Grass & Grain, December 20, 2022 Page 13 FDA releases Biomass-Adjusted Antimicrobial Sales Data

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) launched an Interactive Summary of Biomass-Adjusted Antimicrobial Sales Data to encourage the judicious use of antimicrobials.

The display applies a

biomass denominator to adjust existing annual antimicrobial sales and distribution data for medically important antimicrobial drugs sold or distributed for use in food-producing animals in the United States from 2016 to 2020

Animal biomass is the population of a given livestock species in the United States multiplied by the average weight of that species. In this method, a biomass denominator adjusts annual antimicrobial sales data to account for the size of the population of a given livestock species in the U.S. potentially being treated with those drugs. The antimicrobial sales data are sourced from the FDA annual reports on estimated sales of antimicrobials for food-producing

animals. Animal population and average weight statistics used to calculate animal biomass come from U.S. Department of Agriculture databases.

The interactive summary allows users to customize data visualizations

using criteria such as antimicrobial drug class, species and year. FDA plans to update the data in the interactive summary annually following publication of each annual sales summary report.



HEIFER	lS — 550-925	5 LBS.	Kansas City	19 Rd Ang	j8 5	@1660.00	Janend Feb. calving. Vacc up to date, poured, 1 rd Scourguard.
Perry	12 blk	600@172.00	Alma	14 Rd Ang	,	@1610.00	• 22 Ang Gelv mix 1st calf OCV hfrs bred to Circle S Ranch purebred Gelv calving ease bull for
Circleville	10 blk	603@171.00	Kansas City	17 Rd Ang	,	@1600.00	Feb. 1 calving, pelvic measured.
Delphos	4 blk	567@166.00	Wamego	7 Rd Ang		@1600.00	• COMPLETE ESTATE DISPERSAL CONSISTING OF: 115 blk (55) & Red (60) Ang cows, 4-8
Abilene	4 blk	606@165.50	Junction City			@1600.00	yrs, Nelson blk Ang bulls turned in May 1 for FebMarch calves.
Frankfort	5 blk	571@164.00	Kansas City	6 Rd Ang		@1560.00	• 5 Red Ang cows, 2-4 yrs w/ 2 week to 30 day calves by side.
Corning	5 blk	573@161.00	Junction City			@1550.00	• 3 Red Ang bulls, 3 1/2 yrs.
Cummings	6 blk	625@156.00	Kansas City	16 Rd Ang	·	@1535.00	• 100 blk & Red cows, 4-6 yrs w/ blk & Red calves. Calves worked. Cows exposed back to blk & Red bulls.
Manhattan	4 Char	617@156.00	Alma	2 Rd Ang		@1525.00	• 5 blk cows, 2-5 yrs w/ Nov. blk calves by side. Calves all worked, cows exposed to Downey T7
Riley	6 Red Ang	563@150.00	Wamego	7 blk	4 6	@1500.00	Reserve Ang bull since Dec. 15.
Green	7 blk	902@147.00	Kansas City	6 Rd Ang	SS 6	@1450.00	• COMPLETE DISPERSAL CONSISTING OF: 120 Blk, BWF, few Red Spring calving cows, 3 to
Frankfort	4 blk	682@146.00	Wamego		7-8 6	@1375.00	SS, Blk Woody Angus bull, to start calving Mar. 1 for 90-day calving period.
COWS & HEIFI	ERETTES — 80	· ·	Alma	1 Rd Ang		@1350.00	
Beloit	1 blk	830@153.00	Alma			@1325.00	
Russell	3 blk	810@148.00	Wamego		5 3	@1325.00	EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR JAN. 6:
Onaga	1 blk	920@146.00	Kansas City		BSS 4-6	@1310.00	• 100 blk bwf strs, long weaned, 750-850#
Yates Center	1 Red Ang	840@143.00	Junction City		7 6-8	@1300.00	
Beloit	4 blk	956@136.00	Alma	2 blk	76	@1300.00	• 50 mostly blk hfrs, long weaned, 700-775#
Leavenworth	2 blk	875@131.00	Alma	4 blk	SS 7-8	@1160.00	 27 Red strs & hfrs, 2 rds shots, weaned 60 days, 500-600#
Alma	1 blk	1030@127.00	Wamego	2 Rd Ang	5 6	@1125.00	 45 Angus & Ang cross strs & hrs, weaned 60 days, 2 rd shots, 500-700#
Smith Center	1 blk	1110@121.00	Alma	4 blk	BB 7	@1100.00	
Waterville	1 blk	1115@116.00	Junction City	2 blk	SS 7	@1075.00	CDECIAL STOCK COW
Westmoreland	1 blk	1070@95.00	Kansas City	13 Rd Ang	3BB 5-6	@1060.00	SPECIAL STOCK COW
Westmoreland	1 blk	1135@85.00	Wamego	2 blk	SS 7	@1025.00	AND DDED HEIEED CALE
Westmoreland	1 blk	1415@82.50	Burdiek	2 blk	00 7	@950.00	AND BRED HEIFER SALE
Westmoreland	2 blk	1607@78.00	Alma	2 blk	5 5-7	@925.00	
Westmoreland	3 blk	1481@77.50	1S	T CALF HEI	FER PAIF	RS	WED., JAN. 11 • STARTING 11:00 AM
Onaga	1 blk	1580@75.00			AGE		BRED 1ST CALF HEIFERS
Rossville	1 blk	1585@74.00	Chapman	14 blk	2	@2450.00	30 big blk fancy home raised 1st calf hfrs, bred to Registered LBW Mill Brae Angus Connealy
Havensville	1 blk	1575@73.00	Atchison	1 blk	2	@2450.00	son bull for Feb. 1 calves.
Leonardville	1 blk	1145@71.00	Atchison	3 blk	2	@2425.00	• 25 big blk 1st calf hfrs, bred to registered LBW Angus bulls for FebMarch calves.
Westmoreland	1 blk	1255@71.00	Manahttan	3 blk	2	@2400.00	• 5 Red Angus 1st calf hfrs, bred to Cline Angus bull for FebMarch calving. 1 rd Scourguard.
Manhattan	1 blk	1150@70.50	Dwight	2 Rd An	g 2	@2100.00	 4 blk bwf 1st calf hfrs bred to Cline Angus bull for FebMarch calving. 1 rd Scourguard.
McLouth	1 blk	1130@70.50	Wamego	5 blk	2	@2000.00	 10 home raised blk, bwf & rwf 1st calf fhrs, bred to Flory Polled Herf bull for March-April calving.
Onaga	1 blk	1605@70.00	Chapman	7 blk	2	@2375.00	• 26 Big fancy gentle Red Angus 1st calf hfrs, bred LBW Red Angus bulls for Feb. calves, 2 rds
Olathe	1 blk	1250@69.50	Washington	7 blk	2	@2350.00	Scourguard/Blackleg Somnus/Triangle ID
Kansas City	1 Red Ang	1245@68.00	Washington	1 blk	2	@2100.00	BRED COWS
Alma	1 Red Ang	1300@66.00	Chapman	1 Char	2	@1750.00	• 24 blk Ang cows, 4 yrs, bred Registered Angus for Spring calving.
Holton	1 Red Ang	1290@65.00	-	BREEDING	BULLS		• 25 blk bwf & Red cows, 3-5 yrs, bred Ang & Char for FebMarch calves.
Axtell	1 Hols	1410@63.50	Holton	1 Red	Ang	@2900.00	 28 blk cows, 4-5 yrs, bred Angus or Char for late Jan. thru Feb. calving.
Larence	1 Herf	1185@63.00	Holton	1 Red	Ang	@2600.00	COW/CALF PAIRS
Onaga	1 blk	1075@62.00		COW CALF			• 14 older blk cows, some with calves, balance Springers.
Olathe	1 bwf	1280@61.50			AGE		• 15 blk bwf cows, 3-5 yrs w/ 30-60 day calves by side. Cows and calves all worked.
St.George	1 bwf	1200@60.50	Maple Hill	4 blk	4-5	@2550.00	• 11 blk BWF cows, 4-5 yrs, with late Summer & early Fall Sim-sired calves, running back Angus
Grantville	1 Red Ang	1000@60.00	Adams, NE	6 blk	2-3	@2450.00	since Nov. 1
	0		,				ale Detect . Wednesdays starting at 11 00 AM

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Kansas Hay Market Report

Compared to the last report demand remained strong and prices were mostly steady, with some alfalfa strengthening in the southwest and south-central regions. Producers and brokers report there is a lot of hay moving. They continue to receive lots of calls from folks needing to purchase hay, however, most say that they are only moving hav to their regular customers. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for December 6, persistent dry conditions led to minor expansion of areas of Extreme Drought (D3) and Exceptional Drought (D4) in western Kansas. Looking at the past nine-month period in the western half of Kansas, precipitation deficits ranged from three to 12+ inches. Currently, abnormally dry conditions(D0) remained near 14%, moderate drought (D1) remained near 17.5%, severe drought (D2) decreased to near 11%, extreme drought (D3) increased to near 21.5%, and exceptional drought (D4) increased to near 40%.

Southwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa 15.00-25.00 higher, ground and delivered steady 5.00-10.00 higher, movement slow to moderate. Alfalfa: horse, supreme small squares 12.00-14.00/bale. Dairy,1.30-1.40/point RFV. Good, Stock or Dry Cow 290.00-300.00. Grinding alfalfa, large rounds, 310.00-315.00, large square 3x4's and 4x4's 290.00-310.00. Ground and delivered locally to feed lots and dairies 340.00-350.00. Alfalfa/grass hay mix ground and delivered 280.00-290.00; Grass Hay: CRP, large square 3x4's 145.00-

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— Downs, KANSAS - 785-346-6170 *Will Sell Separately* **WILLOW** \$26,500; **BOX** \$2,000 155.00. Wheat straw: large round 100.00-105.00. The week of 12/04-12/10,5, 229T of grinding alfalfa and 675T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold. The average paid by feedlots on December 1 for alfalfa ground and delivered was \$257.75, up \$5.24 from the previous month, usage was 666T/day, up 14% from last month and total usage was 19,986T.

South Central Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground and delivered steady, and alfalfa pellets mostly steady, movement slow to moderate. Alfalfa: horse, small squares 255.00-275.00. Dairy 1.30-1.40/point RFV. Good, Stock cow, 290.00-305.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds 280.00-290.00, 3x4 and 4x4's 280.00-290.00. Ground and delivered 290.00-300.00. Alfalfa/Soybean: ground and delivered 285.00-300.00. Alfalfa pellets: Sun cured 15 pct protein 320.00-335.00, 17 pct protein 325.00-335.00, Dehvdrated 17 pct 375.00-385.00.Grass Hay: Bluestem, small squares 160.00-165.00, large square 3x4's 135.00-145.00. Brome: small squares, 9.00/bale.3x4's 155.00-165.00, large rounds none reported, mid square 3x3's 175.00-185.00. Grass Hay: CRP 115.00-125.00. Sudan: 3x4 and 4x4's 200.00-210.00. Soybean stalks, large rounds 115.00-125.00. Failed Soybean bales, large round and large squares, 195.00-200.00. Soybeans ground and delivered, 220.00-225.00. Wheat straw: 115.00-125.00

The week of 12/04-12/10, 7,571.25T of grinding alfalfa and 318.75T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold. The average paid by feedlots on December 1 for alfalfa ground and delivered was \$244.29, up \$40.21 from the previous month, usage was 253T/day, down 24% from last month and total usage was 7,598T.

Southeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa steady, bluestem grass hay steady, movement slow to moderate. Alfalfa: horse or goat, 260.00-270.00. Dairy 1.30-1.40/point RFV. Good, stock cow 265.00-275.00. Fair grinding alfalfa none reported; Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares 140.00-165.00, mid square 3x3's 130.00-150.00, good 3x4 squares 145.00-160.00, large round 130.00-135.00, Brome, large rounds 140.00-150.00, 3x4 and 4x4 squares 175.00-185.00. Wheat straw, large rounds, old contracts 60.00-70.00. The week of 11/27-12/03, 1,393T of grass hay was reported bought or sold.

Northwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa steady, grinding alfalfa steady, movement slow. Alfalfa: Horse or goat, small squares 300.00-400.00 delivered, 3x4 squares 370.00-380.00 delivered. Dairy, Premium/Supreme 1.30-1.40/point RFV. Stock cow, fair/good none reported. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large square 3x4's 300.00-310.00. Milo stalks, large rounds 145.00-150.00, failed milo, large rounds none reported.

North Central-Northeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, and bluestem grass hay steady, ground/delivered mostly steady, movement slow. Alfalfa: Horse hay, premium small squares, 12.50-13.50/ bale, 3x4's 290.00-300.00. Dairy 1.30-1.40/point RFV; Stock Cow 3x4's none reported. Fair/good, grinding alfalfa, large rounds 230.00-240.00, large square 3x4's 245.00-255.00; Alfalfa ground and delivered 275.00-300.00; Alfalfa/Prairie grass mix ground and delivered 270.00-275.00. Grass hav: Bluestem, small squares 7.50-8.50/bale, large 3x4squares190.00-200.00, good large rounds 140.00-155.00. Brome:small squares 9.00-9.50/bale, large rounds 155.00-165.00. Sudan: large rounds 125.00-135.00. Soybean large rounds 195.00-205.00. Wheat straw: small squares 6.00/ bale, large rounds 95.00-105.00, large squares 110.00-120.00. Corn stalks: large rounds 95.00-105.00, corn stalks ground and delivered 145.00-155.00. The week of 12/04-12/10,669.5T of grinding alfalfa and 473T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold.

Prices above reflect the average price. There could be prices higher and lower than those published.

***Prices are dollars per ton and FOB unless otherwise noted. Dairy alfalfa prices are for mid and large squares unless otherwise noted. Horse hay is in small squares unless otherwise noted. Prices are from the most recent sales. *CWF Certified Weed Free Alfalfa Quality Guidelines Quality ADF NDF

*RFV/RFQ **TDN-100%

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

Vildlife making w nter preparations

By Adaven Scronce, diversified agriculture and natural resource agent.

Wildcat Extension District With shorter days and colder weather, all types of wildlife are preparing for winter in different ways, some animals will migrate to warmer climates, some will hibernate, and other animals adapt to the

change in the climate. When it comes to migration, the most common animal known for migrating south for the winter is the goose. However, birds for the winter are butter-

ters, some geese migrate here to be in a warmer climate for the winter. Types of geese that migrate to Kansas include the light geese, white-fronted geese, and Canada geese. While some geese will start arriving in Kansas as early as October, November into December is when the number of geese migrating usually peaks. The most common type of geese to migrate to Kansas are Canada geese. Canada geese migrations usually peak in late November through the beginning of December with numbers during peak migration reaching 300,000-450,000. However, the timing of geese migration varies quite a bit from year to year depending on the weather in Kansas and the weather in the states north of Kansas.

Animals that do not migrate will hibernate or adopt some other strategy to find shelter and food. To prepare for hibernation during the winter, an animal will overeat and store it as body fat. This fat is what gives them energy throughout the winter. Hibernation is like a deep sleep. During hibernation, the animal's body temperature will drop and its heart rate and breathing rate will slow down. Storing body fat and hibernating will help the animal conserve energy to survive the winter.

Bears are the most common animal known for hibernating in the winter. Other animals that will hibernate include turtles, bears, skunks, chipmunks, groundhogs, and some bats. Groundhogs' fat makes up one-third of their fall weight, and they can reduce their body temperature to as low as 43 degrees during hibernation. Meanwhile, a bat's body the air temperature, all the way down to freezing. weight while hibernating. However, bear hibernadegrees and they can be easily awoken. This allows mother bears to care for their cubs born during hi-

migrate or hibernate will instead adapt to the changing weather. To prepare for winter, animals such as squirrels and beavers will gather extra food in the fall, store it, and eat it later in the winter. They may bury their food or store extra in their homes. Their fur will also grow thicker to keep them warm. Animals will find shelter in trees, logs, leaves, or underground holes.

For more information, please contact Adaven Scronce, Diversified Agri-

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temperature decreases to the same temperature as Black bears lose about one-quarter of their body tion is different from that of rodents and bats, because they only lower their body temperature by a few bernation. Animals that do not

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are not the only animals that migrate to warmer climates where they can find food in the winter. Other animals that migrate south flies and snakes; in other areas, elk even migrate. While we might consid-

er Kansas to have cold win-

<u>UPCOMING SPECIAL ISSUES</u> Topeka Farm Show - January 3rd Full of Bullz - January 10th Crop Production & Protection - Feb. 14th Farm Building - February 28th Equifest (BOGO) - March 7th & 14th

Salina Farm Show (BOGO) - March 14th & 21st Bring on Spring - March 21st

DEADLINES:

Topeka Farm Show - December 28th, before Noon Full of Bullz - January 4th, before Noon Crop Production & Protection - February 8th, before Noon Farm Building - February 22nd, before Noon Equifest (BOGO) - March 1st, before Noon Salina Farm Show (BOGO) - March 8th, before Noon Bring on Spring - March 15th, before Noon

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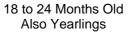
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Grass & Grain, December 20, 2022





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Page 17 the AgrAbility specialists. They got him in touch with various resources such as the Kansas vocational rehabilitation program, Farm Rescue, and Rise

AgrAbility's motto is Agriculture.' AgrAbility does not provide direct fi-

There have been plenty of frustrations. Insurance, for example, would only pay for a manual wheelchair, which is impractical costs for adaptive devices are very expensive.

"I try to find as many ways as I can to do things independently," Fitzpatrick said. He's a remarkable person, living near Sterling, population 2,248 people. Now, that's rural. "Working with AgrAbility has been a very, very positive thing," he said.

ple of how a positive attitude and creativity can make a real difference," said Tawnie Larson, AgrAbility consultant. "The AgrAbility team that assisted Bret worked hard to find him resources and make sure they worked for him. AgrAbility is here to keep people just like Bret working and enjoying their rural lifestyle through production agriculture.

edu.

We commend Bret Fitzchallenges and for sharing his inspirational story with others. Maybe this story can help someone else

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Bret Fitzpatrick, AgrAbility

September 18, 2004. Bret Fitzpatrick was driving to a farm sale when his truck tire blew out on a two-lane bridge. He lost control of his truck, went into the ditch, hit a power pole, rolled three times, and ended up in the water. When Fitzpatrick came

to, he was in the water and could no longer move his legs. That was the beginning of a long, tough journey for this young man who has found ways to adjust to his challenging life in rural Kansas.

Fitzpatrick grew up near Sterling where his family had a diversified crop and livestock operation. He majored in animal sciences and business at K-State. One summer, he got an internship with a meat processing company in Hutchinson and found he enjoyed meat science and food science work.

After graduation, he was hired as a food scientist in the research and development department. That company is now part of Tyson Foods.

Fitzpatrick met and married his wife who is from Buhler. He worked for Tyson and helped his dad on the farm.

Then the accident occurred. The truck cab was crushed directly behind where Fitzpatrick had been sitting and there were power lines down

gained consciousness, he was outside the truck and spitting out water.

"I could have been crushed, I could have drowned, I could have been electrocuted, but none of that happened," he said. A transformer had blown so the electric lines were not live

Fitzpatrick was flown to Wichita for surgery followed by extensive rehab in Nebraska. He is considered a T-11 paraplegic with a pinched spinal cord.

"I've tried not to let it limit me more than necessary," he said. He returned to work and even works on the farm with his wife and daughter.

In 2009, he was transferred to Tyson corporate headquarters in Arkansas. In 2016, he and his family moved back to the family farm in Kansas where his dad lives. Fitzpatrick continues to work remotely for Tyson and takes care of the cattle. The family maintains a Charolais cow herd and sells purebred bulls.

One day Fitzpatrick was reading a farm magazine and he came across an article about the Kansas AgrAbility project at K-State. "Oh man, I need that," he said. AgrAbility is a program to assist farmers who are injured or disabled but want to continue in production agriculture.

Again.

'Cultivating Accessible nancial assistance, but can help people find assistive devices to help with farm work, for example.

"I have an electric fourwheel drive wheelchair and a side-by-side and skid steer that I use a lot," Fitzpatrick said. He has installed remote-controlled gates, seat lifts for his trucks, and other assistive technology.

"It's a whole world of difference," he said. Remarkably, he continues to travel, hunt and work cattle. "I can run cattle through the chute by myself," Fitzpatrick said. He actively hunts turkey, pheasant and deer.

on the farm. Out-of-pocket

the rural community of

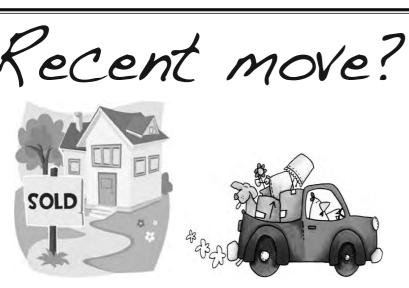
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Equipment manufacturers feel supply chain crunch, worker shortages A new survey of more "AEM continues to nificant prod

than 150 equipment manufacturing companies released by the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) warns that U.S. equipment manufacturers continue to face supply chain issues and a persistent labor shortage nearly three years after the onset of the pandemic.

AEM surveyed 179 equipment manufacturing executives on the causes of supply chain disruptions and bottlenecks, and the impact it has on production, lead times and profit margins. The survey also asked about availability of components and optimal inventory levels, and queried executives about solutions to address these supply chain challenges.

Nearly all respondents (98 percent) still face supply chain issues, with more than half of respondents (58 percent) experiencing continuously worsening supply chain conditions. The two driving factors of current supply chain disruptions are workforce shortages and access to intermediate components for production.

'Far too many equipment manufacturers still feel the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain disruptions on operations, lead times on components, labor force participation, and financial performance," said Kip Eideberg, AEM's senior vice president of government and Industry relations. "The impact of this supply chain crunch is only worsened by nation-wide workforce shortages seen across country, which is particularly noticeable on our shop floors.

survey our member company executives to better understand how they are impacted by continued high inflation, strained supply chains, and global instability, and to provide elected officials with the data points they need to move legislation that will revitalize U.S. manufacturing and bolster U.S. global competitiveness," Eide-berg continued. "Republicans and Democrats can take immediate action by extending R&D expensing, enacting meaningful permitting reform, removing tariffs on a range of critical components, and reaching a bipartisan agreement on the debt ceiling.'

AEM conducted this survey in October 2022. Executives from 179 equipment manufacturing companies completed the survey, including 112 original equipment manufacturers and 56 component manufacturers.

The survey's key findings include:

• Nearly all respondents (98 percent) are still facing supply chain issues.

• Six-in-ten equipment manufacturers are experiencing continuously worsening supply chain conditions

• The two driving factors of the disruption are workforce shortages and access to intermediate components for production.

• Six in ten equipment manufacturers are still having issues in workforce recruitment and retention.

• Year to date, equipment manufacturers are seeing an average of 12 percent production loss, and are forecasting a slightly lower, but still significant production loss of 8.2 percent in 2023. This production loss is especially critical when many equipment manufacturers are fully sold out for 2023.

• Year to date, equipment manufacturers are seeing an average of 8.6 percent profit margin loss and are forecasting a 6.4 percent profit margin loss in 2023.

• Lead times continue to be an obstacle. While lead times understandably increased during the pandemic, they have only continued to grow as things stabilized, jumping from an average of 2 (2.42) months in 2019, to 7 months (6.92) in 2022.

• Due to this supply chain crunch, certain parts remain difficult to acquire. In the agriculture sector, the most sought-after component are tracks (and their included components); only 27 percent of inventory is available of that component which the manufacturer would deem optimal for their manufacturing operations. In both agriculture and construction sectors, its semiconductors and chips, with an average of 44 percent optimal inventory available across both sectors.

There is no single solution to ongoing supply chain disruptions.

Equipment manufacturers of all sizes continue to utilize a multitude of responses to try and overcome ongoing supply chain disruptions. Responses include increasing inventory and supplier base, more vertical integration of supply chains, certifying alternative suppliers and focusing more attention on supply chain reliability over price.

Grass & Grain, December 20, 2022 Page 18 Farmers will continue to face high input costs, tight crop margins in 2023 Change in agriculture rate hikes). Moving from sions are not good for ag-tals such as supply and 92 million acres, up from "If we can get out of

for farmers discussed at Texas Plant Protection Association Conference

Farmers can expect a challenging marketing environment for agricultural crops grown in 2023 as the global economy faces recessionary challenges, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service grains marketing economist.

"The economic challenges around the world are severe," said Mark Welch, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension grain marketing economist, told attendees at the Texas Plant Protection Association conference.

Farmers looking to market their crops will have do so carefully amidst several challenging economic factors.

'Interest rates, inflation are all important fac-tors," he said. "The Federal Reserve has gotten aggressive (with interest

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near zero at the beginning of the year to 4%, increases in the federal funds rate may have dampened overall inflation. The Consumer Price Index that was 9% in June is now down just below 7%. But core inflation, less food and energy, is still stubbornly high, around 5%."

Federal Reserve

Welch said the Federal Reserve isn't done raising rates to try to curb inflation. He expects a quarter of a percent to a half of a percent hike in the future.

He noted there are ample number of jobs keeping the economy from revisiting the recession of the 1970s when mortgage rates were 15% to 18%. Welch said if the inflation rate can be lowered back to 2%, it's still going to be

"We've got a long, long way to go," he said. "If we are headed to a recession in 2023, we know reces-

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a challenge.

riculture.'

Projections of net farm income for 2023 is a \$12 billion decline compared to 2022, according to the Food & Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri.

"Input costs are likely to go down, but not as fast as the prices you are likely to be selling at," Welch said.

Meanwhile, farmers making marketing decisions should do so thoughtfully, but not completely hold back waiting for another economic challenge to affect prices. Welch said it's good to understand the fundamen-

demand, market prices and other factors.

Regarding corn, on the supply side, world corn production was projected at 46 billion bushels in 2022 with the U.S. accounting for about 14 billion bushels. Texas accounts for about 2% of the U.S. total. World corn production was a record high in 2021 at 48 billion bushels.

The world harvested 543 million acres of wheat last year, which was an increase of 11 million acres over the last three years. In its long-term projections, U.S. Department of Agriculture pegs U.S. corn plantings in 2023 at

88.6 million acres in 2022, Welch said. "The 2023 U.S. corn

yield in that projection from USDA is 181.5 bushels per acre compared to 171.9 bushels in the season just ended," he said. "Days-on-hand supplies are currently at about 30 days.

Welch said when days of supply are below 40 days, it results in higher prices. When there is above 40 days supply, prices are typically lower. Meanwhile, the wheat

market is tight, feeling the effects of dry weather as well as economic challenges impacting market prices.

"If we can get out of this La Niña weather pattern, that will help the wheat situation," Welch said. "But right now, it's very tight."

Overall, Welch projects commodity markets to remain high, but farmers will continue to be faced with high crop expenses due to the economic environment.

"High prices, high input costs with tighter Welch said. margins," "(As the) U.S. starts to increase corn and wheat production, prices will be moderately lower and the global recession impacts and weather will be important factors on production and prices.'

Agricultural law specialist offers considerations for landowners interested in selling carbon credits

By Kay Ledbetter

No two carbon credit contracts are written the same, and that is why Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agricultural law specialist Tiffany Lashmet, J.D., said there is a list of considerations she advises evervone to take before entering a carbon credit contract.

"That fine print is re-ally important," Lashmet said. "Don't read the first paragraph, then the dollar amount, and be done."

She recommends all landowners seeking to enter into a carbon credit contract ask up front if the company is willing to negotiate, as this will save a lot of time and trouble. Similarly, she recommends finding a good attorney to look the contract over for you. These contracts have many details that need attention before signing any document.

Questions to answer before signing a carbon contract

1. Have you read the entire contract? Read all of it. Every contract in-

540

418

591

533

495

523

825

700

646

668

748

916

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS

\$195.00

\$176.00

\$171.00

\$165.50

\$165.00

\$164.00

\$164.00

\$163.00

\$162.00

\$162.00

\$160.50

\$158.25

ong weaned, 2 rds shots,

UMA

6 mix

8 blk

9 blk

8 mix

8 mix

5 blk

10 blk

10 mix

10 blk

8 blk

6 blk

68 mix

cludes details in the fine print that can be problematic. What agricultural 2.

practices are required within this contract? For example, some contracts may mention no-till farming, reduced tillage, cover crops or regenerative grazing. Make sure you understand what is required to comply with the specific contract.

Similarly, watch for terms like "conservation practices" that are vague and undefined. Also, be aware that some contracts have "additionality clauses" that might prohibit producers from entering into the contract if they already have certain production practices in place for a certain period.

3. How will payments be structured? Do more than just look at the dollar amount. Understand if the payment is based on practice or outcome or if the structure is a flat peracre fee or price per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent, CO2e. Know what is included in the measurements – carbon, carbon dioxide equivalent or greenhouse gases, for example.

Also, make sure you understand the potential for sequestration in your fields, as it can vary by locality. The national average is 0.6 ton of CO2e per year; however, it is estimated to be 0.1 ton of CO2e per year in some areas of Texas, such as the High Plains.

4. What is the term length of the contract? Are there any mentions of extensions? Look for a discussion of "permanence" that may require a producer to abstain from



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CLAY CENTER

LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Cattle sales Tuesday, 11:00 AM.

Report from December 13th, 2022

30

2

PAIRS:

545

705

TOP BUTCHER COW:

\$70.50 @ 1,325 LBS.

TOP BUTCHER BULL:

\$111.50 @ 2,545 LBS.

BRED COWS: \$1,000

178.75

166.00

NO TEST

Radio Marke

KCLY-Fm 100.9

a certain activity for a set time. Explore what rights both you and the company have to terminate the contract, if desired.

5. How will the verification of carbon credits happen? For example, will confirmation be based on modeling or measurements? All contract participants should know when, where, how often, how many sites and who will be doing the measurements with what methods. On a similar note, find out who is responsible for paying for this verification.

Check for "no reversal" clauses that could cost you if the amount sequestered becomes lower instead of increases, and be aware of the factors in your area that may impact the amount you sequester. For example, drought can potentially reduce the amount of carbon sequestered in any given year. Are there any provisions for the landowner/producer to audit or appeal determinations or measurements?

6. What other uses can you make of the land? Does the contract restrict hunting, oil and gas production or wind or solar energy production if those concern your operation?

7. What penalties can be imposed on you? What triggers a penalty? Understanding the consequences and penalties that may be imposed if the contract is terminated early is critical.

8. How broad is the stacking prohibition? Nearly all contracts limit a producer's ability to enroll the same land in multiple carbon contracts. However, some contracts are written more broadly and may also exclude enrollment in government programs

some contracts require you to provide extensive data on production, including fuel use, calving dates, birth weights, yields, pesticide application volumes, fire history, etc. Also, watch for blanket entry rights onto your property and permissions to fly drones anytime over your entire operation, not just over the property enrolled in the carbon contract.

10. Do you understand the legal considerations? All of the contracts will have a number of clauses related to technical legal issues. Know what it says about rights to assign the contract, attorney fee provisions, payment for negotiating and drafting the contract, choice of law, venue clauses, dispute resolution and class action waivers, and the scope of any waiver clauses

Bottom line on carbon credit contract

There are a number of different companies offering contracts to producers across the country, from forest landowners to rowcrop farmers to rangeland owners, Lashmet said. But every operation is unique, and every contract is different, meaning producers must carefully consider various factors before entering into an agreement.

'Put pencil to paper and determine if the likelihood of payment will be worth the practices you must do under the contract," Lashmet said. "It is critical to ensure that the anticipated return exceeds the anticipated costs of switching to one of the qualifying carbon-friendly practices.

For further information or discussion, explore Lashmet's Ag Law in the Field podcast or her Texas Agriculture Law Blog on this subject.

9. What data must you

Wille City 12 mix 172 \$173.25 Council Grove 5 blk 684 \$175.00 • 60 blk strs & hfrs, home raised, long weaned, 2 rd 350-600# Lincolnville 58 mix 914 \$172.75 • 200 mix Lincolnville 58 mix 919 \$172.50 PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME	Lincolnville	12 mix e 5 blk 58 mix	914 \$172	6.25 6.00 6.75 • 60 blk strs & 350-600#	, , , ,	aned, 2 rd
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Manager: Tracy Ediger, 785-366-6645 * Barn Phone: 785-258-2205 Seth Bartel, 620-382-7041 • Tate Becker, 785-258-4165 • Dave Bures-402-766-3743 Bob Kickhaefer, Cell-785-258-4188 • Tim Wildman, 785-366-6152 KFRM AM 550, Every Wed., 8:00 a.m. • www.HeringtonLivestock.com

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White City

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Council Grove

Hope

Council Grove

Council Grove

CATTLE SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY: 11:30 AM

Results for December 14, 2022

Price Range

\$96.00-\$118.00

\$70.00-\$76.00

\$65.00-\$79.50

\$93.00

PRICE

\$214.00

\$205.00

\$181.00

\$177.00

\$176.50

MA 3 H M M M

Wednesday Sale, Hogs NOON • Cattle 12:30 PM

Report from December 14th, 2022

					_
	STEERS	6	12 8	83 172.50)
1	340	218.00	21 6	82 166.00)
16	565	213.50	7 6	42 164.00)
14	670	195.00	13 7	29 161.00)
37	655	190.00			
16	927	181.75	TOP BUT	CHER COW:	
36	837	180.00	\$73.50 @	0 1,635 LBS.	
60	885	179.25			
20	1060	178.75	TOP BUT	CHER BULL:	
			\$103.00 (@ 1,920 LBS.	
	HEIFER	5			
2	423	194.00	BRED COW	/S: \$1,200)
3	550	181.00			
12	545	179.50	PAIRS:	NO TEST	•
26	962	177.50			

DECEMBER 28TH LAST SALE OF 2022



Watch online with cattleusa.com (Tab J.C. Livestock Sales) Must register to bid.

If you need assistance in marketing your cattle please call & we will be happy to discuss it with you. JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS • Barn Phone 785-238-1471 Seth Lauer 785-949-2285, Abilene

Radio Marke Reports KFRM 550 Tues. & Wed. 8:00 am

KARL LANGVARDT MITCH LANGVARDT Cell: 785-499-2945 Cell: 785-761-5814

REGULAR SALE SCHEDULE ALL THRU DECEMBER

STEERS

485

452

518

627

600

710

820

HEIFERS

411

480

229.00

215.00

206.50

195.00

193.50

178.50

178.00

194.00

182.00

2

17

17

11

20

32

11

9

21

Be sure to check our Facebook page: Junction City and Clay Center Livesto for the latest consignments & info.

Clay Center, Ks • Barn Phone 785-632-5566 **Clav Center Field Representatives:** Tom Koch, 785-243-5124 Lance Lagasse, 785-262-1185

> LYNN LANGVARDT Cell: 785-761-5813

; Bulls: \$ 3 mix	\$90 - \$97.00.
3 mix	
	774@157.5 961@147.5
1	901@147.5
	TEERS
3 bkbwf	-
	521@209.0
	543@197.0
	561@196.0
	545@194.0
5 mix	582@178.0
8 blk	636@189.0
11 mix	
4 bkbwf	651@180.0
1	668@176.0
	675@176.0
1	615@174.0
	620@157.0
	706@181.0
	732@178.0 779@173.0
	778@173.0
	110@111.0
	3 bkbwf 5 blk 3 bkbwf 5 bkbwf 3 blk 5 mix 8 blk

To see more consignments go to: emporialivestock.com

Grass & Grain, December 20, 2022 Page 19 **Truterra and Soil and Water Conservation Society-led research** demonstrates value of cover crops for the environment Truterra, LLC, the sus- USDA Natural Resourc- evaluate environmental ty tool, which quantifies closely with the conserva- test drive co

tainability business of Land O'Lakes, Inc., and the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) announced preliminary findings from the first of a three-year on-farm trial to evaluate the field-scale benefits of cover crops to build soil health, reduce erosion, sequester carbon and improve return on investment. Initial findings across over 2,400 acres in Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska demonstrate positive trends for the implementation of cover crops at field scale as compared to conventional management practices.

This trial, which is

es Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Innovation Grant On-Farm Trials (CIG-OFT) awarded in 2019, is being conducted in partnership with Truterra-aligned retailer cooperatives Alliance Ag and Grain, Frontier Cooperative and Heartland Cooperative. Participating farmers and retailers use the TruterraTM sustainability tool to measure the performance of trial acres that implemented cover crops against the performance of a non-cover cropped control group. Participating farmers are also receiving scientific support part of a \$1.5 million through SWCS to help

outcomes, giving them the information needed to consider adopting these regenerative practices more widely across their operations in the future.

Key findings from the first year of the trial include:

• Trial acres were net carbon negative, sequestering nearly three times as much greenhouse gas than check fields without cover crops emitted, on average;

• Sheet and rill erosion was cut in half and wind erosion was reduced by nearly three quarters (72%); and

• Analytics from the Truterra sustainabilitrial participants' stewardship actions, found that cover-cropped fields showed an average improvement of eight points to their sustainability score. The 0-100 scale looks at overall sustainability of the field; the higher the number the better.

"I'm really happy with the improvement in soil health I've seen so far while maintaining my fields' overall profitability," said Clint Luellen, an Iowa farmer participating in the cover crop trials. "There can be a lot of unknowns in the cover crop world, so it's been very valuable to work

tion agronomists at my ag retailer Heartland Cooperative to evaluate all of the data from the trials to see what's going to work for our operations and make changes to continue to improve the performance of my fields with both the environment and profitability in mind."

Farmers are also participating in nutrient management trials over multiple growing seasons through this program. Participating farmers will continue to work with their ag retailer, using the Truterra sustainability tool, to evaluate the performance of the trials for the remaining two vears of the program.

"Truterra is committed to creating opportunities for farmers to better feed a growing world through climate-smart practices. The results from this three-year trial will give farmers the resources and agronomic support to

12 blk bwf Atchison 522@225.00

14 bk/bwf bulls Oskaloosa 329@220.00

11 blk bwf Soldier 515@217.00

10 blk red Atchison 546@213.00

15 blk bwf Soldier 623@198.50

Atchison 571@209.50

Olsburg 625@199.00

Soldier 641@193.25

Atchison 652@189.00

15 blk

12 blk

13 blk

10 blk

test drive cover crops and see how they can help build soil health, reduce erosion and sequester carbon," said Tom Ryan, president of Truterra. "We're encouraged by these preliminary results, which indicate that cover crops can provide environmental and economic benefits to a farm's operations, the environment and the community."

"Through this partnership, SWCS is connecting its extensive network of professionals in the public and private sector to demonstrate to farmers the environmental and economic benefits of implementing conservation on the land," said Clare Lindahl, CEO of SWCS. "We look forward to continuing these conservation trials and applying learnings to provide the agriculture industry with the best tools and strategies to protect our natural resources for years to come."

Study of World Cup's turfgrass may help crops yield more from less

Grass is famously resilient. But a species better known as seashore paspalum, can tolerate stresses diverse and deadly enough to rival camels and cactuses.

Salinity? It's still worth its salt. Drought? Not thirsty. Heat? No sweat. Cold? It can chill.

How about 22 soccer players sprinting, kicking and sliding their way across it at the 2022 World Cup, all amid the desert climate of the Middle East? Game on.

A commercial variety of seashore paspalum has padded every pitch in Qatar. There, it's withstood every steel-cleated footfall of Messi, Mbappé and Neymar, every sunbeaten day of temperatures creeping into the high 80s Fahrenheit

Thanks to a new study led by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, seashore paspalum may soon assist another goal: growing crops that yield more food with less of the fertilizer that imposes costs on farmers, ecosystems and drinking water.

Global application of fertilizers, especially the nitrogen and phosphorous essential to plant growth, has skyrocketed since the mid-20th century, around the time a teenage Pelé was leading Brazil to its first World Cup title. As it turns out, seashore paspalum doesn't need much of those nutrients, either. That sets it apart from some of its surprisingly close relatives: corn and sorghum, among other grass crops. After sequencing the full genetic blueprints of the hardy grass, a multi-institution research team has discovered the bag of tricks behind the plant's fasting technique. What's more, the researchers managed to recreate those tricks in corn seedlings, which responded by growing faster and larger than other, unmodified seedlings deprived of the nutrients. 'We finally are starting to understand just what makes this plant so resilient," said James Schnable, one of the study's authors and Charles O. Gardner Professor of Agronomy at Nebraska. The species really began intriguing Schnable and his colleagues after an impressive showing at the Nebraska Innovation Greenhouse, where it seemed not to care that its caretakers were neglecting it. "There was a period where no one remembered to water the paspalum plant for a couple of months," Schnable said. "But the plant was completely fine. In fact, it usually grows so fast that it'll try to invade the pots of neighboring plants, and the greenhouse manager has to yell at me or folks in my lab to come down and trim it." Guangchao Sun, a doctoral alumnus and former postdoctoral researcher at Nebraska, took notice, too. He decided to put seashore paspalum's resilience to the test with an experiment, growing it alongside corn and sorghum for several weeks under multiple

conditions. When the corn and sorghum were denied nitrogen or phosphorous, their stunted development betraved it. The seashore paspalum, meanwhile, continued "happily growing."

Fortunately, the Schnable lab was also working with the Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute, the University of Georgia and the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology on mapping the species' genome. Those strides cleared the way to studying seashore paspalum's tolerance in greater detail.

Analyses of its genes and gene expression later revealed that the grass responds to a lack of nutrients by roughly doubling its production of a sugary molecule called trehalose. Though corn and sorghum naturally churn out some of that molecule, the team saw no change in its production among the two nutrient-starved crops.

While the finding suggested that trehalose was playing a central role in the plant's resilience, Sun and the team pressed on for evidence that could meet a higher burden of proof. What if, they thought, we could increase trehalose in corn, then observe the results? But applying trehalose directly to the crop proved ineffective.

"So I thought about it in the opposite way," said Sun, who now works as a bioinformatician at the

nutrient-deprived. The results were so startling to Sun that he soon repeated the experiment multiple times. Each time, the corn responded the same way.

But the team had reason to suspect that the tolerance also relied on autophagy - what Schnable called "a recycling program" in plant cells that takes apart old or damaged proteins, then reassembles them into fresh, functioning ones. Eventually the researchers developed a mutant of corn that lacked the ability to engage the final stage of that recycling. Even with a surplus of trehalose, the mutant failed to thrive when deprived of nitrogen or phosphorous, marking autophagy as an equally essential facet of the resilience.

"There are still other things to do," Sun said, before the team resolves the complete picture of seashore paspalum's world-



class tolerance. He considers it only a matter of time, though, before researchers identify the genes that code for higher trehalose. "And if you could (in-

troduce) that genomic region into other elite corn varieties - say, some maize that has high yield but is really sensitive to nutrient stress – maybe now you get both a high yield and high resilience," he said.

For now, Sun said he's glad to bask in the team's accomplishment. In true World Cup fashion, learning that the team's study had been accepted for publication in Nature Communications brought on a few tears, a few hugs. And why not? Qualification for the 2022 World Cup may have kicked off in 2019, but the research team embarked on its project a year earlier.

"This was a long, long journey," Sun said. "Honestly, it increased my resilience, too.'

Holton Livestock Exchange, Inc. 1/2 mile East of Holton, KS on 16 Highway Livestock Auction every Tuesday at 11:00 AM ****STARTING TIME: 11:00 AM**** MARKET REPORT FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022 **RECEIPTS: 1756 CATTLE** FOR FULL RESULTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.HOLTONLIVESTOCK.COM **STEERS** 18 blk 4 blk bwfSeneca 467@248.00 19 blk 10 blk bwf Baileyville 467@248.00 5 blk Linwood 425@244.00 9 blk char Atchison 468@238.00 8 blk bbf Atchison 419@236.00 7 blk 6 blk bwfLinwood 529@230.00 12 blk 9 blk Soldier 515@226.00

Lancaster 668@185.00 Onaga 851@176.25 9 blk bwfPerry 770@175.00 23 blk red Onaga 1018@164.75 HEIFERS Baileyville 428@203.00 Soldier 538@200.00 21 blk bwf Atchison 482@197.50 17 blk Atchison 538@196.00 18 blk bwf Soldier 573@186.50 10 blk Soldier 625@183.00 14 blk red ValleyFalls 657@173.50 22 blk red ValleyFalls 766@172.25 10 blk bwf Atchison 599@167.00 34 blk bwf Onaga 838@166.75 14 blk red Corning 710@165.25 977@149.00 10 blk red Onaga

595@189.00 17 blk Troy **DECEMBER 27 CLOSED for Holiday!** Merry Christmas & Happy New Year We appreciate your business! **Resume Regular Schedule January 3, 2023** Dan Harris, Auctioneer & Owner • 785-364-7137 Danny Deters, Corning, Auct. & Field Rep • 785-336-1622 Dick Coppinger, Winchester, Field Rep. • 913-683-5485 Steve Aeschliman, Sabetha, Field Rep. • 785-284-2417 Larry Matzke, Wheaton, Field Rep. • 785-268-0225 Craig Wischropp, Horton, Field Rep. • 785-547-5419 Mark Servaes, Atchison, Field Rep. • 816-390-2549 Barn Phone • 785-364-4114 WEBSITE: www.holtonlivestock.com EMAIL: dan@holtonlivestock.com View our auctions live at "Imaauctions.com"

Mayo Clinic. "If I cannot supply trehalose to the plants, what if I stopped its degradation in those plants?"

He turned to an antibiotic that can inhibit the enzyme responsible for degrading trehalose. The plan worked: Curbing the enzyme cranked up the trehalose levels in the corn. Within days, he noticed the crop growing more - re-

	Steers		Heifers
300-399#	\$180.00-\$220.00	300-399#	\$165.00-\$205.00
400-499#	\$175.00-\$215.00	400-499#	\$155.00-\$195.00
500-599#	\$170.00-\$205.00	500-599#	\$150.00-\$185.00
600-699#	\$165.00-\$193.00	600-699#	\$140.00-\$173.00
700-799#	\$165.00-\$185.00	700-799#	\$135.00-\$165.00
800-899#	\$160.00-\$175.00	800-899#	\$130.00-\$155.00
900-999#	\$160.00-\$172.50		

Tues., Dec. 27th - NO SALES Tues., Jan. 3rd - Weaned/Vaccinated Calf Special Tues., Jan. 10th - Calf/Yearling Special ALL WEIGH COWS & BULLS SELL AT THE END



starting with cows at 11:00 am, followed by calves and yearlings

Special Cow Sale on Thursday, Dec 22, starting at 12:30. Check out our bred cow & heifer consignments or bid online at DVAuction.com!

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Market Report - Sale Date 12-15-22. 1038 head

300-400 lb. steers, \$195-\$211; heifers, \$166-\$179; 400-500 lb. steers, \$181-\$229; heifers, \$178-\$189; 500-600 lb. steers, \$186-\$239; heifers, \$153-\$182; 600-700 lb. steers, \$163-\$197; heifers, \$141-\$177; 700-800 lb. steers, \$165-\$183; heifers, \$144-\$167; 800-900 lb. steers, \$164-\$179.30; heifers, \$140-\$156; 900-1,000 lb. steers, \$156-\$167.35. Trend on Calves: \$3-\$6 higher. Trend on Feeder Cattle: Steady on a thinner supply. Butcher Cows: High dressing cows \$70-\$79; Avg. dressing cows \$58-\$69; Low dressing cows \$40-\$55. Butcher Bulls: Avg. to high dressing bulls \$69-\$89. Trend on Cows & Bulls: Steady.

Some Highlights Include:

	•	•	
	HEIFERS	13 blk	500@236.00
6 blk	405@189.00	14 blk	556@203.50
14 blk	490@185.50	13 blk	595@197.00
11 mix	528@179.50	18 blk	638@192.00
10 blk	583@177.50	9 mix	761@178.50
7 char	678@164.00	62 blk	795@183.00
15 blk	810@165.50	46 blk	809@177.25
	STEERS	59 mix	854@172.25
6 red	446@216.00	60 blk	894@179.30
11 blk	498@229.00	55 mix	963@167.35

Thank you to all of our buyers & sellers in 2022, we look forward to being your preferred Livestock Auction in 2023 & years to come. MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR. See y'all back on January 5th for a **SPECIAL STOCKER FEEDER SALE!** NO SALES: 12.22 & 12.29

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Cattle Sale Every Thursday 11:00 AM



Schwieterman Market Outlook

A marketing commentary by Bret Crotts

It is the middle of December and we don't have a lot of fresh news to work with and trade volume is very low. The Federal Reserve has created some volatility from time to time with their verbiage regarding rate hikes, and the war between Russia and Ukraine continues to make headlines. Those headlines, however, seem to have less impact on the marketplace each time a fresh one comes out.

There are some concerns about the weather in Argentina, but traders seem content with crop development in Brazil, so those stories seem to offset each other sometimes. Soybeans and soybean meal have been the strongest of the markets because of demand and the weather concerns in Argentina, but the rallies are capped by the fear of what a record Brazilian sovbean crop will do to our export demand.

For the corn and wheat, traders are waiting for the January supply and demand report to see what changes are made, but mostly traders are waiting to see if we get some fresh demand after the first of the year. Demand is the only thing that will wake these markets up, because the tightness of the supply really doesn't matter if we can't sell it.

On the charts, the wheat and corn have made an attempt to turn higher, but both markets stalled out at trend line resistance. The wheat sold off after the failure to breach the trend line, and the corn is just consolidating. There is definitely lots of room for these markets to run, but we can develop the speculative enthusiasm to break through resistance.

Sovbean charts are, of course, much different. Overhead resistance is very strong in the \$14.90-\$15.00 area in the March contract, and the \$14.60 area is good support. A definitive close above \$15.00 would suggest that the March contract is headed for the contract highs. If we can have a few more weeks of good export sales,

that will happen.

There were several new contract highs in the live cattle last week. The cash market has been persistently in the \$155-\$158 area, so there is no incentive for weakness in the front months of the live cattle futures. The April contract spent most of the week correcting back from the new contract high, but posted solid gains on Friday, which suggests we are ready for another run to the upside.

The feeder cattle spent the week in consolidation mode. The January contract was particularly sideways this week, which has to be at least partially due to the flat cash market. There just weren't a lot of changes in the auction markets, so there wasn't much reason for movement in the futures either.

Schwieterman, Inc. is a full service commodity brokerage firm. If you would like more information on commodity markets or our brokerage services, contact Bret Crotts at 800-272-9131, www.upthelimit.com

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Preventing vitamin A deficiency during periods of drought

By Lisa Moser, K-State **Research and Extension** news service

A well-balanced diet is a key to good health, and many know the importance of a multivitamin to keep deficiencies at bay.

For cattle, vitamin A is one nutrient that producers need to manage to keep the cattle healthy, said the experts at Kansas State University's Beef Cattle Institute on a recent Cattle Chat podcast.

'Vitamin A is important for good overall tissue health and really helps support vision," said veterinarian Bob Larson. "Cattle with severe deficiencies can experience night blindness and their calves can be born weak, but those would be extreme cases.

Larson said most of the signs of vitamin A deficiency are subtle and hard to detect.

The primary source of vitamin A is through the beta carotene found in green grass," said beef cattle nutritionist Phillip Lancaster. "The animal's body can convert that to vitamin A and since it's a fat-soluble vitamin it can be stored in the animal's body for three to four months after it comes off the green pastures."

The challenge this year

the country, the pastures experienced drought and cattle were not able to graze it as long as normal, say the experts.

"And because of the drought. the hay that we made this summer may not have had the same levels of vitamin A as in past vears," added veterinarian Brad White.

There are two options for managing this deficiencv. according to Larson.

"A lot of mineral supplements will include vitamin A. It is important to feed fresh mineral supplements that haven't been stored for more than a year to make sure the product hasn't been degraded." he said.

"The second option is to give the cattle a vitamin A injection that will be stored in the liver for a number of weeks.'

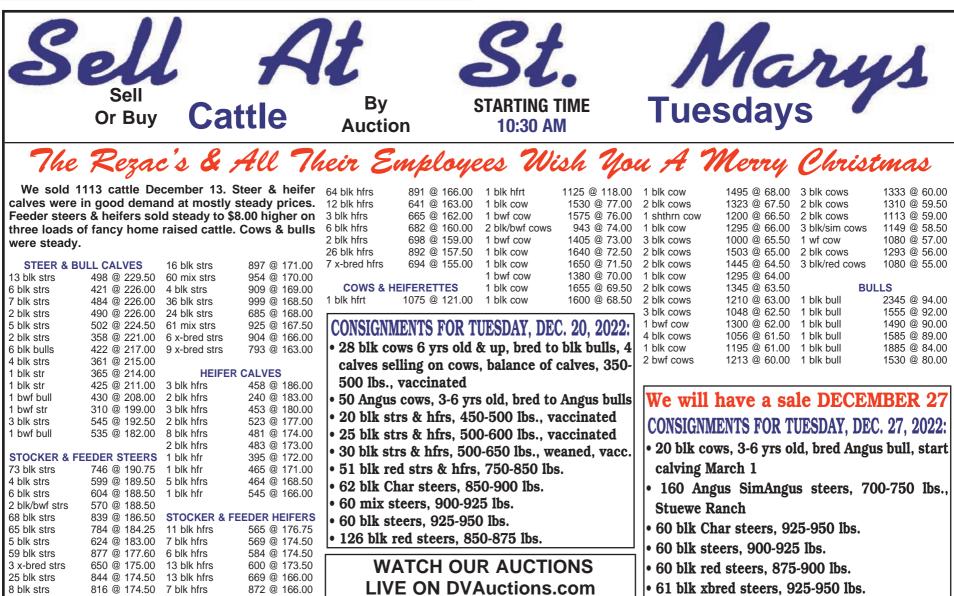
White shared the importance of consulting with a nutritionist and veterinarian to come up with a plan to manage vitamin A.

"Because of the drought conditions, many of us are concerned about the earlier than normal depletion of vitamin A in the liver and we need to manage for that situation." he said.

To hear the full discussion, listen to the Cattle Chat podcast online or through your preferred



Seven	Day Forecast	In-E	In-Depth Local Forecast				Today's Local Outlook				
等談	WEDNESDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 18 Low1 - 2 THURSDAY Partly Cloudy	a slight c 18°, humi 3 to 7 mph set in 20	hunce of is dity of 699 h. The record 01. Expect fith a slig	ostly cloudy ; solated snow %. East north rd high for too mostly clou tht chance	r, high of least wind day is 59" udy skies	Washington 24/8	475	Blue Rapids 7/-5	Senec 17/-	a 5 3/21	
ويغط			Last Week's Almanac			Clay Center					
6	FRIDAY Scattered Snow High: 15 Low: -5	Date 12/9 12/10 12/11 12/12	Ht/Lo 36/30 47/22 44/19 50/41	Normals 43/21 43/21 43/20 42/20	Precip 0.00" 0.00" 0.00" 0.10"	the .	Ogden 22/-2	Manhattan 18/-2	Wam 18/-2	ego	
-	SATURDAY Cloudy High: 16 Low: -3	12/13 12/14 12/15 Rainfall	57/30 37/27 37/26	42/20 42/20 41/19	0.47" 0.00" 0.00"	Abilen	20/-	ction City 1	Purs-	××	
	SUNDAY Sunny High: 14 Low: -7	Normal rai Departure Average te Average m	infall :mp ormal	····· ······ ···········	0.21" . +0.36" 35.9° 31.2°	19/-1	and the second s		ouncil Gi V-1	rove	
Sille	MONDAY	1		T	his Week	's Sun & M	oon Char	t			
T	Sunny High: 18 Low: -1	New 12/23		Day Wednesday Thursday	Sunrise 7:42 a.m. 7:42 a.m.	Sunset 5:07 p.m. 5:07 p.m.	Moonrise 5:47 a.m. 7:04 a.m.	Moonsel 3:25 p.m. 4:16 p.m.	記	Full 1/6	
all's	TUESDAY Sunny High: 20 Low: 0	First 12/29		Friday Saturday Sunday Monday Tuesday	7:43 a.m. 7:43 a.m. 7:44 a.m. 7:44 a.m. 7:44 a.m.	5:08 p.m. 5:08 p.m. 5:09 p.m. 5:10 p.m. 5:10 p.m.	8:17 a.m. 9:21 a.m. 10:12 a.m. 10:53 a.m. 11:26 a.m.	5:20 p.m. 6:34 p.m. 7:52 p.m. 9:10 p.m. 10:25 p.m.	(19)	Last 1/14	
L	ocal UV Index			Weatl	her Histor	y	Gr	owing Deg	gree Da	ys	
	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 w, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: Hig	11+ i	he Rio Gran torm produ	nde Valley of ced 26 inches	Texas to sout	roduced snow fro hern Arkansas. T fillsboro, Texas, atBossier, La.	he 12/9	0 12	ate Degr 2/13 2/14 2/15	0 0 0 0	



Our CONSIGNMENTS can now be viewed after 12 Noon on Mondays by going to WWW.grassandgrain.com & logging onto the online subscription

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