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## Sorghum for the win in water conservation

*Editor's note: Following is the third installment of our Fall Harvest Series, sponsored by Santee Steel, Herrs Machine Hydrostatics, Kopper Kutter and Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission.*

**By Lucas Shivers**

Brant and Amy Peterson run Winsome Farms in Stanton County, predominantly a dryland operation producing wheat, corn and sorghum.

"We're named Winsome just like 'You win some, lose some.'" Peterson said. "I'm the fifth generation. I've been officially working on the farm for 36 years. Two of my passions are Kansas water and sorghum."

Sorghum is in an exciting position, due to the lower water utilization, lower nitrogen inputs, and lower carbon footprint than other crops and sources of food and ethanol.

The Petersons raised three boys on their farm. Their oldest son, Cort, an MFC Coach at Walmart in Junction City lives in Manhattan. Cyle is a junior at KU studying business. Creed is a freshman at Hutchinson Community College getting an ag degree to work at getting into chemical spraying.

**Rainy Early, Hot Late**

The fall harvest this year mostly survived the heat thanks to early rains.

"We started out with five inches of rain for the past year in major drought; but got 17 inches in a ten-week period this spring which is more than in the last 30 months,"



With a passion for conserving water and extending the life of the Ogallala Aquifer, Brant and Amy Peterson run Winsome Farms in Stanton County. *Courtesy photo Peterson said.*

"We were so welcome to get it, but lots of crops didn't get planted in the time we wanted."

Then Mother Nature played cruel summer jokes with triple digits in mid-August without a lot of rain later in the season.

"The early planted crops are stressed during pollination," Peterson said. "Most sorghum is looking better and looking good due to stages hitting right in the hot time. It's not as much as we thought in mid-summer but better harvests than past years thankfully."

**Online**

Winsomefarmsks.com is the farm website, with links to their social media presence.

"We use lots of channels and sites to share and get ideas," Peterson said. "I love the farm community online."

To diversify the operation, they started selling corn, beans, and sorghum seed in 2010.

"I enjoy interacting with customers and finding opportunities to help them improve their operations," he said. "I love to come up with solutions that work. I share both successes and failures."

Peterson also works with Dragonline, a mobile drip irrigation that was tested at the Garden City field office to be 95% efficient as a subsurface drip system.

"Instead of nozzles spraying everywhere, we drag a drip hose to be

incredibly efficient," Peterson said.

**Water Focus**

Every time Kansas faces a drought, stakeholders create a huge demand draining the Ogallala Aquifer, the aquifer surrounded by sand, silt, clay, and gravel located beneath the Great Plains.

"Water has dwindled down over the last few years. Southwest Kansas is hurting," Peterson said. "When drought events happen, it's almost like a movie with Adam Sandler called *Click* where he uses a remote control to fast-forward life. It's like that - three years or more go by in a single growing season with declines in our aquifer. It intensifies it all."

The Petersons worry

about their community and county as it doesn't require as many people to run a dryland area. It takes more people to support irrigation which means more people for schools and a tax base for infrastructure.

"We have to come up with ways to better steward the water and find options to recharge," Peterson said. "Conservation is a big component to prolong the life of the aquifer, but no one conserves themselves to prosperity. Honestly, Kansas has a unique opportunity."

Based on a large study in 1982 on aqueducts, Peterson said the state can help to move water from the east to the west.

"We've focused on alternative sources of supply with access from the Missouri River with aqueducts and reservoirs to pump across Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas and other states," Peterson said.

This bold vision has been featured in the "A Drying Shame" series from the *Kansas City Star*, "Feast and Famine" from Garden City Co-op, and Dream Maker Podcast season 3, episode 3 with Clay Scott about Kansas Aqueducts.

"This project is years ahead of others and we can cement our place in the future as a staple of interstate water transfer," Peterson said.

**Board Level**

As the new chairman of the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission

(KGSC), Peterson has goals to spread the positive and sustainable message of sorghum.

"We've done a lot with research and now we want to increase focus on education and promotion," Peterson said.

KGSC is committed to sorghum promotion, research, and information designed to strengthen, expand and develop new foreign and domestic markets for sorghum.

"We focus on sound stewardship of financial resources, ensuring sorghum is a long-lasting, profitable crop for Kansas," he said.

Peterson and the commission hope to assist in the development of markets, consumer education and promotion of grain sorghum to enhance producer profitability.

Peterson also promotes a United Sorghum Checkoff program to develop the next generation of leaders for the industry with its Leadership Sorghum program.

"Throughout Leadership Sorghum, we as class members were exposed to various aspects of the sorghum industry from basic and applied research to international marketing," Peterson said.

Through both hands-on and classroom-style education, producers gained an understanding of how sorghum moves through the value chain, how checkoffs and interest organizations interact on behalf of the industry and what the future holds for the crop.

## Farm bill front and center at KFB Leadership Breakfast

**By Donna Sullivan, Editor**

With the 2018 farm bill set to expire at the end of September, several members of the Kansas congressional delegation spoke during the Kansas Farm Bureau Leadership Breakfast at the State Fair on Saturday, September 9. Sen. Jerry Moran, who sits on the Appropriations sub-committee for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, reported that ag appropriations was one of 12 bills that had been passed out of the committee and would go to the Senate floor. "That's a good thing because it means we may very well complete the appropriations process and send it to the House, and ag appropriations will not be one of the appropriation bills that will be at risk of being part of a continuing resolution, meaning that no changes would be made in the bill and we would just fund everything the way it was last year," Moran said.

Sen. Roger Marshall is a minority member of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. "This is only my second farm bill, and I know a lot more about obstetrics than I do the farm bill, but if the farm bill were one of my patients, I would say it feels like she's a week overdue and we ought to think about inducing her," he said. Expressing frustration in the lack of progress that has been made, Marshall said he thinks it will be Thanksgiving time



KFB president Joe Newland welcomed the organization's members, ag industry representatives and government leaders to the Leadership Breakfast at the Kansas State Fair. *Photos by Donna Sullivan*

before they see the text of the bill. "The House will get the text first, then we'll get it," he said. "On average it's eight months after we see the text before it's actually passed. So that puts us right into next year's election." He does not believe an extension will be enacted until December. "You all have done your job, I've done my job, but we have a lot of work ahead of us yet." Marshall delved into the actual dollars involved in the farm bill, 76% of which (\$326 billion), is dedicated to nutrition programs. "If I look at the biggest impediment to getting a farm bill done, it's not crop insurance," he said. "It's the national debt. We're going to spend \$700 billion this year on interest alone. When you do that,

there's not much money left to give the troops a raise and pay for the farm bill. But I think the ability of Congress to fund the government and figure out long-term solutions to our national debt is going to have a downwind impact on the farm bill as much as anything."

Rep. Tracey Mann, who represents the Big First District in Kansas, pointed out that of the 435 Congressional districts, the Big First is the third-largest ag district in the whole country, producing \$12.5 billion last year. The district ranks number one in beef, wheat and sorghum production, number seven for corn and number eleven for dairy. He discussed the triple digit heat the week of August 21 and the effect it had on fall crops. "My dad and brother farm full-time, and as of yesterday had cut 560 acres," he said. "The average yield for them in Gove County was 15-30 bushels. They probably lost 40% of their crop that week of August 21. It's a reminder for all of us why crop insurance is so important."

"These are five-year



Sen. Jerry Moran said that ag appropriations was one of twelve bills passed out of committee and headed to the Senate floor for a vote.

bills for a reason," Mann continued. "They need to be long enough to provide some certainty, but short enough to reflect the times of modern agriculture. Anyone can look at this and say that economic times in 2018 weren't the same as what they are in 2023. That's why we need to get it right." Mann said his top priority is crop insurance. "There are going to be efforts to weaken, diminish and chip away at crop insurance," he predicted. "We've got to make sure we strengthen, fortify it and make it better." His second priority is the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development Program (FMD). "When you look at the dollars we spend as a nation to help open up other markets overseas for exports, we're spending the same amount today as we did 20 years ago. It's not that much money and I'd like to see us double that." Ag research is his third priority, and he said even those most critical of the

farm bill in D.C. see the value of ag research, with its 20-1 return on investment to the tax payer. Last-

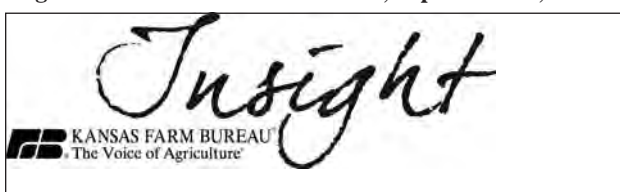
ly, Mann listed oversight as a priority, with issues like Waters of the U.S., the Lesser prairie-chicken protections, attempts to ban atrazine and the importance of year-round E15 high on his list, as well as protecting stepped-up basis.



Sen. Roger Marshall believes it will be Thanksgiving time before the Senate sees the text of the farm bill.



Rep. Tracey Mann said that as he works on the farm bill, crop insurance, market access and development programs, ag research and oversight are his four top priorities.



## Adventures in Baseball

By Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

I am not a great lover of sports, but I have always enjoyed America's favorite pastime: baseball. My uncle regularly took us to watch the Brewers play at the old County Stadium in Milwaukee. Game days were long because we lived three hours from the stadium, but we never complained.

We were the first wave of die-hard Sausage Race speculators. We enjoyed pitching changes because there was always hope the relief pitcher would ride the Harley-Davidson to the mound instead of walking. The rousing rendition of Take Me Out to the Ballgame, followed by Roll Out the Barrels during the seventh-inning stretch were sacred. And if the Brewers hit a home run, Bernie Brewer would slide into his giant frosted mug to celebrate. County Stadium's fan experience made me a life-long fan.

Since the pandemic, we hadn't been to a new baseball stadium, which has slowed our effort to visit all the MLB stadiums. I planted the seed earlier this summer that we should go east to see some parks. Planning a vacation that requires plane tickets is a bit like spinning a roulette wheel when you live on a farm. It is hard for

a farmer to commit with confidence but after some persuasion I got a tentative yes to make refundable plans for a whirlwind four-day weekend, to see three parks in three cities and prayed for rain.

Our first stop was Philadelphia, home of the cheesesteak. On principle, I committed to only eating cheesesteaks while there and was not disappointed by a Segway tour of cheesesteak restaurants. In all, we tried five including the original Pat's and sampled the Philly Taco (full cheesesteak wrapped in a large slice of pizza) eating challenge. When we couldn't eat any more, we made our way to Citizen's Bank Park to watch the defending World Series Champion Phillies take on the Cardinals. We always root for the home team (unless the Royals or Brewers are in town). We joined in the excitement every time the home team hit a home run to ring the giant LED Liberty Bell. Overall, this was the best stadium of our trip without a bad seat in the house and a great fan experience. I also got to try the "new this season" stadium offering, a cheesesteak egg roll.

A few quick train rides took us to Citi Field in Queens, home of the Mets. Several years ago we watched the Royals

at Yankee Stadium and were disappointed in the lackluster fan experience, which landed the park at the bottom of my list. I was nervous the Mets would be the same, but I was wrong. Watching for the home run Big Apple and catching the view from Shea Bridge are a few of their fun customs. We ended up sitting amongst Angels fans having a blast cheering their team to victory. Citi Field had the best food of the parks we visited; I highly recommend the loaded fries.

The famous Fenway Park in Boston was our last stop. The park's unique design, featuring the giant "Green Monster" wall, is because the park couldn't expand the outfield because of buildings around the stadium. Nostalgia hit me hard when we entered the park as I am pretty sure it hasn't really been updated over the years; it took me back to the baseball games of my childhood. Our favorite here were the fans; they had so much pride in their team and stadium.

Baseball games are great for family bonding and great memories; every park has its own culture, history and ambience. We're halfway through the list and I can't wait to plan our next baseball adventure.

"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.



I have decided that my cows have a super-power and that is to know the exact time I am gone and too far from home to get back quickly. I swear that in the last two weeks they only have gotten out when I am not around. In the past twenty-four hours all three pastures of spring cows have had at least one escapee and all but one was when I was away. I am also sure that the other one was bad timing because if they had waited an hour I would have been gone then, too.

It's not like there is ever a good time for them to get out, but there are times that are less inconvenient. Days where I am home working on other projects would be less troublesome, but let's face it, there is never a good time for cows out. There are, however, better times for them to escape, like when I am out doing chores and driving by. That is what the bunch with bad timing did and they went through an open gate, so it was a quick, simple fix. Last night was the perfect example. I came out of a metal building with no signal to have my phone light up with calls, messages, and texts about a calf out on the highway. That is not a good feeling. Fortunately, for me, Jennifer was home, and the sheriff's office called her, too. The irony is that for years I have gotten the call about cows on the highway when they were not mine. Does that make the last couple of times when they were mine better?

The cows also hit the trifecta of escape techniques. The first was a fencer with either a bad battery, poor grounding or, most likely, both. I have cycled through four batteries, and none have made the fence hot enough for my liking. I am going to try a new battery and more ground rods to see if that makes a difference. My real thought is that only a good soaking rain will help when it comes to electric fence. The next was the old tried-and-true method of finding a weak spot in the barb wire. The third attempt was through a gate that had been poorly fastened. That one had probably been in the planning since last deer season.

I know it is the time of the year when wandering cow syndrome is at its worst and apparently the ability to sense when I am away is a symptom. I don't know about the cows but wandering cow syndrome makes me jittery and jumpy, especially when a neighbor's phone number shows up on my caller ID. It also makes my

morning chore routine take longer because I have to drive around every pasture.

I have to admit that my cows also have a bit of compassion. They made a major escape, triggering a couple of calls from our local sheriff the day before I left for Africa and then they were on their best behavior the whole two weeks I was gone. When I got back, they reverted back to their old tricks. I don't know if they are more scared of Jennifer, which they should be, or if they just like raising my blood pressure.

I do have to admit that they have become more creative this year than in the past, going through places that have been good enough for generations of cows before them. That had more to do with a historically deep place on the creek suddenly changing and becoming shallow. Actually, it probably wasn't a sudden change, just that neither I nor the cows had thought to check it. Or could it be that they knew and saved it for when I was away from home? That is a possibility.

I am also considering that the failed attempt this morning was really just a decoy for a better escape plan this evening when I am also gone. I am telling you; cows may look dumb but really, they are criminal masterminds. The best example of that was last weekend when I was at the State Fair and got multiple calls about cows out and then when I got friends to go look, nothing. The next morning the offending bovine were back in, only to escape later. This would be where the bad battery and poorly grounded fencer come in. I have also considered that modern technology is to be blamed. If I did not have a cell phone, I would be blissfully unaware of my herd's wanderings. I might have a bigger mess to clean up later, but I would be happier longer. Last night's lack of signal was a good example of that, I was happy as I could be in my meeting and spent much of the drive home figuring out what had happened.

We will see how good their super-power is because I am gone again tonight. The fencer has more ground rods and a new battery, the gate is latched better, and Jennifer fixed the barb wire last night so the ball is in their court. I have money on my cows finding a new, more creative way of being where they are not supposed to be.



I will admit to being prone to bouts of melancholy from time to time. I'm not really one to live in the past and prefer to view each new day as an adventure waiting to unfold. But there are some things that will instantly take me back to times gone by and people no longer with us – my parents, grandparents, sister-in-law and many others. The memories aren't tinged with regret, just a sadness that they aren't still here to share life with. Of all the things that will send me back in time, one has more power than almost any other, and that is cotton.

Fields of snowy white waiting to be harvested.

I don't live in an area that grows cotton, and aside from a centerpiece made of cotton bolls I found at Mulberry Feet in Riley, it's rarely something I actually experience. But when I do...

I'm twelve years old, riding in the back seat with my brother and sisters as we travel down south to Arkansas to visit my mother's family. It's hot and sticky and my brother is likely tormenting us girls, because that's what you do when you're an eleven-year-old boy stuck in a car for hours. Unbeknownst to us, in the front seat, our mom was being transported back in time herself.

She was born the fourth of twelve children in a family whose livelihood depended on cotton. She told us stories of picking cotton all day long as just a little girl, dragging the long sack behind her and filling it until it was too heavy for her tiny little body to move. Even though it was nowhere close to full, someone would come empty it into the wagon for her and she would start again. Picking cotton until her fingers bled.

As the fields went by us in a blur, we had no idea what was going on inside of her at that moment.

"Stop the car," she suddenly said. My dad pulled over to the edge of a field and she got out. We followed her, but kept a little distance, not wanting to intrude. She knelt at the edge of the field and we saw her shoulders begin to shake. We crept closer and my dad knelt down beside her, draping his arm lightly around her waist. She picked up strands of cotton left behind by the mechanical picker that had replaced her family's manual labor.

"We used to pick these fields so clean there wasn't a bit of cotton left behind," she said softly. They had to. Their lives depended on it.

After a few minutes she got up, headed back to the car with us following along behind and we got on our way. It took many years for me to actually understand what I had witnessed. Even though I didn't fully grasp it at the time, it struck me as profound, and I knew we had been given a glimpse, however brief, of the life that had shaped our mother.

So that cotton centerpiece sits on my table, reminding me of the stock I came from. Work hard, even when the job is too big for you. Take pride in doing your best, and be proud of where you came from, however humble it may have been.

## Producers set checkoff budget for FY 2024

In action at the end of its meeting, the Beef Promotion Operating Committee (BPOC) approved checkoff funding for 12 authorization requests totaling about \$38 million for fiscal year 2024, which begins October 1. The committee includes ten producers from the Cat-

lemen's Beef Board (CBB) and 10 producers from the Federation of State Beef Councils.

The funding, which is subject to USDA approval, will be used for programs focused on beef promotion, research, consumer and industry information, foreign marketing and pro-

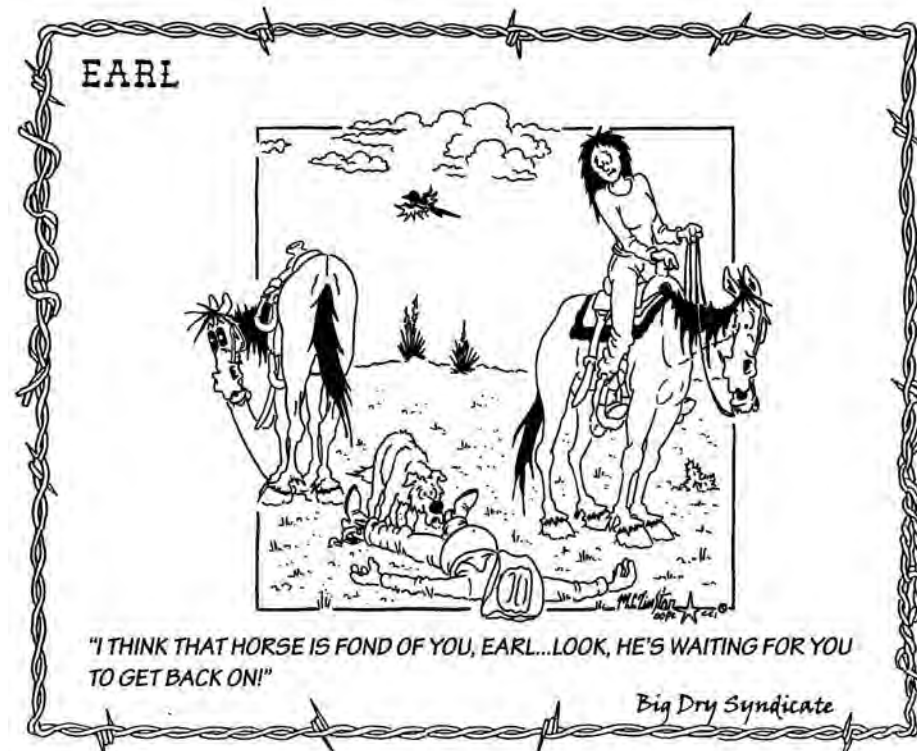
ducer communications. Specifically, there will be investments in research projects on beef safety, nutrition, product quality and consumer perceptions about beef. Funds also will be put toward working with primary and secondary school curriculum directors nationwide to get accurate information about the beef industry into classrooms. Other initiatives will include promoting beef's nutritional value, eating experience and convenience; nutrition influencer outreach; media and public relations efforts; and supply chain engagement.

"We're consistently impressed with the proposals that our contractors bring forward each year, and choosing which initiatives to fund is a real challenge," said Oklahoma rancher Jimmy Taylor, CBB and BPOC chair. "Our budget amounts to slightly less each year because of inflation. To put it in perspective, a dollar in 1985 is worth just 35¢ today. That means we simply don't have the buying power that we had when this program first started."

### Country Chuckles by Jonny Hawkins



"When I said 'Cadillac Ranch', it's because I lack cattle."



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# Finding common ground over Quivira water rights

**By U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan.)**  
 Kansas had a record-breaking export year in 2022 with red meat protein, cereals, and oil seed as the state's top three exports. Agriculture generated millions in revenue for the state and continued to sustain the hundreds of rural communities spread out across the plains.

Nevertheless, a significant portion of the farms and ranches driving this industry could soon see their water spigots shut off and croplands dry up.

Hundreds of farms in central Kansas rely on Rattlesnake Creek to irrigate their crops, and so does the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, which is maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge. The refuge holds a state

water right that was established in 1957 and takes precedent over the water rights of many neighboring farms.

Since 2016, reports have found that farm irrigation upstream of Quivira might have resulted in the refuge not receiving the amount of water that it is entitled to through its water rights.

I have been working with local farmers, communities and the FWS to find a solution that both conserves water for the refuge and allows farms in the area to continue operating.

FWS and the Big Bend Groundwater Management District 5 have been operating under a Memorandum of Agreement signed in 2020, which set the parties on a path to finding

a science-based common-sense solution that would provide stability to those reliant on water from the Rattlesnake Basin.

However, without prior notice, FWS submitted a request to secure water to the state of Kansas on Feb. 10, 2023. If FWS moves ahead, their action could retire critical junior water rights in the Rattlesnake Basin.

This means nearly 800 water rights may be shut off by FWS's action. Farm income modeling indicates the loss of irrigation will result in significant damage to the Kansas economy. Using corn growing in Pratt as an example, and knowing agricultural production has a 1.72 multiplier effect on economic output, even a 60 percent reduction in planted ir-

rigated acres of corn will result in over \$41 million in lost economic activity. Extrapolating these numbers among commodity and livestock production in all eight GMD5 counties would mean the potential loss of hundreds of millions, if not a billion dollars in lost economic activity. That drop in economic activity also erodes the tax base, lowers school enrollment and harms local businesses.

FWS's actions will have a negative impact on not just the eight counties making up the Big Bend Groundwater Management District 5 (GMD5) but on the greater agricultural economy, the backbone of our state's economic activity.

The state of Kansas recently put a significant amount of resources behind showing businesses like Panasonic, Integra,

and Hilmar the benefits of building in Kansas. For as important as it was for the state to support the estimated \$2.5 billion in economic impact derived from the Panasonic project, state leadership cannot ignore the significant contribution to the Kansas economy generated by farmers and ranchers in GMD5.

Given the significant impact to farmers, ranchers, local communities

and the state economy, it is critical FWS withdraws its request for water and adhere to the Memorandum of Agreement established in 2020. Any deviation from that agreement must be a collaborative effort between the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the GMD5, and other local stakeholders to preserve the long-term success of the refuge without harming the livelihoods of Kansas farmers and ranchers.

## Gov. Kelly calls for collaborative and innovative approach to water in the Rattlesnake Creek Basin

Governor Laura Kelly submitted a letter to the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) recently calling for the agency to partner with local communities to find innovative solutions to secure the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge's senior water rights without harming the local agriculture industry and regional economy.

"In addition to supplying water to the Refuge, the Rattlesnake Creek Basin is a vital source of water for farmers and rural communities in south central Kansas," Kelly said. "I'm asking the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that we do everything we can to reduce harm to our agricultural sector and the vibrant economy it supports throughout the region."

The Rattlesnake Creek Basin has long provided water to the region's agriculture industry while providing sufficient water for migratory and resident

wildlife in the Refuge. The Refuge is managed by the USFWS, which earlier this year renewed its call for water. Reductions in groundwater pumping from the Rattlesnake Creek Basin for irrigation, livestock facilities, municipalities, and industry may lead to economic hardships for local businesses and surrounding communities.

"We greatly appreciate Governor Kelly's support in her letter to the USFWS urging the agency to continue to seek a collaborative solution for the Quivira National Wildlife

Refuge impairment," said Kent Moore, board member of the Kansas Corn Growers Association and farmer from Iuka. "The impacted communities and stakeholders have been working tirelessly on this issue and significant progress is being made finding innovative solutions that benefit the refuge and that recognize the critical role that agriculture provides to our state's economy. Our rural communities depend on agriculture to provide the bedrock that supports local services, schools, hospitals, and employment opportunities."

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# GRASS & GRAIN Our Daily Bread

\*\*\*\*\* By G&G Area Cooks \*\*\*\*\*

Millie Conger, Tecumseh, Wins This Week's Grass & Grain Recipe Contest And Prize

Winner Millie Conger, Tecumseh:  
**BAKED POTATO BREAKFAST SKILLET**

- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 4 potatoes, baked, peeled & diced
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup green pepper
- 1 cup cooked meat (bacon, sausage or ham)
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

In a skillet heat oil and butter. Add potatoes, onion and pepper. Sauté about 10 minutes. Add all remaining ingredients except cheese. Cook for about 10 minutes until mixture is good and hot. Add cheese and take off stove and let set 5 minutes until cheese is melted.

- \*\*\*\*\*
- Rose Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:  
**BROWNIE MIX COOKIE**
- 1 box brownie mix
  - 3 eggs
  - 1/4 cup oil
  - 1/2 cup flour

Set oven to 350 degrees. Mix all ingredients. Line baking sheets with parchment paper. Drop by spoonfuls onto baking pans. Bake about 9 minutes or until

looks done. Let set 5 minutes on baking pans before removing to racks to cool.

\*\*\*\*\*

Annette Reilly, Abilene:  
"Here's another summer squash recipe inspired by one served at Longford's Coachlight Restaurant. Hope you enjoy this recipe as it's a nice change from the average side dish."

**COACHLIGHT'S SUMMER VEGGIE**

3 - 6" summer squash zucchini or yellow straight-neck, stem ends removed, also blossom ends

2 cups prepared fresh tomatoes, or 1 pint canned

1/2 cup chopped onion

2 tablespoons granulated sugar

Salt & pepper to taste

In a 3-quart saucepan chunk summer squash into 1- to 1 1/2-inch chunks. Leave on tender skin for color. Add prepared tomatoes (cored, skinned & quartered) or a pint container. Add chopped onions, sugar and salt and pepper. Heat to boiling; reduce to simmer and cook until squash is fork tender. Serves 4 to 6.

NOTE: Best served warm. Sugar can be reduced or be optional but it does seem to reduce the "bite" of the squash.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jackie Doud, Topeka:  
**PINEAPPLE CHERRY CAKE**

- 1 large can crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1 large can pineapple tidbits, drained
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 3 cups sugar
- 5 large eggs, beaten
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 jar maraschino cherries, drained, cut in half

Set oven to 350 degrees. In a bowl place pineapple and baking soda. Mix well. Add in sugar, beaten eggs and vanilla. Mix well. Add flour and mix well. Add pecans and cherries. Pour into lightly greased 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Bake 40-50 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Let cool then frost.

Frosting:  
1 1/2 cups butter  
8 ounces cream cheese  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
3 1/2 cups powdered sugar  
1/2 cup chopped pecans

Beat butter and cream cheese until smooth; add vanilla and half of the powdered sugar. Add remaining powdered sugar. Frost cake and sprinkle with chopped pecans. Keep in refrigerator.

\*\*\*\*\*

Kellee George, Shawnee:  
**CABBAGE ROLL SOUP**

- 1 1/2 lbs. lean ground beef
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 1 3/4 cups chopped onion

- 1 1/4 cups chopped carrots
- 5 cups chopped cabbage
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- (2) 14-ounce cans beef broth
- (3) 8-oz. cans tomato sauce

Brown ground beef.

Add all other ingredients. Bring to a boil. Cook until cabbage is done.

\*\*\*\*\*

Kimberly Edwards, Stillwater, Oklahoma:  
**CROCK-POT RANCH CHICKEN**

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 4 Russet potatoes, cut into 2-inch pieces
- 2 cups baby carrots
- 1 package dry Ranch dressing mix
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 cup milk

Place chicken, potatoes and carrots in crock-pot. Whisk remaining ingredients and pour over top of chicken mixture. Cook on low 6-8 hours or about 4 on high.

\*\*\*\*\*

This recipe is being shared from the 14 Hands Ranch August Newsletter, Jada Sharp, Leonardville. Check out her website at: [www.14handsranchks.com](http://www.14handsranchks.com)

*If you are like me you have a lot of zucchini with more still growing in the garden but your freezer is already full of it! This is one of our family's favorite recipes for using zucchini.*

**ZUCCHINI CHOCOLATE CHIP BARS**

Adapted from *The Amish Cook At Home cookbook* by Lovina Eicher

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2/3 cups water
- 2 cups peeled & grated zucchini (if using frozen thaw first)
- 12-ounce package of chocolate chips

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease two 9-by-13-inch baking pans or one 12-by-17-inch baking pan.

Combine the flours, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and sugar in a large bowl and stir with a whisk to blend. Add the oil, eggs, and water and stir until smooth. Stir in the remaining ingredients. Stir until everything is evenly blended. Pour the batter into the prepared pan(s). Bake for 35 minutes or until firm. Remove from the oven, let cool and cut into bars.



## Baking With Sugarbuns

By Michele Drees  
You Miss This

In life there are some people who know you, and then there are others who really know you. I am talking about the ones who can catch that quick look as it drifts across your face in an instant, or the ones who can tell by the smallest change in the tone of your voice that something is wrong; the people who know without a word being said.

I personally think this is a skill I have honed in on. I watch and listen for the smallest changes to let me know when something is off, it drives my husband crazy how accurate I can be in my observations. When it comes to people observing these changes in me, I tend to try to hide them, tending to want to err on the side of being emotionless rather than having someone see me in a "weak" moment when I am feeling deeply.

Regardless of how much I might try to hide or mask those feelings, there are some people who just know and that can read me better than I would like to admit; mostly family, but there are some others who have also learned over the years to pick up on my slightest cues.

Early this month, I was home for the day, getting my hair cut and then spending the afternoon with my family. I was able to go to lunch with my mom, dad, and youngest brother at my favorite Mexican restaurant. There was also some time to catch up with an old friend while getting ice cream and a quick trip out to my old job to see Pixie, the warehouse cat.

My nieces, brother, and sister-in-law all joined in on the fun where we all enjoyed a family meal together at our favorite Italian restaurant in town. My mom and I were driving the girls back home, so we hustled home and loaded up to go check cows. My mom was in the Razor with the two girls; my dad and I each jumped on a four-wheeler and made our

way across the road.

We went through the gate to be greeted by some of the cows, but being on the lookout for their babies, we ventured up to the top of the hill. At the top we found some more mamas as well as three babies. Sadly, no new babies had decided to join us earth side this day, but we had the best time watching the three little ones prance around and explore their world while my dad fed their mamas some range cubes.

At one point, I drove my four-wheeler over to my mom and the girls. My mind was swirling, thinking about all the things that have changed in the past year and remembering all the fun times we've had checking for baby cows over the years. I was admiring the sunset, while watching my dad with the cows when I realized my mom was staring at me. Me being me, I asked her why she was staring at me. Her response was simple, a question: "You miss this, don't you?"

I asked her why she asked me that question and she told me she could see it in my eyes. She was not wrong. As much as I love the life I am creating in Topeka with Kyle, part of my heart and soul will always feel most whole when exploring Carlyon land, on the road that has been home to most of my family for my entire life. Life is ever-evolving, and I prefer it that way, but having a place that grounds you is absolutely magical and something I will never take for granted.

Michele grew up in Junction City and graduated from Kansas State University. She worked in the restaurant management field and then as an office manager for a company that manufactures oilfield products. She is currently the payroll manager at Washburn University. Her passion for blogging and food can be followed on Instagram: [boobsbransandbaking](https://www.instagram.com/boobsbransandbaking). If you would like to contact Michele with comments please email [mcarlyon88@gmail.com](mailto:mcarlyon88@gmail.com)

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## Crowd Pleasing Harvest Recipes To Try During The Busy Field Days



### PULLED PORK

Cook once and eat all week! Use leftover pulled pork to make wraps, to top salads, or to reheat for leftovers.

4-pound pork roast, cut into 4 even pieces IF using multi-cooker  
1 tablespoon garlic powder  
1 tablespoon paprika  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 cup barbecue sauce  
2 cups low-sodium chicken broth  
Whole-grain buns  
Wash hands with soap and water. Coat pork in garlic powder, paprika, and salt. Place pork into multi-cooker or slow-cooker with barbecue sauce

and chicken broth. Wash hands after handling raw protein.

Cook on high pressure for 50 minutes followed by a 10-minute natural release in a multi-cooker. Cook for 4-6 hours on high or 8-10 hours on low in a slow-cooker.

Remove pork and shred with 2 forks. Add cooking liquid or additional barbecue sauce according to your preference. Serve on whole-grain buns.

If taking to the field, eat within 2 hours of making. If storing leftovers, eat within 3-4 days. Serves 8 to 10.

**Nutrition Facts:** Calories 430, Total Fat 16g, Saturated Fat 5g, Cholesterol 100mg, Sodium 680mg, Total Carbohydrates 32g, Fiber 1g, Total Sugar 12g, Added Sugar 2g, Protein 41g, Vitamin D 1mcg, Calcium 113mg, Iron 3mg, Potassium 815mg

Recipe From: Nebraska Extension, Healthy Food Fast: Using Your Multi-Cooker



### GREEK YOGURT COLESLAW

Serve it on the side, or right on top of your pulled pork sandwich, for a fun twist on a family favorite.

1 bag coleslaw  
½ cup plain Greek yogurt  
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar  
2 teaspoons granulated sugar  
½ teaspoon celery salt  
½ teaspoon pepper

Wash hands with soap and water. Add coleslaw to a large bowl. In a smaller bowl, add yogurt, vinegar, sugar, celery salt and pepper. Stir until completely combined. Pour yogurt

mixture over coleslaw and toss to combine. If taking to the field, eat within 2 hours of making. If storing leftovers, eat within 3-4 days.

**Nutrition Facts:** Serves 6, Calories 35, Total Fat 0g, Saturated Fat 0g, Cholesterol 0mg, Sodium 115mg, Total Carbohydrates 6g, Fiber 1g, Total Sugar 2g, Added Sugar 1g, Protein 3g, Vitamin D 0mcg, Calcium 48mg, Iron 1mg, Potassium 31mg

\*\*\*

For more healthy tips and recipes, go to: FOOD.UNL.EDU

Recipes reprinted with permission from the September 2023 Hay There monthly nutrition newsletter for rural families. The University of Nebraska Extension. Hannah Guenther, Asst. Extension Educator, Food, Nutrition & Health.

## Prairie Gal Cookin'

Recipes and Ramblings from the Farm

### Have You Told Them Your Stories Yet?

By Ashleigh Krispense

I've had a love for special mementos and old things for a long time. When I was younger, my parents got me a cedar chest that I began filling with keepsakes and various other items. I've saved handwritten letters from my great-grandma, colorful little stones from a snow-skiing trip to Colorado, and a whole number of other items from my childhood and on.

After getting married, I began using a large china cabinet to house meaningful things. From commemorative plates and belt buckles to my husband's old farm memorabilia, and other special items — there's now an assortment of little things we've decided to put into that old, wood cabinet. It can be fun at times to stand there and look at it as we point out various pieces and recall where they came from.

If you've ever gathered your own special collection of mementos, have you also shared some of them with those close to you? Even if it's not literally giving them away, have you taken time to share the stories and memories that make them meaningful?

My great-grandma was a special lady. She passed before I got married, but my little house still has bits and pieces from her tucked throughout it. Her little metal recipe tin sits up on a shelf by the wood stove and the Farm Journal cookbooks from her own kitchen are now on a bookshelf in my dining room.

I have a very old black and white photo of her standing outside in a beautiful, long white dress with puffy sleeves. In a large frame, I carefully placed

it along with several other black and white photos of her throughout her life, including one with her dad holding her as a baby. Scattered along with the photos are various handwritten recipes, including smothered steak, strawberry pie, baked custard, and so on. In my own way, it's now like a scrapbook page that hangs on my wall and a special way to remember grandma.

It's not all about the objects though. While they're neat, they wouldn't hold the same significance without being tied to the person you love. Sometimes it's the stories from your grandparents' childhoods that you need to hear. Whether it was the memory of a new sibling being born, a naughty pony that made going for a ride an adventure, or even the story behind how your grandparents met and got married — It can make for special memories when you just sit and listen!

If by some chance you haven't taken time yet to share about something that is special to you or your family, it might be good to start thinking about it as the days cool off and we begin to spend more time inside together. Whether it's a story from years ago, a favorite family recipe that you want to write out and pass along, or even just some time spent going through old pictures and scrapbooks, find a way to pass on the stories and memories with those you love.

Ashleigh is a freelance writer and the gal behind the website, *Prairie Gal Cookin'* ([www.prairiegalcookin.com](http://www.prairiegalcookin.com)), where she shares step-by-step recipes and stories from the farm in Kansas.

## It's A Wash: Clean Hands Are Key To Food Safety Tips For Cooking At Home, Fall Tailgate Parties

By Pat Melgares, K-State Research and Extension news service

MANHATTAN – Whether it's cooking in the home kitchen or in the middle of a parking lot during a fall tailgate party, one tried-and-true food safety step can keep you safe.

Wash your hands. "That is your No. 1 defense against foodborne illness because your hands can hold a lot of germs and dirt, (including) under your fingernails," said Kansas State University food scientist Karen Blakeslee.

Hands pick up bacteria during daily routines, including gardening, taking out the trash, driving, playing with pets and many other activities.

"When you're preparing food, wash your hands more than once, such as after you've handled raw eggs or meat or anything like that because that will help to prevent cross-contamination of food products," Blakeslee said.

"So never forget to wash your hands. It only takes 20 seconds with soap and warm water," or about the time it takes to sing the alphabet. "Be sure to scrub your hands...because the

bubbles really do pick up the dirt and take it away. It's a very important step to take."

At a tailgate party or anywhere a sink and warm water is not available, Blakeslee suggests including a separate jug of warm water and soap in your cooking supplies.

"If you have a squirt bottle of soap that is half empty, add water to it and you've got a soap-and-water mixture readily available. Or, if you are using a jug with warm water, put soap in it (ahead of time) and that's your designated hand washing station."

Another option, Blakeslee said, is bringing along wet wash cloths in baggies, or using wet wipes. Hand sanitizers alone, she adds, is not a reliable option.

"Hand sanitizers don't work very well unless your hands are clean to start with," Blakeslee said. "They can be used in a pinch, but it's best to wash your hands first and then use a hand sanitizer."

Blakeslee, who also is coordinator of K-State's Rapid Response Center for Food Science, said September is Food Safety Education Month, a time

when food scientists share important reminders about safety at the dinner table.

Some additional tips:  
\* Keep raw meat separated from everything else, particularly when taking it outside to picnics or tailgate parties. Put meat in separate bags during transportation, as well as at home. Use a separate plate to serve cooked meats.

\* Use separate utensils for various foods you are cooking. "If you don't have a separate set of tongs, then wash the one's you have between uses," Blakeslee said.

\* Keep hot foods hot, and cold foods cold. The temperature danger zone for foods is between 40 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Cold foods should be stored in an environment colder than 40 F, and hot foods should be held at 140 F or higher. For outdoor parties, this means bringing lots of ice, and perhaps multiple coolers.

"We are still in summer, and it's going to get hot," Blakeslee said. "Hot temperatures will heat up food quickly. So if you're outside having a picnic or tailgate party when the

weather is above 90 degrees, you want to get the leftovers chilled within an hour of cooking the food."

More food safety tips are available online from the Rapid Response Center for Food Science. Blakeslee also publishes a monthly newsletter, called You Asked It!, with timely tips for safe food in and out of the home.

More information is also available at local Extension offices in Kansas.

Links used in this article: Rapid Response Center for Food Science, <https://www.rrc.k-state.edu>

You Asked It! food safety newsletter, <https://www.rrc.k-state.edu/newsletter/index.html>

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# Are droopy ears a sign of premature ear declination?

Ear drooping in corn is quite common and is often nothing to worry about. Drooping ears prior to black layer, however, could be a sign the plant experienced severe late-season stress and grain fill is shutting down.

Stressors like late-season drought can lead to structural failure in the ear shank. If the shank is severely pinched, it can restrict the flow of carbohydrates to the developing ear. As the plant reallocates resources, it struggles to fill the ear with grain. The weakened shank will eventually collapse under the force of gravity on the

ear – the dreaded droop.

An ear shank that collapses prior to physiological maturity will likely cause premature black layer development in the grain. Black layer formation is related to the ability of plants to maintain a continuous sucrose supply to developing kernels. Any disruption of this supply that causes the flow of sucrose to drop below a minimum threshold can trigger early black layer formation.

The yield impact of early grain fill termination depends on the kernel fill stage when it occurs. If grain fill

were totally shut down at the full dent stage, yield loss may be higher than if grain fill were shut down at the late dent stage. The earlier ear declination occurs in the kernel-filling process, the greater the likelihood of yield impact.

Fields that have experienced drought or heat stress should be closely monitored as they are at a greater risk of ear declination and ear drop prior to harvest. Fields with drooping ears should be a priority and harvested first to maximize yield.

# K-State lands \$1M to boost grain sorghum research

**By Pat Melgares, K-State Research and Extension news service**  
The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded nearly \$1 million to a Kansas State University program to lead research and innovation in sorghum production, boosting a crop that is grown more in Kansas than anywhere else in the United States.

Sarah Sexton-Bowser, director of the Center of Sorghum Improvement at K-State, said the award allows the university to build a network of public and private groups aiming to ease a bottleneck in sorghum technology, and develop even better seed traits in the future.

"K-State has invested capacity and infrastructure in sorghum crop re-

search, and the crop is key to the state's agriculture production," Sexton-Bowser said. "Along with the farmers in Kansas and the greater sorghum community, our infrastructure has been identified by the USDA as leading coordinated innovation across public programs as well as private seed industry partnerships."

According to Kansas Grain Sorghum, the state ranks No. 1 in production of grain sorghum. Most years, Kansas farmers grow more than 200 million bushels of the crop, or nearly half of all U.S. grain sorghum production. In dollars, production tops \$1.8 billion, including more than \$869 million in exports.

K-State molecular

breeder Terry Felderhoff said the university's research is critical in developing varieties resistant to emerging pests and diseases.

"One really good example of this was when we started working with sugarcane aphid resistance, which many people in the sorghum space know as a new pest on the scene a few years back," he said. "We worked with international collaborators and identified resistance in exotic sorghum sources and were able to identify the underlying genetics of stable resistance."

With the USDA award, K-State will continue the work, according to Sexton-Bowser. Some of the early collaborators on the project include the Uni-

ted Sorghum Checkoff and the Kansas Grain Sorghum Commission; and private seed companies like Innovative Seed Solutions and Corteva AgriScience.

Sexton-Bowser noted that sorghum innovation typically occurs one of two ways: Individual researchers discover interesting genes and publish their work in research journals; or, seed developers (usually in private industry) develop high-yielding hybrids to market.

"You have these two great paths to innovation, but rarely do the two interact," she said. "Terry (Felderhoff) does a great job at understanding the needs of both of those communities... not trying to copy them, but rather linking them together. Prior to

our work in this area, that unique integration had not been occurring."

More information on the grant and the partnerships working to improve grain sorghum production is available online from the Center for Sorghum Improvement.

"Improvement in sorghum is built on farmer leadership and land grant (university) leadership," Sexton-Bowser said. "If not for the partnerships with Kansas farmers, we wouldn't have this type of foundation to build from."

# USDA forecasts U.S. corn production up, soybean and cotton production down from 2022

Corn production is up, while soybean and cotton production is down from 2022, according to the Crop Production report issued by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Corn production is up 10% from last year, forecast at 15.1 billion bushels; soybean growers are expected to decrease their production 3% from 2022, forecast at 4.15 billion bushels; cotton production is down 9% from 2022 at 13.1 million 480-pound bales.

As is done every year in September, planted and harvested acreage estimates for corn, cotton, and soybeans were reviewed based on all available data, including the latest certified acreage data from the Farm Service Agency. As a result, area planted to corn is estimated at 94.9 million acres, up 1% from the previous estimate; area planted to soybeans is estimated at 83.6 million acres, up slightly from the previous estimate; and area planted to cotton is estimated at 10.2 million acres, down 8% from the previous estimate.

The average U.S. corn yield is forecast at 173.8 bushels per acre, down 1.3 bushels from last month's forecast but up 0.5 bushel from last year. NASS forecasts record high yields in Ohio and South Carolina. Acres planted to corn, at 94.9 million, are up 7% from 2022. Area to be harvested for grain is forecast at 87.1 million acres, up 1% from last month and 10% more than was harvested last year. As of Sept. 3, 53% of this year's corn crop was reported in good or excellent condition, one percentage point below the same time last year.

Area for soybean harvest is forecast at 82.8 million acres, up slightly from last month but 4% less than was harvested last year. Planted area for the nation, estimated at 83.6 million acres, is down 4% from last year. Soybean yields are expected to average 50.1 bushels per acre, down 0.8 bushel from last month's forecast but up 0.6 bushel from 2022. If realized, the forecasted yields in Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, and Tennessee will be record-high.

NASS forecasts all cotton area to be harvested at 8.02 million acres, 7% below last month's forecast, but 10% more acres than were harvested last season. Yield is expected to average 786 pounds per harvested acre, up seven pounds from last month's forecast, but down 164 pounds from 2022. Area planted to all cotton is estimated at 10.2 million acres, down 26% from last year.

NASS surveyed more than 7,000 producers across the country and conducted objective yield surveys for corn, cotton, and soybeans in preparation for this report.



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# Make harvest weed management a priority

By David Hallauer, Meadowlark District Extension agent, crops and soils

KSU Extension Weed Science Specialist Dr. Sarah Lancaster wrote a KSU Agronomy eUpdate article recently on fall scouting for weeds and equipment cleaning (read in its entirety at: [https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article\\_new/weed-management-practices-fall-scouting-and-equipment-cleaning-561-5](https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article_new/weed-management-practices-fall-scouting-and-equipment-cleaning-561-5)). In it, she shares this about waterhemp species: "Research conducted in Georgia showed that one female plant in five acres added about two million seeds per acre to the soil. Those seeds can have impacts for many years. It took six years of total Palmer amaranth control to deplete the seedbank by 98% in Texas." That's a lot of weed seeds – and a long time to clean them up.

As you read the article (it provides some excellent tips on preventing the spread of weeds...), you might ask: why would I plan harvest around my weediest fields last or clean the combine out so often? Some University of Wisconsin research helps with the answer.

Their 2019 analysis required collection of material from four different areas of the combine: header, feeder house, rock trap, and rotor area. Sample seeds from the collections (31) were grown out and counted. The highlights?

Viable weed seed was found in 97 percent of the samples. In short, weed seeds are getting through your combine.

Header samples contributed to 49 percent of the weed seeds emerged. The feeder house contributed another

30 percent.

If we have weeds at harvest, they are going to get through the machine and will likely remain viable for future growth. Not only can this be a problem on the farm on which we saw the weed escapes, but in your other fields – and those of your neighbors (transport can dislodge seed as well) – too. The result is often the spread of weed seeds to previously clean fields as well as increases in the potential for herbicide resistance issues.

Trying to prevent the spread of weed seeds? Check out Dr. Lancaster's article at the link above. The Wisconsin study results can be found on our Meadowlark Extension District Crops & Soils page under news columns: <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/crops-soils/index.html>

## Control volunteer wheat to stop the streak of yield-limiting diseases

By Julia Debes

Volunteer wheat is certain to be a significant issue in the upcoming growing season, thanks to the late rains that delayed harvest progress and the high rate of abandoned fields. Hidden among the spotty stands of volunteer wheat is a safe harbor for wheat streak mosaic virus (WSMV) and other diseases to ride out the winter months. Growers should actively manage their volunteer wheat early and often to head off this threat to next year's harvest.

"We remind Kansas wheat farmers to take necessary steps to control volunteer wheat," said Aaron Harries, vice president of

research and operations. "WSMV isn't treatable, but it is preventable. By controlling volunteer wheat before planting begins and selecting varieties with built-in resistance, producers can help protect their future yields."

The best way to WSMV is to control volunteer wheat early and often, according to a K-State Agronomy eUpdate from August 17. Stands of volunteer wheat provide a "green bridge" that allows the wheat curl mites that transmit WSMV to survive. This includes spots of volunteer wheat that emerge in double-cropped soybeans or cover crops as well as grassy weed spe-

cies like barnyard grass or foxtails that can serve as a disease reservoir.

After wheat harvest, Kansas producers often wait to apply herbicides with products like glyphosate or atrazine until sufficient volunteer wheat has emerged. However, another application or tillage is needed before planting to ensure the destruction of the "green bridge" created by volunteer wheat or other host plants. This is especially true during wet weather in the late summer months, which facilitates multiple flushes of volunteer wheat and other grassy weeds. K-State encourages wheat producers to terminate volunteer wheat at least two weeks

prior to planting to allow enough time to kill all the wheat curl mites present in a field.

Producers also have the option to select varieties developed with built-in genetic resistance to WSMV, in most cases thanks to a gene called WSM2. K-State cautioned producers that these varieties are not a sole-source solution as they do have limitations, including missing resistance to other diseases spread by wheat curl mites – like triticum mosaic or wheat mosaic virus. The genetic resistance is also temperature sensitive, making the built-in shield less effective at hotter temperatures, especially

if wheat is planted early for grazing or if high temperatures continue into October.

As an alternative, producers could also select varieties that have genetic resistance to the disease transmission agent – the wheat curl mite. The resistance to the vector means they are still susceptible to disease, but they help slow down the development of mite populations.

This genetic resistance is helpful, but their protection is more effective when used in combination with strategies to control volunteer wheat. By doing so this summer and early fall, producers can help stop the spread of WSMV and other viruses and re-

duce a substantial limiting factor to next year's harvest.

"There are no chemical options such as insecticides or pesticides that are effective at controlling the wheat curl mite, so the best method to control WSMV is to control your volunteer wheat," Harries said. "Be a good steward of your own fields and a good neighbor and help stop the streak of this yield-destroying disease."

Learn more from K-State Agronomy on WSMV at [eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu](https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu) or explore wheat variety options and other guidance on controlling volunteer wheat at [kswheat.com/wheatrx](https://kswheat.com/wheatrx).

## Wheat protein up but test weight down from 2022

Preliminary data for the 2023 Kansas winter wheat crop show an average test weight of 60.6 pounds per bushel. This compares to 61.0 pounds per bushel for the 2022 crop and an average of 60.7 pounds per bushel for the 2013 through 2022 crops. A total of 4,914 carlot samples were tested from 46 counties across Kansas. Of the total samples tested, the largest shares came from the Central and West Central Districts. Samples for the 2023 crop were taken from June 12, 2023 to August 11, 2023. Samples for the 2022 crop were taken from June 8, 2022 to August 11, 2022. Protein content averages 13.0%, up 1.0% from last year, and up 1.1% from the ten-year average of 11.9%. The South Central District has the highest protein content at 13.4%, followed by the North Central District at 13.3%. Protein content is expressed on a 12% moisture basis. Statewide, moisture content

averages 11.6%, above 10.9% last year and the ten-year average of 11.3%. Samples of wheat grading No. 1, at 62%, are down from 80% last year. Samples grading No. 2 are 35%, up from 19% last year. Samples grading No. 3 or below are 3%. Wheat samples average 0.5% damaged kernels, up 0.1% from last year, and the ten-year average. Samples tested have 0.1% foreign material on average, unchanged from last year, and equal to the ten-year average. Shrunken and broken kernels average 1.1%, down 0.1% from last year and the ten-year average. Total defects average 1.7%, unchanged from last year but up 0.1% from the ten-year average. Average dockage for all samples is 0.6%, up 0.1% from last year. There were 654 samples voluntarily submitted for inspection in the 2023 crop year. The test weight for these samples averages 59.3 pounds per bushel, protein averages 13.1% and mois-

ture content averages 12.4%. Of the total submitted samples, 36% grade No.1, 44% grade No. 2 and 20% grade No. 3 or below. Test weight, protein content, grade and defect samples are representative of wheat moving in commercial rail cars and truck lots (truckloads converted to carlot equivalents). Summarized data include old crop and new crop wheat moving from first point of sale, and inspected by Kansas Grain Inspection Service, Inc. The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service summarizes all data for the Kansas Wheat Quality report. The Kansas Wheat Commission funds collection and publication services. Final numbers for the 2023 Kansas winter wheat crop, including wheat quality, top-planted varieties, acreage, and production, will be available in the Kansas Wheat History report to be released in October.

## RMA announces changes to Whole-Farm Revenue Protection and Micro Farm policies

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced that it is improving crop insurance options for small and diversified farmers through improvements to the Whole-Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) and Micro Farm insurance plans. These updates are part of USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) efforts to increase participation and access to crop insurance.

"The improvements to Whole Farm Revenue Protection and Micro Farm policies are a direct response from feedback we've received from producers" said RMA administrator Marcia Bungler. "These are two of the most comprehensive risk management plans available, and they are especially important to specialty crop, organic, urban, and direct-market producers."

Improvements to WFRP for the 2024 policy year include:

- Allowing all eligible producers to qualify for 80% and 85% coverage levels.
- Allowing producers to purchase catastrophic coverage level policies for individual crops with WFRP.
- Expanding yield history to a ten-year maximum (from four years) for

all crops not covered by another federal crop insurance policy.

- Making the policy more affordable for single commodity producers.
- Allowing producers to customize their coverage by choosing whether WFRP will consider other federal crop insurance policies as primary insurance when calculating premium and revenue to count during claim time.

Improvements to Micro Farm for the 2024 policy year include:

- Moving the sales closing date to a less busy time of year to help agents dedicate time to marketing the program. This is important specifically for

producers that are purchasing Micro Farm for the first time as it provides additional time for agents to assist growers with important risk management decisions.

- Allowing producers to purchase other Federal crop insurance with Micro Farm.
- Allowing vertically integrated entities to be eligible for Micro Farm.
- Making the Expanding Operations feature available with Micro Farm.

About WFRP and Micro Farm:

WFRP and Micro Farm policies provide a risk management safety net for all commodities grown on

a farm under one policy. Both policy options were designed to meet the needs of specialty, organic (both crops and livestock), or those marketing to local, regional, farm-identity preserved, specialty, or direct markets. The Micro Farm insurance plan is tailored for any farm with up to \$350,000 in approved revenue, and WFRP covers any farm with up to \$17 million in insured revenue. RMA introduced Micro Farm in 2021.

Currently, producers hold 1,784 WFRP policies covering \$2.17 billion in liabilities, and they hold 93 Micro Farm policies covering \$6.15 million in liabilities.

## Conservation contest rules distributed

Instructions for the 2023 county conservation speech contest have been delivered to high school vocational agriculture and speech instructors. The theme for the contest is: "Healthy Soil, Healthy Life." The contest is open to all high school students (ninth through twelfth grade) in the county, at-home school/remote students are encouraged to enter. This year marks the 45th year for the competition.

The local contest will be held on October 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Contestants will need to submit an

entry form by the deadline of October 5. The county speech contest winner will be presented \$100 for their efforts. Second and third place contestants will receive \$25.

The winner of the county contest will compete in the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD) Area IV (northeast Kansas) contest with 23 counties represented. Cash prizes will be awarded. This competition will be held on October 25 in Seneca.

The area winner is then asked to present for the state competition at the

KACD Annual Convention held in Wichita on November 20, 2023. \$1,000 first place, \$500 second place and \$250 for each honorable mention speech will be awarded at the state level.

For contest rules and entry form contact the Pottawatomie County Conservation District at 785-457-3398 Ext 3.

\*\*Participants can be in only one county's contest. It can either be in the county that they reside or where they attend school.



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## The Maine Thing (Part One)

When I married my wife almost 43 years ago there were two things she said she wanted; a log cabin by a trout stream, and to eat lobster on the pier in Maine.

A few years back we had an opportunity to make at

least one of those dreams come true, so we made plans to fly to Harrisburg, Pa. where we would spend a few days with a newly acquainted cousin and his beautiful little daughter, and then drive up through New England and spend

about eight days bopping down the Maine coastline.

My cousin is an avid historian who lives only a few miles from Gettysburg, and so our five days with them were awesome as we hopped from battlefield to battlefield, soaking in the history of it all. I will revisit this portion of our trip sometime, but to avoid some huge rabbit trails I will endeavor to keep the "Maine thing the main thing" for now!

We headed east through Amish country to Allentown and skirted both Philadelphia and NYC, heading up along the Hudson River to Troy, New York, across the river from Albany, where my efficient bride had booked us an "Air BnB." As we arrived in the general vicinity of the supposed "camping spot," the surrounding buildings and wheel-less vehicles missing doors, hoods, and just about any other removable parts were a bit of a concern. Although we were driving a rental, it was a rather nice Mazda crossover and we had just put the majority of the mileage on the odometer. As I really didn't relish the thought of

coming out in the morning to find our ride missing major function facilitating components, we both agreed we would search for a more hospitable-looking refuge for the night.

Next day we would head across the beautiful Green Mountains of Vermont, then New Hampshire and the long forested trek on up to Bangor, Maine. After resting up from our previous two-day journey, we finally arrived at our humble abode for the next five days on Thomas Bay, Acadia Island, a cute little cottage only a few yards from a small, quiet cove, complete with a couple of wooden rowboats floating in the middle of it. I thought it a bit odd that those little boats were at least 30-40 yards out away from shore, but we ordered some fresh seafood from a little lobster shack back up the road and chowed down.

The following morning I was awakened at 4:30 am to realize the sun was already shining through the blinds. I flipped the blinds open to see our little wooden boats sitting on dry rocks and no water! Now I was a bit startled at

first, and I've been to all three of our glorious coastlines and seen the lunar tidal flows at work, but I'm talking this cove is bone-dry! Fortunately, I could see farther out, the Bay was not dry!

I would later learn from the natives, many other things as well as Maine has the highest tidal variances in the United States; about 13 feet here at Acadia, but as you get farther up the Gulf of Maine into the Bay of Fundy, between the Canadian mainland and Nova Scotia, those regular tides are as high as 50 feet, and we're not talking storm surges!

So we spent the next couple of days exploring our side of the Island, first driving up Mont Desert, so named for its treeless stony top by a French explorer 16 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth. On land, I must say I truly enjoyed the view from up there a lot more than I had enjoyed the forested views I had driven through the last few days. As we drove around the Island, and actually through all of New England, I argued with the GPS about which way was north. Once, on the island

in heavy forest, I got so turned around I pulled my own magnetic compass out of my backpack to prove to my wife this electronic wench that I kept arguing with didn't know what she was talking about and we needed to turn "left" instead of "right!"

Humble pie was served up with a smirk from my darlin' as that stupid needle bounced around a bit and slowly pointed the same direction that ole Miss Bossy had been telling me. If I'd had another compass I would probably have consulted it before conceding that this old Kansas prairie boy loses all sense of direction in the forest. Especially on a cloudy day!

I would learn in a few days that I was much more comfortable out on the ocean where I could see than I was in the forest with no horizon available. I then realized I had something in common with Captain Jack Sparrow: "Bring me that horizon!"

Kirk Sours is a ranch manager and columnist in northeast Kansas. Email him at: [sours.kirk@yahoo.com](mailto:sours.kirk@yahoo.com)

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## Is the farm bill just for farmers?

By Maddy Rohr, K-State Research and Extension news service

Farm and food policy go hand in hand, so current discussions leading to the next U.S. Farm Bill is likely to affect the availability of food, said Kansas State University agricultural policy specialist Jenny Ifft.

"Food stamps began during the Great Depression based on shared policy objectives of increasing

farm income and decreasing hunger in both rural and urban areas," Ifft said. "Now that program is called SNAP."

Ten percent of Kansas households experience food insecurity, K-State SNAP-Education coordinator Lisa Ross said.

"The effects of food insecurity can cause health complications, especially in growth and development of children," Ross said. "SNAP-Ed works to give everyone nutrition education and make sure they get the most out of food assistance programs."

Nutrition programs are predicted to make up 84% of farm bill spending because of the large role food assistance programs play in the broader social safety net, Ifft adds. SNAP-

Ed works to help people eligible for assistance programs lead healthier lives within a limited budget.

"We also initiate and support policy system environmental work designed to promote healthy behavior and decisions in Kansas communities," Ross said.

SNAP has more than 50 million participants nationwide, most of whom are children or elderly and disabled. Ifft explains that the majority of policy debates are about the 10% of SNAP participants in the "able-bodied without dependents" category.

"The budget for both food programs and farms increased in the last five years, but nutrition increased more," Ifft said. "That is a topic of debate

as well as increasing the budget for SNAP."

According to Ifft, the SNAP budget was increased administratively by the USDA in the last five years, bringing to question who gets to make those changes - and ultimately adding to the farm bill debate.

With more than 94,000 households receiving SNAP benefits, SNAP-Ed works to improve health outcomes in SNAP participants and communities.

"It is really important that we work together on this farm bill because without SNAP there is no SNAP-education," Ross said.

For more resources, Ross recommends visiting K-State SNAP-Ed or reaching out to local Extension agents.

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Our outdoor education event at Fort Wallace was a feast for the senses. As my long-time friend, Dennis Rogers "Spirit Dancer," commented, "Driving from Sharon Springs and seeing all those tipis on the horizon..." He gestured to his heart and said it was a powerful image. As the school buses began arriving Friday

morning and the kids bounded off (some more energetically than others), we braced ourselves and as with any major production it was, "Places, everyone!!"

Some of those places were inside or in front of the tipis, some were in front of U.S. Army A-frame tents with a tent fly for

the Kaw Nation under an arbor (Our delegation had an emergency and couldn't come). I was the only station with a television because Desiree Storm Brave, Master Language Teacher for the Kaw Nation, had recorded videos for me to share. There was no substitute for seeing her and hearing her speak the language.

Lakota and Cheyenne and Kiowa words intertwined with English and floated on the welcome breezes. The drum beat echoed through the camp. Every ten minutes, the sound of the rifle's firing reminded the guides to move to the next station (Frank Goodrich, president of the Murphey Western Institute, was in charge of said alerts. Always mindful of safety,

he was using blanks). The smells of beans cooking and bread baking drifted from Doc Jones' chuckwagon.

The students were kindergarten-age through seniors and we hosted 1,100 over the weekend, and several more hundred adults. While we had some amazing entertainment, the highlight for me was our panel discussion, "What It Means to be Indian in the Modern World." Our panelists were Good Warrior Deer, Mikela Greene, Zola Greene, Dennis Rogers, David White, and Joshua White. Our tent was packed and folks were quiet as each one spoke passionately and honestly about their experiences as Native Americans honoring their traditions while surviving in the modern

world (Some of the discussion is on the Fort Wallace Museum's Facebook page).

As we sat at the museum Sunday morning going over the highlights of the weekend, one of the teachers sent a text. Her kindergarten student had complained on the way home, "We didn't see any Indians!"

The teacher responded, "Who do you think those people were in the tipis talking to you, or out in front of the tipis telling stories and showing you things?"

"They were just people!" the child responded.

That brought a smile to every face of every exhausted person in the room. If that is the only carry-away from all the planning and hard work, we will take it as a success.

Deb Goodrich is a producer on the film *Sod and Stubble* and is the host of *Around Kansas*. She is the Garvey Texas Foundation Historian in Residence at the Fort Wallace Museum and chairs the Santa Fe Trail 200. Contact her at [author.debgoodrich@gmail.com](mailto:author.debgoodrich@gmail.com).

## NMPF applauds long-awaited assistance for dairy farmers hard-hit by natural disasters

The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) applauded the recent announcement that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will provide critical, long-awaited financial assistance for dairy farmers affected by natural disasters.

The Milk Loss Assistance program administered by the Farm Service Agency will compensate eligible dairy farms and processors for milk dumped due to qualifying disaster events in 2020, 2021 and 2022, including droughts, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, winter storms and smoke exposure.

"On top of the chal-

lenges created by wild price gyrations and the COVID-19 pandemic, dairy farmers since 2020 have also faced an inadequate federal mechanism for addressing unforeseen weather catastrophes, further straining finances at a time when strains have been hard to bear," said Jim Mulhern, president and CEO of NMPF. "NMPF never accepted that situation, and we're very appreciative of USDA's diligent work over several months to finalize the compensation plan that will address this backlog of disaster assistance. We thank Congress for providing this necessary funding, and we encourage both Congress

and USDA to find ways to address future natural disasters more quickly. We also urge farmers affected by these disasters to sign up, and we stand ready to assist them as they go through this process."

As producers of a highly perishable product that's created 24/7, 365 days a year, dairy farmers have been — and continue to be — uniquely challenged by disaster events. The Milk Loss Program will help farmers and, in cer-

tain cases, cooperatives, recover losses previously overlooked by disaster assistance.

Dairy farmers and cooperatives can sign up for the Milk Loss Program through Oct. 16, 2023. Affected producers are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible. For eligibility and application information, as well as details about how payments will be calculated, visit USDA's Milk Loss Assistance website.

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**LAND AUCTION**  
545 ACRES, 3 TRACTS - GREENWOOD COUNTY, KS  
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AUCTION LOCATION: GREENWOOD HOTEL,  
300 N. MAIN, EUREKA, KANSAS  
AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: These 3 tracts are a diverse selection of tillable farm ground, pasture, hunting, fishing and recreation!  
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10326 SW 53rd — TOPEKA, KANSAS  
DIR.: SW Auburn Rd. to SW 53rd, West approx. 2.3 miles  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 — 10:00 AM**  
Antique, primitive, and modern furniture; glassware, blue & white & other stoneware; advertising items and tins; kitchen and farm primitives; cast iron; enamelware; smalls; linens; paper; more collectibles; household goods.  
Auto (sells at noon): 1998 Oldsmobile Achieva SL sedan, 3.1 V6, 109K.  
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See website for list & pictures: [whunterauctions.com/ac.htm](http://whunterauctions.com/ac.htm)  
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At the ranch in Brownell, KS // GPS Address: 18869 DD Road, Brownell, KS 67521

**260 PLUS HEAD SELL!**  
Every female that is safe in calf and due to calve in the spring of 2024 along with their spring 2023 born heifer calves sell!

The spring 2023 born bull calves will be retained and sold in the Annual Bull Sale Friday, February 23, 2024.

**Feature Donor**  
**RSA FOREVER LADY 853**  
Reg: \*19373019 DOB: 02-01-2018  
Sire: #\*S A V Resource 1441  
MGS: #\*G A R Prophet  
CED +3 BW +3.0 WW +81 YW +152  
MILK +25 CW +59 Marb +.69 REA +1.14  
SM +49 SB +147 SC +240  
853 is the dam of RSA Ball of Fire.  
Her natural heifer calf sired by Wildcat and 2 ET heifers sired by Veracious sell!

**RSA BALL OF FIRE**  
Full sib embryos to Ball of Fire will sell.

**RSA DIXIE ERICA 2234**  
Reg: \*20523471 DOB: 02-07-2022  
Sire: \*DVAR Huckleberry 871  
MGS: \*EXAR Resistal 59248  
CED +5 BW +2.8 WW +67 YW +117  
MILK +31 CW +53 Marb +1.14  
REA +1.14 SM +87 SB +185 SC +327  
Stellar Phenotype with a top tier Marb and RE combination.

**RSA RITA 2251**  
Reg: \*20523482 DOB: 02-27-2022  
Sire: \*K C F Bennett Exponential  
MGS: #\*G A R Prophet  
CED +14 BW -.3 WW +75 YW +126  
MILK +27 CW +64 Marb +1.46  
REA +.91 SM +89 SB +202 SC +351  
Combination female that offers an elite EPD profile with elite phenotype.

**RSA BLACKCAP 1225**  
Reg: \*20236388 DOB: 02-06-2021  
Sire: \*Deer Valley Growth Fund  
MGS: \*SandPoint J Edgar Hoover  
CED +9 BW +1.9 WW +98 YW +172  
MILK +26 CW +78 Marb +.17  
REA +.78 SM +60 SB +146 SC +249  
Feature 2-year-old with exceptional phenotype and elite performance.

**RSA EVER ENTENSE 0317**  
Reg: \*19902806 DOB: 01-30-2020  
Sire: \*G A R Ashland  
MGS: \*Boyd Revere 4147  
CED +16 BW -1.0 WW +82 YW +138  
MILK +30 CW +52 Marb +1.02  
REA +.96 SM +76 SB +159 SC +282  
Elite calving-ease with value-added performance and carcass merit.

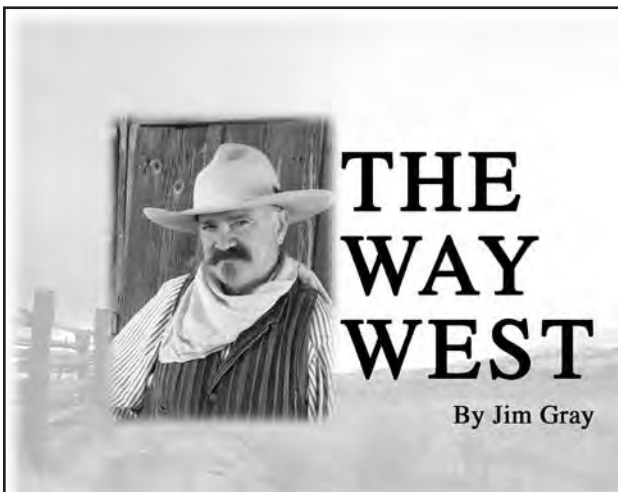
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## Dash for Freedom

James A. Gordon was just one of thousands of emigrants seeking his fortune on the front range of the Rocky Mountains after gold was discovered in 1858. His father had established a ranch three miles south of Denver City, but Gordon was drawn to the

sporting life. He became involved in a love affair that he later confessed "began to trouble me considerably." In an effort to divert his mind from romantic troubles he turned to whiskey.

"...about the 15th of March I concluded to go

to Denver to live, where I could easily obtain what I at that time wanted the most of anything - something that would drive trouble from my mind, and that was whiskey." Gordon invested in the Cibola Hall, a saloon in Auraria or "West Denver." The Cibola Hall was fitted up with a theater room in the back of the hall capable of seating two hundred fifty patrons. The Cibola Minstrels, a group of performing women, provided the "house entertainment," making the Cibola a popular place of amusement.

Gordon became a sporting man even though he wasn't really cut out for the life. Whiskey dulled the pain and forced haunting images from his mind. By drinking himself into a stupor he could escape. All he wanted to do was escape his thoughts.

The night of Wednesday, July 18, 1860, whiskey turned Gordon into a dangerous ruffian. In an unnamed "house of ill-fame" Gordon suddenly exploded. Enraged, he forced everyone outside. Gordon was well-liked and few expected him to shoot a man, but in a blind rage he targeted the bartender who was still behind the bar. The first two shots brought the young man down. Wounded, he tried to crawl away, "Gordon

deliberately stooped down and fired upon him again."

Gordon awoke the next morning to learn what he had done. The bartender was alive but dangerously injured. Gordon could hardly believe it until he visited the eighteen-year-old boy and found him in great pain from three shots to the same leg, leaving him crippled. The bone was broken in two places. Gordon told him that he would pay his bills and compensate him for his lost time. But Gordon couldn't get the young man out of his mind. "I knew of no way to pay him for the pain which he was suffering from my action."

Gordon returned to his whiskey and soon lost sight of the young bartender, "and did not think of him." But as he continued his drunk he began to blunder about and dangerously fire his pistol indiscriminately. At Cibola Hall he "snapped" his pistol three times at his own bartender. (Cap and ball firearms often misfired when the cap failed to fire, and the hammer "snapped" harmlessly against the firing pin)

By Friday night Gordon was completely out of control. At Denver Hall he took a couple of shots at "Big Phil," who managed to get away unscathed. Then he "shot a dog that

was crouched between its owner's legs." With two companions identified as Fitzpatrick and Rookerbone he called for drinks at the Louisiana Saloon. All three drank and threw their glasses on the floor. Once Gordon's glass hit the floor he immediately struck the man standing next to him. John Gantz took an unexpected blow to the face and was knocked to the floor.

Gantz recovered, got up and ran for the door, but Gordon chased him down and, "dragged him back, knocked him down, (and) beat him about the head and face..." Gantz was on the floor while Gordon with his left hand pressed Gantz' head against the side of the counter. Drawing his pistol Gordon placed the muzzle to the top of Gantz' head and pulled the trigger.

The pistol snapped but didn't fire. Gantz begged for his life, but Gordon's only answer was another "snap." Gantz continued to plead for mercy as the pistol snapped a third and fourth time. Gordon's pistol finally spoke on the fifth pull, "causing instant death." Gordon left the hall as though nothing had happened.

Friends found Gordon about 4 a.m. lying under a tree in back of Cibola Hall. They told him what he

had done and that he had better leave town. Townspeople were aroused, and if they found him "they would hang me on the first tree they came to."

He rode to his ranch south of town, told everyone what had happened and changed horses for a fast one. He then turned back north toward Fort Lupton, twenty-four miles northeast of Denver. Feeling he was among friends, Gordon went to bed.

Early Sunday morning he awoke to the sound of a disturbance beyond the walls. Looking out he could see several men outside the walls with guns drawn. Realizing that he was about to be taken and hanged and preferring to be shot rather than hanged, Gordon mounted his fleet horse and on his signal the gates were opened. His belt was "bristling with arms," as he charged suddenly through the posse.

With a revolver flourishing above his head, he shouted at them to shoot, with expletives that challenged them to follow him in his dash for freedom on The Way West.

(Next Week- Doing His Duty)

"The Cowboy," Jim Gray can be reached at 220 21st RD Geneseo, KS. Phone 785-531-2058 or kansascowboy@kans.com.

# Moving?



Let us know your new address so you never miss an issue of Grass & Grain!

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# 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 - 3,434. HOGS - 83.**

BULLS: \$133.00-\$146.00		COWS: \$114.00-\$125.00	
300-400	\$335.00 - \$347.00	11	Char
400-500	\$305.00 - \$316.00	34	Blk
500-600	\$285.00 - \$298.00	8	Blk
600-700	\$280.00 - \$297.50	65	Mix
700-800	\$264.00 - \$278.50	5	Mix
800-900	\$243.00 - \$257.00	17	Blk
900-1,000	\$240.00 - \$251.00	54	Blk
		23	Mix
		17	Blk
		10	Red
		22	Blk
		55	Blk
		5	Mix
		11	Blk
		61	Mix
			HEIFERS
300-400	\$319.00 - \$330.00	3	Blk
400-500	\$305.00 - \$317.50	5	Red
500-600	\$268.00 - \$280.00	3	Red
600-700	\$250.00 - \$265.50	2	Blk
700-800	\$235.00 - \$247.50	1	Wf
800-900	\$225.00 - \$237.50	5	Mix
900-1,000	\$218.00 - \$230.50	3	Blk

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

STEERS			
3	Red	Hillsboro	373@\$347.00
6	Mix	Canton	278@\$340.00
3	Blk	Delphos	373@\$339.00
2	Blk	Ottawa	353@\$338.00
2	Blk	Inman	413@\$316.00
8	Blk	Ottawa	453@\$314.00
33	Red	Hillsboro	449@\$310.00
3	Blk	Inman	592@\$298.00
6	Blk	Arlington	633@\$297.50
51	Blk	Dorrance	647@\$297.25
7	Blk	Marion	644@\$294.50
36	Red	Hillsboro	514@\$291.00
7	Blk	Topeka	481@\$290.00
6	Blk	Inman	643@\$289.00
4	Blk	Durham	651@\$288.00
3	Mix	Tescott	600@\$287.00
9	Mix	Brookville	506@\$284.00
3	Blk	Solomon	613@\$282.00
14	Red	Newton	504@\$282.00
12	Blk	Tampa	675@\$280.00
9	Blk	Clay Center	596@\$280.00
13	Mix	Galva	681@\$280.00
7	Mix	Salina	604@\$280.00
14	Blk	Durham	737@\$278.50
3	Mix	Ellsworth	615@\$277.00
8	Mix	Kanopolis	716@\$275.00
11	Mix	Randolph	715@\$275.00
10	Mix	Miltonvale	605@\$271.00
6	Mix	Beloit	620@\$271.00
9	Mix	Wakefield	721@\$268.75
12	Mix	Clay Center	738@\$266.00
69	Blk	Dorrance	758@\$265.75

# Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Salina, KANSAS

SALE BARN PHONE: **785-825-0211**

**MONDAY — CATTLE • HOG SALE 2nd & 4th MONDAY**  
Hogs sell at 11:00 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](http://www.fandrive.com)

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

# Farmers & Ranchers FALL CLASSIC HORSE SALE OCTOBER 14-15, 2023

65	Blk	Tampa	743@\$244.50	1	Blk	Ellsworth	2230@\$135.50
4	Blk	Enterprise	723@\$244.50	1	Blk	Hillsboro	1690@\$134.00
7	Blk	Clay Center	714@\$244.50	1	Blk	Ellsworth	1865@\$133.00
65	Mix	Assaria	782@\$240.50	1	Red	Longford	1925@\$132.50
5	Mix	Galva	861@\$237.50			<b>COWS</b>	
7	Mix	Osborne	841@\$236.50	1	Blk	Salina	1510@\$125.00
29	Mix	Wakefield	812@\$235.00	1	Blk	Salina	1495@\$124.00
10	Mix	Randolph	785@\$235.00	1	Blk	Delphos	1595@\$124.00
60	Mix	McPherson	923@\$230.50	1	Bwf	Wilsey	1545@\$124.00
55	Blk	McPherson	1021@\$224.75	1	Blk	Lincoln	1605@\$123.00
				1	Red	Woodbine	1560@\$122.00
				1	Blk	Lyons	1590@\$121.00
				1	Rwf	Minneapolis	1340@\$120.00
3	Fats	Wamego	298@\$55.00	1	Red	Brookville	1400@\$120.00
19	Fats	Tescott	274@\$53.00	8	Blk	Haven	1383@\$120.00
12	Red Fat	Moundridge	284@\$53.00	3	Mix	Haven	1685@\$120.00
2	Sows	Emporia	665@\$27.00	1	Blk	Gypsum	1390@\$119.00
				1	Blk	Bennington	1620@\$119.00
1	Blk	Gypsum	205@\$550.00	1	Blk	Abilene	1565@\$119.00
2	Blk	Lyons	263@\$525.00	1	Blk	Canton	1465@\$119.00
1	Red	Bennington	230@\$500.00	3	Blk	Lyons	1387@\$117.50
1	Blk	Little River	225@\$500.00	3	Mix	Salina	1410@\$117.00
1	Blk	Lindsborg	250@\$500.00	2	Blk	Halstead	1263@\$117.00
1	Blk	McPherson	165@\$425.00	1	Red	Delphos	1600@\$117.00
1	Blk	Newton	180@\$400.00	1	Blk	McPherson	1565@\$117.00
				2	Mix	Beloit	1375@\$117.00
1	Red	Ellsworth	2180@\$146.00	1	Red	Halstead	1540@\$116.00
1	Blk	Miltonvale	2270@\$144.50	1	Blk	Lincoln	1280@\$116.00
1	Blk	Hutchinson	1960@\$143.00	1	Blk	Abilene	1470@\$116.00
1	Blk	Brookville	1825@\$141.50	1	Blk	Delphos	1590@\$115.00
1	Blk	Geneseo	1955@\$136.50				

## Early Consignments For THURSDAY, SEPT 21, 2023

14 black bulls & heifers, 400-550, home raised, off cow, vaccinated, open; 600 charX steers & heifers, 375-450, 2 round vaccinations, bunk broke, sired by Eaton Char bulls out of Montana, 40 day calving window, knife cut; 50 black steers & heifers, 650-750, home raised, long time weaned, 2 round vaccinations, open, off grass, knife cut; 60 steers & heifers, 450-600, vaccinated; 60 mostly black steers, 850#'s, off grass; **PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.**

## SPECIAL COW SALE!!! TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023 (10 AM Start) Get Your Cattle CONSIGNED!!

Cows: 30 black/red 6-8 years old, bred black Angus, calving November/December; 40 black/ Red Angus 3-5 years old, heavy bred, bred black; 32+32 running age black pairs (Complete Dispersal); 25 running age black spring bred cows, bred Sim/Angus bulls (Complete Dispersal); 10+10 running age pairs; 100 black/bwf/red cows, 3-5 years old, bred black & red Angus, spring calvers; 40 black cows, 3-5 years old, spring bred; **PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME.**

## UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES:

**HORSE SALE: October 13-15**

**SPECIAL COW SALES: Tuesday, October 24**

\* Tuesday, November 21 \* Tuesday, December 19

**CALF SALES: Tuesday, October 31**

Tuesday, November 7 \* Tuesday, November 14

**WEANED/VACC SALES: Tuesday, December 5**

Tuesday, January 2 \* Tuesday, January 9

Tuesday, February 6

**IN STOCK TODAY:**

• Heavy Duty Round Bale Feeders • Heavy Duty Feed Bunks

For Information or estimates, contact:

**Mike Samples, Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-826-7884**

**Kyle Elwood, Asst. Sale Mgr., Cell Phone 785-493-2901**

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785-254-7385  
Roxbury, KS

Lisa Long  
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