



National AgrAbility Project Regional Workshop includes QPR info for suicide prevention

By Donna Sullivan,
Editor

Much like CPR training gave non-medical persons skills to aid someone in cardiac arrest and possibly save their lives, there is now a training designed to intervene in a situation where someone is considering suicide. The extra minutes and hours it affords could get the suffering individual through the crisis point and even save their life.

A National AgrAbility Project Regional Training Workshop was held November 16 and 17 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Manhattan, and the opening session took participants through QPR Training. Question, Persuade and Refer – three simple steps that have the potential to save the life of someone considering suicide. Created in 1995 by Paul Quinnett, QPR is an emergency mental health intervention for people considering suicide, working to identify and interrupt the crisis and assist the person in finding the help they need.

It was a pertinent topic for the AgrAbility workshop, because according to a January 2020 study published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, farmers are among the most likely to die by suicide compared to other professions. A 2017 study at the University of Iowa found that



Tawnie Larson of Kansas AgrAbility and Tess McKeel of the National AgrAbility Project discussed QPR training for suicide prevention at the National AgrAbility Project Regional Training Workshop in Manhattan November 16 and 17 in Manhattan.

agriculture producers had a suicide rate of 3.5 times that of the general population from 1992-2010.

“QPR is not intended to be a form of counseling or treatment,” emphasized Tess McKeel of the National AgrAbility Project, who led the training. “It’s more of a First Aid type of thing, intended to offer hope through positive interaction.” She further described it as an emergency mental health intervention that teaches lay people and professionals to recognize and re-

spond positively to someone experiencing suicidal thoughts and behavior. Just as someone trained to administer CPR would not be expected to perform heart surgery, the one performing QPR is simply giving emergency help in that moment to keep the person alive. Like CPR for cardiac patients, QPR is part of what is referred to as a “Chain of Survival.”

A Gatekeeper, as identified by the QPR Institute, is someone in a position to recognize a crisis and the warning signs that some-

one may be contemplating suicide. They may be parents, friends, neighbors, teachers, ministers, doctors and others. Research has shown that individuals considering suicide rarely self-refer to mental health professionals. So having someone with whom they interact in their daily lives be able to recognize the signs, is a critical first step in prevention. “In QPR the general public is educated about the known warning signs of a suicide crisis: expressions of hopelessness, depression,



Question, Persuade and Refer are the components of QPR, a program modeled after CPR with the goal of helping a suicidal person get beyond the crisis point and pointed towards mental health resources

giving away prized possessions, talking of suicide, securing lethal means, and then taught how to respond,” says the QPR Institute website, where online QPR training can be accessed. The website address is www.qprinstitute.com. “We believe that quality education empowers all people, regardless of their background, to make a positive difference in the life of someone they know,” it reads. The online training takes sixty minutes and the certification lasts for two years. In-person trainings are also available. Key components include: How to Question, Persuade and Refer someone who may be suicidal; How to get help for yourself or learn more about preventing suicide; The common causes of suicidal behavior; The warning signs of suicide; How to get help for someone in crisis.

The QPR Institute has a goal of one in four persons trained in the basic gatekeeper role. Because suicides happen in families, they believe at least one person per family unit should be trained in QPR.

Just as many people trained in CPR will never have the need to actually perform it on a person experiencing cardiac arrest, QPR trained individuals may never be called on to use the skills they’ve learned. But knowing the warning signs of suicide and the steps they can take to prevent it just might save the life of someone they love at the moment of their deepest crisis. Rather than feeling helpless watching a loved one in the throes of despair, there is empowerment in guiding someone to the resources they need.

Question, Persuade and Refer – three simple steps that could save a life.

Father-son duo from Meade tops Kansas entries in the 2021 National Wheat Yield Contest

By Julia Debes

Tyler Ediger and his father Darwin are seasoned veterans of the National Wheat Yield Contest, having submitted entries from their farming operation near Meade since the start of the contest six years ago. That experience — combined with informed management and nearly perfect growing conditions — made it no surprise that the father-son duo took first and second place for the state of Kansas in the 2021 contest.

In the dryland winter wheat category, Tyler took the top Kansas slot with a final yield of 125.66 bushels per acre. The entry also earned Ediger the fifth-place “bin buster” award in the national winter wheat-dryland category. Darwin took second with a final yield of 123.48 bushels per acre. Both entries were WestBred WB4792.

“I don’t know what else I could have done to make it a more perfect growing season,” Tyler said. “It all came together.” The Edigers’ operation is all dryland and has been fully no-till for close to two



Tyler Ediger and his father Darwin topped the Kansas entries in the National Wheat Yield Contest.

decades. As seed dealers as well as wheat growers, they focus on variety selection to maximize yield potential. They also do comprehensive soil testing, which allows them to apply nutrients by the acre, not just by the field.

“We focus hard on varieties, so when we’re plant-

ing, we know which fields are probably going to end up being a contest entry,” Ediger said. “You have your everyday performers that just do good, but then you have your varieties like 4792 that you know can blow the lid off.”

The Edigers have planted WB4792 for three

years on their farm, and Tyler said it has some of the best yield potential he has seen. It’s been a high yielder with high test weight, but it needs to be sprayed for head scab if it’s a concern in the area.

“It’s a higher management wheat, and it’s got great straw strength,” Tyler said.

Beyond variety selection, Tyler credited the growing season’s weather as a substantial factor in the success of this year’s entry and their overall crop.

In fall 2020, the Edigers planted wheat a week or so earlier than normal to take advantage of available moisture. The Edigers also utilized seed treatments to protect the wheat seeds, including fungicide and insecticides — the latter to address threats from grasshoppers and aphids.

The Edigers also topped their wheat in October, perfect timing before snows fell in October. More snow in November helped carry the wheat through the winter, important as little moisture fell until April.

National Wheat Yield Contest

“We were able to get our nitrogen in, which I think proved pretty beneficial for us,” Tyler said. “That gave us the tillers we needed, and the plant had everything it needed when it was ready to green up in the spring.”

April showers arrived following a winter with no freeze damage or winterkill concerns. The Edigers also applied a split application of a generic foliar fungicide for stripe and leaf rust at flag leaf. He said the varieties that yielded really well this year held up to the stripe rust and leaf rust. They also put down a Prostaro fungicide for head scab at flowering, which Ediger said paid off this year.

Wheat harvest finished before summer rains delayed harvest progress in other parts of the state. Harvest went well, but Tyler admitted picking which part of the field to use for the final entry is one of the hardest parts of entering the yield contest.

“The yield contest is hard because we’re trying to get wheat cut and then to try and single out a spot, and then the combine

drivers are saying, ‘Hey, it’s good over here’ and ‘No, it’s better over here,’” Tyler said. “You don’t ever get the best part of the field, but you try.”

Harvest stress aside, Tyler said entering the wheat yield contest has made them examine their production practices from start to finish and break down which factors they can adjust to improve next year’s wheat crop.

“It’s a good exercise to the farm, to learn what it takes to make yield and where those yields can be found,” Tyler said. “It doesn’t just benefit those acres; it benefits your whole farm.”

As Tyler pointed out, continuous learning is the best part of entering the National Wheat Yield Contest, so a flawless entry is not the goal.

“Don’t stress out about it; just harvest your wheat,” Tyler said. “Don’t strive for perfection, but just do your best.”

For more details on the winning entries and to review the official rules and entry details for the 2022 contest, visit yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org.

Kansas Soybean Expo 2022 to include comedy, research, markets

Individuals planning to attend the Kansas Soybean Expo January 12 have much to look forward to. After a year hiatus,

the Kansas Soybean Association and Commission boards are excited to bring soybean farmers across the state together for a day full of intriguing presentations and networking opportunities.

Registration and exhibits open at 8:30 a.m. The program is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. with a welcome from KSA president Teresa Brandenburg and KSC chairman Bob Haselwood.

Comedian Larry Weaver keynotes the event during the morning session, preceded by Commission partner reports from the U.S. Soybean Export Council and International Grains Program Institute.

According to his website, Weaver grew up in the rural village of Saxapahaw, NC and started performing at a young age. After majoring in accounting at the University of North Carolina, Weaver left his CPA dreams behind to pursue a career in stand-up comedy. He is the president of Trusted

Speakers, author of *101 Funny Employee Awards*, and a recognized expert in online marketing.

Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly is expected to provide the luncheon address with Greg Akagi, a farm broadcaster for the Kansas Agriculture Network, serving as master of ceremonies. The luncheon also features an American Soybean Association report from Kansas director Charles Atkinson and the Kansas Soybean Association Annual Meeting led by Brandenburg.

Results from the 2021 Kansas Soybean Yield and Value Contests kick off the afternoon schedule. Ed Anderson of the North Central Soybean Research Program and Darrell Holaday with Advanced Market Concepts/Country Futures are then lined up to share important industry updates. Beginning at 4 p.m., a reception with KSA and KSC leaders concludes the event.

KSA organizes this annual event with checkoff

funding from the Commission. The free event takes place at Hotel Topeka at City Center (formerly known as the Capitol Plaza

Hotel). This is a change in venue from previous Expo gatherings, but the event remains in the same complex as the Topeka Farm

Beef Council reaches producers through pair of BQA events

The Kansas Beef Council (KBC) and Kansas State University hosted two advanced beef cattle care and health training sessions this month, one in Eureka and the other in Washington. K-State extension veterinarian A.J. Tarpoff led the trainings, which included information on Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) recommendations for animal husbandry, downed animal care and low-stress handling. During the session at Eureka, Tarpoff also conducted a necropsy to showcase the causation of different animal health issues. Producers who attended these sessions earned their BQA certification.



KBC director of industry relations John Sachse also was on hand at each location to discuss how producers’ checkoff investment is serving the industry and bridging the gap between those who produce beef and those who consume it.

Producers who were

unable to attend one of the in-person trainings, but still are interested in becoming BQA-certified, can go to www.bqa.org and go through the online course. For more information on how the beef checkoff is serving the beef industry, visit www.kansasbeef.org and click on Beef Hub.



The Marathon of Fall

By Kim Baldwin,
McPherson County farmer

Earlier this summer after we had finished harvesting our wheat crop and wrapped up planting the rest of our fall crops, my husband casually mentioned that fall harvest would take a while this year. At that time, we had a lot of acres of corn, soybeans and sorghum grow-

ing that would all need to be harvested before the end of the year.

As the summer transitioned to fall, the machines were brought out of the sheds, and I mentally prepared myself for the long harvest ahead.

While the summer wheat harvest for us is an incredibly busy two-week stretch requiring our undi-

vided time and effort to get the grain out of the fields, our fall harvest is much more drawn out. I generally describe the summer wheat harvest as a sprint, whereas fall harvest is definitely a marathon.

As August rolled into September, my family transitioned into the long days of fall harvest. September moved into October, and the combines and grain cart continued to traverse the dirt roads to the next fields awaiting their harvest while our trucks methodically delivered the grain to local elevators. Lower temperatures and less daylight ushered October out and we settled

into a colder November while the harvest continued.

The food delivered to the fields for the noon and evening meals were intentionally warmer than the meals we started out with just a few, long months ago. The shorts and t-shirts some of us wore at the start of fall harvest have been traded in for coveralls and sweatshirts. The air conditioning in the combine was turned off and the seat warmer turned on. Satellite radio tuned to baseball and football broadcasts earlier in the season now occasionally plays Christmas music.

Yes, this year's fall har-

vest absolutely fits that "marathon" description. But my family has much to be thankful for as we were not in the field this Thanksgiving. Our crew has crossed that finish line and this year's harvest is now complete!

We have wrapped up this year's long harvest with the help of many hands who dedicated their days and nights to keeping the machines and trucks moving the grain out of fields. Our crew remained safe and healthy during these long days and nights that easily and often become a blur over a three-month period. Our days were long, yet productive,

and harvest was bountiful. We have so much to be thankful for this year.

And much like someone who has just completed another marathon, we will now rest and recover before preparing for the next race that'll be here before we know it. Until then, we will enjoy each other's company and be thankful for all that we've been afforded.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

KFB Health Plans announces no general rate increase for 10,000-plus covered lives

For the second consecutive year, members of Kansas Farm Bureau Health Plans (KFBHP) will see no general rate increase for the 2022 coverage year. The 10,000-plus covered lives in Kansas will continue to benefit from the significant savings KFB Health Plans offers, which have allowed them to invest in their operations, start retirement accounts or even add flexibility to their budgets.

"Members have reported saving up to 60 percent on their premiums while choosing coverage to best fit their lifestyle," says Erin Petersilie, KFB Health Plans assistant director. "We started KFB Health Plans to provide quality, affordable coverage to our members and that's exactly what we've done."

Sedgwick County farmer Brian Wetta says a second year with no general rate increase for KFB Health Plans is very different from what he experienced through the ACA federal marketplace.

"The premiums went up every year and there weren't any changes to the benefits," he says. "We needed a more affordable health care option and KFB responded. I'm

single and this plan is just what I need."

In addition to offering affordable coverage, KFBHP come with peace of mind for members who have the misfortune of needing the coverage, like Jeff Winter.

"I was cleaning out the grain bin and I went to turn off the auger," Winter recalls. "My glove caught the belt and threw my glove against the wall. It didn't take very long before I realized I was also missing my right trigger finger."

While doctors were unable to reattach Winter's finger, he had no worries about paying for the treatment he received. "Everything went through and there weren't any battles," he says. "It seemed like everything went really well with it."

That's because in addition to the substantial savings KFBHP offers, members receive coverage through a nationwide network of health professionals, including no-cost virtual consultations through Teledoc. Additionally, members can choose to add dental and vision coverage if they currently have a plan that doesn't offer it, and

Medicare supplement plans are available for those 65 and older.

KFB Health Plans are individually underwritten and for some plans require a physical prior to receiving coverage if applicants are over 40. So far, nearly nine out of ten applicants have been offered coverage through KFBHP. Unlike insurance coverage through the health care exchange, there is no open-enrollment period for KFB Health Plans.

"If you miss the Jan. 15 deadline to sign up for an exchange plan, we accept new members every day," Petersilie says. "Even if you currently have an exchange plan, I'd be happy to help you compare cost and coverage to see if we could help you save hundreds of dollars each month, possibly more."

A Kansas Farm Bureau membership is required to begin enrollment. Visit www.kfbhealthplans.com for more information or visit your local Farm Bureau Financial Services agent.

Syngenta's Dwane Roth selected for Kansas Leopold Conservation Award

Dwane Roth, Enogen® seed sustainability lead for Syngenta, has been selected as the winner of the 2020 Kansas Leopold Conservation Award®, a prestigious honor that recognizes landowners who inspire others with their dedication to land, water and wildlife resources in their care.

As owner of Big D Farms in Finney County,

Roth used cover crops to build soil health and combat wind erosion on sandy soils. A cropland landlord asked him to look into irrigation technology and help address the declining water level in the Ogallala Aquifer beneath the High Plains. Roth, already a proponent of water conservation, rose to the challenge and used emerging irrigation technologies to

spearhead an effort that resulted in other area farmers saving more than 35,000 acre-feet of water per year. Over the last few years Dwane has transitioned his farming operation to his nephews, who have continued with his water conservation practices.

"A large part of this ongoing effort involves researching and testing new

irrigation strategies and technologies that maintain crop production while reducing water usage," Roth said. "It's not easy - there are lots of challenges and hurdles - but this award has helped validate that, yes, these efforts are worth it and, yes, I am making a difference in our communities. It's a great feeling, and I am humbled and honored to win this award."

Roth's passion for conservation and sustainability led him to his current role as Enogen sustainability lead for Syngenta. Roth is part of a team working to increase efficiency in ethanol fuel pro-

duction and help livestock producers reduce their environmental footprints through the adoption of Enogen corn technology. With more than 30 years of farming experience, Dwane communicates easily with other producers, speaking from his personal experience in farming. His nephews grow approximately 600 acres of Enogen corn on their land.

Enogen corn for feed, fed to cattle as grain or silage, helps convert starch to sugar more efficiently, resulting in more readily available energy for livestock. A life cycle assessment from the University of Arkansas Resiliency

Center (UARC), in partnership with Syngenta Seeds and based on studies conducted at the University of Nebraska and Kansas State University, identified feed efficiency gains of around 5% in backgrounding and the feed yard, which can help lead to reduced emissions and less consumption of natural resources - while still helping farmers maximize their operations.

"In addition to his work at Big D Farms, Dwane goes above and beyond in his role at Syngenta to support our sustainability initiatives," said Chris Cook, head of Enogen for Syngenta. "He is always thinking outside the box and, for example, has taken the initiative to combine Enogen with other traits like Agrisure Artesian® technology to help growers reduce their carbon and soil-loss footprints. I can confidently say that no one is more deserving of this award than Dwane. It's a privilege to work with him."

Roth shares a passion for land ethic with one of his three daughters, Grace. Her National FFA Organization project launched the Kansas Youth Water Advocates Program, which teaches high school students to appreciate and advocate for local water resources.

The Kansas Leopold Conservation Award® was presented at the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts' 76th Annual Convention in Wichita on Nov. 22.



We got Mo, my bird dog puppy, over Labor Day weekend. I knew adjusting to a puppy was going to be tough; it had been somewhere between seven and eight years since the last time we had one around. I can hardly remember what I had for breakfast and especially not things that happened eight years ago. Of course, some of that may have been walled off because of the trauma new puppy training causes.

Do not get me wrong, I really like Mo and I am glad we got her. I simply had forgotten how destructive puppies are and how frustrating training them can be. Another extenuating circumstance is Mo's personality. She is definitely not the sweet, adoring, people-pleasing kind of dog; instead she is a hard-charging, fearless, come-on-let's-see-what-is-over-the-next-hill type. I think that will make her a great bird dog when I finally get her trained, of course that is if she does not kill me first - literally - but we will get to that later.

Mo is now about four months old, so I have decided that the serious training needs to start. It needed to start about two months ago, but harvest and cows got in the way. Mo is not my first bird dog; I have learned that the only thing you can train is discipline and most of that is for them to come back to you when they are called. It sounds simple enough, but with Mo nothing is simple.

Other pups I have worked with wanted to please enough that simply calling them and saying their name with a pat on the head was enough, but not Mo. I have also learned that I may have made a mistake in the choice of her name. Mo sounds an awful lot like "no," which makes discipline even tougher. I have started using "quit" instead of no and that seems to work when I remember to say it. In any case, before we can move on with any other training, I have to be able to call her back and that has been a problem.

At my wits' end, I decided to resort to rewarding her with a treat when she does what I want. This seems to be working very well and we are making considerable progress. We are somewhere in the neighborhood of a fifty percent success rate when I call her. The success rate depends on her being distracted by things like squirrels or wind changes. This method lasts until I run out of treats and

one more time if I am lucky.

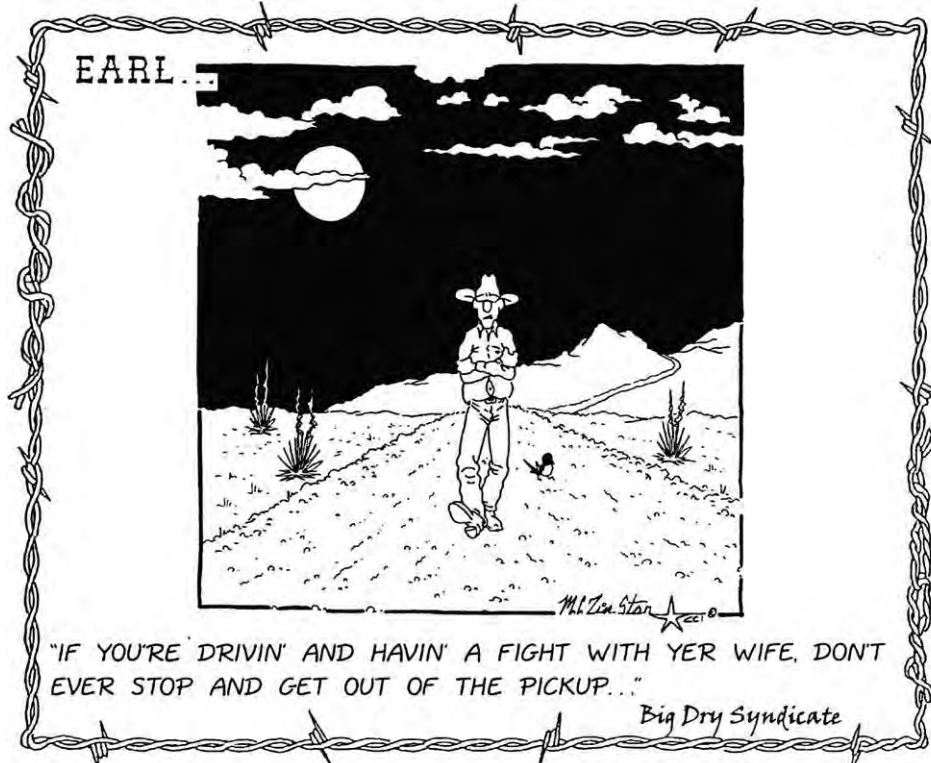
Let me pause a minute to also point out that Mo listens to Jennifer all the time. This indicates a couple of things to me. First, Mo is one smart dog. Jennifer is a much firmer disciplinarian than I am, and the consequences are much greater for not listening - a lesson it has taken me 26 years to learn. The second thing it makes clear is that I need to be a little firmer with my commands and Mo's consequences. Like the kids, Mo can give me puppy dog eyes and I completely melt.

Our routine has been that every evening when I am done with chores, I let Mo out to run for a bit. Depending on my day this can be for five minutes or a half an hour. During this time, we work on her coming to her name. Again, this works as long as I have a pocket full of dog biscuits. It seems as though the older dogs have gotten incredibly good at coming when I call Mo, too. Then I let Mo into the breezeway between our garage and the house until bedtime when she goes into the crate.

I let her out before bedtime and when I get up and that has gone very well with very few accidents. Mo helps me do chores around the barnyard; all the while we are working on her coming back to me when called. We are also working on moving vehicles and riding in the side-by-side. That was how she nearly killed me.

Ida, Jennifer's blue heeler, likes to ride in the side-by-side more than anything else and claims the front seat. This means, Mo, who is at the bottom of the seniority chart, must ride on the floorboard. Mo knows her place and accepts her spot with little fighting. That worked good until Monday.

Monday morning as we were pulling up to the bulk bins and the fence, Mo decided to move to the door - my door. She stepped on the gas causing the side-by-side to lurch forward, throwing Ida off her perch. Ida being next to Mo on the floor meant Mo could not move, causing the gas to stay engaged. Just as we were about to collide with the fence I reached up, jerked the gear shift into neutral and saved the day. Ida was shaken and looked at me as if to ask why I thought I needed this monster of a puppy. Like I said, the training is progressing, and Mo will be a good dog, if she does not kill me first.



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Publisher - Tom Carlin
Managing Editor - Donna Sullivan
gandgeditor@agpress.com

— Advertising Staff —
Shelby Mall, Josie Bulk, Madison Howe
shelby@agpress.com, josie@agpress.com,
madison@agpress.com

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Minneola grower maximizes yield potential through management to place in 2021 National Wheat Yield Contest

By Julia Debes

Adam's Folly is a good piece of ground west of Minneola, nicknamed for a hired hand that once ran the plow well into the neighbor's field. With a gentle slope, a small lake characteristic of the area's playas and a windfarm tower, the field is a consistent, productive one for Matt Jaeger and his brother Luke.

This year, the wheat grown on Adam's Folly was some of the Jaeger brothers' best. Luckily, their long-time friend and seed supplier from Leoti, Rick Horton, encouraged Matt to enter the 2021 National Wheat Yield Contest — Matt's first year to do so. He even called Matt during harvest for a last-minute reminder to pull a sample for the contest.

That sample was the third-place winner in the state of Kansas in the winter wheat-dryland category, thanks to a final yield of 122.47 bushels per acre. The entry also won Jaeger fifth place nationally, based on the percent increase over the county average. Winners in this portion of the contest were determined by yield increases exceeding the most recent five-year Olympic county average as determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

However, the growing season started as one of the toughest conditions Matt has experienced since he moved to Minneola in 2007 to join his brother Luke on their maternal grandparents' farm. He noted their no-till operation had to break out the hoe drill to sufficiently plant the wheat crop in some fields.

"It was the driest to get the wheat started that we've ever experienced," Matt said. "So we had to get pretty creative with figuring out how to get our wheat growing."

Adam's Folly was planted to WestBred WB4792, having been planted to milo the previous year. The variety — which they source from Horton Farms — is a longer-season variety with very good standability, both characteristics that helped maximize yield potential this year.

"That's been a really solid performer," Matt said. "We've raised that for several years, and it's always right up there for us."

"A lot of times you look at 4792, and it doesn't look like a tremendous crop looking down the row, just because it does have pret-



Matt Jaeger, shown with his family, placed third in Kansas in the dry-land wheat category in the 2021 National Wheat Yield Contest.

ty thick stalks and good standability. It doesn't always look like the top-yielder, but you get out there and that's generally going to yield with about anything."

Their area received rain in November and a good snow in December, which carried the crop into the spring. This is when the magic of the Jaegers' operation kicked into full gear.

In addition to farming, the brothers operate EGE Products. The company started as a biodiesel plant, but now manufactures spray adjuvants, products added to chemical applications to improve their effectiveness. Their farming operation works as an on-farm research environment, allowing the Jaegers to test out the products they manufacture in a real-world setting.

For the split applica-

tions of nitrogen applied this year, the Jaegers used a nitrogen stabilizer called J-Line that has above and below ground protection, thanks to an ingredient that helps with volatilizing off and an additional ingredient that helps with the denitrification process once the nitrogen is incorporated.

They also applied herbicide and two applications of fungicide, noting this was one of the first years they did so to also treat for scab. The Jaegers used their Length EXT product with their herbicide and fungicide applications. This encapsulator product helps give the application full residual life.

The weather turned a little dry in the spring, but the rain eventually fell, and the wheat had enough in the tank to make it to a smooth and successful harvest with a winning entry for the National

God doesn't send the rain, we're not very good farmers. We're looking forward to trying some new things and hopefully having a good season. The crop is off to a good start this year, and hopefully, we'll have some winners next year."

Thanks to sufficient moisture, Adam's Folly was planted back to wheat this year. As the new crop is in the ground, Matt encouraged other wheat growers to experiment with their production practices and wheat varieties to help find their own

winning strategies.

"Look at your program and be willing to try a couple of new things," Matt said. "Maybe up the ante on intensity instead of just treating wheat as a 'Throw out there and does what it does' crop. Of course, the Lord needs to send the rain, but if you do a few things, you can really see results year after year."

For more details on the winning entries and to review the official rules and entry details for the 2022 contest, visit yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org.

EARLY GRASS & GRAIN ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR THE HOLIDAYS:

DECEMBER 28th EDITION:

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- 2nd Section: **THURSDAY, December 23rd**; ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON

JANUARY 4th EDITION

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- 2nd Section: **THURSDAY, December 30th**; ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON

Thank you for your cooperation!

Wheat Yield Contest from Adam's Folly. Matt wanted to thank Horton Farms for their encouragement and assistance in this entry and with their farming operation. He also noted they run John Deere and CLAAS machinery.

"It does show a lot of hard work that's been put in," Matt said. "But at the end of the day, if

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Linda Kepka, Dorrance, Wins Holiday Recipe Contest & Prize

Linda Kepka, Dorrance: TEXAS TOAST CASSEROLE

10 slices of Texas Toast (3 cheese, garlic or other variety)
2 pounds hamburger
24-ounce jar spaghetti sauce
2-3 cups of cheese
Spray a 9-by-13-inch pan with cooking spray. Lay pieces of Texas Toast in pan to cover the bottom (may need to cut some pieces for all to fit). Brown hamburger then add spaghetti sauce. Put hamburger mixture on top of bread. Add cheese on top and cover with foil. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.

Lacey Autrey, Dwight: CHOCOLATE ROLLS

Filling:
1/2 stick butter, softened
1 cup sugar
2 tablespoons cocoa
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
2 tablespoons milk
*Crust:
2 cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup Crisco
Ice water

For crust, mix flour and salt. Cut in Crisco. Add water and form dough.

Mix all filling ingredients until smooth. Spread on crust. Roll up (not too tight) and seal edges. Bake at 350 degrees until dough (crust) becomes baked.

*Can use pie crusts.

Kellee George, Shawnee: CANDY BARS

1 cup sweetened condensed milk
12-ounce package chocolate chips
2 cups salted peanuts
10 ounces miniature marshmallows
Melt chocolate chips and milk together in microwave. Mix peanuts and marshmallows in a bowl. Pour chocolate mixture over peanuts and marshmallows and mix rapidly. Spoon onto paper-lined cookie sheet by tablespoonfuls.

Joann E. Rossetto, Topeka: "So easy and so delicious."

EASY PUMPKIN SPICE MUFFINS

2021 Grass & Grain Holiday Recipe Contest

1 can pumpkin
1 box spice cake mix
1 cup white baking chips
1/2 cup chopped nuts (optional)
Mix pumpkin and cake mix by hand. Add white baking chips then add nuts if using. Place in muffin tins with liners. Bake at 350 degrees for 15-18 minutes.

Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
HAM CASSEROLE
32-ounce package hashbrowns, thawed
10 ounces cooked, diced ham
16 ounces sour cream
2 cups Cheddar cheese
2 cans cream of potato soup
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Grease a 9-by-13-inch pan. Mix all ingredients together except Parmesan cheese. Spread evenly in pan. Sprinkle on Parmesan cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1 hour or until done.

Margaret Wetter, Norton: "This recipe is one with ingredients layered in a jar with additional ingredients added before baking. It can be given as a gift in a decorated jar."

CHRISTMAS JAR GIFT
1 2/3 cups sugar
3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 1/3 cups flour
1/4 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Layer each ingredient through a funnel. It will fill a quart jar. Recipient adds other ingredients on the recipe to the dry ingredients. Add recipe card to jar.

3/4 cup (1 1/2 stick of unsalted butter), melted
2 large eggs
1 tablespoon water
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
Powdered sugar (for topping)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9-by-13-inch pan. Stir butter, eggs, water and vanilla into dry mix. Stir well. Pour into pan and bake 20 to 24 minutes. Let cool and sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:
RED DIP

8 ounces cream cheese
1 jar red pepper jelly (about 1 cup)
1/2 can whole cranberry sauce

Mix cranberry sauce and jelly together. Spoon over cream cheese. Serve with crackers, veggies, etc.

Hunter George, Shawnee:

WHITE CHOCOLATE HAY STACKS
(2) 12-ounce packages white chocolate chips
5-ounce can chow mein noodles
1/2 cup salted peanuts
Colored sprinkles

Line a baking sheet with waxed paper. Microwave chips until smooth. Add chow mein noodles and peanuts. Work quickly and drop by spoonfuls onto waxed paper. Top with red and green sprinkles. Let cool to set up.

Susan Schrick, Hiawatha:

EASY CROCK-POT POTATO SOUP
30-ounce bag frozen diced hashbrowns
32-ounce box chicken broth
10-ounce can cream of chicken soup
8-ounce package cream cheese (not fat-free)
3 ounces bacon bits
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Salt & pepper to taste
Put the hashbrowns in the crock-pot. Add in the chicken broth, cream of chicken soup and half of the bacon bits. Add a pinch of salt and pepper. Cook on low for 8 hours or until potatoes are tender. An hour before serving, cut the cream cheese into small cubes. Place the cubes in the crock-pot. Mix a few times throughout the hour before serving. Once the cream cheese is completely mixed in, it's ready to serve. Top with Cheddar cheese and some additional bacon bits.

Lucille Wohler, Clay Center:
GOURMET POTATOES
6 large potatoes (with skin on)
2 cups shredded cheese
1/4 cup butter (warm until nearly melted)
1 1/2 cups sour cream

4 teaspoons finely chopped onion
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
2 teaspoons butter
Paprika

Cook the potatoes with skin on; cool. Peel and coarsely shred. Combine shredded cheese and warm butter. Blend in sour cream, onion, salt and pepper. Fold in potatoes and turn into a 2-quart buttered casserole. Dot with butter and sprinkle with paprika. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Jackie Doud, Topeka:
CHERRY DREAM CAKE

1 white cake mix
1 1/2 cups boiling water
3-ounce box cherry gelatin
1 can cherry pie filling
2 cups Cool Whip
8 ounces cream cheese

Bake cake mix as directed on box. Bake in a 9-by-13-inch pan. Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Cool cake 5 minutes. Poke holes in cake with handle of wooden spoon and pour gelatin mixture over cake. Cool 15 minutes. Cover and put in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Beat cream cheese and Cool Whip. Carefully spread over cake. Top with cherry pie filling. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:

CROCK-POT PEANUT CLUSTERS

20 ounces white almond bark
4-ounce German chocolate bar
12-ounce bag semisweet chocolate chips
24 ounces dry roasted peanuts

Place all ingredients in crock-pot as given. Place paper towel over crock-pot and place lid on top of paper towel (it absorbs moisture). Cook on low 1 hour. After 1 hour, combine everything with wooden spoon (keep paper towel under lid after you stir). Cook 15 minutes longer. Drop by spoonfuls onto cookie sheets lined with parchment paper. Cool completely. Let set up 4 hours.

Hunter & Harper George, Shawnee:

CROCK-POT HOT CHOCOLATE

1 1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
6 cups milk
1 tablespoon vanilla
2 cups chocolate chips (semisweet or white chips)

Stir together all ingredients in crock-pot. Cover and cook on low for 2 hours. Stir occasionally until hot and chips are melted. Switch to warm setting. Serve with marshmallows and dollop of Cool Whip.

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G&G Announces Its Annual Holiday Recipe Contest

Nov. 23 through Dec. 21

In observance of the holiday season, Grass & Grain will award the weekly winners \$40 in addition to the gift. Recipes received NOW through DECEMBER 13 will be entered in the holiday contest. Enter as often as you like during this period.

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Second chance to win! The names of all contestants will be entered in a drawing from which four names will be chosen. Each of these four contestants will receive \$40. Winners will be announced Dec. 21.

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When Selecting Holiday Toys, Is Simpler Better?

By Nancy Nelson, District Agent, Family Life, Meadowlark Extension

As the number of weeks to Christmas slowly creeps into the single digits, many parents are already getting a pretty good idea of this year's hottest toys.

Children may be asking for the flashiest and brightest – and by association, often the most expensive toys, but K-State Research and Extension child development specialist Bradford Wiles says those may not always be the best choice for their long-term growth.

"The thing about toys is they are a means for learning," Wiles said. "As young children, we need to manipulate things and figure out how things work, which are all concepts that many of us take for granted. We need to feel the friction and pliability of toys, be able to bend and even break or lose toys to learn what disappointment feels like."

"The idea is that children use toys to further their cognitive development, to understand more about their world through these things that are accessible enough for them to manipulate."

The hottest toys of the season might help accomplish those developmental goals, Wiles said, but simpler, less expensive options are also good choices.

"One thing I like about the very simple toys is that they encourage imaginative play, whereas when you have the toys with the imaginary components already built in – siren, jet noises, car noises – what you find is that children aren't making those noises on their own. They are letting the toy do it, Wiles said.

"Part of learning and developing our minds is attempting to make these noises, attempting to understand how to mimic noises and learning how our vocal chords work and our mouths work. There comes a point when we start to deprive children of experiences that we know are beneficial because we are over-compensating for that with the gifts we are giving."

To illustrate his point, Wiles pointed to a simple kitchen toy set, which allows the child to imitate what the adults are doing in the family kitchen. "It's a way for children to do some observational learning and apply it using a model of something that exists in the real world," he said.

Regardless of the toy given, Wiles said "there is no substitute for human, facial interaction."

"If you want toys to help your child meet their potential, play with them," he said. "Talk about what you're doing with them; engage with them. Toys, like books, are a means to engagement."

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Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Carlyon
Finding My Person

For the longest time I was determined that I was destined to be alone. I had a horrible self-worth and struggled with loving myself, which made it hard to fully believe that I deserved to be loved in return.

I did some hard work on myself, both mentally and physically, until I was finally ready to find my person, even if it was in my later twenties. I was determined that I needed a farm boy. Someone who would work with their hands and know how to fix anything, someone like my dad.

Soon enough I found myself a farm boy; much to my surprise he ended up being nothing like my dad, leaving me heartbroken and facing strained relationships with much of my family. Once the heartbreak stopped hurting, I got back out there. I took a chance with online dating and met some great guys, but none of them was Mr. Right.

After each failed attempt, I would eventually dust myself back off and try again, giving it another shot, hoping that Mr. Right would surely find me.

After the last failed attempt the world decided to grace us with a pandemic that closed down nearly everything. I took that as my sign to truly take it easy when it came to the dating world. I kept up the on-line chatting and trying to build relationships, but I was not nearly as willing to meet anyone, until around June of 2020 that is.

I had been chatting with a man from Topeka; his name was Kyle and something about

him made me decide to take a chance and meet him. His profile told me he was a big sports fan and into gaming and so many other things I had zero interest in, but after chatting with him, something in me told me to take the leap of faith and to meet him. Our first date was at the Blind Tiger in Topeka out on the patio for lunch.

Things went well. I remember calling my aunt and telling her "There is something different about this one." My best friend Kari got her update shortly after I left as well and was eager to actually see me face to face to get all of the details. He was quirky, clearly nervous, open, friendly, had close family ties, had his life together and seemed like a genuinely good human.

I bailed on my family for our usual Fourth of July celebration to go celebrate with his neighbors. I was nervous beyond belief but had a bunch of fun and was in disbelief of the show that they put on.

One date led to another and then another and it became evident that he wasn't going anywhere anytime soon. One day we were going for a walk and he nervously asked me if I would be interested in going with him to see his family over Thanksgiving. Much to I think his surprise, I agreed to go.

A Thanksgiving trip led to more time together and eventually a trip over the summer with friends to see his family and to explore Milwaukee. From there came another trip to Iowa,

more meeting of friends and families on both sides and eventually him spending the week with me when my life felt like it was shattering around me when my grandma passed.

Through it all, he has proven to be more like my dad than I would have ever have guessed from that first date. He is incredibly patient, to the point where he does not engage when I try my hardest to antagonize. He is a calming presence to my crazy day to day. He loves his family with his whole being. He is kind and would do just about anything to help someone. He is also surprisingly sassy at times and as much as I do not like to admit it, he can be quite funny. But the thing he has the most in common with my dad, he loves me without hesitation, no matter what, regardless of how difficult or irrational I am being, he continues to love me through it all.

In the end, I wasn't looking for a cowboy, it was Kyle all along. It may have taken me thirty-three years to find him, but knowing that we will be getting married next October makes the wait well worth it. There are huge changes coming in my life, but knowing that I will be doing life with Kyle by my side makes it all a little bit less scary. I cannot wait to see what comes next and I am beyond excited for the wedding planning process, but more than that I am excited to start a life with my person.

Michele grew up in Junction City and graduated from Kansas State University. She worked in the restaurant management field for six years before deciding to switch careers and now works as an office manager for a company that manufactures oilfield products. Her passion for blogging and food can be followed on Instagram: boobs-brainsandbaking.

If you would like to contact Michele with comments please email mcarlyon88@gmail.com



By Ashleigh Krispense

While we love jalapeño poppers, sometimes you just need to mix things up a little! For those of you that aren't a fan of eating the entire pepper or want something a little less spicy, this dip is a great option. Perfect for football parties or just an evening hanging with friends; it won't make you run for a glass of milk with every bite! In about thirty minutes from now, you could have this creamy, cheesy, bacony, goodness coming out of your oven.

CREAMY JALAPENO POPPER DIP

- 5-6 small jalapeños (or more if you prefer more spice)
- 1 small onion
- 8 slices bacon
- 8 ounce-ounce package cream cheese
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup sharp Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup Mozzarella cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper



To get started, wash and dice the onions and jalapeños. Cut the thawed bacon slices into 1/2-inch pieces and place in a glass baking dish along with the peppers and onions (I used a pie plate). Bake



in a 375-degree oven for 15 to 20 minutes.

In a medium bowl, combine together the cream cheese, sour cream, Cheddar and Mozzarella, garlic salt and pepper. Mix well and then dump in the cooked bacon mixture (grease and all!).

Stir together and spread back in the baking dish.

Bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes or until bubbly and heated all the way through. Serve while hot with crackers and enjoy!

Ashleigh is a freelance writer and the gal behind the website, Prairie Gal Cookin' (www.prairiegal-cookin.com), where she shares step-by-step recipes and stories from the farm in Kansas.



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Crop residues as a grazing resource

By Lisa Moser

Many people are now repurposing their abundant Thanksgiving meal leftovers to carry them through the post-holiday weekend.

In much the same way, crops that have been harvested leave behind residues that can serve as a feed resource for grazing cattle, said the experts at Kansas State University's Beef Cattle Institute on a recent Cattle Chat podcast.

"Leftover husks and leaves offer good digestibility for the beef cow in mid-gestation," said BCI nutritionist Phillip Lancaster. However, the stalks offer very little nutrition to the cows.

He added: "The cows will eat husks, leaves and any ears they find first and so the nutritive value of the feed resource will decline the longer the cows are out there."

Lancaster recommended producers monitor the fields and offer protein supplements as needed.

Along with the declining nutrition, veterinarian Bob Larson cautions that producers need to monitor the herd for rumen acidosis, which can happen when a cow finds too much grain in the field following harvest. Typically, that happens when the cows eat too many ears of corn or consume too much spilled grain.

Larson said that a build-up of this acid in the rumen can cause a cow to stop eating, reduce its activity, have watery feces and in severe cases can lead to death.

"Cattle are good at finding grain spills and that puts them at a greater risk for acidosis," he said.

The other health condition that can occur with drought-stressed crops is

nitrate toxicity, said veterinarian Brian Lubbers.

"We've had drought this year so that is a concern for cattle grazing those fields," he said.

K-State agricultural economist Dustin Pendell said producers should also consider the costs related to that grazing resource.

"There are expenses tied to hauling water to the crop field and, possibly, putting up fences that producers need to keep in mind when making a grazing plan," Pendell said.

Larson reminded producers of the importance of monitoring the herd. "Every field is a little different in what it can provide, so keep an eye on your cows to make sure they are not falling behind on nutrition."

To hear more of this discussion, listen to the Cattle Chat podcast online.

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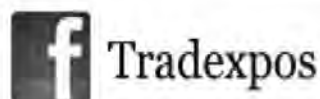


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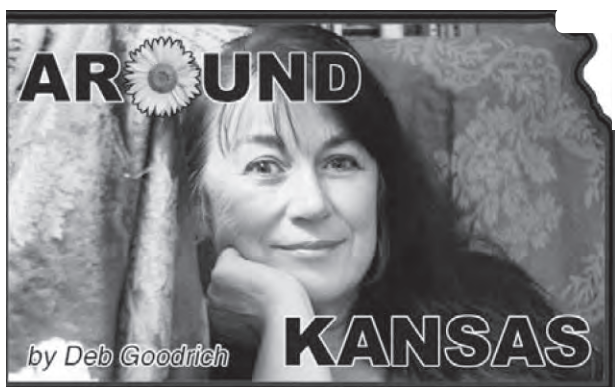
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The 2022 Accelerating a Generation Syngenta Scholarship now open for applications

Students studying agriculture have a chance to win a \$2,500 scholarship and a donation to the charity of their choice through the 2022 Accelerating a Generation Syngenta Scholarship Program.

Through the scholarship program, which is run by the National FFA organization (FFA), Syngenta will give a total of six scholarships to college students from across the country who are pursuing an education in agricultural or farm studies. The objective of the scholarships is to help advance those winners' knowledge of the industry.

"Making sure students feel supported is the first and most important step in ensuring a strong future in our agricultural community, and this program does just that," says Linda Arnold Whaley, head of marketing communications for Syngenta Seeds. "Our scholarship is the perfect tool for empowering students."

The application period runs until Jan. 11, 2022. Applicants must be U.S. residents and those in higher-education institutes must be enrolled as of fall 2021 in an accredited agriculture program at a land-grant university. FFA membership is not required.

Along with the scholarship money, each winner designates an agriculture-related non-profit organization to receive a \$500 donation from Syngenta.

"Every year we are honored to receive applications from some of the best and brightest students across the country, and I anticipate this year will be the same," says Syngenta marketing communications lead Pam Caraway.

To apply for the scholarship, visit <https://www.ffa.org/participate/grants-and-scholarships/scholarships/>. For information on official rules and application guidelines, visit www.Syngenta-US.com/Scholarships. For more information about Syngenta, visit www.Syngenta-US.com. Join the conversation online connect with us at www.Syngenta-US.com/Social.

The plywood toy soldiers have been dragged from the shed and though their paint needs to be touched up, they are proudly standing guard on the corner of the house. The tree is up in the corner of the living room but the precious, fragile ornaments are on a display in my office away from grabby little hands. Pheasant feathers top the tree rather than a shiny star.

Throughout the neighborhoods and towns, the orange of fall has been supplanted by the green and red of winter/Christmas. Driving back from Oklahoma City a week or so ago, the town workers were out with bucket trucks and ladders stringing lights across intersections and on courthouse lawns. Shop owners were putting lighted trees in the windows and husbands were hanging on the eaves while attaching yet another row of blue/white/red/green bulbs. Pump-

kin sales lots were being cleared to make way for spruces and evergreens. Nativity scenes from the most modest to the most extravagant appeared before churches and stars were suspended from entryways.

Away from nosy neighbors, women climbed into attics and the backs of garages to pull out boxes and bags of ornaments, holiday-themed pillows, lawn displays, and surprise after surprise.

Christmas has burst forth and the days will pass like race horses 'til December is done.

Cherish each one.

Deb Goodrich is the co-host (with Michelle Martin) of the *Around Kansas* TV show and the *Garvey Texas Historian in Residence* at the Fort Wallace Museum. She chairs the Santa Fe Trail 200 (2021-2025). Contact her at author.debgoodrich@gmail.com.

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Bidding is NOW OPEN and will begin to close at 6:00 pm Central Time on Tuesday, December 7th.

Items include:

Restored 1959 John Deere 730 tractor; 1971 Chevrolet truck; 2009 Heritage 150 Scooter; 8' King Kutter disc; 7' finishing mower; Stihl MS 260 & Stihl MS 361 chainsaws; new Goodyear cord & hose reels; new Swisher Commercial Pro receiver mount spreader; new 14" abrasives cut-off saw, 9" angle grinder; 12' and 18' flat-bed trailers; Ingersoll garden tractor; (2) Goodyear 16.9/14 - 28 6 ply tractor tires, 50-gallon chemical tank for use with a small tractor or ATV; single-pole and tripod adjustable automotive stands; transmission stand; rolling oil collection tank; tractor/trailer receiver hitches; John Deere tool bars; IHC tractor fenders, *and more.*

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Autonomous pest control to benefit farmers economically, environmentally

By Shelby Varner, K-State Research and Extension news

Autonomous pest control vehicles could become a valuable asset to farmers in the future as they create an opportunity for new intelligence and a way of managing pests in crop fields.

Kansas State University precision agricultural engineer Ajay Sharda says that small, robotic vehicles could identify sites of infestation, decide if it is beyond a critical level and whether it should be sprayed.

Currently, this technology is not ready for farmers, he said. "The component that is missing at this

point is, how do we infuse artificial intelligence to these machines?"

Specifically what's missing, according to Sharda, is human eyes, intelligence, feelers, and knowledge – all important aspects if a farmer is considering placing many vehicles in the same field.

"I think these are technological innovations that need to be developed so we can present (this option) to our farming community," Sharda said.

"When we are running one big sprayer it's going to cover the entire field," he added. But, "in the same 100 acres, if I'm running 20 small autonomous machines, I have to aggregate

all that data on the fly to understand how I covered the entire field and how much pesticide I applied."

Sharda said that when observing crops, he looks from the top to the bottom even though most crop infestations start from the middle or bottom. Autonomous vehicles have the ability to view the crop from the bottom to middle section.

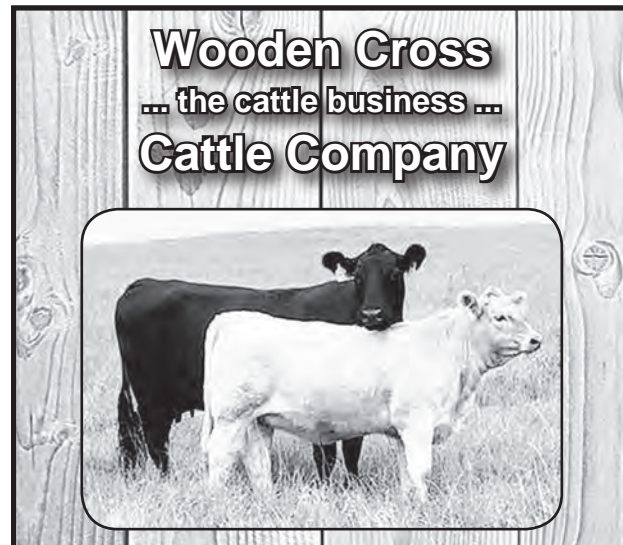
"By spraying inside (the canopy), I have a microclimate that has lesser wind effect... and is a little bit cooler and damp," Sharda said.

The vehicles can also spray much closer to the crop, allowing it to be more site specific on the plant.

"If I am spraying site specific, I'm saving a lot of chemical, which means costs are down" and the potential for those chemicals to reach nearby water bodies also is decreased, according to Sharda.

He said autonomous vehicles will have the ability to catch an infestation at the right time and be able to treat it before it damages a portion of the field.

"There are a lot of benefits from the standpoint of the environment and saving dollars," Sharda said.



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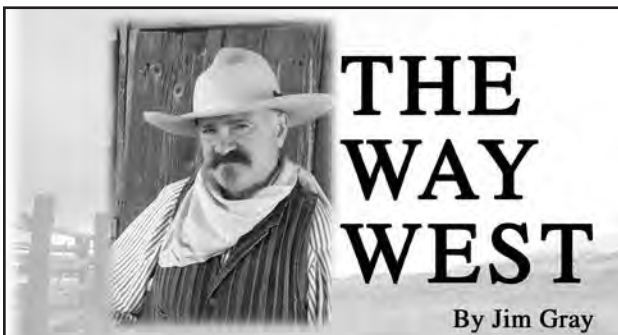


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Frontier Remedy

The December 16, 1870, edition of the *Emporia Weekly News-Democrat* carried an update from W. P., a correspondent located at Arkansas City, Kansas. "As most of your readers will know, this new city is built between the Walnut and Arkansas Rivers, within a mile and a half of their confluence. It is also within a few miles of the southern line of the State, dividing our territory from that of the Osage Indians. The extract I enclose from the *Arkansas Traveler*, will give a correct idea of the present state of these natives."

The fertility of the soil was espoused especially for growing "a thriving orchard of well selected fruit bringing "luxury" into the family. "In this little city people are paying five cents per apple, and will do so for years, unless they at once begin to plant the seeds and the young trees."

The city of four hundred citizens, boasting sixty-three houses was only six months old. The early difficulty of obtaining lumber was but a memory now that two saw mills were running day and night. "A kinder, more hospitable, or on the whole, better class of people, I have nowhere found in Kansas."

Unfortunately, life was not entirely triumph and harmony. The tone of the report abruptly turned to a scourge that plagued the future of not only Arkansas City, but the entire Kansas frontier. W. P. noted that a gang of organized horse thieves ranged from Junction City into Indian Territory "constituting the greatest of all draw-backs

to the peace and prosperity of this, otherwise, most prominent region." In fact, horse thieves had established a line of organization far beyond that recognized by correspondent W. P. Their reign of terror reached the western Kansas military posts of Fort Dodge, Fort Hays, Fort Harker, and Fort Riley, with contacts at the nearby towns such as Dodge City, Hays City, Ellsworth, and Junction City.

W. P. continued: "For years the desperate reign of these desperadoes has been undisturbed, seldom has the law even so much as arrested them, and never, it is said, placed the first one in the place appointed for thieves & robbers." The *Topeka Kansas State Record* sustained that assessment reporting that, "The suspected men whom everybody felt confident were horse thieves, swaggered about the streets of Douglass, Eldorado and Wichita, and threatened the lives of any man who should ever utter any of his suspicions concerning them."

Outlaws had been arrested only to be "promptly turned loose to resume the practice of their profession." Election day, November 8, 1870, marked the turning point for honest citizens at Douglass, Kansas, thirty-four miles north of Arkansas City. One of the thieves' victims, a man the outlaws had severely beaten, recognized one of them on a Douglass street. Quietly, he gathered an "army" of men, who had organized a few months earlier as "The Regulators." That night they quietly rode to a cabin, cap-

turing and killing three of the outlaws. A fourth outlaw was shot out of the saddle as he crossed the Little Walnut River.

The deaths failed to intimidate the horse thieves. They swore that every man that had anything to do with the deaths of their friends would be hung. It was reported that every citizen between Douglass and Arkansas City are armed and prepared for trouble.

On the complaint to authorities by friends of the dead men four of the Regulators were jailed. That was followed by a second complaint for horse stealing against four of the bold thieves. As they were placed under guard, the suspected thieves announced that they would kill every man on the streets of Douglass.

Examination of the Regulator men resulted in their release when no one appeared against them while the second set of men, the horse thieves, remained in jail. Thursday night, December 2nd, a crowd of seventy to one hundred men "relieved" Deputy Constable Capt.

Tanner of his prisoners. They were marched to a point just south of town where a scaffold was made by placing a plank in the forks of two trees. W. P. noted that they were hung, bringing to an end "the practices of these wretched men."

"This makes eight of the band that have been put out of the way lately, and I am assured by the best of citizens, that the battle being joined, never will they hold up, nor cry enough till it is decided whether thieves or honest men are to rule the valley, and upon this frontier."

For W. P. there could be no other remedy on a frontier abandoned by law and order. Although Regulator tactics were not in accordance with the law, they had acted to protect their own. The law had failed to regulate law-breakers for far too long on The Way West.

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray is author of the book *Desperate Seed: Ellsworth Kansas on the Violent Frontier, Ellsworth, KS. Contact Kansas Cowboy, 220 21st RD, Geneseo, KS Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.*

Foreign investors who hold agricultural land must register

Foreign investors who buy, sell or hold a direct or indirect interest in land must report their holdings to the local County USDA Farm Service Agency office by completing the form FSA-153.

The following individuals need to report within 90 days of conducting a land transaction:

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Land to be reported includes agricultural lands:
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Investors should report land transactions and leaseholds for each tract. Failure to timely file an accurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the land. Form FSA-153 can be completed and submitted at the local FSA Office in Westmoreland for Pottawatomie County and Alma for Wabaunsee County.

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You can have your feed efficiency and eat it, too

By Burt Rutherford
Let's talk feed efficiency. That is, after all, very relevant to profitability in the cattle business, especially given today's high feed costs.

But relevance is one thing. Reality is entirely different. And the reality is that feed efficiency has not received the focus it deserves as a key profit driver for beef producers.

However, genetics and genetic tools exist to build cattle that are highly efficient while still meeting or exceeding the carcass quality targets that earn packer premiums and satisfy consumers.

While price is the biggest driver to potential profitability, you can't necessarily control that, says Dr. Kee Jim, CEO of Feedlot Health Management Services. "So then, feed efficiency or feed conversion is by far the most important single attribute."

"Just measuring gain alone does not tell you how well they're converting," says Jerry Wulf, a cattle feeder, cow-calf producer and seedstock genetics supplier from Morris, Minn. "Average gaining cattle with below average dry matter consumption that equates to good feed conversion and good feed efficiency have more value than the fastest gaining cattle that aren't converting as well."

Given the historic premiums for upper two-

thirds Choice and Prime, it makes economic sense for feeders to maximize quality premiums by feeding cattle to heavier weights. However, this can be expensive if animals are not genetically designed to convert nutrients to saleable red meat as they reach historically heavy live weights.

"Feed accounts for somewhere between two-thirds and three-fourths of the input costs of the feeding phase," says Dr. Bob Weaber, professor and director of the Kansas State University Eastern Kansas Research and Extension Centers. "So feed intake and the utilization of those feed resources really gets at the heart of profitability in our business."

"The feed to gain number is directly correlated to cost of gain," Wulf says. "And if you lower feed to gain, you lower cost of gain."

What's more, cost of gain increases the longer an animal is on feed. One way cattle feeders can roll back cost of gain is finding genetics that convert feed to saleable end product more efficiently, even at heavier outweights.

That's best achieved by crossbreeding, Jim says. Using a Continental breed such as Limousin or Lim-Flex on a British-based cow herd gives you the best of both worlds—the maximum combination of a balance between gain,

feed efficiency and carcass quality.

But by chasing grid premiums for upper two-thirds Choice and Prime, the industry has tended to sacrifice another key profit driver—feed efficiency.

As a result, Yield Grade (YG) 4 and 5 carcass have increased. "At this point, the percentage of cattle that are in Yield Grade 4 and 5, we're not in single digits any more," Weaber says.

Can you have feeder cattle that convert feed at better-than-average gain and still produce a Choice or better YG 2 or 3 carcass? The short answer is yes.

U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (USMARC) data and data from Europe, where researchers have been collecting individual animal feeding data for years, show that Continental breeds generally have better carcass-adjusted feed conversion than British breeds, Jim says. "And amongst the Continentals, Limousin consistently show better feed efficiency, mainly because the dressing percentage is higher."

In other words, while two breeds may be similar in terms of feed intake to live weight gain, those differences become wider when you analyze feed intake to carcass weight gain—and carcass weight is what most feeders get paid for on value-based grids.

"So we've taken a breed that as a whole is inherently more efficient, and we're making even more improvements there," Wulf says. "And we're doing it in balance with paying attention to the carcass traits that drive value, and that's quality grade. So we have cattle now that

convert pretty efficiently and they hang up a desirable carcass."

"As market signals have been passed through the pricing system for commercial cattle, seedstock producers have focused on improving marbling and accelerated that trait improvement over the past five years," says Dan Hunt of Oxford, Neb., a cattle feeder, seedstock producer and president of the North American Limousin Foundation (NALF).

Genomic marker panel updates by International Genetic Solutions (IGS), a multi-breed genetics effort which Limousin is a part, along with updated USMARC data, document the significant improvement in marbling characteristics for both Limousin and Lim-Flex cattle, Hunt adds.

"The marbling EPD value reflects an improvement of 0.25 to 0.35 for both Limousin and Lim-Flex, making them very comparable to other Continental breeds."

What's more, Limousin and Lim-Flex cattle have achieved this improvement while still maintaining a significant lead on ribeye and backfat EPDs. "That gives us actual retail and cutability advantages," Hunt says.

So yes, Wulf says, the genetics exist to produce high grading carcasses and do it efficiently. And that's a win-win, he says, because it lowers cost of production while meeting consumer expectations.

Feed Efficiency and the Commercial Beef Producer

Here's how cow-calf producers can benefit by selecting for feed efficiency.

Up to now, there has been little incentive for cow-calf producers to se-

lect for feed efficiency because there hasn't been a good way to monetize it.

That's certainly true if you sell your calves into a commodity market. But just like proper health management on the ranch, there are potential premiums for cattle with a genetic ability to convert feed to gain more efficiently while still producing high-grading carcasses.

According to Dr. Bob Weaber, professor and head of the Eastern Kansas Research and Extension Centers with Kansas State University, the heritability of feed efficiency is around 0.3 to 0.4. That makes it moderately heritable, much the same as the production traits of weaning weight, yearling weight and carcass characteristics.

Given the remarkable improvements the beef business has made in increasing upper two-thirds Choice and Prime carcasses, it's clear the same genetic strides can be made in feed efficiency. But you can't capture that value if you sell your calves at weaning.

Fortunately, there are value-added programs that allow cow-calf producers to capture the carcass value they've bred into their herd. Likewise, those programs can allow commercial beef producers to benefit from feed efficiency.

That's because, in today's marketing environment for cattle feeders, feed efficiency is the number one driver for potential profitability, says Jerry Wulf, a Morris, Minn., cattle feeder, cow-calf producer and seedstock genetics supplier.

So how can a cow-calf producer make money by selecting for feed efficien-

cy? One way, according to Wulf, is to become part of a value-added program that rewards more efficient cattle that also produce the upper two-thirds Choice and Prime beef that consumers demand.

The other is to work with feedyards in producing the type of cattle they demand and will pay up for. "Work with a genetics supplier who is measuring individual feed intake and producing bulls with the genetic potential to increase the feed efficiency of your calves," he says.

"And if you aren't owning the cattle all the way to harvest, work with a feedyard and start building a history on your calves and how they perform. Track improvements from year to year so that you're able to capture that value."

That can be best achieved with crossbreeding, says Dr. Kee Jim, CEO of Feedlot Health Management Services. There's no question the genetics exist to produce Yield 1 and 2 cattle that grade well. "Generally, that's most easily achieved through crossbreeding (a Continental breed such as Limousin or Lim-Flex on British-based cows) to get the maximum combination of a balance between gain, feed efficiency and carcass."

According to the North American Limousin Foundation, the Limousin and Lim-Flex marbling EPD value has improved 0.25 to 0.35 over the past five years. What's more, Limousin and Lim-Flex cattle have achieved this improvement while still maintaining a significant lead on ribeye and backfat EPDs. That gives Limousin and Lim-Flex actual retail and cutability advantages. And that's a win-win all around.

LAND AUCTION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2021 — 10:00 AM
Offering for sale at Public Auction, located at 897 4th Ave., WINDOM, KANSAS

155.4 +/- ACRES MCPHERSON COUNTY LAND
Legal Description: The NE 1/4 of 22-20-5W, 155.4 acres more or less, McPherson County Kansas. Property is improved with a 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1056 sq. ft. one story house built in 1930 with attached garage. House needs work. Outbuildings include a 40x72 shed built in 1970, 16x24 block building built in 1960. Farm consists of 132 tillable acres, balance in grass land & farmstead. The soil consists of Crete silt loam, Longford silty clay loam, Smolan silty clay loam with an approximate slope of 1-3%. Attend this Auction prepared to BID AND BUY!

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021 * 11:00 AM
AUCTION HELD ONSITE: 6790 Flush Road - ST. GEORGE, KS

DESCRIPTION
Ranch style house with a shop on 5 acres in the Rock Creek School District! This fantastic property has 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, a screened in porch, a walk-out basement and an attached one car garage. The home is just under 2,000 square feet and has had lots of love from this owner including new hardwood floors in the bedrooms, interior paint throughout, new stove, refrigerator, microwave and upper cabinets in the kitchen. There is plenty of yard for playing, gardening and even your 4-H animals. Home is conveniently located off the paved Flush Road 3.8 miles north of Hwy 24 and just 3.3 miles south of the Rock Creek Middle and High School.

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K-State feeding trials with pigs show benefits of dietary feed grade amino acids

Kansas State University researchers have completed work indicating that increased levels of a common feed grade amino acid can improve growth in swine herds – to a point.

In a recent 43-day trial involving 912 pigs, the team of scientists tested varying levels of feed grade amino acids with L-lysine added to the diets of late nursery and growing pigs.

Amino acids – in humans and animals – are molecules that combine to form proteins. They are often referred to as the building blocks of life.

"We found that if we increase the percentage of L-Lysine as a proportion of total digestible lysine, daily gain and feed efficiency improves," said K-State graduate student Hadley Williams, who led the study.

But the researchers also found that when the proportion of total digestible lysine exceeds 24% of the diet, feed efficiency worsened.

In K-State's trial, researchers found that decreasing

the amount of soybean meal below 30% and increasing the amount of L-lysine could positively impact growth performance, assuming all other amino acid ratios are adequate.

"This information builds upon other research conducted at K-State showing the importance of using optimum levels of feed grade amino acids," said K-State Research and Extension livestock specialist Joel DeRouchey.

Williams added that by knowing the ideal levels of L-lysine to add to the diets of growing pigs, nutritionists will be able to formulate diets that improve pig performance and producers' profitability.

"Maintaining these ratios of amino acids in the diet may allow higher levels of amino acids to replace soybean meal without reducing pig performance," said Williams, noting that some of the amino acids of interest included valine and isoleucine.

He added: "The use of feed grade amino acids also is essential for reducing nitrogen excretion in manure and reducing dietary soybean levels to promote gut health, especially in young pigs."

AUCTION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 — 10:00 AM
231 West 117th Street - CARBONDALE, KANSAS
(from Carbondale 2 miles North on Topeka Blvd., 3/8 West on 117th)

'96 Lincoln Town Car, runs good; '05 Chrysler Town & Country LX van; Husqvarna 54" mower, 35 hrs.; Hyundai elec. golf cart; alum. 14' boat w/25hp outboard; Moto Guzzi motor, some motorcycle parts; Lincoln SP-100 wire welder; Chicago 90 amp Flux-wire welder; Craftsman 10" radial arm saw; C.P. air compressor; Pelican 2-man 10' bass boat; selection of power & hand tools & shop tools.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021 - 9:30 AM
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Bowersock Mills Law., KS framed picture; John Banovich 2006 "Echoes in Gold" Art Ed. Picture; 8x11 Wool/Egypt Area Rug; The ACME hand Corn Planter; Spring Wagon Seat; Copper Boiler; Horse Collar Mirror w/Harness Hames; Tire Ashtrays (Topeka Good-year Plant/Red/etc.); Vintage Advertising Framed Pictures; Dolls; Folgers/Sunshine/MFA Coffee Jars w/lids; Vintage Red Coffee/Tea Tins; well pulley; pitcher pump; Soda Bottles; Oak Coat Rack; Oak Amish Swivel Rocker; Sewing Cabinet; vintage wrenches; RR Tie Dated Nails; Buck 105 knife; rotary phones; rug beaters; Leather Time-Life Books; Western Books; brass bells; cow bells; Fossils/Rocks; Queen Head Board & Frame; pneumatic grease gun & grease; misc. tools; household décor; *numerous items too many to mention!*

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021 — 10:00 AM
Community Building in NEW STRAWN, KANSAS

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KURTZ AUCTION & REALTY SERVICE AUCTIONEERS:
Darwin W. Kurtz, 785-448-4152
Col. Ben Ernst, 620-364-6786

COLLECTIBLES, AUTOMOBILES, HOUSEHOLD AUCTION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 — 9:30 AM
Coins • Stamps • Dolls • Clydesdales • Books • Appliances • Furniture

National Guard Armory, 306 Veterans Memorial Dr., Marysville, KS 66508
Lunch served by Balderson Boosters 4-H Club • Vehicles and coins to sell at 12:30 pm • Auctioneers plan to run two rings.

AUTOS: 1997 Buick LeSabre, 1986 Chevy Caprice Classic, 1983 Pontiac Parisienne, **MOWER:** Snapper Big Six push lawn mower
COINS & STAMPS inc.: Postal Commemorative Society (PCS) sets, complete collection of unc. Sacagawea golden dollars & stamps; Quarter, Nickel, Indian Head collections, coin mint sets collection, Commemoratives, The complete US Presidential coins collection 24K gold with display box (missing Carter); **The Kennedy Mint:** framed 20th Century coins from 1900-1973; **Bradford authenticated & MANY MORE!**

APPLIANCES & FURNITURE, Extensive Collection of BOOKS & MAGAZINES, COLLECTIBLES & GLASSWARE: Victor Talking Machine Co, Camden, NJ, Victrola VV-80 #115412 sold by Fannon Piano Co. Marysville; Jewelry; Coca-Cola items, Christmas items, clear drinking glass collection, Hall – Mary Dunbar- Jewel Homemakers Inst. Superior Quality Kitchenware lots of pieces; metal, ceramic, & plastic animal figurines, Carlson Indian Dolls, Anheuser-Busch Clydesdale Collection handcrafted & hand painted, Animated Holiday figurines, Rock Santa Collectibles, 6-boxes of Mercury Records vinyl records postmarked 1954/1955/1956 in paper sleeves & MUCH MORE!

HOUSEHOLD & MORE COLLECTIBLES
VERY LARGE AUCTION ... LOTS ITEMS NOT LISTED!

Visit our website Prellrealityauction.com to see the COMPLETE sale bill & photos

SELLERS: LAVERN & DORIS ALLERHEILIGEN ESTATE
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AUCTIONEERS
Don Prell 785-562-6787
Steve Prell 785-713-2191
Dave Bures 402-239-9717

Grass & Grain Area Auctions and Sales

Due to the uncertainty of events, if you plan to attend any of the following auctions and have any doubts, please contact the auction company to confirm that the auction will be conducted and inquire about safety procedures if you are concerned. And please check their websites.

Hundreds of auctions, online and in-person. www.kansasauctions.net/gg/

Always great online Equipment auctions — www.purplewave.com

Unreserved Online Land Auction (bidding opens November 16 & ends November 30, 10 AM CST) — Consisting of 104.52 acres m/l of Saline County Farmland for Terry W. Odle Trust, sold online at www.bigironrealty.com. Auctioneers: Big Iron Realty.

Online Auction (open now, bidding begins closing December 7, 2PM) — 400+ lots of Antiques, glassware, pottery, Christmas, toys & more held at www.GriffinRealEstateAuction.com. Auctioneers: Griffin Real Estate & Auction.

Online Auction (open now, bidding begins closing December 7, 6 PM) — Selling items for the farm/home work shop, automotive items, farm equipment & miscellaneous held at rjsauctionservice.hibid.com/auctions/current. Auctioneers: RJ's Auction Service, Richard Garvin.

November 29 — Land auction consisting of 155 acres m/l of excellent Cloud County pasture including warm season native grass pasture with 3 ponds, good well and corals held at Concordia for Kevin Wiedel Farms, LLC. Auctioneers: Bott Realty & Auction.

November 29 — Land auction consisting of 640 acres m/l of Pratt & Kingman County land: T1: 160 ac. m/l Pratt Co; T2: 160 ac. m/l Pratt Co.; T3: 160 ac. m/l irrigated Kingman Co.; T4: 160 ac. m/l dryland Kingman Co. held at Pratt for Darlene Schreck Trust. Auctioneers: Hamm Auction & Real Estate, LLC., John Hamm & Kevin Hamm.

November 29 — 83.7 acres m/l of Marshall County Land consisting of 83.21 farmland acres held at Marysville for Heirs of Keith & Donna Fincham. Auctioneers: Midwest Land and Home, Jeff Dankenbring, listing broker, Mark Uhlik, broker/auctioneer.

Online Only Auction (opens November 30; starts to close December 7) — Family Estate & Downsizing John Deere Equity & more held at www.dlwebb.com. Auctioneers: Webb & Associates Auctions & Appraisals, Dave Webb.

November 30 — Land auction consisting of 1,224 acres m/l of Morris County farmland, grassland, hunting land & homestead offered in 5 tracts & as a whole held at Woodbine. Auctioneers: Real Tree United County Properties, Crossroads Auction & Realty.

November 30 — 158.2 acres m/l of Washington County land consisting of 130.73 ac. m/l cropland held at Linn (& online bidding at www.MidwestLandandHome.com) for Heirs of Gregory J. Stromberg. Auctioneers: Midwest Land and Homes, Mark Uhlik & Jeff Dankenbring.

November 30 — Real Estate auction consisting of a 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with 1-car attached garage, shop building and basement held at Wamego. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

November 30 — Farmland auction consisting of 975.15 acres m/l of Finney County land sold in 4 Tracts including cropland, CRP, pivots held at Garden City. Auctioneers: Peoples Company.

December 1 (Live Event with Online bidding start-

ing November 24) — Simultaneous Live & Online Land Auction consisting of 159.5 ac. m/l of Brown County land with excellent farm in Irving Township and very nice shaded pond for recreation held live at Hiawatha and online at www.FNCBid.com. Auctioneers: Farmers National Company, Fred Olsen, AFM/agent; Van Schmidt, auctioneer.

December 1 — Absolute farm auction consisting of 3,495 acres m/l of Finney & Gray County land offered in 13 tracts including cropland, CRP, water rights, pivots, irrigated acreage, native grass, pasture, wildlife habitat held at Garden City for Bob & Kathy Husband, Husband Farms. Auctioneers: Peoples Company.

December 3 — Cropland Auction (10 AM) consisting of 271 acres m/l of Pottawatomie County cropland: T1: 204 ac. m/l terraced cropland, balance mostly hayed waterways; T2: 36 ac. m/l of terraced cropland with one hayed waterway held at Blaine. Then at 2 PM selling 246 acres m/l of Marshall County cropland: T1: 82 ac. m/l of cropland (majority creek bottom), balance timber; T2: 79 ac. m/l cropland, balance timber held at Blue Rapids. Seller is Mervin E. & Marjorie A. Nord Family Farms. Auctioneers: Olmsted Real Estate.

December 3 (Live Event with Online bidding starting November 29) — Simultaneous Live & Online Land Auction consisting of 193 ac. m/l of Wabaunsee County land with 182.6 tillable acres, 146 acres of bottomland located southwest of Wamego held live at Belvue and online at www.FNCBid.com. Auctioneers: Farmers National Company, Fred Olsen, AFM/agent; Van Schmidt, auctioneer.

December 4 — 1996 Lincoln Town Car, 2005 Chrysler Town & Country van, mower, golf cart, aluminum boat, Moto Guzzi motor, some motorcycle parts, wire welders, radial arm saw, huge selection of tools, bass boat, some household held at Carbondale for William "Bill" Porter Estate. Auctioneers: Wischropp Auctions.

December 4 — Farm machinery including tractors, combine & more, spray coupe, livestock equipment, trucks, trailers & miscellaneous held near Independence, KS for Sherwin Farms, Jack Sherwin. Auctioneers: Mark Garretson, Truston Garretson, Larry Marshall.

December 4 — Guns, ammo, gun safe, truck, camper, Kubota, hand & woodworking tools, generators, welder, air compressors, lawn, garden, appliances, wood stove held at Pomona for Virgie Christy. Auctioneers: Altic Auction Service.

December 4 — Coin auction held at Portis.

Auctioneers: Wolters Auction & Realty.

December 4 — 2013 Chevy Impala 59,909 1-owner mi.; 03 Silverado 2WD 4 dr. pickup, 96,800 1-owner mi; Suzuki Quad Runner 4 wheeler 4WD; Walker zero turn mower; appliances; furniture; household; antiques; collectibles; sev. pcs. very old unusual antique furniture; rock collection; belt buckles; men's mountain bike; exercise/health equip.; hunting, fishing & camping gear; lots of good Craftsman, B&D & DeWalt power tools; Craftsman wrenches, some misc hand tools, garage items, lots of misc. Large sale held at Burlington for Living Estate of Don & Darlene Tice. Auctioneers: Kurtz Auction & Realty Service.

December 4 — Land & machinery auction consisting of 730 acres m/l of Geary County land selling in 5 tracts with combinations of a homestead with machinery shed & horse arena, pasture and cropland. Machinery including tractors, baler, mower/conditioner, skid steer & attachments, flatbed trailer, grain bins, 2000 Dodge Dakota & more held at Junction City (internet bidding on major equipment). Auctioneers: Scott Brown Auction & Real Estate.

December 4 — 250 large round alfalfa bales, 300 corn stalk bales, soybean bedding bales, several restorable cars, vehicles, farm machinery, shop tools, tanks, stock trailer, irrigation equipment, straight truck, square tubing & iron & more held at the farm at Morrowville for Frager Farms. Auctioneer: Kettelhut Real Estate & Auction Service.

December 4 — Land & personal property auction consisting of 310 acres m/l of Greenwood County including an all brick 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home, equipment building, pens, 5 ponds, creek, native & tame pasture, wildlife & scenic Flint Hills location. Also selling furniture, tools, equipment, tractors, vehicles, household & farm miscellaneous held at Piedmont for Jackie L. Schoenhals Revocable Trust. Auctioneers: Sundgren Realty & Land Brokers.

December 4 — Automobiles, mower, nice set of coins & stamps including commemoratives, quarter, nickel, Indian head, Sacajawea golden dollars & stamps collections & more, mint sets, Presidential coins, Kennedy mint & more, appliances, furniture, extensive book & magazine collection, lots of collectibles including Victor Talking Machine Co. Victrola, jewelry, Coca Cola, Christmas, Hall-Mary Dunbar Jewel Homemakers Inst. Superior Quality kitchenware pieces, Clydesdales, dolls, records & more, household held at Marysville for LaVern & Doris Allerheiligen Es-

tate. Auctioneers: Prell Realty & Auction, LLC.

December 4 — Farm machinery auction with tractors, combine, grain cart, swather, 1996 Volvo White semi, 1995 IHC semi, 1973 Loadstar 1600 truck, grain trailers, grader, lots of machinery & more held just east of Luray for Mark Paschal Estate & Joan Paschal. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

December 4 — Farmland real estate & homestead, farm machinery held northeast of Axtell for Steven Hasenkamp Trust. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auction.

December 4 — St. James Catholic Church Consignment Auction consisting of farm & construction equipment, vehicles, hay, farm supplies, hedge posts, livestock equipment & more held at Wetmore. To consign, contact Bill Burdick, Ron Burdick.

December 6 — Land auction consisting of 155.4 acres m/l of McPherson County land including a 3 bedroom home, 1 bath (needs work), outbuildings, 132 tillable acres, balance in grassland & farmstead held at Windom for Stanley & Judy Nikkel Estate. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt, Farmers National Company.

December 7 — Tuesday evening land auction consisting of 80 acres m/l with 72 acres m/l tillable, balance creek and heavy timber. Outstanding soil types plus deer heaven located 1 mile West of Osage City held at Osage City for Bergquist Properties. Auctioneers: Miller & Midyett Real Estate & Wischropp Auctions.

December 11 — Farm equipment auction consisting of tractors, sprayers, harvesting, trucks, farm equipment, farm items, shop items, motor home, mowers, 4-wheeler & more held near Healy with some items selling online at www.equipmentfacts.com for VonSchriltz Farm, Inc. Auctioneers: Berning Auction, Inc.

December 11 — Collectible & vintage items including toys (Barbies, cars, trucks, etc.), games, guitars, unusual musical instruments, Indonesia items, Russian & other foreign items including coins, old books, magazines & paper items & much more held at New Strawn for Jim Fairbrother. Auctioneers: Kurtz Auction & Re-

alty Service.

December 11 — Real Estate auction consisting of a 3-bedroom, 1.5 baths, ranch-style house with a shop on 5 acres held at St. George. Auctioneers: Crossroads Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

December 12 — Coins, jewelry, collectibles & more held at Lawrence. Auctioneers: Elston Auction.

December 16 — Real Estate Auction consisting of 165.36 acres of Mitchell County farmland held at Beloit for Phyllis File Estate. Auctioneers: Thummel Real Estate & Auction, LLC.

December 16 — Land auction consisting of 155.1 acres m/l of Dickinson County land including 142 ac. m/l productive tillable land, 14 ac. m/l waterways, mineral rights transfer, close to grain markets held at Gypsum for Helen Smith Trust. Auctioneers: Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty, LLC., Ray Swearingen, broker.

December 16 — Special Bred Cow/Heifer sale held at Beatrice 77 Livestock, Beatrice, Nebraska.

March 5, 2022 — Judd Ranch 44th Gelbvieh, Balancer & Red Angus Bull Sale held at Pomona.

Feedlot numbers down but plentiful

By Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University

October's USDA Cattle on Feed Report revealed feedlot placements in September were 97.1 percent of last year and marketings were 96.9 percent of one year ago. The placement total was lower than expected while the marketings were just slightly lower than expected. The on-feed inventory on October 1 was 11.55 million head, 1.4% lower year-over-year. This is the fourth consecutive month of year-over-year decreases in the feedlot inventory.

Following the ripple effects of last year's pandemic volatility, it appears feedlot production has moved past the cyclically peak numbers and will decrease consistently going forward. The quarterly breakdown of steers and heifers shows the number of steers in feedlots decreased year-over-year in July and again in this October report. The number of heifers in feedlots, however, was up 1.8% year-over-year in October, after being down in July. This may be the result of some heifers being diverted from breeding to feeding because of drought.

Beyond the cattle on feed numbers are the demographics of the mix of cattle placed in recent months. Feedlot placements have been impacted by overall cattle herd dynamics, the drought and sharply higher feedlot costs of gain. Over the past six months, which covers the majority of cattle currently on feed, placements of cattle under 700 pounds were down 4.8% year-over-year while placements over 800 pounds were up 1.3% compared to last year.

Focusing on the past three months, July to September, placements of cattle under 600 pounds has been down 6.1% year-over-year while placements over 800 pounds have been down just 0.5% year-over-year. Within the 800 plus pounds placements in the past three months is a 3.0% larger total of placements over 900 pounds compared to last year.

These numbers indicate that feedlots are front-loaded with heavy cattle and will remain so for a few more weeks, likely into December. This explains much of the inability of the fed cattle market to move into the tighter numbers needed to break out of current price levels. However, the September placements show a very different picture ahead. Out of the overall 2.9% decrease in September, placements under 600 pounds were down 1.2% year-over-year and placements over 800 pounds were down 5.3% (including a 7.4% year-over-year decrease in placements over 900 pounds).

The implication is that, while it is taking longer than expected to turn the corner on tighter feedlot numbers, the change may be relatively sudden and dramatic when it does arrive. Feedlots have responded to higher costs of gain by focusing more on heavy placements as long as possible. However, the overall decline in cattle numbers and the seasonal dynamics of fall placement weights should result in a rapidly changing feedlot situation by December and into 2022.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2021 — 7:00 PM

Auction will be held in the basement of the Municipal Building, 119 N. Hersey in BELOIT, KANSAS

SE ¼ 29-6-6 Mitchell Co., Kansas

Possession: Possession will be upon closing.

The farm is located on F & 360 Roads in Lulu Township, Mitchell Co. The farm is located on a gravel road 6 miles East of Beloit on Highway 9 then North 1 mile on 360 Road. There are 165.36 farmland acres. The bases are wheat 125.40 with 41 bu yield, grain sorghum 36.80 with 61 bu yield for a total of base acres of 162.20. 2020 taxes are \$3,414.14. Seller will pay 2021 taxes. Purchaser will pay 2022 taxes.

Terms: 10% of purchase price as down payment day of auction, the balance will be paid upon closing on or before January 31, 2022.

Down payment will be escrowed with NCK Title LLC. Escrow fees will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser. Title insurance will be used, the cost will be split 50/50 between seller & purchaser.

Thummel Real Estate & Auction LLC is acting as seller agent. All statements made day of auction take precedence over printed material. Visit our website: www.thummelauction.com

PHYLLIS FILE ESTATE

Auction Conducted By: THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC, 785-738-0067

FARM MACHINERY AUCTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 — 11:00 AM

Auction will be held at the farm located 1 ¼ miles East of LURAY, KANSAS on Highway 18. (19511 Highway 18)

TRACTORS, COMBINE, TRUCKS, GRADER & TRAILERS

Case IH 8920 front wheel assist tractor power shift 7003 hrs. 2 rear tires near new; Case 2870 4 wheel drive tractor 3 pt. 4 hyd. (8926928) 7311 hrs; Case 2188 Axial Flow combine (2188F95BD) 4362 rotor hrs, 5371 engine hrs.; 28' header; IH 1020 flex head 20'; IH 8 row corn head; E-Z Trail grain cart model 475 (EGC4721093308); Hesston 8400 self propelled swather (840T00107), 16' header 3575 hrs; 1996 Volvo White tandem dual semi w/sleeper, 198,060 miles; 1995 IHC single axle tandem semi day cab 766,587 miles; 1973 IHC Loadstar 1600 truck, 20' metal bed, 8 cy, 5 speed, 2 speed, power steering; 1993 Chevrolet 2500 4 wheel drive, 8 cy, 5 speed, w/Blair feed wagon; 1993 Nevi 24' grain trailer, single dual axle, single dump, roll over tarp; 1993 Hawkeye 28' grain trailer, tandem dual

axles, w/double dump, roll over tarp; 30' gooseneck flat-bed tandem dual axle trailer; Hale 7'x15' gooseneck covered stock trailer; 1979 Hale 5'x16' bumper hitch covered stock trailer; high low 16' small animal trailer; Huber-Warco motor grader w/GM diesel engine; snow plow for grader; JD 10' dozer blade fits 8920; Ditch Witch M422 walk behind trencher; IHC Payloader 60 does not run; 1949 Studebaker truck 4 sp, 6 cy, 9096 miles has been setting.

MACHINERY

John Deere 567 Mega Wide big round baler (new belts, just out of shop); John Deere 224 T square baler; Case IH 8610 round bale processor w/rear forks and side feed; Stackliner 1002 bale wagon; New Holland 679 tandem axle manure spreader new floor; Krause 1404 20' tandem disc; tandem axle 500 gal sprayer w/foam marker; 12' pull type speed mover; Great Plains 30' fold back disc drill 10" space;

JD 7000 6 row planter; Mal-sam belt terrace; Flex King 5 blade V blade; 20' field cultivator w/harrow; Arts Way 425A grinder mixer; Brillo type grass seeder; 1000 gal water tank on tandem axle trailer w/gas engine & pump; Spra-Coupe 3 wheel 200 gal sprayer; Pincor 230 PTO generator; Sears 15,000 PTO generator; Army generator 5-5051 on 2 wheel trailer; shaking grain cleaner w/electric motor; shop built 3pt. 6' blade; heavy log splitter on 2 wheels w/10 hp gas engine; bale elevator w/electric motor; 3 pt. mister; 1000 gal tank; 3 pt. Ford side delivery rake; 3 pt. stiff shank chisel; 3 pt. trailer ball hitch; 4 wheel hoist; goat squeeze shoot; IHC 120 one way; 4 bottom pull type plow; 3 pt. 4-16 plow; JD 3 pt. 4 section rotary hoe; double combine bin on wheels w/auger; truck salt spreader box; tandem axle 8'x20' trailer; several older pieces of machinery; 4 gun racks; 4 guns need work.

NOTE: There are no small items we will be starting on machinery right away. For pictures check our website at www.thummelauction.com. Lunch on grounds.

MARK PASCHAL ESTATE & JOAN PASCHAL * Joan Paschal 785-483-7797
Auction Conducted By: THUMMEL REAL ESTATE & AUCTION LLC, 785-738-0067

AUCTION REMINDER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 * 9:30 AM

AUCTION LOCATION: 2779 King Road - MORROWVILLE, KS

Viewing of Sale Items: Friday, December 3, 4:00-6:00 PM

* * FRAGER FARMS * *

* VEHICLES * IRRIGATION EQUIP./PIPE * FARM MACHINERY * SHOP, TOOLS, TANKS * IRON, LUMBER, MISC. * ALFALFA/HAY

For more info & sale photos, visit the website & click on the AUCTIONS tab

www.kettelhut.biz

KETTELHUT AUCTION SERVICES
Steve Kettelhut cell: 402-300-0547
Clerk: Kettelhut Real Estate
515 E. St., Fairbury, NE, 402-729-3060

LAND AUCTION

310+- ACRES Greenwood County, KS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 - 10:00 AM

(REAL ESTATE SELLS @ 11:00 AM)

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 343 J RD, PIEDMONT KS 67122

JAKIE L. SCHOENHALS REVOCABLE TRUST, SELLER

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— OPEN HOUSE 11/28 1PM TO 3PM —

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BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Museum Faces

I took a trip to the museum of natural history. It was a fascinating place: a taxidermist's showcase. A dog heaven, what with all the prehistoric bones. But as I walked through the halls and stared at the infinite variety of creatures that stalked the earth, I began to feel uneasy. I started seeing familiar faces looking back at me.

There stood the reincarnated remains of Stegosaurus. He was twenty-five

feet long, had a hump in his back, big spikes on his tail and a skull about the size of a Spanish goat. The description said he wandered from place to place, grumbling about the mud and slashing his tail at his enemies. He had one brain the size of a walnut in his head that controlled his mouth. He had another in his rear end that controlled his tail. It is unlikely that the two brains communicated much. Thus, one end never knew what the other was doing so that if his mouth wasn't getting him in trouble the other end was. He looked like every feedlot cowboy I've ever known.

Back in the corner was Brother Walrus, weighing in at 700 pounds. I could picture his rounding the corner of the loading chute, sittin' behind the wheel of his 2003 Lincoln. Or hooking his tusks out the window as he drove up and down the feedlot alley, figgerin' out how to shave two cents off the price. All he needed was a

cheap cigar to look like yer typical, everyday packin' house buyer.

Rearing up before me, seventeen feet tall, with a head the size of a front-end loader, was Tyrannosaurus rex. His hug mouth and armory of teeth reminded me of Carlsbad Caverns. Every creature have him wide berth. His front paws were very small, good for very little except, possibly, counting money. He ate everything he could catch and showed no mercy. The fiercest carnivore that ever lived ... yer friendly Ag loan officer.

Then I came upon a pitiful sight. A Giant Sloth, mired in the Tar Pits. He was being attacked by two Saber toothed tigers (drug salesman), six hyenas (government bureaucrats), an alligator (the implement dealer), and a covey of buzzards (assorted veterinarians, consultants, county agents and commodity brokers). He was stuck in the tar. He couldn't get out. Even if, by some miracle, he did manage to extricate himself from the tar, he'd still have to fight his way through the hungry predators. Strangely enough, it occurred to me that if the Giant Sloth finally went under, so would the predators. So it goes with the farmer rancher.

www.baxterblack.com

USDA's vaccine candidate successful in blocking spread of African Swine Fever virus

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) recently announced that one of its African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV) vaccine candidates has been shown to prevent and effectively protect both European and Asian bred swine against the current circulating Asian strain of the virus.

The majority of swine used in the global food supply are produced in Asia, where the virus has been causing outbreaks and devastating losses to the swine industry. African Swine Fever (ASF) was originally detected in 2007 in the Republic of Georgia and is known to cause virulent, deadly disease outbreaks in wild and domesticated swine. Since the original outbreak, ASF has had a widespread and lethal impact on swine herds in various countries in Eastern Europe and throughout Asia. Although the virus is causing profound economic losses to the swine industry, there have not been any outbreaks in the United States. The virus is unable to transmit from pigs to humans.

Newly published USDA research, as highlighted in the journal *Transboundary and Emerging Diseases*, shows that ARS scientists have developed a vaccine candidate with the ability to be commercially produced while still maintaining its vaccine efficacy against Asian ASFV strains when tested in both European and Asian breeds of swine. The findings also show that a commercial partner can replicate experimental level results and prevent the spread of the virus.

Previous studies were done under laboratory conditions only in European bred pigs using an ASFV isolate, or sample, from the initial outbreak.

"We are excited that our team's research has resulted in promising vaccine results that are able to be repeated on a commercial level, in different pig breeds, and by using a recent ASFV isolate," said ARS researcher Douglas Gladue. "This signals that the live attenuated vaccine candidate could play an important role in controlling the ongoing outbreak threatening the global pork supply," said ARS researcher Douglas Gladue.

The onset of immunity was revealed in approximately one-third of the swine by second week post-vaccination, with full protection in all swine achieved by the fourth week.

A commercial vaccine for ASFV will be an important part of controlling ASFV in outbreak areas. Researchers will continue to determine the safety and efficacy of the vaccine under commercial production conditions and are closely working with their commercial partner in Vietnam.

"This is a major step for science and agriculture," said ARS researcher Manuel Borca. "We are working carefully to see our vaccine candidate commercialized through the joint efforts of the U.S. government, and our commercial partner, the Navetco National Veterinary Joint Stock Company."

To date, ARS has successfully engineered and patented five ASF experimental vaccines and has fully executed seven licenses with pharmaceutical companies to develop the vaccines. ARS continues to evaluate additional commercial partners to develop these vaccines.

New Address?



Let us know!

Contact Kevin to update your Grass & Grain subscription:
agpress3@agpress.com
785-539-7558
1531 Yuma St.,
Manhattan, KS 66502

Farmers & Ranchers

AUCTIONS EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY

Selling Cattle every Monday
Hog Sales on 2nd & 4th Monday of the month only!

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK: CATTLE

BULLS: \$89-\$103.50

COWS: \$65-\$79

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021

SOWS

| | | |
|-------|---------|-----------|
| 1 wht | Clyde | 560@60.00 |
| 5 wht | Abilene | 552@58.00 |
| 7 wht | Abilene | 580@57.50 |
| 3 wht | Abilene | 508@54.50 |
| 5 wht | Abilene | 469@54.25 |
| 4 wht | Clyde | 474@51.50 |

HOGS

| | | |
|--------|------------|-----------|
| 3 mix | Assaria | 268@44.00 |
| 17 red | Plainville | 304@39.00 |

CALVES

| | | |
|--------|-----------|------------|
| 1 blk | McPherson | 285@410.00 |
| 1 blk | Salina | 220@400.00 |
| 1 blk | Durham | 120@400.00 |
| 1 char | Wells | 110@310.00 |

COWS

| | | |
|-------|--------------|------------|
| 1 blk | Lincolnville | 1570@79.00 |
| 1 blk | Minneapolis | 1825@77.50 |
| 2 blk | Lincolnville | 1660@77.00 |

| | | |
|--------|-------------|------------|
| 1 bwf | McPherson | 1640@77.00 |
| 2 blk | Maple Hill | 1728@76.00 |
| 1 blk | Hope | 1760@76.00 |
| 2 blk | Hope | 1593@75.50 |
| 2 blk | Gypsum | 1692@75.00 |
| 1 bwf | Delphos | 1825@74.50 |
| 4 mix | Maple Hill | 1744@74.00 |
| 1 blk | Minneapolis | 1720@73.00 |
| 1 blk | Falun | 1870@73.00 |
| 2 blk | Walton | 1580@73.00 |
| 1 blk | Walton | 1695@72.00 |
| 1 blk | McPherson | 925@70.00 |
| 1 gray | Salina | 2165@69.00 |
| 2 wf | Marion | 1638@68.00 |
| 1 blk | Miltonvale | 1125@68.00 |

BULLS

| | | |
|-------|------------|-------------|
| 1 blk | Brookville | 2230@103.50 |
| 1 red | Bennington | 2380@101.50 |
| 1 blk | Ada | 1940@101.00 |
| 1 blk | Ellsworth | 2055@99.50 |
| 1 blk | Lincoln | 2240@98.50 |
| 1 blk | Salina | 1940@94.50 |
| 1 blk | Marquette | 1915@94.50 |
| 1 wf | Randolph | 1735@91.00 |
| 1 blk | Salina | 2095@89.00 |

Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

SALE BARN PHONE: 785-825-0211

MONDAY — CATTLE • HOG SALE 2nd & 4th MONDAY
Hogs sell at 10:30 a.m. *on the 2nd & 4th Monday of the month.*
Cattle at 12:00 Noon. Selling calves and yearlings first, followed by Packer cows and bulls.

THURSDAY — CATTLE ONLY

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

AUCTIONEERS: KYLE ELWOOD, BRANDON HAMEL & GARREN WALROD

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

CATTLE USA.com LIVE CATTLE AUCTIONS

FARMERS & RANCHERS HAS SWITCHED BACK to Cattle USA.com for our online auctions.

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021

75 s&h 500-700 home raised; 14 hfrs 800-850 home raised long weaned off grass; 50 s&h 750-950; 122 blk strs 850-875 home raised long weaned no sort; 28 blk strs 850-870 long weaned no sort; 25 s&h 550-650 long weaned; 60 strs 850-875 no sort; 100 mix blk/bwf, 600-800 30 days weaned; 50 blk s&h 450-550 fall vacc open, 150 blk/bwf/red strs 500-650 home raised 60 days weaned 2 rnd vacc, 28 s&h 550-700 home raised 45 days vacc, 55 s&h 400-750 2 rnd vacc home raised, 33 blk s&h 650-800 home raised 45 days weaned 2 rnd vacc open, 21 strs 600-700 home raised weaned Oct vacc, 50 blk strs 650-800 Cow Camp sired simm/angus long weaned vacc PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021 WEANED/VACC SALE

100 red angus/char strs, 500-650, 60 days weaned, knife cut. 25 strs, 550-650. 11 s&h, 600. 60 steers. 25 blk/bwf, 600-700. 40 blk s&h, 650-750, home raised. 16 blk/bwf strs, 650-850, 60 days weaned, 2 rounds vacc. 40 s&h 500-600. 100 s&h 500-600. 37 blk s&h, 600-700, 45 days weaned, balancer sired. 90 s&h 850-900. 120 blk s&h, 500-650, ochv'd. 110 blk steers, 500-650 GGA sired. 120 mostly char x s&h. 100 blk s&h, 500-750. 54 s&h, 600-700, 2 rounds vacc, knife cut, no implant. 135 char x/blk/bwf s&h 550-750, home raised, long weaned, 2 rounds vacc. 30 s&h 550-650, home raised, long weaned, 3 rounds vacc. 75 blk s&h 500-600, fall vacc. 55 s&h 600-700. 30 blk s&h, 500-600, 2 rounds vacc, 45 days weaned. 285 blk s&h, 550-750. 35 steers. 80 blk s&h, 650-750. 80 blk/bwf steers, 450-550, 2 rounds vacc, 45-60 days weaned. 100 s&h, 500-600. 50 s&h, 500-600, home raised. 100 s&h. 35 blk s&h 500-600, home raised, 45 days weaned, fall vacc. 45 blk s&h, 500, weaned, fall vacc. 14 blk s&h, 500, home raised, 60 days weaned, fall vacc. 19 blk s&h 550-600, home raised, 60 days weaned, fall vacc. 21 char s&h, 500-750, home raised, long weaned, 2 vacc. 19 blk s&h, 600-650, home raised, weaned, 2 vacc. 260 blk strs, 550-700, 40 red angus s&h 400-500, 12 blk s&h 500-700 weaned 60+ days, 260 blk strs 550-700, 20 red/bwf s&h 500, 20 blk/bwf s&h 400-650 bunk broke PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.

KANSAS BUFFALO SALE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

*** STARTING AT 11 AM ***

UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES:

All Sales are on Tuesday at 11 AM

SPECIAL COW SALES: Tuesday, December 21
WEANED/VACC SALES: Tuesday, December 7

IN STOCK TODAY:

- Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders
- 42' ROUND BALE DUMP TRAILERS

For Information or estimates, contact:

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

Jim Crowther
785-254-7385
Roxbury, KS

Lisa Long
620-553-2351
Ellsworth, KS

Cody Schafer
620-381-1050
Durham, KS

Kenny Briscoe
785-658-7386
Lincoln, KS

Kevin Henke
H: 785-729-3473, C: 785-565-3525
Agenda, KS

Austin Rathbun
785-531-0042
Ellsworth, KS

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

