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Preventing Calf Stress And Illness

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AR ROUNDUP

Winter weather can be a significant stressor for cattle. (NDSU photo)

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Prevent Calf Stress, Illness

NDSU Extension offers tips for reducing stress and illness during fall weaning and backgrounding.

By NDSU Extension & Ag Research News

For ranchers on a fall weaning schedule, considering factors that impact calf health and wellbeing can help prevent calf loss, according to Dr. Gerald Stokka, North Dakota State University Extension veterinarian-livestock stewardship.

One factor is changing weather conditions. In the Northern Plains, cold rain, snow and mud can be a significant stressor to animal well-being.

"If inclement weather is forecast, the best choice is to not wean but to provide for extra feeding for both cow and calf during this time," says Dr. Stokka.

The weaning process itself can also be a stressor for calves. There are two parts to the weaning process: removal of the ability of the calf to nurse and separation of the calf from the cow. Calves at 7 to 8 months of age receive a limited amount of nutrition from nursing. The beef cow at this stage has reduced milking ability due to the length of the nursing phase and to a decrease in forage quality.

"Recognize that calves nursing the cow at this stage is simply a calf pacifier, actual separation is the stressor," says Dr. Stokka.

Fortunately, management of the cow herd can moderate stressors. Dr. Stokka suggests the following choices to uncomplicate the process of weaning and backgrounding:

Commingle the entire herd prior to weaning and feed cows and calves together.

Commingle calves in weaning pens that have not been raised together in the same pasture upsets the normal social structure and puts unfamiliar calves together in an unfamiliar environment. The most practical strategy is to feed cows and calves together in an environment that allows calves to learn feeding behavior from adult cows. The stress of commingling is reduced as new social structures are developed and a ration palatable to both cows and calves results in calves being more willing to eat than to nurse. Feeding calves this ration in the new confined weaning environment reduces unfamiliarity of the new environment.

Maintain some contact between calves and cows after separation.

Some producers reduce this separation anxiety by separating cows and calves over time. Separating cows and calves three times over a three-day period can help with this; however, most producers will not voluntarily choose this option due to time constraints. Keeping cows and calves separate but with nose-to-nose contact (fence line weaning) may reduce this stress as well.

Use vaccines that are necessary, effective, safe and recommended by your herd veterinarian.

Vaccination protocols do not define a health program, but are a tool used to reduce risk of catastrophic loss due to specific pathogen infections. Vaccine protocols should be based on risk of exposure, efficacy and safety of vaccines. Viral vaccines that contain IBR, BRSV and BVDV type 1 and 2 are commonly used in beef herds and have been demonstrated as being effective and safe when used in healthy calves.

There is less evidence that bacterial vaccines containing BRD pathogens are as effective. Many of these organisms reside naturally in pharyngeal (throat) regions of the animal and attempts to immunize animals to naturally occurring organisms appears to be somewhat equivocal. Consult with your veterinarian as to vaccine choices and protocols.

Spend time in the pens of newly weaned calves to familiarize calves and people to one another.

In spite of our best efforts at reducing stress some calves may become ill. Having people interact with weaned calves is important. Calves become familiar



Winter weather can be a significant stressor for cattle. (NDSU photo)

with that person and the person becomes familiar with the calves. Calves will display different behaviors. Some will allow close contact and some will respond by finding the limits of the pen. Persons involved with this interaction should move slowly, trying not to cause sudden movements, and avoid eye contact unless wanting animals to move. These interactions should result in the ability to move calves calmly and separate animals that need further attention.

Signs and symptoms of illness include animals not seeking feed, off by themselves, head down, ears drooping, nasal discharge and a sense that the calf is not well. Just one of these symptoms by itself is not a reason to separate and further examine the animal, but it may alert the caretaker to further observe the animal.

Treat calves with the appropriate treatment when observations result in a calf being separated and upon further examination needs a specific therapy approved by the herd veterinarian.

The number of animals in a pen also is a consideration as to symptoms of illness. The greater the number of animals the more difficult it can be to observe, find, and separate animals needing treatment. The ideal pen size has not been identified for weaning calves, however in the dairy business, calves will leave the hutch and commonly put in small groups of five head. Ideally, groups of 50 calves can be easily observed and identified for wellness. Group sizes over 100 head may complicate this observation process. In addition, sorting heifers and steers at weaning or shortly after weaning will remove steer-heifer interactions that occur.

If an animal is deemed ill and needing further examination, a restraint of some type is needed. Putting the animal into a squeeze chute allows for closer examination. Your veterinarian can help with defining rectal temperature considerations for treatment. Treatment with antibiotics for bacterial infections is indicated and again consult with your herd veterinarian to provide advice as to the appropriate antibiotic, route of administration, dose and withdrawal time.

For more information on weaning calves, NDSU Extension specialists have produced a backgrounding cattle video series, available at ndsu.ag/backgrounding.

Contact your local office of NDSU Extension to discuss the best management strategies for your area.

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Make It With Sugar Contest Winners



Candy winner Evie Karren with her prize from Cooks on Main.



Cakes and People's Choice winner Amariah Hier with her prizes from Barrett Pharmacy and Variety and The Market.



Breads & Rolls winner Anne Babb with her prize from Peifer's General Store.

1st place Cake: Peoples Choice: Amariah Hier, Lambert

Vanilla Chai Pumpkin Latte Cupcakes
Chai spice

4 tsp. ground cinnamon
2 tsp. ground ginger
1/2 tsp. mace
1/2 tsp. ground cloves
1/8 tsp. ground black pepper

1/3 c. granulated sugar

Pumpkin Chai Cupcakes

1/2 c. melted coconut oil
3/4 c. packed dark brown sugar

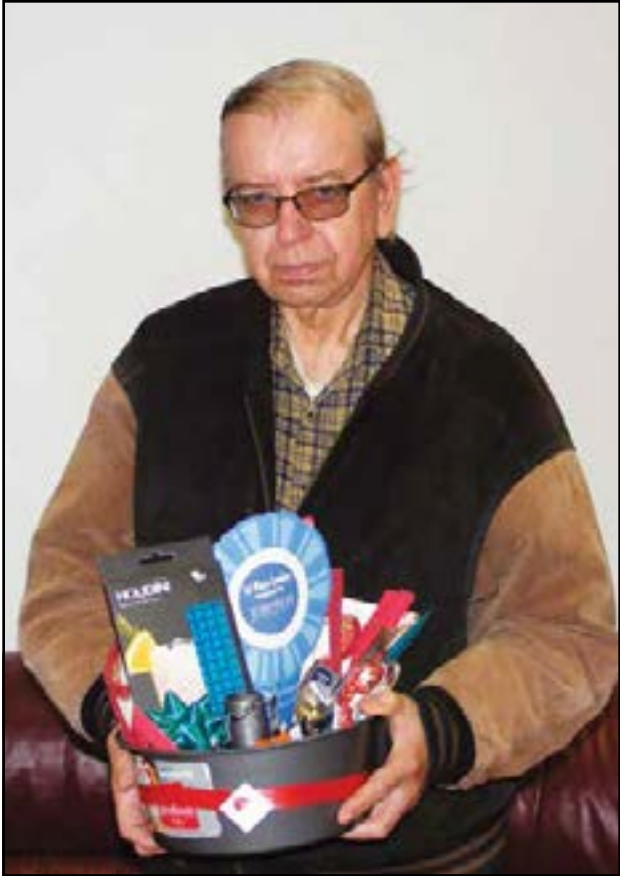
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 large eggs
1 1/2 c. pumpkin puree
1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1 1/4 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. baking soda
3/4 tsp. salt

Brown Sugar Frosting

8 tbsp. salted butter, at room temperature
1/4 c. heavy cream



Pies and Other winner Carli Karren with her prizes from Mimi's Kitchen and Larsen Service Drug.



Cookies winner Edwin Borg with his prize from Johnson Hardware and Furniture.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

1/2 c. packed dark brown sugar
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1 1/2 c. powdered sugar

Instructions

1. To make the chai spice, in a shallow bowl, combine the cinnamon, ginger, cardamon, nutmeg, all spice, cloves and pepper. Divide the mix in 1/2. Mix 1/2 of the spice blend with the granulated sugar and set aside for topping the cupcakes. Reserve the remaining chai spice blend for the cupcake batter.

2. To make the cupcakes. Preheat oven to 500°F. Line 16 cupcakes molds with paper liners.

3. In a bowl of stand mixer (or use a hand-held mixer) beat together the coconut oil, brown sugar, vanilla, eggs and pumpkin until combined. Add the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and remaining chai spice. Mix until smooth and no lumps remain in the batter.

4. Divide the batter evenly among the prepared pan. Transfer to the oven and bake 18-22 minutes, until the tops are just set, and no longer wiggly in the center. Remove and let cool.

5. To make the frosting, melt together 2 tbsp. butter, cream and brown sugar in a medium saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook for one minute or until the sugar has dissolved. Remove from the heat and add to the bowl of a stand mixer. Place the bowl in the freezer (or fridge for longer) or 18-20 minutes or until cool to touch.

6. Grab the cooled butter mixture from the freezer and add the remaining 6 tbsp. of butter, vanilla and powdered sugar to the bowl. Beat together until well combined.

7. Frost each cupcake and sprinkle with chai sugar. Add cinnamon sticks, if desired.

**1st Place-Pies-
Carli Karren-Savage
Cherry Pie**

4 c. frozen then thawed sour cherries
1 c. cherry juice from thawed cherries
1 c. sugar

1 tsp. almond extract
4 tbsp. flour

Directions:

12+ hours before making pie, pull out frozen cherries and place in a colander over a large bowl, thaw cherries completely and reserve 1 c. of cherry juice. (You can use the microwave to speed up this process if needed).

Prepare the filling by adding cherries to a large skillet pan with 1 c. sugar and almond extract. Stir and heat through. As those are heating, combine your reserved 1 c. of cherry juice and 4 tbsp. of flour. Mix well to make a "slurry". I like to use a shaker cup. Once cherries/sugar are bubbling and well heated, slowly add your well-combined slurry. Cook over medium heat until thickened (3-5 minutes).

Pour into prepared pie shell. Top pie as desired. I opened for a fall themed top crust this time.

Bake pie in 375° oven for about 35-45 minutes or until filling is bubbling out the top and looks thick.

**1st Place-Breads -
Anne Babb-Savage
Pull Aparts**

1 c. ice cream
1/2 c. butter
1/2 c. sugar
1/2 c. brown sugar
3 tubes buttermilk biscuits

1 c. sugar
2 tbsp. cinnamon
Butter a 9x13 pan.

Place ice cream, butter and sugars in bowl, microwave, just to boiling point, set aside. Put 1 c. sugar and cinnamon in a bag and shake. Place in pan. Pour ice cream mixture over top. Bake 20 minutes at 400°.

**1st Place-Other - Carli
Karren-Savage
Crispy Peanut Butter
Truffles**

Ingredients
2 c. peanut butter
1 lb. confectioners/powdered sugar
1 stick butter (1/2 c.)
2-3 c. Rice Krispies cereal

20 oz. chocolate (hard chocolate for dipping)

Directions:

Melt butter and combine with peanut butter, mix well or with an electric mixer. Add 1/2 c. powdered sugar at a time and mix well until a stiff dough forms. Pour in 1 c. rice krispies at a time and use up to 3 c. Mix with clean then "butter sprayed" hand or fold gently. At this point you can roll up into small balls and dip in chocolate or turn into Giant Peanut Butter Truffles. Using a silicone dome mold, pour melted chocolate into mold.

Scoop up along sides and edges. Freeze until solid. Add peanut butter truffle mixture to "domes". Gently press down. Cover the bottoms with melted chocolate. Once cooled, flip over and drizzle chocolate in a different color on top. to add a little more "wow" factor. Drizzle the two different colored chocolates on pieces of parchment paper. Break into pieces and "glue with chocolate" onto the truffle.

**1st Place, Candy -
Evie Karren**

**Homemade Buttermints
Ingredients:**

2 tbsp. butter
1 c. powdered sugar
1/2 tsp. milk
1/8 tsp. vanilla extract
1/8 tsp. peppermint extract

A little bit of salt
Food coloring of choice

Directions:

Add the softened butter

to the bowl of a stand mixer and beat with the paddle attachment until smooth and creamy.

Add the powdered sugar, milk, vanilla, peppermint and salt to the bowl. Beat to combine.

If adding food coloring, divide the dough into sections and wrap each section in plastic wrap to keep it from drying out.

Place one portion on a surface dusted with powdered sugar. Add 1 to 2 drops of food coloring and work the coloring into the dough. Make sure to wear plastic gloves to keep the food coloring from staining your hands.

After coloring is fully incorporated, roll out the dough into a long rope and cut one-inch pieces with a knife.

Transfer the pieces to a parchment paper-lined baking sheet and allow them to sit at room temperature

overnight to dry out.

Repeat the process with each color until the dough has been used.

Once mints are dry, store in an airtight container.

Yield: 25 butter mints.
Prep time: 15-25 minutes:
Dry time: 12-24 hour.

**1st Place, Cookies- Edwin
Borg**

Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 c. margarine
3/4 c. brown sugar
1 1/2 c. sugar
3 eggs
3 tsp. vanilla
3 c. flour
1 1/2 tsp. soda
1 1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/2 c. chocolate chips

Cream the margarine and sugars. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Add vanilla and dry ingredients, then chocolate chips. Bake 7-8 minutes at 350°.

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MSU Richland County Extension Winter Series Begins Dec. 19

**By Marley Manoukian, MSU
Richland County Extension Agent**

The MSU Richland County Extension Office is hosting a series of educational workshops throughout the winter months. The first installment of the Winter Series will be on Monday, Dec. 19 beginning at 1 p.m. in the Richland County Extension Office meeting room, 1499 N Central Ave., Sidney.

Dr. Sam Wyffels, MSU Extension beef specialist, will be covering Beef Cattle Nutrient Requirements & Supplementation – 3rd Trimester Through Breeding. For an April 1 calving date, the third trimester of gestation will be beginning on Dec. 29, based on a 283-day gestation. As a cow enters her third trimester, the fetal calf growth will increase exponentially, and because of this growth, rumen capacity will be reduced. When the cow calves and begins lactating in the spring, nutrient requirements will be at the highest of the production cycle. Join us at the December Winter Series to discuss these changes in nutrient requirements.

Dr. Hayes Goosey, MSU Extension forage specialist, will be discussing Nitrates & Cropping Options. There are many factors that affect nitrate levels in our forages and high nitrate levels can be detrimental to your livestock. If you have had nitrate issues in the past or are curious about cropping options for nitrates, join us for this conversation.

Future Winter Series topics and dates are forthcoming. Please contact the MSU Richland County Extension Office at 406-433-1206 or marley.manoukian@montana.edu for more information. We hope to see you on Dec. 19!

Farm Bureau Applauds Bipartisan Effort To Keep Economy Moving

Submitted by Rebecca Colnar, Ag NewsWire

Bozeman, MT - The Montana Farm Bureau expresses gratitude for the bi-partisan effort by Congress to avert a disastrous rail strike. More than 2,000 Farm Bureau members nationwide submitted comments to their Congressional delegations, voicing strong concerns about how a rail strike would harm the economy across the country.

"The strike would have been devastating to farmers," said MFBF President Cyndi Johnson, Conrad grain farmer. "The disruptions in this critical rail service would have had ripple effects that would have hurt farmers and our buyers. Many grain buyers, who purchase millions of bushels of grain from Montana, would have been stymied, thus negatively affecting the entire economy of our state. We are thankful our elected officials were able to prevent that from happening."

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall added, "AFBF applauds Congress and President Biden for working together to avert a rail strike. High diesel prices, a truck driver shortage, and low water levels on the Mississippi River have already made shipping conditions difficult. A rail strike would have had a devastating effect on the American economy, especially as families grapple with higher prices caused by inflation."

"Farmers rely on trains to transport food and feed, and they also depend on the rails to bring important supplies like fertilizer back to the farm, which is why AFBF urged Congress and the president to find a solution to the rail worker impasse," Duvall said. "Their bipartisan efforts will help ensure farmers can continue delivering food from their farms to families across the country."

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2022 Hard Red Spring Wheat, Durum & Barley-Oat-Rye Variety Trial Results Now Available



The data in the selection guides comes from variety trials conducted across the state by NDSU Research Extension Centers and main station breeding and agronomy programs. (NDSU photo)

By NDSU Extension & Ag Research News

The guides are an important source of information for farmers and agronomists looking for data on variety performance.

The 2022 North Dakota State University variety trial results and selection guides for hard red spring wheat (A574), durum (A1067) and barley-oat-rye (A1049) are now available online. They can all be accessed at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/varietytrials/variety-trial-results>.

"These guides are an important source of information for farmers and agronomists looking for data on variety performance across the state," says Clair Keene, NDSU Extension agronomist for small grains and corn.

Printed copies can be obtained from NDSU Extension county offices or NDSU Research Extension Centers.

The data in the selection guides comes from variety trials conducted across the state by the Research Extension Centers and main station breeding and agronomy programs. Trials are open to private companies wishing to enter their lines and represent a cross section of what is currently available in the marketplace.

"Farmers are encouraged to consult these guides as unbiased sources of information on performance with varieties from many different programs included," adds Keene.

A highlight of the hard red spring wheat guide is the second year of including scores of varieties using a Wheat Quality Index.

"The Wheat Quality Index is a weighted index of quality traits that reflects how our major spring wheat buyers value different aspects of wheat flour and dough performance," says Andrew Green, NDSU spring wheat breeder. "We hope growers will take a look at the Wheat Quality Index when making their variety selections and choose to include a portion of their crop that ranks consistently high in important quality metrics to maintain the premium product that our buyers expect."

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Buckshot Seeds Gains Gold Standard Seed Distributorship & Warehouse



Pictured from left, Michael Schaefer of Nuseed and Dan Story of Pivot Bio took the opportunity of having booths in close proximity to network while at the Gold Standard Seed Open House. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)

Submitted by Jaymi Mozeak

Bob Gannaway, Buckshot Seeds, and Mark Erickson were proud to have their open house for their Gold Standard Seed distributorship's new warehouse on Friday, Oct. 28.

Neither man is new to the area of seed sales. Gannaway and his wife, Teri, have served eastern Montana and western North Dakota through their business, Buckshot Seeds for 23 years with storefronts in Fairview, Glasgow, Wolf Point, and Sidney. He is a retired farmer, yet still keeps a few head of cattle. Erickson is the former district sales manager for REA Hybrids for the MonDak area. As a result, Gannaway and Erickson have had a long working relationship for about 20 years. When Gannaway decided he wanted to retire and enter into a distributorship it was only natural that he offered Erickson the opportunity to go in with him on it. Gannaway said, "Erickson's well-known and a good salesman." Erickson was thrilled with the opportunity. He said, "I'm not a fan of the big corporate structure. As district sales manager I felt I was getting too far from the customers. I like the networking that can happen when you speak to the customer face to face." He was already working with the people of the area and wanted to continue.

Gannaway, his wife Teri, Erickson, and his wife Sue started their Gold Standard Seed distributorship in 2021 but did not have much storage. They have still been able to serve customers throughout Montana because of it. Erickson said, "Montana is a sleeping giant, agriculturally, and there is a lot of potential here." When the old Hefty building on Hwy 16, south of Sidney became available they sprang on it. Gannaway is excited to have the warehouse and said, "I think the building will serve the area well when planting time comes around." For more information on their business and products, Bob "Buckshot" Gannaway can be reached at 701-570-1114 and Mark Erickson can be reached at 701-440-1621.



Owners of Buckshot Seeds, pictured from left, Teri Gannaway, Bob "Buckshot" Gannaway, Mark Erickson, and Sue Erickson are excited to branch into distributorship with Gold Standard Seed and to have their new warehouse. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)



Pictured from left, Jade Kessel, the current district sales manager for REA Hybrids, got to talk with Mark Erickson, the former district sales manager and current co-owner of Buckshot Seeds, during the Gold Standard Seed Open House, Oct. 28. (Photo by Jaymi Mozeak)

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NDSU Extension Offers Considerations For Backgrounding Calves

Keeping feed costs low, performance high and purchase cost affordable can make backgrounding a good opportunity this winter.



Consider feed costs and the price of calves when deciding to background calves. (NDSU photo)

By NDSU Extension & Ag Research News

Feed costs are always a concern for cattle producers, but 2022 to 2023 numbers have shown some of the highest feed costs in over a decade. In fact, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture feed price index, overall feed prices for feed, livestock and poultry are up 26.6% from September 2020 through September 2022.

“Feed costs are only part of the equation when it comes to backgrounding, however,” says Bryon Parmon, North Dakota State University Extension agriculture finance specialist. “The price of weaned calves and backgrounded calves are extremely important.”

The most recent USDA Agricultural Marketing Service North Dakota Weekly Auction Summary report showed a wide range in North Dakota calf prices. For example, 550- to 600-pound, medium and large #1 steer prices ranged from \$188 per hundredweight (cwt) to \$225/cwt with a \$198.64 average.

“So, from a backgrounding standpoint, it may be advantageous to consider the average and below-average priced steers to add value in a backgrounding program,” says Tim Petry, NDSU Extension livestock marketing specialist.

Heifer calf prices are discounted relative to their steer counterparts. The North Dakota Agricultural Marketing Service report showed 550- to 600-pound heifers averaging \$175.74/cwt, almost \$23/cwt less than steers. Heifers gain in price relative to steers with 850- to 900-pound heifers at close to the same value. Many heifers are backgrounded each year in North Dakota, and the budgets show that has potential again this year.

The feeder cattle futures market can be a guide for price expectations for backgrounded steers marketed in January through March. January feeder cattle futures currently are trading at \$179/cwt with March futures contracts at \$182/cwt.

Because the cattle market is volatile with all the fundamental factors affecting the market, Extension specialists encourage ranchers to consider price risk management strategies in calf backgrounding marketing plans.

“Not only are feed prices high, but with the rise in energy costs, interest,

	Weight Range	ADG	Days on Feed	Profit/Loss	\$/Day Profit
Steers	500-800	1.8	167	-\$2.26	-\$0.02
Steers	525-805	2.8	100	\$58.09	\$0.58
Steers	575-1,270	3.6	183	\$112.49	\$0.62
Heifers	450-756	1.8	170	\$22.22	\$0.13
Heifers	550-850	1.8	167	\$17.34	\$0.10
Heifers	525-805	2.8	90	\$98.75	\$1.09

Table showing profit per day for calves at different weights and targeted average daily gain (NDSU)

labor, hauling and repair fees, overhead costs have risen and can erode profits for cattle set to gain at slower rates,” says Parman. “For instance, with a yardage cost of 45¢ per day on top of interest accumulation, an animal in the yard for 100 days would incur an interest and yardage cost total of \$67.73, while an animal in the yard for 167 days would incur a cost of \$112.40. This explains much of the difference between the 1.8-pound average daily gain for steers and the 2.8-pound average daily gain scenario.”

According to NDSU Extension livestock systems specialist Karl Hoppe, lighter-weight calves gaining 1.8 pounds per day would need a 0.34 Mcal per pound net energy ration. Steers gaining 2.8 pounds per day need a need a 0.45 Mcal per pound net energy ration. To reach a 3.6-pound average daily gain, the final ration would require an average ration of 0.55 Mcal or better. If the calves are fed to finish, the final ration needs to be 0.62 Mcal or higher finishing ration during the final months on feed.

Ration cost per day increases as the energy density of the ration increases. Using diets consisting of grass hay, corn silage, corn grain and distiller gains, the cost per day is \$1.41 for 0.34 Mcal ration, \$1.76 for 0.45 Mcal ration and \$2.50 for 0.55 Mcal ration.”

Feed cost of gain provides more insight to efficiency than feed cost per day,” says Hoppe. “Feed cost per pound of gain is 78¢ for 1.8 pounds daily gain, 63¢ for 2.8 pounds daily gain and 69¢ for 3.6 pounds daily gain.”

While feed costs for energy are usually based on the corn grain price, local prices and cost vary.

“Keeping feed costs low, calf gain and feed conversion performance high, and purchase cost affordable, can make backgrounding an opportunity for the winter season of 2022-2023,” says Hoppe.

For more information on marketing, budgets, health and nutrition for backgrounding calves, NDSU Extension specialists have produced a backgrounding cattle video series, available at ndsuhq.org/backgrounding.

For more information, please contact your local NDSU county Extension agent.

Ag Summit Set for January

Montana Department Of Agriculture, Montana State University, Montana Agricultural Business Association & Montana Agricultural Business Foundation Announce Inaugural Montana AgTech Innovation & Investment Summit

Submitted by Logan Kruse

Department of Agriculture Communications Officer

Helena, MT - The Montana Department of Agriculture, Montana State University, Montana Agricultural Business Association, and Montana Agricultural Business Foundation announce the inaugural Montana AgTech Innovation and Investment Summit set for Jan. 24, 2023, in Great Falls.

The summit will bring together innovators, entrepreneurs, agriculture producers, agricultural industry product development professionals, and capital investors with the primary goal of moving agricultural technologies from concept stage to development stage, then into the hands of agriculture producers and their markets.

Join researchers, entrepreneurs, capital allocators, fund managers, industry executives, and public economic development leaders who unite to raise capital, negotiate deals, and lean into developing the burgeoning climate for Montana's growth in Ag Tech and Innovation. Opportunities include a speed pitch session, panel discussion from supporting venture capitalists and investor experts, discussions with Montana's Ag Influencers, and several slotted networking segments.

The speed pitch session consists of innovators and start-ups pitching their new and dynamic solution for 60 seconds from the event's main stage. Members of the audience will vote for the top two in each category. These audience selected winners will have the opportunity later in the event to pitch their solution to a panel of investor experts.

A call for presentations, sponsorship support, and attendance will be coming in the next few weeks. To request more information, please email mtagtechsummit@gmail.com or visit <https://www.mtagtechinvest.io>.

To learn more about the Montana AgTech Innovation and Investment Summit and view a tentative agenda, please visit <https://www.mtagtechinvest.io>.

The Montana Department of Agriculture is serving Montana Agriculture and growing prosperity under the Big Sky. For more information on department programs and services, visit agr.mt.gov.



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ASB Honors Former Community Leaders With Photo On Generator Wrap

Submitted by Debbie Richter,
AVP & Marketing Officer

Recently, American State Bank & Trust Company, Williston, installed a generator at its main bank on Main Street in Williston. With the large gray structure in place, current ASB&T owners and Board Members, Pat and Tammy (Davidson) Sogard, saw a blank canvas and took the opportunity to honor some community leaders from Williston's past and beautify an otherwise dull structure.

A classic photo of four longtime Williston friends on horseback in the grasslands of western North Dakota was turned into a vinyl wrap to cover the generator. Pictured on the wrap are former ASB&T owner and father of Tammy (Davidson) Sogard, Tom Davidson, Sr.; longtime Williston Public School Superintendent Leon Olson; Williston educator Norm Furuseth—who is also the father-in-law of ASB&T Board Member Laurie Furuseth; and, Dr. Dean Strinden, a longtime, highly respected family doctor in Williston. These four friends met daily for coffee in the Bank's employee breakroom for many years. While they have all passed away, they all left their mark on the community. The photo was taken in the mid-1980s.

The significance of the photo as part of ASB&T's history symbolizes the Bank providing services to local farmers and ranchers since 1906, and the Davidson family's ranch being in existence since 1908. Banking and ranching have been important components of the Davidson-Sogard family for more than 115 years. The men in the photo were strong supporters of western North Dakota and eastern Montana, who enjoyed each other's company in the ranch setting as well as in a professional setting.



Pictured with the wrapped generator are children of 3 of the 4 men pictured on horseback: Tammy (Davidson) Sogard, daughter of Tom Davidson, Sr, Lance Olson, son of Leon Olson; and, Pete Furuseth, son of Norm Furuseth. Although not available for the picture, Dr. Bill Strinden, son of Dr. Dean Strinden, said of his father being in the picture, "He would be so pleased to be pictured with his 3 good friends."



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18' head..... \$49,000



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