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**Inside This Edition:**

## **McKenzie County 4-H Continues Virtually Due To COVID-19**

Details on Page 10

Farm & ranch monthly magazine published by The Roundup  
PO Box 1207 • Sidney, MT 59270 | 406-433-3306 | [info@roundupweb.com](mailto:info@roundupweb.com)



# USDA Releases Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Payment Regulations

The CFAP provides financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a 5% or greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs.

**By NDSU Ag Communication**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has released regulations for direct payments under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP).

“CFAP provides vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a 5% or greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities,” says Ron Haugen, North Dakota State University Extension farm management specialist.

**Enrollment for the CFAP will start May 26.**

Farmers and ranchers will receive direct support from two funding sources. The first is \$9.5 billion in appropriated funding provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Stability (CARES) Act to compensate farmers for losses due to price declines that occurred between mid-January 2020 and mid-April 2020. It also provides support for specialty crops for product that had been shipped from the farm during the same time period but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channels.

The second funding source uses the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act to compensate producers for \$6.5 billion in losses due to ongoing market disruptions.

**Nonspecialty Crops and Wool**

Nonspecialty crops eligible for the CFAP payments include malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, durum wheat and hard red spring wheat. Wool also is eligible.

Producers will be paid based on inventory subject to price risk held as of Jan. 15, 2020. A payment will be made based on 50% of a producer’s 2019 total production or the 2019 inventory as of Jan. 15, 2020, whichever is smaller, multiplied by the commodity’s applicable payment rates. Payment rates for each commodity can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>.

**Livestock**

Livestock eligible for the CFAP include cattle, lambs and yearling sheep, and hogs. The total payment will be calculated using the sum of the producer’s number of livestock sold between Jan. 15 and April 15, 2020, multiplied by the payment rates per head, and the highest inventory number of livestock between April 16 and May 14, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate per head. Payment rates for various types of livestock can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>.

**Dairy**

For dairy, the total payment will be calculated based on a

producer’s certification of milk production for the first quarter of calendar year 2020 multiplied by a national price decline during the same quarter. The second part of the payment is based on a national adjustment to each producer’s production in the first quarter. Payment calculations can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>.

(continued on page 4)

Livestock Eligible for CFAP Payments				
Livestock	Eligible Livestock	Unit of Measure	CARES Act Part 1 Payment Rate	CCC Part 2 Payment Rate
Cattle	Feeder cattle: less than 600 pounds	Head	\$102	\$33
	Feeder cattle: 600 pounds or more	Head	\$139	\$33
	Slaughter cattle: fed cattle	Head	\$214	\$33
	Slaughter cattle: mature cattle	Head	\$92	\$33
	All other cattle	Head	\$102	\$33
Hogs and Pigs	Pigs: less than 120 pounds	Head	\$28	\$17
	Hogs: 120 pounds or more	Head	\$18	\$17
Lambs and Yearlings	All sheep less than 2 years old	Head	\$33	\$7

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Nonspecialty Crops Eligible for CFAP Payments			
Commodity	Unit of Measure	CARES Act Payment Rate	CCC Payment Rate
Barley (malting barley only)	bushel	\$0.34	\$0.37
Canola	pound	\$0.01	\$0.01
Corn	bushel	\$0.32	\$0.35
Upland cotton	pound	\$0.09	\$0.10
Millet	bushel	\$0.31	\$0.34
Oats	bushel	\$0.15	\$0.17
Sorghum	bushel	\$0.30	\$0.32
Soybeans	bushel	\$0.45	\$0.50
Sunflowers	pound	\$0.02	\$0.02
Wheat, durum	bushel	\$0.19	\$0.20
Wheat, hard red spring	bushel	\$0.18	\$0.20

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

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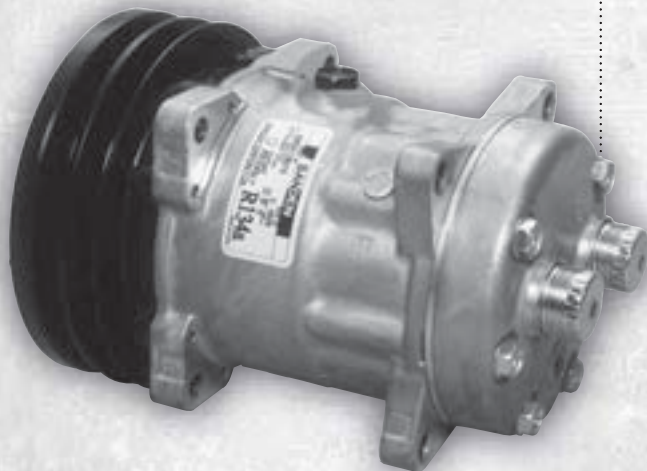




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## USDA Food Assistance...

(continued from page 2)

### Specialty Crops

For eligible specialty crops, the total payment will be based on the volume of production sold between Jan. 15 and April 15, 2020. That is the volume of production shipped, but unpaid, and the number of acres for which harvested production did not leave the farm or mature product was destroyed or not harvested during that same time period, and which has not and will not be sold.

Specialty crops include almonds, beans, broccoli, sweet corn, lemons, iceberg lettuce, spinach, squash, strawberries and tomatoes. A full list of eligible crops can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>. Additional crops may be deemed eligible at a later date.

### Eligibility

Payments are limited to \$250,000 per person or entity for all commodities combined. Applicants who are corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships may qualify for additional payment limits in situations in which members actively provide personal labor or personal management for the farming operation.

Producers also will have to certify they meet the adjusted gross income limitation of \$900,000 unless at least 75% of their income is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities. Producers must be in compliance with Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation program provisions.

### Applying for Assistance

Producers can apply for assistance beginning May 26, 2020. Additional information and application forms can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>. Producers of all eligible commodities must apply through their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office.

Documentation to support the producer's application and certification may be requested. FSA has streamlined the signup process so it does not require an acreage report at the time of application. Applications will be accepted through Aug. 28, 2020.

### Payments

The \$125,000 per commodity limit is eliminated but keeps the \$250,000 per recipient limit on payments. The USDA will pay out only 80% of the maximum direct payment initially, reserving the remaining 20% in case funding is used up. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date as funds remain available.

Contact your local FSA office for more information. Information also can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus>.



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# Options Available For Pasture Weed Control

## NDSU Extension Offers Recommendations For Weed Control In Pastures

By NDSU Ag Communication

Yellow patches of leafy spurge are beginning to pop up in road ditches across North Dakota.

"Leafy spurge is the most recognized noxious weed in the state, infesting approximately 750,000 acres," says Miranda Meehan, North Dakota State University Extension's livestock environmental stewardship specialist.

"Canada thistle tops the state at over 800,000 acres, with absinth wormwood the third most common at over 600,000 acres," she adds. "These species are the most common noxious weeds found on rangeland and pastures across the state."

Ranchers and county weed boards throughout the state work tirelessly during the summer to control these weeds.

"A number of methods of control are available, including chemical and biological control," says Kevin Sedivec, NDSU Extension rangeland management specialist. "The right option for you will depend on your location and management goals."

Here are some suggestions from the Extension specialists:

### Leafy Spurge

Successful chemical control of leafy spurge is dependent on the proper timing of the application and the herbicide used. Leafy spurge is most susceptible to chemicals when in the true flower stage, or when it is in bloom and seeds are developing, typically in mid-June, or when the stems develop regrowth in early to mid-September.

A number of chemicals can control leafy spurge effectively, but none can eliminate it on rangeland, pasture, Conservation Reserve Program land and roadsides. The best chemical options include Tordon (picloram), Tordon plus 2,4-D and Plateau (imazapic - fall application only).

The most effective treatment based on research conducted at NDSU is a combination of Tordon plus Plateau plus 2,4-D plus MSO adjuvant applied when plants are in the true flower stage (in mid to late June). The combination of Facet L plus Overdrive plus MSO adjuvant also has proven to be an effective chemical combination for leafy spurge control, and it can be used near trees and in areas with sandy soils/high water tables. Refer to the "North Dakota Weed Control Guide" (<https://tinyurl.com/NDWeedControlGuide-2020>) for recommended rates and guidelines.

Grazing with sheep or goats is the best biological control for leafy spurge because cattle's use of leafy spurge is limited. However, livestock that graze on leafy spurge often experience photosensitivity due to the chemicals in the plant.

Flea beetles are another effective biological control option for leafy spurge; however, they are not well adapted for sites with sandy soil conditions.

### Canada Thistle

Chemical application offers the greatest control of Canada thistle. Chemicals are most effective when applied at the early bud stage in early summer or at the rosette stage in the fall. Chemicals recommended for use in rangeland and pasture include Tordon (picloram), Banvil (dicamba), dicamba plus diflufenzopyr (Overdrive), Milestone (aminopyralid) and Curtail (clopyralid).

Two new herbicide treatments are Grazonnext HL (Triisopropanolammonium plus aminopyralid plus 2,4-D) and DuraCor (florpyrauxifen-benzyl plus aminopyralid). Both show excellent control of Canada thistle plus other common weeds.

Livestock will graze Canada thistle when it is in the rosette stage but have not been shown to be an effective biocontrol method. Other biocontrol methods that have not been successful are the introduction of a gall-producing fly, a weevil and the painted lady butterfly.

### Absinth Wormwood

At this time, chemical control is the only option available to treat absinth wormwood. Herbicides should be applied when the plant is 1 foot tall and actively growing. Application early in the growing season typically results in poor control.

Herbicides are recommended to control absinth wormwood. They include clopyralid (Stinger, Transline or Curtail), dicamba, Milestone, 2,4-D, Tordon and Roundup (glyphosate). Grazonnext HL and DuraCor also provide control of absinth wormwood.

"Whenever using a herbicide, always read and follow the label directions," Sedivec advises. "Roundup is a nonselective herbicide and will damage or kill all vegetation on which it's applied."

For more information on weed control, consult the "2020 North Dakota Weed Control Guide," which is available at NDSU Extension's county offices or online.

Leafy spurge is the most recognized noxious weed in North Dakota. (NDSU photo)





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- JD model A Tractor (for parts)
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- Intl. 28' Tandem Disc
- Summers 30' Harrow (looks new)
- 20' pull-type Harrow
- Prasco 40' Air Seeder
- Bourgault 40' Roller
- JD 15' no-till Drill, model 750
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- JD 7721 pull-type Combine w/pickup header (for parts)

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- Anderson Hybrid X Plastic Hay Roller
- Vermeer BPX9000 Bale Processor
- JD 200 Hay Loader
- Frontier Bale Spear (for JD Loader)
- Frontier Forks (for JD Loader)
- 3pt. 2-bale Hauler, heavy duty
- JD 3 pt. 709 Mower
- Intl. pull-type Sickle Mower, PTO
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- Sakundiak HD7-1400 PTO Auger
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- 1982 Dually Pickup, 454 engine, 4x4, manual
- 1970 Chevy Truck w/ 16' box & hoist
- 1961 Chevy Viking Truck w/15' box & hoist
- 1982 Kiefer 20' gooseneck Stock Trailer
- 1970 Peerless Belly Dump Trailer
- Road King 36' Gooseneck Tandem Dually Flatbed Trailer w/ 4' beavertail & fold-over ramps
- Semi-Van Trailer converted into a Bunkhouse
- Kawasaki Mule 4010
- Kawasaki Mule 610 (does not run)
- Kawasaki Bayou 4x4 ATV
- Kawasaki Bull 220 ATV



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- Killbros 500 gravity Wagon w/2 compartments & 2 Augers
- Rupp Hydraulic Calf Table
- Hi Hog Cow Chute w/digital scale
- Loading Cattle Chute (old)
- (1) Bextra Heavy Duty Bale Feeders w/tops
- (12) Tire Feeders
- JD 400 Grinder/Mixer
- Dual Manure Spreader
- Cattle Guards
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**AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:** Nearly all the equipment has been kept inside and many have very low hours. Arne took great pride in talking care of his machinery. This is a sale you will not want to miss! See you on June 13th. ~Rick

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# Water Quality Can Impact Livestock Production

## Good-Quality Water Can Have A Major Impact On Cattle's Intake And Weight Gain



Providing good-quality water can improve herd health. (NDSU photo)

### By NDSU Ag Communication

Providing adequate water to livestock is critical for animal health and production.

“Good-quality water can have a major impact on your cattle’s intake and weight gain,” says Miranda Meehan, North Dakota State University Extension livestock environmental stewardship specialist.

Canadian studies have shown the quality of water accessible to livestock is directly tied to the amount of forage they consume. Studies report improved gains by as much as 0.24 pound per day in yearlings and 0.33 pound per day in calves receiving good-quality water.

Providing good-quality water also can improve herd health. Livestock whose primary water sources are ponds and dugouts have a greater risk of contracting illnesses such as giardia, leptospirosis and cyanobacterial poisoning, compared with livestock drinking from a trough.

“Water quality can vary depending on the source,” says Tom Scherer, NDSU Extension agricultural engineer. “Groundwater tends to be of higher quality than surface water; however, some aquifers in North Dakota have naturally high levels of potentially toxic salts such as sulfate due to geology.

“Weather also can influence water quality,” he adds. “When runoff is low in the spring or during a drought, the salts in surface water become more concentrated as water levels decline and can reach levels that can be toxic.”

All natural water contains dissolved minerals (often called salts). The concentration of the total dissolved solids (TDS) is measured in parts per million (ppm). For most classes of grazing livestock, the TDS in the water should be less than 5,000 ppm.

Sulfate is part of the TDS. The recommended concentration should be less than 500 ppm for calves and less than 1,000 ppm for adult cattle. High levels of sulfate can reduce copper availability in the diet. Elevated levels of sulfates may cause loose stool, whereas very high levels of sulfate can induce central nervous system problems.

If a water test indicates that the TDS are greater than 5,000 ppm or the sulfate concentration is greater than 1,000 ppm, producers may have to find an alternative water source or find some way to blend a better-quality water with the poorer-quality water to reduce the concentration of TDS or sulfate.

Water with elevated nutrient levels also are at a higher risk for blue-green algae blooms in periods of hot, dry weather. Some species of blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) contain toxins that can be deadly when livestock and wildlife consume them.

“Monitoring water quality throughout the grazing season is important because it changes in response to climate and environmental conditions,” Meehan says.

To document this variability and help livestock producers identify potential water quality concerns, Meehan and Scherer are working with 23 Extension agents across North Dakota to monitor livestock water quality.

Installing a water development project can help ensure that livestock have access to good-quality water throughout the grazing season, the specialists say.

In addition to benefiting animal health and performance, installing water development projects can:

- Increase flexibility in producers’ management systems
- Increase grazeable acreage and extend the grazing season
- Allow producers to utilize crop residues and cover crops for forage
- Improve grazing distribution

Common water development projects include troughs, pumps, wells and pipelines. Through time, these improvements, combined with appropriate management, have the potential to increase the carrying capacity of a producer’s operation, allowing for an increase in herd size and/or increased drought resistance with stockpiled forages, the specialists say.

For more information on livestock water quality issues or guidance on monitoring livestock water quality, visit <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/livestockextension/> water and/or contact your local Extension agent.



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# McKenzie County 4-H Continues Virtually Due To COVID-19



Brylee and Myah Jenks, members of Banks Willing Workers 4-H Club, with their chickens. (Submitted photo)

**By Anna Dragseth**

In the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic, staying active as an organization is difficult, but the McKenzie County Extension Office has implemented ways to keep the 4-H fair time experience alive. By implementing a virtual 4-H market animal sale and hoping for a 4-H Achievement Day at a later date, the McKenzie County Extension staff believe this will help provide a fun 4-H experience for 4-H members while still following CDC guidelines.

Due to the 2020 McKenzie County Fair being canceled, there will be a virtual sale of the 4-H market animals on Friday, June 19. Devan Leo, McKenzie County Agriculture, and Natural Resources Extension Agent said, "There has been a lot of bustle around the livestock sale and decisions to make it all come together. On Wednesday, May 13, we had a short meeting with the 4-H Livestock Committee

to discuss the finite details, and we concluded that the livestock sale would be conducted virtually; this format will be run through an online auctioneer platform provided by Rex Korslein. There will be no livestock weigh-ins due to the amount of work and coordination it will take for all parties involved, due to the COVID-19 restrictions."

Leo explained that if the McKenzie County 4-H group were to have a weigh-in, they would have to have it scheduled through many days and have only one family through at a time. "After each family, we would've then had to disinfect every touched surface and rotate individuals out to limit their exposure to so many people throughout the scheduled days. Our committee decided against doing a weigh-in and will sell livestock by the head rather than by the pound," said Leo.

In addition to a virtual 4-H livestock sale, showmanship and project completion





Wyatt and Will Wisness, members of Banks Willing Workers 4-H Club, Bottle Feeding their Calves. (Submitted photo)



Brylee and Myah Jenks, members of Banks Willing Workers 4-H Club, with their goats. (Submitted photo)

will also be conducted virtually. There will be a McKenzie County 4-H Project Expo/Communication Arts Event via video submission - videos will be due for submission on Friday, May 29.

This year the McKenzie County 4-H is hoping to schedule a 4-H Achievement Day, but the possibility of having this event will be dependent on how things progress with CDC regulations and COVID-19. Marcia Hellandsaas, McKenzie County Family and Community Wellness Extension Agent, said, "For Static Exhibits, we will hope to have a 4-H Achievement Day in August. If our directives stay as they are, this will not be possible. So, we are really in a wait and see mode right now. We are quite restricted as to our contact with the public at this point."

While 4-H meetings and group activities are canceled, 4-H members can still receive hands-on, educational activities, including the latest 4-H at Home Activity Guide and 4-H curriculum to help inspire members to do, learn, and grow, by visiting the [www.4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home](http://www.4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home).


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## Montana Farmers Union, With Farmers Union Enterprise, Donates 30,000 Pounds Of Pork To The Montana Food Bank Network



Montana Farmers Union President Walter Schweitzer presents a donation of 30,000 pounds of pork ribs to the Montana Food Bank Network in Missoula, MT courtesy of Montana Farmers Union and Farmers Union Enterprise.

**Submitted by Stacy Wirtz**

Great Falls, MT- Montana Farmers Union and Farmers Union Enterprise donated 30,000 pounds of pork ribs to the Montana Food Bank Network in Missoula Monday. The pork ribs are from Redwood Farms, one of the entities in the Farmers Union family of businesses owned by Farmers Union Enterprises.

“COVID-19 has impacted all of us, said Walter Schweitzer, President of Montana Farmers Union. “It has affected our livelihoods and our food systems. Farmers Union is all about helping a neighbor in need. This donation came from your neighbors who are family farmers. They care about you and they want to feed you.”

“The donation itself is really a perfect time for us,” said Gayle Carlson, CEO of the Montana Food Bank Network. “Right now we are struggling to get deliveries and resources in a timely enough manner for us. This kind of high level protein which is going to be awesome for families, but the fact that we can get this right now when we have to wait up to three months for a lot of deliveries, this is fantastic.”

Farmers Union Enterprises is made up of several businesses — owned equally by the state Farmers Union organizations in North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Farmers Union Enterprises donated 150,000 pounds of pork ribs to various food pantries in the five states it supports. Redwood Farms supplies premium pork products to high-end restaurants in New York, Chicago and other cities across the U.S.





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# Practice Cattle and People Health Management at Turnout Time

## By NDSU Ag Communication

Spring turnout to the pasture is a good time for producers to review their cow-calf health management plans, according to North Dakota State University Extension livestock experts.

They note that a number of factors can impact cow-calf health, including slow grass growth and moisture conditions that may delay grazing readiness and result in prolonged feeding. Other factors are cooler, wet conditions that create a variety of challenges for young livestock, particularly for those in dry lots or areas with high concentrations of livestock.

“The passive transfer of immunity from the dam is dependent on the availability of high-quality colostrum containing adequate levels of antibodies, as well as protein, energy, vitamins and minerals,” says Janna Block, Extension livestock systems specialist at NDSU’s Hettinger Research Extension Center. “Environmental stress at the time of birth, combined with low-quality feedstuffs, may have reduced the quality and quantity of colostrum available to newborn calves.”

Colostrum is a form of milk that cows produce in late pregnancy. It contains energy, protein, fat, vitamins and antibodies to protect newborns against disease until their own immune system is functional.

The environmental and feed quality issues related to colostrum, nursing and passive transfer of immunity create an increased risk for bacteria and other pathogens that can cause scours and other health conditions even beyond the first few months of life.

### Vaccinations Important for Herd Health

“In addition to managing current health problems, producers need to start thinking forward to health insurance programs for nursing calves on pasture,” says Gerald Stokka, Extension veterinarian and livestock stewardship specialist. “For spring-calving herds, branding or turnout time is a good opportunity to protect the calf through the summer grazing period with appropriate management. One of the important components of the health insurance plan is vaccinations.”

Risks to calves include respiratory diseases (summer pneumonia), clostridial diseases, pinkeye and foot rot. Stokka encourages producers to work with their veterinarian to evaluate which vaccines to use based on three principles:

- Are vaccines necessary? Is the risk of the disease significant?
- Are vaccines effective? Does evidence show that the vaccines work under field conditions?
- Are vaccines safe to use? When used according to label recommendations, the risk of systemic and local tissue reactions is limited.

Veterinarians generally recommend administering a five-way modified live-virus vaccine to calves at turnout time. This vaccine usually includes protection against infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), PI3, bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) and bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV).

The principle is to provide some protection during the nursing phase and also to begin the immunization of not only individuals but groups of animals to build herd immunity. While the immune response in young animals is somewhat limited, this initial or primary dose provides immune system memory for a booster dose to be administered prior to or at weaning.

Vaccination for calves against BVDV at turnout may not be necessary in operations that have biosecurity procedures and practice annual cow herd vaccination for BVDV. Instead, producers may consider using a modified live-virus intranasal vaccine to combat infectious IBR, PI 3 and BRSV, or a simple subcutaneously administered three-way modified live-virus vaccine.

Here are the specialists’ assessments of other vaccines:

- The use of vaccines to reduce the risk of Mannheimia hemolytica and Pasteurella multocida is common. Protection against these bacteria often is included in combination with five-way modified live-virus vaccines.

- An inexpensive, effective vaccine is available against the clostridial family of diseases more commonly called “blackleg.” This vaccine commonly is called a seven-way, indicating protection against seven different species of clostridial bacteria and toxoids in the vaccine.

- Pinkeye vaccines are available in the commercial market, and the opportunity to create a herd-specific autogenous vaccine is available. However, evidence of their efficacy is lacking. Fly control, rotational grazing, early treatment and separating infected animals from the rest of the herd help reduce the spread of pinkeye. Foot rot vaccines have been shown to have approximately 50% efficacy in reducing foot rot disease. However, pinkeye and foot rot vaccines require at least two doses to produce some level of protection.

- Dewormers may be necessary in some grazing situations; however, dewormers administered prior to the grazing season will offer little benefit for internal parasite control. Some fly control is achieved with the avermectin products through the control of larvae developing in manure patties. But do not use avermectins strictly for fly control because resistance will develop rapidly.

“When using inactivated vaccines to prevent respiratory disease, consult with your veterinarian as to their effectiveness and whether booster doses will be necessary,” Stokka advises.

The specialists caution that many products on the market claim to boost the immune system or promote gut health. However, few of these products have been evaluated in a research setting,

and producers should consult with their veterinarian about using the products.

### Reduce Stress

Good stewardship also applies to calf processing procedures and reducing stress on the animals and people, the specialists say. They recommend producers:

- Make sure vaccine delivery instruments are in good repair, don’t leak and deliver the right amount.
- Provide ways, such as vaccine coolers, to keep vaccines at the proper temperature.
- Make sure they have enough needles to allow for frequent changes, and if using intranasal vaccines, have an adequate supply of intranasal cannulas to change for every calf or at least every five calves.
- Walk through the handling facilities before working cattle, and repair breaks, brace weak spots and make changes if cattle flow is less than expected.
- Change handling procedures if hollering, screaming, hand waving and running to move cattle and people are part of their normal working procedures.

### Protect People, Too

Providing protection for people during this working season also is very important. Working cows and calves requires a specific number of people to do the job efficiently, quietly and carefully.

Due to some risk of virus transmission from person to person, limit the number of individuals to only those who are necessary to perform the work. Inform others who like to show up for social reasons that this year is different, and if someone has been ill, that person should stay away from this year’s calf processing event. Visit <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/farmsafety/covid-19> for additional guidance.

“With challenges experienced this spring, now is a good time to evaluate current vaccination and herd health management protocols and adjust if necessary,” Stokka says. “Developing strategies to improve calf health during the grazing season is key in ensuring desired performance and preparing the calf’s immune system for weaning. It also is important for producers to keep in mind additional challenges this spring to complete these tasks while ensuring that everyone stays safe and healthy.”

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