evans, Alwyn Williams, Aaron Hager, Steven Mirsky, Patrick Tranel, and Adam Davis. The research was supported by USDA NIFA AFRI Award 2012-67013-19343, and is part of the USDA-ARS Area-Wide Pest Management Project.

Moyer interns with CAB



Sarah Moyer, Emporia, joined the Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) brand’s Producer Communications team as an intern this summer at the brand’s headquarters in Wooster, Ohio. The senior in ag communications at Kansas State University (K-State) aims to improve her writing by sharing stories of high-quality beef producers.

Working with the CAB writing team across the country, Moyer creates technical news releases, columns, features on brand partners, posts for the Black Ink® blog (www.blackinkwithcab.com) and video scripts. Interviews include ranchers with registered Angus bulls, culinary chefs and other partners in the beef cattle community.

Writing for *The Agriculturalist* and *The Collegian* at K-State, and special projects with *High Plains Journal*, have prepared Moyer to bring experience and enthusiasm to her work. Broadcast experience from K-State Research and Extension’s *Agriculture Today* radio program also helps. As for knowing about beef, her parents run a cattle backgrounding operation in the Kansas Flint Hills, where she grew up an active 4-H’er.

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AROUND KANSAS



It is the dreaded S word that comes with summer; snakes. While researching the topic, I was appalled at the different types of species that call Kansas home. I was also amazed when our neighbor Shirla Williams shared a photo of one I thought was a myth. Now, to find it lives in my neighborhood...

I turned to snake-facts. weebly.com as well as the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism for information.

Warning: these facts may convince you never to step outdoors. But, then again, what is life without a little adventure?

The coachwhip snake is unique and has inspired many a tall tale. Its smooth scales and coloration (often a dark head fading to a tan tail) look like a braided whip, so much so that you might even stoop to pick it up before realizing it is alive. It appears to stand up, raising its head high above the grass. It is

one of the fastest snakes, and is rumored to chase people and whip them to death with its tail. They are extremely fast-moving snakes, moving at 4 mph, though some sources say they can slither up to 15 mph... As if the word "slither" isn't bad enough, to have the speed of slithering even measured in mph is rather unnerving...

The coachwhip is one of America's largest native species, ranging from 50 to 72 inches, but the largest on record was 102 inches long. 102 inches!!! That is over eight feet long!! The color can vary from black or red to yellow-tan and even pink.

Coachwhips are diurnal, and actively hunt and eat lizards, small birds, and rodents. Coachwhips subdue prey by grasping and holding them with their jaws. They do not constrict. Curious, with good eyesight, it frequent-

ly hunts with its head raised above the ground and vegetation, and unlike most snakes, visually locks onto its prey's position before capture. The teeth are razor-sharp, resulting in lacerations, rather than the puncture wound inflicted by other snakes.

Following capture, the snake swallows its prey alive. It has strong jaws with rows of small, inward slanting teeth. It has sometimes been observed to beat its prey against the ground in an apparent effort to stun it prior to swallowing. Prey items include birds, large insects, lizards, other snakes, and small mammals. Characterized as an "efficient" hunter, it may lay in wait for its prey and can trail animals through chemical scent.

They are rather nervous reptiles, and flee at the first sign of being threatened. Sometimes,

they may flee in the same direction a person is running, leading to the supposedly mistaken belief that the coachwhip chases people down.

It will sometimes vibrate the tip of its tail among the ground litter, making a sound suggestive of a rattlesnake. If trapped, it will aggressively defend itself, striking repeatedly and biting.

So... we have a snake that can grow up to eight feet long, travel upwards of 15 mph, and has razor-sharp teeth. Our friend J. D. Perry said it is common along the Smoky Hill River. Officially, its habitat covers most of the state.

I may be spending more time indoors this summer. If only there weren't so much to see and do outside!!!! Just pay attention to your surroundings, which is a good idea no matter where you are.

While Dr. Jake was attending a veterinary conference in Manhattan, I had the opportunity to lunch with Donna Sullivan, the editor of this fine publication. It was the first time we had met and if you haven't seen Donna in person, well, she is just gorgeous. We had a wonderful visit and cemented a friendship forged through correspondence. I also stopped in the *Grass and Grain* offices to meet the staff and am happy to report they are all cut from the same cloth. I am so proud to be associated with such a fine publication and such good folks.

Deb Goodrich is the co-host of the *Around Kansas TV show* which airs each Wednesday throughout the state of Kansas and in the surrounding counties of our four border states. Viewers may find it also on Youtube.com and on our Facebook page.

USDA resumes continuous Conservation Reserve Program enrollment

As part of a 33-year effort to protect sensitive lands and improve water quality and wildlife habitat on private lands, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will resume accepting applications for the voluntary Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Eligible farmers, ranchers, and private landowners can sign up at their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office between June 4 and Aug. 17, 2018.

"The Conservation Reserve Program is an important component of the suite of voluntary conservation programs USDA makes available to agricultural producers, benefiting both the land and wildlife. On the road, I often hear firsthand how popular CRP is for our recreational sector; hunters, fishermen, conservationists and bird watchers," U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue said. "CRP also is a powerful tool to encourage agricultural producers to set aside unproductive, marginal lands that should not be farmed to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, provide habitat for wildlife and boost soil health."

FSA stopped accepting applications last fall for the CRP continuous signup (excluding applications for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and CRP grasslands). This pause allowed USDA to review available acres and avoid exceeding the 24 million-acre CRP cap set by the 2014 Farm Bill. New limit-

ed practice availability and short sign up period helps ensure that landowners with the most sensitive acreage will enroll in the program and avoid unintended competition with new and beginning farmers seeking leases. CRP enrollment currently is about 22.7 million acres.

2018 Signup for CRP

For this year's signup, limited priority practices are available for continuous enrollment. They include grassed waterways, filter strips, riparian buffers, wetland restoration and others. To view a full list of practices, please visit the CRP Continuous Enrollment Period page.

FSA will use updated soil rental rates to make annual rental payments, reflecting current values. It will not offer incentive payments as part of the new signup.

USDA will not open a general signup this year; however, a one-year extension will be offered to existing CRP participants with expiring CRP contracts of 14 years or less. Producers eligible for an extension will receive a letter with more information.

CRP Grasslands

Additionally, FSA established new ranking criteria for CRP grasslands. To guarantee all CRP grasslands offers are treated equally, applicants who previously applied will be asked to reapply using the new ranking criteria. Producers with pending applications will re-

ceive a letter providing the options.

About CRP

In return for enrolling land in CRP, USDA, through FSA on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), provides participants with annual rental payments and cost-share assistance. Landowners enter into contracts that last between ten and 15 years. CRP pays producers who remove sensitive lands from production and plant certain grasses, shrubs and trees that improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and increase wildlife habitat.

Signed into law by President Reagan in 1985, CRP is one of the largest private-lands conservation programs in the United States. Thanks to voluntary participation by farmers, ranchers and private landowners, CRP has improved water quality, reduced soil erosion and increased habitat for endangered and threatened species.

The new changes to CRP do not impact the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, a related program offered by CCC and state partners.

Producers wanting to apply for the CRP continuous signup or CRP grasslands should contact their USDA service center. To locate your local FSA office, visit www.farmers.gov. More information on CRP can be found at www.usda.gov/crp.

Breakthrough will help lower cost of pig diets

Kansas State University researchers are reporting another breakthrough in their work to formulate lower-cost pig diets, a finding they say will help to keep the pork industry profitable and competitive in foreign markets.

Mike Tokach, University Distinguished Professor in the department of animal sciences and industry, said the university's applied swine nutrition team has determined the nursery-pig requirements for the amino acid histidine.

Swine nutritionists now have more information at their disposal to formulate foods that help pigs grow safely, saves money for producers, and reduces the amount of nitrogen excreted to the environment.

"For a pork producer, what it means is that the nutritionist for the feed company they're working with can formulate the diets with more feed-grade amino acids, which allows them to lower their costs and use less of the expensive protein sources," Tokach said.

In recent years, nutritionists have been substi-

tuting feed-grade amino acids in pigs' diets for expensive protein sources, such as soy meal, fish meal and others. The amino acids commonly used in diet formulations for pigs are lysine, threonine, tryptophan, methionine and valine.

Amino acids are the building blocks of protein, and they are naturally available in many of the foods humans and animals eat. In order to grow well and be healthy, pigs need amino acids in the right combination.

That's why K-State's swine nutrition group has been working to develop guidelines for adding amino acids in the proportions that are most beneficial for the pig.

In two recent studies, they formulated diets for more than 700 nursery pigs to determine the appropriate level of histidine that could be added to the diet. Researchers believe histidine may be a limiting amino acid, or one that is in insufficient amounts in a food.

K-State doctoral student Henrique Cemin

did much of the work to determine what ratio of histidine to lysine would work best to lower costs and still meets the pigs' protein needs. Lysine is a common amino acid used in diets of nursery pigs, or newly weaned pigs.

"We found that the requirement would range between 29 to 30 percent of lysine," Cemin said. "In the second trial, we formulated diets that were more around the level of 30 percent (histidine) so that we could have a more precise estimate of the requirement, which happened to be 31 percent of lysine."

In 2012, the National Research Council, in a publication titled *Nutrient Requirements of Swine*, reported that the requirement for histidine was 34 percent of lysine. In other words, for histidine to be effective in meeting the amino acid requirements of the nursery pig, it should be added at a level of 34 percent in relation to lysine.

K-State's findings show that number can be much lower in order to promote feed intake and gain in

nursery pigs.

"When you're talking about using 31 percent, or 33 or 34 percent, it makes an enormous impact on how much of the other synthetic amino acids you can add before histidine becomes limiting," Tokach said.

He added that much of the information that K-State has learned is probably of most interest to nutritionists who put together the diets. But producers and consumers can benefit from knowing that there are many involved in keeping pork products safe and less expensive at the grocery store.

"Lowering costs is what the ultimate goal is for the producer, and to make sure that when we do formulate the diets that we don't hurt performance of the pigs," Tokach said.

K-State has previously done similar work with another limiting amino acid, isoleucine, which will soon be the newest feed-grade amino acid available to producers.

KPA sponsors school wellness workshops

Earlier this year, the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) hosted six regional workshops entitled School Wellness: Action. The workshops focused on encouraging and assisting Kansas schools in taking action to implement modeling level wellness policies. The Kansas Pork Association was a sponsor of the workshops.

Over 430 participants from 172 school districts learned how wellness is incorporated into accreditation, discussed best practices in promoting wellness within the school and community and heard from several community partners on resources available to help take their wellness policies to the next level to create a healthier school environment. Students in attendance took part in special, student-focused breakout sessions encouraging them to take an active role in their district's wellness committee.

One specific area discussed from the Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines was Farm to Plate. KSDE, along with several community partners, featured resources to encourage implementation of farm to place policies and practices within the school.

Participants were taken on two virtual farm tours, provided by KPA and the Midwest Dairy Council, to promote that farm to plate doesn't just mean fruits and vegetables. Workshop attendees also enjoyed a meal, prepared by the local school district in most locations, featuring Kansas pork and sponsored by KPA.



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Small farms finding success with specialty crops and agritourism

By Tom Parker

For Joe and Jay Schwinn, learning how to make farming profitable was so easy, and so successful, that it was like taking candy from a baby. At the time, they were practically babies themselves. Joe was six and Jay nine, but they had a fairly good idea of how it worked—you grow produce (in their father's case, cantaloupes), you deliver it to the customer, the customer pays you money. It was stupid easy, and their first foray into direct marketing only reinforced the belief. They cobbled together a sign, set up a small stand out by the road in front of the farm, and waited: one big shade tree, one folding table laden with fresh-picked sweet corn, two young boys with unassailable expectations.

That first season they netted \$40. Split fifty-fifty, it was an incredible bounty, and though they blew it all at the county fair, important lessons had been learned—production must align with customer demand, marketing is as important as production. Having the right location doesn't hurt, either. For the Schwinn brothers, there was one other lesson to be learned: it would never again be that easy.

"Finding our way, or everything happens for a reason," the story of how they beat the odds to create a successful produce farm and agritourism business, was shared at a specialty crops workshop held March 9 at Schwinn's Produce Farm near Leavenworth. This was one of five similar workshops hosted by the Kansas Rural Center across Kansas in

March, with funding by the Kansas Department of Agriculture through the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant program. The workshops were designed to link experienced and beginning Kansas specialty crop farmers to share information for establishing successful enterprises.

In addition to Jay Schwinn, other speakers were local producers Jacob Thomas, founder and owner of JET Produce and Meats; Stuart Shafer, owner of Sandheron Farm and professor of sociology and sustainable agriculture at Johnson County Community College; Jerry Wohletz, co-owner of Wohletz Farm Fresh; Kerri Ebert, Kansas Center for Sustainable Ag and Alternative Crops Coordinator at KSU, and David Coltrain, KRC Specialty Crops Workshop Coordinator.

Specialty crops and diversity were keys to the Schwinn brothers' success. Joe Schwinn manages vegetable production, which includes asparagus, strawberries, sweet corn, tomatoes, pumpkins, peppers, melons and cut flowers, while Jay Schwinn manages the Barn, a wedding venue. By hosting vegetable festivals, you-pick strawberries and pumpkins, a pizza garden, a corn maze, weed-pulling days and pumpkin smashing, they're assured of constant streams of customers coming to their farm.

Increased consumer demand for locally grown produce is the driving force behind the spread of specialty crop production, according to the Kansas Department of Agriculture. For producers, how-

ever, it presents a number of challenges, not the least being the relative lack of growing history in the region. It also requires different approaches to production and marketing, with emphasis on marketing.

"Marketing is as important as production," David Coltrain said. "Before you plan production, you have to know where it will be marketed. You can take the grain harvest to the elevator, but you can't take a load of ripe tomatoes to the elevator."

Coltrain, who was a member of the State's Local Food and Farm Task Force 2015-2017, and is an experienced grower himself, said that now is the time to get into specialty crops. Consumer demand is high, USDA has assistance programs to promote specialty crops, and USDA NRCS has funds available for high tunnels, which extend the growing season for many types of vegetables.

Educational programs for beginning specialty crop farmers are also on the rise. Stu Shafer is involved in a project that will build a collaborative network of educators across Kansas with an emphasis on sustainable agricultural practices including specialty crop education. Johnson County Community College now has a three-acre vegetable farm on campus and offers coursework in horticulture, sustainable agriculture and marketing, all based on small-scale farming. Students get both theoretical and scientific training at a one-year college level, he said, and they also get their hands

in the dirt.

Students come from a variety of backgrounds, but increasingly he sees an influx of students who come from existing family farms. Some want to expand their farm operation to a specialty crop basis while some commodity farming with cattle. Some want to start their own family farm, and others are interested in urban farms, he said. And because the college offers a culinary program, a good number of chefs are enrolled, included several who own farms associated with the program. "Chefs want to know about local foods, and embrace that aspect of the industry," he said.

Higher education for beginning farmers is an attempt to mitigate the threat posed by the increasingly advanced age of farmers in the Midwest, he said, which in 2017 stood at 58.3 years of age on average, according to the USDA.

"Who's going to do the farming, and how are they going to do it?" Shafer asked. "More schools are offering vocational training in farming, but education in general has challenges with funding. We need to develop a larger scale collaborative curriculum with programs that currently don't exist in Kansas." The bottom line, he said, was this: "We need to have agriculture. We need to eat."

As an instructor, Shafer takes the long view about the future of farming. Jacob Thomas, a young third-generation farmer outside of Leavenworth, also takes the long view; only his view is related to the location of the family farm. "We're at about the highest point in Leavenworth County," he said. "One reason I love farming so much is the view."

That view used to encompass a more conventional form of farming, with fields of soybeans, corn, and cattle. It now includes high tunnels and acres of vegetables. The transition to specialty crop production began when he asked his father for a small area to start a garden. Instead of small he got large—ten times larger than he'd wanted—but even at age 14, he filled

it up.

He's still trying to fill every square inch of acreage he can, and by using high tunnels he not only maximizes his yield through intensive planting, but also is able to extend the growing season. Diversity also plays a key role in the business. In 2014 Thomas expanded into the meat market with high quality grain-finished Angus beef, followed by cage-free chickens and lambs. "In farming," he said, "you expand when you can." In small-scale farming, however, care must be taken to ensure that there are enough resources to manage expansion. "You have to plan ahead," he said. "Our farm is primarily myself, my wife and my dad. Three people doing everything."

They've kept labor costs down through investing in more efficient equipment and by learning new skills when necessary, but communication and meticulous record keeping are equally important. Thomas uses spreadsheets to track sales, tasks both finished and unfinished, spray schedules, seed planting and emergence sequences for the greenhouse—in short, for every aspect of the business. He also keeps a daily log of everything that happens on the farm, and another for everything that didn't turn out as expected. "That way, I can go back next year and know what actually happened rather than what I planned for," he said.

For Jerry Wohletz and his family, adventure starts with the season's first ripe strawberry. That initial bright splash of scarlet makes all the hard work of preparing and planting the beds worthwhile. "It's an exciting time," he said. "Our parking lot holds 80 cars, and on Saturdays it's filled all day."

Their 80-acre farm, Wohletz Farm Fresh, currently has about four acres devoted to vegetables, but that number keeps growing. They began growing produce when they moved to Lawrence in 1996, and by 2003 they were selling their produce at the Downtown Lawrence Farmers' Market. In 2009 they shifted focus to a you-pick strawberry patch. Rather

than delivering strawberries to the market, customers began coming to the farm and picking everything themselves. While in many ways it is more efficient and less labor-intensive, it came with its own complications, one of which was drainage. "People from the city don't want to walk in the mud," Wohletz said.

After getting off to a rocky start water-wise—they used about 18,000 gallons of water the first year—the family turned to plasticulture farming, a conservation practice that uses plastic ground covers rather than mulches. Besides reducing evaporation and retaining soil moisture, the plastic prevents weeds, reduces insect predation and conserves electricity and fuel for irrigation.

It's still a lot of work, he said. Each autumn they prune the runners back to the mother plant and cover them with row covers. Every two years they rip out the plastic, disk down a cover crop and rebuild the beds. For all the labor involved, strawberries are a highly profitable crop. They're also risky. "This is a one-shot deal," Wohletz said. "Our entire crop is dictated on what happened last fall. We're solely reliant on Mother Nature, and so far she's taken pretty good care of us. It's a challenge, but it's a challenge we've always taken."

Getting customers to the farm and getting their hands dirty can be equally profitable, Schwinn said, with caveats. "You can afford to spend money in agritourism because there's a return on it if you're willing to work for it," he said.

He cautioned, however, that it's totally different than conventional agriculture. "You have to be a people person," he said. "When you deal with the public, you have to deal with the public. A news article from several years ago said that 60 percent of Americans think that chocolate milk comes from black cows. With 'agritainment' and 'agrieducation,' we're teaching people where their food comes from."

That simple concept must never be overlooked, he said, for the heart and soul of agritourism is agriculture. "We have to keep the ag in agritourism," he said.

Because of his success at the Barn, Schwinn commonly fields questions from people seeking advice on starting their own agritourism venues. Many of them are full of detailed plans and creative ideas, but to Schwinn those are merely secondary considerations. He wants to know the depth of their connection to working the land and enabling others to experience that connection firsthand. "I'm passionate about agritainment and agritourism as long as it has ag in it."



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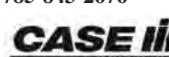
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7 BAR 14 GA. 20'x4'9" Tall	\$103.00	20' Pipe Bunk Closed End 30"	\$675.00
		20' Bottomless Ground Hay Feeder	\$825.00
		20' Continuous Feed Bunk Panel	\$189.00
		10' Portable Feed Bunk Panel	\$225.00
USED OIL FIELD PIPE		PORTABLE CORRAL PANELS	
31' average length		10' Standard 6 Bar Panels	
2 7/8" \$1.50 per foot		10' Heavy Duty 6 Bar Panels	
2 3/8" \$1.25 per foot		20' Standard Duty 6 Bar Panels	
POSTS		20' Heavy Duty 6 Bar Panels	
2 7/8" 8' \$16	2 3/8" 8' \$14	14' Heavy Duty Bow Gate	
9' \$18	9' \$16	10' Heavy Gate	
10' \$20	10' \$18	4' Walk Through Gate	
OTHER SIZES AND LENGTHS AVAILABLE		3' Alley Way Frame	
		\$60.00	
HAY SAVER BALE FEEDERS		Call For Prices In Custom Sizes!	
Heavy Duty Horse Feeder	\$525.00	Contact us for information on fence installation and any other custom livestock equipment to fit your needs!	
Heavy Duty Single Bale Feeder	\$575.00		
Single Cone Insert	\$375.00		
Heavy Duty Dbl. Bale Feeder	\$950.00		
Double Cone Insert	\$650.00		
Big Square Bale Feeders	\$575.00	Prices may be subject to change with material cost adjustments.	
FREE STANDING PANELS AND ACCESSORIES			
20' long x 6' tall Free Stand Panel w/Adjustable Legs			
Gates for Free Standing Panels			
4'	\$90	12'	\$185
8'	\$145	14'	\$200
10'	\$160	16'	\$225

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Husker researchers explore ways to use grape waste

It's no secret that grapes are the primary ingredient in wine, but what happens to the parts of the grape that don't go into that bottle of Merlot?

Roughly 20 percent of the grape, including the seed, stalk and skin, are not used in wine production and therefore wind up in landfills. New research from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is focused on creating beneficial uses for grape pomace, or the parts of the grape not used to make wine.

Nebraska's Changmou Xu is leading a team working to identify and take specific nutrients from pomace and use them for a number of commercial products ranging from dietary supplements to cosmetics.

"If we can figure out how to turn grapes into a renewable resource, not only would it add value to the grape industry, but it would also minimize the environmental impact of grape production," said Xu, research assistant professor in food science and technology.

According to the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, the global wine industry produces roughly 14 million tons of pomace each year. Not only does this present a challenge for wine makers trying to

figure out what to do with the waste, but it can be harmful to the environment.

Environmental issues arise when chemicals used on the grapes enter the environment and lead to increased soil acidity and groundwater pollution. According to Xu, the waste can also lead to the spread of diseases by attracting pests at landfills.

While most pomace is discarded, some winemakers use the waste as a compost or fertilizer. Pomace can also be used to make a weaker "second wine" by soaking the grape skins in water and fermenting the mixture.

Xu believes the true potential for pomace lies with its seed oil and polyphenols, or the natural antioxidants that don't damage cells. These antioxidants can then be used to make natural food additives, pharmaceutical products or cosmetics.

The researchers are also hoping to use pomace extract to extend the length of time a food item can be stored before consumption. Their studies have involved swapping the natural antioxidants found in pomace with the artificial antioxidants found in fatty foods such as mayonnaise, which could extend the shelf life

of the products. In two studies, Xu and his team used grape polyphenols to reduce acrylamide formation — a suspected carcinogen that forms in foods after high-temperature cooking — in potato chips by 60 percent. Using grape polyphenols as a natural antimicrobial agent also inhibited foodborne pathogen growth and their biofilm formation.

Not only would this ingredient swap extend the shelf life of certain foods, but it would appeal to those seeking natural ingredients in their food products, Xu said.

"More consumers than ever are reading labels and want to understand what's in their food," he said. "By using natural antioxidants, we're responding to consumer demand."

Xu and his colleagues recently presented their research at the 255th National Meeting and Exposition of the American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society.

Others on the research team include Paul Read, professor of agronomy and horticulture, postdoctoral research associate Xiaoqing Xie and doctoral student Hefei Zhao.

USDA providing \$8.89 million for risk management education

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) has announced the availability of \$8.89 million for risk management education and training programs. The funding will allow organizations such as universities, county cooperative Extension offices, and nonprofit organizations to develop training and educational tools to help farmers and ranchers learn how to effectively manage long-term risks and challenges.

Interested organizations may apply by submitting documentation required as part of the Risk Management Education Partnerships Request for Applications (RFA). The applications are then reviewed, and awardees enter into cooperative agreements that are managed by RMA's Risk Management Education Division.

"Risk Management Education helps ensure that farmers and ranchers know and understand what tools are available to them and how to plan for unknown weather and financial situations. We work with private organizations to help us reach a wide range of producers, and connect them with resources from RMA, as well as from our partner agencies within USDA's Farm

Production and Conservation mission area, the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service," said RMA administrator Martin Barbre.

Agriculture is an inherently risky business. The farm safety net provides producers and owners various methods to mitigate production and revenue risks and helps to maintain a healthy rural economy.

Available funding includes \$4.73 million for the Crop Insurance Education in Targeted States Program for crop insurance education programs where there is a low level of Federal crop insurance participation and availability. The targeted states are Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Additionally, \$4.16 million in funding is available for the Risk Management

Education Partnership Program, which provides funding for the development of general nationwide crop insurance education as well as other risk management training programs for producers.

A broad range of risk management training activities are eligible for funding consideration under these programs, including training on federal crop insurance options, risk analysis, and changes to the crop insurance program. Partners also can train farmers at all levels on risk management options that help secure local food systems and strengthen rural communities.

Information about how to apply to these programs is available at Grants.gov (www.grants.gov). For information about the Risk Management Partnership program, search by catalog of federal domestic assistance (CFDA) for 10.460 and information on the Crop Insurance Education in Targeted States can be found by searching for 10.458.

Applications for both programs are due by 4:00 p.m. Central time on July 30, 2018. All applications must be submitted electronically through the Results Verification System website (rvs.umn.edu) and received by the deadline.

For the 2017 crop year

the federal crop insurance program insured 311.4 million acres, with 1.12 million policies and \$106 billion worth of coverage as of May 4, 2018.

RMA works with private partners to assist producers, especially limited resource, socially

disadvantaged and other traditionally underserved farmers and ranchers, in effectively managing long-term risks and challenges. For more information about RMA, its programs, or to volunteer to serve as a reviewer, visit www.rma.usda.gov.

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SALVAGE YARD AUCTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018 — 9:00 AM
Auction will be held at the home located 1 mile North of WHITE CITY, KANSAS on 2200 Road. (516 S. 2200 Road) across from cemetery.
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(10) 1953 Chevrolets • Studebakers
• '60s Plymouth Yellow cab; Whiting Zip Van mail truck
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AUCTION
TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 26, 2018 — 6:00 PM
As we have closed our business, the following sells at 3908 S. 4th, BURLINGTON, KS (far south side of Burlington, West side of Hwy. 75)
Shopbuilt 8x10' walk-in cooler/freezer; Franklin Chef ice machine, model FM400A; Turbo Air 3 station bottle/can cooler; nacho dispenser; 2 Bunn commercial coffee makers; Delfield sandwich prep table; Silver King com. table top refrigerator; Cooks convection portable oven; 2 stainless steel prep tables; Wolf flat top SS grill 2x3'; deep fat 2 basket fryer; Wisco Ind. pizza oven; 18 sq. & rd. restaurant tables; 16 backless bar stools; 80 padded/metal frame chairs; 18 various style locker units; 12 various style road/hwy. signs; 11 Envision 32" LCD TVs; pallet racks & shelves; 4 restaurant booths; good selection of tools, restaurant equip., cabinets, bowling lane flooring, lighting equip.; MUCH, MUCH MORE!
Auction held inside air-conditioned building. Sales tax applies. All items must be removed by 4 PM, June 30. Credit cards accepted with 3% processing fee.
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FARM AUCTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2018 — 9:30 AM
25413 Easton Rd. (Hwy 192) — EASTON, KS
3 Miles West of Easton on Hwy 192 or 5 Miles East of Winchester on Hwy 192 to Auction! WATCH FOR SIGNS!!
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Ahlberg, Hobson receive Larry Corah Graduate Student Awards

Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry Graduate Students Cashley Ahlberg and Allie Hobson were recognized Wednesday, May 23, as recipients of Larry Corah Outstanding Graduate Student Awards.

Ahlberg, originally from Longmont, Colo., received the Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award which includes a \$1,500

scholarship. She is a graduate research assistant pursuing a doctoral degree in animal breeding and genetics. Ahlberg's research project is related to water intake and water efficiency in beef cattle.

She has served as a teaching assistant (TA) in both genetics and animal breeding. Her Ph.D. advisor, Megan Rolf, says, "Cashley has exceptional data analysis skills and

she has already been a co-author or first author on three peer-reviewed journal articles and four abstracts."

Hobson was awarded the Outstanding Masters Student Award, which includes a \$1,000 scholarship. She is a graduate teaching assistant pursuing a master's degree in meat science. Allie's research efforts have focused on bacon quality and she has three abstracts to her credit. She has taught more than 60 students in

her role as graduate student coach for the KSU Meat Judging program.

Hobson, originally from Hermiston, Oregon, was nominated for the award by her advisor, Terry Houser. "I can think of no graduate student that I have had that has made such an impact on her pupils as well as peers," Houser wrote in his nomination letter. "She has been an extremely valuable asset to the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry through her involvement

as a meat science graduate student and is deserving of this great honor. In her role as coach, she has developed and motivated our young students to strive for and achieve success."

Both the Ph.D. and Masters awards are presented in honor of Larry Corah, who served for 25 years as a K-State Animal Science and Industry Department beef Extension and research specialist. After retiring from K-State, he went on to work for the National Cattlemen's Beef

Association as director of production systems and then served 17 years as the Certified Angus Beef (CAB) LLC vice president of supply. The scholarships are supported from the Larry Corah Graduate Student Enhancement Fund.

The award winners are selected based on scholastic achievement, research activity and success, teaching activities, faculty evaluation, and overall contributions to the mission of the department.

NCGA calls for year-round E15

Consumers across the country will lose access to the option of E15 just as families plan to hit the road on summer vacation and gas prices are on the rise. Despite President Trump's repeated commitment to year-round E15, an outdated regulatory barrier still limits the ability of fuel retailers to offer ethanol blends greater than 10 percent in most of the country from June 1 to September 15.

The National Corn Growers Association is urging the Environmental Protection Agency to expeditiously take steps to remove this barrier and allow for year-round sales of ethanol blends greater than 10 percent, such as E15.

"E15 is typically more affordable at the pump and is better for the environment," said NCGA President Kevin Skunes. "There is no good reason to limit access to E15 in the summer, which is an especially busy time for families making more stops to refuel."

Federal law and regulations limit the amount of evaporative emissions from vehicle fuel, which is measured by its Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP). Fuels blended with up to 10 percent ethanol have a one-pound RVP waiver because ethanol-blended fuels reduce tailpipe emissions. To date, EPA has declined to grant a similar waiver to E15, even though research shows E15 produces the same or fewer evaporative emissions as E10. E15 is currently sold at more than 1300 stations in 29 states.

At a May 8 White House meeting, President Trump reaffirmed his commitment to providing RVP parity for E15 and allowing consumers to have more choice at the pump year-round. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), however, has yet to announce the necessary regulatory steps to make this a reality. NCGA believes EPA should address the RVP regulatory barrier separately and should not combine the agreed-upon RVP fix with proposals damaging to our export markets such as offering biofuels credits on ethanol exports.

Kuhn celebrates 190 years of excellence

Founded in 1828, the Kuhn brand has progressively become a leader in the agricultural machinery industry. Through aggressive growth and development, and an ever renewed capacity for innovation, Kuhn continues to help drive the modernization of agriculture across the world.

Many major innovations have been developed within the KUHN Group and exclusive solutions have been launched in all product areas. Progressive advancements in hay, crop production, landscape and livestock equipment have helped producers maximize productivity and the return on their investment. The company has filed more than 2,000 international patents over the years. KUHN recently introduced two machines, the MM 1100 Merge Maxx® hay merger and Intercep-

tor® 8050 high-speed tillage system that are recognized in early 2018 as AE50 award winners. The AE50 recognition means both machines are among the year's most innovative designs in agriculture.

Kuhn continues to draw on its vast experience to prepare for the challenges ahead in the industry. The world of farming and the needs of producers are changing fast. The size of farms is growing, markets are globalizing, consumer demands are greater and technology is always advancing.

"Today, more than ever, we believe in the future of agriculture and our industry. Our 190 years of experience and commitment from our staff, combined with the performance of our distribution networks, ensures proximity to customers and

enables us to look to the future with passion and confidence," explained Thierry Krier, Kuhn Group CEO. "We are obviously proud of this longevity, but above all we want to recognize the loyalty of our customers and partners around the world, without them - none of it would be possible."

The Kuhn Group is present in nearly 100 countries today, with over 5,000 employees and 11 production sites around the world including in Brodhead, Wis. and Hutchinson. Kuhn North America, Inc., is headquartered in Brodhead, Wisconsin. Kuhn, Kuhn Knight and Kuhn Krause products are sold by farm equipment dealers throughout the United States, Canada and many other countries.

Producers show strong commitment to honoring consumer priorities

A new report funded by the beef checkoff highlights the commitment of cattle producers to animal welfare, beef quality, sustainability and community involvement. The Cattlemen's Stewardship Review (CSR) is the second of its kind and compiles data collected from telephone interviews with 679 cattlemen and women across the country. Results show improvements made by the cattle industry in four specific areas since the first CSR was conducted in 2010.

According to the latest survey, 95% of producers believe the well-being of cattle is their top priority, compared to 90% in 2010. The survey showed 90% of ranchers and feeders understand their management practices affect the safety and quality of beef, up from 87% seven years ago. In addition, 94% of those surveyed said producing healthful, nutritious food is very important to the

future of the beef industry. Ninety-five percent of producers reported land conservation is extremely important to them, with 86% managing their ranches in a way that protects the quality of natural resources, including wildlife and biodiversity. Members of the diversified beef community share the same core values, with 78% intending to pass their operation on to future generations, 72% placing a very high priority on workplace training and education and 89% suggesting workplace health and safety are very important.

CSR was conducted by Aspen Media on behalf of NCBA, which is a contractor to the beef checkoff. NCBA CEO Kendal Frazier said the survey results will be used to help consumers better understand the role ranchers and feeders play in bringing quality, nutritious food to the tables of Americans and those around the world.

AUCTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018 — 10:00 AM
2110 Harper Bldg. 21 Dg. Fairgrounds — LAWRENCE, KS

COLLECTOR CAR
1963 Chevrolet Corvair 500 Car 6 cylinder, 2 door, factory seats/radio, new tires, **Only 51K Original Miles** Nice!!

ZERO-TURN MOWER
Hustler XR-7 Commercial Zero-Turn Mower 60" deck, diesel, 850 hrs.

COLLECTIBLES, HOUSEHOLD & MISC.

Thomas Kinkade: "The End of a Perfect Day II," "Lamplight Brooke," "Cobblestone Village," "Blossom Bridge," "Everett's Cottage" pictures/prints & Hamilton Collection Figurines by Thomas Kinkade; **Ted Blaylock Eagle Sculptures Statues:** "Canyon Guardians," "King's Domain," "Splendor in the Sky," "Soaring Spirits" statues; 1960-70s license plates; 1960s Army items; Kaw Valley Bank Eudora 75th Ann. yardstick; Burroughs adding machine; Lodge cast-iron skillet, lids, bean pot, RR spikes; Western statues; Rooster collection; 20+ ammo metal boxes; harness hames; Stetson Cowboy Hat; Brownie Hawkeye camera; Conoco Super Motor Oil coin banks; celluloid dresser set; silhouettes; 1950-90s penny collection; 1970-80s Hummel Collector plates; Wizard Oz plates; Easterling Bavaria dish set; Nippon, Bavaria, Austria, Lefton, Fine Bone England, Clear glassware; Goebel birds; Lane cedar w/drawer; Rustic Oak Dining room table & chairs; oak china hutch; oak 3 section lighted entertainment center; Broyhill Oak King Bedroom Suite headboard, dresser, chest, nightstand; Winners Only Oak sofa table & 3 end tables; La-Z-Boy double recliner sofa; La-Z-Boy recliners; Flex Steel sofa and chair; oak book shelves; computer desk; patio set w/umbrella; Onkyo surround system w/Polk Audio speakers; Sony DVD player; Singer Estman sewing machine; sewing table; Craftsman 9 hp. 29" electric start snow-blower; Craftsman 19.2v cordless set w/wheel tool box; galvanize gang box; bench grinder; 24' alum. ladder; electrical supplies; hardware; power/hand tools; yard art; kitchen & holiday decor; box lot items; **numerous items too many to mention!**

Auction Note: Large Auction Many Unlisted Items Most All Items in Exceptional Condition!! Concessions: Worden Church Ladies.

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Sudden flush of plant growth has ticks flourishing

Almost overnight, we went from the drab, brown tones of winter to lush, green vegetation across much of the Plains. And the plants aren't the only living things that are thriving.

"In my experience this is the earliest we've had tick issues," said Kansas State University entomology professor Raymond Cloyd, who said he fielded more calls and emails about ticks earlier than usual this spring.

While it's hard to know for sure if there are more ticks than normal, Cloyd, a veteran specialist with K-State Research and Extension, said the cool, rainy weather in parts of Kansas and other states, followed by a quick profu-

sion of plant growth may have boosted the tick population.

Ticks tend to flourish when vegetation flourishes, especially in weeds and unmanaged areas. To minimize the number of ticks on your property, he said it's best to keep lawns mowed and generally reduce unmanaged areas where weeds can flourish.

"I am not a proponent of blanket (insecticide) sprays in the yard," Cloyd said.

Other steps he recommends:

When outdoors, wear repellents based on DEET or permethrin. Permethrin-based products, however, must not be applied directly to the skin.

Tuck your pant legs into your socks. White socks

are best because it's easier to see ticks on them.

After coming in from potentially tick-infested areas, inspect your or your children's skin and remove ticks immediately. Also, check pets that were outdoors.

Take a shower as soon as possible after coming indoors.

If you find a tick that's already embedded, gently pull it out with tweezers, including the head. A tick head broken off and left in the skin can potentially lead to an infection.

The most common ticks found in Kansas include the American dog tick, Lone Star tick, the brown dog tick and the black-legged tick.

Because some ticks carry pathogens such as

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever or Lyme disease, it's a good idea to have them identified if they were embedded in the skin. The resources to do that, however, will soon shrink in Kansas.

Due to budget cuts, the Insect Diagnostic Lab at K-State will close on June 16 and the "Gotbugs" email address will not be monitored. Kansans can continue to submit samples to their county or district K-State Research and Extension agriculture agent, but the staff available to help with insect identification will be reduced, so turnaround times will take longer, Cloyd said.

To learn more: <https://www.bookstore.ksre.k-state.edu/pubs/mf2653.pdf>

AUCTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018 — 11:00 AM
CITIZEN POTTAWATOMI COMMUNITY BUILDING (Air conditioned), 806 NISHNABE TRAIL
ROSSVILLE, KANSAS

COLLECTION OF OVER 550 OIL & OIL PRODUCT CANS-ALL TYPES-VERY FEW DUPLICATES!
Collection of over 100 wire stretchers & pliers; Barb wire collection; rolls of old Barb wire.

Early Vintage Clinton lawn mower; old style IHC cream separator; 2 hog oilers; large cast iron ice crusher on stand; 40 advertising yardsticks (tractor & implement); Advertising chicken feeders; 8 box corn shellers; 10 lanterns; wooden pitch fork; nutcracker; corn grinder; woodworking planes; Keen Kutter, Bell System & other axes; Sinclair paper advertising items; Dr. LeGear's Veterinary medicine items; oil product advertising; oil buckets with spouts; hubcaps & cans; John Deere advertising items; asbestos siding cutter; 11 gas nozzles; 10 hay hooks; Avery & other implement jacks; metal tubs & bushel measures; Bigelow, Ks match box; 35 various cow & other bells; Tyddol license tag attachment; cobbler's set;

traps; washboards; food grinders; pulleys; coffee & other tins; sledge hammers; 22 bridle bits; pitcher pumps; Survey chain; 3 log markers & 2 wooden log board feet measures; large spark plug collection.
SIGNS: Porcelain Gargoyle Motor premium oil; Coop oil; State Auto Insurance "Think"; Echo chain saw; Staff Parking Only; 5'X3' Kansas Farm Bureau; 4' Farm Loans (Alma); Castrol Motor Oil; John Deere; Peterbilt; Kenworth; Capper's Insurance; various framed auto & tractor literature; old 7-UP clock.
ENGINES: 1 1/2HP, one cycle DeLaval Separator gas engine; 3 Maytag one cycle gas engines; 2-2cycle Maytag gas engines; 4 various Briggs & Stratton engines; 3HP Wards engine; Sears Roebuck mod-

el 50C & others; Tecumseh/Lawson; Tecumseh; Maytag exhaust pipes & mufflers.

Unique seed potato slicer.
18 Cast iron Seats: 2 Walter A. Wood; Oliver chilled plow works; 2 Dains; Buckeye; #231, #273, #391, #323, #848, #37, #311; McCormick; 2 Deering.

4 Rope Makers: New ERA; Crays; Sherwood; Liberty.

Planter boxes & lids: JI Case; Case; IHC; 6 John Deere; Deere Mansure; P&O; Gale; Janesville; Massey Harris.
Toolboxes & lids: Massey Harris; New Idea; 2 McCormick; Ideal Giant; 2 IHC; McCormick; Buckeye; Pattee; Canton; IHC; Avery; Collins; ACME; Fordson.
Massey Harris, New Idea & John Deere mower boards.
Many Many More Items.

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018 — 10:00 AM
205 W. Lasley — ST. MARYS, KANSAS

REAL ESTATE (SELLS APPROX. 12:00 NOON)
Ranch Style home with approximately 1580 sq. ft., 2 living areas, 3 bedrooms & 1 1/2 bath on main level, plus partially finished basement with an additional non-conforming bedroom and 3/4 bath. There is also a 28X38 heated shop, landscape yard with irrigation system. Very maintained and updated. **OPEN HOUSE: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 from 5-6:30 PM or by appointment by contacting Vern Gannon**

Broker/Auctioneer 785-770-0066, Gannon Real Estate & Auctions 785-539-2316.
Buyer to pay 10% down day of Auction with balance due on or before July 23, 2018. All inspections including lead base paint inspection to be completed prior to Auction at Buyer's expense if requested. Taxes prorated to closing. **STATEMENTS MADE DAY OF AUCTION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OTHER INFORMATION.**

Also Selling: CAR, ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNITURE, GLASSWARE, POTTERY, COLLECTIBLES, LAWN TRACTOR & MORE. Watch next week's Grass & Grain for listings!

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Grass & Grain Area Auctions & Sales

June 12 — 1994 Nissan G20+ Infinity, household, antique & household furniture, decor, tools at Manhattan for Mary Sandoval. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 12 — 395 m/l acres of pasture & farmland in Northwest Saline County held at Salina for Patricia Nelson and Candace Nelson Skinner. Auctioneers: United Country Real Estate Crossroads Auction & Realty.

June 12 — Antiques, antique furniture, glassware, crockery, pictures, books, collectibles, household at Concordia for Dorothy Ostrom Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

June 14 — Leather craft machines & tools, leather shop collectibles & misc., guns, 2012 Sunny scooter & more at Hutchinson for Gibbos Saddle & Leather. Auctioneers: Morris Yoder Auctions.

June 14 — Furniture, glassware, household & misc. at Manhattan for Elizabeth Glowacki. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 16 & 17 — Selling Saturday: Shop equipment, hand tools & misc.; selling Sunday: Tractors, loader, machinery, pickups, gooseneck trailer, misc. JD items held at Adams, Nebraska for G&M Service, Gerald Folkerts Estate. Auctioneers: Jurgens, Henrichs, Hardin.

June 16 — Antiques & collectibles inc. player piano, grandfather clock, lanterns, stone jars, household, power tools, camping, fishing & hunting gear & more at Burlington for Charles & Brenda Murray. Auctioneers: Kurtz Auction & Realty Service.

June 16 — Guns, furniture, appliances, glassware, collectibles & misc. household items, tools & misc. at Chapman James & Betty Hawks Estate. Auctioneers: Brown Real Estate & Auction Service, LLC.

June 16 — Railroad items, model trains, antiques, collectibles, household, glassware & more at Cedar Point for property of Harriette Foose & the late Lawrence Foose. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

June 16 — Pickup, mowers, tools, guns, antiques, primitives, collectibles, furniture, TV, appliances, vehicle parts & more at Downs for Lloyd McConnell. Auctioneer: Wolters Auction & Realty.

June 16 — 2007 Nissan FX35 Infinity, 2008 Nissan 3.5 SE, Hustler Mini Z 42" mower, yard tools, household, glassware, collectibles, Hummels & Hummel bells, exercise equipment & more at Newton for (Mary) Li Zhi Wong. Auctioneers: Auction Specialists, LLC.

June 16 — Trucks, tractor, drag blade, John Deere Gator, golf cart, ATV, trailers, guns, safes, ammo, hunting supplies,

National Wild Turkey Federation collection, tools & shop, barber chair, barber shop pole light, slot machines, pinball machines, antiques, collectibles, furniture & misc. at Oskaloosa for Becky & Allen Wise. Auctioneers: Town & Country Real Estate & Auction, Hunter Sturgis, Nathan Glessner, Ross Daniels.

June 16 — Firearms, collectibles, pocket knives, watch fobs & more at Abilene for Dewain Krinhop. Auctioneers: Reynolds Auction Service.

June 16 — Household, antiques, coins & jewelry at Belleville for Arlene O. Baloun Estate. Auctioneers: Novak Bros. & Gieber.

June 16 — Lakeside real estate property, 2 bedroom, 1 bath home, 2 car garage on 4 lots with 1± acres held at Manhattan. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

June 16 — Tractor & equipment, ATV, tools, fishing items, lots of lures, collectibles, sewing, household & misc. at Easton for Betty J. Alexander Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

June 16 — Collectibles & household at Herkimer for Mrs. (Melvin) Melba Stohs. Auctioneers: Olmsted & Sandstrom.

June 19 — Lake property, Tract 1: 3 bedroom, 2 bath rustic split level home with 8 lots 3.5± acres; Tract 2: 3.2± acres, steel framed shop; Tract 3: Combine of 1 & 2 held at Manhattan. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

June 21 — 2 properties in Chase County (TA home on 6 acres for Loy Kathleen Hunter Trust); (TB Morton garage w/living area possibilities and also a 2BR home for McNeer Farms) held at Cottonwood Falls. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

June 21 — Real Estate: 1365 square foot 3BR home with 17± acres, indoor arena, quonset converted to horse barn, run in sheds & more held at Abilene. Auctioneers: Gene Francis & Associates, Real Estate brokers & auctioneers.

June 23 — 200+ lb. anvil, many tools & related items at Newton. Auctioneers: Auction Specialists, LLC.

June 23 — Large collection of Dolls (Barbies, Bob Mackie, Mary Poppins, Harley Davidson, Star Trek, Wizard of Oz, holiday & More), carousel horse, collection of Hallmark Kiddie Cars, pedal tractor, pedal Coca Cola car, pedal fire truck, old & newer toys of all kinds at Rossville for Estate of Donna & Charles Lundeen. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 23 — Tools & shop items, antiques, collectibles, furniture & household, mopeds & trailers, guns & more at Council Grove for Loren & Judy

Evans & another seller. Auctioneers: Hallgren Real Estate & Auctions, LLC.

June 23 — Parade car, trailer, knives, Frost Cutlery, Chip-Away Cutlery, military, hatchets, bayonet & swords, pocket knives, fishing, camping & hunting & more at Manhattan. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

June 23 — 4 tracts — 480 acres m/l of Washington County, KS land, country acreage, farm equipment & household held Northwest of Linn for the estate of Ann E. Ukena. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

June 24 — Collector car, zero-turn mower, collectibles, Thomas Kinkade, Ted Blaylock Eagle sculptures statues, household & misc. at Lawrence for Jim & Pat Wells. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

June 24 — Over 550 oil & oil product cans, over 100 wire stretchers & pliers, barb wire collection, vintage mower, advertising, signs, engines, cast iron seats, rope makers, planter boxes, tool boxes & more at Rossville for Items of the late Leo & Rowena Gannon. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions, Bob Thummel & Don Burnett.

June 24 — Coins & tokens of all kinds, antiques, vintage, collectibles, movie memorabilia, furniture, old photos & much more at Osage City for Mark Ludwig. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

June 26 (evening) — Walk-in cooler, restaurant equipment, TVs, bar stools, stackable chairs, tools held at Burlington for South 75 Lanes, Ken & Malissa Caudell. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

June 30 — Ranch-style home, 2 living areas, 3BR, 1 1/2BA, 2003 Lincoln LS car, antique & modern furniture, appliances, glassware, pottery & collectibles, lawn tractor & household at St. Marys for the late Raymond & Audrey Riat. Auctioneers: Gannon Real Estate & Auctions.

June 30 — Ford 8N, Ford implements, Craftsman riding mower, tiller, chipper/shredder, grass trimmers, chain saw, large assortment of tools, nuts, bolts, power tools & lots of shop items at Upland for James Martin. Auctioneers: Chamberlin Auction Service.

June 30 — Real Estate: 9.9 acres w/3BR, 2BA home held at Cottonwood Falls for property of Jim & Elaine Adkins. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction Service, LC.

June 30 — Truck, camper, tractor, equipment, collectibles, household & misc. at Lawrence for Billy & Doris Detherage. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

June 30 — Real estate (2 BR, 1 BA home), furniture, appliances, glassware, collectibles, decorations, antiques, primitives

& more at Maple Hill for Shirley Oliver Estate. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction, LLC.

June 30 — 20 acres of Riley County land, home, outbuildings & more held at Riley for Elwood Schmidt. Auctioneers: Ron Hinrichsen, KW One Legacy Partners, LLC.

June 30 — Trucks, cars, motorcycles: (10) 1953 Chevrolets, Studebakers, '60s Plymouth Yellow cab, Whiting Zip Van mail truck & more held 1 mile North of White City for Steve Kramer Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

July 6 & 7 — (selling 7-6: 7,500 post cards, jewelry, sewing items & material & more; selling 7-7: antique furniture, crocks, military items, Indian pottery, watch fobs, Hummels, pottery, many antiques & collectibles) at Salina for Norris & Ellouise Marshall. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

July 7 — UTV, trailer, collectibles, furniture, household & misc., petroleum advertising cans, vintage advertising & more at Lawrence for Mr. & Mrs. Gerald H. Scheid Estate. Auctioneers: Elston Auctions.

July 7 — Real Estate acreage & personal property held North of Vermilion for Robert & Marilyn Fairchild. Auctioneers: Olmsted & Sandstrom.

July 14 — Rural home, buildings & acreage, personal property inc. riding mowers, generator, tools, household & misc. held North of Clay Center for Charles Sheer Estate. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz, salesman & auctioneer.

July 21 & 22 — selling 7-21: Shop items, tools, misc., antiques & collectibles, chain saws, guns; selling 7-22: Tractors, cars, parts, trailers, equipment, 40+ 1/16 tractors, old metal toys & more at Manhattan for Verne W. Hart Estate & Gloria A. Hart. Auctioneers: Macy Realty & Auction.

July 27 & 28 — selling 7-27: stationary engines, rock crushers & more; selling 7-28: 2009 Ford Explorer, 2011 Ford Ranger, 1951 Ford pickup, car trailers, 1963 Ford Galaxie, late '60s Ford Fairlane, '60s Ford 1 ton truck, '60s Ford pickups, '70s Ford F150, '60s Ranchero, farm equipment, collectibles & more held just South of Linn for Elden "Dobie" Wiechmann Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction.

July 28 — Boats, campers, trailers, guns, farm equipment, vehicles, motorcycles, mowers, tools & more at Salina for consignment auction. Auctioneers: Wilson Realty & Auction Service.

August 25 — Coins at Emporia. Auctioneers: Swift-N-Sure Auctions.

Four State Farm Show coming in July

For 44 years, the Four State Farm Show has brought the cream of the crop in agricultural technology and equipment to southeast Kansas. This year's event is set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 20, 21 and 22. The Four State Farm Show will provide the agricultural community the opportunity to get a hands-on look at agricultural goods and services offered throughout the region.

"The Four State Farm Show continues to be the area's go-to event for farmers and ranchers to view the latest in agricultural equipment, technology and services," said Lance Markley, Four State Farm Show coordinator and *Farm Talk* newspaper publisher.

In addition to the displays offered by hundreds of agricultural businesses, visitors can check out the latest in hay equipment at the live action demonstrations held each day at 1 p.m. on the south end of the show. Area lawn mower dealers also have equipment available at the lawn mower test-driving range.

"The popular Shopping Sprees will return again this year with \$1,000 given away each day at the *Farm Talk* booth and \$500 daily at the conclusion of the hay demonstrations," Markley said.

Visitors can enter to win the \$1,000 Shopping Spree at the *Farm Talk* tent near the center of the show grounds. Shopping Sprees must be used for purchases with Four State Farm Show exhibitors. Visitors can enter the hay demonstration giveaway at the daily demonstration.

Over its 44-year history, the Four State Farm Show has become a "Mall of Agriculture" and has grown to nearly 700 booths covering 25 acres. Businesses interested in exhibiting at the show should contact *Farm Talk*. Booth space is limited and expected to sell out. Parking and admission are always free.

Show hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. The Four State Farm Show grounds are located south of Pittsburg, to the junction of Highways 400, 69 and K-171, then one-half mile east. The Four State Farm Show is sponsored by *Farm Talk* newspaper. For more information, call 1-800-356-8255.

USDA reopens application period for producers recovering from cattle loss, other disasters

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) began accepting disaster assistance program applications on June 4 from agricultural producers who suffered livestock, honeybees, farm-raised fish and other losses due to natural disasters.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is reopening the application period for two disaster assistance programs in response to statutory changes made by Congress earlier this year.

"When disasters hit, help is as close as your USDA service center," said Bill Northey, under secretary for Farm Production and Conservation. "After any catastrophic event, an eligible producer can walk into any one of our local offices and apply for help."

FSA is accepting new applications for losses for calendar year 2017 or 2018 filed under the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) or Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP). Producers who already submitted applications and received decisions on their applications for these years do not need to file again, but they can reapply if they have additional losses or their application was dis-

approved because it was filed late.

In February, Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, which made several changes to these two disaster programs, including:

Removing ELAP's \$20 million fiscal year funding cap, enabling FSA to pay producers' 2017 applications in full and their 2018 applications as soon as they are approved.

Removing the per-person and legal entity annual program payment limitation of \$125,000 for LIP for 2017 and future years (The income limitation applies as it did before, meaning producers with an adjusted gross income of more than \$900,000 are not eligible).

Changing LIP to allow producers to receive a payment for injured livestock that are sold for a reduced price due to an eligible event. Previously, the program only covered financial loss for livestock death above normal mortality.

Producers interested in LIP or ELAP should contact their local USDA service center. To apply, producers will need to provide verifiable and reliable production records and other information about their operation.

AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2018 — 10:00 AM
MORRIS COUNTY 4-H BUILDING • 612 US HWY. 56 • COUNCIL GROVE, KS
DIRECTIONS: 1 mile east of Council Grove on US Hwy. 56. WATCH FOR SIGNS.

TOOLS & SHOP ITEMS: Wood Master Multi Tool, good condition; Craftsman radial arm saw; Craftsman band saw; 6" bench grinder, like new; router bits; small shop vac; Forstner bits, new; Northern bench top drill press; Rockwell sander; Chicago router & formica trimmer; DeWalt palm sander; Craftsman router & table; Dremel set; Remington electric chain saw; vinyl siding tools; gas grill, new; 8000 watt generator; dust collector; wire fish; Craftsman scrolling saw; painting air compressor; lathe tools; Delta 12" planer, very good; 6 & 7 ft. fiber glass ladders; socket sets, wrenches & all kinds of hand tools; Air America air compressor; numerous tool boxes; Torid 220 welder; Makita & B&D circular saw; several organizers; various pneumatic tools; Roto Zip; 4" hand grinder; dry wall tools; boat winch, new; numerous bar & spring clamps; B&D 3/8 drill; McCall's cabinet,

6 drawers; Ryobi biscuit joiner; Craftsman belt sander; aluminum extension ladders; lawn cart; HI Lift jack; wheel barrow; car ramps; pull type lawn sprayer; Craftsman polisher; electric pressure washer.
ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES: Singer featherweight sewing machine in case, very good; wood boxes; galv. tubs; milk cans; wood nail kegs; block & tackle; red wagon; various primitive tools; 2 steel wheels; numerous kerosene lamps; slide projector; Garfield lunch box, no thermos; metal kitchen pantry; leather handled hatchet; 2 house jacks; military cans; roll of unbleached Muslin; various prints; beaded room dividers; queen size afghan & comforter; Cabbage Patch boy & girl, new.
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD: oak end table lamps; oak parlor table; drop leaf table; parkay coffee table; Sentry safe; small Emerson TV, 1 yr. old; full size bed, good; pine painted rocker;

Jenny Lind single bed, good condition; maple platform rocker & ottoman; 4 drawer file cabinet; computer desk; pine dresser & mirror; drop front desk; end table; 5 drawer chest of drawers; corner formica top table; 5 pc luggage set, new; numerous fans.
MOPEDS & TRAILERS: Two 1975 Puch mopeds, blue & red, low miles, good condition, need tires; W&W 16x6 stock trailer, bumper pull, needs floor; lawn mower trailer with ramp, 4"x6"; Triax aluminum mountain bike, good condition; aluminum tread plate under bed tool box 3'x1½"x1½"; cement mixer.
GUNS Sell at 10:30 AM: Guns: Winchester Md. 190 .22 rifle auto; S&W .357 revolver, hammerless, SS; Western Field Md. 712 .222 rifle with scope; Marlin Md. 120 12ga. shotgun, pump, short barrel; Ranger Repeating .22 rifle, pump, short or longs; Remington Auto Loading High-back 12ga. shotgun.

LOREN & JUDY EVANS & Another Seller

NAA Terms: Cash or Good Check. Not Responsible for Accidents. Statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material. Lunch available

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AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018 — 10:00 AM
Held Onsite 10570 Anderson Avenue — RILEY, KANSAS



20 acres of Riley County Land located on Anderson Avenue ... just minutes from Manhattan!

Great location with many possibilities. Rolling terrain with a great view of the Flint Hills. The property has a 1800 sq ft home with 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Barn 40 x 100 with a 24 x 100 lean to. Also 24 x 60 barn and 30 x 60 shop. The land has a stream running through it and mature trees.



Rural Water • Riley County School District
Don't Miss this Opportunity To PURCHASE 20 Acres with Many POSSIBILITIES!

SELLER: ELWOOD SCHMIDT

Terms: 10% earnest money down day of sale; closing on or before July 27, 2018. Title insurance, escrow and closing cost split equally. Buyer to take possession at closing. This property is sold as is. All inspections should be made prior to the day of the sale. Announcements made sale day take precedence over all printed material.

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ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

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METHANE FROM COWS PRODUCES GLOBAL WARMING!

It is always about money. "Don't buy red meat, smoked foods, sprayed vegetables, nuclear power, U.S. timber, fertilized rice or inorganic fruit. Instead, send the money you save to the ANTIs so they can fight the evil producer."

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BST, MSG, 10-80 - "As

long as the public doesn't know what they mean we can plant suspicion in their minds. You must only repeat the BUZZWORDS often enough!"

Synthetic anything, genetic engineering, irradiated foods. There are even positive BUZZWORDS that imply that the opposite is not wholesome, safe or politically correct; all natural, organic, ecological, free range, dolphin free, sugarless. These, too, are not defined in THE BIG BOOK OF BUZZWORDS. The ANTIs do not invite scrutiny or discussion. They are fundraisers - first, last and always.

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with one part imagination. A little sticks to the side but most is given off as heat.

THE BIG BOOK OF BUZZWORDS is hot air. Sooner or later knowledge

will pierce its skin and the windbags will fall from credibility, flailing like whistling balloons. It's as simple as gravity.

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Farmers & Ranchers

AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

Selling Hogs & Cattle every Monday

RECEIPTS FOR THE WEEK TOTALED 1,418 CATTLE & 156 HOGS.

STEERS		HEIFERS	
300-400	\$185.00 - 201.00	400-500	\$143.00 - 158.00
400-500	\$176.00 - 182.00	500-600	\$137.00 - 152.00
500-600	\$167.00 - 182.00	600-700	\$130.00 - 144.00
600-700	\$148.00 - 163.00	700-800	\$122.00 - 136.00
700-800	\$135.00 - 149.00	800-900	\$110.00 - 124.50
800-900	\$126.00 - 140.50		
900-1000	\$115.00 - 130.50		

STEERS		HOGS	
2 blk Barnard	275@215.00	5 fats Leonardville	314@43.00
2 blk Salina	298@213.00	2 fats Solomon	255@42.00
2 blk Moundridge	303@201.00	7 fats Abilene	278@41.50
3 char Lyons	397@184.00	6 fats Newton	282@41.00
2 blk Tescott	450@182.00	4 fats Esbon	301@41.00
5 blk Marquette	526@182.00	3 fats Clay Center	267@41.00
9 blk Fall River	524@181.00	22 fats Hope	293@39.00
3 blk Salina	505@180.00	1 sow Abilene	625@34.00
2 red Lindsborg	510@180.00	1 sow Beloit	595@34.00
4 mix Clyde	525@180.00	2 sows Abilene	595@33.50
6 mix Esbon	447@180.00	2 sows Hays	633@33.00
5 blk Ellsworth	630@163.00	5 sows Abilene	549@32.50

CALVES		COWS	
14 red Lindsborg	659@156.00	2 mix Solomon	1218@65.00
68 mix Hope	734@149.00	1 blk Minneapolis	1475@64.00
3 blk Marquette	742@145.00	3 blk Abilene	1323@64.00
38 mix Enterprise	750@144.25	1 blk Abilene	1600@64.00
10 mix Lindsborg	730@143.00	1 blk Abilene	1435@64.00
15 blk Chanute	838@140.50	1 red Solomon	1375@63.00
42 mix Goessel	787@138.85	1 rfw Salina	1495@62.50
5 mix Hillsboro	824@135.50	1 blk Salina	1350@62.00
59 mix Assaria	867@134.60	1 blk Salina	1600@62.00
52 mix Goessel	903@130.50	1 blk Salina	1255@62.00
10 blk Assaria	934@130.00		

HEIFERS	
5 blk Assaria	474@158.00
10 mix Esbon	516@152.00
3 blk Marquette	545@150.00
17 mix Red Cloud, NE	539@150.00
4 blk Ellsworth	546@147.00
2 blk Salina	565@146.00
5 blk Hillsboro	550@146.00

Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

SALE BARN PHONE: **785-825-0211**
MONDAY — HOGS & CATTLE

Hogs sell at 10:30 a.m. Cattle at 12:00 Noon. Selling calves and yearlings first, followed by Packer cows and bulls.

THURSDAY — CATTLE ONLY
Selling starts at 10:00 a.m. Consign your cattle as early as possible so we can get them highly advertised.

AUCTIONEERS: KYLE ELWOOD, ANDREW SYLVESTER & GARREN WALROD

For a complete list of cattle for all sales check out our website www.fandrive.com

November 1st: Farmers & Ranchers switched to LMA Online Auctions

Go to LMAAuctions.com

If you were an approved bidder on Cattle USA, your account has been switched over, please log in using the same email and password. If you were just a user watching on the internet, not approved to bid, you will have to create a new user account to watch online at LMAAuctions.com

Having Trouble Logging in or still have Questions? Please call: 1-800-821-2048

1 blk Beverly	1220@61.50	1 blk Concordia	2005@88.00
1 blk Barnard	1535@60.00	1 blk Lindsborg	1970@87.00
1 blk Geneseo	1605@60.00	1 blk Gypsum	1860@87.00
1 red Esbon	1525@60.00	1 blk Oakhill	1740@85.00
		1 blk Brookville	1885@84.00
		1 blk Hope	1755@84.00
		1 blk Galva	1660@83.50

NO THURSDAY AUCTIONS for the month of JUNE!

All classes of cattle will be sold on Mondays!

IN STOCK TODAY:

- Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders
- 6'8" X 24' GOOSENECK STOCK TRAILER METAL TOP
- 6'8" X 24' GOOSENECK STOCK TRAILER
- 6'8" X 24' GR Stock Trailer Metal Top

RECIPES WANTED

Send us your favorite recipes for the Farmers & Ranchers Livestock Comm. Co. Friends and Family Cookbook

Please email to ranchcooks@gmail.com

For Information or estimates, contact:

Mike Samples, Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-826-7884
Kyle Elwood, Asst. Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-493-2901

Jim Crowther 785-254-7385 Roxbury, KS
Lisa Long 620-553-2351 Ellsworth, KS
Cody Schafer 620-381-1050 Durham, KS
Kenny Briscoe 785-658-7386 Lincoln, KS

Check our listings each week on our website at www.fandrive.com

Kevin Henke H: 785-729-3473, C: 785-565-3525 Agenda, KS
Austin Rathbun 785-531-0042 Ellsworth, KS