

Trend in breakeven prices for cattle finishing

By Michael Langemeier, Purdue University

Fed-cattle prices increased from an average price of \$161 per hundredweight (cwt.) in the first quarter of 2023 to \$180 per cwt. in the third quarter, or 12%. Moreover, feeding cost of gain had declined from its peak earlier this year. These two phenomena represent the good news.

Now, for the not-so-good news. Feeder-steer prices have increased substantially from their levels earlier this year. Obviously, net returns to cattle finishing depend on fed-cattle prices, feeder-cattle prices and feeding cost of gain. An earlier article examined trends in feeding cost of gain². This article will focus on recent trends in feeder prices and breakeven prices and will provide projections for the next few months.

Historical breakeven prices: Breakeven prices are sensitive to changes in feeding cost of gain, feeder prices and interest rates. Monthly issues of the Focus on Feed-

lots newsletter were used to obtain information on feeding cost of gain. Historical and projected feeder prices were obtained from the Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC) website³. Interest rates were obtained from the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

Fig. 1 illustrates breakeven prices from January 2013 to September 2023, as well as projections for 2024. In this section, we will focus on historical breakeven prices. In the next section, we will discuss our projections.

As evident from Fig. 1, breakeven prices have been increasing rapidly since the fourth quarter of 2022. After averaging approximately \$155 per cwt. in the fourth quarter of 2022, breakeven prices averaged approximately \$168.40 per cwt. in the first quarter of 2023 and \$167.40 per cwt. in the second quarter. Average breakeven price for the third quarter of this year was approximately \$174.20 per cwt.

Though not a focus of

this article, net return can be determined using the difference between fed-cattle price and breakeven price in Fig. 1. Since April of this year, fed-cattle price has been higher than breakeven price, with the widest gaps (i.e., largest net returns) occurring in June and July. Whether this relationship between fed-cattle price and breakeven price continues will be discussed below.

Projected breakeven prices: Breakeven prices are expected to average approximately \$186 per cwt. in the fourth quarter of 2023, with the highest breakeven price, \$196 per cwt., occurring in December. What about the gap between fed-cattle and breakeven prices? The gap is projected to be positive in October and November, and then become negative as we move into December.

However, given the relatively tight beef supplies, the potential monthly gaps between fed-cattle and breakeven prices, or net returns, are

very difficult to project. For the first half of 2024, breakeven prices are expected to range from \$193 to \$197 per cwt. Will these breakeven prices lead to finishing losses? They very well could. However, given the relatively tight beef supplies, the potential monthly gaps between fed-cattle and breakeven prices, or net returns, are very difficult to project.

Summary and conclusions:

Fed-cattle prices have strengthened the last few months. At the same time, due to lower corn prices, feeding cost of gain has also declined. Partially in response to these two phenomena, feeder prices and breakeven prices have increased substantially. Breakeven prices for the fourth quarter of this

year are expected to be \$10 per cwt. higher than those for the third quarter. Moreover, breakeven prices in early 2024 are expected to be \$10 per cwt. higher than the projected breakeven prices for the fourth quarter of this year. These large increases in breakeven prices increase the uncertainty related to net return prospects for the next few months.

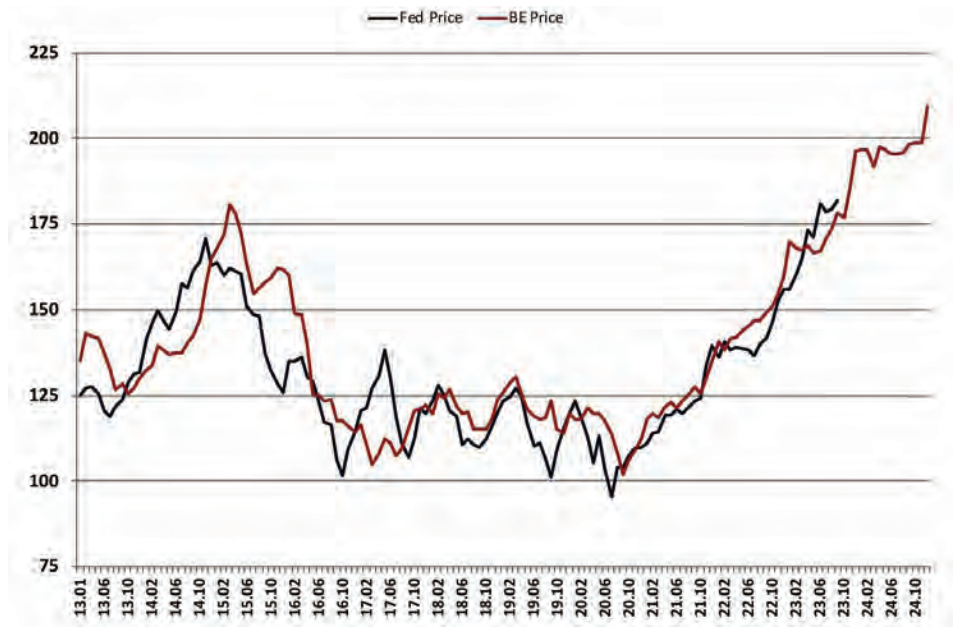


Figure 1

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We had a larger run of cattle for our sale held on Friday, December 8th, with the bulk of the run being 400-650# cattle. These cattle were selling mostly steady to stronger prices, especially on the longer weaned kind. Heavier feeder cattle were in shorter supply and were selling from steady to weaker prices. Cull cows sold \$3-\$5 lower on a large offering.

STEER CALVES — 300-550 LBS.

Waverly	26 blk	502@305.00
Valley Falls	11 blk	494@305.00
Riley	31 blk	491@302.00
Lyndon	4 blk	427@300.00
Manhattan	8 blk	516@296.00
Eskridge	7 Cross	443@294.00
Delia	5 blk	321@291.00
Frankfort	6 Cross	476@289.00
Delia	12 blk	491@284.00
Alma	14 Cross	520@281.50
Wamego	4 blk	540@280.00
Allen	6 blk	532@280.00
Frankfort	12 Cross	412@280.00
Alma	7 blk	534@276.50
Tonganoxie	5 blk	512@268.00
Delia	10 blk	397@261.00
Frankfort	8 blk	545@260.00
Gypsum	7 Herf	423@255.00
Manhattan	7 blk	547@243.00
Manhattan	7 blk	403@237.00

FEEDER STEERS — 550-1060 LBS.

Eskridge	12 Cross	554@266.00
Alma	16 blk	565@265.00
Valley Falls	14 blk	597@260.00
Council Grove	7 Ang	595@259.00
Riley	33 blk	609@259.00
Olsburg	9 Cross	566@257.00

Valley Falls	16 blk	610@256.00
Olsburg	8 blk	566@256.00
Lyndon	6 blk	591@255.00
Lyndon	13 blk	601@252.00
Manhattan	15 blk	618@245.00
Leavenworth	9 blk	613@245.00
Allen	16 bwf	660@244.00
Manhattan	4 blk	595@239.00
Wamego	6 blk	630@235.00
Council Grove	15 Ang	714@232.00
Riley	8 Char	668@231.00
Washington	12 blk	666@230.00
Palmer	7 Cross	624@230.00
Frankfort	6 Cross	702@228.00
Alma	23 blk	673@226.50
Onaga	18 blk	745@225.00
Riley	8 Herf	580@225.00
Perry	5 Cross	640@222.50
Valley Falls	5 blk	699@221.00
Council Grove	4 blk	631@221.00
Wakefield	9 Cross	671@214.00
Onaga	32 blk	849@213.00
Riley	5 Char	781@212.00
Princeton	5 blk	749@206.00
Onaga	9 blk	855@200.25
Manhattan	11 blk	647@190.00
Wheaton	6 blk	872@188.00
Manhattan	5 blk	1059@110.00

HEIFER CALVES — 325-550 LBS.

Olsburg	6 blk	485@276.00
Olsburg	5 blk	344@271.00
Alma	14 blk	477@271.00
Valley Falls	9 blk	462@270.00
Alma	5 Cross	428@270.00
Lyndon	11 blk	515@270.00
Alma	9 blk	473@269.00
Manhattan	14 blk	473@266.00
Riley	28 blk	491@265.00

Leavenworth	4 blk	263@264.00
Waverly	5 blk	471@263.00
Wamego	6 blk	443@261.00
Lyndon	4 blk	406@259.00
Valley Falls	4 bwf	512@258.00
Waverly	4 blk	390@256.00
Leavenworth	5 blk	510@254.00
Olsburg	6 blk	389@246.00
Wamego	13 blk	531@244.50
Eskridge	6 Cross	403@243.00
Manhattan	5 blk	368@240.00
Olsburg	10 blk	488@237.00
Manhattan	6 blk	442@218.00
Riley	10 Herf	533@215.00

FEEDER HEIFERS — 550-925 LBS.

Riley	27 blk	605@238.00
Leavenworth	7 blk	571@238.00
Palmer	4 blk	577@235.00
Council Grove	6 Ang	593@234.00
Allen	5 blk	573@233.00
Onaga	8 blk	638@229.00
Council Grove	4 blk	603@229.00
Leavenworth	4 blk	601@227.00
Olsburg	4 blk	617@227.00
Manhattan	6 blk	630@226.00
Valley Falls	9 blk	620@224.00
Riley	6 Char	609@223.00
Onaga	12 blk	667@218.50
Frankfort	5 blk	662@215.00
Eskridge	14 Cross	565@210.00
Onaga	14 blk	733@205.00
Blue Rapids	5 bwf	571@201.00
Valley Falls	4 blk	831@192.00
Manhattan	8 blk	572@185.00
Wheaton	4 Ang	777@185.00
Alma	5 Cross	903@169.00
Princeton	4 blk	776@169.00

COWS & HEIFERETTES — 750-1825 LBS.

Shawnee	1 Cross	885@167.00
Shawnee	1 blk	795@166.00
Waterville	1 Cross	885@163.00
Waterville	1 blk	995@155.00
Manhattan	1 blk	935@138.00
Shawnee	1 blk	875@133.00
Manhattan	1 blk	930@120.00
Shawnee	1 Cross	985@112.00
Onaga	1 blk	1680@95.50

BABY CALVES

St. George	1 blk	185@425.00
Lyndon	1 blk	225@400.00
Manhattan	1 blk	210@400.00
Concordia	1 Herf	165@385.00
Topeka	1 blk	130@385.00
Manhattan	15 Hols	@250.00
Manhattan	4 Hols	@235.00

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR DEC. 15:

- 110 choice blk and Red cross str & hfrs, 2 rd shots including Enforce 3, one shot BVD, Ultra Bac 7, poured Dectomax, pre weaning, str had 1 implant in Spring, weaned Nov. 27, 500-650#
- 300 choice reputation home raised Blk BWF, few Red Angus cross str & hfrs, weaned 60 days, 3 complete rd shots, str implanted, hfrs no implants, 550-700#
- 30 Balancer Char cross str & hfrs, 2 rd Bovishield Gold 1, Inforce, 7 Way Blackleg, poured/fence line weaned 45 days, bunk broke, 450-600#
- 25 mostly blk, few Red str & hfrs, no implants, bunk broke, wormed, weaned 90+ days, 2 rd Spring shots, 1 rd Fall shots, 700-900#
- 24 Beef Dairy cross str, weaned, 200#
- 10 blk str, 2 rds shots, weaned 30 days, 600-650#

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR DEC. 22:

- 40 home raised Ang cows, running ages, bred Ang bulls to start calving Feb. 15

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR DEC. 29:

- 14 blk str & hfrs, all shots, 400-500#

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Kansas Hay Market Report

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Compared to the last report, demand remained low, trades were slow and prices were mostly steady. The grinders, pellet mills and feed yards are still getting a lot of alfalfa offered to them but there are not many takers. Some folks seem to be on the prowl for good quality grass hay, but not finding too many producers willing to take on new customers, as they will barely have enough grass hay to cover current customer needs. Most producers stated they received snow the weekend after Thanksgiving in addition to some rain, making it a muddy mess out there. But having the moisture is preferred to the drought conditions Kansas has been experiencing over the last year. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for November 30th, some minor improvements were made in areas of Kansas in response to improving conditions during the past 30-60 days, including the beneficial snowfall observed over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, as stated earlier. The categorical percent area for abnormally dry conditions (D0) is at 21%, moderate drought (D1) remains at 26%, severe drought (D2) remains at 35%, extreme drought (D3) remains just over 7.5%, and no exceptional drought (D4) was recorded.

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

Southwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa and ground and delivered steady, grinding alfalfa mostly steady; movement slow. Alfalfa: Dairy, 1.40-1.50/point RFV. Good, Stock or Dry Cow 240.00-250.00. Fair/good grinding alfalfa, large rounds 180.00-190.00, large square 3x4's and 4x4's 180.00-190.00. Ground and delivered locally to feed lots and dairies, new crop 230.00-240.00. Alfalfa/oat hay mixed ground and delivered 225.00-235.00. Grass Hay: Bluestem: CRP large rounds 75.00-100.00. Corn stalks: none reported. Teff: large rounds 220.00-230.00. The week of 11/26-12/2, 5,066T of grinding alfalfa and 895T of dairy alfalfa was reported bought or sold.

South Central Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa, ground and delivered and alfalfa pellets steady; 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 195.00-205.00 delivered, 3x4 and 4x4's 195.00-205.00 delivered. Alfalfa ground and delivered 230.00-240.00. Alfalfa/Forage Mix ground and delivered 180.00-190.00. 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. Teff: 3x4's and 4x4's 220.00-230.00. The week of 11/26-12/2, 6,490T of grinding alfalfa and 108T 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 220.00-225.00, large square 3x4's none reported. Grass hay: Bluestem, small squares, 200.00-205.00, mid square 3x3's 200.00-205.00, large square 3x4 170.00-180.00, large round 155.00-170.00. Brome, large round 160.00-170.00, large square 185.00-200.00. The week of 11/26-12/2, 1,367T of grass hay was reported bought or sold.

Northwest Kansas

Dairy alfalfa, grinding alfalfa steady; 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, grinding alfalfa, ground and delivered and grass hay 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 210.00-220.00. 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 160.00-170.00, good large rounds 150.00-170.00. Brome: small squares 10.00-11.00/bale, large rounds 130.00-170.00. Oat hay, large rounds 160.00; Sudan: large round 130.00-160.00 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 11/26-12/2, 161T of grinding alfalfa and 225T 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: Source: Kansas Department of Agriculture - Manhattan, Kansas Kim Nettleton 785-564-6709

Sens. Moran, Bennet raise concerns with Emergency Relief Program for farmers and ranchers

U.S. senators Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) and Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) led their colleagues in the Senate and U.S. House of Representatives in raising concerns regarding the 2022 Emergency Relief Program (ERP) to U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack.

"The 2022 crop year was challenging for many

of America's farmers and ranchers who were saddled with record-high production costs, inflation, and met with historic drought conditions in the west and significant flood and freeze events in other regions of the country," the members wrote. "In light of these challenges, we thank you for the swift assistance made to livestock producers with drought or wildfire losses in 2022. However, following the USDA's 2022 ERP rollout for qualified crop losses, we have heard from producers in our states with concerns regarding the new program."

The senators outlined several questions for Vilsack to increase transparency on how the emergency reimbursements were calculated, administered and what will be done with remaining funds.

"We recognize that ad hoc disaster assistance is costly to U.S. taxpayers and only a band-aid to issues exacerbated by extreme weather volatility," the members continued. "It is for this reason that we believe an adequate farm safety net, including conservation investments that address persistent drought, are critical in any upcoming multi-year

of light gets shorter, less light is available for plant growth. Don't expect or try to encourage plant growth without adequate light. Adequate natural light for plant growth won't be available until next March. To make matters worse, a layer of dust usually forms on the leaves which reduces light even more. Remove the dust with plain old water. Distilled water would be best since it won't leave any mineral residue.

With less light for plant growth, little fertilizer is necessary. No fertilizer is needed until next March for interior plants.

Plants prefer humidity. The ideal situation is to have your houseplants surrounding your hot tub in a sunroom. Since most of us don't have that environment, the plants will have to deal with it just as we do. Forget about humidity.

You can find out more information on this and other horticulture topics by going to the K-State Research and Extension website at www.ksre.ksu.edu. Or you can reach Gregg Eyestone at the Riley County office of K-State Research and Extension. Gregg may be contacted by calling 537-6350 or stopping by 110 Courthouse Plaza in Manhattan or e-mail: geyeston@ksu.edu

Farm Bill reauthorization."

Moran and Bennet were joined by senators Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.), Deb Fischer (R-Neb.), James Lankford (R-Okla.) and Pete Ricketts (R-Neb.), and representatives Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.), Henry Cuellar (D-Texas), Nathaniel Moran (R-Texas), Lance Gooden (R-Texas), Jim Costa (D-Calif.), Pete Sessions (R-Texas), Yadiara Caraveo (D-Colo.), Jake Ellzey (R-Texas), August Pfluger (R-Texas), Troy Nehls (R-Texas) and Vincente Gonzalez (D-Texas).

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Kansas Profile

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Service to others. That is a fundamental tenet of Isaac Shue's church and his life. Now he is serving his family and others through the art of pottery, including a special offering at Christmastime.

Isaac and Karina Shue are founders and owners of Gallery Mostaza in Harper. Isaac grew up here and was active in the Mennonite Church, in which hands-on service to humanity is a vital part of the faith. He participated in church service projects in Miami and Haiti while attending

Hesston College, and then Goshen College.

Shue enjoyed art, especially sketching. "I always had a pencil or a basketball in my hands," he said. He was good at drawing and painting but wasn't sure about three-dimensional art.

While at Goshen College, he was required to take a ceramics class and found he loved the challenge. "It draws you in," Shue said. He bought a pottery wheel and started making bowls.

"At the end of the semester, there was a student sale," Shue

said. "People bought a lot of my bowls and I realized people would pay for this."

Shue's next service trip was to Bolivia. "To raise money for the trip, I had an ice cream social," Shue said. "Everybody who came got a bowl, and then made a free-will offering."

He raised the funds and went on the church trip to Bolivia. He volunteered at a day care center. Here he met Karina, the psychologist who worked there. The two fell in love and ultimately were married. After finishing her immigration paperwork, they moved to his hometown of Harper.

Isaac got a teaching certificate at Bethel and became an art teacher at Cheney. Karina became an ESL translator. He continued to make pottery and sold it at farmer's markets on weekends. "People started knocking on our doors, wanting a pot for a wedding

or special event," Shue said.

"Our dream was to have a gallery and a store," he said. One day while out for a drive, they noticed a 'For Sale' sign on a house Shue's grandfather had built outside of town. They made an offer, but they had to sell their house in town. "Within three days, we had a contract," Shue said.

They bought the house, remodeled the detached garage, and used that as a gallery. They had an open house before Christmas and 500 people came through. This became an annual event. The Shues went on to build another larger building to serve as their gallery and opened the business full-time.

They named their business Gallery Mostaza, a Spanish word for mustard. This is based on the Christian parable that says that large goals can be met with a tiny bit of faith,

even the size of a mustard seed.

In addition, the word "taza" means mug, which is a primary item they produce.

"One year a friend asked for a clay pumpkin, and I thought that was an odd request," Shue said. These would prove so popular that they now have an annual pumpkin patch stocked with hundreds of clay pumpkins -- and they sell out.

Gallery Mostaza is open year-round and hosts three special events: A farmers' market-type event in April, pumpkin patch in September, and Christmas in December. The shop is open until Christmas Eve.

The Christmas event features mugs, bowls, angels, Christmas boxes, ornaments, lanterns, candles, and much more. "We'll prepare more than 3,000 items each year," Shue said.

"People line up an

hour before opening," Shue said. Their handmade snowflake mugs sold out in five minutes. The Shues have shipped products coast to coast and as far away as Australia and Dubai.

It's exciting to find this business near the rural community of Harper, population 1,313 people. Now, that's rural.

Isaac and Karina have a son, Xavi, and a baby daughter, Natalia. For more information on the business, see www.gallerymostaza.com.

Service. It's a fundamental part of Isaac and Karina Shue's lives. They are making a difference by using their creative skills to serve others.

Audio and text files of Kansas Profiles are available at <http://www.kansasprofile.com>. For more information about the Huck Boyd Institute, interested persons can visit <http://www.huck-boydinststitute.org>

New land transfer program to help nation's farmers protect and access farmland

The United States' ability to sustainably produce food, steward natural resources, and support rural economies depends on ensuring greater access to land for the next generation of farmers and ranchers. Working in partnership with public and private land protection leaders throughout the country, American Farmland Trust (AFT) announces a new "Land Transfer Navigators" program in partnership with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services that will help exiting farmers and landowners retire with confidence and help new, beginning and underserved farmers gain secure, equitable land access.

Nearly 300 million acres of American farmland are expected to change hands in the next twenty years. As aging farmers exit the field, the future is uncertain for about one-third of the country's farm and ranch land.

"Farmland is most at risk of conversion during generational transition," says John Piotti, AFT's president and CEO. "With the wave of land transfer that is coming, we risk converting far too much farmland into low-density housing, subdivisions and strip malls. Public and private conservation entities — groups like land trusts and purchase of agricultural conservation easement (PACE) programs — have done a tremendous job of protecting farmland across the country. They can continue to accelerate their impressive farmland protection work, and with greater support, they can also guide landowners in

the eventual transfer of protected land to a new generation of farmers and ranchers."

Farmland transfer is a delicate process, one that involves a complex and often emotional combination of legal, economic and social factors. For many exiting farmers and ranchers, retirement can be a challenge, especially if they do not have heirs who are interested in taking over the farm business. For aspiring and incoming farmers, particularly those who do not come from farming or ranching families, accessing affordable land is their biggest barrier.

Land Transfer Navigators will build bridges between these two groups, leveraging land protection as a strategy to facilitate successful, affordable land transfer. Over the next four years, AFT will train three dozen land protection organizations and their staff to serve as "Navigators" in communities across the country to aid exiting and entering farmers in the land transfer process. The trusting relationships these land trusts and PACE programs have nurtured with conservation-minded landowners can serve as a foundation for the successful transfer of land between generations. With this new training, Navigators will connect with one another and gain additional skills, tools and resources to bring unprecedented support to help transfer farmland.

"With millions of acres of farmland likely to transition over the next decade, NRCS sees a pivotal opportunity to help landowners identify transfer

strategies that keep land in active agriculture," says Carrie Lindig, director of easement programs at NRCS. "NRCS is pleased to collaborate with American Farmland Trust to build the capacity of land conservation professionals to assist farmers and ranchers with these strategies."

This collaborative, capacity-building approach is tested and proven, explains Erica Goodman, director of AFT's Farms for a New Generation initiative. "Organizations across the country are providing critical expertise on land protection, transfer and access, but capacity and coordination are limited. That makes it difficult to help farmers, ranchers and landowners through unique, complicated processes. Yet it is this grounded, one-on-one assistance that can help transform land transfer challenges into land access opportunities," she says.

Agencies and organizations that have formally joined the program underwent a thorough and competitive application process to become Navigators. They are hopeful about the project's impact. "We sit at kitchen tables with our farmers, discussing their hopes and dreams for their land as we work together to secure their conservation legacies. Farm transfer is a natural progression of that conversation, and a critical next step to ensure protected lands stay in production," says Jess Lagis, Farmland Protection Director at Southern Ap-

palachian Highlands Conservancy. "SAHC is grateful to work with American Farmland Trust's Land Transfer Navigator Program to better serve our region's farmers and close the loop of farmland protection and access."

Melissa Odell, who serves as the lands director for Bitter Root Land Trust in Montana, agrees. "We are honored and excited to be selected to participate in AFT's Land Transfer Navigators program," she says. "Our community has traditions steeped in agriculture and local food production. To help ensure agriculture continues to be a driver for our local economy, it is critical to connect our valley's farmers and ranchers with resources to support and engage the next generation of agricultural producers."

In addition to training dozens of organizations and AFT staff to serve as Navigators, the project will offer regional support for landowners and land seekers. AFT will build and expand communities of practice for service providers — such as attorneys, appraisers, real estate agents, financial planners and lenders, among others — who specialize in agriculture and are key figures in the transfer process. AFT staff and Navigator partners will work directly with landowners and land seekers, as well as distribute grants to farmers, ranchers and landowners to help them develop and implement farm transfer plans.

AFT will create and host an online "Land Transfer Resource Hub" on the Farmland Informa-

tion Center. The Hub will be a one-stop shop of resources to help landowners and land seekers in even the earliest stages move through the transfer process. Once live, it will include a national "Farm Link Finder" with an inventory of existing programs and services. There will also be access to Navigator contact information and one-on-one technical assistance, as well as a library of farm and ranch transfer stories to support and inspire people navigating the process. The Hub will be free to use and readily available for farm owners and seekers.

As the average age of farmers, ranchers, and agricultural landowners continues to climb, the working land they steward is at a moment of seismic transition. It matters how—and to whom—that land transfers.

The collective components of the Land Transfer Navigators project will work to get more land in the hands of next generation farmers and ranch-

ers. With support, they can flourish—putting our nation on the path to a stronger, brighter, and more equitable agricultural future.

Interested in learning more about the project and seeing the roster of Land Transfer Navigators? Check out this page: <https://farmland.org/land-transfer-navigators/>

American Farmland Trust is the only national organization that takes a holistic approach to agriculture, focusing on the land itself, the agricultural practices used on that land, and the farmers and ranchers who do the work. AFT launched the conservation agriculture movement and continues to raise public awareness through our No Farms, No Food message. Since our founding in 1980, AFT has helped permanently protect over 7.8 million acres of agricultural lands, advanced environmentally-sound farming practices on millions of additional acres and supported thousands of farm families.

LAND AUCTION
440 Acres m/l of Dickinson & Ottawa County Pastureland
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024 * 10:30 AM
Held at the Greyhound Hall of Fame Bldg.,
407 S. Buckeye, ABILENE, KANSAS 67410
SOLD IN 4 TRACTS * AII PASTURELAND!
SELLER: MILLS SIBLING TRUST
Watch for More Information Coming Soon!
Reynolds Real Estate & Auction
Dan Reynolds, Auction Manager, 785-479-0203

ESTATE AUCTION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2023 * 10:00 AM
225 S. Main - HEDVILLE, KANSAS
1982 Ranger Chief 380 w/Evinrude XP150 motor, 43 lb. 4 oz. Striper mount, assorted fishing gear, JC Higgins cooler, Lawn Chief 46" riding mower, Craftsman 10hp riding mower, Airco 225-amp A.C. Transformer, Assorted power tools, hand tools, antique wood cabinet, altimeter, Phillips TV AND MUCH MORE!
Go to: **SOLDBYWILSON.COM** for more details & pictures
Wilson Realty & Auction Service
PO Box 1695, Salina, KS 67402-1695 * OFFICE - 785-823-1177
LONNIE WILSON, Owner/Broker/Auctioneer - 785-826-7800

2-DAY ONLINE AUCTION
(650+ Lots - Fiesta, Toys, GI Joe, Star Wars, Barbie, Comic Books, Precious Moments, Coins)
Bidding OPEN NOW For Both Days!
DAY #1 will begin Closing at 2:00 PM, Monday, 12/18/23
DAY #2 will begin Closing at 2:00 PM, Tuesday, 12/19/23
SELLER: Property of the Late DENNIS & ELLEN DeLAY
PICKUP/PREVIEW LOCATION: 401 Maple, Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845
PICKSTWARE: 125+ Lots, Relish Tray, Disc Juice Pitcher w/6 Tumblers, Syrup Dispenser, 6 Nesting Bowl Set, Carafe Pitcher w/Lid, 4 Cups & Saucers, 20+ Lots of 5-pc / 4-pc Table Settings;
ANTIQUES: Pyrex Refrigerator Dishes; Reifer Regiment No 12 Sword; **COINS & STAMPS:** 1990 Liberty Dollar, 1915 Circulated Coin Sets; US Mint Uncirculated Coin & Proof Sets; Steel & Wheat Pennies; Buffalo Nickels; 38 Mercury & 65 Pre-1964 Roosevelt Dimes; 1971 Eisenhower Uncirculated Silver Dollar; 1986 Liberty Silver Dollar; 1972 Canada Olympic Coin Proof Set; Lots of Stamps; **BELT BUCKLES:** Anderson Hall KSU, 1983-84-85-86-87 Historical Council Grove, 1987 Council Grove Hays House; **PRECIOUS MOMENTS:** 90+ Lots; **VINTAGE TOYS:** Star Wars (82+ Action Figures, Vehicles w/Boxes); GI Joe (40+ Action Figures, Vehicles w/Boxes); 200+ Comic Books 10-12-25-35-40cent; Beatles Notebook Binder; Lots of Fisher Price, Playskool, Mattel, Sesame Street Toys; Trucks, Tractors; Erector 375 Motorized Set; Matchbox, Hot wheels; Mork from Ork Eggship; A-TEAM; Dukes of Hazzard; Daisey Red Ryder BB Gun; **SPORTS ITEMS:** Pennants, Cards, Photos, Signatures, Vintage Hats, Magazines, Big Eight 1984 Sports Soda Collection; **HOLIDAY:** Snowman, Santa, Choir Boy, Lantern, Toy Soldier Blow Molds; **DOLLS:** Barbies (30+ Dolls, Clothes, The Barbie Game Queen of the Prom; Gabriel Patches McGee Dolls, Tree House; Marionette Puppet Doll; **Much more, this a partial listing.**
For full listing, terms & photos GriffinRealEstateAuction.com
GRIFFIN
Real Estate & Auction
Phone: 620-273-6421 Fax: 620-273-6425
305 Broadway, Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845
griffinrealestateauction@gmail.com
CHUCK MAGGARD
Sales/Auctioneer
Cell: 620-794-8824
In Office: Heidi Maggard

Explore your options: modified-live and killed vaccines

A sound vaccination protocol lays the groundwork for a healthy herd. Taking time to understand the different vaccine options is an important part of making informed decisions that ensure your cattle are in the best position possible to navigate disease challenges.

“Both modified-live virus [MLV] and killed virus [KV] vaccines have been shown to protect cattle against common respiratory and reproductive diseases; however, there are some key differences in how each of them stimulates immunity,” said Craig Jones, DVM, director of cattle professional services veterinarians, Boehringer Ingelheim. “It is important for producers to understand the advantages and limitations associated with each.”

Modified-live virus vaccines

MLV vaccines contain a weakened, or attenuated, form of a live virus. Because the virus has been altered, it should not cause clinical disease, but will very closely mimic a true infection.

Once the vaccine is administered, the virus will replicate within the animal's system and cre-

ate the opportunity for an immune response. Compared to KV vaccines, MLV vaccines generally provide a more rapid, longer-lasting and broader immunity with one dose, since the virus is able to replicate and behave closer to the way it would during a natural infection.

Although MLV vaccines may stimulate a broader, more complete immune response, there are some other factors to consider. “Modified-live virus vaccines have a greater risk of causing an abortion in pregnant cows, if not used appropriately and according to label,” explained Dr. Jones. “In addition, MLVs must be reconstituted [mixed], and may require more attention to detail when it comes to proper use, handling and storage. These factors do not preclude my use or recommendation of MLVs; they are simply things we must keep in mind prior to and when using.”

Once MLVs are mixed, they should be kept cold and out of sunlight. Following Beef Quality Assurance guidelines, mix only as much vaccine as can be used in one hour or less. MLV products should not be stored for later use.

Killed virus vaccines

KV vaccines are safe at all stages of pregnancy. They typically do not require reconstitution, and they have a longer shelf life relative to MLV vaccines.

The immune response following use of a KV vaccine will be slower to develop. “Killed vaccines contain an inactivated, or killed, antigen that is incapable of replicating in the animal's system,” Dr. Jones pointed out. Because the killed virus does not replicate, it usually requires a booster dose in two to four weeks to stimulate a complete immune response.

“As compared to MLV vaccines, a dose of killed virus vaccine may contain more viral antigen, or pieces of the virus, in order for the immune system to recognize and respond to the antigen,” confirmed Dr. Jones. “Because there is more antigen needed, killed vaccines often cost more.”

Things to consider

“When it comes to building a protocol, you don't necessarily have to choose between the two types of vaccines,” advised Dr. Jones. “In fact, there are many veterinar-

ians and producers who choose to incorporate both options into their protocols.”

Below are some things to consider when choosing the products to best protect against the disease challenges facing your cattle:

1 – Work with a veterinarian.

“The whole point of vaccination is to help animals remain healthy, while minimizing the risk of economically important diseases that are prevalent in the area where the cattle are being, or will be, managed,” Dr. Jones stressed.

Your local veterinarian can help guide this discussion and provide insight as to which diseases are economically significant and prevalent. Whether you're talking about parasite management or protecting against reproductive and respiratory losses, working with a veterinarian is the first step.

2 – Have a written herd health calendar.

Once you have determined which diseases you should vaccinate against, consider using a herd health calendar to help with timing. This will en-

sure that vaccines are given prior to any potential health risks and your cattle are protected.

“I always recommend having a written health protocol and records of vaccine and other product administration,” said Dr. Jones. “When health activities are recorded and visible for others in the operation to see, we have greater protocol compliance and more awareness of herd health events.”

3 – Stay on label.

Different types of vaccines behave differently and will perform differently. Paying attention to the label is extremely important and will ensure the vaccine is aligned with your expectations. Product labels will also inform you about the correct route of administration and the dose needed.

About Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc.

Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health is working on first-in-class innovation for the prediction, prevention, and treatment of diseases in animals. For veterinarians, pet owners, producers, and governments in more than 150 countries, we offer a large and innovative portfolio

of products and services to improve the health and well-being of companion animals and livestock.

As a global leader in the animal health industry and as part of the family-owned Boehringer Ingelheim, they take a long-term perspective. The lives of animals and humans are interconnected in deep and complex ways. We know that when animals are healthy, humans are healthier too. By using the synergies between our Animal Health and Human Pharma businesses and by delivering value through innovation, we enhance the health and well-being of both.

Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health has deep roots in the U.S. From a start in St. Joseph, Missouri, more than 100 years ago, it has grown to encompass seven sites. Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health's portfolio contains widely used and well-respected vaccines, parasite-control products and therapeutics for pets, horses and livestock.

Learn more about Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA at bi-animalhealth.com.

State Board of Agriculture to meet December 15

The Kansas State Board of Agriculture will meet for its regular quarterly board meeting on Friday, December 15, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Kansas Department of Agriculture office at 1320 Research Park Dr. in Manhattan.

The meeting is open to the public. This meeting will be held in person only. For more information or to receive a copy of the agenda, please contact Auburn Wassberg at Auburn.B.Wassberg@ks.gov. Persons who require special accommodations must make their needs known at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Herington

LIVESTOCK COMMISSION Co.

CATTLE SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY: 12:00 PM
Report for December 6th, 2023

— COWS / HFR/TS / BULLS —			
	Weight	Price Range	
Cows:		\$87.00-\$115.00	
Bulls - 2 head:	2150-2110	\$94.50-\$100.50	

— TOP STRINGS OF EACH CLASS —					
	HEAD	WEIGHT	PRICE		
STEERS				HEIFERS	
White City	13 mix	607	\$250.50	White City	8 blk
Wilsley	5 bwf	299	\$250.00	White City	10 blk
Wilsley	4 mix	501	\$241.00	Council Grove	5 blk
Carlton	70 blk	676	\$239.00	Council Grove	8 blk
Lincolnville	5 mix	615	\$235.00	White City	7 blk
White City	14 blk	709	\$230.00	Lincolnville	8 Red
Council Grove	8 blk	695	\$227.50	Wilsley	3 mix
Lincolnville	6 Red	703	\$215.00	White City	12 blk
White City	10 blk	699	\$213.00	Hope	35 blk
Lincolnville	42 mix	810	\$211.00	White City	5 blk

SPECIAL SALES:
1ST WEDS. OF EACH MONTH

NEXT SALE: DEC. 13
CHECK WEBSITE FOR CONSIGNMENTS

Manager: Tracy Ediger, 785-366-6645 * Barn Phone: 785-258-2205
 Seth Bartel, 620-382-7041 • Tate Becker, 785-258-4165
 Dave Bures, 402-766-3743 • Tim Wildman, 785-366-6152
 KFRM AM 550, Every Wed., 8:00 a.m. • www.HeringtonLivestock.com

K-State expert: take steps to protect fruit trees from mice

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

Fruit tree bark is a tasty alternative -- and often favorite -- food source for mice in the winter.

Ah, rats...

Kansas State University horticulture expert Cynthia Domenghini said mice chew through the outer layer of bark at the base of trees. “Heavy feeding reduces the trees’ ability to transport food to the roots and can result in death,” she said.

To prevent damage from mice, start by keeping the ground around trees clear of debris.

“This removes the protective layer mice are seeking to stay hidden from predators. Weeds, leaves and grass should all be maintained,” Domenghini said. “Even mulch can create a hide-out for small rodents.”

Domenghini suggests wrapping the base of the trunks with hardware cloth at least 18 inches high. Mice will not be able to access the bark through this material. Be sure to remove the wire during the active growing season to prevent damaging the trunk as it grows.

In some situations, Domenghini said a baited trap may be the best route to avoid losing fruit trees. Bait stations can easily be made to ensure only the intended pests are accessing the bait.

“Use extreme caution when handling the bait and follow proper proce-

JC LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Wednesday Sale, Hogs NOON • Cattle 12:30 PM

Report from December 6th, 2023

STEERS			
1	250	550.00H	190.00
7	475	272.00	
1	555	257.00	
4	588	229.00	
2	617	228.00	
5	688	227.50	
4	703	210.00	

TOP BUTCHER COW: \$104.00 @ 1,695 LBS.
TOP BUTCHER BULL: \$115.00 @ 1,535 LBS.
BRED COWS: \$980-\$2300
PAIRS: \$1600-\$2600
1ST CALF HEIFERS: \$2000-\$2600

HEIFERS:
 1 195 470.00H
 2 357 239.00
 1 535 215.00
 3 608 191.00

Listing of Yearlings & Calves for our sale on Wednesday, December 13th

- 45 Blk X Strs/Hfrs500-750# WV
- 13 Mix Strs/Hfrs500-650# WV
- 20 Blk Strs800-850# WV

Wednesday, Dec. 20th - Regular Sale
Wednesday, Dec. 27th - NO SALE (MERRY CHRISTMAS!)
Jan. 3rd - 1st sale of 2024 (HAPPY NEW YEAR!)

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

If you need assistance in marketing your cattle please call & we will be happy to discuss it with you.

JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS • Barn Phone 785-238-1471
Seth Lauer 785-949-2285, Abilene

CLAY CENTER LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

Cattle sales Tuesday, 11:00 AM.

Report from December 5th, 2023

STEERS:			
1	180	550.00H	2 637 195.00
1	355	270.00	8 856 179.00
1	440	260.00	
6	570	245.00	
11	636	231.00	
5	726	215.00	

TOP BUTCHER COW: \$104.00 @ 1,900 LBS.
TOP BUTCHER BULL: \$121.00 @ 2,150 LBS.
BRED COWS: \$1,050-\$1,610
PAIRS: No Test

HEIFERS:
 1 190 485.00H
 8 526 227.00
 6 590 195.00

SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR LATEST CONSIGNMENTS!

 Nice run of calves and yearlings lined up for **Tuesday, December 19th sale.**
Be sure to call if you have any questions.

NO SALE TUES., DEC. 26 DUE TO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY!

WE WILL HAVE A SALE TUES., JAN. 2, 2023

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

EMPORIA LIVESTOCK SALE CO.

Bonded & Insured

SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY IN EMPORIA, KANSAS AT 11:00 AM

620-342-2425 or 800-835-7803 toll-free • Fax: 620-342-7741

Date: 12/06/23; Total Head Count: 762
COWS: \$77-\$105.00; BULLS: \$107-\$114.00

BULLCALVES		STEERS	
3 blk	643@212.00	3 bkbwf	422@277.50
		10 b lk	475@275.00
		3 blk	545@262.50
HEIFERS		15 mix	578@260.00
3 blk	332@290.00	3 blk	557@241.00
4 wf	368@287.00	19 mix	699@241.00
5 bkbwf	468@237.00	6 blk	630@240.00
5 blk	425@235.00	15 mix	690@237.00
3 blk	427@225.00	4 Red	678@212.00
3 bkbwf	537@222.00	25 mix	720@218.00
11 bkbwf	577@222.00	4 blk	760@205.00
18 mix	626@219.50	4 blk	819@214.50
5 blk	622@215.00	30 mix	818@210.00
5 blk	699@207.00	35 mix	826@210.00
7 blk	676@206.00	9 bkbwf	887@203.00
15 bkbwf	661@205.00	19 mix	856@200.00
30 mix	716@209.25	10 blk	873@200.00
20 mix	730@205.00	3 mix	904@200.00
38 mix	829@200.50	43 mix	957@196.50
14 mix	849@191.00	39 mix	1032@185.00
4 mix	924@186.00	3 mix	
4 mix	908@177.00		

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS FOR DEC. 13
 • 120 blk & red str. & hfrs, 800-850#
 • 335 mix str. 800-925#
PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!

THERE WILL BE NO SALE HELD ON: DECEMBER 27 - Merry Christmas!

Check our website for more consignments!

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT! YOUR BUSINESS IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED!
 ----- For Cattle Appraisals Call: -----
BRODY PEAK, 620-343-5107 GLENN UNRUH, 620-341-0607
LYLE WILLIAMS, Field Representative, 785-229-5457
MATT REDDING, Field Representative, 620-364-6715
DALTON HOOK, Field Representative, 785-219-2908
 WIBW 580 - 6:45 A.M. Thurs; KVOE 1400 - 6:30-6:45 A.M. Thurs. & Fri.
To see more consignments go to: emporialivestock.com

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

KARL LANGVARDT
 Cell: 785-499-2945


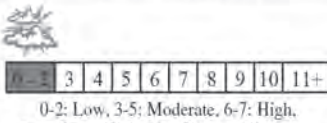
MITCH LANGVARDT
 Cell: 785-761-5814

LYNN LANGVARDT
 Cell: 785-761-5813

Radio Market Reports
 KCLY-Fm 100.9
 Tues. 6:45 a.m.

Grass & Grain Weather Report

Dec. 13, 2023

Seven Day Forecast	In-Depth Local Forecast	Today's Local Outlook																																								
WEDNESDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 45 Low: 31	Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 45°, humidity of 63%. East wind 9 mph. The record high for today is 62° set in 1996. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 31°. Southeast wind 9 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 28°.																																									
THURSDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 52 Low: 39	Last Week's Almanac <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Hi/Lo</th> <th>Normals</th> <th>Precip</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>12/1</td><td>36/23</td><td>47/24</td><td>0.13"</td></tr> <tr><td>12/2</td><td>33/20</td><td>46/23</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>12/3</td><td>45/27</td><td>46/23</td><td>0.01"</td></tr> <tr><td>12/4</td><td>55/27</td><td>45/23</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>12/5</td><td>50/27</td><td>45/22</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>12/6</td><td>60/26</td><td>45/22</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> <tr><td>12/7</td><td>66R/41</td><td>44/22</td><td>0.00"</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Hi/Lo	Normals	Precip	12/1	36/23	47/24	0.13"	12/2	33/20	46/23	0.00"	12/3	45/27	46/23	0.01"	12/4	55/27	45/23	0.00"	12/5	50/27	45/22	0.00"	12/6	60/26	45/22	0.00"	12/7	66R/41	44/22	0.00"									
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FRIDAY Scattered Rain High: 51 Low: 36	This Week's Sun & Moon Chart <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Day</th> <th>Sunrise</th> <th>Sunset</th> <th>Moonrise</th> <th>Moonset</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Wednesday</td><td>7:37 a.m.</td><td>5:04 p.m.</td><td>8:40 a.m.</td><td>5:34 p.m.</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday</td><td>7:37 a.m.</td><td>5:04 p.m.</td><td>9:40 a.m.</td><td>6:42 p.m.</td></tr> <tr><td>Friday</td><td>7:38 a.m.</td><td>5:04 p.m.</td><td>10:31 a.m.</td><td>7:57 p.m.</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday</td><td>7:39 a.m.</td><td>5:05 p.m.</td><td>11:12 a.m.</td><td>9:14 p.m.</td></tr> <tr><td>Sunday</td><td>7:40 a.m.</td><td>5:05 p.m.</td><td>11:45 a.m.</td><td>10:29 p.m.</td></tr> <tr><td>Monday</td><td>7:40 a.m.</td><td>5:05 p.m.</td><td>12:13 p.m.</td><td>11:41 p.m.</td></tr> <tr><td>Tuesday</td><td>7:41 a.m.</td><td>5:06 p.m.</td><td>12:39 p.m.</td><td>Next Day</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Wednesday	7:37 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	8:40 a.m.	5:34 p.m.	Thursday	7:37 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	9:40 a.m.	6:42 p.m.	Friday	7:38 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	10:31 a.m.	7:57 p.m.	Saturday	7:39 a.m.	5:05 p.m.	11:12 a.m.	9:14 p.m.	Sunday	7:40 a.m.	5:05 p.m.	11:45 a.m.	10:29 p.m.	Monday	7:40 a.m.	5:05 p.m.	12:13 p.m.	11:41 p.m.	Tuesday	7:41 a.m.	5:06 p.m.	12:39 p.m.	Next Day	
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SATURDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 49 Low: 37	Local UV Index 	Weather History Dec. 13, 1962 - A severe Florida freeze occurred. Morning lows reached 35 degrees at Miami, 18 degrees at Tampa and 12 degrees at Jacksonville. It was the coldest December weather of the 20th century and caused millions of dollars in damage to crops and foliage.																																								
SUNDAY Cloudy High: 47 Low: 32	Growing Degree Days <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Degree Days</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Degree Days</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>12/1</td><td>0</td><td>12/5</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>12/2</td><td>0</td><td>12/6</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>12/3</td><td>0</td><td>12/7</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>12/4</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days	12/1	0	12/5	0	12/2	0	12/6	0	12/3	0	12/7	3	12/4	0																							
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MONDAY Cloudy High: 42 Low: 29																																										
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Chairman Thompson dismisses shortsighted GAO report

Following the publication of a one-sided report on the federal crop insurance program by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), House Committee on Agriculture chairman Glenn "GT" Thompson issued the following statement:

"The recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on crop insurance isn't worth the paper it is printed on. GAO uses inconsistent performance metrics to make an apples-to-oranges comparison of crop insurance returns versus those of other lines of insurance. Further, they completely ignore the benefits of federal crop insurance, which is one of the most successful examples of a public-private partnership in existence. Farmers willingly pay significant premiums for crop insurance cover-

age because it provides reliable assistance when disaster strikes. This timely indemnification doesn't just benefit farmers, it bolsters rural economies by ensuring that producers can pay back their lenders, retain their employees, and get back on their feet to farm again the following season."

"Finally, it is ironic that this report criticizing private sector delivery was published amidst the ongoing debacle of USDA's implementation of disaster aid for 2022 losses. Government delivery of aid is the alternative to the public-private partnership and I don't know of a single producer that would want to make that trade or a single taxpayer that would not ultimately regret upending the system we currently have."

Study IDs organic alternative to fight cattle-pestering flies

Welcome to Pocket Science: a glimpse at recent research from University of Nebraska scientists and engineers. For those who want to quickly learn the "What," "So what" and "Now what" of UNL research.

What?
 When cattle are fighting flies in the summer, they gather in tight bunches, leading them to eat less while experiencing more stress and discomfort. Beef producers have limited options for controlling the flies that pester their cattle. Moreover, existing insecticides are losing their effectiveness as insects develop resistance to repeated use.

So what?
 The new insecticide shows promise for organic producers — who current-

ly don't have many effective, economical fly-control options — and for conventional producers who want to use products that are safer for people, animals and the environment.

Now what?
 Boxler's team previously helped develop a version of the insecticide that has been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency for use on horses. That insecticide, called EcoVet, is commercially available nationwide.

The researchers are now waiting on EPA approval for the cattle-specific version. Boxler plans to continue studies next summer, when the team will test how much it can lower concentrations and achieve the same effectiveness.



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Sell At St. Marys

Sell Or Buy Cattle By Auction STARTING TIME 10:30 AM Tuesdays

We sold 1680 cattle December 5. Steer and heifer calves were in good demand at steady prices for calves under 550 lbs. Heavier calves sold \$5.00-8.00 lower. Feeder steers and heifers were \$5.00-10.00 lower. Cows and bulls were steady.

STEER & BULL CALVES 1 blk bull 300 @ 307.00 1 bwf str 245 @ 303.00 1 blk bull 260 @ 301.00 2 blk bulls 215 @ 297.50 2 blk/bwf bulls 363 @ 296.00 18 blk/bwf str 381 @ 292.00 4 blk/char str 478 @ 292.00 2 blk/bwf str 485 @ 292.00 3 bwf str 497 @ 291.00 7 blk str 485 @ 290.00 3 blk/bwf str 498 @ 286.00 4 blk/red str 488 @ 279.00 28 blk/bwf str 533 @ 276.50 2 blk/sim bulls 475 @ 274.00 2 blk str 525 @ 266.00 2 blk str 530 @ 266.00 10 blk bulls 503 @ 265.00 2 blk bulls 488 @ 260.00 5 blk bulls 477 @ 259.00 2 blk/red str 458 @ 257.00 7 blk/bwf str 430 @ 252.00 2 blk bulls 528 @ 251.00 5 blk/sim str 499 @ 245.00 2 blk str 490 @ 241.00 3 blk bulls 507 @ 230.00	10 blk/bwf str 625 @ 232.00 15 blk str 628 @ 232.00 6 blk str 630 @ 231.00 14 blk str 625 @ 230.00 4 x-bred str 678 @ 225.00 12 blk str 634 @ 224.00 62 blk/bwf str 904 @ 221.50 15 blk/red str 682 @ 219.00 116 blk/bwf str 819 @ 217.75 4 bwf str 745 @ 217.00 7 blk/red str 713 @ 215.00 120 blk/bwf str 873 @ 212.50 60 mix str 937 @ 203.75 61 mix str 926 @ 203.50 124 blk/bwf str 895 @ 203.00 62 mix str 912 @ 202.00 11 sim str 942 @ 196.50	HEIFER CALVES 1 blk hfr 225 @ 270.00 3 blk hfr 452 @ 260.00 6 blk hfr 396 @ 257.00 1 bwf hfr 450 @ 254.00 3 blk hfr 452 @ 260.00 6 blk hfr 396 @ 257.00 3 blk hfr 440 @ 251.00 2 blk hfr 438 @ 249.00 3 blk hfr 282 @ 247.50 3 blk hfr 493 @ 244.00 2 blk/red hfr 480 @ 241.00	STOCKER & FEEDER HEIFERS 4 blk/red hfr 358 @ 240.00 9 blk/red hfr 391 @ 237.00 6 blk/bwf hfr 504 @ 236.00 2 blk hfr 340 @ 235.00 2 blk hfr 338 @ 234.00 3 blk/bwf hfr 448 @ 232.00 5 blk/bwf hfr 537 @ 229.00 2 blk hfr 530 @ 228.50 2 blk hfr 503 @ 225.00 10 blk hfr 514 @ 221.00 2 blk hfr 545 @ 220.00 6 blk hfr 505 @ 216.00 7 blk hfr 545 @ 216.00 2 red hfr 515 @ 208.50	STOCKER & FEEDER HEIFERS 10 blk/red hfr 552 @ 221.00 7 blk hfr 550 @ 216.00 2 blk hfr 625 @ 216.00 15 blk/red hfr 593 @ 215.00 6 blk/red hfr 586 @ 211.50 5 blk hfr 605 @ 208.50 3 blk/red hfr 640 @ 208.50 63 blk/bwf hfr 817 @ 208.50 3 bwf hfr 623 @ 208.00 3 blk/bwf hfr 627 @ 208.00 5 blk/bwf hfr 566 @ 206.00 11 blk hfr 613 @ 205.50 7 char hfr 631 @ 205.50 63 mix hfr 825 @ 205.00 8 blk/red hfr 684 @ 200.50	COWS & HEIFERETTES 1 blk hfrt 850 @ 130.00 1 blk hfrt 800 @ 125.00 1 blk cow 925 @ 122.00 1 blk hfrt 1300 @ 116.00 1 blk cow 1255 @ 110.00 1 blk cow 1290 @ 106.00 1 blk cow 1895 @ 105.00 1 bwf cow 1750 @ 104.00 1 sim cow 1725 @ 103.50 1 blk cow 1600 @ 103.00 2 blk cows 1518 @ 102.50 1 blk cow 1615 @ 102.00 2 x-bred cows 1548 @ 101.50 1 bwf cow 1510 @ 100.00 1 x-bred cow 1530 @ 99.00 1 sim cow 1355 @ 98.00 2 blk cows 1465 @ 97.00 1 blk cow 1635 @ 96.00 1 bwf cow 1460 @ 95.00 1 blk cow 1420 @ 94.00 2 blk cows 1448 @ 93.00	BULLS 1 blk bull 1925 @ 115.00 1 blk bull 1820 @ 110.00 1 blk bull 2275 @ 110.00 1 blk bull 2065 @ 109.50 1 wf bull 2020 @ 109.00 1 blk bull 1550 @ 92.00 1 blk bull 1860 @ 86.00
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CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 12, 2023:

- 20 Angus replacement heifers, 700-750 lbs., Gardiner genetics
- 12 blk bwf steers, 450-475 lbs., 60 days weaned, 2 rounds vacc.
- 58 blk str & hfrs, 350-500 lbs., 60 days weaned, 2 rounds vaccinated
- 70 blk str & hfrs, 450-600 lbs., 60 days weaned, 2 rounds vaccinated
- 34 blk str & hfrs, 825-900 lbs.
- 65 SimAngus str, 825-850 lbs., home raised, Steuwe Ranch
- 62 blk steers, 850-875 lbs.
- 120 blk steers, 900-925 lbs.
- 130 blk heifers, 775-800 lbs.

CONSIGNMENTS FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 19, 2023:

- 62 black steers, 875-900 lbs.

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