World Trade and U.S. Congress Attack COOL

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has ruled against Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), enabling Canada and Mexico to continue the process intended to seek restitution for claimed damages against the US, stemming from its implementation of the law. Most recently, Canada has requested authorization to retaliate, seeking \$3 Billion in retaliatory measures against US exports to Canada. The Kansas Cattlemen's Association remains committed to COOL and the success of the independent cattle producer.

This ruling by the WTO challenges the sovereignty of our nation and our rights as producers and consumers to assert and be educated on the origin of our food in the United States. KCA remains focused on maintaining balanced and fair trade policies, including the consumer's right to know the country of origin of the food they purchase for consumption.

KCA requested the U.S. Congress and the Administration proceed with caution in response to the WTO ruling. KCA argued that moving swiftly, as mongered by the multi-national meat packing lobbies, merely leads to unqualified, emotional decisions. Following the ruling, the US House of Representatives Ag Committee passed a bill to repeal COOL. KCA feels that this is a premature step in the process of satisfying the U.S. right to reguire the labeling.

The validity of the USDA COOL Re- to be out of compliance without port has been called into question, as well has data, evidence, and reports provided by the multi-national meat packing lobbies. The evidence denouncing COOL is primarily the work of the select few within the industry, and does not rights of the U.S. producer and necessarily represent the industry with respect to independent producers. Grossly overstated implementation expenses combined with a mixed message of consumer disconnect and a bullish tribunal from WTO are the basis grounds being utilized by lawmakers to repeal the law.

Simultaneous to the claim for damages. Mexican Beef has been advertising reports of all-time high exports to the U.S. The WTO must find quantitative and legitimate damages in order to affect U.S. trade. Any action made by the U.S. Congressional bodies to repeal COOL is simply the U.S. Beef lobby successfully tearing the industry apart from the inside out, which would be considered a success by the big packers, and just what they need to flood the market with foreign cattle.

Exports potentially facing tariffs by Canada include: live bovine and swine, fresh and frozen poultry, apples, cheese, cherries, corn, rice, prepared foods, various furniture, sugars, wine, and more. The tariffs are contingent upon the WTO approving retaliation, and are only eligible as long as the US is found

agreement between the countries. The same goes for that of the Mexico claims as well.

KCA will continue to track the events of COOL, and fight for the consumer.

Kansas Drought





2014 USDA Brought Monitor Map

Spring rains have nearly surpassed all averages for levels of rainfall statewide. A year ago, every county was plagued by some level of drought, moderate to exceptional. Today, only 12 counties register merely moderate drought, with the rest either abnormally dry or none at all.

If the current weather pattern remains, the forecast for rain could bring the entire state out of any drought by the middle of June. The question on many minds: if rains continue at its current pace, will we soon shift our focus to the flood monitor?

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The Kansas Cattlemen's Association has advertising and sponsorship opportunities available. As a non-profit 503C(5), KCA depends on your contributions to help independent producers receive representation in Topeka and Washington, D.C. KCA is fully funded by member and sponsor donations. KCA News is the regular KCA publication, and is circulated throughout the state to members, vendors, advertisers, feed yards, and sale barns as well as online. For more information regarding advertising, sponsorship, and more, please contact the KCA offices at 785-238-1483 or online at www.kansascattlemen.com.

Contact KCA

725 N. Washington St. Junction City, KS 66441

Phone 785-238-1483 Fax 785-238-1518 kansascattlemen.com

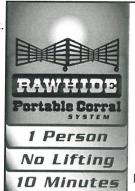
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KCA Cattlemen's College June 13, 2015 The Kansas Cattlemen's Association (KCA) will be hosting a 2015 Cattlemen's College in Salina, Kansas at the Courtyard

by Marriott on June 13, 2015. The event will be from 8:30am to 3:30pm. Those wishing to participate are asked to contact the KCA offices by phone at 785-238-1483. The cattlemen's college is an opportunity for both members and non-members of the association, however prior registration is a requirement to attend. Space is limited.

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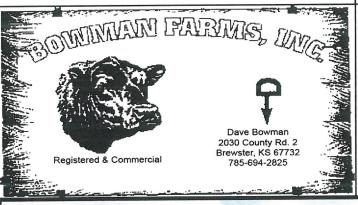
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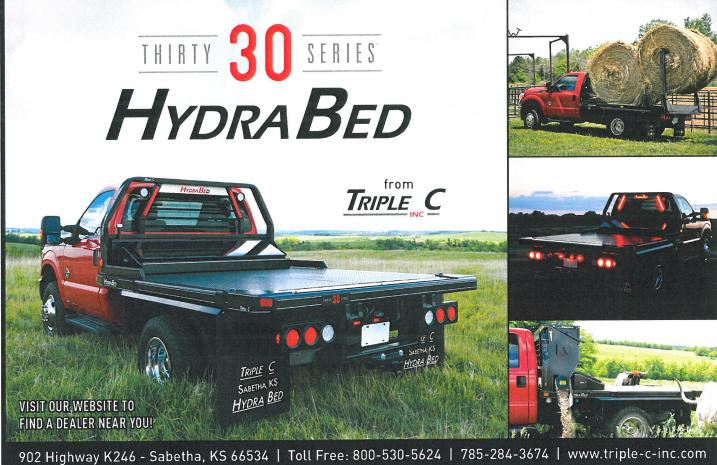
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A message from the President......DJ Edwards

Dear Fellow Cattlemen,

I am DJ Edwards, your newly elected KCA Board President. I am married and have a teenage daughter. We currently live in the Hamilton, Kansas area. We operate a cow/calf, stocker, and finisher operation.

This year is proving to be anything but a dull year in the Beef Industry. We have a lot of things coming at us from both state and national issues; whether it be ruling, regulations, taxes, or various other mandates.

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Don Peterson Don Cress Todd Hein Council Grove Council Grove Tampa 620-797-6191 620-797-6191 620-732-3675 We are a policy driven organization which strives to represent our independent producing members on state and national issues. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to be an active member in your agriculture industry organizations.

One big positive for us this year versus the last several is the rainfall. It appears now that nearly all of Kansas is finally getting off of the drought maps.

With green grass, that sure helps to let producers focus more on the big picture instead of daily survival.

Until next time,

- DJE

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Mark your Calendar July 9th

KCA is coming to the McPherson, Kansas Opera House for a regional meeting on July 9, 2015 from 6pm to 8pm. Presentations will be provided by Dr. Mike Wells of Zoetis regarding Vaccine Strategies and Care as well as Mark Kinooff of Ceres Hedge discussing Cattle Markets Outlook & Hedging Strategies. A free BBQ dinner will be served and door prizes will be awarded. This meeting is free and open to the public.





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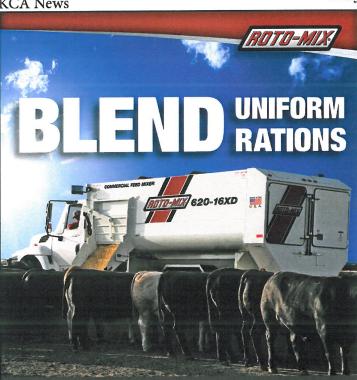


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KCA Scholarship Program Announces 2015 Awards

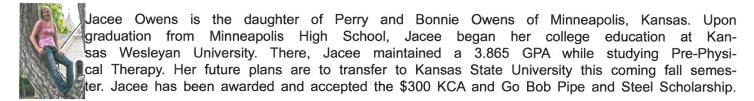
The Kansas Cattlemen's Association has awarded seven scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year. Eligible recipients must be high school or college students with a GPA higher than 2.5, and planning to seek higher education at a four-year college/university, junior college, vocational/trade school, or technical training.



Michael McKinney is the son of Mark and Jana McKinney of McPherson, Kansas. Michael is a 2015 graduate of McPherson County High School. He maintained a 4.163 GPA while participating in FFA, football, wrestling, 4-H, Skills USA, KAY, National Honor Society, and more. Michael plans to attend Kansas State University in August and study Animal Science and Industry with a minor in Leadership Studies. Michael has been awarded and accepted the \$300 KCA & Go Bob Pipe and Steel Scholarship.



Samuel Davis is the son of Greg and Carla Davis of Madison, Kansas. Sam is a 2015 graduate of Madison High School. He maintained a 3.839 GPA while participating in basketball, Quiz Bowl, Show Choir, Track, Student Council, Ag Team, and receiving numerous Honor Roll and High Honors Awards. Sam plans to attend Kansas State University in August and study Animal Science with a minor in Leadership Studies. Sam has been awarded and accepted the \$300 KCA Go Bob Pipe and Steel Scholarship.





Marita Mays is the daughter of Rod and Trina Mays. She currently resides in Wallace, Kansas. Marita received her Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture from Southeast Community College of Lincoln, NE while maintaining a 3.636 GPA. She plans to attend Northwest Missouri State to study Agri-Business during the fall 2015 semester. Marita has been awarded and accepted the \$150 KCA Scholarship sponsored in part by KCA membership donations and Cancrete Livestock Waterers.

The next edition of KCA News will highlight the remaining recipients of the KCA & Go Bob Pipe and Steel Scholarships. Part of the application process for the scholarship awards includes the writing of an essay. The essays written by those receiving a reward will also be published in future editions.

Congratulations to the 2015 KCA Scholarship recipients.



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and Washington, D.C. KCA at work in Topeka

The Kansas Legislature is running a session of records, dealing with record deficits, and now working with the possibility of having a record-long legislative session. The session is scheduled to run 90 days, however this session will likely exceed 110 days. With disagreement on how to balance and fund the budget, Kansas lawmakers are working long days, and even weekends to come to an agreement before state employees are furloughed. As they march to July, the possibility of missing a state payroll looms over the heads of state employees as well.

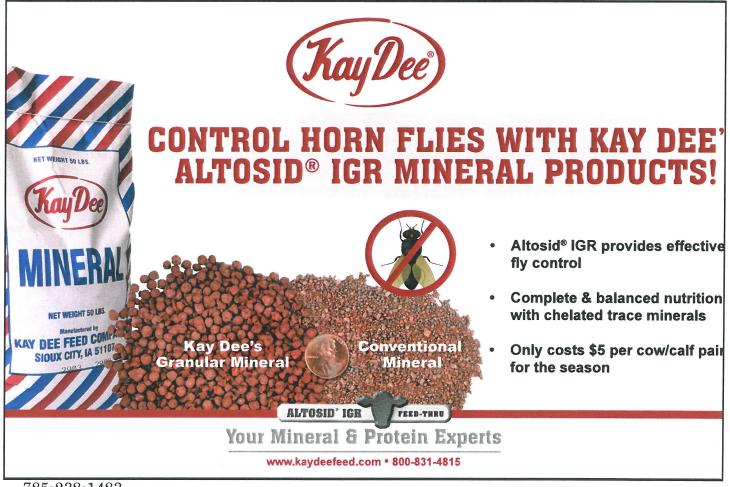
All of the delay comes at a significant cost to taxpayers. To have the full legislation open for one day, it costs the state approximately \$44,000. Many staffers have been sent home, leaving legislators to work the offices on their own. With the financials of the state up in the air. and dissent on both sides of the aisle, it is unclear what kind of compromise will be struck, and how the numbers will ultimately fall in the end. We will likely see increases in consumption taxes, along with some restructuring of the income tax code.

The National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) ground breaking ceremony took place in Manhattan, Kansas. Governor Brownback, Senator Pat Roberts, Ag

Secretary Tom Vilsack, and Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson attended the event. KCA opposes the location of NBAF to the Midwest. A release of pathogens and diseases from the facility has the potential of devastating livestock herds throughout Kansas and guite possibly the entire United States.

Comments were accepted by the United States Department of Agriculture and Health and Human Services with regard to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans up to May 8, 2015. KCA commented on the recommended guidelines by the committee, and requested a more balanced approach to lean red meats be provided by the completed guidelines. The recommendations failed to acknowledge lean red meat as an affordable, nutritious, and readily available option for American consumption. The committee had also failed to review any studies, such as the Beef in an Optimal Lean Diet (BOLD) to form their recommendations.

KCA continues to track and monitor industry events and legislative activities in Kansas and in Washington D.C. We will have representation in D.C. during the early weeks of June to represent independent producers on a number of topics important to the industry.



Cattlemen's Day Hosted in Madison on May 2nd Members of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association son County are always very welcoming, and they

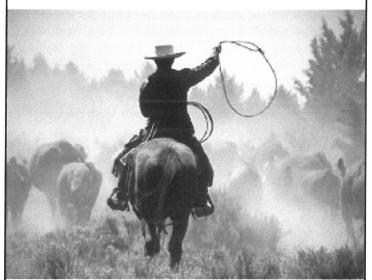
Members of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association (KCA) met in Madison, Kansas to discuss industry topics on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at the Sauder Community Center. The free event was open to the public, and it included a free USA Beef BBQ dinner.

The day was full of speakers, presentations, and the Beef Cattle Institute (BCI) provided Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification. The meeting wrapped up with a presentation on industry topics, and door prizes, provided by area sponsors, were given away to those in attendance.

"The members and area businesses here in Wood-

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www.agengineering.com Uniontown KS 66779 (800) 499-5893 son County are always very welcoming, and they help to put on very informative membership meetings. We were happy to see so many new faces here today, and even more excited to have them join," stated Tyler Dupy, KCA Executive Director.

Dr. Dave Rethorst, BCI, kicked off the meeting with the BQA certification course. The institute, through study and collaboration, has designed the course to provide care, feeding, handling, and vaccination techniques which, when implemented properly by producers, result in better quality of life for the animal and higher quality beef for the consumer. BCI focuses all aspects of cattle ranching, from pasture to plate. Boehringer Ingelheim sponsored the training.

Cole Camac with ADM Alliance Nutrition discussed some of the benefits of Advanced Mineral Performance Technology (AMPT). AMPT is a precise mineral supplementation which provides critical minerals that bypass the rumen and do not duplicate what is already available in forage. Greg Davis of Sowder Seed Company/Ranchland Feeds discussed the Ranchland Cow Plan, a plan which is both nutritionally balanced and effective while being cost efficient. The program has the potential to save producers in the neighborhood of 27% annually on mineral supplements. Darrin Unruh of Kauffman Seed discussed managing risk with pasture management seed blends.

Rick Nelson of Elanco attended the meeting, and introduced himself as the newer member of the Elanco team. Elanco has been a long-term supporter of KCA. Dr. Duane Droge, DVM of Droge Animal Health Center gave a presentation on animal health.

Proud sponsors of the meeting included, Edwards Cattle Company, Sowder Seed Company/Ranchland Seed, Elanco, KCA, PrairieLand Partners, Flint Hills Commodities, Ivesco, Zoetis, Frontier Farm Credit, Emporia Livestock Sales, Emprise Bank, LeRoy COOP, Triple C, Inc, Bluestem Farm and Ranch, AgChoice, Red Brick Cafe, Luthi Land and Cattle, KFSA, Woodson County Prime Meats, and Olpe Service Center.

KCA will be in McPherson, KS on July 9, 2015

KCA Calendar

06/13/2015 Cattlemen's College

Salina, Kansas

07/09/2015 Membership Meeting

McPherson, Kansas

07/17/2015 Four State Farm Show

July 17-19 Pittsburg, Kansas

08/15/2015 Cattlemen's Field Day

Soldier, Kansas
- Activities

- BQA Certification

11/20/2015 Annual Membership Meeting

Dodge City, Kansas

11/21/2015 Annual Convention & Trade Show

Dodge City, Kansas

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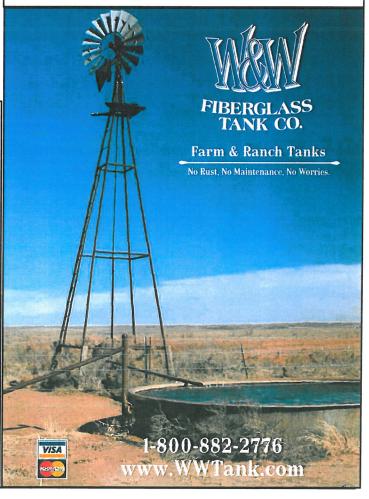
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New KCA Board Installed And Officers Elected

The Board of Directors of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association met in April. During the meeting, the newly elected Board Members were installed, and the election of the 2015 officers commenced.

DJ Edwards, Hamilton, Kansas, was elected President of the Board of Directors. Edwards has been a member of KCA for over 10 years, and is currently serving the third year of his first term on the board. He and his family have a cow/calf, stocker, and feeder operation in Woodson County.

Tony Anderson, Farlington, Kansas, was re-elected Vice President of the board. This is Anderson's second year as Vice President, and he is currently serving his third year of his first term. He and his family have a cow/calf operation in Southeast, Kansas.

Newcomer to the board, Landon Shaw, Galva, KS, was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Landon and his family have a cow/calf operation, and he also works as the Assistant Manager of McPherson County Feeders in Marquette, Kansas.

