What's Inside

Sandy Adams Is New VDACS Commissioner ............................................ Page 4
VA Beef Council Partners With Kroger/Virginia Tech ................................ Page 17
Tom Nixon Named Farmer Of The Year .................................................. Page 20
2014 4-H Stockman’s/Quiz Bowl/Livestock Judging ................................ Page 28

Elizabeth, Tom, Kim and Robert Nixon of Glenmary Farm
2014 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Ag Expo Virginia Farm of the Year. See article on page 20.
The month of August is the traditional kick off of the fall calf run in Virginia. Since the inception of the Virginia Quality Assured feeder cattle program, August has steadily evolved as the month for a leader to choose from the greatest number and widest variety of feeder calves they have ever seen. Values in excess of $200/cwt have lately become the norm for steers and heifers alike across Virginia. The prospects for beef prices, and a fairly regular cattle market where every cow calf producer had limited options or opportunities for their own market development. My how things have changed. The world now is one that has made communication and discovery of information easier than ever in the cattle industry. Reputations are much more critical for a producer that the old days of relying on the word of others that they knew. Traditional buyers that had learned the business more through experience are not around now. While cattle supply issues may have sustained speculation and support some of the cash values for cattle we see today, it also has forced many feeders to look for calves outside of the Palatte and that has benefited Virginia producers no doubt.

The cattle business is fraught with risk at every level now. The life threatening kind of risk that necessitates good financial planning. This is a calf market where every one calf producer, even with no knowledge of all the variables that affect production, will make important decisions that have a direct effect on their business plan. Managing high risk, in this case the odds of high rewards are more necessary now than ever. From simple put options to government subsidized livestock risk protection insurance, the premiums are just percursor to the orders and

We salute our cattle farmers.

We know your business and know how hard you work. Farm Credit has been financing the needs of cattle farmers for nearly a century. We also work hard to help you realize the vision you have for your operation.

Give us a call today to find out more about how we can help you keep growing,

800.919.FARM
Farmcredit.com
Larry Kuehn and Mark Thallman, US Meat Animal Research Center

The 2014 table of adjustment factors to be used to estimate across-breed expected progeny differences (AB-EPDs) for eighteen breeds was released at the Beef Improvement Federation Annual Meeting in Lincoln, NE on June 20 (see Table 1). Across-breed adjustment factors have been calculated for growth traits and maternal milk since 1993. Adjustment factors for carcass traits have been calculated since 2009; to be included, breeds must have carcass data in the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (USMARC) database and report their carcass EPDs on an actual carcass basis using an age-adjusted endpoint. Bulls of different breeds can be compared on the same EPD scale by adding the appropriate adjustment factor to the EPDs produced in the most recent genetic evaluations for each of the eighteen breeds. The AB-EPDs are most useful to commercial producers purchasing bulls of more than one breed to use in crossbreeding programs. For example, in minimal crossbreeding systems, AB-EPDs can be used to identify bulls in different breeds with high growth potential or favorable carcass characteristics. For example, suppose a Brangus bull has a weaning weight EPD of + 6.4 lb and a Hereford bull has a weaning weight EPD of + 4.2 lb. The across-breed adjustment for weaning weight (see Table 1) is + 0.8 lb for Brangus and + 1.6 lb for Hereford. The expected weaning weight difference when both are mated to cows of another breed (e.g., Angus) would be 6.4 lb - 4.2 lb = 2.2 lb. Most breed associations publish EPDs at least on an annual basis. These EPDs predict differences expected in performance of future progeny of two or more bulls within the same breed for traits including birth weight, weaning weight, yearling weight, and maternal milking ability (as reflected in progeny weaning weights). Normally, the EPDs of bulls from different breeds cannot be compared because most breed associations compute their EPDs in separate analyses and each breed has a different base point. The across-breed adjustment factors allow producers to compare the EPDs for animals from different breeds for these traits; these factors reflect both the current breed difference in performance and differences in the breed base point. They should be used with caution because of potential changes in EPD calculations from year-to-year.

### Table 1: Adjustment Factors to Add to EPDs of Two or More Breeds to Estimate Across-Breed EPDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Birth Weight</th>
<th>Weaning Weight</th>
<th>Yearling Weight</th>
<th>C廷 carcass</th>
<th>Maternal Milk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angus</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hereford</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brangus</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gelbvieh</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Angus</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Angus</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahman</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiteface</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normande</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limousin</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahman</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiteface</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normande</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limousin</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Augusta County Equipment Field Day and Cave View Farm, Weyers Cave, VA.
Keeping Watch On Virginia’s Biggest Industry

Sandra J. Adams

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The agency traces its lineage in state government to 1836, when the Commonwealth of Virginia elected its first commissioner of agriculture, an office that was then the highest position in the state government. Virginia’s agricultural community had already been engaged in the state tradition of supporting the governor’s cabinet. Adams is leading the 435-em- ployee agency at a time when state officials are pushing to promote and sell more Virginia agricultural products in growing overseas markets such as China. Continued on Page 21

Sandra J. Adams put her name in the hat to be considered as the next commissioner of the

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The agency traces its lineage in state government to 1836, when the Commonwealth of Virginia elected its first commissioner of agriculture, an office that was then the highest position in the state government. Virginia’s agricultural community had already been engaged in the state tradition of supporting the governor’s cabinet. Adams is leading the 435-emp- lloyee agency at a time when state officials are pushing to promote and sell more Virginia agricultural products in growing overseas markets such as China. Continued on Page 21
EPA Rules Overlooks Legal Issues

Bob Goodlatte, H. Morgan Griffith and Robert Hurt

The editorial board at The Virginia-Pilot is welcome to disagree with our position on the Environmental Protection Agency’s proposed Total Maximum Daily Load. However, it is imperative that we make the point about whether or not we should take steps to protect the Chesapeake Bay. We unambiguously agree that it is a national treasure that should be preserved. But, it’s about the law.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The EPA rewrite water quality plans. In some cases, we are already seeing the EPA override water quality plans. This is contrary to the very intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The agriculture community, including Virginia farmers, are CLASSIC SERIES builders, businesses, and families in the watershed, and that is why 30 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives, including the three of us, have joined an amicus brief in support of Virginia’s authority to implement these goals. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states.

We wholeheartedly agree that it is a national treasure that should be preserved. But, it’s about the law.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The agriculture community, including Virginia farmers, are CLASSIC SERIES builders, businesses, and families in the watershed, and that is why 30 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives, including the three of us, have joined an amicus brief in support of Virginia’s authority to implement these goals. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The agriculture community, including Virginia farmers, are CLASSIC SERIES builders, businesses, and families in the watershed, and that is why 30 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives, including the three of us, have joined an amicus brief in support of Virginia’s authority to implement these goals. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

We wholeheartedly agree that it is a national treasure that should be preserved. But, it’s about the law.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The agriculture community, including Virginia farmers, are CLASSIC SERIES builders, businesses, and families in the watershed, and that is why 30 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives, including the three of us, have joined an amicus brief in support of Virginia’s authority to implement these goals. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The agriculture community, including Virginia farmers, are CLASSIC SERIES builders, businesses, and families in the watershed, and that is why 30 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives, including the three of us, have joined an amicus brief in support of Virginia’s authority to implement these goals. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states.

The law says that it is the right of the states to implement water quality goals - not the EPA. It’s long past time to change the intent of the Clean Water Act, which acknowledges states’ rights and says, unless “expressly provided” by Congress, nothing in the statute shall “be construed as impairing any right or jurisdiction of the States with respect to [their] waters.” And Congress further declared its policy to “recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibility of the States...to plan the development and use...of land and water resources.”

The agriculture community, including Virginia farmers, are CLASSIC SERIES builders, businesses, and families in the watershed, and that is why 30 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives, including the three of us, have joined an amicus brief in support of Virginia’s authority to implement these goals. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states. The EPA has basically given every state in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed the power to establish a TMDL, the power to reserve by the states to determine just how to improve water quality. The TMDL sets the limit on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations by sector, a power currently reserved to the states.
Continued from Page 8

US Beef Imports To Decline

Sharply higher beef prices in the US, a weak Australian currency and a dramatic increase in cattle slaughter in Australia have helped boost US imported beef supplies in the first half of 2014. The increase in imported volume has certainly helped US feedlot operations and others in the beef industry as it carries directly on the supply of imported lean grinding beef for a significant part of their needs. The spread between US frozen imported beef and fresh domestic WCL beef was as high as 45 cents per pound in April and it has averaged about 32 cents per pound since January. In the near term, based on current market conditions, this spread is likely to widen and provide a good opportunity for buyers of imported beef to secure product deliveries to a processing facility for a very big savings and one that was of interest to most importers last year. A difficult task to replicate in the second half of this year.

So what is driving the US imported beef market at this point and how do we see this developing in the second half of 2014? First, the combination of record prices in the US and sharply higher cattle numbers in Australia has proved to be explosive. According to US Customs, the supply of Australian beef cleared through customs as of June 17 was 31.3% higher than the comparable period a year ago. Overall imported beef cleared through customs was up 8.4% and higher imports from Australia accounted for about 92% of the overall increase. More beef has been imported from Canada (+6.7%) and Mexico (+5%) but lower imports from New Zealand and Central America have offset those increases. Australian cattle slaughter in the past 12 months has reached all time record levels as drought conditions have only indicated a virtual end to beef production and cattle in Australia are finished on grass and hopes of increased moisture in the fall and winter (Southern Hemisphere) have not come to pass. Indeed, the situation may well mean there should be an El Nino weather pattern developing in the west and winter (Southern Hemisphere) may not come to pass.

Until earlier this year, the reduced Australian supply was absorbed by China, which has emerged in the last two years as a major global beef importer. Indeed, by late 2013 Australian beef

Cotton & Associates
Select Commercial Female Sale
Featuring & Selling Over 500 females!

CATTLE WILL SELL
On location at the yards selling live through the sale ring.
On the Internet: LiveAuctions.TV
For Sale Registration, please call or visit:
Superior Productions • 800-431-4452 or www.superiorlivestock.com
Live Auctions • 816-392-9241 or www.LiveAuctions.TV

Why?
Genetic predictability is enhanced through genetic profile information by Zoetis Genetics “GeneMax” test. Many females selling have the GeneMax test verification. Look for the GeneMax logo on the lot numbers of females selling.

When? August 15, 2014
Where? 12 Noon EST
On location at the yards selling live through the sale ring.

If interested in consigning or purchasing, please contact:
Zack Hileman 540-460-2776
Jerry Crenshaw 703-244-4767
www.cotton-associates.com • 517-546-6374
ADVANCED SEED GENETICS...
GROW HIGHLY DIGESTIBLE FORAGES

- MASTERS CHOICE CORN
- PASTURE MIXTURES
- HAY MIXTURES
- COVER CROPS
- FORAGE & GRAIN SORGHUM
- SUDANGRASS & SORGHUM SUDAN
- WINTER ANNUAL FORAGES

King's AgriSeeds
KingsAgriSeeds.com 717) 687-6224

YOUR VIRGINIA FORAGE SEED DISTRIBUTORS:

JACOB WEVER ...........................................COBBLE ............................................(434) 942-9289
PETERSON FARMS ...................................BRANDY STATION ....................................(540) 270-8585
GREEN SPRING AGRICULTURE ..................ROCKY MOUNT ......................................(540) 420-1038
SHENANDOAH SEEDS ..................................WINCHESTER .....................................(540) 327-9526
PA COUNTRY EQUIP .....................................ST STEPHENS CHURCH .................(904) 972-0534
ROBERT SMITH ......................................DRUM ...............................................(540) 984-0085
RIVERCOP FARMING CO ................................LEXINGTON ......................................(540) 465-7787
SUNNY ROCK SUPPLY ..................................DAYTON ............................................(540) 879-3944
AGRI SERVICE LLC .....................................STAFFORD ......................................(540) 782-7039
**Legal Issues**

Continued from Page 5.

The EPA’s complex TMDL is of great concern to communities in the watershed. The notion of these arrangements and the EPA’s regulations are not the solution. The federal government should be a partner in helping the states achieve their water quality goals, not mandating and micromanaging what is best for individual states.


---

**FALL BEEF ROUND UP**

**NO PAYMENTS/NO INTEREST**

**FOR 6 MONTHS AVAILABLE ON QUALIFYING CATTLE FEED AND SUPPLIES**

**Qualifying Products Include:**
- Feeders
- Fencing
- Livestock handling equipment
- Livestock health items
- Selected beef and minerals
- Pasture renovation

**Minerals Savings Time:**
$50 OFF per ton or $1.25 OFF per bag
(August 1 – September 30)

**For more information, call 540-992-1112 or visit southerncstates.com**
Beef Imports

Continued from Page 6

experts in China were almost as keen as those here. Some believe this is due to product preferences, availability, and ultimately price. Domestic and prices for lean grinding beef (cows) have exploded in the US and we calculate that Australian shipments of lean grinding beef to the US are up some 30% since February. Australian exports to China are up almost 27% compared to year ago levels as authorities there imposed more stringent test to remove growth promotants. But some experts at USDA China are expected to drop China again as an industry adjacent to the new requirements and it is unlikely that China demand for beef will hold anytime soon.

US imported beef sales were down 44% in the second half of the year, largely because New Zealand sales (from sharply and Uruguay) is limited by quota. Australian supplies are likely to full capacity now and a reversion in Chinese sales will likely keep Australian shipments to the US at or below current levels. As a result, the spread of imported beef to domestic product will narrow in coming months. There is potential that it would be lower at a time when consumers is due to product preferences, availability, and ultimately price. Domestic and prices for lean grinding beef (cows) have exploded in the US and we calculate that Australian shipments of lean grinding beef to the US are up some 30% since February. Australian exports to China are up almost 27% compared to year ago levels as authorities there imposed more stringent test to remove growth promotants. But some experts at USDA China are expected to drop China again as an industry adjacent to the new requirements and it is unlikely that China demand for beef will hold anytime soon.

US imported beef sales were down 44% in the second half of the year, largely because New Zealand sales (from sharply and Uruguay) is limited by quota. Australian supplies are likely to full capacity now and a reversion in Chinese sales will likely keep Australian shipments to the US at or below current levels. As a result, the spread of imported beef to domestic product will narrow in coming months. There is potential that it would be lower at a time when consumers

It is, at best, a murky proposition, trying to peer into the future. “I want to know if we're in a new era of exports to China were almost as keen as those here. Some believe this is due to product preferences, availability, and ultimately price. Domestic and prices for lean grinding beef (cows) have exploded in the US and we calculate that Australian shipments of lean grinding beef to the US are up some 30% since February. Australian exports to China are up almost 27% compared to year ago levels as authorities there imposed more stringent test to remove growth promotants. But some experts at USDA China are expected to drop China again as an industry adjacent to the new requirements and it is unlikely that China demand for beef will hold anytime soon.

US imported beef sales were down 44% in the second half of the year, largely because New Zealand sales (from sharply and Uruguay) is limited by quota. Australian supplies are likely to full capacity now and a reversion in Chinese sales will likely keep Australian shipments to the US at or below current levels. As a result, the spread of imported beef to domestic product will narrow in coming months. There is potential that it would be lower at a time when consumers
Future Direction Of VA Cattlemen Association

Steve Hopkins

Chairman

Steve Hopkins believes the Virginia Cattlemen’s Association has a very bright future. He looks forward to working with you to make that future bright. Let me start by introducing myself as your new President of VCA. My name is Steve Hopkins and I am the operations manager of McDonald Farms, a commercial operation in Louisa County. I have also served as the Agriculture Extension Agent in Orange County for the past twenty-four years. I served as the advisor to the Central Virginia Cattlemen Association and represented the Radiant market on the VCA Board of Directors for the past three and a half years. We have seen a lot of changes during that time. Jason Carter took over as our Executive Secretary and between the Beef Industry Council and Cattlemen Association we have seen an additional four changes in current staff. In March the membership passed the new revisions to the bylaws that created the Policy Council in addition to the Beef Industry Council and Cattlemen Association. The new council is an executive committee that consists of in addition to myself: Gene Copenhaver, President; Bill McDonald, Policy Council Chair; Glenn Wheeler, Feeder Council Chair; Phil Blevins, Treasurer; Scott Greiner, Advisor; Forrest Ashby; and Steve Furrow. The new policy side will give VCA a format to form policy decisions, but more importantly it gives representation across the state with two directors from each of the six different regions. Local and regional cattlemen groups that pay dues can also have representatives on the policy council. Finally, the new structure allows industries and markets that pay dues and a way to have input into VCA. The new structure provides opportunities for more people to be involved in the future direction of the Virginia Cattlemen’s Association.

Steve Hopkins

Your Ad Here For $30

Call Jacquelynn at 540-992-1009 for more information.
It is time to begin choosing consignments for the Fall Sale. The purebred Charolais you consign should be of a quality to promote your herd and the Charolais breed as well. Our members, past consigners and new Charolais breeders are invited to enter cattle in the sale. With our new association rules, a consigner can consign one breeding age bull per each female lot. All breeding age bulls must pass a complete fertility exam.

Our sales manager for this sale is Robert Morton of Bob Morton Marketing. If you would like to consign Charolais cattle to our sale and do not receive a consignment form, you may contact Mr. Morton at mortonfarms1234@att.net or phone 931-842-1234. You may also contact Bill Thompson at mountainmeadows@highlandcomputers.com or 540-968-1987.

All members of the Virginia Charolais Association are entitled to join all the sales we sponsor. Our next sale

14th Fall Herd Improvement Sale at Virginia Tech

Nov. 8, 2014

1:00 PM

Virginia Charolais Association
Charolais bulls for the most discriminating buyer

124 Kindig Road Waynesboro, VA 22980

Walt Winkler

(540) 943-6144

Cross Mountain Cattle Co.
Robert Farmer
BDE Greenview Rd.
Catlett, VA 20119

540-270-3886

Gerry Scott

540-278-1255

River Croft Charolais

Breeding \nPerformance Charolais \n124 Kindig Road \nWaynesboro, VA 22980

Walt Winkler

(540) 943-6144

CREWS FARMS
124 Kindig Road
Waynesboro, VA 22980

Walt Winkler

(540) 943-6144

2013-2014 VCA Officers

Bill Thompson – President
1200 Park Avenue
Clifton Forge, VA 24422

540-568-1367

Kaitlin Smith – Vice President
454 Old Farm Road
Lexington, VA 24450

540-463-8779

Deirdre Harmon – Secretary
3655 Pipers Gap Road
Galeva, VA 24433

276-231-8822

Walt Winkler – Treasurer
124 Kindig Road
Waynesboro, VA 22980

540-943-6144

Robert Farmer – Past President
8030 Greenwich Road
Catlett, VA 20119

540-270-3886

Chad Jones – Southwest Director
Junior Advisor
Virginia Tech
Dept of Animal & Poultry Science
Blackburg, VA 24061

540-557-3265

We would like to invite anyone interested in becoming a member of our association to call one of the officers listed above.
Kenneth W. Rodeffer
Kenneth Wayne Rodeffer, 63, passed away on Wednesday, July 2, 2014, at his home. Kenny was born in Harrisonburg on Jan. 31, 1951, and was a son of the late Brownie Virginia (Cline) and Rudolph Young Rodeffer. He worked as a marketing specialist for the Virginia State Department of Agriculture in Richmond for over 35 years, and was a member of Summit Church of the Brethren in Bridgewater. Kenny served in the National Guard. Kenny loved to hunt and enjoyed the outdoors. He was an avid gardener and farmer.

On June 19, 1970, he married Mary (Clooney) Hill Rodeffer, who survives. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Natalie R., wife of Chris Campbell, of Staunton; a son, Nathan R. Rodeffer, of Bridgewater; two sisters, Karen R., wife of Robert Airey, of Dayton and Sharon, wife of Mike Embres, of Bridgewater. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Brandy and Nathan Campbell, and Nia Airey.

A memorial service was held at 7 p.m. Sunday, July 6, 2014, at Summit Church of the Brethren, with the Revs. Cole Schrogham and Steve Spire officiating.

Phosphorus Supplementation Of Beef Cattle

Mark A. McCann, Scott J. Neil and Deidre D. Harmon, Animal and Poultry Sciences

Over the past two years, field samples from beef cattle farms in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay watershed have been collected to gauge phosphorus (P) status of cattle in a project sponsored by a CIG grant from NRE and the Virginia Ag Council. Samples collected from fields on farms with high grazing intensity, live weight gain and manure P content included soil, forage and fecal samples, a questionnaire regarding fertilization and supplementation practices and a tag from their free-choice mineral. Fecal samples were analyzed for nutrient and mineral content. Figure 1. A total of 120 locations from 11 counties participated with sample collection (n = 168). Fifty-seven producers completed the survey instrument in addition to the full complement of forage and fecal samples.

During the same period of time two feeding trials were conducted on campus where steers received different levels of phosphorus supplementation from mineral or corn gluten feed. Levels of supplementation ranged from below to well above animal phosphorus requirements (Diets 0-3). The trials were conducted to determine if phosphorus and P in the P fraction of mineral P is likely to contribute to P runoff leaving a watershed during a rain.
Phosphorus

Continued from Page 31

Results

Campus feeding studies indicated that as greater amounts of P were fed, the average forage P content also increased (Figure 3). This would suggest that as the amount of P supplemented exceeds cattle P requirements, the amount of inorganic or water soluble P excreted increases. The net result of feeding P above cattle nutrient needs is that a greater amount of P is excreted and a larger portion of the excreted P is in water soluble form (Figure 4). This would suggest that the average P level of the field samples exceeded the P requirement of cows and growing stockers. It should be noted that the average forage P of the field samples exceeded the P requirement of cows and growing stockers. While there were farms which were already high in P and required no supplementation, farms offering mineral P content was estimated to be active in your local association. These associations have added membership such as discounts on equipment. I believe over the next several years we can offer even more benefits to the membership. I believe one of the great strengths of our association is our regional educational programs next winter and convention that will be held under a new format next summer. I believe Virginia Cattlemen’s future direction is very bright, but it is up to everyone to participate in our education and convention that will be held under a new format next summer. I believe Virginia Cattlemen’s future direction is very bright, but it is up to everyone to participate in our education and convention that will be held under a new format next summer.

VCA Future Direction

Continued from Page 31

Division of Ashby Herd Health Services, Inc.
2420 Grace Chapel Road
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Day/Night (540) 433-0430
1-800-296-COWS (2697)
Randall H. Hinshaw, D.V.M. (540) 246-2697

I believe the net result of the above is that as a producer you can offer even more benefits to the membership. I believe one of the great strengths of our association is our regional educational programs next winter and convention that will be held under a new format next summer. I believe Virginia Cattlemen’s future direction is very bright, but it is up to everyone to participate in our education and convention that will be held under a new format next summer. I believe Virginia Cattlemen’s future direction is very bright, but it is up to everyone to participate in our education and convention that will be held under a new format next summer.
Phosphorus

Continued from Page 14

Sixty-seven producers completed the survey in addition to submitting soil and forage samples. Nutrient management plans (NMP) were utilized to minimize soil and environmental impact and enhance nutrient conservation on the farm by limiting soil erosion and nutrient losses. The majority of producers had implemented a soil testing program. A majority of the producers indicated that a soil test is conducted biannually. In addition, twenty-five percent of producers sampled forage to determine nutrient content. The majority of producers that sampled forage (94%) currently utilized nutrient management plans. Participants ranked criteria for mineral supplement selection, with the primary criterion being the presence of the mineral in the primary, (i.e., secondary or tertiary) feed ingredient. Interpretation of response distribution suggests that the primary criterion for mineral supplement selection was price (26%), followed by local availability (25%) and trace mineral content (21%). Sixty-nine percent of participants indicated that the presence of mineral phosphorus in the feed and forage is important. Fifty-five percent of participants indicated willingness to reduce mineral phosphorus supplement levels if forage analyses revealed that feed and forage resources were capable of meeting phosphorus requirements, while 15% indicated uncertainty and 3% indicated unwillingness. Results from the final trial indicated that mineral phosphorus in forage was adequate for most livestock. Removing P from the mineral supplement would reduce P excretion and also save money. Sampling fresh forage or hay is even more time consuming. A local analysis takes into account the amount of added P from mineral or feed sources of the herd. The majority of the cattlemen participating in the study were receptive to modifying mineral phosphorus supplements based on forage test results while only 6% were opposed to any modification.

Table 1. Phosphorus requirement of beef cows and growing stockers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mineral Phosphorus Content (%)</th>
<th>Beef Cattle</th>
<th>Stockers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Inorganic Phosphorus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.20%</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.40%</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.60%</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.80%</td>
<td>0.80%</td>
<td>0.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Phosphorus excretion as influenced by mineral P content

Bar graph showing the effect of mineral P content on phosphorus excretion.

Smyth County Girls Night Out!

To Smyth County Farm Bureau Women’s Committee and Extension Office partnered with the Virginia Beef Industry Council to present Girls Night Out. The program educated working mothers with families in the area on nutrition, livestock practices, and the beef industry. Girls Night Out serves to educate the working mothers in hope that they will be more informed consumers and will help to serve as advocates for the meat industry among their groups of friends and colleagues. The women spent 1.5 hours preparing enough beef to taste as well as enough to take home with them to feed a family of four. Special thanks to Dr. Paige Pratt and Dr. Mark McCan, both from Virginia Tech, for coordinating this program.

Beef Promotion Update

A Monthly report on your Checkoff Dollars at work from the Virginia Beef Industry Council

August 2014

Beef! It’s What’s For Dinner!®

www.vabeef.org

Smyth County Girls Night Out!

Virginia Beef Council • P.O. Box 9 • Daleville, VA 24083 • 540.992.1992
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hurdle Creek Farm</td>
<td>James Paul, Debra Bennett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potomac Heights Farms</td>
<td>1000 Hereford Crossing, Winchester, VA 22601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-460-8803</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maplewood Farm</td>
<td>Jim and Karen Flaiman, Dan and Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Lion Meadow</td>
<td>1795 Spring Hill Road, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Creek Farm</td>
<td>Billy and Jenny Nixey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potts Creek Farm</td>
<td>Harry &amp; Barbara Knabe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potomac Heights Farms</td>
<td>1035 Gandy Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-492-1994</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolling Hills Farm</td>
<td>John Brasuhn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Farm Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-398-1994</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hickory Springs Farm</td>
<td>John Brasuhn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Farm Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-398-1994</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond “V” Farm</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Del Wilkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Farm Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-398-1994</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay Brook Farm</td>
<td>Roger &amp; Barbara Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1777 Factory Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-460-8803</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunrovin</td>
<td>Rich &amp; Paula Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317 Dunrovin Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-460-8803</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willingham Farm</td>
<td>Dave &amp; Catherine Schaefer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2034 Valley Rd, Martinsville, VA 24112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-460-8803</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Bob Schaffer at 340-589-9956; email: bob@williamsonfarm.com or visit www.virginiafinest.com for more information on enrolling your bulls in the Mid-Atlantic Bull Development Program.
The Virginia Beef Industry Council, through a partnership with Kruger and Virginia Tech Animal & Poultry Sciences Department, hosted the first “Kruger Beef Camp” on June 20, 2014 at the Virginia Tech campus.

Photo by Christie Brown

Kruger moved their annual show closer to Roanoke to the Inn at Virginia Tech in order to bolster a required attendance by retail staff.

Kruger Beef Camp was designed to educate the attendees about the beef industry and system in order to increase their product and knowledge confidence. Additionally, VBC provided a seminar to enhance the customer service program utilized by Kruger. The hour-long seminar was designed to assist them in conversations with their customers to increase consumer education and successful eating experiences.

Because of the scope of this year’s VBC, the added support of other state beef councils and national groups was felt. All VBC staff falling into Kruger’s Multidisciplinary programs of the Consumer Engagement session, Russell Woodard from the Texas Beef Council conducted portions of the Consumer Engagement session. Russell was asked to attend because of his successful beef camps with Kruger’s Mid-West Division.

An all-inclusive beef training session, Kruger Beef Camp brought together approximately 140 managers from the Mid-Atlantic Division (Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, North Carolina and Virginia) for a one-day, hands-on educational experience. Attendees ranged in beef experience from less than 2 years up to an impressive 47 years of beef handling.

Speakers:

- Chad Joines (Agricultural Supervisor, Manager of VT Beef herd)
- Dr. Dan Eversole (Professor, Animal & Poultry Sciences)
- Valerie Van Dyke (Virginia Beef Industry Council)
- Dr. Jason Scheller (VT Meat Science Coordinator)
- Dr. Susan Stinnett (Manager of VT Meat Center)
- Kristen Smith (Consumer/Manager - VT Meat Science Center)
- Russell Woodward (Texas Beef Council)

Kruger Beef Camp Sessions:

Production Tour—Photo by Christie Brown

VT Kentland Farm: Chad and Dr. Eversole presented the beef cattle lifecycle, an overview of VT beef herd, and herd health practices. All segments of the beef industry and the beef choices available to consumers were discussed, in world-class feeding practice, genetics selection, and technological advances that have evolved with all segments. Attendees were able to walk around feed bunk, evaluate live cattle, see corn silage and continued on page 18
continued from Page 17

other feed, and to continue their management. According to our pre-tour survey, most of the attributes believed that producers rated 3 out of 5 on level of understanding the needs of retailers. After attending the production session, the average rating was 5 out of 5, and attendees now feel a lot more favorable towards producers. “If shows you appreciate the quality of the product we sell,” one attendee commented. Another reflected, “for me, it was good to see the care taken for so many breeds of cows, and the process they go through to get Best Beef. Enjoyed the visit.”

Consumer Engagement & Customer Service: Introducing Kroger Beef Camp

Valerie also walked attendees through some of the Checklist resources available to utilize in their beef knowledge expansion. VEHIC, with the help of design services, created a tear-pad for retailers to share with their customers. This pad promotes the Interactive Meat Care Program.

Don’t Just Buy a Bull…. Buy or lease a Roseda Black Angus bull and become a partner in an innovative branded beef program. Roseda Farm will purchase your Roseda shired calves at competitive prices plus a premium based on your level of management and record keeping. Bulls start at $1200 and carry fewer females for a shorter time and still get a good conception rate. “After a 40-day breeding season, I had a conception rate of 95%,” he says. Cows were pregnancy checked by ultrasonography in October, and open cows removed. Second-caling cows indexed $60/lb of beef, with a calf selling in the $220-$280 range for the first 4-5 days of the calving season will sell in late winter at around $250/lb. This high conception rate resulting from early weaning offers the added benefit of letting Maddux retain fewer branded calves. “I’ll only keep the replacement heifers that are going to calve in the first 20 days of the calving season, and I’ll sell those due to the high conception rate,” he says. “I’ll only keep before calving in the first 20 days of the calving season.”

By maintaining tight calving windows, Maddux has bred heifers to sell that don’t fit his calving schedule, and these command a good sales value. “If a female is bred, she may eat someone else’s operation,” he says. “It’s better for her to calve when our strategy is. We sell those in late winter and early spring for a higher price.” The price of a bred cow in late winter or early spring is about double the price of a full cow sold in the off-time of the year.

For Maddux, using a tighter breeding season on a month of

Use Strategy To Reduce A Herd

Valerie also discussed the challenges and rewards of speaking to customers. Many stressed the importance of asking the right questions to uncover the real needs of customers. “We learned that there’s not a question between meat managers and producers about the importance of retaining customers and ensuring that they have a positive shopping, eating experience with Kroger’s beef products once they leave the store.”

Continued on Page 34

Raylene Nickel

Like many other ranchers, John Maddux has the uncertainty of starting another season with little drought relief in sight. For the last 2 years, he has been feeding into summer, balancing low moisture and rejuvenating the health of unplanted land to be a long-term process requiring continued vigilance in stocking rates and herd management. Maddux adjusted his management practices to implement a strategic distocking plan last summer. As a result, he sold 15 percent of his herd by a third. He followed the same strategy of the drought continues. Here are two changes the Maddux, Nebraska, rancher made in order to remove the herd, utilize better spring calving numbers to decreased range production.

1. Wean calves early and call cows

Valerie also walked attendees through some of the Checklist resources available to utilize in their beef knowledge expansion. VEHIC, with the help of design services, created a tear-pad for retailers to share with their customers. This pad promotes the Interactive Meat Care Program. Continued on Page 20

Continued from Page 17

Continued page 34
On June 19-21, 2014, the Virginia Junior Simmental and North Carolina Junior Simmental Associations hosted the American Junior Simmental Association Eastern Regional Classic in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Exhibitors from 14 states competed at this event. The exhibitors competed in six contests, including Sales Talk, Cattlemen’s Quiz, Livestock Judging, Public Speaking, Showmanship, and the Cattle Show.

Six junior members from Virginia competed in this event. These members were Kelsey Powers-Barb, Krista Barb, Hayden Campbell, Daniel Campbell, Zack Jones, and Hunter Watkins. The juniors represented Virginia very well. Hunter Watkins placed first in Livestock Judging. Krista Barb placed second in Public Speaking and tenth in Sales Talk. In the Cattle Show, Zack Jones was a class winner and placed third and fifth overall in the Bred & Owned Paved show. Hayden Campbell and Krista Barb each placed third in their Divisions with their purebred heifers.

The junior members would like to thank all the adult members that helped make this event a success.
Reducing Beef Herds

Continued from Page 18

guiding herd reduction service to increase the overall efficiency of the herd.

“As my experience, fertility is the most important factor in maintaining herd efficiency,” he says.

“In my experience, fertility is the most important factor in main-

“Diversification helps with risk management,” says Nixon. “So we may sell more cows. We sell a bred cow than a cull cow,” adds Nixon. “I like to move them out when they’re still productive.”

This year, with cattle prices high, more than 400 cows. Nixon says it’s not unusual to sell, a Fredbush. He feeds about 1,000 tons of small grain silage each year, and we har-

By Tom Nixon

Tom Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

As a result of his cur-

“Tom” Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

Continued from Page 18

guiding herd reduction service to increase the overall efficiency of the herd.

“As my experience, fertility is the most important factor in main-

“The overall result is that I invest less labor per cow and typically have

“Managing the most important factor in main-

“In my experience, fertility is the most important factor in main-

“Diversification helps with risk management,” says Nixon. “So we may sell more cows. We sell a bred cow than a cull cow,” adds Nixon. “I like to move them out when they’re still productive.”

This year, with cattle prices high, more than 400 cows. Nixon says it’s not unusual to sell, a Fredbush. He feeds about 1,000 tons of small grain silage each year, and we har-

By Tom Nixon

Tom Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

As a result of his cur-

“Tom” Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

Continued from Page 18

guiding herd reduction service to increase the overall efficiency of the herd.

“As my experience, fertility is the most important factor in main-

“The overall result is that I invest less labor per cow and typically have

“Managing the most important factor in main-

“Diversification helps with risk management,” says Nixon. “So we may sell more cows. We sell a bred cow than a cull cow,” adds Nixon. “I like to move them out when they’re still productive.”

This year, with cattle prices high, more than 400 cows. Nixon says it’s not unusual to sell, a Fredbush. He feeds about 1,000 tons of small grain silage each year, and we har-

By Tom Nixon

Tom Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

As a result of his cur-

“Tom” Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

Continued from Page 18

guiding herd reduction service to increase the overall efficiency of the herd.

“As my experience, fertility is the most important factor in main-

“The overall result is that I invest less labor per cow and typically have

“Managing the most important factor in main-

“Diversification helps with risk management,” says Nixon. “So we may sell more cows. We sell a bred cow than a cull cow,” adds Nixon. “I like to move them out when they’re still productive.”

This year, with cattle prices high, more than 400 cows. Nixon says it’s not unusual to sell, a Fredbush. He feeds about 1,000 tons of small grain silage each year, and we har-

By Tom Nixon

Tom Nixon II, who owns this farm, is focused on flexibility in

Reducing Beef Herds

As a result of his cur-
Meet the Nixons

Tom Nixon, a lifelong farmer in Orange County, has been passionate about poultry and cattle since he was a child. He has been active in the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, serving as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative in Orange County. He has also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

Tom Nixon has been a leader in the Orange County community, serving as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. He has also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

As the Virginia winner of the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 25th consecutive year, Nixon has done a fantastic job of improving his farm's efficiency and profitability. He has increased his production of turkeys and chickens, while also expanding his cattle program. Nixon has won the Virginia Cattlemen's Association's Outstanding Older Farmer of the Year award for the past five years.

The Nixon family is active in their community, serving as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. They have also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

The Nixon family has a long history of leadership in the Orange County community. Tom Nixon has served as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. He has also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

As the Virginia winner of the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 25th consecutive year, Nixon has done a fantastic job of improving his farm's efficiency and profitability. He has increased his production of turkeys and chickens, while also expanding his cattle program. Nixon has won the Virginia Cattlemen's Association's Outstanding Older Farmer of the Year award for the past five years.

The Nixon family is active in their community, serving as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. They have also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

The Nixon family has a long history of leadership in the Orange County community. Tom Nixon has served as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. He has also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

As the Virginia winner of the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 25th consecutive year, Nixon has done a fantastic job of improving his farm's efficiency and profitability. He has increased his production of turkeys and chickens, while also expanding his cattle program. Nixon has won the Virginia Cattlemen's Association's Outstanding Older Farmer of the Year award for the past five years.

The Nixon family is active in their community, serving as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. They have also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

The Nixon family has a long history of leadership in the Orange County community. Tom Nixon has served as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. He has also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

As the Virginia winner of the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 25th consecutive year, Nixon has done a fantastic job of improving his farm's efficiency and profitability. He has increased his production of turkeys and chickens, while also expanding his cattle program. Nixon has won the Virginia Cattlemen's Association's Outstanding Older Farmer of the Year award for the past five years.

The Nixon family is active in their community, serving as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. They have also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

The Nixon family has a long history of leadership in the Orange County community. Tom Nixon has served as a director on the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair. He has also been active in the Culpepper Cooperative, Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Orange County Fair.

As the Virginia winner of the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 25th consecutive year, Nixon has done a fantastic job of improving his farm's efficiency and profitability. He has increased his production of turkeys and chickens, while also expanding his cattle program. Nixon has won the Virginia Cattlemen's Association's Outstanding Older Farmer of the Year award for the past five years.
Troy Marshall, BEEF Magazine

Have you ever attended a meeting and heard a producer talk about his branded-beef program, rotational grazing system or planned breeding system that utilizes artificial insemination, etc.? These folks usually have incredible data on the gains they’ve made and such claims are almost universally correct. It truly is amazing what they’ve accomplished. These producers are usually asked to present their story not only because of their successes in implementing these strategies but also in their long-term experience in these areas. It makes sense, as they are the experts, but I’ve come to believe that with expertise comes a lack of understanding or appreciation about exactly what it took to get to that level of expertise. These presenters almost always make it sound simple.

The problem with experts is that they’ve learned so much about the subject of their expertise that they can’t relate to a person’s lack of expertise and remember to tell you everything you need to know. I experienced this first hand this summer as we have attempted to implement a more intensive grazing management plan. To go out and execute that move, it’s never quite as simple as it sounds.

The key is to seek out the experts. The articles are starting to appear and suggest that we may be heading for a period of level out. Unfortunately, the media and the speculators don’t seem to react with much levity themselves when market corrections occur and force limit down scenarios for 24 to 72 hour stretches that make a marketing plan supplemented with risk management much more comforting.

I learned in the last few years that I was not wise to say any longer that I never thought I would see this or that. My grandfather used to enjoy remarking that he had seen everything from the horse and buggy to a man on the moon. That was indeed true in the 20th century. Human population and the amount of information generated continues to grow exponentially. Speculation is no longer seasonal in our business any longer and has been augmented with tools that our fathers and grandfathers didn’t have. Knowledge is always free but even in times of great profitability education can be quite expensive. Invest some research and sweat equity time in a long term marketing plan that has a toolbox of relationships and risk protection strategies.

**Expert Advice Doesn’t Eliminate Learning Things The Hard Way**

Continued from Page 2

**Opportunities**

Continued from Page 2

**Keeping Watch**

Continued from Page 4

While also working to promote Virginia farmland, the state has beefed up its international marketing efforts for Virginia farm products in recent years, with a trade office in Hong Kong and consultants working in Asia, Europe, India and Latin America. As the state’s secretary of agriculture and forestry, Haymore is focusing on promoting and selling Virginia agricultural products in world markets. Adams is focusing on the agriculture and consumer services department’s daily mission, which includes a wide array of responsibilities.

Most Virginians likely are not aware of all the things the agency does. Adams has three main divisions that encompass marketing, animal and food industry services, and consumer protection. “That is why I love this agency. It is doing what it sets out to do every day,” Adams said. She added that the agency’s staff is its biggest asset. “I think the agency is fortunate because we have people working here that really love what they do and want to do a good job,” she said.
Dear EPA: Is That Puddle Navigable?

The title here highlights just how far the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has pushed its authority under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) are taking public comments on a proposed regulation that would expand the federal government’s authority over water, private property, and the land. The agencies’ own article attempts to provide precedents with stories of proposed expansions and the devastating impacts it could have on their operations, in hopes that you’ll take your fellow citizens or the county and state and federal level to ask that you prevent everything in their power to prevent this federal land grab.

When passed in 1972, the CWA created a regulatory permitting system to control discharges (discharge includes dirt, manure, fertilizer, litter, pesticides, etc.) into “navigable waters.” The term “navigable waters” is defined in the CWA at “waters of the United States” and “adjacent waters.” No analysis is needed by the regulator, it is automatically a “water of the U.S.”

The proposed regulation makes every water in a “riparian area” a “water of the U.S.” Riparian area is vaguely defined by the agencies, it still might be a federal water. Even a water that is geographically isolated from all other waters. The agencies pass on providing a clear test or definition for this important phrase. Justice Kennedy said (in his concurring opinion) that the EPA/Corps could regulate isolated wetlands that are wholly intrastate if it had a “significant nexus” to “traditional and interstate waters.” The cost. Well, they could potentially be catastrophic, not only monetarily but on the federalism principle of government. If you take a look at the proposed rule, one thing is clear—it is written so broadly that almost everything is now under federal jurisdiction.

The costs. Well, they could potentially be catastrophic, not only monetarily but on the federalism principle of government. If you take a look at the proposed rule, one thing is clear—it is written so broadly that almost everything is now under federal jurisdiction.
Money Making Mathematics: \[ 2 + 2 = 5 \]

Add as much as $1,000 over the life of a crossbred cow with planned crossbreeding.

HETEROSIS IS YOUR KEY TO PROFITABILITY

Gelbvieh x British cow with a Balancer® sired calf.

Balancer® is a Gelbvieh x Angus or Red Angus registered hybrid.

Crossbreeding is smart and easy. www.GELBVIEH.org

To find a Gelbvieh or Balancer® breeder near you contact a member of the Gelbvieh Breeders of Virginia

Gelbvieh Breeders of Virginia, Inc.
2157 Black Lick Road
Rural Retreat, VA 24368
President: Nathan Haver - 540-997-5376
Vice President: Tom Lavelle - 276-223-4488
Secretary: Joe Wilson - 276-228-4163
Treasurer: Judith Sweeten - 276-228-6347
EPA

EPA states that the regulation is a "necessary step" for achieving the goal of "zero discharge" to the "waters of the U.S," and includes new federal "jurisdictional determinations" (JDs) and subsequent permitting processes. The importance of the new JDs should not be overlooked, as they will significantly impact agricultural activities. The JDs are intended to ensure that all activities that could potentially impact the "waters of the U.S." are subject to federal regulation. The JDs include new exclusions for agricultural activities, which were previously not covered by the law. The JDs are based on the definition of "waters of the U.S." as those that are "adversely affected by a discharge." The JDs are intended to clarify the regulatory framework for agricultural activities, and to prevent regulatory uncertainty. The new JDs are intended to provide a clear and consistent framework for determining whether activities are subject to federal regulation. The agricultural exemptions in the JDs are intended to provide a "reasonable level of protection" for agricultural activities, while ensuring that activities that could potentially impact the "waters of the U.S." are subject to federal regulation. The JDs are intended to prevent regulatory uncertainty and provide a clear and consistent framework for determining whether activities are subject to federal regulation.

Agricultural exemptions in the JDs are intended to provide a "reasonable level of protection" for agricultural activities, while ensuring that activities that could potentially impact the "waters of the U.S." are subject to federal regulation. The JDs are intended to prevent regulatory uncertainty and provide a clear and consistent framework for determining whether activities are subject to federal regulation.
Wayne was a real cowboy. A child of the Great Depression, he grew up on a dirt farm near Stephens City, VA. The farm was hard and young, when his father died, the family was in the poorest of times. He tells the story that in drought years the only grass left was on the side of the road, and you paid your side. Mounted on his linebacker gelding, second only by his dog, and armed just with his blacksnake (what Easterners call a bull whip), Wayne kept his polled Herefords in a bunch so they would graze and not trample the valuable forage. This also made them easier to control, especially when they came to the water. The water would have to be moved through an irrigation to wet the fields.

Wayne went to college and became an engineer. He worked for the Electronics Service and teamed/cashed on the side. He eventually sold the property and wound up in Virginia to be near family. I met Wayne and his wife Betty some years ago. We share a family. I met Wayne and his wife Betty some years ago. We share a family. Wayne’s dictionary, definition of a cowboy is “One who tends cattle or horses.” Wayne and I think, agree that this is an over generalization, unless you define the word “needs” as making the well being of your cows your first priority. “Immediate needs meaning feeding your cows’ condition every day, no matter if the temperature is 110 degrees above or 30 degrees below. In heating, rain, pouring snow, or blizzard. It describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf, it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy. If tending means being late for dinner with the neighbors because you had to pull a hip locked calf to use something it describes a cowboy.
Temperament can affect your cattle’s behavior and performance. Cloud et al. (2014) and other studies have shown an effect of temperament on reproductive performance in beef cattle. Over four hundred spring-calving, range cows at two locations in eastern Oregon were scored for temperament using both a chute score and measurement of exit velocities from a squeeze chute. When 25% of the cows were scored as aggressive and these cows had lower pregnancy rates (93%) than the average temperament cows (96%). At one location, cows were bred by AI followed by turn out with a bull. The second location used natural service mating only. Cows that received natural service mating only had a negative relationship of score to pregnancy rate higher scores gaining less weight. The lowered pregnancy rate even when bulls were used indicates that the effect was not due solely to stress during handling at AI. Based on life and other studies, the researchers suggest calling animals before handling, separating aggressive and fearful cattle from others before handling in a human. The same researchers conducted another study to evaluate the effect of acclimating cattle to handling on reproductive performance in beef cows. The researchers suggest culling on temperament or adapting cattle to humans. The same researchers did a study conducted in Louisiana did not see an effect of temperament on pregnancy rates. But they did see that this training needs to occur when animals are fairly young because older cows did not change their temperament behavior when handled more frequently. A recent study conducted in Louisiana did not find a relationship between temperament score and pregnancy rates in beef bulls, but did see an increase in weight gain with bulls with higher scores gaining less weight.

Temperament can affect your cattle’s behavior and performance. Cloud et al. (2014) and other studies have shown an effect of temperament on reproductive performance in beef cattle. Over four hundred spring-calving, range cows at two locations in eastern Oregon were scored for temperament using both a chute score and measurement of exit velocities from a squeeze chute. When 25% of the cows were scored as aggressive and these cows had lower pregnancy rates (93%) than the average temperament cows (96%). At one location, cows were bred by AI followed by turn out with a bull. The second location used natural service mating only. Cows that received natural service mating only had a negative relationship of score to pregnancy rate higher scores gaining less weight. The lowered pregnancy rate even when bulls were used indicates that the effect was not due solely to stress during handling at AI. Based on life and other studies, the researchers suggest calling animals before handling, separating aggressive and fearful cattle from others before handling in a human. The same researchers conducted another study to evaluate the effect of acclimating cattle to handling on reproductive performance in beef cows. The researchers suggest culling on temperament or adapting cattle to humans. The same researchers did a study conducted in Louisiana did not see an effect of temperament on pregnancy rates. But they did see that this training needs to occur when animals are fairly young because older cows did not change their temperament behavior when handled more frequently. A recent study conducted in Louisiana did not find a relationship between temperament score and pregnancy rates in beef bulls, but did see an increase in weight gain with bulls with higher scores gaining less weight.
The 2014 State 4-H/FFA Stockmen’s Contest and State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl were held at Alphin Stuart Livestock Arena and Litton Reaves Hall in Blacksburg, VA.

The 2014 Stockmen’s Contest consisted of 74 junior and 67 senior competitors that are in the 4-H or FFA programs. The contest consisted of a livestock-specific quiz, identification of livestock equipment, understanding of breeds, feeds, and meat, and junior and senior categories, and the top two scorers will be selected to attend the National 4-H Stockmen’s Contest that will be held during the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl Invitational in September during the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Stock Show. This year’s winning team is Rockingham County 4-H.

The winning senior team will go on to compete at the National 4-H/FFA Stockmen’s Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky. This year’s winners are from Augusta County 4-H. Team members include Jake McCall, Cole Leonard, Cassidy Simmons, and Simon Liggett. In addition to Augustus County 4-H, congratulations go out to top 5 teams across the state, Frederick County 4-H, Carroll County 4-H, Shenandoah County 4-H, and Rockingham County 4-H. The top 5 Senior Individuals were: 1st Place – Claire Gleason (Carroll County), 2nd Place-Cody Boden (Frederick County), 3rd Place- Hannah Craun (Rockingham County), 4th Place- Jake McCall (Augusta County), and 5th Place- Cole Leonard (Augusta County).

The State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl was held in conjunction with the State 4-H/FFA Stockmen’s Contest. This contest was open to 4-H teams across the state. The Quiz Bowl drew in 15 Junior teams and 13 Senior teams for the event. Competitors were asked individual one-on-one questions, team questions, and the fun toss-up questions that were open to anyone. Each mental lasted approximately 15 minutes and consisted of a general livestock quiz. The top 3 Junior teams and the top 2 Senior teams will compete at the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl Invitational in September during the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Stock Show. The junior winners are from Rockingham County 4-H, and the winning team members are Carly Craun, Jack Redifer, Kaylee Greiner, Samuel Gerrard, and Will Boyd.

The second place team was Montgomery County 4-H and consisted of Carly Carpenter, Paul Craun, Katelyn Funkhouser, Jacob Craun, and Coach Tammy Craun. The winning team in the junior division was from Rockingham County 4-H, and the winning team members are Carly Craun, Jack Redifer, Kaylee Greiner, Samuel Gerrard, and Will Boyd. The second place junior team was from Montgomery County 4-H and consisted of Carly Carpenter, Jacob Craun, Paul Craun, and Katelyn Funkhouser.

The 2014 State 4-H/FFA Stockmen’s Contest and State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl were held at Alphin Stuart Livestock Arena and Litton Reaves Hall in Blacksburg, VA.

The 2014 Stockmen’s Contest consisted of 74 junior and 67 senior competitors that are in the 4-H or FFA programs. The contest consisted of a livestock-specific quiz, identification of livestock equipment, understanding of breeds, feeds, and meat, and junior and senior categories, and the top two scorers will be selected to attend the National 4-H Stockmen’s Contest that will be held during the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl Invitational in September during the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Stock Show. This year’s winning team is Rockingham County 4-H.

The winning senior team will go on to compete at the National 4-H/FFA Stockmen’s Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky. This year’s winners are from Augusta County 4-H. Team members include Jake McCall, Cole Leonard, Cassidy Simmons, and Simon Liggett. In addition to Augustus County 4-H, congratulations go out to top 5 teams across the state, Frederick County 4-H, Carroll County 4-H, Shenandoah County 4-H, and Rockingham County 4-H. The top 5 Senior Individuals were: 1st Place – Claire Gleason (Carroll County), 2nd Place-Cody Boden (Frederick County), 3rd Place- Hannah Craun (Rockingham County), 4th Place- Jake McCall (Augusta County), and 5th Place- Cole Leonard (Augusta County).

The State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl was held in conjunction with the State 4-H/FFA Stockmen’s Contest. This contest was open to 4-H teams across the state. The Quiz Bowl drew in 15 Junior teams and 13 Senior teams for the event. Competitors were asked individual one-on-one questions, team questions, and the fun toss-up questions that were open to anyone. Each mental lasted approximately 15 minutes and consisted of a general livestock quiz. The top 3 Junior teams and the top 2 Senior teams will compete at the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl Invitational in September during the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Stock Show. The junior winners are from Rockingham County 4-H, and the winning team members are Carly Craun, Jack Redifer, Kaylee Greiner, Samuel Gerrard, and Will Boyd. The second place team was Montgomery County 4-H and consisted of Carly Carpenter, Paul Craun, Jacob Craun, and Katelyn Funkhouser. Additional honors went to the 3rd place Junior Team, Rockingham County 4-H (Carly Carpenter, Jacob Craun, Paul Craun, and Katelyn Funkhouser) and 3rd place Montgomery County 4-H (Sidnie Saville, Luke Redifer, and Leah Greiner). All contest results and additional 4-H livestock information can be found on the youth livestock website at www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock.
First Place Senior Stockman's Team from Augusta County. From left to right: Cole Leonard, Coach Eric Stogdale, and Cassidy Simmons. Not pictured: Simon Ligget and Jake McCall.

Second Place Senior Stockman's team from Frederick County. From left to right: coach Bob Ashby, Cody Boden, Matt Fessell, Courtney Walls, Gordon McIntire, and Coach Ruth Boden.

First Place Junior Stockman's team from Rockbridge County. From left to right: Ryan Borer, Brent Hostetter, Jenna Hamilton, Tyller Roney, and Coach Patty Hamilton.

Second Place Junior Stockman's team from Washington County. From left to right: Olivia Bostic, Zeren Belcher, Coach Kate Belcher, Alex Wheeler, and Kassidy Slaughter.

Stockman's Contest top ten Senior individuals: (left to right, 10th-1st) Gordon McIntire, Jack Redifer, Jessica Vass, Cassidy Simmons, Cole Leonard, Hannah Comer, Cody Boden and Claire Gleason. Not pictured: Simon Ligget (7th) and Jake McCall (4th)

Stockman’s Contest top 10 Junior individuals: (from left to right, 10th-1st) Chet Boden, Seth Stowe, Paul Craun, Zeren Belcher, Zach McCall, Ethan Clouse, Brent Hostetter, Caleb Boden, Camille Mitchell, and Alex Wheeler.
The 2014 State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest was held on June 25, 2014 at Alphin Stuart Livestock Arena in Blacksburg, VA.

The 2014 Livestock Judging Contest brought in 63 junior and 55 senior contestants that are enrolled in 4-H programs from across the state. The 2014 contest consisted of 8 judging classes. Species-specific questions were asked on two of the judging classes for both juniors and seniors. Seniors gave reasons on four judging classes, while junior contestants gave reasons on two judging classes.

The top 3 senior teams have the option to judge as a team at a higher level contest, with the top team receiving the first choice. The top senior team was from Rockingham County 4-H. Team members include: Caley Ellington, Hannah Craun, Makalyn Nesselrodt, and Bailey Carpenter. A congratulations goes out to our top 3 Senior teams: 1st place – Rockingham County, 2nd place – Augusta 4-H Team A, and 3rd place – Shenandoah County.

The top two senior individuals are given opportunities to enter the Virginia State 4-H Livestock Judging Team, which will represent Virginia at the National level contest. The top junior and senior individuals were awarded belt buckles sponsored by Bill & Dot McKinnon and Land of Promise Farms. The top honors were awarded to Caley Ellington from Rockingham County. The top ten individuals rounded out as follows: 2nd place – Autumn Garber (Augusta County), 3rd place – Bailey Hadacek (Augusta County), 4th place – Sarah Harris (Rockbridge County), 5th place – Cassidy Simmons (Augusta County), 6th place – Hailey Shoemaker (Shenandoah County), 7th place – Jessica Yanez (Carroll County), 8th place – Samuel Gardner (Montgomery County), 9th place – Nicole Ashby (Shenandoah County), and 10th place – Paul Craig (Rockingham County).

All contest results and additional 4-H Livestock information can be found on the youth livestock web site at www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock.
Forage Cover Crops: Triticale

As beef producers, growing our own feed and feedstuffs can save money. For back-grounding or breeding cattle development purposes can be challenging. Uncooperative weather and persistent pests, among other things, can reduce crop yields and quality. Today beef producers must constantly evaluate their feedstuff and forage systems and consider practical alternatives that fit their production goals. One possible option for various crop rotation systems is winter triticale harvested for forage.

Winter triticale (Triticale Avena) is a hybrid of winter rye and winter wheat. Triticale can be harvested as a forage in the fall or winter and can be used for hay or baleage, as a winter cover crop and for spring forage. This forage can grow in most of Virginia despite its lower winter hardiness compared to many grasses. Triticale is recommended in the spring following corn residue at 120 lbs/acre with a seeding depth of 1”. Crimson clover was planted in conjunction with the triticale at 20 lbs/acre to provide residual nitrogen for future crops. Seed costs for the test were high, at approximately $13.75/ton. One ton of quality baleage was applied spring 2014 with ammonia nitrogen and 20-5-20 fertilizer and 330 lbs N was applied at planting in April. Nutrient removal rates for triticale are estimated at 98 lbs N, 30 lbs P2O5, 155 lbs K2O (Central Extension Service). Forage is harvested in May prior to seed head emergence. It is also planted in late August and through into November. Optimal planting dates can vary dependent on climate, temperature, and cropping systems. According to Dr. Wade Thomason, optimum planting dates range from late September through mid-October. “For triticale, the optimum planting date is a variable of about 1 week before a first average freeze date in the area.” Part of the reasoning for this, Dr. Thomason stated, is that sown field plantings can result in stronger root and tiller development prior to winter dormancy.

Triticale Testing

An initial 0.4 acre plot of triticale was planted in Amherst County late in the season on November 22, 2013. In early December, the plot was drilled into soybean and corn stubble at 25 lb/acre with a seeding depth of 1”. Crimson clover was planted in conjunction with the triticale at 28 lbs/acre to provide residual nitrogen for future crops. Seed costs for the test were high, at approximately $87.50/ton. One ton of quality baleage was applied spring 2014 with 300 lbs N and 200 lbs 20-5-20 fertilizer. Baling was completed on May 4, 2014 with half of the baleage done by several methods. If the hay stack was exposed to the elements and weaned stocker calves. BMR baleage was planted in the field shortly after triticale harvest.

As with many crop and livestock production systems, a cover crop depends greatly on environmental conditions. Pre-planting plantings can result in stronger root and tiller development prior to winter dormancy. The long and seemingly endless winter we recently endured is something hard to predict, even during a late planting time of November. Given earlier plantings, 2014 State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

THE VIRGINIA CATTLEMAN–AUGUST 2014–PAGE 31
**BUFFALO-STYLE BEEF BITES**

In a large stockpot, combine beef, broth, oil, garlic powder, cayenne pepper sauce, onion powder, and carrots, tossing to coat. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer tightly for 1-5/2 hours or until beef is fork-tender.

1. Remove beef from cooking liquid and to large bowl; discard cooking liquid. Stir in remaining 1/4 cup cayenne pepper sauce and blue cheese crumbles. Serve with carrot and celery sticks, if desired.

Total Recipe Time: 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 hours

Makes 8 to 12 appetizer servings

**INGREDIENTS**

1. 1-1/2 to 2 pounds beef Country-Style Ribs, cut into 1-inch pieces
2. 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
3. 1/4 cup beef broth
4. 3 tablespoons plus 1/2 cup cayenne pepper sauce Buffalo wings, divided
5. 2 teaspoons garlic powder
6. 2 teaspoons onion powder
7. 1/4 cup blue cheese crumbles
8. Carrot and celery sticks (optional)

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUFFALO-STYLE BEEF BITES**

1. Heat oil in large stockpot over medium heat until hot. Brown half of beef ribs; remove from stockpot. Repeat with remaining beef.

2. Return beef to stockpot. Add beef broth, 2 tablespoons cayenne pepper sauce for Buffalo wings, divided, garlic powder, onion powder, and carrots, tossing to coat. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover tightly and simmer 1-3/4 to 2 hours or until beef is fork-tender.

3. Remove beef from cooking liquid to large bowl; discard cooking liquid. Stir in remaining 1/4 cup cayenne pepper sauce and blue cheese crumbles. Serve with carrot and celery sticks, if desired.

Nutritional Information per serving:
- 133 calories
- 8 g fat (3 g saturated fat; 1 g monounsaturated fat)
- 46 mg cholesterol
- 453 mg sodium
- 1 g carbohydrate
- 0.3 g fiber
- 15 g protein
- 2.0 mg niacin
- 0.1 mg vitamin B6
- 1.6 mcg vitamin B12
- 1.5 mg iron
- 15.0 mcg selenium
- 43.3 mg choline

This recipe is an excellent source of protein, vitamin B12, iron, and zinc; and a good source of niacin.
What Goes Up Must Go...

David Cuddy
Commercial Ag. Loan Officer
Farm Credit
Abingdon, VA

We all know the story of Mr. Newton’s gravitational revelation while sitting under an apple tree. We feel the effects of this law of nature, every minute of every day. It’s so obvious that we don’t have to think about it.

Any tree that moves away from the ground, unless we build some sort of structure to hold it in place, will eventually fall back to earth. We see the same thing happen with cows and bulls, over and over, and week by week.

For several months, now, I’ve listened to and participated in many discussions about the current state of cattle prices, and when we’ll reach a point at which they begin to ease again (take heed to Mr. Newton’s law of universal gravitation, agreeing with him whether we like it or not) – and as though every tree we think we’ve seen the top of the cattle market, we’re proven wrong, as prices continue to move upwards almost every week.

Now, I’m certainly not challenged by history. Henry Penny (another great mind in the science of gravitational theory), but I do think that we need to keep some things in mind as we continue up the hill. Before we get too far away from the ground.

And to remember, that they won’t go anywhere.

To recap what you probably already know, as I am writing, the board for August feeder cattle is sitting at just under $215/cwt. Compared to the US average feeder cattle price from 2009, that’s an increase of $121.90/cwt, or a whopping 124%, over a period of only 5 years. By comparison, from the lows of 1986, when feeders averaged $58.64/cwt, it took until 2004 (almost 20 years) for them to break the $100/cwt barrier, settling at $104.30, an increase of 78%.

But I do think that we need to keep some things in mind as we continue up the hill. Before we get too far away from the ground.

And to remember, that they won’t go anywhere.

To recap what you probably already know, as I am writing, the board for August feeder cattle is sitting at just under $215/cwt. Compared to the US average feeder cattle price from 2009, that’s an increase of $121.90/cwt, or a whopping 124%, over a period of only 5 years. By comparison, from the lows of 1986, when feeders averaged $58.64/cwt, it took until 2004 (almost 20 years) for them to break the $100/cwt barrier, settling at $104.30, an increase of 78%.

But I do think that we need to keep some things in mind as we continue up the hill. Before we get too far away from the ground.

And to remember, that they won’t go anywhere.

To recap what you probably already know, as I am writing, the board for August feeder cattle is sitting at just under $215/cwt. Compared to the US average feeder cattle price from 2009, that’s an increase of $121.90/cwt, or a whopping 124%, over a period of only 5 years. By comparison, from the lows of 1986, when feeders averaged $58.64/cwt, it took until 2004 (almost 20 years) for them to break the $100/cwt barrier, settling at $104.30, an increase of 78%.

But I do think that we need to keep some things in mind as we continue up the hill. Before we get too far away from the ground.

And to remember, that they won’t go anywhere.

To recap what you probably already know, as I am writing, the board for August feeder cattle is sitting at just under $215/cwt. Compared to the US average feeder cattle price from 2009, that’s an increase of $121.90/cwt, or a whopping 124%, over a period of only 5 years. By comparison, from the lows of 1986, when feeders averaged $58.64/cwt, it took until 2004 (almost 20 years) for them to break the $100/cwt barrier, settling at $104.30, an increase of 78%.

But I do think that we need to keep some things in mind as we continue up the hill. Before we get too far away from the ground.

And to remember, that they won’t go anywhere.
ATTENTION CATTLE PRODUCERS

The Virginia Cattlemen’s Association is the Commonwealth’s agricultural grassroots producer group devoted to the cattle business. Our strength is in our membership and the knowledge and assets the cattle producers bring to the table. A very important part of our business is the relationships we have with land owners whom we rent and lease from for our part of our business is the relationships we have with land owners whom we rent and lease from for our use. We want to get involved in understanding our business and make them members too.

With their permission, please send VCA the name, address, telephone number and email of the people you rent land from that could be interested in getting involved as VCA members. We will send them a free 6 month trial subscription to The Virginia Cattlemen newspaper to get them started.

Our strength is in our knowledge and our membership. Building relationships has always been an important part of the cattle business and that is what we continue to strive to do.

Marketing, Representation & Education

Kroger Beef Camp

Continued from Page 10 tools and Beef. It’s who’s for Diane’s overall. 60% at attend- 0.3% of attended meat- sers said that they plan to utilize these tools in time to provide ad- ditional information and cooking tips to customers.

Swift Meat Cutting Session – VT Meat Center

Kristen & Jason led a multi- topic meat cutting and carcass breakdown session at the VT Meat Center. Jason provided an overview of the VT Meat Center, how it works, and how cattle are harvested in comparison with larger plants. He showed a hanging carcass and the locations of the primal/ subprimals, as well as USDA grading cards. Jason then led the group through a demonstration on cutting the shoulder clod to get the flat iron. He explained how the flat iron is sometimes cut incorrectly with connective tissue still intact, and how flat iron translates to a bad eating experi- ence for customers.

Kristen explained the origin of popular cuts through a vacuum sealed & unmolded “carcass puzzle”. She discussed how the location of each cut relates to the carcass. While the attendants have a vast knowledge of beef products, many have never cut meat from the entire carcass. Attendees benefited from the opportunity to ask questions and learn exactly how the cuts they sell will come to be packaged.

“I’m very thankful beef comes from the way it does at Kroger”, one attendee said. “I’ve never had to go through a house of subprimals Kroger re- ceives vs. cutting down an entire carcass. Attendees gain a vast knowledge of beef products, which is a strong example of training opportunities for beef council McGrath and others to interact with consumers in retail. There are several topics that stand themselves well to a follow-up training, or activity, including information about inspections, processing cattle, and additional production information. Virginia Beef Industry Council feels confident that the attendees will utilize their knowledge and skills from the tour to further beef sales in the state of Virginia and sur- rounding Mid-Atlantic areas.

We Feed What We Sell

Economically priced and more feed value for your money.

PERFORMANCE FEEDS

YOUR PROFITABLE FEED SOLUTION

18% Performance Mix "Soy Hull Pellets" 13% Feeder Blend

Toysail Pellets "Our Own Pellets" 13% Performance Plus

Our young stock program makes the difference.

For further information call:
Cattle Service: 1-888-249-0977
Mark Service: 1-888-249-0875

Find the Dealer nearest you:

Call toll free 888-777-5912

Quality Breeding Stock you can count on.
What Goes Up

to make the argument that it was easy next time, in fact, I'm going to say: increase your line of credit. That means that you will need to get volatile. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation. To increase your line of credit, and for talk to your lender about increasing your line of credit, and for the lender to look for ways to help you.

That $1800 steer is suddenly worth around $1530. Your margin for error just got a whole lot tighter. As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

The end goal of your risk management strategy should be to manage supply risk. Marginal risk is any factor that can have a negative influence on your profit margin. Obviously, there are many marginal risk factors that can affect your business, like weather, input costs, and market conditions. For example, if you're a producer who's not given much notice about the coming weather, you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

We're seeing beef production, moving forward, that's because, we're feeding for price and volume, not price and quality. We're feeding to place lighter cattle, meaning that the cattle prices might be high, but the risk is lower. We're looking at the stocker operators' perspective, especially when it comes to the beef market. The end goal of your risk management strategy should be to manage supply risk. Marginal risk is any factor that can have a negative influence on your profit margin. Obviously, there are many marginal risk factors that can affect your business, like weather, input costs, and market conditions. For example, if you're a producer who's not given much notice about the coming weather, you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

The end goal of your risk management strategy should be to manage supply risk. Marginal risk is any factor that can have a negative influence on your profit margin. Obviously, there are many marginal risk factors that can affect your business, like weather, input costs, and market conditions. For example, if you're a producer who's not given much notice about the coming weather, you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.

As a lender, I know how important it is to have a better understanding of the risks involved in the cattle market. Calf prices are still high, and based on all indicators, we can expect, at some point, that the high for a particular year, then you can expect a drop in prices. High prices, especially when they're on the rise, can be a risk. But when you're in a good position, you have more control over your financial situation.
For stout, good-looking performance Angus cattle, consider one of the best—Plattemore Weigh Up. Stamping his offspring with a powerful look with plenty of muscle shape, Weigh Up ranks high in the breed for several traits, including Top 1% for WW, YW, RAPG, HP, CW and $W. His Retail Product dam provides a significant maternal boost along with adding ample rib dimension and structural soundness. Weigh Up’s ability to sire quality bulls and females has made him a favorite for breeders that want to use one bull who excels for both phenotype and performance.