



Schwieterman Market Outlook

A marketing commentary by Bret Crotts

The May supply and demand report was bearish across the board. New crop corn and wheat ending stocks estimates came in above the highest trade guesses at 2.485 billion and 1.14 billion bushels respectively. The new crop corn ending stocks projection is at the highest level since the 1987/1988 crop year, the old crop soybean ending stocks estimate is a record high, and wheat ending stocks are expected to be over 1 billion bushels for the fourth consecutive year, which hasn't happened since the 1980s.

The world numbers don't look much better. World wheat carryout is expected to be record high, as is the world soybean carryout figure. World corn is expected to drop again, but the estimate of 314.71 MMT was 10 MMT higher than expected. The world has plenty of grain, which is going to make upward price movements difficult to sustain.

If one digs deep into the report, there is a glimmer of hope in the corn numbers. This should be the third consecutive year for world corn stocks to decline, which is mostly due to record large demand. While U.S. stocks are expected to be extremely high, there is certainly the possibility that we see a reduction in acreage due to flooding, and a reduction in the yield estimate due to late planting. It is not difficult to come up with a scenario where we end up seeing U.S. corn stocks falling for the third consecutive year even with a

near-record yield and acreage still higher than a year ago. If U.S. stocks drop, then world stocks will likely be back below 300 MMT and things will begin to look friendly.

The other markets, it is hard to make much of a case for. The only hope for the soybeans is getting trade relations back to normal with the Chinese and the Chinese getting their hog production back to normal. Neither of those seems likely any time soon. The wheat needs a weather disaster in the Corn Belt, so we can feed all of our extra wheat. Without that, plan on even lower acres of wheat next year.

The charts look terrible with the new contract lows in corn, wheat, and beans on Friday. May soybeans close below \$8.00 Friday and the next support on the continuation chart appears to be at the December 2008 low of \$7.76. At this point we have to think about something near \$3.30 for the corn, and the wheat will find its next major support near \$3.67.

We do have one wild card out there, but it didn't give us any support Friday, and that is the Trump Tweets that suggested the government would buy \$15 billion in ag products and then give them away to poor countries. Since \$15 billion would buy the majority of our grain carryout and leave us with extremely tight stocks, it is pretty obvious that nobody believes it will happen any time soon, or that it will be

spread out over enough years that it won't matter, because the suggestion didn't help the markets a bit.

On a positive note, it looks like the cattle futures bottomed out last week. We got some decent technical buy signals Friday that suggest we will at the very least get an upward correction. Funds are still very long and there is fear that there is more heavy selling to come, but this market likely moved too far, too fast and bargain hunters are stepping in. The Chinese have been buying pork and some beef regardless of the tariffs, and with the U.S. economy on fire, we have excellent demand for meat. So, plan on a correction at least, and perhaps even a V bottom and a quick recovery.

Schwieterman Marketing, L.L.C. specializes in risk management and cash grain and livestock marketing plans. For information on the markets or our marketing service you can contact Bret Crotts at 888-437-9131 or bret@swbell.net.

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Leading agriculture commodity groups oppose additional tariffs on Chinese goods

On Friday, the U.S. Trade Representative moved forward with increasing the tariff rate from 10 to 25 percent on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods. Farmers across the country are extremely concerned by the actions taken by President Trump and his administration. The National Association of Wheat Growers, the American Soybean Association, and the National Corn Growers Association were expecting a deal by March 1 before farmers went back into the fields but instead saw an escalation of the trade war. The three commodities represent around 171 million of acres of farmland in the United States.

"U.S. wheat growers are facing tough times right now, and these additional tariffs will continue to put a strain on our export markets and threaten many decades worth of market development," stated NAWG president and Texas wheat farmer Ben Scholz. "Further, members from both

sides of the aisle and Chambers have reservations about the Section 232 tariffs in the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Today's announcement adds on another political barrier, which may hinder Congressional consideration of the Agreement."

"We have heard and believed the President when he says he supports farmers, but we'd like the President to hear us and believe what we are saying about the real-life consequences to our farms and families as this trade war drags on," said Davie Stephens, soy grower from Clinton, Ky., and ASA president. "Adding to current problems, it took us more than 40 years to develop the China soy market. For most of us in farming, that is two-thirds of our lives. If we don't get this trade deal sorted out and the tariffs rescinded soon, those of us who worked to build this market likely won't see it recover in our lifetime."

"Corn farmers are watch-

ing commodity prices decline amid ongoing tariff threats, even while many can't get to spring planting because of wet weather. Holding China accountable for objectionable behavior is an admirable goal, but the ripple effects are causing harm to farmers and rural communities. Farmers have been patient and willing to let negotiations play out, but with each passing day, patience is wearing thin. Agriculture needs certainty, not more tariffs," said NCGA president Lynn Chrip.

Growers have been reeling for almost a year now after the President first imposed a 25 percent duty on \$50 billion worth of Chinese goods in July 2018, and later, a 10 percent duty on an additional \$200 billion worth of Chinese products, which resulted in the retaliatory tariffs on U.S. goods. These are having a compounding impact not only on agriculture but all industries across the United States.

Grass & Grain Weather Report

May 15, 2019

Seven Day Forecast

WEDNESDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 74 Low: 57

THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 77 Low: 60

FRIDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 82 Low: 65

SATURDAY
Few Showers
High: 78 Low: 61

SUNDAY
Scattered Rain
High: 77 Low: 60

MONDAY
Few Showers
High: 71 Low: 54

TUESDAY
Sunny
High: 79 Low: 68

In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies, high of 74°, humidity of 51%. East wind 7 mph. The record high for today is 92° set in 2017. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 57°. East wind 6 mph. The record low for tonight is 35° set in 2005.

Last Week's Almanac

| Date | Hi/Li | Normals | Precip |
|------|-------|---------|--------|
| 5/3 | 63/51 | 72/47 | 0.15" |
| 5/4 | 72/45 | 72/47 | 0.00" |
| 5/5 | 79/52 | 73/48 | 0.81" |
| 5/6 | 76/52 | 73/48 | 1.14" |
| 5/7 | 63/57 | 73/48 | 1.09" |
| 5/8 | 71/51 | 74/49 | 2.28" |
| 5/9 | 54/43 | 74/49 | 0.00" |

Rainfall 5.47"
Normal rainfall 0.94"
Departure -4.53"
Average temp 59.2°
Average normal 60.5°
Departure -1.3°

Today's Local Outlook

This Week's Sun & Moon Chart

| | Day | Sunrise | Sunset | Moonrise | Moonset | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Full 5/18 | Wednesday | 6:13 a.m. | 8:32 p.m. | 5:07 p.m. | 4:38 a.m. | New 6/3 |
| | Thursday | 6:12 a.m. | 8:33 p.m. | 6:16 p.m. | 5:10 a.m. | |
| | Friday | 6:12 a.m. | 8:34 p.m. | 7:24 p.m. | 5:43 a.m. | |
| | Saturday | 6:11 a.m. | 8:35 p.m. | 8:32 p.m. | 6:18 a.m. | |
| | Sunday | 6:10 a.m. | 8:36 p.m. | 9:37 p.m. | 6:56 a.m. | |
| Last 5/26 | Monday | 6:09 a.m. | 8:37 p.m. | 10:38 p.m. | 7:39 a.m. | First 6/10 |
| | Tuesday | 6:08 a.m. | 8:38 p.m. | 11:34 p.m. | 8:26 a.m. | |

Local UV Index

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Weather History

May 15, 1834 - The Northern Atlantic Coast States were in the midst of their greatest May snowstorm of record. The hills around Newbury, Vt. were covered with two to three feet of snow.

Growing Degree Days

| Date | Degree Days | Date | Degree Days |
|------|-------------|------|-------------|
| 5/3 | 7 | 5/7 | 10 |
| 5/4 | 8 | 5/8 | 11 |
| 5/5 | 15 | 5/9 | 0 |
| 5/6 | 14 | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|------------|---|----------|------------|---|----------|----------------|------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|---|----------|
| A lighter run of calves and feeder cattle found good interest from buyers for our sale Friday, May 10. Heavy feeder cattle and heifer calves were selling on a lower trend. Cull cows and bulls sold at mostly steady prices. We had several cow calf pairs with quality and they were finding very good demand. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BULL & STEER CALVES — 325-525 LBS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Harveyville | 6 blk | 470@184.50 | Spring Hill | 6 blk | 547@144.00 | Auburn | 1 blk | 1445@59.00 | Welda | 5 blk | 2 | @1775.00 | | |
| Goff | 3 blk | 495@181.00 | Alma | 4 | 433@142.50 | Waterville | 1 blk | 1200@58.50 | Lancaster | 3 blk | 8 | @1700.00 | | |
| Tonganoxie | 6 blk | 340@179.00 | Silver Lake | 4 blk | 343@140.00 | Lancaster | 1 blk | 1270@58.50 | Lancaster | 3 blk | SS | @1650.00 | | |
| Manhattan | 3 blk | 423@171.00 | HEIFERS — 550-850 LBS | | | | | Manhattan | 1 Hols | 1310@58.50 | Lancaster | 1 blk | 6 | @1650.00 |
| Manhattan | 4 blk | 497@170.00 | Harveyville | 5 blk | 572@148.00 | Frankfort | 1 heref | 1500@58.50 | Topeka | 6 mix | 2 | @1500.00 | | |
| Burlingame | 4 blk | 490@169.00 | Effingham | 5 Cross | 587@147.00 | Leavenworth | 1 blk | 1535@58.00 | Topeka | 5 mix | 5-6 | @1500.00 | | |
| Tonganoxie | 3 blk | 408@168.00 | Burlingame | 4 blk | 583@141.00 | Onaga | 1 bwf | 1535@57.75 | Lancaster | 3 blk | BM | @1350.00 | | |
| Emporia | 3 blk | 381@166.00 | Spring Hill | 5 blk | 577@137.50 | Wamego | 1 blk | 1360@57.50 | Lancaster | 1 blk | S | @1075.00 | | |
| Silver Lake | 13 blk | 508@165.50 | Blaine | 4 blk | 610@136.00 | Welda | 1 blk | 1245@57.00 | Junction City | 2 Heref | BM | @1050.00 | | |
| Silver Lake | 4 blk | 458@161.00 | Centralia | 15 blk | 763@130.00 | Oskaloosa | 1 blk | 1330@55.50 | BABY CALF | | | | | |
| Silver Lake | 3 blk | 415@160.00 | Centralia | 9 Rd Ang | 817@129.00 | Mayetta | 1 blk | 1245@51.00 | Frankfort | 1 blk | | @435.00 | | |
| STEERS — 550-850 LBS | | | Burlingame | 4 blk | 837@115.00 | Blaine | 1 blk | 1315@48.00 | Goff | 1 blk | | @425.00 | | |
| Effingham | 7 Cross | 575@173.00 | BULLS | | | Beattie | 1 blk | 1210@48.00 | Hiawatha | 1 blk | | @410.00 | | |
| Goff | 6 blk | 569@171.00 | Silver Lake | 1 blk | @2000.00 | Clifton | 1 bwf | 1235@46.00 | Solomon | 1 blk | | @360.00 | | |
| Harveyville | 5 blk | 605@168.50 | Silver Lake | 1 Angus | @1900.00 | Lancaster | 1 blk | 1275@45.50 | Wamego | 1 blk | | @350.00 | | |
| Effingham | 16 Cross | 640@163.00 | Soldier | 1 Simm | @1600.00 | Goff | 1 blk | 1325@44.00 | Wamego | 1 blk | | @285.00 | | |
| Burlingame | 8 blk | 644@162.50 | Silver Lake | 1 blk | @1500.00 | Oskaloosa | 1 blk | 1170@43.00 | Miltonvale | 1 blk | | @275.00 | | |
| Spring Hill | 7 blk | 590@159.00 | Kansas City | 1 blk | @1300.00 | COW/CALF PAIRS | | | Miltonvale | 1 blk | | @260.00 | | |
| Chapman | 4 blk | 673@154.00 | COWS & HEIFERETTES — 875-1,700 LBS | | | AGE | | | BRED COWS | | | | | |
| Waterville | 4 blk | 691@149.00 | Alma | 1 blk | 890@114.00 | Lancaster | 3 blk | 4-5-6 @2125.00 | AGE MO | | | | | |
| Waterville | 18 blk | 828@130.00 | Welda | 2 blk | 955@108.50 | Lancaster | 5 blk | 3 @2100.00 | Welda | 3 blk | 2 | 5-6 @1350.00 | | |
| HEIFER CALVES — 325-550 LBS | | | Waterville | 1 blk | 1030@99.00 | Lancaster | 1 blk | 7 @2050.00 | Welda | 1 Rd Ang | 2 | 8 @1350.00 | | |
| Allen | 3 blk | 426@167.00 | Burlingame | 1 blk | 1035@94.00 | Lancaster | 4 blk | 5-6 @2025.00 | Lancaster | 2 blk | 3 | 3-4 @1325.00 | | |
| Tonganoxie | 3 blk | 368@164.00 | Lancaster | 1 blk | 1145@81.00 | Lancaster | 3 blk | 3 @2000.00 | Lancaster | 1 bwf | 6 | 6 @1300.00 | | |
| Tonganoxie | 4 blk | 338@164.00 | Wamego | 1 blk | 1110@77.00 | Lancaster | 4 blk | 7-8 @2000.00 | Welda | 2 Rd Ang | 2 | 5-6 @1250.00 | | |
| Effingham | 3 Cross | 460@153.00 | Welda | 1 blk | 1380@73.00 | Welda | 2 Rd Ang | 2 @1850.00 | Lancaster | 4 blk | 7 | 4-6 @1175.00 | | |
| Manhattan | 3 blk | 401@153.00 | Burlingame | 1 blk | 1095@72.00 | Welda | 3 blk | 2 @1800.00 | Riley | 13 | | @1600.00 | | |
| Emporia | 6 blk | 380@151.00 | Mayetta | 1 blk | 1110@71.00 | EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR MAY 17 | | | | | | | | |
| Silver Lake | 5 blk | 430@150.00 | Solomon | 1 blk | 1595@70.00 | • 60 blk str & hfrs, complete rd pre wean shots, 500-600 lbs. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Burlingame | 1 blk | 1655@69.50 | • 45 choice reputation Red Angus str & hfrs, certified Red Angus tags, weaned 45 days, 3 rds shots, no implants, 500-600 lbs. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Junction City | 1 blk | 1685@68.50 | • 12 blk str & hfrs, complete round shots, weaned 45 days, 400-500 lbs. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Frankfort | 1 blk | 1495@68.00 | EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR MAY 24 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Mayetta | 1 blk | 1150@67.00 | • 45 choice Red & blk str & hfrs, all shots, weaned 45 days, 475-550 lbs. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | St. George | 1 blk | 1605@66.00 | • 6 Hereford str & hfrs, all shots, weaned 45 days, 475-550 lbs. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | St. George | 1 blk | 1135@65.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Manhattan | 1 blk | 1405@61.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | St. George | 1 bwf | 1470@60.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Manahattan | 1 Hols | 1550@56.50 | | | | | | | | | |

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|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|

Kansas Hay Market Report

Hay market trade activity and demand remains very slow, while prices remain steady. Some sunny, warm weather would be welcome by most and would help get the alfalfa out of its slump. Believe it or not, a new area of abnormal dryness (D0) was introduced in Kansas, where little precipitation has fallen since March 1. This area is centered on Pawnee County and its surrounding counties. New crop alfalfa pricing is still elusive but there is a sense that we are closing in on some definite figures and most producers are reporting they have been spraying for weevil. Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 31 fair, 52 good, and 13 excellent. If you have any extra hay to sell and/or need hay here in Kansas, use the services of the Internet Hay Exchange: www.hayexchange.com/ks.php.

Southwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grass hay, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, premium small squares 250.00-270.00. Alfalfa: Dairy 1.00-1.05/point RFV, Supreme 185.00-210.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 160.00-170.00. Stock or Dry Cow 185.00-195.00. Fair/Good grinding alfalfa, 170.00-180.00. Ground and delivered locally to feedlots and dairies, 195.00-205.00; Bluestem, premium small squares 140.00-150.00; Sudan: large rounds 70.00-80.00; Cornstalks: Large rounds 60.00-70.00, ground and delivered 80.00-90.00; Wheat straw: large rounds 65.00-70.00. The week of 4/28-5/04, 7,999T of grinding alfalfa and 900T of dairy alfalfa were delivered.

Kansas Mesonet launches Cattle Comfort Index

The harsh conditions in Kansas this past winter have prompted one of the state's leading weather agencies to develop a tool that will help cattle producers in the future.

Officials with the Kansas Mesonet, a Kansas State University-based network of weather monitoring stations across the state, has announced the release of the Cattle Comfort Index, a tool that they

say will help cattle producers better monitor the needs of their herds during normal and extreme weather conditions.

The tool is available at mesonet.k-state.edu/agriculture/animal.

"We've already had a lot of negative impacts on the cattle industry because of the cold temperatures this winter," said Mary Knapp, the assistant state climatologist with

Kansas Mesonet. "This tool will also look at extreme high temperatures."

The Cattle Comfort Index compiles such climatological factors as weather, humidity, solar radiation, wind speed and more to help producers determine the level of stress their animals may be experiencing at any given time.

"The index is driven by our five-minute data that is available from Kansas Mesonet," Knapp said. "It will be cal-

By Katrina Huffstutler

There's no doubt, cattle that earn the Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) brand or Prime grade also earn premiums. In 2017 alone, packers in a biannual survey reported paying cattle owners \$75 million in grid premiums specifically for CAB.

But some producers worry that premium comes at a greater cost. At the recent Cattle

culated real-time and updated on a regular basis so that producers can see how that will change during the day."

The climate information is gathered from each of the Mesonet's 61 reporting stations in Kansas. For each, the system reports the perceived comfort level of cattle in that area, from no stress, to mild, moderate and severe.

Knapp said, "The actual animal response to temperature stress will be dependent

Quality pays, but what does it cost? Research shows performance not sacrificed for premiums

Raisers Convention and Expo in Fort Worth, the vice president of production for CAB set their minds at ease.

Mark McCully cited an analysis of 136,000 steers fed at Five Rivers Cattle, comparing performance between high-grading (90% Choice and Prime with 45% CAB) and low-grading (60% Choice and Prime with 13% CAB) pens.

"These are yearling steers

um/Supreme 1.00-1.05/point RFV. Stock cow, fair/good 160.00-165.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, 140.00-150.00. Ground and delivered locally to feedlots and dairies, 150.00-160.00.

North Central-Northeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered, grass hay, steady movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, premium small squares 9.00-10.00/bale. Dairy 1.00-1.05/point RFV, Supreme 185.00-210.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 160.00-170.00. Stock Cow, 195.00-200.00. Fair/Good, grinding alfalfa, 135.00-145.00. Ground and delivered 160.00-170.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 8.00-8.50/bale, large squares 120.00-130.00, large rounds 100.00-110.00. Brome, small squares 8.50-9.50/bale, large squares 145.00-155.00, large rounds 100.00-110.00 with an instance at 115.00-120.00; Sudan: large rounds 80.00-90.00; Wheat Straw: small squares 6.00-7.00/bale, large squares 100.00-110.00, and large rounds 80.00-90.00. The week of 4/28-5/04, 509T of grinding alfalfa and 350T of dairy alfalfa were delivered.

****Prices are dollars per ton and FOB unless otherwise noted. Dairy alfalfa prices are for mid and large squares unless otherwise noted. Horse hay is in small squares unless otherwise noted. Prices are from the most recent sales.*

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**RFV calculated using the Wis/Minn formula.*

***TDN calculated using the Western formula. Quantitative factors are approximate, and many factors can affect feeding value. Values based on 100% dry matter (TDN showing both 100% & 90%). Guidelines are to be used with visual appearance and intent of sale (usage). Source: Kansas Department of Agriculture - Manhattan, Kansas. Kim Nettleton 785-564-6709. Posted to the Internet: www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/DC_GR310.txt*

on a number of factors not accounted for in the index," including age, hair coat, health, body condition, micro-environment, and acclimatization.

"The index shown may start off at a reasonable comfort level in the morning, but as you get into the afternoon when that heat starts developing and the humidity hasn't abated, that's when you can get some of the heaviest stress on the livestock," she said. "A chart will show the level over

time, but historical data is limited to the week, ending with the current day."

The tool was developed from research conducted at the University of Nebraska. The Kansas Mesonet website includes a map that shows conditions across the state and how that might play into risk for cattle.

For more information, interested persons may visit the Kansas Mesonet website, or call 785-532-7019.



The Angus shown by Molly Hill was selected reserve supreme champion female at the Central Kansas Beef Classic held April 13 in Salina.

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debunking the idea that feedyard performance must be sacrificed to hit high quality levels.

McCully admitted sometimes efficiency can decline with higher grading pens, but it just doesn't have to.

"I think we could do a better job at times, managing these cattle to the right end point," he said, alluding to differing genetic abilities. "I think we overfeed some cattle. We probably give up some performance by not optimizing their grading potential."

He said the industry's next goal should be to get more of those cattle that can reach premium grades while simultaneously taking some of the waste fat off of them.

"We can do that," McCully said. "We can select cattle to have more marbling and less back fat. We've got the genetic prediction tools to be able to help us bend that curve a little bit. I think that's our challenge moving forward."

Likewise, cow-calf producers don't have to give up productivity for premiums.

"We've done a literature review of all of the data we could find that looks at the genetic correlation of marbling and any other traits significant to maternal function — scrotal circumference, age at puberty, age of first calving, etc.," McCully said. "And what we found was there was not one paper or study out there that showed if you increased marbling you'd decrease these maternal traits."

In fact the only correlation found was marbling to milk: as one increases, so does the other. That could be an issue in herds that already have over-producing cows, so milk level needs to match available nutrition.

Even so, McCully is encouraged.

"I think this paints a really positive outlook for our ability to maintain and improve maternal function of our cows," he said, "and at the same time, improve the quality and eating satisfaction of our end product."

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Kansas Water Authority Regional Advisory Committee Drive under way

For more than 30 years, citizen advisors have been a vital voice for water resource issues in Kansas. The Kansas Water Office is currently accepting applications from those who would like to participate as a member of one of the 14 Regional Advisory Committees

(RACs) which are established by the Kansas Water Authority (KWA).

These committees play a key role in advising the KWA on implementation of each region's water supply priorities as part of the Kansas Water Vision and the Kansas water

planning process as a whole. Regional advisory members will have the opportunity to evaluate the past five years of the Vision implementation and provide input and advice to the KWA for previously identified regional water resource-related goals and associated action

plans. In addition, members help identify and provide input on other emerging water resource related issues and concerns. They serve as important local links to the public in their regions through interactions with various groups and indi-

viduals as well as communicate information on concerns and issues to citizens in their respective regions. The KWA, through the committee selection process, works to establish RACs which represent diverse groups of water users and interests within regions

are represented.

Kansans can have a definite lasting impact on the future of water resources through RAC membership. Interested persons can apply at www.kwo.ks.gov. The application deadline is May 31, 2019.

Upcoming inaugural American Lamb Summit tackles product competitiveness

The first ever Lamb Summit, sponsored by the American Lamb Board and Premier 1 Supplies, will address critical strategies to improve our industry's product competitiveness and profitability. The two-day program is August 27-28, 2019, in Fort Collins, Colo.

"Meating" the Needs of the New Lamb Consumer kicks off the event, with an in-depth discussion of what customers and consumers need/want and how to deliver the value attributes for which they are willing to pay a premium. Next, guest speakers Dave Pethick, Ph.D., from Australia and Phil Hadley, PhD, from the United Kingdom, share what their lamb industries are doing to improve product value and meet customer expectations. The panelists will share insights on how farmers and ranchers can manage the relationship between eating quality and lean meat yield.

From there, the summit will turn to practical on-farm techniques to reduce fat content, improve consistency and overall quality of American lamb products through live-demonstrations at Colorado State University's ARDEC (Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center) Sheep Unit education sta-

tions. The first day will end with a great American Lamb BBQ and awards program.

Product quality and out-of-season lambing, carcass quality feedback, and traceability will be the focus of the second day. The panel discussion on out-of-season lambing will explore opportunities to improve the consistency and quality of American Lamb through increased supplies of market ready lambs from May to August. Practical topics such as costs of implementing to an out-of-season system and if financial outcomes allow for the switch will be thoroughly discussed.

The carcass quality session on day two will examine tools and technology that the U.S. lamb industry can implement to improve product value and traceability of value traits, and increase carcass quality feedback throughout the supply chain.

The American Lamb Summit will conclude at the new JBS Global Food Innovation Center at Colorado State University's Animal Science Department. Innovative educational stations will explore variations and preferences of American Lamb flavor, and the Rapid Evaporative Ionization Mass Spectrometry (REIMS) technology being tested to differentiate American Lamb flavor

attributes at the plant and, understanding the grid and carcass targets.

This inaugural American Lamb Summit covers a vast amount of new knowledge that is all coming together to improve the opportunities for the U.S. sheep industry. In fact, producers, feeders and processors were instrumental in research that led to this knowledge through its national checkoff.

"We hope this summit will inspire the next level of change and collaboration among all segments of the U.S. lamb industry to improve our competitiveness and productivity through increased utilization of the most efficient, progressive management tools for the producer, feeder and processor," said Dale Thorne, ALB chairman and lamb producer/feeder from Michigan.

The 2019 American Lamb Summit is limited to the first 150 registered attendees and is expected to fill quickly. For more program details, registration and the hotel block visit <https://www.americanlamb.com/product/lamb-summit/>. For questions or help please email Karissa Maneotis Issacs at karissa@americanlamb.com.

Research on viral transmission in feedstuffs yields new information

With research confirming that swine viruses can be transmitted through feed and feedstuffs, new studies are looking at how to prevent the spread of foreign animal diseases, such as African swine fever (ASF), via these vehicles. Based on new research, the Swine Health Information Center (SHIC), the National Pork Board, the National Pork Producers Council and the American Association of Swine Veterinarians have revised the information for feed holding times.

The Institute for Feed Education and Research (IFEEDER), the public charity of the American Feed Industry Association, helped fund the research that resulted in the updated information that provide the best and most current understanding of viral survivability in feedstuffs and details for mitigating risk to domestic herds.

"The science on viral transmission through feed and feedstuffs is still relatively young, but it has yielded some inter-

esting and potentially useful information on mitigating the spread of costly viruses, such as ASF," said Paul Sundberg, DVM, Swine Health Information Center executive director. "This includes recognition that not all imported feedstuffs are manufactured and handled in the same way. It's important to know whether ingredients are produced under biosecure conditions and how they were shipped."

The new details decrease holding times over the initial estimations, which were calculated in October 2018 based on the available research, and give additional assurances of further viral degradation if the feed ingredients are contaminated.

"Variations of the same feed components might cause disparity in holding time confidence," said David Pyburn, DVM, National Pork Board senior vice president, science and technology. "For example, according to research using Senecavirus A (Seneca Valley virus), which is suggested to

have the longest holding time of studied viruses, increasing holding times by an additional 30% would give an opportunity for 99.999% degradation of contaminating viruses."

More research would be needed to confirm that the results could be extrapolated to other feed ingredients in like classes to those studied. The updated information shows new holding times details for general informational and educational purposes. They should not be considered as to be recommending or advocating any specific course of action.

"Continued diligence on feedstuffs origin, the manufacturing processes, the shipping methods and 'born on date' is essential," Liz Wagstrom, DVM, National Pork Producers Council chief veterinarian, said. "Feedstuffs manufactured, sealed, handled, and shipped under biosecure conditions produces an ingredient free of pathogens and reduces the risk of post-processing contamination, resulting in lit-

tle to no risk to animal health."

For example, vitamins and amino acids are typically shipped in sealed or secure containers. Anything produced under unknown conditions or unsealed can pose an animal health risk. Imported soybean meal and DDGS are often transported in non-sealed or non-secure containers. Knowing the origin of ingredients and the disease status of the region or country is essential.

"The feed industry is a committed partner in the effort to prevent foreign animal diseases from entering the U.S. through imported feed ingredients," said Leah Wilkinson, vice president for public policy and education for the American Feed Industry Association. "This additional information on holding times is helpful. We encourage dialogue with your feed ingredient or feed supplier to discover all of the measures that have been put in place to

supply a safe product."

Complete information on the research leading to the holding time calculation and the document, U.S. Pork In-

dustry Organization Provide 'Options' for Handling Imported Feed Ingredients, are available at swinehealth.org.



Chancey Hauck showed the reserve grand champion steer at the Central Kansas Beef Classic, held in Salina on April 13.

Producer education team to offer handling techniques, BQA sessions and more

Registration is now open to cattle producers for four events on the Stockmanship & Stewardship Regional Tour, with the next stop in Ames, Iowa. Events will also be hosted in Colorado, Kansas and Louisiana.

Stockmanship & Stewardship is a unique two-day educational experience featuring low-stress cattle handling demonstrations, Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) educational sessions, facility design sessions to fit your operation and industry updates. The program is sponsored by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), a contractor to the Beef Checkoff, Merck Animal Health, and the Beef Checkoff-funded National Beef Quality Assurance program.

The tour locations and dates are:

Ames, Iowa, June 28-29,
Fort Collins, Colo., August 9-10,
Manhattan, Ks., September 20-21, and
West Monroe, La., October

4-5.

The tour features events led by stockmanship experts Curt Pate, Ron Gill and Dean Fish. By attending a Stockmanship & Stewardship event, producers may also become BQA certified, network with fellow producers, be involved in hands-on demonstrations from the stockmanship experts and learn cutting-edge operation techniques.

"These events allow producers to network with one an-

other and learn from industry experts about real world solutions to everyday problems they encounter on their operations," says Chase DeCoite, the director of Beef Quality Assurance for NCBA.

To learn more about a Stockmanship & Stewardship event, including seeing videos and photos from previous events, or to register for an upcoming event, visit www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org.



The reserve supreme champion female for Central Kansas District at the Central Kansas Beef Classic in Salina was shown by Weston Schrader.

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| Cncl Grve, 1 blk | 905@70.50 | Jnctn City, 1 blk | 1640@58.50 | Wilsey, 3 blk | 942@119.00 |
| Cncl Grve, 1 blk | 1040@67.50 | Hope, 1 blk | 1330@58.50 | | |
| Jnctn City, 1 rwf | 1850@63.50 | White City, 1 blk | 1280@58.00 | | |
| Herington, 1 rwf | 1150@62.50 | | | | |
| Herington, 1 rwf | 1310@62.50 | | | | |
| Cncl Grve, 1 blk | 1110@62.00 | | | | |
| Marion, 1 bwf | 1470@62.00 | | | | |
| Jnctn City, 1 blk | 1840@61.50 | | | | |
| Marion, 1 blk | 1375@61.00 | | | | |
| Cncl Grve, 1 red | 1430@60.50 | | | | |

BULLS

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Junction City, 1 blk | 2150@83.00 |
| Marion, 1 red | 2300@72.00 |

STEERS

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Cncl Grove, 2 blk | 815@177.00 |
| Chapman, 17 rwf | 537@165.00 |
| Hope, 3 red | 493@157.00 |
| Chapman, 10 rwf | 614@154.50 |

PAIRS

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Jnctn Cty, 1 rd/bwf | 1515@1200.00 |
|---------------------|--------------|

HEIFERS

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Chapman, 14 rwf | 500@143.00 |
| Chapman, 18 rwf | 578@136.00 |
| Hope, 64 blk | 827@121.25 |

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| | |
|---------------|------------|
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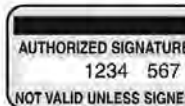
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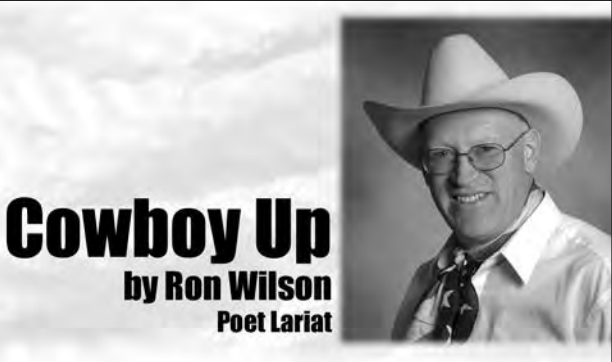
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Code of the Rest

A secret code. It reminds us of spies or secret agents. As a boy, I was excited by the idea of passing messages using secret symbols. It was the kind of thing one could find on the back of a cereal box, but it was fun.

Years later I became inter-ested in cattle brands. These are not secret – in fact, just the opposite. They are intended to demonstrate ownership to everyone. The cowboys had to recognize the brand. But to read the brand requires inter-preting the placement, sym-bols, and letters. It's like learn-ing a code.

Recently I learned of an-other form of code which is a little known part of western history. It has to do with the Underground Railroad in the 1850s. 2019 marks the 160th anniversary of the years when the Underground Railroad was most active in Kansas.

The Underground Railroad wasn't literally a railroad. It was underground only in the sense that it was an invis-ible network of paths, passag-es, safe houses and people through which slaves could escape to freedom before the Civil War. Slaves would es-cape from plantations in the south and make their way north with help from friendly guides called "conductors." In Kansas, the Underground Rail-road was active in the north-east part of our state.

In recent years, scholars have learned about a code which was used by those in the

Underground Railroad. The code used symbols on quilts, of all things.

It was rather ingenious. Quilts were a normal, com-mon thing in those days so they would not have raised suspicion. In that time before central heat, a person would take their rest with a quilt as bedding.

It was also common for quilts to be aired out, so they would be hung outside during the day. But what the slaveo-wners did not know is that the designs on these quilt squares had special meanings. When a quilt with a particular design was hung outside on a porch, clothesline, or open window, it would mean certain things to those who knew the code.

For example: A round Wagon Wheel design meant that it was time for the slaves to gather up their things and get ready to escape. A design called Monkey Wrench meant to gather up your tools. A design called Tumbling Blocks meant: It was go time – time to run! If a slave saw a quilt with a Log Cabin design, he or she knew that this home was a safe haven. If they saw a quilt with a Bear Paw design, that meant to get off the main roads and to follow the wild-life trails through the woods. A Flying Geese design meant to go north. A Bow Tie design meant to dress up or to get in disguise. A Drunkard's Path design meant to weave and zigzag, rather than follow a straight line.

These were visual symbols. Keep in mind that slaves were intentionally kept illiterate. They generally could not read or write, but that didn't mean that they were stupid. The slaves designed this system to communicate with each other using this visual code, right under the noses of the slaveo-wners. A book about this topic is titled *Hidden in Plain View*.

I think that's a pretty cool code.

Quilt Code
By Ron Wilson, Poet Lariat

A quilt is a common thing. We see one everywhere,
But I've learned something more
about the simple quilt square.
Many years ago, during the Underground Railroad,
Quilt squares could hold some symbols of a secret code.
Slaves were escaping from slavery in the south.
The Underground Railroad
helped them find a passage out.
The slaves designed symbols
when they would make a quilt,
And hung the quilts out as messages
using the code they built.
When slaves saw a certain quilt,
with the message that it brings,
It might mean to get ready or to gather up your things.
It might mean it was time to run, or go a different way.
It might mean to dress up, or a good safe place to stay.
The quilts would give them clues
on how to venture forth,
And helped to guide them safely
on their path to freedom north.
How interesting to learn this code
from many years before.
It was life or death for slaves, who faced the risks galore.
So we celebrate these quilts who made a difference there,
And demonstrate the power
found in a simple quilt square.
Happy Trails!
www.ronscowboypoetry.com
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Winning grand champion Central Kansas District steer at the Central Kansas Beef Classic was the Charolais shown by Weston Schrader.

**South Dakota to host
BIF Annual Meeting and
Research Symposium**

Registration is now open for the 2019 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Meeting and Research Symposium. This year's event will be June 18-21 at the University Comfort Suites and Convention Center in Brookings, South Dakota.

Early registration deadline is May 15. Attendees can save \$100 by pre-registering. Online registration is available at <http://www.beefimprovement.org>.

This year's BIF symposium features two and a half days of educational programming and a full day of tours. The first morning's general session — "Applications of Technology" — will feature Mark Allan, Trans Ova Genetics director of genetic technology; Alison Van Eenennaam, U.C. Davis animal biotech-nology and genomics Extension specialist; and a producer panel including John Moes, Moes Feedlot, Watertown, South Dakota; Trey Patterson, Padlock Ranch, Ranchester, Wyoming; Tylor Braden, King Ranch, Kingsville, Texas; and John Maddux, Mad-dux Cattle Co., Wauneta, Nebraska.

The second day's general session, "Utilization of Beef Data" will include a presentation by Dr. Mark Trotter, Central Queensland University.

The afternoon breakout sessions both days will focus on a range of beef-production and genetic-improvement topics. The conference also features a Young Producer Symposium on Tues-day afternoon, designed for networking and to equip young cattle producers with essential knowledge as they grow their role in the business. Tuesday evening attendees will also enjoy an opening reception followed by the National Association of Annual Breed-ers Symposium at 7 p.m.

For more conference details, including registration infor-mation, complete schedule and lodging information visit <http://www.beefimprovement.org>.

Each year the BIF symposium draws a large group of leading seedstock and commercial beef producers, academics and allied industry partners. The attendance list is a "who's who" of the beef value chain, offering great networking opportunities and conversations about the issues of the day. Program topics focus on how the beef industry can enhance value through genetic im-provement across a range of attributes that affect the value chain.



Gracie Karst exhibited the grand champion steer at the Central Kansas Beef Classic held in Salina on April 13.



The Charolais shown by Dalton Krueger won reserve grand champion steer for the Central Kansas District at the Central Kansas Beef Classic.



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Three winter canola 2019 field days scheduled for late May

The latest research, variety, and production information on winter canola will be featured at K-State Research and Extension field days on May 20, 24, and 29.

The field days are excellent opportunities to see winter canola variety trials and producer fields, said K-State canola breeder Mike

Stamm, including new and experimental varieties and discussions about the current growing season. With harvest season approaching, harvest management options will be discussed. Producers will have opportunities to get their questions answered about making winter canola a viable rotation option in Kansas.



Winning the junior showmanship competition at the Central Kansas Beef Classic in Salina were Molly Hill, champion and Dally Emig, reserve champion.

“The production year has been another interesting one, starting with moist conditions for planting last fall and fluctuating temperatures over the winter,” Stamm said. “The crop is poised for a good harvest, and we want to reassure producers that there are many benefits to growing canola in rotation.”

The schedule for the field days includes:

May 20 - Kingman County - 10:00 a.m. The program will

be held at the canola variety trials south of Norwich. From the KS-2 and SE 160th Street intersection, drive a half-mile east. The plots are on the south side of the road. See the National Winter Canola Variety Trial (NWCVT), learn about new winter canola varieties on the market, and hear how local producers are using canola in rotation. Refreshments will be provided.

May 24 - Reno County - 10:00 a.m. The program be-

gins at the K-State South Central Kansas Experiment Field, 10620 South Dean Road, Hutchinson. The NWCVT and K-State variety trials will be on display. Learn about new winter canola varieties on the market. Attendees will hear about a new canola establishment study in cooperation with industry. Refreshments will be provided.

May 29 - Gray County - 10:00 a.m. The program will be held at a canola field lo-

cated two miles east of Montezuma at the intersection of US-56 and 15 Road. Hear how a local producer is incorporating canola into rotation, learn about new canola varieties, and assess the prospects for canola production in southwest Kansas. Lunch will be sponsored by Helena.

For more information, contact Mike Stamm at 785-532-3871 or mjstamm@ksu.edu.

Researchers uncover benefits of modified stocking system for cow-calf producers

Researchers at the Kansas State University Agricultural Research Center in Hays have found that a grazing system shown to be beneficial for the performance of steers also has great potential for cow-calf producers.

For several years, beef producers have capitalized on modified intensive early stocking, a grazing strategy that focuses on double-stocking steers in pastures for the first half of the summer and pulling

the heavier steers off the grass later in the grazing season.

John Jaeger, a beef cattle scientist in Hays, said much of the research points to the fact that when steers were managed this way, producers reported a 26 percent increase in pounds of beef produced per acre, and their net returns increased by nearly 19 percent.

So Jaeger, range scientist Keith Harmoney and their research team set out to see if modified, intensive early stocking could similarly benefit cow-calf pairs.

“We’ve just completed our fourth year of data collection,” said Jaeger, noting that the project focused on weaning calves from the cow at an average of 150 days of age (the traditional time is 200 days), and increasing the early-summer stocking rate of cow-calf pairs to 1.45, compared to the normal 1.00 rate.

The results were astounding.

“The first and most obvious thing is that we continue to see those early-weaned cows being about a half body-condition score better in October compared to conventionally weaned cows,” Jaeger said.

And, he adds, “the really good news from all this is that they are carrying that added body condition through

the winter and they still have an advantage at calving. The following May, when they are being turned back out, they are still three-tenths of a body-condition score better than the cows that were conventionally weaned in October.”

The bottom line, he notes, is that the research is showing an economic advantage for cow-calf producers who are willing to adjust their stocking rates early in the summer, much like what has been shown for many years with steers.

Jaeger notes that early-weaned calves in the modified early intensive stocking system “had about a ten pound, 205-day adjusted weight advantage compared to the season-long stocked calves. And we are getting 1.45 times more calves off the same amount of pasture compared to season-long stocked animals.”

The researchers also noted a benefit in pregnancy rates; cows in this system had a ten percent greater first service conception rate and a five percent greater rate of conception compared to conventionally weaned cows.

“Perhaps one of the largest benefits of utilizing this system is that there was almost no incidence of bovine respiratory disease in calves weaned in late July and early August, compared to calves weaned at the more traditional time in October,” Jaeger said.

He added that the researchers believe that warm, dry days and more consistent temperatures in late July and early August play a significant role in helping avoid the higher rates of bovine respiratory disease normally observed during fall weaning.

The results are “something that can be beneficial if a producer is retaining ownership on those calves,” Jaeger said. “Early-weaned calves that get a higher energy diet early in life tend to grade better, so if the cow-calf producer is retaining ownership, they should see those benefits in their grid payouts.

“In addition, by weaning late July or early August, if a producer is not retaining ownership, they have the potential of selling those calves before we see the traditional dip in the market when the majority of calves are being weaned.”

Many factors are involved, including weather and the availability of forage, but Jaeger said the research points to an economic opportunity for beef producers.

He encouraged cow-calf producers to contact their local extension agent to learn more on how to incorporate this into their operation, or the benefits of adjusting their stocking rates for cow-calf pairs.

Jaeger is also available to answer questions by calling 785-625-3425, or sending email to jrjaeger@ksu.edu.

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Report from May 8th, 2019

| STEERS | | | 5 | 571 | 148.50 |
|---------|-----|--------|----------------------|------------------|--------|
| 1 | 360 | 179.50 | 5 | 695 | 135.75 |
| 15 | 480 | 174.00 | 3 | 680 | 129.00 |
| 27 | 520 | 170.50 | 4 | 731 | 122.00 |
| 18 | 634 | 163.50 | TOP BUTCHER COW: | | |
| 32 | 727 | 152.00 | \$73.00 @ 1,695 lbs. | | |
| 65 | 766 | 147.50 | TOP BUTCHER BULL: | | |
| 17 | 750 | 143.00 | \$84.50 @ 1,700 lbs. | | |
| 62 | 834 | 140.00 | BRED COWS: | | |
| 50 | 787 | 138.50 | \$675-\$1,085.00 | | |
| 65 | 862 | 135.50 | | | |
| 60 | 915 | 129.00 | | | |
| 30 | 960 | 122.25 | | | |
| HEIFERS | | | PAIRS: | \$810-\$1,800.00 | |
| 2 | 310 | 168.00 | | | |
| 3 | 377 | 157.00 | FAT HOG TOP: NO TEST | | |
| 7 | 564 | 149.00 | | | |

Due to conflicts of June 11 & 12 we have had to modify the sale schedule:

Wed., May 29th - Sale

Wed., June 12th - NO SALE

Wed., June 26th - NO SALE

Wed., July 10th - Back to Reg. Sale Schedule

Wed., June 5th - NO SALE

Wed., June 19th - Sale

Wed., July 3rd - NO SALE

Wed., July 10th - Back to Reg. Sale Schedule

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Report from May 7th, 2019

| STEERS | | | 2 | 705 | 131.00 |
|---------|-----|--------|----------------------|-----|--------|
| 3 | 295 | 185.00 | 16 | 787 | 120.50 |
| 17 | 520 | 182.00 | 3 | 957 | 115.50 |
| 42 | 469 | 171.00 | | | |
| 15 | 590 | 168.00 | TOP BUTCHER COW: | | |
| 15 | 630 | 160.50 | \$73.00 @ 1,700 LBS. | | |
| 5 | 712 | 149.00 | | | |
| 1 | 790 | 141.00 | TOP BUTCHER BULL: | | |
| 4 | 869 | 131.00 | \$83.50 @ 2,050 LBS. | | |
| HEIFERS | | | | | |
| 2 | 340 | 168.00 | BRED COWS: | | |
| 11 | 542 | 157.50 | \$625-\$1,010 | | |
| 12 | 428 | 156.00 | | | |
| 22 | 530 | 153.50 | PAIRS: \$750-\$1,000 | | |
| 2 | 630 | 143.50 | | | |

Due to conflicts of June 11 & 12 we have had to modify the sale schedule:

MAY 28th - NO SALE DUE TO HOLIDAY

June 1st - Sheep & Goat Sale

June 4th - Sale • June 11th - NO SALE

June 18th - NO SALE

June 25th - Sale • July 2nd - NO SALE

July 6th - Sheep & Goat Sale

July 9th - Back to Reg. Sale Schedule

Clay Center, Ks • Barn Phone 785-632-5566

Clay Center Field Representatives:

Tom Koch, 785-243-5124

Lance Lagasse, 785-262-1185



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Date: 5/8/19.

COWS: \$57-66.50; \$46-\$56.75; \$45 & down. BULLS: \$77.50-88.00, light test.

BULLCALVES

2 mix.....678@116.00

BRED COWS

2 blk....1358@1050.00

HEIFERS

3 blk.....318@156.00

6 blk.....455@160.00

5 blk.....490@137.00

3 blk.....472@135.00

4 blk.....530@140.00

2 mix.....530@126.00

6 mix.....539@125.00

2 blk.....620@136.00

3 blk.....687@133.00

2 bkbwf...695@128.00

4 blk.....739@126.00

2 bkbwf...748@124.00

STEERS

3 blk.....450@170.00

3 blk.....477@148.00

7 mix.....437@142.00

2 blk.....530@170.00

2 mix.....558@170.00

6 blk.....592@170.00

4 blk.....553@162.00

4 mix.....573@162.00

4 blk.....590@143.00

3 mix.....560@121.00

2 blk.....620@164.50

3 blk.....697@149.00

2 blk.....690@140.00

2 bkbwf...745@149.00

3 blk.....738@144.00

3 blk.....973@123.00

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT! YOUR BUSINESS IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED!

For Cattle Appraisals CALL:

BRODY PEAK, 620-343-5107

GLENN UNRUH, 620-341-0607

LYLE WILLIAMS, Field Representative, 785-229-5457

WIBW 580 - 6:45 A.M. Thurs; KVOE 1400 - 6:30-6:45 A.M. Thurs. & Fri.

To see more consignments go to: emporialivestock.com

U.S. beef industry adopts sustainability framework, Weinheimer elected as USRSB chair

Cattle producers, feedyard operators, major food and retail companies, veterinarians, scientists and non-governmental organizations recently adopted the U.S. Beef Industry Sustainability Framework — the first of its kind — during the 2019 U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (USRSB) General Assembly in Fresno, Calif.

The framework is a tool kit that gives all parts of the beef supply chain something tangible to use in voluntarily demonstrating their operation’s sustainability, now and in the future.

Ben Weinheimer, Texas Cattle Feeders Association vice president, was also elected as the 2019 USRSB chairman, and Scott Anderson, TCFA vice chairman, was elected to serve as the secretary/treasurer.

The USRSB also announced it will introduce the framework to beef stakeholders throughout 2019. Weinheimer will lead this outreach.

“USRSB has established itself as the collaborative voice

Pigs help researchers develop “pacemaker for life”

It’s well-known pigs and human organs have similar characteristics, especially hearts.

Pig hearts are about the same size as human hearts, which is why scientists used them to develop a battery-free pacemaker that generates energy from the pig’s heart as

it beats. The discovery could help pave the way to a successful “implant for life” in humans suffering from heart defects.

There are millions of people who rely on pacemakers to help regulate their heartbeats. Even with recent technological advances, pacemaker bat-

Custom vaccines can help protect herds against specific environmental hazards

By Troy Smith, Angus Beef Bulletin field editor

Until you’ve tried it a few times, the word “autogenous” might not roll easily off the tongue. It’s not a word that cow folk use much. In medical lingo, it’s a word used to describe something generated or produced from within a body. When talking about an autogenous vaccine, a veterinarian is referring to a vaccine produced from specific pathogens present in a herd, to immunize that same herd against disease caused by those pathogens. In cowboy-speak, it’s a custom vaccine.

According to Newport Laboratories Technical Services Veterinarian Randy Shirbroun, cow-country vets are increasingly turning to Newport and other autogenous vaccine manufacturers for herd-specific products. Typi-

cally, it happens when a client experiences persistent disease problems in his or her herd, despite adherence to a health management program that includes immunization with commercial vaccines.

“Pinkeye is most common, but it could be a problem with calf scours or other diseases. There can be many varieties or strains of organisms that can cause disease, and there can be situations where problem bugs aren’t being addressed by vaccination with a commercial vaccine. With an autogenous vaccine, you have a product that’s specific to the bugs in your herd,” explains Shirbroun.

Commercial vaccines are tested for efficacy against strains of pathogens used in development of each product, but new or uncommon strains of bacteria or viruses

and leader of beef sustainability,” said Weinheimer. “The framework is a set of tools and resources intended to be voluntarily utilized by individuals and businesses throughout the supply chain to further enhance efficiency, improve profitability and demonstrate an ongoing commitment to managing natural resources and supporting employees and communities. Quite simply, the goal is to maintain and expand our reputation as the global leader in beef production — producing healthy and delicious beef that people all over the world enjoy.”

TCFA has had strong participation in the roundtable since it began. TCFA past chairmen Jason Hitch and Tom McDonald have been extensively engaged in the organization since its inception.

“We’ve been fortunate to have TCFA member engagement throughout this entire process,” said Anderson. “This framework creates new opportunities to share the great things

teries can be bulky and might need replacement several times over the lifespan of the device.

Researchers in China and the U.S. believe they have successfully trialed a self-powered pacemaker in adult pigs. The implantable generator sits on the surface of the heart

and bends with each heartbeat, generating electricity from kinetic energy.

“(The pacemaker) was fully implanted in adult pigs and all of the energy for cardiac pacing is reclaimed from the heart-beating energy of the same animal,” Zhou Li, from the Chinese Academy of Sci-

can emerge within a herd or locality. When this occurs, an autonomous vaccine can provide a more targeted approach to immunization. Shirbroun says it requires a coordinated effort between producer client, the local herd veterinarian and a laboratory specializing in production of autogenous vaccines.

The veterinarian collects exudate, tissue or blood samples, which are sent to the laboratory along with documentation. Samples are cultured and isolated strains of microbes are cultured for identification of the offending organism(s). Vaccine developed from chosen isolates are attenuated to render the vaccine incapable of causing disease, but able to cause an immune response in a properly vaccinated animal. From the time the laboratory receives samples, production of an autogenous vaccine typically requires four to six weeks for bacterins, and eight to ten weeks for viral vaccines.

Autogenous vaccines may also be developed for use against pathogens plagu-

ing multiple herds within a certain locality. Veterinarian Russ Rice says he and his colleagues at Vet Care, Broken Bow, Neb., have procured pinkeye vaccine for use in multiple herds in their area, adding different strains of microbes in some years, while eliminating others. Additionally, they have helped clients obtain autogenous vaccines for immunization against calf enterotoxemia caused by clostridial bacteria.

Rice says autogenous vaccines are a welcome option for the practice. He thinks they do help in certain situations. The downside is there are no efficacy studies, like those applied to commercial vaccines, for autogenous vaccines.

“We monitor the herd after use and gather producer feedback,” says Rice. “If the client’s problems are relieved, we assume using the vaccine was worthwhile.”

However, Rice warns against becoming overconfident and thinking such products are a substitute for good husbandry, which should in-

TCFA members do to manage our natural resources, create a safe workplace for feedyard employees, provide proper care for cattle and produce safe and wholesome beef every day.”

The framework was developed by ranchers, feedyard operators, auction markets, packers and processors, retail and foodservice companies, veterinarians and NGOs who share a goal to advance, support and communicate U.S. beef sustainability. By design, the framework applies to any business model, region or production system regardless of past or current sustainability efforts.

“Now that the framework has gone through a rigorous comment period and been adopted, it’s time to make it available to all members of the beef supply chain, including feedyards, to use as they see fit on their own operation,” said Weinheimer.

Feedyards who wish to utilize the USRSB Framework tools can access them, free-of-charge, at www.usrsb.org.

ences and lead study author, told AFP.

Incredibly, the energy retained from each heartbeat turned out to be higher than the energy demands of most pacemakers used in humans.

“It could be an ‘implant for life’,” Zhou said. “This is our aim and the final goal of the

scientific research in the field.”


The team will need to examine the idea for long-term safety and durability before human versions can be developed. Other applications of this technology could include self-charging devices and “smart” clothing.

clude adapting a production system to the environment and managing nutrition.

Troy Smith is a cattleman and freelance writer from Sargent, Neb.



Josi Schrader was named champion intermediate showman at the Central Kansas Beef Classic. Chancely Hauck earned reserve champion.



Central Livestock
811 N. Main St.
South Hutchinson, Ks

www.centrallivestockks.com

Office: 620-662-3371
or Matt Hoffman (Owner): 620-727-0913
Hay Auction- Every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.
Cattle Auction- Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.
Hog/Sheep/Goat Auction- Every 3rd Saturday
Horse/Tack Auction- Every 1st Saturday

Sat., May 18th - Hog/Sheep/Goat Sale
Tues., May 21st - Holstein Special (1 wk early)
Tues., May 28th - NO SALE
Tues., June 4th - Cattle Sale

Holton Livestock Exchange, Inc.
1/2 mile East of Holton, KS on 16 Highway

Livestock Auction every Tuesday at 12 NOON
Serving the Midwest Livestock Industry for 67 Years!

******STARTING TIME: 12:00 NOON******

MARKET REPORT FOR TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019
RECEIPTS: 1224 CATTLE
VIEW FULL RESULTS ON OUR WEBSITE.

| STEERS | | HEIFERS | |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| 4 blk red males | 252@192.50 | 4 blk red hfrs | 422@164.00 |
| 5 blk strs | 522@188.00 | 13 blk bwf hfrs | 500@159.00 |
| 4 blk strs | 448@180.00 | 7 blk red hfrs | 476@158.00 |
| 5 blk bwf strs | 455@180.00 | 7 blk hfrs | 493@156.00 |
| 6 blk bwf strs | 542@178.00 | 6 blk red hfrs | 407@154.00 |
| 11 blk bwf strs | 540@169.00 | 4 blk hfrs | 535@153.50 |
| 14 blk red strs | 563@169.00 | 5 blk bwf hfrs | 465@153.00 |
| 15 blk bwf strs | 592@164.50 | 5 blk hfrs | 475@150.00 |
| 16 blk strs | 594@162.00 | 5 blk hfrs | 545@147.50 |
| 12 blk bwf strs | 558@159.50 | 19 blk hfrs | 561@146.00 |
| 27 mix strs | 633@154.50 | 6 red blk hfrs | 530@145.50 |
| 32 mix strs | 635@152.25 | 21 blk red hfrs | 570@145.00 |
| 5 blk strs | 656@148.00 | 3 blk hfrs | 600@144.50 |
| 6 blk strs | 681@143.50 | 5 blk rwf hfrs | 622@139.00 |
| 7 rwf bwf strs | 653@142.50 | 6 blk bwf hfrs | 530@138.00 |
| 46 blk strs | 720@141.75 | 7 blk hfrs | 539@137.00 |
| 6 blk red hfrs | 689@136.00 | 8 blk hfrs | 661@136.50 |
| 7 rwf bwf strs | 702@135.00 | 7 blk hfrs | 672@133.50 |
| 26 blk red strs | 874@130.00 | 6 blk bwf hfrs | 842@133.00 |
| | | 5 blk hfrs | 654@131.00 |
| | | 10 blk bwf hfrs | 657@131.00 |
| | | 5 blk bwf hfrs | 797@125.00 |

NE KANSAS ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION: LIVESTOCK STARTING & GROWING FACILITY SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019 STARTING AT 11 A.M. VALLEY FALLS, KS

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Eureka Livestock Sale
P.O. Box 267 Eureka, KS 67045
620-583-5008 Office 620-583-7475

Sale Every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. Sharp

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On Thursday, May 9 we had a light run of 255 head on an active market.

| STEERS | HEIFERS | 9 bkChr |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 12 bkbfw 730@145.00 | 8 bkbfw 404@142.00 | 22 bk&wf 828@122.00 |
| 33 bkbfw 917@130.75 | 2 blk 645@138.00 | 2 blk 963@112.00 |
| 8 blk 1064@120.00 | 2 bkred 668@137.00 | 3 bwf 997@109.00 |
| | 2 blk 635@135.00 | |

Butcher Cows: \$40.00-\$75.00, mostly \$57-\$66, very active.
Butcher Bulls: \$75.50-\$101.50, mostly \$84-\$94, very active.

| BUTCHER COWS | 1 bwf | 1360@64.50 | BUTCHER BULLS |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 2 blk 1260@75.00 | | | |
| 1 blk 1180@73.00 | 1 bk Simm | 2095@101.50 | |
| 1 blk 1445@70.00 | 1 Gelv | 2120@96.00 | |
| 1 bwf 1600@69.00 | 1 blk | 1715@94.00 | |
| 1 bwf 1060@67.00 | 1 Char | 1485@90.50 | |
| 1 bwf 1165@66.50 | 1 blk | 1785@88.00 | |
| 1 blk 1415@66.00 | 1 blk | 1680@87.00 | |
| 1 blk 1490@66.00 | | | |

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR MAY 16
• 100 bk bwf Char strs & hfrs, 600-850 lbs, dry wintered.
• 70 mostly blk hfrs, 550-650 lbs, dry wintered.
All ready for grass.

We appreciate your business!

Ron Ervin - Owner-Manager
Home Phone - 620-583-5385
Mobile Cell 620-750-0123
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LIVESTOCK AUCTION, INC.

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

Market Report - Sale Date 5-9-19. 267 Head.
300-400 lb. steers, \$163-\$177; heifers, \$141-\$160; 400-500 lb. steers, \$140-\$165; heifers, \$121-\$149; 500-600 lb. steers, \$157-\$160; heifers, \$101-\$145.50; 600-700 lb. steers, \$147-\$161; heifers, \$121-\$135.50; 700-800 lb. steers, \$117-\$131; heifers, \$102-\$130; 800-900 lb. steers, \$126-\$137; heifers, \$115-\$117.50. **Trend on Calves:** \$5-\$8 lower on light test. **Trend on Feeder Cattle:** Mostly steady on light test. **Butcher Cows:** High dressing cows: \$60-\$66; Avg. dressing cows: \$52-\$58; Low dressing cows: \$44-\$52.50. **Butcher Bulls:** Avg. to high dressing bulls: \$75-\$88. **Trend on Cows & Bulls:** Steady.

CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 16:
• 61 mostly blk hfrs, homeraised, longtime weaned, 700-750 lbs.
• 2 loads black steers, 875-900 lbs.
• 1 load mostly black heifers, 800-850 lbs.

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

Check our website for updated consignments:
www.eldoradolivestock.com

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| | |
|--|--|
| Chris Locke (316) 320-1005 (H) (316) 322-0675 (M) | Steven Hamlin (602) 402-6008 (H) (620) 222-1199 (M) |
| Larry Womacks, Fieldman (620) 394-3273 (H) (620) 229-0076 (M) | Van Schmidt, Fieldman (620) 367-2331 (H) (620) 345-6879 (M) |

Cattle Sale Every Thursday 11:00 AM

