

# KCA News

KANSAS CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Oct 2017

## Letter to Senate Ag Committee Outlines 2018 Farm Bill Priorities

Kansas Cattlemen's Association has signed onto a letter to the members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. With over 200 other industry organizations signing on, the letter highlights some key priorities for the 2018 Farm Bill. The letter states that U.S. farm income is significantly depressed, with disastrous ripple effects through our rural economy. Since the last Farm Bill debate, these trends have only worsened. Agribusinesses continue to consolidate at a frenzied pace, robbing our farmers of competitive markets for the sale of their products. Foreign and multinational interests continue to expand their control of key U.S. agricultural markets, using their control to extract revenue from U.S. producers to return to their countries of origin. The model of vertical integration and contract production pioneered by large poultry companies continues to expand to other sectors, resulting in loss of farmers' control over their own farms, increased risk for the farmers who produce under this system, and a downward spiral in viability.

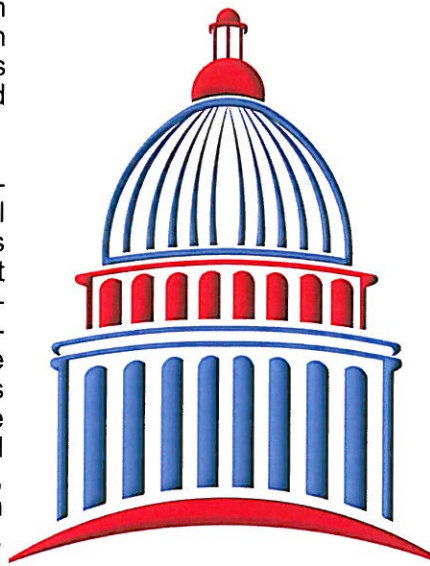
The organizations express that lessons learned from the global financial crisis are a telling sign that bigger is not better. Enforcement of important antitrust, farmer, labor or consumer protections are necessary in preventing further consolidation of the agriculture industry. The letter states that our market economy relies on the long-established role of the federal government to enforce antitrust law, ensuring fair and open competition that promotes a thriving economy, and limiting the control of those markets by a few large entities that destabilizes our economy. To ignore these responsibilities is to imperil our economy and the well-being of our farmers, ranchers, farm and food chain workers, consumers and rural communities.

We further explain that foreign investment in the U.S. agriculture sector is one thing, but the extraction of U.S. resources from our rural communities by foreign agribusinesses, and the increasing control of U.S. farmland and other key aspects of the U.S. food system by foreign entities should raise alarm bells. These trends are becoming increasingly evident in our dairy, beef, poultry, organic, farm input and seed sectors, and cannot be ignored.

The consolidation of the meat packing industry is of serious concern with regard to competition in the industry. The market power of the big 4 enables them to use marketing and pricing strategies that shift economic risks onto the

backs of farmers and ranchers. Meatpackers use packer-owned livestock as a major tool to exert unfair market power over farmers and ranchers, freezing independent farmers out of the market and artificially lowering farmgate prices to farmers and ranchers — while consumer food prices continue to rise. Meatpackers also use formula contracts, with no fixed base price, that are prone to manipulation, giving meatpackers unfair market leverage comparable to direct packer ownership. Another livestock procurement tool, marketing agreements that are often negotiated in secret, result in the same market distorting outcome because the packers enjoy unequal information and power.

Our country's tradition of independent farmers making production and marketing decisions for their own farms is rapidly disappearing. The newer model of vertical integration coerces farmers to surrender that independence to a large integrator company that takes over control of all decisions, and pays the contract farmer for their labor, land, and facilities. History has shown that once farmers relinquish their independence, their pay, contract terms, and overall treatment by the integrator deteriorates. Not surprisingly, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture has attempted to establish basic protections for contract livestock and poultry farmers, the companies who impose and control these contracts have vigorously fought those efforts. We understand why these firms want to protect their own interests by fighting against any federal oversight or scrutiny of their practices, but such oversight is an appropriate federal responsibility, and Congress must not allow unfair, abusive or deceptive integrator behavior to go unchecked.



Market transparency is a basic tenet of a fully functioning market economy. Policies should be enacted to establish open and transparent pricing practices for agricultural products, ensure clear access by farmers to information about production contracting standards used in various agricultural sectors, and set clear labeling standards to give consumers information about the origin and production methods associated with the food they purchase. Congress should reject attempts by agribusinesses to undermine proper market functioning with their arguments against fair, open and transparent markets and labeling.

The full version of the letter may be accessed on the Kansas Cattlemen's Association website. KCA will continue to work for independent cattle producers during the formation of the 2018 Farm Bill.



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## BQA Certification a Valuable Asset on the Ranch

As part of the 19th Annual KCA Convention and Trade Show, KCA will host Dr. Dan Thomson in providing BQA Certification. The program will begin at 1:00pm on October 27th at the Meridian Center in Newton, Kansas.

BQA does more than just help beef producers capture extra value from their market cattle. BQA also reflects a positive public image and instills consumer confidence in the beef industry. When producers implement the best management practices of a BQA program, they assure their market steers, heifers, cows, and bulls are the best they can be. Today, the stakes are even higher because of increased public attention on animal welfare. BQA is valuable to all beef producers because it:

- Demonstrates commitment to food safety and quality.
- Upholds consumer confidence in valuable beef products.
- Protects the beef industry from additional government regulation.
- Improves sale value of marketed beef cattle.
- Enhances herd profitability through better management.

The program covers information specific to the needs of today's cow/calf, stockers, and backgrounding producers, including: up-to-date information on weaning and preconditioning of calves, handling and culling, herd health plans, calf management, humane euthanasia, best management practices, parasite control, animal abuse avoidance, and handling.

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\*If calves consume an average of 1 lbs Liquid Plus + per head per day:  
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**--ALERT--**  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**October 27, 2017**

**Newton, Kansas**

**Meridian Center**

**4:00 PM**



# Message from the President.....Alan Stewart

Our weather sure has begun to change these past few weeks. Although there have been pockets of heavy rain around the state, overall the state has remained dry throughout the end of summer and beginning of fall. I just hope that the harvest wraps up in a positive manner, and we can all get settled in with a proper amount of feed for what could be a long winter ahead.

I sure can't find words to best describe my thoughts on the Beef Checkoff these days. Oklahoma is voting on a referendum to create a new program. This one would run along with the current federal program, but the Oklahoma Beef Council would keep all of the money. With a similar management setup as Kansas, I am surprised producers are supporting steps to provide even more funds to be controlled by NCBA. Who can actually justify pushing millions of more dollars into an organization that plainly supports an agenda that harms independent cattle producers?

KCA recently signed onto a letter to the Senate Agriculture Committee leadership concerning the Farm Bill. The letter focuses on many issues important to cattle producers, including: limiting the scope of corporations to help protect against financial collapses, limiting foreign ownership and control of U.S. agri-

culture, preventing manipulations and distortions of livestock markets, improving market transparency, and more. Over 200 other organizations signed on to the letter, and we will be working together to see some of these issues addressed by the final Farm Bill.



This is my final request that you take the time to attend the KCA Convention. I know it is hard to find the time, but you need to make the time to attend at least a portion. The BQA Certification with Dr. Dan Thomson and the Low Stress Cattle Handling Presentation by Dr. Tom Noffsinger provide valuable information on ways to help manage your cattle. We will be rolling out a new membership benefit that we are very excited to tell you about. You will learn about cattle market trends, help KCA review and set policy, enjoy some excellent food, and have the opportunity to meet with the numerous exhibitors and sponsors that support KCA throughout the year. Please join us!

Until Convention, may God bless.  
Alan Stewart



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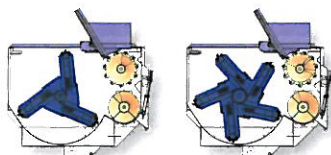


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## Negotiated Cash Slaughter Cattle

### National

Period	Current	Prior Year	3yr Avg
Sept 04	68,340	106,596	97,074
Sept 11	55,558	100,108	84,335
Sept 18	106,315	109,017	84,110
Sept 25	123,245	50,074	50,075
Oct 02	103,306	107,415	91,915

### Kansas

Period	Current	Prior Year	3yr Avg
Sept 04	11,104	15,103	11,422
Sept 11	9,121	20,082	12,748
Sept 18	23,078	22,638	13,055
Sept 25	20,043	1,629	1,318
Oct 02	16,352	24,428	16,095

Data Courtesy of USDA AMS



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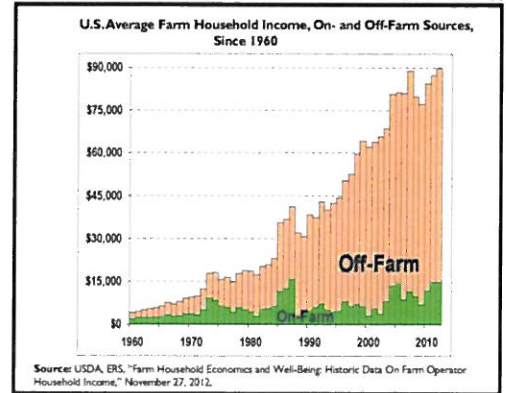
# Hey America! Beef Up!

## No. #15

### The “American System” of Economics Credit, Production and Science

Look it up! It works!

by Robert L. Baker



Sept. 20, 2017 – Imagine you step outside your door in early morning and you hear the thundrous clap of a lightning bolt hit the ground next to your farm buildings containing billions of volts of electricity. That would get your attention. U.S. farmers are getting hit with that kind of pricing thunder-clap today, yet the nation seems numb to act quickly to this alarm. An old Chinese proverb says, “If the farmers are rich, the country is rich.” American farmers are caught up in a global “speculative monetary system,” and we must get out. How do we get out? We go back to the American System of Economics. This is the economic system upon which the United States was uniquely established, and to which, our country has returned, again and again, when we had gone off course. A system in which producers don’t have to go broke to satisfy the corporate gods of the “Market Place”

capital market where we wouldn’t have expected them.”

\*\*\*”20 percent of U.S. corporations” could go under, said the BIS (Bank for International Settlements,) referring to the impact of the Fed discontinuing its cheap money/”quantitative easing” policy.

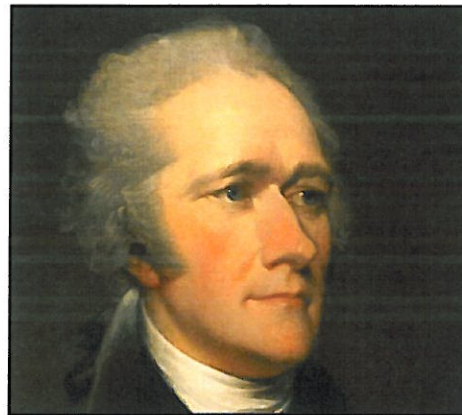
\*\* “No positive results” St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank Vice President for Research, Stephen Williamson, produced a report, “Quantitative Easing: How Well Does This Tool Work?” covered by financial media, which shows the Fed, ECB, Bank of Japan and Bank of England “quantitative easing” programs – the {real} bailouts of the big banks - have had no positive results for the economies of the “Trilateral” countries.

\*\* “Simply not fit.” This is how the U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres described today’s international monetary system, in his Sept. 16 address to a U.N. meeting on world development goals (called Agenda 2030). He said that the ongoing insane policy of QE, (“printing money”) used to bailout the trans-Atlantic sector’s giant criminal banks since 2008, has resulted in almost \$50 trillion of citizens’ savings now earning low or negative financial returns, instead of flowing to finance

real economic growth. “Set against the imperatives underlying the 2030 Agenda, today’s global financial system, which manages some \$300 trillion in financial assets on our collective behalf is simply not fit for that purpose.”

If it’s so dire, what can we do? In fact history and reality show we can make it. The principle is, to be deliberate in our own affairs and policies. We can intervene, to have the right contingency measures, to prevent all out chaos.

Looking at history, we find the key to U.S. economic success centers around banking regulation, credit and production. World renowned economist and statesman, Lyndon LaRouche has called for a return to, what he calls the Four Economic Laws. (see graphic), which are based on a remarkable economic tradition of our leading statesmen.



**ALEXANDER HAMILTON**  
First Treasury Secretary  
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United States of America

Alexander Hamilton's  
**FOUR PAPERS**  
AMERICAN SYSTEM  
ECONOMICS

1. REPORT ON SUBJECT OF MANUFACTURES
2. Report on Public Credit
3. On the Constitutionality of the National Bank
4. Report on a National Bank

LaRouche's  
**FOUR LAWS**  
AMERICAN SYSTEM  
ECONOMICS

1. RESTORE GLASS-STEAGALL
2. AMERICAN CREDIT SYSTEM
3. NATIONAL BANK
4. FUSION-SCIENCE ECONOMY

Why is it important to act now and quickly? With the end of the Federal finance year on September 30, there are many trigger points (bond rates, bank interest, corporate debt) that can detonate the whole system which is overlain with trillions of dollars of derivatives, and other unpayable, toxic claims, now worse than ever.

There are many warnings.

\*\* “An accident waiting to happen,” referring to the imminence of a financial crash, said the Adam Smith Institute in Britain this month. ‘The overhang of bad assets is far greater now than in 2007-2008.’

\*\* “Signs of bubbles,” ready to burst, said the CEO of Deutsche Bank, this month. John Cryan accused the European Central Bank of feeding speculation with its cheap money policy, “We are now seeing signs of bubbles in more and more parts of the



**Extensive Legislation Passed Without the South in Congress**

- 1861 - Morrill Tariff Act
- 1862 - Homestead Act
- 1862 - Legal Tender Act
- 1862 - Morrill Land Grant Act
- 1862 - Emancipation Proclamation (1/1/1863)
- 1863 - Pacific Railway Act
- 1863 - National Bank Act



**The Homestead Act**  
 Law signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862 that gave land to settlers. The only requirements were that applicants needed to:

1. Be at least 21 years old
2. Be American Citizens
3. Pay \$10 registration fee
4. Farm the land for 5 years before they could own it.

In 1791, after the American Revolution, we had a new nation. Alexander Hamilton, our first treasury secretary, put into words and laws (see graphic) what has become known as The American System of Economics. One of the central principles imbedded in the Constitution established the right to create government credit to build productive infrastructure that would generate the jobs necessary to pay it back. This is different than printing money to bailout speculation oriented Wall Street bankers. With this new philosophy of credit, real production and

energized by launching the building of nuclear power plants, the Atoms for Peace program and the Interstate highway system. And when he left office, warned "Beware of the Military Industrial Complex."

Again in 1960's, President Kennedy launched the Space Program and pushed for the the biggest water program in history, the North American Water and Power Alliance, NAWAPA, which would have diverted water from Alaska down through the plains states clear to Mexico. It would have supported new farms, factories, cities and recreation and started the re-filling

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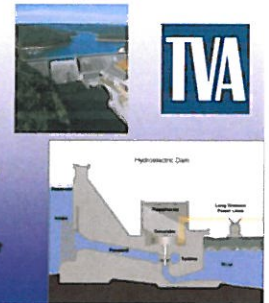
**FDR AND THE NEW DEAL**

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- Made river navigable
- Generated electricity for entire rural region



**The New Deal Programs: TVA**

- TVA - Tennessee Valley Authority
- Built More Than 40 Dams in Tennessee (Gave People Jobs!)
- Dams Create Hydroelectric Power (Cheap & Clean)
- Energy Bills in Tennessee are about 1/3 Less!



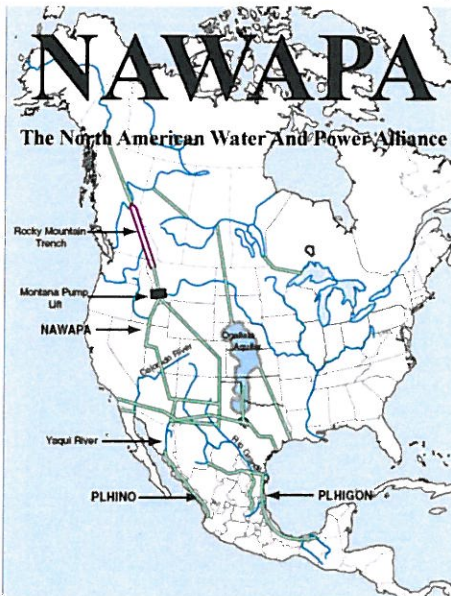
scientific research and development, our nation proceeded to build canals, early railroads, public roads, water wheels, farms and industry. The old British banking families didn't like this idea and burned down the White House in the War of 1812.

Again, in 1860 after being dismantled, President Lincoln re-instituted The American System to win the Civil War and pull the nation out of depression. He passed the Legal Tender Act of 1862, and established a new proper credit system and financed the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad. The Homestead Act of 1862 was passed, which caused over one half of today's farmland to be settled. Agricultural colleges were established all over the frontier farm areas with The Morrill Land Grant Act. The U.S. came out of the depression and Civil War the most powerful industrial nation in world history.

Again in 1930's, President Franklin Roosevelt re-activated the American System to get the U.S. out of the great Depression. He established the Resolution Trust Corporation as a credit

our tremendous production capacity. We came out of WWII, again, the most powerful industrial nation in the world.

Again in 1950's, after WWII, President Eisenhower, kept the economy



of the Ogallala Aquifer. Kennedy set in motion an investment tax credit that stimulated investment in machinery and infrastructure.

Today's U.S. economy is caught in a tangle of de-regulated Wall Street/ London banking speculation that has led to a rapid consolidation and monopolization, that is a direct result of not investing into modern infrastructure and protecting the income necessary to support and replicate millions of family farms and industrial businesses that are the basis of maintaining healthy and prosperous communities.

On top of this situation, we have the vast destruction to our nation and continent from the hurricanes, the Mexican earthquakes and terrible Western wildfires.

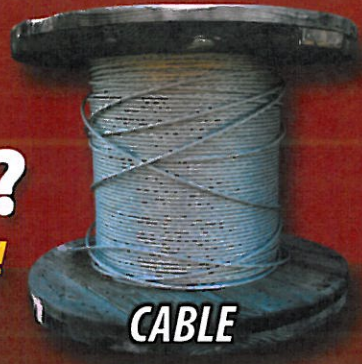
What should we do? Go back to the American System of Economics. Look it up!

**Robert L. Baker**  
 Agricultural Research Specialist  
 Executive Intelligence Review  
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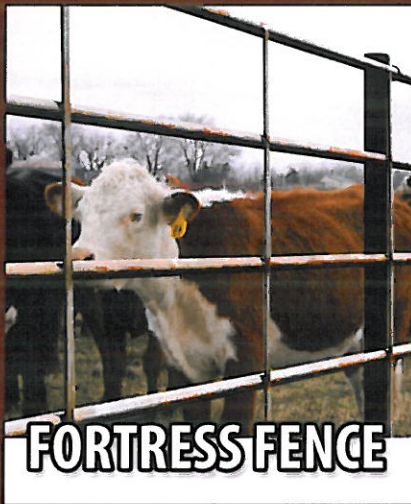


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**HEAVY DUTY GATES**

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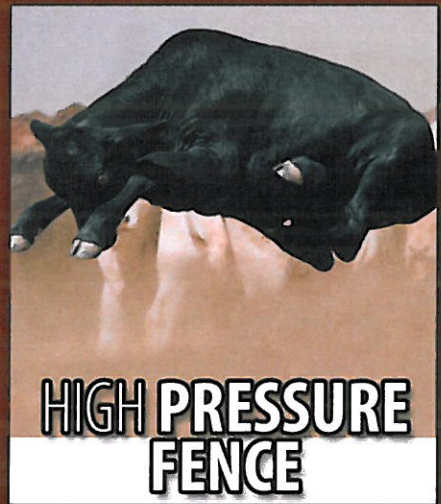


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# Dr. Tom Noffsinger to Present Low Stress Cattle Handling

When it comes to animal husbandry, low stress cattle handling techniques can take herd management to the next level of professionalism and production. Implementation of these techniques have taken root in ranching operations across the country, because they work to improve efficiency, safety, herd health, and beef quality.

"It's really important that we think about stockmanship being an attitude," he told cattle feeders attending the Merck Cattle Feeders Business Summit this week in Denver. "The caregiver or whoever is in contact with those animals has a responsibility to know that whatever they do when you're with them is because of you, not them," stated Dr. Noffsinger.

Improving cattle handling practices provides many advantages. Cattle that remain calm during handling have improved weight gain and are less likely to have dark cutting meat. The two activities where the most injuries occur on ranches and feedlots either involve horses or they occur where cattle are intensively handled in the squeeze chute area. There are numerous steps to prevent injury to the animal, the cowhands, and the bottom line. Low stress cattle handling helps to accomplish many of these goals by focusing our attention to the behavior of the cattle.

Dr. Noffsinger is an industry expert in cattle handling and animal husbandry. After 32 years in beef cattle practice at the Twin Forks Clinic, Dr. Noffsinger became an independent feedlot consultant specializing in facility design, stockmanship, and low-stress livestock handling. He also is an owner/member of Production Animal Consultation, Pierson Precision Auscultation, and the Cattle Performance Enhancement Company. He was the recipient of the 2001 Consultant of the Year award from the Academy of Veterinary Consultants for his work at PAC.

Dr. Tom Noffsinger will provide an updated presentation with the latest techniques for adopting low stress cattle handling. Continued education on the process is critical to maintaining the calmness of the animal and our own sanity. Areas of focus include noises, working zones, facility design, moving aids, and more.

Dr. Noffsinger will present at the KCA Convention on Saturday, October 28th at 1:15pm. To register, call the KCA office at 785-238-1483. Additional information can be found online at the KCA website [www.kansascattlemen.com](http://www.kansascattlemen.com).



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**Schedule of Events**

- October 27 **KCA Annual Meeting**  
4:00 PM - Meridian Center  
Newton, Kansas
- October 27-28 **KCA Annual Convention**  
Meridian Center  
Newton, Kansas
- December 11 **KCA Ballot Deadline**
- December **SE Regional Meeting**  
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- March 2018 **SW Regional Meeting**  
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**Join us for the KCA Convention Social Hour October 28th at 4:00pm**



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