



Farm & Ranch Monthly Magazine

Published monthly by The Roundup
PO Box 1207 • Sidney, MT 59270 • 1-800-749-3306

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March 2016

Brandon Ewen,
Drone Pilot
See Page 24



MonDak Ag Days Official Program

A Wide Range Of Topics Will Be Covered During Ag Days, March 3rd & 4th



International speaker Damian Mason will be presenting Humor for the Heart of Ag, a highly entertaining and educational presentation focusing on Agricultural Reinvention.

By Meagan Dotson

The MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show, Thur., March 3 and Fri., March 4, will hold educational sessions at the Richland County Event Center featuring the latest and greatest information and developments for Agricultural producers. Topics on Thursday include UAV/Drone usage in crop production, cover crops, Glyphosate Resistant Maize, GMO's, sugar beet disease, optimum sugar beet health strategies, and sugar beet weed control, beginning at 9 a.m. The afternoon educational sessions held on March 3 will earn attendees continued education points towards their pesticide license for both private and commercial pesticide application. The social will begin at 5 p.m. with the banquet to follow at 6 p.m. This year's entertainment will be speaker Damian Mason with his presentation of Humor for the Heart of Ag. Mason has been speaking for 21 years with over 1,600 appearances in all fifty states and eight foreign countries delivering his humorous, energetic, and informative presentations about Agricultural and Business Reinvention. Mason grew up on a dairy farm and currently owns and manages a farm in Indiana; he graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Agricultural Economics, is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, and holds Certified Speaking Professional Designation with the National Speakers Association.

On Friday, the day will start with the Sidney Chamber breakfast at 7 a.m. and the Trade Show will begin at 8 a.m. That day, presentations will be given on a livestock water quality study and the Fox Hill aquifer study and Reynolds Market will hold a beef cutting demonstration at 11 a.m. Formerly held in January, the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show was moved to March due to the declining attendance over the last couple years, as January weather doesn't generally cooperate with the event that draws people from multiple counties. Banquet Tickets are \$40.00 and are available at the Richland County Extension Office, the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, Stockman Bank, Tri-County Implement, and Farm Equipment Sales in Culbertson, Bainville, and Glasgow. For more information, visit www.mon-dakagdays.org or contact Richland County Extension Agent Tim Fine at 406-433-1206 or via email at timothy.fine@montana.edu.



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Tuesday, March 15th
11am & 1pm

off the Beaten Path
with Cliff Naylor

Kevin Lawrence

2016 Weather Outlook
For Northern Plains
Wednesday, March 16th
10am & 1pm



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Wednesday, March 16th

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Reynolds Market to Hold A Beef Cutting Demonstration, Friday March 4

By Meagan Dotson

Reynolds Market will be holding a beef cutting demonstration as part of Ag Days on Friday, March 4, at 11 a.m. in the Reynolds meat department. Reynolds will be taking part in Ag Days for the first time, giving people a better understanding of the processing aspect of the beef industry. "Farming and ranching are huge part of Eastern Montana and have been the backbone of our business," said Reynolds meat dept. manager Josh Reynolds.

Reynolds, who is the fourth generation to be involved with the business, explains that when Reynolds Market was originally founded in 1925, as with most grocery stores of the time, store owners purchased their beef directly from local producers and did all the butchering and processing at the store. Over the years, F.T Reynolds and John T. Marman would open stores in Glendive, Sidney, Miles City, Circle, Richey, Terry, Beach and Watford City. As times have changed, so too has economy, scale and cost-effectiveness and grocery stores no longer buy cattle directly from local ranchers, and the work of a skilled butcher is much more behind-the-scenes.

In the past, Reynolds Market has done beef cutting demonstrations and tours of the meat department for schools, the Boys and Girls Club, and 4H. When Richland County Extension Agent Tim Fine contacted Reynolds Market to be a part of the annual Ag Days, the store was excited to expand education of processing beef to the public.

Doug Hall will show how to get smaller specific cuts of beef from larger cuts, answer questions as he goes, and share interesting facts. For instance, a butter steak and a flat iron steak are the same steak cut differently from the shoulder cold. Hall owned his own meat processing business for 12 years and has worked in the Reynolds meat department for the last two and a half and is happy to give the 20-30 minute demonstration.

For more information, contact Tim Fine at 406-433-1206.

Reynolds will be hosting a beef cutting demonstration given by Doug Hall.



March 3 - 4

**Richland Co. Fair Event Center
Sidney, MT**

Tom Peters To Discuss Sugarbeet Weed Control

By Sheridan Martin

Tom Peters, a Sugarbeet Weed Specialist and Assistant Professor at North Dakota State University in the Department of Plant Sciences, will be at the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show March 3 to discuss sugarbeet weed control at 4 p.m.

Peters earned his BS degree in agronomy and soil science from the University of Minnesota, his MS in agronomy, specializing in weed science, from the University of Nebraska, and his Ph.D in agronomy, specializing in weed control in the sugarbeet, from NDSU. Most of these achievements were done under the supervision of Dr. Alan Alexander, longtime sugarbeet weed specialist.



Tom Peters

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Shane Gorder, Loren Young, Duane Mitchell

LYIP Holds Annual Meeting February 18



James Brower, Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project Manager, discussed the projects they completed over the last year, as well as what has been going on with the LYIP. They have recently begun a lawsuit against the environmentalists for not having enough research on the pallid sturgeon. They have also hired an independent company called Tetra-Tech to help them study all options that have been acquired over the years. Brower also discussed the complications with installing pumps in the Yellowstone such as carbon pollution and noise pollution, and even miles of piping that would run through designated sage grouse habitats.

Leslie Messer with Economic Development took to the stand at LYIP's 2016 Annual Meeting to thank every body for their support. Economic Development has been providing educational meetings on LYIP and arranging bus trips for public meetings.



A Steak in Ag

A monthly report by R-CALF USA

Submitted by Laurel Masterson

R-CALF USA may be defined as a non-profit producer organization, but our work benefits anyone who eats meat and lives in an economy that includes agriculture. We're more than a producer organization; we're your organization.

R-CALF USA formally requests a Senate investigation into potential antitrust and anticompetitive conduct in the U.S. cattle and beef markets.

R-CALF USA is asking the Senate committee to investigate 13 specific issues including the cause for the dramatic, unprecedented collapse of U.S. cattle prices in 2015; whether there are structural problems in the U.S. cattle market that contributed to the price collapse; and whether dominant meatpackers or other major market participants engaged in unlawful conduct that adversely influenced the cattle futures market and cash cattle market.

R-CALF USA provided documentation showing that independent cattle feeders lost more than \$500 per head of cattle sold during the collapse and, consequently, the very foundation of the U.S. cattle industry's feeding sector – its independent cattle feeders – was irreparably damaged. But as cash cattle prices plummeted and cattle futures prices fluctuated with extreme volatility, dominant meatpackers were benefiting from what one industry commentator referred to as 'gangbuster profits.' Meanwhile, consumers continued paying at or near record high prices for beef.

R-CALF USA also submitted a formal protest to the BLM asserting the agency overstepped its authority in approving the American Prairie Reserve (APR) request.

Recently the BLM provided notice of its proposed decision to allow the APR to graze bison on the Flat Creek Allotment located in Phillips County, Montana. Currently, the grazing permit for the allotment designates cattle as the approved species.

R-CALF USA's also points out that only cattle, sheep, horses, burros and goats are listed as species considered livestock on BLM grazing permits.

R-CALF USA believes the BLM's Proposed Decision is contrary to the BLM's stated objective of promoting the improvement of rangeland ecosystems for the purpose of sustaining the western livestock industry.

Recently, R-CALF USA testified before the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC), recommending the rejection of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) free trade agreement because it would harm U.S. cattle and sheep producers.

The TPP adopts the mantra of the NCBA, who told a federal court that 'beef is beef, whether the cattle were born in Montana, Manitoba, or Mazatlán.

Under the TPP's product-specific rules of origin, the origin of beef is wherever the animal was slaughtered. This renders the origins of cattle irrelevant. It relegates U.S. cattle producers to nothing more than an undifferentiated global supply chain for meatpackers, and the U.S. will become the dumping ground for cattle, beef and lamb.

R-CALF USA was the only livestock industry representative that opposed the TPP. During the hearing, Bullard said "I don't represent the beef industry. I represent the cattle industry. Our members sell cattle to beef industry packers. The TPP will impact the cattle industry very differently than it impacts the beef industry."

For additional information on any of the topics mentioned, please visit www.r-calfusa.com.

R-CALF USA is funded solely by donations and membership dues. Please consider becoming a member or giving a donation. For more info or to join, go to www.r-calfusa.com, 406-252-2516.



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Rhonda Steiger And GMOs At MonDak Ag Days

By Sheridan Martin

Rhonda Steiger, who attended the University of Wyoming and got her degree in Agriculture, will be discussing the importance GMOs at the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show on March 3 at 1 p.m.

Steiger grew up on a farm in South Central Montana and her favorite times of the year include beet harvest and calving season. She currently lives in Clark Fork Valley with her husband, Cliff, and their two children. They grow sugarbeets, malt barley, cattle, corn and alfalfa. They also have a few pigs that they market directly to individuals and restaurants.

Rhonda Steiger is very honored to represent MT sugar beet growers through the American Sugarbeet Grower Association's and Women Defending Biotechnology program. "Today's farmers are faced with the challenge of producing more food for a growing population while having access to fewer resources. Biotechnology helps us do this. GMO crops are safe and good for the environment," said Steiger.

Check out Rhonda Steiger's presentation on the importance and value of GMOs in agriculture at the MonDak Ag Days and Trade show Thurs., March 3 at 1 p.m.



Rhonda Steiger



March 3 - 4

Richland Co. Fair Event Center
Sidney, MT

Ag Days Presentation Will Address Concerns About Recently Confirmed Marestalk In Richland County

By Meagan Dotson

On Thur., March 3, at 11 a.m. Richland County Extension Agent Tim Fine and Extension Weed Specialist Fabian Menalled out of Bozeman, MT will be holding an educational session on Glyphosate Resistant Marestalk or Horsetail.

Conyza Canadensis, or marestalk, was first found in Richland County in the spring and summer of 2015. In a month's time, three producers brought Fine samples of the weed, reporting that they couldn't identify it or control it. Shortly thereafter, it was determined that it was marestalk, which is resistant to Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup. In some areas, marestalk is also resistant to other types of weed controlling chemicals and has been a particular problem in the 'Corn Belt' which includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri.

Marestalk is an adaptive weed that has been located in the United States and fifteen other countries. There have been reports of it in twenty-two states across the nation, with findings in Richland County making Montana the most recent addition to affected states.

By addressing the issue early on, Fine hopes to stay ahead of the weed before it can become a major problem that could affect all crops. He and Menalled will be discussing potential preventative measures such as tillage and fall herbicide application. This and all other educational sessions held on March 3, will earn attendants continued education points towards their pesticide license for both private and commercial pesticide application.

For more information, contact Fine at 406-433-1206 or email him at timothy.fine@montana.edu.



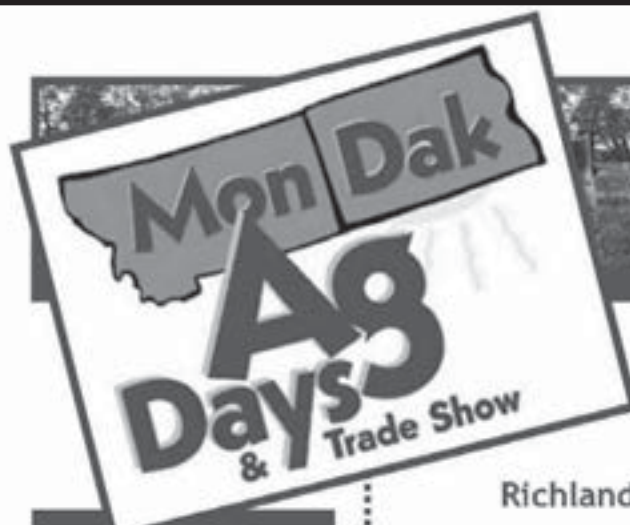
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THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Pesticide points available for Thursday:
 6 commercial; 3 private

- 8:00 am.....Trade Show Opens
- 9:00 am....."UAV / Drone Use in Crop Production" - **Brandon Ewen**, UAV Expert / Montana producer
- 10:00 am....."Cover Crops" - **Kate Vogel**, North 40 Ag
- 11:00 am....."Glyphosate Resistant Maretail" - **Tim Fine**, Richland Co. Extension, **Fabian Menalled**, MSU Extension weed specialist
- Noon.....Lunch Break
- 1:00 pm....."GMO's" - **Rhonda Steiger**, Biotech Spokeswoman
- 2:00 pm....."Sugarbeet Disease" - **Jessica Rupp**, MSU Extension Plant Pathologist
- 3:00 pm....."Optimum Sugarbeet Health Strategies" **Mohamed Khan**, NDSU Extension sugarbeet specialist
- 4:00 pm....."Sugarbeet Weed Control" **Tom Peters**, NDSU Extension Agronomist
- 5:00 pm.....Social (Sponsors: **Prewitt Cattle Co./Sidney Livestock Market and Yellowstone Bank**)
- 6:00 pm.....Banquet at Event Center: Entertainment - **Damian Mason**

Trade Show Hours:

Thurs: 8:00 am -6:00 PM
 Fri: 8:00 am-2:30 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

- 7:00 am.....**Sidney Chamber Breakfast** (Sponsor: **Advanced Communications**)
- 9:00 am....."Adapting Cropping and Livestock Systems to a Changing Climate" **Justin Dernen**, USDA No. Plains Regional Climate Hub
- 10:00 am....."Livestock Water Quality Research" - **Mark Peterson**, Ft. Keogh-ARS
- 11:00 am....."Reynold's Meat Department Beef Cutting Demonstration"
- Noon.....Lunch Break
- 1:00 pm....."Richland County Aquifer Studies" - **Kevin Chandler**, MT Bureau of Mines and Geology

For more info: **Tim Fine** at 406-433-1206 or: www.mondakagdays.org

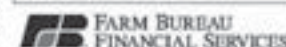
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MFU Says Montana Farmers at Disadvantage When It Comes to Exporting Wheat to Canada

Submitted by Montana Farmers Union

Great Falls- Montana Farmers Union Board Secretary-Treasurer Erik Somerfeld visited with staff from all three of Montana's delegates in Washington D.C. this week regarding Canada's current wheat grading system. This comes on the heels of a letter Senator Tester sent to U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman requesting the ambassador address the issue with the Canadian government.

Under the current system, when Montana wheat crosses the border it is automatically downgraded to feed, the lowest quality designation. However, the United States has made it a priority to fairly examine wheat imported from Canada. Somerfeld spoke on behalf of Montana producers during his visit with the senator. "This discrepancy leads to an unfair disadvantage for Montana farmers who work tirelessly to provide high-quality wheat. MFU is in favor of standards that don't unfairly discount Montana grain," said Somerfeld.

Paul Kanning, MFU Board Member and farmer in Flaxville, grows spring wheat. Currently he sells his wheat in state, but would consider doing business with Canada if it made financial sense to do so. "If the rules were more balanced, it would open up the options for us and put us on a level playing field," said Kanning.

Montana farmers export more wheat to Canada than any other nation, and contribute billions each year to the national economy. MFU President Alan Merrill: "Montana farmers depend on equitable grain pricing to put food on the table for people all over the world. We applaud Senator Tester's commitment to Montana agriculture."

Somerfeld was in D.C. to represent Montana on the National Farmers Union Policy Committee. With input from delegates and membership the committee will then submit a final copy of the policy at the national convention in March in Minneapolis.

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BeefTalk: Countercultural Beef Production

The dilemma is that traditional producers face a countercultural role.

By Kris Ringwall, Beef Specialist
NDSU Extension Service

Perhaps it is time to be countercultural. Perhaps most would associate counterculture with lifestyles and the ever-changing human mood, which bring a raised eyebrow from the grandparents.

The countercultural mood, however, is slowly creeping into the beef business, which has morphed into a high-input, market-trend business. The dilemma is that traditional producers face a countercultural role.

The traditional thought process embedded in generations of beef producers would not acknowledge the countercultural role. Cow-calf production has been anchored by strong ties to the land, which change very slowly. Those who depend on the land approach life in the same way; “stability” would be a good word.

Unfortunately, right or wrong, many are disconnected from the land, and along with that disconnection comes a much more flexible approach to life. This flexibility has become quite evident in the cattle business, and perhaps that has been good; however, there is a big “but” in the process.

Improvements in flexibility come at a cost, which ultimately determines the ability of an operation to stay in business. How? Simply put, flexibility and variable costs go together. The calculated return on every cost input ultimately determines the adaptability of the input. Because the land is set, flexibility creeps in as fixed costs through facilities and equipment.

The accumulation of structures and equipment has been so prevalent that, in many cases, the cattle business has become structure-, pen- and equipment-based. This creates a huge dilemma for the cow-calf sector of the beef business. Do producers continue with the ever-present desire to expand cow numbers through expanding flexibility, or should they refocus and return to a more traditional land-based approach to the cow-calf operation?

And to further complicate the question, our financial challenges are becoming heavier. How does a producer make a \$600 gross margin work with \$650 in projected expenses? Begin by controlling the feed cost, which is 70 percent or more of the total variable costs. In addition, adding value to the calf is doable. In simple terms, a thorough evaluation of costs and value is critical.

A common mistake during the budgeting process is often the inability to think outside the constraints of the operation. Too many times, those constraints are set in a producer’s mind but are not real when applied to the operation. Thinking past the present is critical.

That being said, let’s get back to my initial comment: “Perhaps it is time to be countercultural.” The answer to whether that’s the right choice is imbedded in calving season, cow size and efficiency, weaning time, grass turnout, labor requirements and many more intricate aspects of the whole cow-calf operation. These answers should lead to the assessment of the specific operational protocols on the ranch and unveil hidden opportunities. Within those opportunities may be alternative marketing options.

Fundamental to the answer of how to maximize pounds coming off the operation in respect to calf weight is knowing and controlling direct and overhead costs that have been incurred up to weaning so you can make comparisons of marketing alternatives. What is the daily incremental cost of keeping the calf for additional days? Traditional thinking would imply backgrounding the calf, but most producers just want to run cows.

And then comes the long-term question: Do I have enough revenue to maintain



and expand, which means an adequate return on investment of total assets? The real answer to the question of profit rests with the ability to complete a process that fundamentally provides a proper business evaluation.

Why is this important? The dynamics of the beef business change, yet the beef producer is trying to focus down the road. Increased direct and overhead costs, and retirement or family expansion create difficult questions. Costs are rising, production is stagnant and prices are falling. Countercultural thinking would challenge production opportunities as live weight at slaughter goes up.

The opportunity for the producer to capture a greater percentage of the increased pounds of beef at harvest is real and should start the discussion. But those concepts are countercultural to the current cattle business.

As cow-calf producers, do we actively seek an aggressive share of what we produced? Have we thought through how changing the production system at home could open new opportunities to capture value? That means change. Can we change? Think about it.

May you find all your ear tags.

For more information, contact your local NDSU Extension Service agent (<https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/extension/directory>) or Ringwall at (701) 456-1103 or kris.ringwall@ndsu.edu.

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Sitz Traveler 6802

(Sitz Traveler 9929 x 3 Bar Spike 1766)

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	Marb	REA	\$B
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Sitz Uncommon

(Sitz Upward 307R x Sitz RLS Alliance 7164)

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	Marb	REA	\$B
-6	+3.6	+59	+99	+28	+.54	+.31	147.11


B Bar Superior 382

(Ellingson Superior 0031 x Sitz Identity 2575)

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	Marb	REA	\$B
+12	-3.5	+56	+97	+22	+.29	+.46	88.03


Circle L Priority 1A

(SAV Priority 7283 x Boyd New Day 8005)

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	Marb	REA	\$B
+13	-1.0	+66	+108	+25	+.17	+.57	91.00


SAV Brilliance 8077

(SAV Bismarck 5682 x SAV 8180 Traveler 004)

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Livestock Water Quality Research By Dr. Mark Petersen At MonDak Ag Days



Dr. Mark Petersen

Submitted by Sheridan Martin

Dr. Mark Petersen will be discussing his research done on livestock water quality at the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show at 10 a.m., Fri., March 4.

Petersen is currently the research leader at USDA-ARS Fort Keogh Livestock & Range Research Laboratory. There, his responsibilities are to conduct range and range livestock research, supervise personnel and over all operations. He received his BS in Animal Science/Zoology from the University of Hawaii, his MS in Animal Science from the University of Idaho, and his Ph.D. in Animal Science from the University of Nebraska.

Fri., March 4 at 10 a.m., citizens can listen to Dr. Mark Petersen discuss his research on livestock quality at MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show.



March 3 - 4

**Richland Co. Fair Event Center
Sidney, MT**

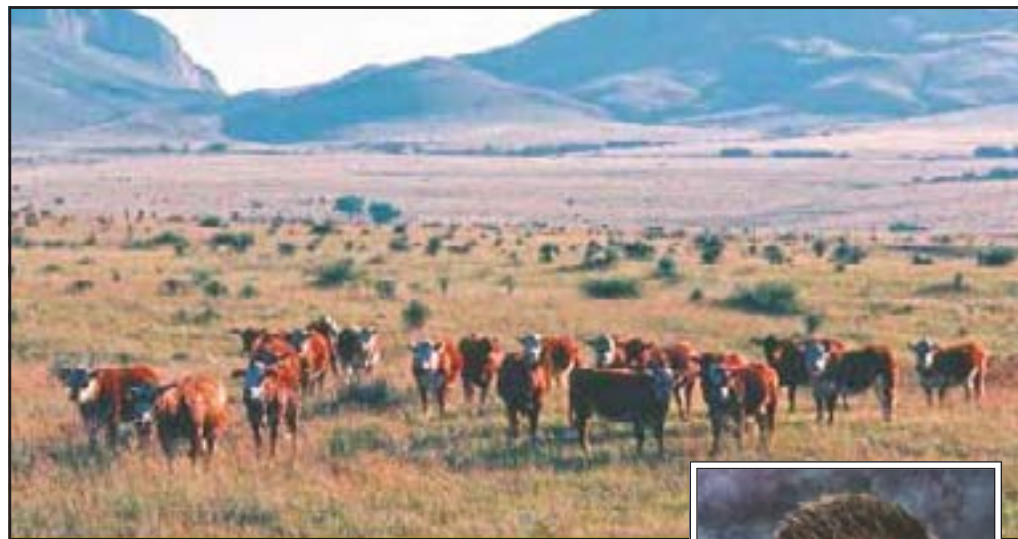
Dr. Justin D. Derner Adapting Cropping & Livestock Systems to a Changing Climate

By Sheridan Martin

Dr. Justin D. Derner, a rangeland scientist and Research Leader for the Rangeland Resources Research Unit of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, will be discussing the theories of adapting cropping and livestock systems to a changing climate. He will be speaking at 9 a.m. on March 4 for MonDak Ag Days.

Dr. Derner received his Ph.D in Rangeland Ecology and Management in 1996 from Texas A&M University. He leads a team of scientists developing and providing land managers the necessary tools to address the provision of ecosystem goods and services on western U.S. rangelands.

Dr. Derner's research targets management strategies of mitigation and adaptation of climate change on rangelands by evaluating dynamics of soil carbon and nitrogen as influenced by management and environmental effects.



Dr. Justin D. Derner will be discussing adapting cropping and livestock systems to a changing climate.



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- 2012 JD 8235R MFWD Tractor, 3 pt. PTO, new tires, power shift, (3) remotes, quick hitch, 44 gpm hyd pump, green star ready, 4900 hours (consigned Brad 406-939-1556)
- 2010 JD 8345R MFWD Tractor w/suspension, IVT, 3 pt. PTO, 710/70R42 duals, 952 hours
- 2005 JD 7920 MFWD Tractor, IVT, dual PTO, 380/65R50 duals, 4300 hours
- 2000 JD 5510 MFWD Tractor, 3 pt. PTO, 18.4x30 singles, 2089 hours
- JD 8970 4-wheel drive Tractor, 18.4x48 tires, 8270 hours (consigned Rick 406-485-2548)
- JD 4020 diesel Tractor, PS w/Farmhand F228 Front-end Loader w/bucket & grapple
- JD 60 Skid Steer



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- 2015 JD Z465 Front Mower, 62" deck, 48 hours (like new)
- 2010 JD Z225 Front Mower w/bagger, 207 hours
- 2011 JD X540 L&G Tractor, 54" deck, 47" snow thrower, 69 hours (like new)
- 2010 JD X728 L&G Tractor, 60" deck & MCS, 108 hours
- 2010 JD X720 L&G Tractor, 54" deck, 14 bushel power flow bagger, 108 hours
- 2005 JD X485 L&G Tractor, 54" deck, 47" tiller
- 2003 JD GT245 L&G Tractor, 54" deck, 396 hours
- Cub Cadet GT3200 Tractor, 54" deck, 45" snow blower, 243 hours
- Cub Cadet SLT 1554 Lawn Tractor, 54" deck, 174 hours
- (2) JD Walk behind 320 Snow Blowers
- JD 44" Snow Blower (fits X-300 series tractors)
- Frontier 3 pt, 54" Snow Blower (for compact tractor)
- JD H-120 Front-end Loader (fits compact utility tractor, new)
- JD self-propelled Mower
- JD Rear Tire Tiller
- Lawn Thatcher
- Blower & Chute (for grass bagger)
- Complete Power flow Bagger (for JD G110 lawn tractor)

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- 2007 JD 9660 STS Combine, contour master, chopper, bank extensions, 520/85R38 duals, 1116 separator hours, 1576 engine
- 1999 JD 9610 Combine, chopper, chaff spreader, dual range cylinder, 30.5x32 singles, 259 separator hours, 3683 engine, (\$20,000.00 work order)
- 1996 JD 9600 Combine, chopper, chaff spreader, dual range cylinder, 30.5x32 singles, 2788 separator hours, 3791 engine
- 2012 JD 635FD Draper Platform (new)
- 2008 JD 635F Flex Platform
- 2003 JD 936D Draper Platform
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- Combine Platform Reels
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- 1988 Freightliner 350 hp Cummins engine, 10-speed, wet kit
- 2013 PJ 28' 5th wheel Tandem Dually Flatbed Trailer w/dive tail & ramps
- 2007 HW 7x18 Tandem Axle Trailer, 6000# axles
- 2004 5x8 Utility Trailer
- 1999 Trail Tech Combine/Windrower Trailer
- 1982 Landoll 46' Implement Trailer, hydraulic axle shift
- (2) JD Gators

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- JD 280 Front-end Loader w/8' bucket & grapple
- Loader Joy Stick & Valves
- Frontier Pallet Forks (for 200, 300, 400 series loaders)
- Loader Bucket Tines
- Landa VH4-2000 hot water Pressure Washer, natural gas
- Acetylene Welder
- A-Frames w/chain hoists
- 50-ton Hydraulic Press
- (2) Parts Washers
- Cherry Pickers
- Many Steel Branches & Vises
- Portable Oil Drain w/pump
- Floor Dry, Drill Press
- Many Floor Jacks
- Hydraulic Hose Maker
- Oil Barrel Dispenser System
- Transfer Pump
- M&W P2000 Dyno meter
- Bench Grinder, Battery Filler
- Engine Jack Stands
- Bottle Jacks, Hi-lift Jacks
- Battery Chargers
- Many Chains & Boomers
- Tie-down Straps
- Air Hose Reels
- Steel Lockers
- Misc Shop Tools
- (2) Large Bolt Bins (full of bolts)
- Tractor Front Weights
- Tractor Cast Wheels
- Fenders (for MFWD tractor)
- Front-weight Brackets (for 6000-7000 series tractors)
- Hood Guards (for loader tractors)
- Pair of JD Frame Drive Wheels (for 7000 planter)
- Third SCV (for 7000 series)
- MFWD Tractor Front-wheel Dishes
- Set of (4) Front-wheel Spacers (for MFWD tractors)
- (2) Front-wheels (for 5000-6000 tractors)
- Hydraulic Cylinders & Hoses
- Snap-on Dual Wheel Hooks & Loops
- Main Gear Box, PTO & Hitch (for 3800 Forage harvester)
- JD Generator, Space Heaters
- Weed Eater
- Hand Gun Sprayer
- Tee-Jet Sprayer Nozzles
- Feeder House Lift (for combine)
- PTO Shafts, Crank Shaft
- 20# Propane Bottles
- Large Blower Fans
- Reconditioned Cylinder Head
- Bed Liner for Gator
- Post hole Augers

SWATHER, BALERS & MOWERS

- Owatonna 270 Swather
- 2012 JD 568 Big Round Baler, mega wide, net wrap, 1999 bales
- 2011 JD 568 Big Round Baler, mega wide, net wrap
- (2) 2009 JD 568 Big Round Baler, mega wide, net wrap
- 2001 JD 567 Big Round Baler, twine wrap
- JD 566 Big Round Baler, twine wrap
- Worksaver 3 pt. 5' Grooming Mower
- JD 507 pull-type Rotary Mower
- (2) Diamond Mowers (1-62" & 1-72")

BEET EQUIPMENT, DRILLS & CHOPPER

- WVC 6-row Defoliator
- Artway/Heath 6-row Defoliator, model 786A
- Allway 12-row Folding Cultivator (new)
- Howard 9-shank Ripper
- JD 1820 Air Drill, 59" 7.5" spacing, single chute w/ JD 190D Row-between Cart (consigned)
- Case IH 45" 7" spacing Air Hoe Drill, model 8500
- Eversman 3 pt Ditcher
- JD 3970 Corn Chopper



GRAIN VACS, AUGER & SPRAYERS

- (2) Brandt 5200EX Grain Vacs, w/in snakes (new)
- Wheatheart 13" hydraulic Transfer Auger (new)
- Auger Down Spouts
- 2014 Summers Ultimate Sprayer, 1500 gallon tank, 100' booms
- 2007 Summers Ultimate Sprayer, 1500 gallon tank, 90' booms, wind screens
- Brandt Sprayer, 1000 gallon tank, 100' booms

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- (2) Titan 420/85R34 Tires on 12-hole Rims (new)
- (4) Goodyear 380/85R34 Tires on 10-hole Rims (new)
- (2) Goodyear 480/70R34 Tires on 10-hole Rims (75%)
- (2) Goodyear 520/85R42 Tires (new)
- Firestone 35.5x32 Tire (80%)
- (8) Goodyear 18.4Rx46 Tires (30-50%)
- (2) Firestone 18.4x38 Tires (50%)
- (4) Goodyear 602/70Rx46 Tires (50%)
- (4) Goodyear 710/70Rx38 Tires (20%)
- (10) Goodyear 20.8x42 Tires (20-30%)
- 14x17.5 R4 (90%)
- (4) Firestone 710/70R42 Tires on stub disk Rims (90%)
- (2) Firestone 480/80R42 Duals (new)
- (2) Goodyear 650/85Rx38 Tires w/inside Rim (95%)
- (2) Goodyear 320/90Rx50 Tires w/inside Rim (new)
- (4) Goodyear 380/90Rx50 Tires on dual Rims (50-70%)
- (2) Goodyear 380/90Rx50 Tires w/inside Rims (30%)
- (2) Goodyear 302/90Rx50 Tires on dual Rims (30%)
- (2) 18.4Rx46 Duals (60%)
- (2) 31x13.50x15 Tires & Rims (for JD balers)
- Tractor Dual Hubs
- Implement Wheels & Tires
- Truck Tires
- Car & Pickup Tires
- Unverferth Dual Wheel Hub Inserts



AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Rod has decided to retire after 40 years as a John Deere dealer. Most of the tractors are in "like new" condition with low hours. Most of the lawn and garden tractors are "like new", as well. There are lots of miscellaneous items that are not listed. You will not want to miss this Spring Auction held right at the dealership! Hope to see you on March 19th! Rick



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MSU Extension Releases New MontGuides Covering Crop-Damaging Insect Pests

By MSU News Service

Montana State University Extension has released the two latest editions in its MontGuides series on crop-damaging insect pests, covering the cereal leaf beetle and the pea leaf weevil.

The new guides contain essential information that producers need to manage these insect pests, including identification, biology, life history, types of damage and management recommendations.

These publications are the first MontGuides to be released in a new single-page format, called pest fact sheets. The new fact sheets are intended to be a quick, concise reference for producers on pest insects and their management.

Clain Jones, an associate professor in MSU College of Agriculture's Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences, recently conducted a survey of client needs and preferences in Montana agriculture. Survey responses indicated a desire for a shorter format, with just the essential information, according to Kevin Wanner, MSU Extension specialist in crop-damaging insect pests. The traditional four-to-six page MontGuide format will still be appropriate for wider-ranging subjects that may involve multiple pests or crops.

Based on Jones' survey results, Wanner worked with Susan Anderegg, a graphic designer with MSU Extension Communications and Publications, to create the new format. The new fact sheets also contain photos and links

to video presentations, which give more detailed descriptions and information.

"Over the next few years the goal is to add to this series to cover (all) major insect pests that damage important agronomics crops in Montana," said Wanner.

The pest fact sheets can

be found online by searching the MSU Extension publications store for "cereal leaf beetle" and "pea leaf weevil": <http://store.msuextension.org>.

For more information, contact Wanner at (406) 994-5663 or kwanner@montana.edu.



The cereal leaf beetle is one of the crop-damaging insect pests covered in the new MontGuide fact sheets. Photo by John Rosenfeld.



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Cover Crops Presentation By Kate Vogel At MonDak Ag Days March 3rd



Marcus & Kate Vogel

By Sheridan Martin

Kate Vogel, an accomplished business owner with her husband, Marcus Vogel, will be speaking on the importance of cover crops at this year's 2016 MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show.

Kate Vogel and her husband believe that cover crops have multiple benefits and can be designed to fit various goals of individual producers. Some of these goals and benefits include weed suppression, nutrient cycling, enhanced biological activity, residue building, reduced compaction, improved soil structure, increased infiltration, greater water holding capacity, reduced erosion, more forage, and so much more. Together they own a cover crop seeding business called North 40 Ag, where they custom-design seed to fit customers' specific operation goals.

Kate Vogel has eight years of professional experience in soil science and agronomy. Through this, she has gained a strong background and understanding of soil function, from porosity and microbiology, to the more applied scale such as cropping systems. Kate's most recent experience is working with producers implementing soil health practices, and has even worked directly with irrigated and dry land farmers to make changes in their cropping systems. She believes that implementing soil health



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principles will economically benefit producers, decrease environmental impact on communities, and provide a better final product for the consumer.

Kate Vogel grew up in eastern Colorado and has her Bachelor of Science in chemistry and agronomy from Colorado State University. To earn her Master of Science, she wrote a thesis on Runoff and Erosion in No-Till Dry land Agroecosystems.

Kate Vogel will be speaking at the MonDak Ag Days about cover crops in Sidney, MT, Thurs., March 3, and 10 a.m. For more information on her, her husband, and their company, go to www.north40ag.com.

Dr. Mohamed Khan And Optimum Sugar Beet Health March 3-4

By Sheridan Martin

March 3 at 3 p.m. during the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show, Dr. Mohamed Khan will be discussing his thesis on optimum sugar beet health strategies.

Dr. Mohamed Khan is responsible for developing, conducting, and evaluating educational programs that will improve sugarbeet production practices in North Dakota and Minnesota and is currently Extension Sugarbeet Specialist for North Dakota State University and the University of Minnesota. Dr. Khan is also the secretary of the Sugarbeet Research and Education Board of Minnesota and North Dakota (SBREB). His research is aimed at improving diseases such as Cercospora leaf spot, Rhizoctonia crown and root rot, Rhizomania and Fusarium yellows, and agronomic practices such as optimum plant populations and nitrogen management. Along with this, Dr. Khan is also the Chairman of the International Sugarbeet Institute which organizes a two day annual trade show.

Dr. Khan has received his BS from University of Guyana, MS from the University of Bath in the U.K., and his Ph.D. from Clemson University. Mohamed also has experience in managing tropical crops including coconut, oil palm, and sugar cane.

Dr. Mohamed Khan will be speaking at 3 p.m., Thurs., March 3 during the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show.



Dr. Mohamed Khan will be sharing his strategies for optimum sugar beet health at the MonDak Ag Days and Trade Show.

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Jessica Rupp Will Discuss Managing Sugar Beet Disease In 2016

By Meagan Dotson

Extension Plant Pathologist Jessica Rupp will be discussing sugar beet diseases as one of the educational sessions to be held on Thur., March 3, during Ag Days in Sidney. She will be presenting diseases of concern for 2016 and their management as well as 2015 research compiled by Dr. Barry Jacobsen and Dr. Ken Kephart.

Rhizoctonia Crown and Root Rot and Cercospora Leaf Spot are at the center of concern for Montana growers. Both diseases are caused by fungal organisms and Rhizoctonia Crown and Root Rot's devastating effects have led it to be described as 'a bull in a china shop' as it rots the beet. Cercospora Leaf Spot causes problems above ground that translate to lower yields. Both of these diseases can be controlled with fungicides and identifying crop disease early on is key in the management of both.

"We have known about these diseases for over 100 years. They are caused by fungi, and living organisms will adapt to survive, so past issues can become new concerns," said Rupp. "Growers stay on top of the issues and as a result, we have successful sugar beet crops."

In addition to discussing soil borne and leaf tissue diseases, Rupp will talk about seedling diseases and how seed treatment can extend the window of time beets can be treated with fungicide.

Rupp was hired by Montana State University in Bozeman, MT in September of 2015, after graduating from Kansas State University in 2015. She is looking forward to making her first trip to Sidney and meeting our local growers.

For more information, visit www.mondakagdays.org.



Jessica Rupp



March 3 - 4

**Richland Co. Fair Event Center
Sidney, MT**

Brandon Ewen Talks Drone Use In Crop Production At MonDak Ag Days

Submitted by Sheridan Martin

Brandon Ewen, a professional land surveyor with over 10 years of experience, will be speaking at 9 a.m. at the MonDak Ag Days in Sidney, MT, Thurs., March 3. Ewen will be discussing the use of UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle)/drone in crop production.

Brandon Ewen has conducted many presentations about UAVs in agriculture and surveying, and has provided companies and farmers with the capability to produce infra-red imaging, precise survey data, and even aerial imagery. Brandon Ewen is considered an expert in the field of drones and UAVs, and takes pride in his work.

Ewen was raised on a farm near Billings, MT where he learned the meaning of hard work at a young age. He learned a morally strong work ethic that has stuck with him through life, and that shows in the precise work that he performs in every job.

Brandon Ewen will be discussing the use of UAVs/drones on Thurs., March 3 at 9 a.m. during MonDak Ag Days in Sidney, MT.



Brandon Ewen having a field day; testing one of his UAVs.

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Pallid Sturgeon, Endangered?

By Sheridan Martin

Terry Murphy, a Richland County Compliance Officer since 2012, has some interesting theories when it comes to the Pallid sturgeon.

Murphy spends two weeks on in Sidney, MT as the Richland County Compliance Officer and two weeks off at home in St. Ignatius, MT, and enjoys the many recreational opportunities that Eastern Montana has to offer. One of these activities is fishing in the Yellowstone River and the Missouri River. This past year, Murphy has been able to catch two pallid sturgeons. The first sturgeon was caught by Snowden Bridge (Missouri River) in July, and right away he knew the fish was different. He knew from the size and the front barbels by the nose that it was indeed a pallid sturgeon. The second fish was caught in September south of Sidney at Seven Sisters. This fish was much smaller than the first, and is the one you see pictured, but he knew it was a pallid sturgeon from the barbels. After two frequent catches, Murphy found himself thinking, "Wait, aren't these on the endangered species list? Why am I seeing these fish around so often, if they are supposed to be endangered?" Having an animal science degree, being a former president of the Montana Stock Growers Association, and being behind the scenes during the wolf and grizzly bear endangered species acts, he had a few theories to add to the LYIP (Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project) in relation to pallid sturgeon.

One of the biggest relations is money. Murphy asked the question, "Is it really about the pallid sturgeon, or is about money?" With his experience with Defenders of Wildlife, Murphy has seen that Endangered Species has more to do with money than the actual animal. He also begs the question, "Have the environmentalists received any local support, or is it just out of pocket donations from other areas of the country? Just how much money will the environmentalists receive if they get what they want by taking out the weir?"

In his recent catchings of the sturgeon, Murphy wonders how many other people have had encounters with the fish. "Do people check their catch, or do they see a sturgeon and just let it go? I think with the happenings with the LYIP, people should start documenting what they catch, and taking pictures to let the public think, 'just how endangered is this species?'" No one wants to see the pallid sturgeon get hurt, but should we really destroy the whole economy over a fish?

A theory that was brought up by Murphy was, "If the environmentalists are all about saving the species, why are they not spending a few million on hatcheries instead? There are already about 15,000 pallid sturgeon in hatcheries, but I guess that's not enough. Which shows me that taking out the Intake Dam is not all about

saving the species. But instead, it's about just how much money the environmentalists can get." Another theory was, "Yellowstone River is considered to be one of the only rivers without a dam, but because of the small weir, technically it isn't. I feel environmentalists want to see it go only so the river can keep its title of being a damless river."

Murphy goes on to say, "We do need to protect the LYIP. Have the environmentalists even looked at the amazing habitats it has created? The agriculture industry that uses the dam has created beautiful habitats for deer and pheasants, and they want to take those away, too? You can't destroy a whole other economy for a fish."

"Animals can't read biology books," says Murphy. "They don't know what they are supposed to do. It is up to mother nature to decide what happens to the fish, not environmentalists."

Many other people who live next to the Yellowstone River have been seeing the pallid sturgeon as well. There have been reports in Culbertson, MT of the sturgeon swimming right up to the shore and even being caught one after the other.

When it comes to the possible aftermath of taking out the Intake Dam and irrigation rights, it can be compared to what happened in Klamath Falls, Oregon in 2001. In 2001, a panel of scientists and environmentalists concluded that further diversion for agriculture would be destructive for the lost sucker and shortnose sucker in the Klamath River. Over 18,000 farmers, ranchers, citizens, and politicians protested against the loss of irrigation but lost. Later in 2002, because of the public uproar, farmers were given back their irrigation but the results of the loss were still disastrous. Low river flows in the Klamath and even the Trinity Rivers, with the added high temperatures, led to a mass die-off of over 33,000 salmon in 2002. This in-turn had practically shut down the fishing industry in the region and caused over \$60 million in disaster aid given to fishermen for their losses. In the end, it was later said in 2003 by National Academy of Sciences that limiting irrigation water did little if anything to help endangered fish and may have hurt the populations.

"No one wants to hurt the fish, but no one wants to hurt the economy," said Murphy. "The Intake Dam has only added good things to the community, why take that away and destroy a society to fill another person's pocket?"

The question to ask next is, "What is the motivation behind Defenders of Wildlife and Natural Resources Defense Council for wanting to take out the Intake Dam?"

Note: This article is based on Terry Murphy's opinions and experiences with Endangered Species Acts. These words were made public to share the positive affects of the LYIP and the fact the sturgeon are still in good numbers.



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**Thank you to the Ag Days Committee
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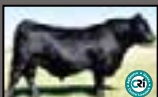
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Ranching Is Just One Part Of Prewitt's Involvement In The Cattle Industry

By Meagan Dotson

Rod Prewitt has been involved in the cattle industry all of his life. He grew up on a ranch and his father had a sale barn and traded cattle. Today, Prewitt is one of the owners of Prewitt Trust; he also owns Valley VU Feedlot, is one of the owners of Sidney Livestock, and is partial owner of Prewitt & Company along with his two partners Tim Larson and Mike Yore. Prewitt operates a ranch ten miles north of Sidney and four miles west of Fairview, which was established in 2003. It is a family operation and Prewitt's son Chantz along with his three sons, Chase, Tyrel, and Rowdie Prewitt are all involved.

Prewitt's have a herd of approximately 1,500 mother cows; cattle are kept on pastureland throughout the summer and are moved to a feedlot during the winter. Red Angus cows, known for their calm disposition and few calving problems, are bred to Red Angus or Charolais bulls, with their large and heavily muscled frames. Calves are kept at the Valley VU Feedlot in Fairview, which feeds 8,000 to 9,000 head of cattle throughout the winter. Calves are kept at the feedlot until the first or second week of January and are then sold through contract sales in Minnesota and Iowa.



In addition to his ranch, Rod Prewitt is one of the owners of Prewitt Trust, he is the owner of Valley VU Feedlot, is one of the owners of Sidney Livestock, and is partial owner of Prewitt & Company along with his two partners Tim Larson and Mike Yore.

New Resource For Montana's Beginning Farmers And Ranchers

Submitted by Annie Heuscher

The vast majority of farmland in America will change hands in the next twenty years as farmers age and retire. While many states are worried about how this will affect their communities, one new resource is helping Montana buck that trend by making new farmers better prepared to take over.

Farm Link Montana is a comprehensive online clearinghouse for beginning farmers and ranchers. The project seeks to provide new producers with the resources and tools to start successful, sustainable businesses. "We see a lot of new farmers getting started without much business knowledge," says program director Annie Heuscher. "That may have worked 40 years ago, but the playing field in Ag is a lot tougher now than it used to be and if we want these farmers and ranchers to be successful, we have to help them with every tool we can."

The new website includes resources on production, marketing, financial management, financing, risk management, land access and evaluation, and many other tools specifically geared towards Montana's producers. In addition, the site includes three new programs to link new farmers with internships, mentorship, and land.

Farm Link is being launched in conjunction with farm business planning courses being offered across the state through a partnership with MSU Extension. Workshops will utilize a new curriculum developed for Montana farmers; the full curriculum is available online on the Farm Link site.

For more information, visit FarmLinkMontana.org.

Irrigated Land Owners To Receive Energy Cost Forms From The MT Dept. Of Revenue

Submitted by Molly Petersen

This week, the Montana Department of Revenue began mailing over 12,000 forms to owners of irrigated land. Montana law allows owners to deduct electrical and fuel costs in the calculation of value for irrigated land for the purpose of determining property taxes.

Providing the information is optional for land owners, but it will help the department correctly value the irrigated land for the 2017 property reappraisal.

The forms are due by July 1. Owners should complete the forms with the 2015 energy costs they incurred in their irrigation operations and attach copies of 2015 energy bills associated with the irrigation system. These include electrical or fuel bills for running the irrigation pumps and the annual electrical startup fee. Owners can return the completed forms and supporting documentation to their local Department of Revenue office.

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WEDNESDAY — March 16

9:00 a.m. Doors Open / Visit Exhibits

1:05 p.m. Program Announcements / Recognition

1:15 p.m. *'Washington Update: Sugar Policy, Economy,
Trade Policy, Elections & Impacts'*

Jim Wiesemeyer
Senior Vice President
Informa Economics, Inc.

2:00 p.m. Visit Exhibits

5:00 p.m. Doors Close

THURSDAY — March 17

9:00 a.m. Doors Open / Visit Exhibits

10:15 a.m. Program Announcements / Recognition

10:25 a.m. *'Sugar: Historical Perspectives'*

David Berg
President & CEO
American Crystal Sugar Company

11:10 a.m. Visit Exhibits

Mid-Afternoon Doors Close



Jim Wiesemeyer

Jim Wiesemeyer is a frequent speaker on farm policy and trade issues, including presentations to several national and regional sugar industry meetings. He is senior vice president at Informa Economics, where he contributes daily to the firm's Morning Comments report, providing clients with the latest information on ag policy and trade developments. He previously served as Washington editor and bureau chief for ProFarmer, Inc., among other posts, during a D.C. career that began in the latter 1970s. He is a graduate of Southern Illinois University.

David Berg is a Fargo native. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he earned a bachelor's degree in mass communications from Moorhead State University in 1978 and worked as a television reporter for two years. He received a master's degree in agricultural economics from North Dakota State University in 1982. After five years at General Mills, he joined American Crystal in 1987, working in marketing, business development, agriculture and operations prior to being named President & CEO in 2007.



David Berg

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Renewable Accounts: The Price of Everything

Understanding the concept of opportunity cost will be important to farmers in the coming years.

By David Ripplinger

**Bioproducts and Bioenergy Economist and Assistant Professor
NDSU Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics**

One of the fundamental concepts of economics is opportunity cost. The opportunity cost of a choice is the forgone benefit of the next best alternative.

A common agricultural example arises when a landowner decides to farm or rent his or her cropland. If the land is farmed, rent no longer can be charged. That forgone rent is the opportunity cost of farming the land.

Estimating the opportunity cost of a choice can be challenging. You have to identify major considerations and then value them. Many choices have nonfinancial dimensions that can be easy to miss and then misvalued once identified.

While the concept of opportunity cost can be used for many decisions, I bring it up to help prepare farmers in the northern Plains to be ready for a situation that may be on the horizon.

Two years from now, after an informational meeting at your local community center, a businessman offers you \$50 per ton of wheat straw that he will have baled after you've harvested the grain. Do you accept the offer?

The answer should depend on the opportunity cost of the straw.

While the straw could be removed and used as bedding, most farmers today value the straw most highly when it stays in the field. There nutrients and organic matter remain, moisture is enhanced and erosion control is provided. Are these and other benefits from leaving the straw in the field worth \$50 per ton or more? Again, what is the opportunity cost of the straw?

We could walk through an exercise that maps the composition of straw and current fertilizer prices to estimate the nutrient value, and estimate less precise values for improved soil moisture and erosion control, the values of which may be subjective based on how you value these benefits.

I will be delivering Extension programming during the next month to help farmers understand opportunity cost and how they can calculate the value of their residue. These face-to-face meetings across the state will make sure they are ready to confidently sign or decline an offer for their residue if and when it is made.

The Art Of Farming WIFE Calendar Art Contest

**Submitted by Gladys Walling
Chairman of Montana WIFE Calendar Project**

In recognition of National Agriculture Week (National Agriculture Day, March 15, 2016), WIFE (Montana Women Involved in Farm Economics), invites Montana's school children to express their ideas on farm life by participating in WIFE's 13th statewide calendar art contest. Winning entires grades K-8 will be awarded a cash prize at the 1st place (\$30), 2nd place (\$20), and 3rd place (\$10), levels in each grade's division. Two honorable mention places in each grade will be awarded certificates. Only 25 pictures can be used on the calendar. Those winners whose pictures are used will also received a calendar.

All entries are to be done horizontally on 8 ½ x 11' white paper with dark, black lead pencil or black pen (no markers please) to make a good, clear picture for the calendar. Any aspect of agriculture that is of interest to the students may be drawn. Any depiction of alcohol or tobacco will not be accepted. Student's name, grade, school, address, town, and zip code should be clearly printed in a corner on the back of their picture.

No entries can be returned, but WIFE may display or use student's artwork for various WIFE projects throughout the state of Montana. Entries must be postmarked on or before April 15, 2016. Artwork will be judged on the basis of originality.

Please send all art entries to Gladys Walling, P.o. Box 55, Winifred, MT, 59489. For more information, call 406-462-5330.

A Regulatory 101 Workshop Providing Information On How To Navigate Through Section 10 Of The Rivers And Harbors Act And Section 404 Of The Clean Water Act

Submitted by Eileen Williamson

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Dakota Regulatory Office is holding a workshop to provide information on the Regulatory Program. The workshop will be held at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, in Meeting Room B on March 16, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is open to all interested parties including the public, consultants, environmental organizations, as well as Federal, state and local agencies.

The workshop will focus on the USACE Permitting Overview including, permitting authority under the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act. North Dakota Project Managers will be presenting the workshop and staff will be available to answer questions. The workshop is free but space is limited to 40 people.

To register, email Ms. Patricia McQueary, North Dakota State Regulatory Program Manager with your name, organization name, email and telephone number in the body of the message.

Registration Deadline is March 14, 2016.

If you register and need to cancel at a later date, please call 701-255-0015 as soon as possible to allow others to attend.

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Good Nutrition Vital for Pregnant Cows

By NDSU Agriculture Communication

Producers need to review their anticipated calving dates, cow body condition scores and cows' diet.

Decisions a cattle producer makes about pregnant cow nutrition now can have major impacts on calf health in the spring and cow fertility during the next breeding season.

"The great majority of fetal growth (from 75 to more than 90 percent, depending on the source) occurs during the last three months of pregnancy, and nutrient needs and recommended feeding strategies for the cows also are changing accordingly," says Carl Dahlen, North Dakota State University Extension Service beef cattle specialist.

"To make sure you are on track with your winter feeding, have a good look at your anticipated calving dates, cow body condition scores and the diet the cows are receiving," he advises. "Current protein and energy content of native pastures and/or crop residues likely are not suitable for cows calving in early to midspring. Supplement cattle accordingly, and remember the increased plane of nutrient needs the cows are experiencing."

As mature cows move from mid to late gestation, they need a 20 percent increase in crude protein intake and 16 percent increase in total digestible nutrient intake to keep up with increasing fetal growth. This need for additional nutrients is magnified once a cow calves and must produce milk for a calf.

Although some producers argue that providing fewer nutrients during gestation will lead to lighter birthweights and, therefore, fewer calving difficulties, that isn't always the result, according to Dahlen.

"Unfortunately, the smaller calves were the only potential benefit of the low feeding level in several studies," he says. "Cows fed the high level of nutrition actually had less calving difficulty, even with slightly bigger calves."

"In addition, while calf survival at birth was similar between the groups, calf survival at weaning was much greater in cows fed the high levels of nutrition," he adds. "Calves from dams fed the low levels of nutrition had more issues with scours and scours-related mortality, compared with calves from dams fed high levels of nutrition."

A separate study found that cows with inadequate body condition produced poorer-quality colostrum, compared with cows in good body condition. Poor body condition resulted in a reduced ability to transfer immunity through colostrum to calves of underfed cows. Newborn calves need adequate colostrum because it contains antibodies and other proteins that protect calves from disease until their own immune system is totally functional.

Studies also show that the need for good nutrition during pregnancy carries over to fertility the following breeding season. Cows that are thin at calving have a greater chance of not becoming pregnant the following breeding season, compared with cows that calve in good body condition. Therefore, thin cows and heifers need to be on a greater plane of nutrition than older cows in good condition.

Dahlen recommends producers consider sorting heifers and thin cows into their own group for feeding if possible. If not, producers should try to spread feed out over a larger area to reduce the incidence of thin cows being pushed away from feed by older cows or cows in better condition. If facilities are available to feed different groups of cows, heifers and thin cows should be fed separately from mature cows.

Producers also should keep temperature in mind and protect cattle from wind and moisture to the extent possible. Even with heavy winter coats, nutrient requirements for cows begin to increase when the temperature is below the "lower critical temperature" of about 18 F. That lower critical temperature is much greater if cattle are wet or exposed to the wind.

For every degree below that lower critical temperature, energy requirements can increase by 1 to 2 percentage units of total digestible nutrients (TDN). This means the same 1,300-pound cow that needed 12.5 pounds of TDN per day at a temperature of 18 F may need up to 14.8 pounds of TDN per day at a temperature of 0 F. However, cows have a limit on how much they can eat,

so producers may have to increase the quality of the feed in addition to the quantity to ensure cows are meeting their requirements.

"Evaluating the nutritional status of cows now and taking appropriate action will allow you to provide appropriate nutrients to get cows into good body condition at calving while encouraging the fetus to do exactly what it needs to do: grow, baby, grow!" Dahlen says.

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Prairie Fare: Don't Let a Buffet Promote a 'Food Coma'

To keep from overeating at a buffet, have a snack before you go.

**By Julie Garden-Robinson, Food and Nutrition Specialist
NDSU Extension Service**

"Are you in a food coma, Julie?" my friend asked.

I wasn't feeling too well. I felt as though I had eaten two Thanksgiving-sized meals in one sitting.

While at a conference, we tried a buffet restaurant that featured skewers of 14 kinds of meat and seafood served at your table. It also had an enormous buffet with dozens of salads and side dishes.

I started by tasting about 15 kinds of food from the buffet, then I had at least 10 kinds of meat. I think the plate of oysters nearly did me in. I don't even like oysters.

After our hearty meal, we walked very fast to get to our next destination. You probably learned that you should take a break after eating before you swim. I am not sure if that holds true. My experience tells me, "Don't run about three miles on pavement after eating 5 pounds of food at a buffet."

"I probably should haven't have trotted you like a horse," my friend said.

I take responsibility for my overindulgence. No one was spoon-feeding me. I probably should have exercised some self-restraint in the restaurant.

In fact, think twice before eating at too many buffets if your goal is weigh maintenance. We were at a conference, and nearly every breakfast, lunch and dinner was set up as a buffet.

Each time, I checked out the choices on the buffet line before I took a plate. Then the temptations got the best of me.

If I consumed a "buffet diet" every day, I quickly could become like one of the

overfed rats in a published study. Rats often are used as "models" for humans in obesity trials because they share some of our patterns of regulating our appetite.

Psychologists fed two groups of rats who were of the same genetic makeup one of two diets. Both groups of rats received a "rat chow" that met all of their nutritional needs. One group of rats (the "cafeteria group") also had ongoing access to a buffet with a wide variety of pies, cookies and cakes.

I bet you can guess what happened. Yes, they gained weight, but the rats also lost motivation to do anything. They did not respond in usual ways to food. They were content to lie around and eat cookies and pies continuously.

Thank heavens our brains are much larger than those of rats. If you find yourself at a buffet and you don't like that "food coma" kind of feeling, try these strategies. I know I will next time.

Have a small snack before you go to a buffet. Think of it like going to a holiday party and not arriving at the party ravenously hungry.

Survey the buffet line and pick out what you really, really want to taste. Have a small amount of your favorites and savor each bit.

Fill your first plate with vegetables, fruit and a moderate amount of lean protein. Choose the whole-grain breads.

Slow down while you eat. Remember, your brain and your stomach need to communicate with each other. Your brain can take 20 minutes to know you are full.

If all the buffet line food is just too tempting, consider ordering a regular meal from the menu instead of going through the buffet.

After all my overindulgence, I needed to pare down my meals. Here's a tasty soup recipe that I made with my teenage daughter when I returned from my trip. As noted, you can omit the salt if desired.

Broccoli Cheese Soup

- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 1 c. onion, chopped
- 1 c. carrots, sliced
- 2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. salt (or less)
- 3 c. chicken broth, low-sodium
- 2 c. nonfat milk
- 4 tsp. cornstarch
- 5 c. broccoli florets
- 2 c. cheddar cheese, finely shredded
- 1/4 tsp. white pepper

Melt butter in 4-quart pot. Add onion and carrots; cook on medium heat until the onion is translucent (about four minutes). Add flour and salt; stir well. In a separate bowl, use a whisk to mix together broth, milk and cornstarch. Add broth mixture to onion mixture and cook while stirring, over medium heat, until the mixture thickens (about 10 minutes). Add broccoli and white pepper; cook until broccoli is tender-crisp (about five minutes). Stir in cheese and heat until the cheese melts.

Makes eight servings. Each serving has 210 calories, 13 grams (g) fat, 11 g protein, 13 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber and 750 milligrams (mg) sodium. If you omit the added salt, the amount of sodium per serving drops to 460 mg.

(Julie Garden-Robinson, Ph.D., R.D., L.R.D., is a North Dakota State University Extension Service food and nutrition specialist and professor in the Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences.)



This broccoli cheese soup is a tasty, easy-to-make recipe. (NDSU photo)

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SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016 10:00 A.M.

LOCATION: FROM GLENDIVE, MT- TAKE HWY 16N TOWARD SIDNEY FOR 25 MILES, TURN RIGHT ON ROAD 340 FOR 3/10THS OF A MILE, TURN RIGHT FOR 4/10THS OF A MILE. FROM SAVAGE, MT- TAKE HWY 16 SOUTH TOWARD GLENDIVE FOR 6.1 MILES TURN LEFT ON ROAD 340 AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ABOVE.

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- (2) JD Scrapers (for parts)
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- 1996 Ford L9000 Semi, Cat engine, 13-speed, rebuilt transmission, seat kit, air, Rockwell rear-ends, new drivers tires, 167,600 miles
- 1995 Ford F series Water Truck, Cummins engine, Allison auto, 1,600 gallon tank
- 1990 Best triple-axle belly dump Trailer
- 1999 Heavy Equipment Transport Trailer w/hydraulic tail & winch (works great)
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- 2001 Chevrolet SLE 1500HD Pickup, 4-door, 4WD, 350 engine, auto, 160,000 miles
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- 2012 Kawasaki diesel Mule
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- 2007 Yamaha 700 Rhino, loaded
- 2013 Honda 420 Rancher ATV, auto, IRS, PS
- 2012 Honda 420 Rancher ATV, auto, IRS, PS
- 2012 Honda 420 2-wheel drive Rancher ATV
- 2011 Honda 500 Foreman ATV
- 2011 Arctic Cat 700 ATV, IRS, PS, Winch
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AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Doug has lived in the Savage area serving Eastern Montana for his whole life. He has decided to retire and liquidate his Construction Equipment. Nearly all the equipment is in very good condition and ready to go to work! This is a "must see" piece of property! We hope to see you on April 9th! Rick



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- 2x4x20' Lumber
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IMPROVEMENTS:
Pole Barn 40X72X14' Walls (dirt floor), New Artisan Well

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No mineral rights will transfer.

TAXES:
Taxes will be pro-rated from the day of closing.

TITLE INSURANCE:
Standard owner's title insurance will be provided by the seller through Richland County Title, 1050 S Central, Sidney, MT 406-433-8584

TERMS:
Cash. 10% down sale day, the balance due at closing approximately 30 days from sale date at the office of Richland County Title, 1050 S Central, Sidney, MT 406-433-8584

BUYER'S PREMIUM ONLY ON THE REAL ESTATE: A 2 % Buyers premium will be added to the winning bid price to arrive at the total contract price paid by the purchaser.

Your bid is considered acceptance of the terms of this auction. If you, the Buyer fails to close, the down payment is non-refundable. If the Sellers fail to close, 100% of the down payment will be returned. At this time, there is no known reason that the Sellers would not be able to close. All funds are held in the escrow account of Richland County Title, 1050 S Central, Sidney, MT 406-433-8584

All information is from sources deemed reliable, but is not guaranteed by the Sellers or the Auctioneers. Offering is subject to error, omission, and approval of purchase by owner. We urge independent verification of each and every item submitted to the satisfaction of any prospective buyer. It is every potential bidder/purchaser's sole responsibility to accomplish his or her due diligence in whatever manner he or she deems advisable. Announcements made sale day take precedence over any printed materials. The property sells "As is-Where is."

R-K Statewide Auction Service and its auctioneers are acting solely as auctioneers for the Sellers.



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The Fox Hill-Hell Creek Aquifer Study Will Determine The Reason For Declining Water Levels And Potential Solutions

By Meagan Dotson

On Fri., March 4, information about the Fox Hills- Hell Creek aquifer study will be presented at 1 p.m. at the Richland County Event Center as part of Ag Days. The project is being funded by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation through the Montana Renewable Resources Grant and Loan Program for the enhancement of Montana's renewable resources. The study will inventory wells completed in the Fox Hills- Hell Creek aquifer and determine well head conditions as water-level monitoring over the last twenty years has shown a one to four feet decrease per year.

Aquifers, permeable rock that contain and transmit groundwater, supply 94% of Montana's rural domestic water supply and 39% of the state's public water supply. Wells in Richland County provide water for households, businesses, livestock, crops, lawns, and gardens.

The Richland County Conservation District and the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology will determine if the decreasing water flow is due to pressure head declines in the aquifer or if the two-inch metal casings used to complete the wells are corroded, allowing water to seep out. Controlling any leaks by lining and winterizing wells in the Fox Hills-Hell Creek aquifer would reduce or stop decreasing water levels.

Water levels, shut in pressures, and flow rates will be measured and compared to those when the well was first dug; other aspects will be evaluated such as the condition of the well head and surface casings, and field water quality parameters will be measured. Landowners can assist by disclosing the history, location, depth, and aquifer.

There are 130 wells identified that will be the initial focus of the study, however, the study has potential to expand based on the interest of well owners that would like to participate. Questionnaires will be sent to well owners and anyone interested should contact the Richland County Conservation District at 406-433-2103 or by email at julie.goss@mt.nacdnet.net.



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USDA To Invest \$150 Million Through Conservation Stewardship Program To Help Improve Working Lands

Submitted by Lori Valadez, NRCS

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that \$150 million in funding is available for agricultural producers through the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), USDA's largest conservation program that helps producers voluntarily improve the health and productivity of private and Tribal working lands. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) plans to add an estimated 10 million acres to the rolls of CSP during fiscal 2016. "The Conservation Stewardship Program is one of our most popular programs with producers because it results in real change on the ground by boosting soil and air quality, conserving clean water and enhancing wildlife habitat," Vilsack said. "With this investment, we'll be able to build on the already record number of acres enrolled in USDA's conservation programs, enabling producers to achieve higher levels of conservation and adopt new and emerging conservation technologies on farms, ranches and forests."

NRCS accepts applications for CSP throughout the year, but producers should submit applications by March 31 to USDA service centers to ensure they are considered for enrollment in 2016.

Participants with existing CSP contracts that will expire on Dec.31, 2016 have the option to renew their contracts for an additional five years if they agree to adopt additional activities to achieve higher levels of conservation on their lands. Applications to renew are also due by March 31.

Farm Bureau Foundation Holds Speech Contest During FFA Convention

Submitted by the Ag News Wire

The Montana Farm Bureau is holding their annual Youth Speech Contest in conjunction with the Montana FFA State Convention, March 30 - April 2, 2016 at Montana State University in Bozeman. The contest is open to seventh, eighth and ninth grade students. Each speech must be two and a half to four minutes in length and demonstrate how science, technology, engineering and math are used by those who work in agriculture in one of the following careers: Crop production, livestock production, veterinary medicine, diesel mechanic, plant scientist and logger.

The contestant must submit a transcript of their speech and register by March 1, 2016 with the MFB Foundation. The top 20 speeches selected will be presented and judged the morning of March 31 during the FFA Convention. The first place winner receives \$400; second place earns \$250 and third place will be awarded \$100.

"One of our Foundation's most important goals is to help with ag education and the leadership development of Montana's youth," says MFB Foundation Coordinator Scott Kulbeck. "This speech contest is an opportunity to hone those skills, plus we are offering great prizes. We know that FFA has similar contests for high school students and we want to complement rather than compete with those contests."

For more information, official rules or for a registration form contact Scott Kulbeck at scottk@mfbf.org or 406-587-3153.

NRCS also makes CSP available to producers as an additional opportunity to participate in regional landscape-level conservation efforts including the Sage Grouse Initiative, Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative, Longleaf Pine Initiative and Ogallala Aquifer Initiative.

Funding is available for more than 100 kinds of enhancements nationwide to help participants:

- Improve soil quality through use of cover crops, conservation crop rotations and other activities that increase soil productivity.

- Use water wisely and improve water quality through enhancements such as more efficient irrigation systems and weather monitoring.

- Restore habitat for wildlife and pollinators such as the greater sage-grouse, lesser prairie-chicken and monarch butterfly through the use of better grazing systems and improved plant management.

A CSP self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine if the program is compatible with their operation. As part of the application process, applicants will work with NRCS field personnel to complete a resource inventory of their land to determine the conservation performance for existing and new conservation activities. The applicant's conservation performance will be used to determine eligibility, ranking and payments.

Through CSP, USDA has provided more than \$4 billion since 2009 in assistance to farmers, ranchers and forest managers to enhance conservation on more than 70 million acres. For more on technical and financial assistance available through conservation programs, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted.

Since 2009, USDA has invested more than \$29 billion to help producers make conservation improvements, working with as many as 500,000 farmers, ranchers and landowners to protect over 400 million acres nationwide, boosting soil and air quality, cleaning and conserving water and enhancing wildlife habitat. For an interactive look at USDA's work in conservation and forestry over the course of this Administration, visit <http://medium.com/usda-results>.

The logo for Roundup WEB.COM features the word "Roundup" in a large, bold, yellow font with a black outline and a slight 3D effect. Below it, "WEB.COM" is written in a smaller, red, blocky font with a black outline.

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March 3rd

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Gillian Lavik, MD
General Surgery

March 3rd

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Laura Greer, AuD
Audiology

March 7th

For an appointment
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Emad Dodin, MD
Cardiology

March 10th

For an appointment
call (701) 857-3584



Jericca Maxson, AuD
Audiology

March 17th

For an appointment
call (701) 857-5986



Leah Brewster, DNP-C
Cardiology

March 23rd

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call (701) 857-7388



Mark Noel, DO
Ear, Nose and Throat

March 3rd & 17th

For an appointment
call (701) 857-5986



Robert Fischer, MD
Ear, Nose and Throat

March 7th

For an appointment
call (701) 857-5986



Erdal Diri, MD
Rheumatology

March 8th & 22nd

For an appointment
call (701) 857-7495



Aaron Albers, DPM
Foot & Ankle Specialist

March 14th & 28th

For an appointment
call (701) 857-3584



Samir Turk, MD
Cardiology/Pacemaker

March 23rd

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call (701) 857-7388

Pacemaker Clinic

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MSU to host Montana Broadcast of Women in Agriculture Conference

By MSU News Service

Montana State University Extension, in cooperation with Northwest Farm Credit Services, will host the Montana broadcast of the fifth annual Women in Agriculture Conference on Saturday, March 19.

This one-day webinar is presented remotely by Washington State University Extension and takes place simultaneously at 31 locations throughout Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Alaska. The conference is interactive and was developed to empower women in agriculture to achieve goals and manage risk through education, networking and technology.

Presenters include Wendy Knopp and Michael Stolp with Northwest Farm Credit Services and Shelly Boschart Davis, a farmer who lives in Oregon. The theme is "Power Up Your Farm."

The conference will be broadcast in room 231 of Linfield Hall, also known as the CHS Room, on the MSU campus. Local hosts are Kate Binzen Fuller and Keri Hayes with MSU Extension and Aimee Roberts with Northwest Farm Credit Services.

Bozeman is the only Montana conference location. Participation is limited to 40. Early-bird registration, through March 5, is \$25. General registration, through March 18, is \$30. Lunch will be provided.

Scholarships are available for college agriculture students and beginning farmers, 4-H and FFA members, or those needing assistance. To apply for a scholarship go to <http://womeninag.wsu.edu>.

A block of hotel rooms at the Best Western Plus Grantree Inn has been

reserved for the conference. The cost is \$89 plus tax per room. Participants should mention the Women in Ag conference when booking. The hotel will have a shuttle service to bring participants to MSU for the event.

For more information and to register, visit <http://womeninag.wsu.edu> or <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2498710>.

Contact: Kate Fuller, (406) 994-5603 or kate.fuller@montana.edu; Aimee Roberts, (406) 532-4917 or aimee.roberts@northwestfcs.com; or Keri Hayes, (406) 994-3511 or khayes@montana.edu.

Landowners New Access Program Offers Tax Credits

Submitted by Montana FWP

Landowners have until March 15 to submit applications to Fish, Wildlife, & Parks for enrollment in a new program called Unlocking Public Lands that may qualify a landowner for up to \$3,000 in annual tax credits. Through this program, a landowner who enters into a contractual agreement with FWP to allow public recreational access across private land to reach a parcel of otherwise inaccessible state or federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or United States Forest Service (USFS) land is entitled to receive a \$750 annual tax credit per contract, with a maximum of four contracts per year.

The Unlocking Public Lands program is a product of the 2015 Legislature, which expanded a program called Unlocking State Land passed by the previous legislature. While Montana contains nearly 31 million acres of BLM, USFS, and state land, much of this land requires landowner permission to cross private land to reach the state or federal land.

"The concept of offering a tax credit in exchange for allowing public access across private land to reach public land is a unique and innovative way to provide incentives to landowners willing to accommodate public access," said Alan Charles, FWP Coordinator of Landowner/Sportsman Relations. "The Department hopes these new opportunities and incentives may appeal to landowners throughout the state."

More information about the program, including enrollment criteria and the application form, can be found at <http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/hunterAccess/unlockingPublicLands/>.



women
in agriculture
Conference

MSU will host a live broadcast of the Women In Agriculture webinar on Saturday, March 19. Photo courtesy of Washington State University.

BOX ELDER CREEK RANCH LAND AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016 2:00 P.M.

**855 +/- ACRES IN DAWSON COUNTY
GLENDDIVE, MT- MOOSE LODGE, 415 N MERRILL**



OWNERS: Keith Pagel will offer the following property to the public at auction. The final bid will be subject to his approval. The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

PROPERTY LOCATION: From Glendive, MT- Take Interstate 94 East toward Wibaux for 16.7 miles to Exit 231 (Hodges Exit) Turn under Interstate & take Road 325 for 2.3 miles to T, turn right for 5.3 miles

TO BE SOLD IN (3) THREE PARCELS & AS AN ENTIRETY

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

PARCEL I 45 +/- Acres

Section 26, Township 16N, Range 58E
HOUSE DESCRIPTION & SHOP: Built in 1923-- 1920 sq ft Log House, (3) bedrooms, (2) full baths, (1) ½ bath, full basement w/attached 40x30 heated (3) car garage, BBQ patio

40x60 Shop w/overhead door & walk-in door w/24x24 attached office & bathroom



Full set of working Corrals, 30x120 Barn, Submersible Well

PARCEL II 650 +/- Acres

Section 26, Township 16N, Range 58E (595 +/- Acres) Box Elder Creek Runs through, there are (3) fenced Pastures, Shared well w/neighbors & has an underground water line w/tank

In 2012 all the farm ground was put into grass
Section 27, Township 16N, Range 58E (55 +/- Acres) Spring-fed Tank

PARCEL III 160 +/- Acres
Section 24, Township 16N, Range 58E
Submersible Well

Wildlife: There are mule deer, some antelope, sharptail, grouse and partridges found on the ranch.

A title commitment has been ordered and will be available, at their request, to prospective buyers for inspection prior to sale day. The above may or may not be the proper legal description; it was taken from the Dawson County tax receipts. The above does describe the property to be sold.

Mineral Rights: No mineral rights transfer.

Water Rights: All water rights held will transfer.

Taxes: Taxes will be pro-rated from the day of closing.

Title Insurance: Standard owners' title insurance will be provided by the seller through First American Title Holding Company, 204 N Kendrick Ave, Suite 205, Glendive, MT (406)365-5482



Terms: Cash. 10% down sale day, the balance due at closing approximately 30 days from the Auction at the offices of First American Title Holding Company, 204 N Kendrick Ave, Suite 205, Glendive, MT (406)365-5482

Buyers Premium: A 2 % Buyers premium will be added to the winning bid price to arrive at the total contract price paid by the purchaser.

Your bid is considered acceptance of the terms of this auction. If you, the Buyer fails to close, the down payment is non-refundable. If the Sellers fail to close, 100% of the down payment will be returned. At this time there is no known

reason that the Sellers would not be able to close. All funds are held in the escrow account of First American Title Holding Company, 204 N Kendrick Ave, Suite 205, Glendive, MT (406)365-5482

For more information & showings contact Rick Kniepkamp (406) 485-2548 or (406) 939-1632 cell

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AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:

Keith relocated to California and has decided to liquidate his ranch. Box Elder Creek runs year around through Parcel II. The house was built in 2013 and is in "like new condition". All the farmland was put into grass in 2012. You will have a chance to bid on each parcel and then we will tie it all together at the end. If there are no bids at the end to tie it as one parcel, you win the bid on each individual parcel.

See you on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND** at the **Moose Club!**
Rick



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Rick Kniepkamp



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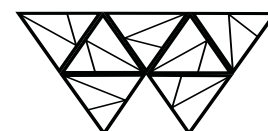
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THURSDAY, MARCH 3

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8:00 am.....Trade Show Opens

9:00 am*"UAV / Drone Use in Crop Production"* - **Brandon Ewen**, UAV Expert / Montana producer

10:00 am*"Cover Crops"* - **Kate Vogel**, North 40 Ag

11:00 am*"Glyphosate Resistant Maretail"* - **Tim Fine**, Richland Co. Extension, **Fabian Menalled**, MSU Extension weed specialist

NoonLunch Break

1:00 pm.....*"GMO's"* - **Rhonda Steiger**, Biotech Spokeswoman

2:00 pm.....*"Sugarbeet Disease"* - **Jessica Rupp**, MSU Extension Plant Pathologist

3:00 pm.....*"Optimum Sugarbeet Health Strategies"* **Mohamed Khan**, NDSU Extension sugarbeet specialist

4:00 pm.....*"Sugarbeet Weed Control"* **Tom Peters**, NDSU Extension Agronomist

5:00 pm.....**Social** (Sponsors: *Prewitt Cattle Co./Sidney Livestock Market and Yellowstone Bank*)

6:00 pm.....**Banquet at Event Center: Entertainment - Damian Mason**

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

7:00 am.....**Sidney Chamber Breakfast** (Sponsor: *Advanced Communications*)

9:00 am.....*"Adapting Cropping and Livestock Systems to a Changing Climate"* **Justin Dernen**, USDA No. Plains Regional Climate Hub

10:00 am.....*"Livestock Water Quality Research"* - **Mark Peterson**, Ft. Keogh-ARS

11:00 am*"Reynold's Meat Department Beef Cutting Demonstration"*

NoonLunch Break

1:00 pm.....*"Richland County Aquifer Studies"* - **Kevin Chandler**, MT Bureau of Mines and Geology

For more info: Tim Fine at 406-433-1206 or: www.mondakagdays.org



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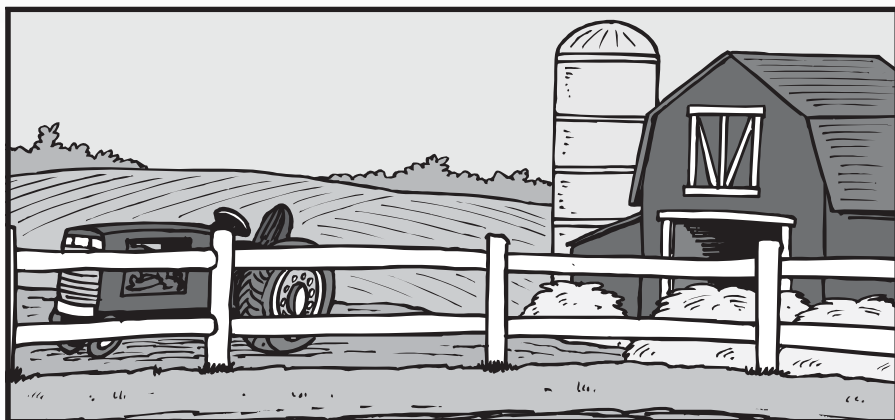
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29th Regular Sale

March

5th DK Red Angus Bull Sale, 2pm CST

7th Regular Sale

14th Regular Sale & LBS Black Angus Bull Sale

21st Regular Sale

Thurs, 24th Glasoe Black Angus Sale

28th No Sale, Easter Monday

April

4th Regular Sale

11th Regular Sale & ROA Saller Bull Sale

Thurs, 21st Early Morning Red Angus Sale

VISIT WWW.SITTINGBULLAUCTION.COM FOR SALE TIMES & UPDATES

Kirby Krebsbach

Cell: 701-570-1420

Wes Peterson

Cell: 701-570-1085

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Mar 2nd All Class Cattle Sale & Weaned Calf Special 9:00 AM

Mar 9th Bred Heifer & Stock Cow Sale 12:00 PM

Mar 9th All Class Cattle Sale 9:00 AM

Mar 16th All Class Cattle Sale 9:00 AM

Mar 23rd All Class Cattle Sale 9:00 AM

Mar 30th All Class Cattle Sale 9:00 AM

Fri, April 1st Regency Acres Bull & Heifer Sale 1:00 PM

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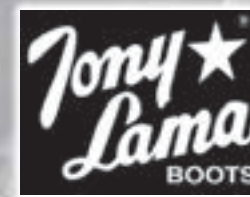
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Spotlight on Economics: Byproduct Exports Important to Cattle Prices

**By Tim Petry, Extension Livestock Marketing Economist
NDSU Agribusiness and Applied Economics Department**

The importance of U.S. beef exports to the U.S. cattle markets has been well-documented. Beef exports on a value basis set a record high in 2014, and so did beef byproducts. Beef byproducts are less glamorous, so their importance sometimes gets overlooked by cattle producers. However, the value of byproducts, sometimes referred to as “offal or drop value,” also plays an important role in cattle prices.

Beef byproducts include all edible and inedible items from harvested cattle that are not part of the dressed carcass. The hide is the most valuable byproduct and usually accounts for about one-half of the total byproduct value. Other beef byproducts include items such as tallow, livers, hearts, tongues, oxtails, tripe (stomach) and meat and bone meal.

Edible byproducts often are referred to as “variety meats.” Inedible byproducts are used for a wide variety of pharmaceutical, cosmetic, household and industrial products.

Values for individual beef byproduct items are influenced by many fundamental supply and demand factors. Export demand is especially important because the amount of U.S. byproducts produced is large, compared with domestic demand.

For example, many hides are exported to overseas customers to be processed into leather and leather products, so economic conditions around the world and the value of the U.S. dollar relative to other currencies impact byproduct values. Strong economies, with robust automobile and leather clothing sales, certainly help the demand for leather.

Tastes and preferences for traditional beef cuts and variety meats differ throughout the world. Fortunately, unlike many U.S. consumers, some foreign customers prefer variety meats such as livers, hearts and tripe.

For example, tongues are popular in Japan. In some countries, particular variety meats are preferred over traditional meat cuts and even used for medicinal purposes. In other countries, a variety meat may be a cheaper source of protein for lower-income consumers.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service published a much more in-depth explanation on the uses of byproducts. “Where’s the (Not) Meat? Byproducts From Beef and Pork Production” is available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/media/147867/ldpm20901.pdf>.

The USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) publishes a daily “USDA Byproduct Drop Value” report for fed cattle. It is available at http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/nw_Is441.txt.

The AMS reports the quantity, price and value for a number of the most important byproducts for a typical 1,375-pound steer and a combined steer and heifer (1,300 pounds) category. Values are reported on a per hundredweight live basis. As I write this article, the byproduct value for a 1,375-pound steer was quoted at \$16.24 per hundredweight, or \$223.30 per head. AMS reported the market value of an average live steer at \$167 per hundredweight, so byproducts amounted to about 10 percent of the steer’s value.

Values of selected byproduct items included the steer hide at \$7.82 per hundredweight (\$107.53 per head), tongues and oxtail at 96 cents per hundredweight (\$13.20 per head), meat and bone meal at 78 cents per hundredweight (\$10.73 per head), livers at 58 cents per hundredweight (\$7.98 per head) and hearts at 37 cents per hundredweight (\$5.09 per head).

AMS also issues a weekly “USDA Byproduct Drop Value Cow” report. It is available at http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/nw_Is444.txt. The report lists the quantity, price and value for important byproducts from a typical 1,100-pound cow. When I wrote this article, the cow byproduct value was estimated at \$15.22 per

hundredweight, or \$167.42 per head. A 1,100- pound cow selling for \$115 per hundredweight would have a market value of \$1,265, so the byproducts would amount to about 13 percent of the cow’s value.

Fed-steer byproduct values increased to record high levels in the first part of 2008 (\$12 per hundredweight). However, the U.S. and world economic crisis sent values plummeting to \$6 per hundredweight by the end of 2008. Values began improving in late 2009 as economic conditions improved. Gradual improvement throughout 2010 resulted in record high values again at more than \$12 by year’s end. Continued gradual improvement, fueled by strong export demand, has resulted in the current record high values of more than \$16 per hundredweight.

Supply and demand factors will affect beef byproduct values in 2015. Projected lower U.S. fed-cattle and cow slaughter, and continued strong export demand, should support byproduct values at near record levels again in 2015.

STAMPEDE

By Jerry Palen



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County Agent Update

By Danielle Steinhoff

Grain Safety

Right now on the roads we are seeing dozens of grain trucks hauling to the elevators. Some might think that winter is a vacation for farmers, but that is not the case. Farmers are busy getting ready for the next growing season and still finishing up tasks from the previous. When on the roads, as always, drive cautiously around large vehicles. Grain trucks haul heavy loads and have a hard time stopping suddenly, unlike smaller vehicles. Farmers have to be cautious on the road and also while loading and unloading grain. North Dakota State University Extension Service put out a publication in January 2013 that was revised by Kenneth Hellevang, an Agriculture Engineer. This publication is titled Caught in the Grain! which discusses the three common ways people can get trapped. People who work with grain- whether unloading, loading or moving it, need to be aware of these hazards for themselves and bystanders. One of the first ways people can get trapped is by the collapse of bridged grain. When grain is stored with a high moisture content and poor conditions it ups the chances of that grain becoming moldy. The kernels inside of the bin may stick together creating a self-supporting crust, which gives the workers a false indication that it is safe to stand on top. A hollow cavity does form underneath crusted grain when some of the grain has been removed from the bin. Never enter the bin to attempt to break the bridge or to stand on the grain, try to break the bridge from the outside, using a pole for collapsing and letting the grain fall. To prevent grain bridging, store grain in good condition and avoid spoilage, which leads to crusted

grain. The second way that people can get trapped in grain is by a collapse of a vertical mass of grain. Grain can “set up” in a large mass against the bin walls or other various formations when it has been stored in poor conditions. The mass of grain can collapse and cause an avalanche like effect, with no warning. Never enter a bin and try to break down grain which has “set up” in a large mass, attempt to break the mass from the outside or through the bin door with a long pole. Always expect and be

prepared for the grain to break free at any moment without warning. The final way that people can get trapped is by flowing grain. Flowing grain will not support the weight of a person, it pulls a person down within a matter of seconds. A person cannot be pulled from flowing grain without risk of injury to the person’s spinal column if the grain is waist height or higher. Dangerous grain flowing situations are; grain flowing downward in a bin, grain flowing downward out of a rail car, truck or wagon box; and grain flowing downward in an auger-pit. As a safety precaution, install a permanent life-line that hangs from the middle of the bin, tie slip-reducing knots about one foot apart from each other. To reduce the risk of these possibilities for getting trapped in bins, proper and good grain storage is key.

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Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission Approves Funding for Yellowstone River Conservation Easement

Submitted by Kendall Van Dyk

Yesterday, the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) Commission unanimously approved funding for a Channel Migration Easement on the lower Yellowstone River in Richland County. The easement, which was developed by the Montana Land Reliance in cooperation with FWP and Montana Aquatic Resources Services (MARS), will use funds from Western Area Power Administration and passed through FWP to the Navratil family of Sidney. The project will benefit fisheries of the lower Yellowstone including the endangered pallid sturgeon by prohibiting armoring the river bank within the easement area and allowing the river to migrate naturally.

In addition to leading completion of the easement with FWP and MARS, Montana Land Reliance (MLR) will hold the easement in perpetuity and will provide long-term stewardship of the site. MLR works to conserve agricultural lands and holds over 850 easements protecting over 950,000 acres of private land in Montana.

Kendall Van Dyk, Eastern Manager for MLR, noted that “What ultimately won the day was the incredible conservation value, indisputable evidence that the easement poses no additional threat to downstream landowners, and most of all, affirms

private property rights. We’re thrilled to assist in helping the Navratils realize their goals for the property, just like every landowner we’ve worked with across the state.”

Montana Aquatic Resources Services, a non-profit Montana-based conservation group, has identified a number of key properties as part of the Yellowstone River Channel Migration Easement (CME) program. CMEs are a new option to conserve fish and wildlife habitat and healthy functioning of the Yellowstone River and its floodplain. Tom Hinz, Director of Program Development at MARS, says the Navratil project is the first of its kind in Montana, which is attracting interest from landowners in other Montana valleys and in other western states. Hinz said, “This is a permanent and lasting legacy for the Navratil family. The family has over 135 years of history in the Sidney area and is committed to conservation of the sturgeon and other wildlife of their area. They are truly pioneers in this new approach to conservation.”

Also assisting in the project was XTO Energy, a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil, who maintains the oil and gas lease on the property. “XTO partnered with us and voluntarily waived their surface rights on the easement. Their participation literally made this possible,” Van Dyk added.

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