



In the KNOW

– A publication of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association March 6-March 20

National Issues:

Foreign Animal Diseases - The Canadian Food Inspection Agency said Friday the most recent case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was found during routine screening. The 6 1/2-year-old cow was in Alberta, Canada.

BSE, which causes a fatal degeneration of the brain, is believed to be carried by a form of complex protein known as a prion. KCA is concerned that BSE continues to spread through Canada even after the feed ban was put in place. Moreover, Canadian cattle continue to be imported into the United States as the threat of this foreign disease lingers.

HSUS - The Humane Society of the United States is attacking the Ohio and Nebraska agriculture industries. Kansas has been spared at this time, but in part this is to the fact that Kansas does not have ballot initiatives. Kansas Cattlemen have repeatedly and tirelessly worked to promote animal welfare and animal health. As a cattleman, KCA encourages you to talk with people in your community about how you are taking care of your animals. Call your legislators and let them know how important animal welfare and production agriculture is to you and your community.

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently reviewed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards of the Clean Air Act. The EPA maintains that its concern is dust in urban areas. However, regulating dust could devastate farmers and ranchers. What would happen if driving down a dirt road (hauling cattle) could get you fined? KCA has contacted the EPA and will continue to protect your interests.

State Issues:

EPA Testimony - On Thursday, March 10th, Josh Svaty Senior Adviser for Region 7 of the EPA gave testimony before the House Agriculture Committee on several issues. Svaty covered a broad range of topics including EPA's statutory authorities and requirements granted by Congress, particulate matter (dust), ozone, interaction with states and delegated programs, and air monitoring.

Bioscience Authority - In recent weeks, there have been a series of Senate committee hearings (Senate Commerce Committee) regarding the financial and personnel management decisions of the Kansas Bioscience Authority, the publicly funded group that is

responsible for advancing Kansas' leadership in bioscience.

Flint Hills Burning – There is a new regulation in support of the State of Kansas Flint Hills Smoke Management Plan (SMP) that was formally adopted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). Burning that will continue to be allowed in these counties during April include agricultural burning related to the management of prairie or grasslands (range or pasture management) and conservation reserve program (CRP) burning activities. Restricted activities include burning of materials such as land clearing debris, crop residues, construction debris, fire fighter training burns, and yard waste.

The 13 Flint Hills counties impacted by this are Riley, Pottawatomie, Geary, Wabaunsee, Morris, Lyon, Chase, Marion, Butler, Greenwood, Elk, Cowley and Chautauqua.

You can find the Smoke Management Plan on the KCA website at www.kansascattlemen.com

Where's KCA?

K-State Cattlemen's Day – March 4th, KCA was at Kansas State University Cattlemen's Day. Hundreds stopped by the KCA booth to discuss topics such as "What is KCA", "What can KCA do for me", COOL, and basic industry issues. Kelsey was very excited to meet some of the membership as well as get to visit with potential new members. There were 12 students who signed up for KCA membership, which puts us one step closer to getting younger membership invited into KCA.

Meetings – Last week, KCA hosted two county meetings, one in El Dorado and one in Winfield. The topic of discussion was the Animal Disease Traceability Program and what might be coming ahead. Kansas Animal Health Department representative Kendra Riley was the guest speaker. These meetings provided information to cattlemen and allowed producers to provide their feedback to the Kansas Cattlemen's Association. We want to hear what you think, so keep your comments coming.

Dodge City - The Kansas Cattlemen's Association was in Dodge City for the Cowboy Capital Ag Expo and Trade Show at the Boot Hill Casino and Resort; the event was hosted by Winter Livestock. Markets were the discussion for the day. Cattle Fax provided a market outlook, and Schwieterman Inc. addressed ag products and energy markets. KCA had the opportunity to address the crowd and visit with a number of cattlemen in the area.

Upcoming Events:

March 19th - The Linn County Chapter of Americans for Prosperity-Kansas is hosting a grassroots training session in Mound City on Saturday, March 19. Kansas Cattlemen's Association Board Member Paul Acton will be speaking about "Big Brother and Your Food." The event will start at 1:00 p.m. on March 19 at the Bunker Hill Community Building.

April 9th -The Kansas Cattlemen's Association Spring Production Seminar & Trade Show will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka, KS located at 1717 SW Topeka Blvd; call (785) 431-7200 for hotel reservations and don't forget to tell them you're with the Kansas Cattlemen's Association to take advantage of the block of rooms reserved at a special reduced rate of \$79.00 + tax. Cost for the daylong event is \$100 and includes both the luncheon and the evening banquet along with all of the sessions.

You can pre-register for the Spring Seminar by calling the KCA office at 785-238-1483.

- 8:00 - Trade Show Opens
- 9:00 – Market Update
- 10:00 - Dr. Larry Hollis: Trich and TB
- 11:00 - Cattle Liver Flukes
- 12:00 - Luncheon/ Speaker: Marvin Kohlmeier/Fundraiser Auction
- 2:00 - 5:00 - Dr. Tom Noffsinger: Cattle Enhancement/Handling/ Preparing for Pasture
- 5:00 - Social Hour
- 6:00 - Banquet/ Key Note Speaker: Secretary of State Kris Kobach

Markets:

Prices for cattle hit record highs Wednesday (March 9), setting the stage for more spikes at supermarkets.

Wholesale beef-product prices are 25 to 30 percent ahead of last year. Retail prices have lagged as supermarkets have been reluctant to dampen demand, but prices for beef rose by as much as 10 percent for hamburger and 6% for all meat products in 2010.

Continued strong demand for exports and shrinking U.S. supplies have fueled increases on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Live cattle, the 1,300-pound animals ready for slaughter, were up \$2.97 per hundredweight to \$117 for April delivery. Feeder cattle, those that are putting on 600 to 800 pounds in the final months of fattening, gained \$1.50 per hundredweight to \$136.22. desmoinesregister.com)

In the know is a publication of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association. You can reach us by calling 785-238-1483

Nonprofit
Organization U.S.
Postage Paid
Manhattan, KS
66502
Permit #315

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