USMCA implementation delayed until July

The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement will not go into effect until July 1 at the earliest, not June 1 as originally scheduled, according to several sources. Trade officials in the three

countries remain focused on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic and did not finalize implementation rules by the April 1 deadline, so the trade pact can't move ahead as

planned. Members of the Senate Finance Committee sent a letter to USTR Lighthizer advising that the deadline be delayed.

NCBA requests President Trump expand USDA market investigation, and examine futures markets

NCBA president Marty Smith recently sent a letter to President Donald Trump, requesting the government to act quickly to investigate the striking disparity between boxed beef prices and cattle prices in the futures and cash markets during the current COVID-19 crisis and following the packing plant fire in Holcomb last August.

In his letter, Smith requests President Trump to direct USDA to expand the ongoing investigation into market activity after the Holcomb fire to include current market volatility, "in the hope of identifying whether inappropriate influence occurred in the markets, and to provide our industry with recommendations on how we can update cattle markets to ensure they are equipped to function within today's market realities."

The letter also requests the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to study the influence of speculators on live and feeder cattle futures contracts to determine whether these contracts remain a useful risk-management tool for cattle producers.

"Fair and functioning cattle markets are vital to the sustainability of our industry," Smith wrote. He also pointed out the importance of keeping the beef supply chain moving during this time of volatility and instability.

"The market woes for cattle producers will only grow if packing plants shut down or slow down for an extended period," Smith stated. "As cattle producers, we are the beginning of the beef supply chain, and we need continued vigilance and oversight of all cattle market participants – for the benefit of America's cattle producers and all Americans."

BIF Research Symposium and Convention moves to virtual event scheduled for the week of June 8

The Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) board of directors along with the Florida 2020 BIF Research Symposium and Convention committee has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation, with particular consideration to its effect on this year's convention.

"Due to increasing concerns around this evolving situation and standing by our commitment to keeping the safety of our participants, volunteers and partners as our top priority - we've made the decision to transition this year's conference to an online format," announces Tommy Clark, BIF president.

BIF leadership is in the process of planning an updated symposium online. At this time the virtual event will be hosted online the week of June 8.

'We realize beef producers still have cattle to breed and people to feed," Clark explains. "Our mission as an organization is intact during this challenging time and we will continue to provide educational programing focused on how the beef industry can enhance value through genetic improvement. We are committed to providing learning opportunities that will help producers continue to improve their bottom line focused on beef improvement."

The BIF Board sends well wishes

to our beef industry family during this global pandemic. While details surrounding this transition are still taking shape, they are committed to providing an easily accessible, robust online conference experience that eliminates the health concerns which come with travel and face-to-face meetings at this time.

Page 11

For details regarding the online conference as they develop, visit http:// www.beefimprovement.org. Prior to and during this year's symposium, be sure to follow the event on social media channels using the hashtag #BIF2020.

Individuals who have registered for the event will be refunded their registration in the next week or two. Please contact the hotel to cancel room reservations. For those who booked flights, please contact your airline to check their refund policy for cancellations due to COVID-19.

"By transforming this into an online event, we'll be doing our part to help promote the health of our country while also ensuring the members we serve are still able to have an engaging and meaningful conference experience," Clark summarizes. "As an organization this also gives us a chance to expand our reach across the U.S. and world with our beef improvement message."



St. George	5 bwf	760@125.00	Onaga	1 blk	1510@57.50
Wamego	44 blk	801@122.00	Onaga	1 blk	1700@57.00
Alta Vista	6 blk	893@107.00	Blaine	1	1280@55.00
Dwight	10 Heref	863@103.25	Holton	1 blk	1320@54.50
HEIFER CALVES — 350-550 LBS.			Leonardville	1 blk	1535@53.00
Holton	6 blk	365@158.50	Manhattan	1 blk	1390@52.00
Oskaloosa	14 blk	450@150.50	St. George	1 bwf	1210@51.50
Holton	9 blk	435@149.00	Westmoreland	1	950@50.00
Onaga	6 Cross	522@142.00	Hoyt	1 Heref	1350@48.50
Pomona	7 blk	479@141.00	Westmoreland	1 Cross	895@46.00
Herington	9 bwf	532@128.00	BULLS -	- 1,075-1,625	LBS.
HEIFERS	S — 550-925	LBS.	Manhattan	2 blk	1080@93.00
Onaga	25 Cross	602@146.25	Manhattan	2 blk	1330@89.00
Leonardville	5 blk	554@142.00	Strong City	1 blk	1615@86.50
Riley	10 blk	649@136.00	Hoyt	1 blk	1625@85.00
Leonardville	10 Cross	656@135.00	Manhattan	2 blk	1540@83.00
Council Grove	7 blk	557@130.00			

EARLY CONSIGNMENT FOR

- 45 choice blk strs & hfrs, 1 rd shots, 450-600 lbs.
- 180 choice reputation Angus & SimmAngus strs & hfrs, 2 rds shots, 450-600 lbs.
- 9 blk strs, weaned 45 days, 3 rds shots, 400-425 lbs.
- 70 choice blk BWF strs & hfrs, 2 rds shots, long weaned, green, 550-750 lbs.
- 50 Char Angus cross strs & hfrs, 1 rd shots, 575-625 lbs.
- 33 choice Heref strs & hfrs, long weaned, 2 rds shots, grass condition, 400-500 lbs.
- 57 blk strs & hfrs, 2 rds shots, weaned 5 weeks, 475-550 lbs.
- 20 blk strs & hfrs, 1 rd shots, 450-550 lbs.
- 70 choice blk & bwf strs & hfrs, 1 rd shots, 450-600 lbs.
- 33 blk, Red, & Char X strs & hfrs, weaned March 1, 1 rd shots in Dec. 400-500 lbs.
- 30 homeraised Angus Fall calving cows SS to older, bred Angus bulls Nov. 10-Feb. 1
- 80 choice blk hfrs, grass, long wean, 2 rds shots, 600-650 lbs.
- 12 Fancy reputation Blk & BWF replacement quality hfrs, closed herd/ fly tags/ poured/ all spring shots, 700 lbs.
- 22 Blk & Red strs & hfrs, weaned since Dec., 2 rd shots, 450-550 lbs.
- 14 Blk & BWF strs & hfrs, weaned 21 days, 2 rd shots, 350-500 lbs.
- 20 Choice Heref hfrs, long weaned/ 2 rds shots, 625-650 lbs.
- 75 Choice reputation Angus Gelv cross replacement quality hfrs, sired by Judd Ranch bulls. 700-800 lbs.
- 32 blk SimAngus strs & hfrs, Fall & Spring shots, weaned 30 days, 450-575 lbs.
- 21 bwf strs, grass condition, 600-700 bls.

- poured Mar. 5.
- 1 Fall bred Heref 1st calf bred hfr, bred Heref.

REPLACEMENT HEIFERS

- 15 SimmAngus replacement hfrs, 775-800 lbs.
- 3 Angus replacement hfrs, Angus source verified, 3 rds Vira Shield 6, pink eye, Normectin Plus, 700-800 lbs.
- 18 choice Conneally & Schaff genetics replacement hfrs, all breeding shots, 800-825 lbs.
- 15 Red Angus open replacement hfrs, OCV'd, 800-850 lbs.

BRED COWS

- 15 blk & bwf cows, 3-5 yrs, bred Lyons Angus bull Nov. 1, all shots.
- 15 blk & bwf cows, 4-5 yrs, bred Angus bull for Sumer calves.
- 45 blk Fall calving cows 3-6 yrs, bred to Vermillion Ranch Angus bulls from Nov. 20 Jan. 5, due to calve late Aug. & Sept., all Fall shots & poured.
- 75 blk bwf Fall calving cows, 3-6 yrs, SimAngus & Angus bulls turned in Nov. 25th.
- 100 Northern origin blk Fall calving OCV cows, 4-5 yrs bred Nelson Angus bulls Nov. 26 for 85 days.
- 70 blk & Red Angus Fall calving cows, 4 yrs to SS bred for late Aug.-Oct.
- 34 blk bwf Fall calving cows, 3-4 yrs bred SimmAngus bull for Sept.-Oct. calves.
- 2 SimmAngus cows, 3-6 yrs bred SimmAngus for Sept. & Oct. calving.
- 42 blk Fall calving cows, mosty 4-6, Angus bull turned in Dec. 15.
- 7 blk cows 3-5, bred SimmAngus. (4) will calve June, (3) will calve Sept.
- 3 Fall bred Heref cows, 4-6 yrs, bred Angus.

PAIRS

- 35 blk cows, 4-6 yrs w/ SimmAngus Nov. & Dec. calves by side. Cows exposed back to SimmAngus bull since Dec. 1. Cows & calves all worked.
- 25 blk, bwf Fall calving cows, 4-7 yrs w/ big Angus & Char cross 300-450# calves, cows running back with Char bulls since late Nov.
- 17 blk Angus (14) bwf (1) & Red Angus (2) cows, 7 yrs & older w/ Dec. & Jan. calves by side. Cows worked Feb. 21.
- 10 Angus cows, Conneally & Schaff genetics, 4-5 w/ 2 week to 30 day calves by side.
- 15 blk Angus Gelv cross cows, 3 yrs w/ 30 day Gelv cross calves by side.
- 10 home raised blk cows, 3-6 yrs w/ Dec.-Jan. Angus sired calves by side. Cows exposed Angus bull until Mar. 1.

BULLS

- 2 Registered Angus Coleman Knight hfr bull, 14mo.
- 1 Purebred Simm bull, 13 mo.
- 1 Simm Angus bull, 13 mo.
- 6 blk & Red Limo & Limo Flex Fall & yearling bulls.
- 1 Black Granite registered Angus cow bull, 18 mo.
- 1 angus Heref cross bull, 16 mo.

Upcoming Special Stock Cow & Bred Heifer Sale Dates • Wednesdays starting at 11:00 AM *2020:* April 15 • May 6

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785-537-0036 JEFF BROOKS BEATTIE 785-353-2263 Cell: 785-562-6807

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MANHATTAN Cell: 785-556-1422 DAN COATES BALDWIN 785-418-4524

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GIVE US A CALL TO CONSIGN CATTLE FOR THIS SPECIAL SALE!

Page 12

Grass & Grain, April 14, 2020

Kansas Hay Market Report

Hay market trade slow; Prices steady. Most producers report demand as light with a few isolated increases in deliveries and that they have been busy spraying for aphids and weevil. Conversations also revolved around how the hay market is reacting to the slowdown of ethanol production. The U.S. Drought Monitor indicated that abnormal dryness (D0) remained at 8 pct, moderate drought (D1) remained at 4 pct, and severe drought (D2) remained at 2 pct. 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, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, premium small squares 230.00-240.00. Dairy 1.00/point RFV, Supreme 185.00-226.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 150.00-170.00. Stock or Dry Cow 160.00-165.00. Fair/Good grinding alfalfa, 110.00-125.00, Ground and delivered locally to feed lots and dairies, 150.00-165.00. Grass Hay: Bluestem, good small squares 7.50-8.50/bale, large squares 100.00-110.00. Sudan: large rounds 60.00-70.00. Triticale: large rounds 100.00-105.00. Wheat straw: large rounds 40.00-50.00, large squares 65.00-75.00 delivered. The week of 3/29-4/4, 8,423T of grinding alfalfa and 1,350T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought/sold.

South Central Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered, alfalfa pellets steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, small squares 255.00-275.00. Dairy, 1.00/point RFV, Supreme 185.00-225.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 150.00-178.00. Stock cow, 140.00-150.00. Fair/Good grinding alfalfa, 95.00-110.00, Ground and delivered locally to feedlots 140.00-150.00; Alfalfa pellets: Sun cured 15 pct protein 195.00-205.00, 17 pct protein 200.00-210.00, Dehydrated 17 pct 300.00-310.00. Grass Hay: Bluestem, none reported. Sudan: large rounds 55.00-65.00. Wheat Straw: large squares 65.00-75.00, large rounds 55.00-65.00. The week of 3/29-4/4, 5,320T of grinding alfalfa and 267T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought/sold.

Southeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered, grass hay steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse or goat, 230.00-240.00. Dairy 1.00/point RFV. Stock cow 150.00-160.00. Fair/Good grinding alfalfa, 115.00-125.00. Ground and delivered, none reported; Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 125.00-135.00, good, mid squares 105.00-120.00, large squares, 90.00-110.00, large rounds 60.00-65.00. Brome, good, small squares 125.00-150.00, mid to large squares 110.00-120.00, large rounds 70.00-80.00. Wheat Straw: mid and large squares 60.00-75.00, large rounds 55.00-65.00. The week of 3/29-4/4, 1,596T of grass hay was reported bought/sold.

Northwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered



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Harvest

List your service for free Hire services in seconds No invoicing No waiting for payment

Hay

Sell & buy fast Free to list & browse Automatic payments



steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: Horse or goat, 205.00-215.00. Dairy, Premium/Supreme 1.00/point RFV. Stock cow, fair/good 150.00-160.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, 95.00-105.00. Ground and delivered locally to feedlots and dairies, 125.00-135.00. Sudan, large rounds 60.00-70.00, corn stalks, large rounds 50.00-60.00.

North Central-Northeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground/delivered, steady; grass hay steady to 10.00 lower; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, premium small squares 9.50-10.50/bale. Dairy 1.00/point RFV, Supreme 185.00-225.00, Premium 170.00-195.00, Good 150.00-170.00, Stock Cow, 150.00-160.00. Fair/good, grinding alfalfa, 100.00-110.00. Ground and delivered 130.00-140.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 6.00-7.00/bale, mid squares 90.00-100.00, large squares 85.00-100.00, large rounds 60.00-70.00. Brome, small squares 7.00-8.00/bale, large squares 95.00-105.00, large rounds 60.00-70.00; Sudan, large rounds 55.00-65.00. Wheat Straw: small squares 5.00-6.00/bale delivered, large squares 100.00-110.00 delivered, large rounds 60.00-70.00. The week of 3/29-4/4, 1,230T of grinding alfalfa and 600T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought/sold.

***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.

*CWF Certified Weed Free

*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

Court permanently bans enforcement of Kansas 'ag-gag' law

(AP) - A federal judge has blocked enforcement of provisions in a Kansas law that ban the secret filming at slaughterhouses and other livestock facilities.

U.S. District Judge Kathryn Vratil issued the injunction permanent after finding in January that the state's "Ag-Gag" unconstitutionally law criminalized free speech. The law, which was enacted in 1990, had made it a crime or anyone to take a picture or video at animal facilities without the owner's consent or to enter them under false pretens-

"We are disappointed with the ruling and we will be evaluating the next steps, including whether an appeal is warranted,"

the Kansas attorney general's office said in a written statement.

The litigation was brought by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, the Center for Food Safety, Shy 38 Inc., and Hope Sanctuary. Vratil had mostly ruled in their favor earlier this year, but they subsequently sought an amended judgment that included a permanent injunction against enforcement

The groups argued that without such an injunction the law would continue to chill the exercise of First Amendment rights and that nothing would prevent the state from attempting to enforce those provisions.

Vratil agreed with those arguments in issuing the permanent injunction.



I just had a birthday so I've been thinking about old things..

I belong to a vintage jewelry group on Facebook, Vintage Meet Modern Styling Society. There are other old broads like myself in this group, and many who are much younger. We love jewelry, we love jewelry with a story, with a past – like us.

Some of my friends are blessed to have heirloom pieces, cameos handed down from grandmothers and great grandmothers. For many reasons, I have no such treasures.

My Mama was tiny woman, a hundred pounds, and just over five feet tall. Her hands were tiny, and when she and Daddy eloped to get married. she had a simple wedding band, a band that was too large. She kept it in her jewelry box in the top of the linen closet. I often climbed up the shelves and took that ring out of the box and put it on my own grubby little fingers. Then I would carefully replace it and climb down.

One Sunday morning, I climbed up into the closet, opened that green satin iewelry box, and took out the ring. We were heading to church and I wondered if Mama would let me wear it. I was nine years old. Then I thought, "How ridiculous! Mama would never let me wear it!" Again, I replaced it, and climbed down, never saying a word to Mama.

While we were at church, our house burned to the ground. I will never forget Mama sifting through the ashes trying to find her wedding ring.

She never found it and Daddy bought her another one. She wore it until she died and we buried her wearing that ring. She had other odd pieces of jewelry, never anything really valuable. My sister and I were in agreement that we would not take her wedding ring off her hand.

As an historian, I value the objects from the past that are our tangible links to other times, other lives. They are gifts and they are burdens.

I have packed my toys and moved many times in mv life. I have been a wanderer. I love stuff and have accumulated a lot of it. But I have also been forced many times to decide what I could let go.

When all is said and done, our experiences are as pearls on a string, these are our legacies and our gifts. Our time, our talents, our deeds - these live after us. Let us make them beautiful keepsakes

(The advantage is, we do not have to pack them in mothballs and carry insurance on them. And good memories are so much lighter to carry than Grandma's china).

Deb Goodrich is the host of the Around Kansas TV Show and the Garvey Texas Foundation Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum. She chairs the Santa Fe Trail 200 in 2021. Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com.

Efforts continue to help cattle producers during pandemic

Ongoing efforts are in motion surrounding COVID-19 effects on the beef industry.

A bicameral congressional letter was sent to USDA urging swift relief for American cattle producers. The letter was signed by a bipartisan group of over 145 lawmakers. Dr. Derrell Peel, Oklaoma State University Extension, is leading a team to draft a version of the stimulus program. Once this is complete, NCBA will work with state policy affiliates to finalize before submitting it to USDA. Joining Peel on his team

Dustin Aherin, Rabobank

Randy Blach, CattleFax Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky Don Close, Rabobank

are

Amy Hagerman, Okla-

homa State University Josh Maples, Mississippi State University

Jim Robb, Livestock Information

rumors that a price support program in the \$120 to \$150 range was considered. The proposal was never seriously considered, was deemed as market distorting, and was killed before it ever reached the Senate. Unfortunately, we have heard some are factoring that into their marketing plans.

includ Agriculture, ing feedyards, trucking, grocery stores and packing plants are all deemed essential businesses and not restricted by shelter in place orders. While there have been rumors of plants closing, as of today, no plants have temporarily closed except for the JBS plant in

Souderton, Penn. Earlier this week, JBS plants in Greeley and Grand Island experienced higher than normal levels of absenteeism. Neb. Gov. Pete Ricketts announced during a press conference that Nebraskans who quit their jobs would be ineligible ro unemployment benefits. Meanwhile, packers continue to provide incentives



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LOCATION: K-14 Auction Center, 10919 S. K-14 Hwy - HUTCHINSON, KS 67501 6 miles south of the Loves Truck Stop in South Hutchinson on K-14 Hwy.



Because of the "TP" virus we will not be having a live auction (no admittance allowed) for these items, but for the benefit of our Ag-related clients, items will be sold online thru Proxibid.com and Equipmentfacts. com or Absentee and Phone Bids. If you have any large equipment or rolling stock that you want to promote national, bring to the K-14 Auction site at your earliest convenience or contact Auction Company. Deadline for entering your items in the catalog is April 14. Contact Morris Yoder Auctions at 620-899-6227 for Absentee and Live Phone Bid Registration by April 17th at 5 PM. Open for inspection at your own convenience.

Tractors, Vehicles & Trailers: 2005 John Deere 3420 Telehandler w/7800 Hrs; YTO Mini Excavator w/Cab on Steel Tracks; Mahindra 5520 Diesel Tractor w/2000 Hrs; Farmall H Tractor (restored and like new cond); AC 190 Tractor w/JB Loader; John Deere B Tractor; Fiat Allis M-7 G-B Loader Dozer; McCormick Deering Tractor on Steel (runs); Mc-Cormick Deering Tractor on Steel (for parts or yard art); 1919 Nash 1 Ton Truck w/12' Wooden Bed,4 cyl & 4 Speed w/Wooden Spoke Wheels (collector truck); 1991 GMC 3500 12' Box Truck w/196k truck miles & 12k miles on a Jasper Trans.; 2017 Neville 53' drop Deck Semi-Trailer (1 owner); 1994 Reinke 48' Flatbed Semi-trailer w/Alum Floor; 1983 Harsh 8' M-217 Dump Bed w/2-3 yd. Capacity; Doo Little 6'x10' Dump Trailer; 2 Wheel Trailer; GMC Late Model 8' Pickup Bed w/Chrome Bumper (new); Chevy 6.3/4' Bed w/Chrome Bumper & Tailgate (minor damage on right side); 3-New Ford 8' Beds w/Tailgates & Argent Bumpers

Field Equipment: 2006 JD 9860 STS Bullet Rotor Combine w/3000 Engine Hrs & 2200 separator Hrs, 2WD; Brent 1080 Grain Cart 1000 bu (very good cond); JD M-55 Combine w/14' Header; Gleaner M-L Combine w/Header on Trailer; 2017 & 2015 NH Roll-Belt 560 Specialty Crop Round Balers (field ready & good cond); 2013 NH BR7090 Specialty Crop Round

Baler (field ready & good cond); Hesston 5580 Round Baler; NH 495 Haybine (field ready); NH 260 Rollbar Rake; Case IH RS 561 5' Baler, Net/Twine, 1000PTO; Miller 14' Offset Disc; Krause 12' Disc Krause 14' Disc w/Tine Harrow; Schaffer 16' Disc; JD F1350-1450 6 Bt Plow; JD 5 Bt Plow; IH 6 Row Cultivator; IH 5100 & 510 Single Disc 20 hole Drills w/ Twin Hitch; JD Chuckwagon; Unveferth 350 bu Gravity Wagon w/6" Hyd Auger & Electric Valve & Cupped Flighting; 2 Row Test Plot Planter w/Orthman Tool Bar; 2020 16' Garfield 1600 Rear Steer Blade (new); IH 510 20 Hole Drill; Sudenga Gravity Wagon Auger w/Hyd Motor & Bristle Flighting (new); 110 Gal 3 pt Sprayer w/Monitor; 4 Section Harrow; 3pt Bale Spear; Westendorf TA 26 Loader w/Bucket & Forks & JD 10 or 20 series Mounting Brackets; 16.9x 24 Turf Tires & Rims; 8'x16' Hay Trailer; 6' Blade; 35' Heavy Duty Portable Hay Elevator w/1 HP Electric Motor; Dew Eze Bale Handler; Pallet Forks for Bobcat Skidloader; Skidloader 6' Rock Bucket (new); Single-Round Bale Transport Dolly; 3 pt Gin Pole; 75 bu. Feed Wagon w/2 Unloading Chutes; DuAl Loader & Bucket w/Grapple; 2 Side Delivery Rakes on Steel; 10'x70' Heavy Duty Bale Tarp; Babson M-80006 Stainless Milk Tank (800 gal); plus more being consigned daily, watch for updates.

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Marketing Center

Glynn Tonsor, Kansas State University

DOL posted a webinar for employers seeking information about the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act.

There continue to be

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to employees to remain on the job. Cargill – Pay additional

\$2 per hour March 23-May 3 plus a \$500 bonus for working all shifts

Caviness - Continues to offer competitive pay and flexible leave for employees

JBS - Pay union employees a \$600 bonus on May 15

National - Pay additional \$2 per hour March 16-May 10 and two weeks paid leave if directly impacted by virus

Tyson – Pay a \$500 bonus to employees and truckers who continue to work

"I put an implement on the free online ad site and got no calls. I put it in Grass & Grain and got eight calls the first couple of days... and sold it."

~ Russell Reichart, Holton ~



Grass & Grain, April 14, 2020 Page 13 Kansas Corn celebrates Kansas Biofuels Month



Beginning with a proclamation from Gov. Kelly, Kansas Corn celebrated March as Kansas Biofuels Month to recognize the many benefits biofuels provide to the state's economy, agricultural industry and environment. Through the month-long celebration. Kansas Corn brought education and awareness of ethanol blends to farmers, industry professionals and consumers.

"We were excited to celebrate ethanol, an important market for our farmers, and recognize

the industry through the month of March," says Mayo-Martinez, Stacy Kansas Corn Director of Industry Relations. "This past year, almost onethird of our corn is going to ethanol and we want to continue to help support the market.'

During the month's celebration, Kansas Corn celebrated positive growth in ethanol infrastructure shown by the 24 stations participating in the Kansas Better Blends Initiative and Kansas **Corn Infrastructure Grant** Program. At the end of 2019, these participating stations reported a total of 5.7 million gallons of ethanol sold, which is equivalent to two million bushels of corn used to produce the ethanol.

The organization also celebrated with a new partner in the Kansas fuel retail industry, Casey's General Store. As the chain expands its reach across the state, they are installing ethanol blending pumps, which allow for the sale of additional blends such as E15 (Unleaded 88) and E85 (for Flex Fuel vehicles). Kansas Corn teamed up with Casey's to host a total of six in-person "Get Pumped" station events staffed with local FFA chapters, corn grower volunteers and staff to promote ethanol blends with consumers. In addition to prizes, in-store discounts and giveaways, consumers were able to take advantage of a \$0.15 off discount on Casey's Unleaded 88 (E15). Promotions at three additional stations were completed with discounts to promote ethanol sales but did not have a full staff due to the growing health concerns with COVID-19 in the state.

Kansas Corn also partnered with Renew Kansas at the beginning of the month to host the Kansas

Corn-Fed Ethanol Seminar in Wichita. Growers, industry partners and ethanol industry representatives from across the state came together to learn about opportunities within the industry and how to advocate on behalf of the biofuel. Presentations from this event are online at kscorn.com/ethanol for those that are interested but could not attend.

Advocates for ethanol and other Kansas-grown biofuels can celebrate the industry year-round on the Fueled by Kansas page on Facebook. We invite those interested to like the page and share content to help be an ethanol ambassador and connect others with accurate information about the higher ethanol blends.



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For property location, complete details & terms see last week's Grass & Grain or go to hallgrenauctions.net

Extension agents are adapting well, continue serving Kansans, director says

The leader of the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service, the major outreach arm of Kansas State University to the state's residents, says that agents across the state are adapting to stay-at-home orders in creative ways to continue helping folks in their communities.

Director for Extension Gregg Hadley noted that the threat of COVID-19 and health officials' recommendations for people to "socially distance" themselves has changed traditional ways of delivering Extension services.

"We are a cooperative Extension system that is very used to, very good at - and prefer - face-to-face contact with the people we serve," said Hadley, speaking on the April 1 broadcast of the Agricul*ture Today* radio program. "But under the COVID-19 threat, we just had to realize that we were not going to be able to do the face-to-face interactions. and that caused a whole host of challenges. For example, during these early spring months, a lot of times you have tagging and weigh-in of animals for 4-H, spring Extension programs, project days, and those sort of things. "We had to really think about how are we going to do these things and move forward and still provide all of the great information that the university has to the people of Kansas in different ways." What has emerged in a matter of a few weeks, Hadley said, is a system that is using technology to deliver many of the same programs in imaginative ways.

had a very experienced agent, long-time educator in the southeast who did a burn workshop using Facebook Live," Hadley said. "Prior to this, I don't know that this agent would have considered that, because he is a face-to-face individual and has always worked that way. But in their heart of hearts, Extension professionals are going to do whatever they have to do to serve the public."

Hadley also noted "an excellent video" from the Post Rock Extension district - which serves Lincoln, Mitchell, Jewell, Osborne and Smith counties - "of how to go to the grocery store and buy nutritious foods in realistic quantities, while keeping safe and preserving the safety of others."

fices, with contact information for each, is available online.

"If anybody needs service from their local Extension office, they should still contact the office or use their personal contacts with their local Extension agent," he said.

Hadley has been taking questions about county fairs, a favorite summer activity in many Kansas towns. K-State Research and Extension does not govern county fairs - that is done by each local fair board, which will decide whether its fair will be held this year.

"What I have been trying to tell (K-State Research and Extension employees) who are actively involved in their fairs is that we should first hope that the fairs go on as normal and everything is okay," Hadley said. "But we need to be thinking of backup activities. For example, if the fair does not go on, could we perhaps have a virtual fair where the 4-H'ers can still exhibit their projects on a website or (other platform) and still give that 4-H'er a capstone event to look forward to this summer?"

Hadley said he thinks the current crisis may help to improve the ways in which K-State Research and Extension delivers information.

"As with any crisis, you look for the opportunity to improve your service to the people of Kansas," he said. "We may see once this is all over, some activities go back to face-to-face contact, and that will work really well. And there will be other things that we say, 'Hey, this worked really well with technology, so why don't we continue to keep doing this?""

Hadley's full interview on Agriculture Today is available online.

"Just the other day, we



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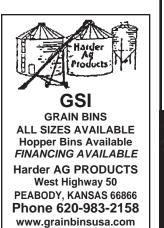
"A lot of activities like that are going on right now," Hadley said.

Local K-State Research and Extension offices in some Kansas counties may still be open, likely with limited staffing. However, staff members in the state's 105 counties are working and can be contacted by email or phone, according to Hadley. An interactive map of local Extension of-

> **Precautions related to** coronavirus have caused unexpected disruption in everyday life, but the Grass and Grain staff has made plans which will allow us to continue to produce the newspaper each week in the event an outbreak should occur locally.

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4/8/20 SALE RESULTS

11:30 AM

Jnctn City, 3 mix 832@120.00 729@120.00 Jnctn City, 5 blk Herington, 12 mix 758@115.00 Lincolnville, 52 mix 919@106.25 Lincolnville, 54 mix 913@104.00 Herington, 56 mix 952@104.00 Herington, 10 mix 925@102.50 Herington, 5 blk 841@102.00 Tampa, 52 mix 1001@101.75 HEIFERS 578@135.25 Hope, 9 blk Durham, 12 Red 516@130.00 Durham, 3 Red 422@130.00 Durham, 19 Red Hope, 3 blk

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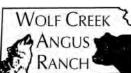
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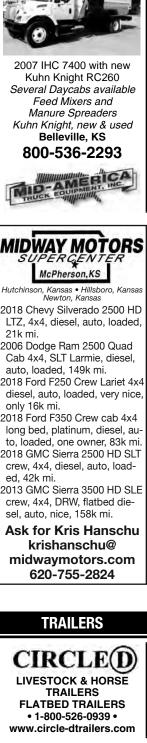






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15 Case IH Maxxum 125

'09 JD 5055E ROPS, MFD,

'09 Case IH Magnum 215,

09 Case IH Magnum 215,

'96 JD 8300 MFD 7995 hrs

14 Case IH 1255 12x30

IH 800 planter 4 row, 30

eng., 2995 sep.

w/ trailer

14'

ÌH 45 FC 18.5'

IH 370 14' disk

JD FBB drill 16x8

GB 900 Hi-master Idr

30' w/ air reel

'05 Case IH 1020 20'

'89 Case IH 1020 25'

'95 JD 8770, 4WD, 3903 hrs

planter, on row hoppers

Case IH 900 8R30 front fold

'04 Case IH 2366 4WD, 4045

11 Case IH 7088 combine

1705 engine, 1248 sep.

11 Case IH 3406 corn head

10 Case IH 2020 flexhead

89 Case IH 1063 corn head

'80 Vermeer 605G rd. baler

Hesston BP25 bale processor

04 Case IH SCX100, MOCO

JD 1418 rotary cutter, 14'

JD 1518 batwing cutter

'02 NH 1475 MOCO 14'

(2) CIH 6500 Conser-til, 14

'01 Case IH 3950 disk, 33'

Speeco 3pt post hole digger

BMB Estate 72 finish mower

Farmall 95A MFD cab Farmall 100C, MFD, cab, ldr

Magnum 280 Case IH 335 Turbo 28'

Case IH RB565 rd. baler

Several Bush Hog rotary

mowers and tillers

NEW EQUIPMENT

'07 Case IH 340 25' disk

MISCELLANEOUS

MFD ldr, 965 hrs

ldr, 800 hrs.

1550 hrs

3370 hrs

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Fireston		
VF 480/80R 46 FST F 480/80R 42 FST RAD VF 380/90R 46 FST F IF 800/70 R38 Mich Ce Prices and Product availability are	DT \$1,438 RAD RC \$1,910 Prex Bib 184B \$3,336	
TOLL FREE 866-888-7838	www.donstire.net ABILENE, KS	2
TRACTORS/SKID LDRS 1973 IH 966 2014 JCB205 skid loader 2004 JD 240 series II skid Idr., ROPS, 700 hrs. New JCB 3TS-8T Tele-Skid track loader HAY EQUIPMENT New H&S 5116 16 wheel High Cap rakes Vermeer 605 N rd. baler w/net	Patriot 37' header trailer JD 637 29' disc 2006 Case IH 1200 16 row 30 stacker planter 2008 Case IH 1200 16 row 30 stacker planter New Danuser pallet forks for skid steer 5,500 lb rating New Danuser Intimidator skid steer tree puller Icon 1632 grader rear steer	
1996 Vermeer R23, twin rake MISCELLANEOUS Jantz combine trailer, con-	HESSTON	2
signment Orthman FX750 scraper, consignment Gnuse L90 3pt. rear scoop Landoll 5531-30' no-till drill Vermeer BPX 9010 bale		
processor 1990 Case IH 1083 corn- head	SUPERIOR IMPLEMENT, INC. 402-879-4723	

New Wemhoff 10' & 12'

Box Scraper

Evening: 402-879-3719 SUPERIOR, NEBRASKA

JD 750 tractor. 2 Turf Tires, power front axle, PS very nice clean well maintained tractor. Stk#7995\$2.800

481 hr

2017 MF 2270XD 31.500 bales single axle, solid Windguard w/ roller, moisture sensor kit, roller bale chute with bale weight scales, C1000 monitor. Stk#5128. Promotional Financing\$89,900 2018 MF 2326 drive over mower deck. 60" wide, belly mower, drive over hook up for GC series MF. Stk#7070 \$1,900 1999 JD 6410 cab PFA tractor, 4.090 hrs., 12F/4B trans., 4 remote valves, Bush Hog M646 ldr. w/bale spear & bucket w/ grapple. Grapple cylinders are broken, ldr. joystick needs attention. Stk#5171 consigned..

.....\$38.500 2010 MF GC2600, 41 eng. hrs., R4 tires, MF 2325 60" mower deck, 4WD, hydrostat, diesel, MF DL100 Quick Attach Idr., selling for an estate. Stk#1922 consigned\$12,750 1980 JD 2440 w/JD 145 ldr., 1 rear remote, 6.562 hrs., selling for an estate. Stk#3765 consigned.....\$8,900 2014 MF 5611 w/ MF 941 ldr. 415 hrs, like new, very nice clean tractor. Air seat, 540/540E/1000 PTO, AM/FM/ WB digital stereo. 84" material bucket w/ Euro Quick Attach bale spear - Euro Attach MF/ Quicke 72556073M Stk#3094. Stk#2505/2506\$64,900 2019 Sunflower 6631-29 VT tool. 14" Hydraulic rolling basket finisher. Stk#6926

.....New - In Stock 1994 White 6195 Cab PFA 4,011 Hrs clean, 18 speed power shift.....\$49,500 2018 MF 1840 4,400 bales lightly used, need to sell for health reasons twine tie, bale chute, premium performance pkg with knotter blower and hyd. tensioner, knotter lube kit.\$23,500

2019 Grouser AG 240i Dozer

ally). Stk#7447\$900
2002 Hesston 845 round baler,
twine tie, wide pickup, Hyd.
kicker, stk#7443. Promotional
Financing \$6,900
2008 MF ZT29 Zero Turn, very
clean, 60" Hyd. lift deck, 425
eng. hrs., 3 cyl. diesel, buil
in deck lift jack for changing
blades. Stk#1635 consigned
Reduced \$6,850
2008 Gravely 152Z Zero turn
lawnmower Kohler 23Hp,
52" deck kept inside 425 hrs,
stk#5767\$4,400
2014 MF 2946 1,600 bales, auto
mesh & twine, C1000 monitor,
21.5L-16.1 tires w/ suspen-
sion axle, bale ramp, fire ex-
tinguisher. Stk#5950. Promo-
tional Financing\$27,900
NH 616 rotary disc mower, very
clean, kept serviced, 7'-8"
swath. Stk#5301 consigned
\$5,900
1983 JD 530 round baler w/ JD
Bale-Trak monitor. Stk#7287.
Promotional Financing
\$4,800
2015 MF 1736 Hydrostat, 4WD,
platform, 245 hrs, engine
block heater, very good cond.,
DL125 ldr, 66" skid steer buck-
et. Stk#3710. Promotional Fi-
nancing\$21,900
2011 MF 8200-25 flex head,

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Orthman 835	50 c	ultivat	or 8	R3	0
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Bestway 10	60	Spray	yer	Fie	əld
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JD 1700 plar					
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KMC Cultiva					
Mist-O-Matic					
Wemco hea					
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9 360/70R28 Buffed\$325
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In response to the COVID-19 pandemic currently impacting all states, including Kansas, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Department of Agriculture strongly recommends all landowners and managers voluntarily reduce

the number of acres that they intend to burn this spring. Not only can the smoke exacerbate existing respiratory illness such as COVID-19, but emergency response resources should be conserved to handle pandemic situations. Read KDA's statement at https://agricul-

National Sorghum **Producers announces 2020** Sorghum Yield Contest

National Sorghum Producers will begin accepting entries for the 2020 National Sorghum Producers Yield Contest. Yield contestants are split into east and west regions for each division. Contest divisions include irrigated, dryland no-till and dryland tillage, and one winner is selected for the food grade division.

"The yield contest is an integral part of establishing a notable reputation for sorghum growers in the grain industry and recognizing their yield achievements," NSP CEO Tim Lust said. "We anticipate a strong level of entries for the upcoming contest and look forward to setting a new high standard for contests to come."

The goal of the yield contest is to increase grower yields, transfer knowledge between growers to enhance management and identify sorghum producers who excel in each state and throughout the country. In order to enroll, contestants must be a paid NSP member at the time of entry. More than one member of a family may enroll, but each member must have a separate membership.

Entry forms must be completed and submitted ten days prior to harvest, and all forms must be emailed no later than Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. All entries will be reviewed and divisions will be placed off of yield only. National and state winners will be recognized at the 2021 Commodity Classic in San Antonio, Texas, March 4-6.

For entry form, 2020 yield contest rule changes and more information, interested contestants can visit www. sorghumgrowers.com/yield-contest/ or contact NSP director of operations Garrett Mink at 806-749-3478.



ture.ks.gov/news-events/ news-releases/2020/03/26/ kdhe-and-kda-recommend-voluntary-reduction-in-burning.

To support this recommendation, Kansas Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Kansas Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have determined to encourage delay of any 2020 scheduled Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) management prescribed burns. FSA and NRCS can assist landowners and operators in choosing an alternative type of CRP management practice for the current year through a revised Conservation Plan of Operations (CPO). Applicable CRP contract producers will need to contact their local service center to initiate the change request.

"Our county USDA service centers are still operational and able to work with producers who choose to alter their management practice," says David Schemm, FSA state executive director. "We strongly encourage CRP participants to consider this option and call your local USDA service center to visit with FSA and NRCS employees about your options. Paperwork completion necessary to make the change can be done through email or mail." Contact informa-

tion for your local service center can be found at https://www.farmers.gov/ connect.

Page 17

FSA and NRCS recognize the importance and need of prescribed burning in most plant communities in Kansas, However, identified objectives should only be pursued through the safe and responsible use of prescribed burning. It is critical that producers or land managers still considering spring burns first consult KDA's Smoke Model available online at https://www. ksfire.org/. The model indicates the level at which a burn would contribute to urban area air quality problems.

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	SIEERS/DULLS	51
Market Report for 4-9-2020.	BEEF	
960 HEAD SOLD	.00# \$189.00-\$172.00	300-400#
	\$172.00-\$160.00	400-500#
HFRETTES:	600# \$165.00-\$142.00	500-600#
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	\$137.00-\$127.00	700-800#
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COWS-LGT WT & LOW YIELDING	\$155.00-\$137.00	400-500#
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in the classified section.

Grass & Grain, April 14, 2020



This Too Shall Pass

By Nicole Erceg My favorite book in the Bible is Exodus. The first time I read it, I remember getting so frustrated with the Israelites. How could they be so close to the Promised Land and mess everything up?!

It's mind-boggling to look at a historical map and realize they criss-

crossed a patch of land the size of a few large ranches for 40 years before finally reaching their destination.

As I've reread it many times. I've come to see myself in their struggles complaining about the manna when God provided food, creating false idols when they only needed to be still and wait. Oh. how I

am guilty of the same sins.

Those passages in the beginning of the Good Book are a reminder that we can't have the mountaintop views without first crossing the valleys - sometimes more than once.

There are no words I can write that will take away the devastating slap of a market drop, the pain of a postponed bull sale or the exhausting frustration that things feel out of control and it's cattlemen who get the short end of the stick. But this is not a burden cattlemen carry alone. Our partners down the supply chain who normally serve our steaks with pride are going without paychecks they expected. For too many, the restaurant bustling with business just weeks ago will

now be shuttered forever.

The Israelites survived generations of slavery. They overcame the plagues. They persisted through enormous struggles only to be left to wander a stone's throw away from glory, fated to suffer more before reaching their destination.

Cattlemen, too, know hard times. We endured when the rain shut off in 2012, bounced back after a cow stole Christmas, survived the 1980s Farm Crisis and have the blood running through our veins of those who made it through the Great Depression.

This too shall pass. We don't know when, we don't know how. The only thing we can do is continue on course - producing exceptional beef that flies off the grocery shelves in both

good times and bad.

Though many have a poor taste in their mouth seeing others profit while staring at a wrecked spring budget sheet, if we refuse to cut corners on our consumer experience, the reward will come in time. Today, producing high-quality beef may not be the thing that makes an extra dollar, but those who faithfully invested in carcass merit will lose less as we cross this valley.

Many might compare the last year or so in the cattle business to torment, but what's a tough couple of years when the Israelites wandered in the desert for four decades? The beef industry today looks vastly different than it did 40 years ago and those who persevered through the challenges of those days

saw many good years, too.

In troubled times, the comfort of food and good beef in the freezer keeps many content and healthy at home. When we're all able to get back into our favorite steakhouse, cattlemen who can produce a quality celebratory steak dinner will still be in high demand.

The page will eventually turn. Those who ride out the storm and build better herds that target premium quality will see their persistence pay. As we walk through the unknown ahead, the one sure thing is the world will still need great beef and those who raise it.

Next time in Black Ink®, Miranda Reiman will talk about flexibility. Questions? E-mail nerceg@certfiedangusbeef.com.

Agricultural producers eligible for Paycheck Protection Program

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act has allocated significant resources to the Small Business Administration (SBA) to help small businesses survive and keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic downturn. Traditionally, agricultural producers have not qualified for a majority of SBA programs. However, due to the diligent work of

NCBA, the SBA eligibility criteria was broadened in the CARES ACT to include agriculture.

One SBA program that may be of interest to livestock producers is the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) that provides small businesses, those with less than 500 employees, with funds to pay up to eight weeks of payroll costs, including benefits. Loans of up to \$10 million will



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CALL KEY FEEDS TODAY 1-800-432-7423 OFFICE be made available to cover 2.5 times the average monthly cost of payroll, which is measured by payroll costs of the 12 months preceding the loan origination date, plus an additional 25% for non-payroll costs. This includes salaries; employee benefits, including healthcare and retirement; mortgage interest payments, but not prepayments or principal payments; rent; utilities; and interest payments on any other debt obligations that were incurred before February 15, 2020. At least 75% of the loan must be used for payroll costs.

PPP is retroactive to February 15, 2020, and loans will be available through June 30, 2020. The funds used during this eight-week period can be 100% forgiven, as long as this funding is used on approved expenses and employees are not terminated and wages are not reduced. While the program is open until the end of June, loans will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, those wanting to apply should contact their lenders as soon as possible.

NPPC cancels 2020 World Pork Expo

The National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) has announced that its board of directors has decided to cancel the 2020 World Pork Expo in June due to COVID-19 human health concerns. World Pork Expo 2021 is scheduled for June 9-11 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

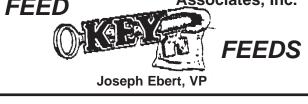
"While deeply disappointed to cancel this year's Expo, NPPC's board of directors unanimously agreed it was prudent to make this decision now," said NPPC president Howard "A.V." Roth, a pork producer from Wauzeka, Wisconsin. "By eliminating COVID 19-related uncertainty surrounding the

event, we allow producers and others across the industry to focus on the essential role we play in the nation's food supply system at this critical time."

"We will do our part to support the nation's transition back to normalcy and look forward to making next year's World Pork Expo better than ever," added Roth.

World Pork Expo is the world's largest pork-specific trade show, where more than 20,000 industry professionals gather for three days to showcase innovations, introduce new products and participate in training and educational programs.





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USDA announces loan maturity for Marketing Assistance Loans now extended to 12 months

Agricultural producers now have more time to repay Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's implementation of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The loans now mature at 12 months rather than nine, and this flexibility is available for most commodities.

"Spring is the season when most producers have the biggest need for capital, and many may have or are considering putting commodities under loan. Extending the commodity loan maturity affords farmers more time to market their commodity and repay their loan at a later time," said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. "We are extremely pleased that USDA can offer these marketing flexibilities at this critical time for the agriculture industry and the nation."

Effective immediately, producers of eligible commodities now have up to 12 months to repay their commodity loans. The maturity extension applies to nonrecourse loans for crop years 2018, 2019 and 2020. Eligible open loans must in good standing with a maturity date of March 31, 2020, or later or new crop year (2019 or 2020) loans requested by September 30, 2020. All new loans requested by September 30, 2020, will have a maturity date 12 months following the date of approval.

The maturity extension for current, active loans will be automatically extended an additional three months. Loans that matured March 31 have already been automatically extended by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). Producers who prefer a nine-month loan will need to contact their local FSA county office. Loans requested after September 30, 2020, will have a term of nine months.

Eligible commodities include barley, chickpeas (small and large), corn, cotton (upland and extra-long staple), dry peas, grain sorghum, honey, lentils, mohair, oats, peanuts, rice (long and medium grain), soybeans, unshorn pelts, wheat, wool (graded and nongraded); and other oilseeds, including canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard seed, rapeseed, safflower, sunflower seed, and sesame seed. Seed cotton and sugar are not eligible.

About MALs

Placing commodities under loan provides producers interim financing to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are low and allows producers to store production for more orderly marketing of commodities throughout the year.

These loans are considered nonrecourse because the commodity is pledged as loan collateral, and producers have the option of delivering the pledged collateral to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) for repayment of the outstanding loan at maturity. MAL Repayment Under the new maturity provisions, producers can still repay the loan as they would have before the extension:

repay the MAL on or before the maturity date; upon maturity by delivering or forfeiting the commodity to CCC as loan repayment; or

after maturity and before CCC acquires the farm-stored commodity by repaying the outstanding MAL principle and interest.

Marketing Loan Gains

A Marketing Loan Gain occurs when a MAL is repaid at less than the loan principal. If market gain is applicable during the now-extended loan period, producers can receive a gain on the repayment made before the loan matures.

For more information on MALs, contact the nearest FSA county office. USDA Service Centers, including FSA county offices, are open for business by phone appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

K-State researchers adapt to keep agricultural studies moving forward

While much of the world has hit pause due to the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, Kansas State University researchers are being tested to keep important agricultural studies moving forward.

"Let's just say that there have been challenges," said Marty Draper, the associate dean for research in the College of Agriculture and associate director of K-State Research and Extension. "And every day as we recognize those challenges, we are trying to find new solutions and new workarounds so that we can continue to do the things that we consider mission-critical."

Draper notes that "agriculture has the largest research footprint on campus," which includes numerous studies on crops and livestock and such related fields as genetics and genetic improvement, nutrition, feed efficiency, physiology, reproduction, pest and disease management and more. Many agriculture projects run continuously over several years in order for researchers to validate findings.

And, Draper adds, much of K-State's agricultural research affects production on the farm, which ultimately affects profitability of farmers and communities.

"Beyond the production work, there is basic research occurring that provides the foundation for some of the applied advances that will come in three, five, ten or maybe 20 years down the road," he said. "If we don't do that basic research, our advances in production and profitability ... will be too slow to keep up with the demands of a growing population and a growing economy."

Draper said K-State

has cut back on operations in many labs in order to meet social distancing requirements. "We need to make sure we have at least that six feet of space, but vou can't do that in a busy lab," he said. "So we've asked labs to determine if they can pause operations - we are referring to that as hibernation. If so, we want them to do that. Our buildings are minimally staffed with a fraction of active research labs operating."

Because students are not on campus, many of the university's crop and livestock units have fewer employees to help with When important work. crews go out to fields to plant crops or conduct other work, they often have to travel in separate cars, "because it's really hard to get a six foot social distance when you've got a load of people that you have to haul to the field," Draper said.

"In the College of Agriculture, we work with living systems," he said. "We work with seasonal and cyclic processes. We're concerned about living collections, stored samples, irreplaceable germplasm and animal welfare. We're not neglecting those responsibilities: we're progressing with planting spring crops and animal research that is tied to a specific date, but we're also not prolonging studies beyond completion dates. We're trying to minimize the amount of time that people are required to interact with one another.

"All of what we're doing is being done with social distancing and social hygiene in mind. When we talk about social hygiene, it's beyond social distancing; it's thinking about wearing masks, washing hands frequently, washing surfaces and sanitizing common surfac-

es as frequently as possible. All of our projects are being re-assessed on a weekly basis and we're really looking for the optimal approach to keeping people safe."

Draper said some K-State researchers and graduate students are using time away from the labs and fields to catch up on writing scientific manuscripts, theses, or dissertations.

For most researchers, however, it's a bit of a waiting game for when things can get back to some sort of normalcy.

"We know we're going to get through this, but we also know that research is going to be set back," Draper said. "We know that there are going to be costs incurred, there are going to be results delayed...I've looked at some of the things going on in labs and I am absolutely certain that people are going to have to backtrack in order to get to the point where they have the continuity in their work to move it forward.

"But we are going to continue to look at each project and try to find the best outcomes for each of those. Ultimately, what we're concerned with is the best outcome for the researcher, which is probably going to be the best outcome for K-State and ultimately the best outcome for the people of Kansas."

Draper said he is hopeful that relief bills being considered in Congress will provide support needed to rebound from the slow-down in university research.

"We are a ways from being able to plot the way out of this, but in the next weeks or months, we should have a much better picture of what that is going to look like," he said.

Virtual Summit speakers to cover keeping science in the animal welfare conversation

Animal welfare is topof-mind for everyone involved in food production from farm to fork, from farmers and ranchers to restaurant, retail and foodservice brands and every stop in between. The latest topics in animal welfare and how to effectively communicate about this topic will be covered at the Animal Agriculture Alliance's 2020 Virtual Stakeholders Summit, themed "Primed & Prepared." The Summit is set for May 7-8, 2020, and registered attendees will also receive exclusive access to a series of pre-conference webinars. The Alliance's annual Summit brings together thought leaders in the agriculture and food industries to discuss hot-button issues and out-of-the-box ideas to connect everyone along the food chain, engage influencers and protect the future of animal agriculture. Attendees will leave the 2020 Virtual Summit primed and prepared with the tools they need to take action and be part of any and all conversations that could impact the future of animal agriculture and their business. from activist groups, many restaurant, retail and foodservice brands are considering what role they play in the animal welfare dialog and adopting related policies for their supply chains. In a pre-conference webinar available only to registered Virtual Summit attendees, expert panelists will discuss ways that the animal agriculture industry can help food companies ensure the science of animal welfare isn't lost in navigating conversations where emotions play a larger and larger role. Panel participants include:

"Animal welfare has been at the core of the Alliance's work since we were formed back in 1987," said Kay Johnson Smith, Alliance president and CEO. "No Summit would be complete without a discussion of the latest trends in animal welfare and how everyone in the food chain can collaborate to address this important topic. We're excited to offer this lineup of true experts in the area ing opportunities that are more valuable than ever in today's challenging environment.

Be sure to check the Virtual Summit website for the most up-to-date Virtual Summit information and the full agenda. You can also follow the hashtags #AAA20 and #PrimedAndPrepared for periodic updates about the event. For general questions about the Summit please contact summit@animalagalliance.org or call (703) 562-5160. Thank you to our 2020 Summit sponsors: Watt Global Media, Farm Journal, *Meatingplace*, National Pork Producers Council, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Smithfield, National Pork Board, American Feed Industry Association, United Soybean Board, The National Provisioner, Elanco, Country Folks, Dairy MAX, Farm Credit, National Biodiesel Board, United Egg Producers, Cobb Vantress, Inc., Protect the Harvest, Progressive Dairyman, Agri Beef, American Farm

Bureau Federation, American Veal Association, Empirical, Kemin, National Chicken Council, Trans Ova Genetics, Vivayic, Mountaire Farms, North Carolina Farm Bureau, Brakke Consulting, Food Industry Environmental Network and Eggland's Best. The Alliance also

The Alliance also thanks the following members for their continued support of Summit and ciation, Zoetis, Alltech, Inc., Cattle Empire, LLC, Charleston | Orwig, Diamond V, Genus PLC – PIC, ABS, Hy-Line North America LLC, Iowa Soybean Association, Merck Animal Health, National Turkey Federation, Nutrien, Aviagen Group, Boehringer Ingelheim, Cargill, Dairy Farmers of America, Hendrix Genetics, Provimi North America, Inc. and Seaboard Foods.

Animal welfare is a topic of critical interest throughout the food chain. In response to questions from curious consumers and pressure campaigns Tim Kurt, DVM, Ph.D., scientific program director at the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research

Candace Croney, Ph.D., director, Center for Animal Welfare Science, Purdue University

Karen Christensen, Ph.D., senior director, animal welfare, Tyson Foods

Dr. Croney will also speak during the Virtual Summit itself, giving a keynote address titled "Can You Hear Me Now? How Agriculture Can Communicate on Animal Welfare." She will offer attendees insights into the latest developments in animal welfare and how to effectively engage in meaningful conversations with consumers and influencers.



that attendees can tune in to hear from during the Virtual Summit without even leaving their homes or offices."

Virtual Summit registration is now open at Summit.AnimalAgAlliance. Org. Registration will give attendees exclusive access to 13 hours of live, dynamic content spread out among a series of pre-conference webinars and the two-day virtual event. Recordings from each session will also be available only to confirmed virtual attendees through the end of 2020. The Alliance team is working to ensure attendees enjoy digital network-

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MARKET REPORT FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020 RECEIPTS: 711 CATTLE FOR FULL RESULTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: *WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM*

STEE	RS	HEIFERS		
3 blk strs	260@180.00	5 red rwf hfrs	364@150.00	
12 blk bwf strs	525@162.50	6 blk red hfrs	378@149.00	
6 blk strs	595@155.50	13 mix hfrs	442@146.00	
11 blk red strs	585@155.00	4 blk char hfrs	540@140.00	
14 mix strs	582@154.50	7 blk bwf hfrs	537@132.00	
6 blk strs	610@149.00	17 mix hfrs	667@130.00	
12 bwf rwf strs	535@145.75	13 blk bwf hfrs	624@128.00	
16 red blk strs	561@144.00	15 blk red hfrs	487@126.50	
5 bwf rwf strs	659@136.50	7 bwf hfrs	552@124.00	
14 mix strs	687@134.50	18 blk hfrs	655@121.00	
27 blk red strs	642@132.50	5 blk hfrs	737@120.50	
13 blk strs	703@130.25	13 blk bwf hfrs	755@120.00	
9 blk char bulls	491@130.00	19 blk red hfrs	594@119.50	
11 blk strs	739@125.50	4 blk hfrs	647@115.00	
6 blk strs	824@115.50	4 blk red hfrs	628@112.00	
9 blk strs	856@111.50	9 blk bwf hfrs	806@100.00	

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View our auctions live at "Imaauctions.com"

other Alliance programs: U.S. Poultry & Egg Asso-



Market Report - Sale Date 4-9-20. 769 Head.

300-400 lb. steers, \$105-\$169; heifers, \$117-\$151; 400-500 lb. steers, \$100-\$171; heifers, \$115-\$145; 500-600 lb. steers, \$108-\$174.50; heifers, \$102-\$137; 600-700 lb. steers, \$109-\$146; heifers, \$106-\$128; 700-800 lb. steers, \$101-\$127; heifers, \$102-\$116.75; 800-900 lb. steers, \$95-\$106.25; heifers, \$72.50-\$95. Trend on Calves: Mostly \$6-\$8 lower on a lighter offering. Trend on Feeder Cattle: \$7-\$18 higher. Butcher Cows: high dressing cows \$50-\$58; Avg. dressing cows \$40-\$47; low dressing cows \$31-\$40. Butcher Bulls: Avg. to high dressing bulls: \$40.50-\$80.50. Trend on Cows & Bulls: \$4-\$6 lower.

HIGHLIGHTS:

	HEIFERS		STEERS
5 blk	354@141.00	9 blk	346@169.00
5 mix	442@135.00	56 blk	520@174.50
5 mix	554@132.00	20 mix	545@148.00
16 mix	632@126.50	37 blk	581@163.50
19 mix	639@128.00	43 mix	636@145.00
69 mix	746@116.75	63 blk	673@135.50
5 blk 5 mix 5 mix 16 mix 19 mix 69 mix 12 mix	891@95.00	10 mix 52 blk	857@106.25 1081@97.50

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Cattle Sale Every Thursday 11:00 AM				

Despite global challenges, U.S. pork and beef exports on record pace through February

J.S. pork exports posted the third largest month on record in February while U.S. beef exports also recorded double-digit gains from a year ago, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Through February, exports of both pork and beef are on a record pace and account for a growing share of record-large U.S. production.

February pork exports reached 273,056 metric tons (mt), up 46% from a year ago, valued at \$726.6 million (up 59%), trailing only the volume and value totals from December 2019 and January 2020. For the first two months of the year, pork exports exceeded last year's pace by 41% in volume (546,659 mt) and 54% in value (\$1.47 billion).

Pork export value per head slaughtered was \$67.77 in February, up 50% from a year ago and the highest since 2014. The January-February average was \$65.02, up 45%. Exports accounted for just under 33% of total February pork production and nearly 30%for muscle cuts only, the highest on record and up substantially from last year (24% and 21%, respectively). The January-February ratios were 31.3% of total production and 28.6% for muscle cuts, up from 23.8% and 20.6%, respectively, in 2019.

U.S. beef exports also achieved outstanding growth in February, increasing 18% from a year ago to 112,021 mt and climbing 17% in value (\$681 million). These results pushed January-February volume 10% above last year's pace at 219,395 mt and 11%higher in value (\$1.35 billion).

Beef export value per head of fed slaughter was \$343.03 in February, up 11% from year ago and the highest since December 2018. The January-February average was \$321.86, up 7%. Exports accounted for 15.3% of total February beef production, up from 13.9% a year ago, and 12.4% for muscle cuts only (up from 11%). Through February, exports accounted for 14.1% of total beef production and 11.5% for muscle cuts, up from 3.5% and 10.7%, respectively, last year.

With COVID-19 dominating all news headlines, including those related to global USMEF president and CEO Dan Halstrom said the February export results confirmed that global demand for high-quality protein remains strong and resilient.

"By February, COVID-19 had emerged as a major health concern in several key Asian markets and was certainly impacting consumer and business activity, so it is great to see U.S. pork and beef exports achieve such strong growth," Halstrom said. Obviously these are uncertain economic times and the road ahead remains very challenging, but these results are really a great testament to our international customer base. In the face of unprecedented obstacles, importers, retailers and restaurateurs are finding creative ways to meet consumer needs, and with record production the U.S. industry is well-positioned as a supplier. While we are in an unusual business climate that requires a lot of flexibility and innovation, there are excellent opportunities for red meat exports to continue to build momentum."

Stronger pork exports to Japan, Mexico complement continued surge to China

While China/Hong Kong was the largest driver of pork export growth in February, mainstay markets Japan and Mexico also posted impressive results.

February exports to China/Hong Kong were even with the huge January volume and nore than tripled from a year ago to 98,847 mt, while export value more than quadruoled to \$243.2 million. For the first two months of 2020, exports increased 260% from a ago to 195.849 mt and soared by 352% in value (\$488.5 million)

Pork exports to Japan totaled 35,262 mt in February, an increase of 23% year-overear, while value climbed 28% to \$145.8 million. Through February, exports increased in volume (66,840 mt) and 12% in value (\$278.4 million). Capitalizing on reduced duty rates, U.S. pork is regaining market share of Japan's imports of ground seasoned pork and chilled pork. Strong consumer demand for U.S. chilled pork at retail and for sausages produced from ground seasoned pork underpin this growth



In Mexico, February exports climbed 16% to 61,693 mt, while value increased 43% to \$107.6 million. January-February exports to Mexico increased 11% in volume (132,153 mt) and 41% in value (\$242.3 million) from the same period last year, when most U.S pork entering Mexico was saddled with a 20% retaliatory duty. Although weekly export data show March volumes to Mexico remained sharply higher year-over-year, the pace slowed from that seen in February, partly reflecting devaluation of the peso

Other January-February highlights for U.S. pork exports include:

Exports to Canada continued to build on last year's strong performance, increasing 18% in volume (37,364 mt) and 14% in value (\$128.8 million) from a year ago.

While the volume shipped to Oceania eased in February, value continued to in crease, pushing the two-month totals 9% higher in volume to 21,831 mt and 35% above last year's record value pace at \$72.6 million.

Strong growth in Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica pushed exports to Central America 4% higher in volume (14,790 mt) and 19% higher in value (\$38.6 million) from a year ago.

Exports to Vietnam climbed 241% in volume to 3,007 mt and 134% in value (\$6.7 million). This included a strong year-over-year increase in variety meat exports, consisting primarily of pork feet.

February beef exports climb in most major markets

Mainstay Asian markets Japan. South Korea and Taiwan fueled beef export growth in February, but shipments also increased to key destinations in the Western Hem sphere. Africa and the Middle East.

February beef exports to leading market Japan increased 24% from a year ago to 27,099 mt and climbed 20% in value to \$171.4 million. Through February, exports ex ceeded last year's pace by 10% in volume (52,304 mt) and 7% in value (\$329.5 million). With a level tariff playing field, U.S. beef is regaining chilled market share in Japan boosted by Japan's strong retail demand. On April 1, the start of the Japanese fisca year brought another reduction in tariff rates (to 25.8% for beef muscle cuts), and the Japanese ven remains relatively strong.

Demand for U.S. beef continued to build momentum in Korea, where Februar exports totaled 23,532 mt (up 33% from a year ago) valued at \$167.7 million (up 32%) This pushed the two-month total 16% ahead of last year's record pace in volume (41,326 mt) and 14% higher in value (\$298.4 million). U.S. beef is also gaining further marke share in Korea, with strong retail demand and increased sales through e-commerciant platforms.

Other January-February highlights for U.S. beef exports include:

Exports to Mexico were 5% above last year's pace at 41,862 mt, valued at \$217 million (up 10%). Mexico is the largest volume market for U.S. beef variety meat, and January-February variety meat exports climbed 16% from a year ago in both volume (18,182 mt) and value (\$49.3 million).

Exports to Taiwan, which is an especially strong destination for chilled beef cuts were 20% above last year's record pace in volume (10,051 mt) and 17% higher in value (\$86.2 million).

Exports to China/Hong Kong were down 16% to 12,501 mt, with value falling 8% to \$111.2 million. But for China specifically, exports were up 12% to 1,408 mt, valued at \$10.4 million (up 4%). With access to China now expanded (as of late March), USMEF expects momentum to build for U.S. beef in the world's largest import market.

Strong growth in Peru and Colombia pushed exports to South America 26% above year ago to 4,367 mt, valued at \$20.6 million (up 11%).

Guatemala and Panama fueled export growth to Central America, where volume climbed 22% to 2,868 mt, valued at \$16.4 million (up 25%).

Strong variety meat shipments to South Africa, Gabon, Angola, Cote d'Ivoire,



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