

Kansas Hay Market Report

Proud sponsor of the Kansas Hay Market Report is Bestifor.

Compared to the last report, demand remains low, trade activity remained slow, and prices were mostly steady, with the alfalfa market continuing to soften. Lots of folks are trying to sell alfalfa hay, but there are not many takers out there. The hay that is moving is previously purchased and contracted. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for November 2nd, significant precipitation was recorded in southeast Kansas and resulted in a full category improvement to the drought intensities. Unfortunately, there were some expansions of abnormally dry conditions that took place over eastern Colorado and western Kansas as well as southern Wyoming. The categorical percent area for abnormally dry conditions (D0) increased to 21%, moderate drought (D1) increased to 24%, severe drought (D2) increased to near 32%, extreme drought (D3) decreased to 7.5%, and, for the first time since February 22, 2022, no exceptional drought (D4) was recorded in the state of Kansas.

Southwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, and ground and delivered, steady, movement slow. Alfalfa: Dairy, 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Good, Stock or Dry Cow 220.00-250.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds new crop 205.00-

215.00 delivered short haul, large square 3x4's and 4x4's new crop 205.00-215.00 delivered short haul. Ground and delivered locally to feed lots and dairies, new crop 240.00-250.00. Alfalfa/oat hay mixed ground and delivered 240.00-245.00. Grass Hay: Bluestem: CRP large rounds 75.00. Corn stalks: large rounds 80.00-85.00 delivered, large squares 95.00-105.00, ground and delivered 125.00-135.00. The week of 10/29-11/4, 4,074T of grinding alfalfa and 400T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold.

South Central Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, and alfalfa pellets steady; ground and delivered 5.00 lower; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse, small squares 13.00/bale; Dairy 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Good, Stock cow, 225.00-235.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds new crop 200.00-210.00 delivered, 3x4 and 4x4's new crop 205.00-210.00 delivered, rained on large square 3x4 and 4x4 140.00-150.00. Alfalfa ground and delivered 230.00-240.00. Alfalfa pellets: Sun cured 15 pct protein 315.00-325.00, 17 pct protein 325.00-335.00, Dehydrated 17 pct protein 410.00-420.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, large rounds 165.00-185.00 delivered, large square 3x4's 150.00-160.00 FOB, small squares 200.00-205.00; Brome, small squares 245.00-250.00/ton. Sudan, large rounds 95.00-105.00. Milo, large rounds 95.00-105.00. The week of 10/29-11/4, 7,710.5T of grinding alfalfa and 0T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold.

Southeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa steady, grass hay steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: horse or goat, none reported. Dairy 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Good, stock cow 260.00-270.00 delivered. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds 195.00-205.00, large square 3x4's 205.00-215.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares, 200.00-205.00, mid square 3x3's 180.00-200.00, large square 3x4 170.00-190.00, large round 155.00-170.00. Brome, large round 160.00-170.00, large square 185.00-200.00. The week of 10/29-11/4, 967T of grass hay was

reported bought or sold.

Northwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa steady, grinding alfalfa 10.00-25.00 lower; movement slow. Alfalfa: Horse or goat, small squares none reported, 3x3 squares, 300.00. Dairy, Premium/Supreme 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Stock cow, fair/good none reported. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds 200.00-215.00, large square 3x4's 200.00-215.00. Alfalfa ground and delivered none reported.

North Central-Northeast Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grass hay steady, grinding alfalfa and ground and delivered mostly steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: Dairy 1.40-1.50/point RFV; Horse hay, premium small squares, 12.00-13.00/bale; Stock Cow 3x4's 230.00-240.00; Fair/good, grinding alfalfa, large rounds 210.00-220.00, large square 3x4's 215.00-225.00 (10L), Alfalfa ground and delivered 245.00-275.00. Alfalfa/Sudan grass mix ground and delivered 200.00. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares new crop 9.00-10.00/bale, large 3x4 squares 165.00-175.00, good large rounds 145.00-155.00. Brome: small squares 10.00-11.00/bale, large rounds 130.00-180.00. Oat hay, large rounds 160.00; Sudan: large round 170.00-180.00 delivered. Milo stalks: 70.00-90.00. Soybeans: 70.00-90.00. Wheat straw: small squares 5.00-6.00 per bale. Corn stalks: large round 60.00-70.00. The week of 10/29-11/4, 245T of grinding alfalfa and 600T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold.

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

*RFV calculated using the Wis/Minn formula.

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

Grass & Grain Community Obituary

James Harlin Kocher 1931-2023



Longtime auctioneer, James Harlin Kocher, from Onaga, passed away October 22, 2023. He had just turned 92 years old. Kocher attended auction school in 1950. He ran Kocher's Auction Service for more than 50 years. He also sold real estate.

He was a farmer/stockman, but his true love was auctioneering. Besides doing all kinds of auctions, he also auctioneered for the Emmett sale barn for many years. Jim used Grass & Grain on a regular basis during his auction career.

He married Leta Grace Holt on December 24, 1952 at the First Baptist Church in Onaga. She preceded him in death on August 8, 2005.

Jim was also preceded in death by his parents, a son, James Dale Kocher, a daughter, Janet George, a grandson, Joshua Kocher, and a sister, Zona Marcella Erass. Survivors include a son, Bruce Kocher and wife Ann, Onaga, six grandchildren, J.C., Jena, Keyanna, Branson, Amy and Matthew, nine great grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, and one on the way.

By Ross Mosteller, Meadowlark District Extension agent, livestock and natural resources

Growing up "making hay" was one of my favorite summer activities, and that was when small square bales had more popularity. Growing older, I've begun to think about ways to cut this cost out of the livestock enterprise. Our neighbors to the north have done more work in the area of swath grazing. Rather than recreate the wheel, I'll share excerpts on this topic from an article originally written by Adele Harty, former SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist.

Feed makes up the largest expense on a cow/calf operation. In addition to the initial expense, producers need to consider the storage and waste associated with winter feeding. As expenses increase, and producers evaluate more-efficient management techniques to lower production costs, one alternative may be to incorporate swath, or windrow grazing. Swath grazing can be utilized with various crops and can improve utilization of the crops for feed, while decreasing fuel, harvest and feeding costs and also improving soil health.

Swath grazing is the practice of cutting hay, small grains or forage crops and leaving them in windrows for livestock to graze during the winter months. Rather than having the expense of baling the hay, moving it off the field and feeding it in the winter, the feed is left in windrows, and cattle are allowed access to a limited number of windrows at a time as a means to reduce winter feed costs and increase soil fertility.

Swath grazing has its benefits in the Midwest, where colder temperatures and snow accumulation regularly occur. If utilizing a small grain crop, such as, but not limited to, millet, sudan or sorghum, swath grazing may provide an additional opportunity to utilize the forage. A study conducted at Iowa State University evaluated forage quality and utilization of swath grazing on the cow herd. Millet and sorghum were harvested in late July as a hay crop, allowed to regrow, and the regrowth was cut and raked in late December for a swath grazing trial.

Cows in their third trimester of gestation were moved from corn stalk residue to the swaths, where they grazed in a similar method to intensive grazing. Cows were given enough swaths to graze for three days at a time, and then fencing was moved and cows were given access to the next section. The logistics of moving fencing during the winter can be a challenge, so take that into consideration, as ground temperature will affect fencing being moved during the rotation. A reliable winter water source will be vital to the success of this system and could increase labor and time requirements.

The nutrient value of the feed did decline toward the end of February when cows were switched over to a TMR; however, they saw no detrimental effects to the calves as a result. Cows were able to utilize the feed with up to 12 inches of snow accumulation and temperatures of -20 degrees Fahrenheit. Forage utilization was up to 70%, which makes swath grazing a cost-effective op-

tion in comparison to putting the forage in bales.

With swath grazing, operating equipment and overall labor decrease, as harvesting and moving bales or manure hauling are minimal. The study also found that grazing this crop residue had minimal impact and did not affect regrowth of a perennial forage crop, thus allowing grazing to occur on a hay field or permanent pasture. Swath grazing increases soil health through manure and urine distribution. In a dry year, it helps create a potential seedbed and improved filtration by breaking soil crust, fully trampling all the non-eaten materials, and spreading out dung piles, making them less fly-friendly. This also provides a food source for soil microbes, thus increasing fertility of fields in the long term.

Reference: Dahlke, G. R., (2022) Swath Grazing Forage Sorghum and Pearl Millet Observations Regarding Quality and Utilization as Winter Feed, Iowa State University Animal Industry Report 18(1). Doi.

Swath grazing can cut winter feeding expenses

Promoting consumption of beef for adolescent girls

One of the main concerns about beef consumption is that it is perceived as less healthy than other protein or food options. This sentiment, compounded with the notion that beef is considered a more "masculine" food, potentially can deter some women from including beef in their diets.

Women – especially young women – who do not consume enough red meat, like beef, can develop nutrient deficiencies. In the United States, it's a significant issue, with over 20% of females aged 15 to 49 experiencing iron deficiency.

With this, the Kansas Beef Council (KBC) recently placed multiple print and digital advertisements targeting health professionals to communicate the iron requirements for women at different ages and how beef can help meet essential iron needs.

The checkoff-funded ads were featured in online and print industry publications and conferences for physician, dietitian and nurse audiences.

"Adolescent girls benefit greatly from beef consumption, as it offers key nutrients many girls might be missing," Abby Heidari, KBC director of nutrition, said. "We want health professionals to be aware that incorporating beef into a healthy and balanced diet can be an effective means of preventing common nutrient deficiencies."

These ads are estimated to have already reached thousands of Kansas health professionals. The assets were designed to have a nationwide reach and will be used by multiple state beef councils along with the Federation of State Beef Councils.

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and Tracks (mostly Lionel, plus others); 2 Working Train Display Set; Lots of Ertl Farm Toys, Model Cars, Trucks and Semis; Large Fisher Price Toy Collection (complete sets); Hundreds of Precious Moment Collectibles (in original boxes); RR Lanterns; Maytag Motors and Oil Cans; Coleman Collectibles; Thousands of School Posters and Reading Books; Large Steel School Supply Organizers; Stamping Collection; Hundreds of Box Files loaded with 27 year Accumulation of School Teaching Supplies; Hundreds of Children's Books; Posters and Wall Hangers; Lockers; Misc. Glassware; Pots and Pans; Baking Supplies; Kitchen Utensils; Tupperware; Fine China; Christmas Décor; **plus hundreds of items not listed.**

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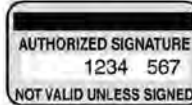
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Remaining relevant: access to data, coordination and competition

When Gordon Stucky got in the Angus business as a teenager, he took a risk and it turned out well. He more than tripled his investment on his first Angus heifer. Couple that with the mentorship he got from Kansas Angus Association members and he says, "That's what just kept me hooked."

He transitioned his Kingman family farm into registered seedstock operation with around 600 cows and diversified farming.

He and fellow Angus breeder Kevin Yon, Yon Family Farms, Ridge Springs, S.C., joined The Angus Conversation to discuss the changing landscape in the Angus business, access to data and how to remain competitive.

Would it be easier or harder to get into the business today?

Stucky can't say. Profit potential is not as dramatic with rising input costs and swings in the market,

but there are more opportunities, too.

"The programs and the data and all the things that we have available on the flip side of that make it to me very manageable for a person to come in and say, 'Gosh, here's kind of the road map,'" he says.

Yon and his wife, Lydia, bought the land they started their current operation on back when they had three young children and not much capital, but a shared will to work toward a dream.

"I feel very blessed that I get to wake up every morning and live a dream," Yon says. "I'm not

sure if I can say if it would be easier or harder, I will say that it will never be easy, but I would also say that it is certainly doable."

Both cattlemen look to the American Angus Association to help them stay competitive and driving forward.

"What other commodity handles their data that way where everyone has equal access?" Yon asks. "And it's families. It's families that's doing it. So, I'm really proud of the work that those went before us that got this deal set up that way."

For all the changes, Stucky says some parts of

the business — including producing good cattle and standing behind them — will remain pillars.

"The bottom line is you just treat people the way you would like to be treated. I mean, that's just still the bottom line," Stucky says.

To hear the entire episode, visit The Angus Conversation anywhere you get your podcasts, or follow this direct link: <https://www.angusjournal.net/episodes/episode/798d-caf0/remaining-relevant-stucky-yon-on-access-to-data-coordination-and-competition>

KDA warns poultry owners of HPAI resurgence nationwide

Fall has brought a resurgence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) nationwide, including cases in several states that border Kansas — Missouri, Oklahoma and Colorado. Although Kansas has not confirmed a case of HPAI in a domestic/commercial flock since April 2023, the primary source of spread for this outbreak continues to be wild migratory waterfowl, so the threat of exposure to susceptible birds in Kansas is high.

Anyone involved with poultry production from the small backyard chicken owner to the large commercial producer should review their biosecurity activities to assure the health of their birds. Find guidance on biosecurity on the KDA Division of Animal Health webpage at agriculture.ks.gov/AvianInfluenza.

Highly pathogenic avian influenza is a highly contagious viral disease that can infect chickens, gamebirds, turkeys, and other birds and can cause severe illness and/or sudden death in infected birds. This outbreak has seen illness and mortality in a wider scope of bird species than past outbreaks, including wild and domestic waterfowl. Attentively monitor your birds for symptoms of HPAI which include: coughing, sneezing, nasal discharge, and other signs of respiratory

distress; lack of energy and appetite; decreased water consumption; decreased egg production and/or soft-shelled, misshapen eggs; incoordination; and diarrhea. Avian influenza can also cause sudden death in birds even if they aren't showing other symptoms.

If these symptoms are observed in your birds, immediately contact your veterinarian. If you don't have a regular veterinarian, contact KDA's Division of Animal Health office toll-free at 833-765-2006.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the recent HPAI detections do not present an immediate public health concern. Birds and eggs from the infected flock will not enter the food system. As a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of all poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of

165°F is recommended as a general food safety precaution.

As part of existing avian influenza response plans, federal and state partners are working jointly on additional surveillance and testing in areas around the affected flocks. The United States has the strongest avian influenza surveillance program in the world, and USDA is working with its partners to actively look for the disease in commercial poultry operations and live bird markets and in migratory wild bird populations.

For more information about HPAI, including current status of the confirmed cases in other states as well as more information about biosecurity for your flock, go to KDA's avian influenza webpage at agriculture.ks.gov/AvianInfluenza or call KDA at 833-765-2006.

Prosser joins American Soybean Association's D.C. policy team

The American Soybean Association is pleased to announce an addition to its Washington, D.C.-based advocacy staff. Joe Prosser joined ASA Oct. 25 in a newly created policy manager role, one of two that will be filled this fall. Prosser and the second manager will round out the policy team, led by Executive Director of Government Affairs Christy Seyfert and including three directors of government affairs.

Prosser grew up in the suburbs of Omaha, Nebraska, and worked during harvest and planting seasons—and, he says, "any time in between I could get down there,"—on his family's wheat and soybean farm in Larned, Kansas. It was there he developed

an appreciation for agriculture and helping others understand where food and agricultural products come from.

Seyfert said Prosser was a standout candidate, commenting, "We were impressed by Joe's experience on the Hill specific to agriculture and enthusiasm for joining ASA and representing soybean farmers. We know he will be a great addition to our D.C. policy team."

ASA advocates on policy issues ranging from farm policy and biofuels to trade, conservation, biotechnology, animal ag, tax law, regulatory decisions affecting crop protection and more — issues that impact the livelihoods of U.S. soybean farmers across some 30 major soy states.

The policy managers will contribute to policy development and advocacy execution, collaborate across ASA functions to provide team support, and build relationships with ASA's diverse stakeholders.

Prior to accepting the position with ASA, Prosser worked as a legislative assistant for agriculture and financial services for Congressman John Duarte (R-CA), legislative correspondent for Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) covering agriculture, energy, environment and cryptocurrency, and he interned with Senator Roger Marshall (R-KS). Prosser earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Kansas State University with a minor in political science.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

150 acres, M/L, of Jackson County Farmland, Pasture & Wildlife Habitat
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023 * 1:30 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: Soldier Community Center, 212 First Street, SOLDIER, KANSAS

PROPERTY LOCATION: From Soldier, KS, go 2 miles East on 270th Road to G Road. The property is on the Southwest corner.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The Northeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 6 South, Range 13 East less a tract, Jackson County, KS. This property consists of 150 acres m/l of which there are 84.20 DCP cropland acres. Base acres are corn 64 base acres and soybeans 19.40 base acres. These cropland acres are all terraced with some being tile terraces.

The balance of 65.80 acres consists of mix grass pasture, a wooded creek area and a waterway. This property has 2 larger ponds and some good wildlife habitat.

****This property has good access with 270th Road along the North & G Road on the East Side.****

Come take a look at this diversified farm.

For more info or viewing, please call John E. Cline, Broker, 785-532-8381
For Pictures check our website: www.clinerealtyandauction.com

TERMS & POSSESSION: The Seller requires a non-refundable 10% down payment day of sale with the balance to be paid on or before January 16, 2024. Possession to be upon closing. Buyers and Sellers to equally split the Owner's Title Insurance fee and the Escrow closing cost. Seller to pay the 2023 taxes in full. Statements made sale day take precedence over printed material. Sale subject to Sellers' confirmation. Cline Realty & Auction, LLC represents the Sellers' interests.

SELLER: RAYMOND A. DROGE LIVING TRUST

Auction Conducted By: **CLINE REALTY & AUCTION, LLC**
John E. Cline, Broker/Auctioneer, Onaga, KS, 785-889-4775
WEBSITE: www.clinerealtyandauction.com

AUCTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 — 12:00 NOON

Auction will be held at the commercial building located at the Fairgrounds in BELLEVILLE, KS

CAST IRON TRACTOR SEATS: over 100; Albion; Barlow; Buckeye; Akron; Aultman Miller & Co; Champion; Clarke; Crown; CW & VVW Marsh Sycamore Ill.; Dains; Deere & Co; Deering; Dodds; Evans; Frost & Wood; Fuller Johnson Manf Co; Grand Detour; Hap Good Plow Co; Alton, Ill; Hocking Valley; Hoosier; Indiana; International Harvester; Iowa; Jenkins; Keystone; Kingman; McCormick; Midland; Milwaukee; Moline; Nicholsons Newark England; P.P. Co; Parlin & Orendorff Canton, Ill; Racine, WI; Rock Island Plow Co; Sattley; Solid Comfort; South bend Chilled Plow Co; The Rake Toronto; Walter A Wood #208 & #K1480; Western L. Roller Hastings, Ne; Whitely; several seats with no names; **TIN SEATS:** Emerson No. 1 & No. 2; Fordson; J-50; Parlin & Orendorff Canton, Ill;

TOOL HOLDERS & PLANT-ER BOX LIDS: Deere; International; Fordson; P & O Canton Ill; Rock Island Plow Co; Case; Janesville, Wis Machine Co; McCormick Chicago USA; cast iron John Deere foot pedal #229; Paper items: many machinery manuals: John Deere; Ford; advertising post cards; Allis Chalmers; Case; International; John Deere; John Deere ledger books (Belleville, Beloit, Mankato); **JOHN DEERE ITEMS:** Plow lapel pin; Deere Centennial bullet pencil Edwin Tietjen Implement Company Bryon, Neb; collector plates; Deere letter opener; tractor trading cards; truck bank; wrenches; **TOYS:** die cast, hard rubber & plastic tractors, trucks, combine, implements; Ertl in pkg: Fordson tractor; DeLaval cream separator; IHC engine; John Deere Waterloo Boy 2 hp engine; Maytag; gas-oline engine John Deere model E; John Deere 1940 12A combine; Kent feed truck; **SIGNS:** Asgrow Seed; Monsanto Farm Chemical; Funks G; Kansas

Farmer Union Member; Lynks Hybrids Dealer; McCurdy Hybrids Dealer; CF&I Nails display; Panogen Seed Treatment; NC+ Hybrids; Roundup Rewards; **ADVERTISING:** area business thermometers; United Hagie Seed thermometer; advertising rulers; Moor-man Feed cup; COOP bank; Acher Oil; Moco Oil; Conoco Grease; Standard Oil tins; Milwaukee Road watch fob; 2 wagon spring seats; platform scale; yard art; metal bear w/2 cubs; Electra lightning rod weather vane; wood wall telephone; horse drawn sod cutter; cast iron C K Ranch boot jack; Peterson Repair Shop ash tray, Courtland; Swedish American Bank metal box Courtland; 2 crock jugs; cow bells; brass sleighbell; Hesston hat/lapel pins; Hesston belt buckles; other ag belt buckles; many wrenches (IHC, John Deere & UPRR); other items. **75 Cast iron doorstops.**

NOTE: Chester & Mildred collected for many years. Chester was a member of Cast Iron Seat Collectors Association for many years and enjoyed visiting with fellow collectors and attending auctions. Check our website for pictures www.thummelauction.com

CHESTER & MILDRED RUSSELL FAMILY

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

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