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Photo taken by Madison Slaven

The Virginia Cattleman
P.O. Box 9
Daleville, VA 24083-0009
Opportunities

By: Jason Carter

Virginia cattle producers are in the throes of hay season as I write this June edition of my monthly article. It is my sincere hope that each of you who read The Virginia Cattleman have noticed in the course of the last year or so a steady improvement in the quality of our publication. I receive many compliments and suggestions for content and they are nearly always predicated with a compliment for the overall value of what they get in their mailboxes each month. Much of the credit for what you are holding goes to Jacquelyn Davis, whom we hired full time in July 2014, as the producer of The Virginia Cattleman. Much to her chagrin, this article is typically the last thing she receives to complete the upcoming edition for editing and proofing despite her polite and timely reminders to me well in advance. Mine and the Executive Committee’s goal at VCA is to apply changes within the organization that are both effective and prosperous but at a steady pace to make these changes as seamless as possible. Generally there are certain instances where “ripping of the band aid” is the right approach, but it is also wise to more often than not take measured steps for change and grow gradually. Change often teaches valuable lessons that can be overlooked if done too quickly or misinterpreted when a great deal is changed all at once. The improvements and the wisdom gained feed into great enthusiasm for this industry we represent and we will continue to press forward steady as she goes. I want to fill this space for June to encourage, beg and coerce you into making plans to attend the annual meeting and field day of the Virginia Cattlemen’s Association and Virginia State Dairymen’s Association on July 17, 2015 at Virginia Tech’s Kentland Farm near Blacksburg, VA. There is a complete description of the event in the center two pages of this edition. Our job at VCA is to represent and work for the betterment of the entire cattle industry. We are going to do that well on July 17th with our dairy industry colleagues. The field day format will feature the dedication of the new dairy facility, getting acquainted with new research faculty in Animal Science at the Beef Reproduction Center, learning more about how drones and agriculture will interact at one of only six drone research airports nationwide and the rich history of the Kent Plantation that was a gateway to western exploration. There will be a great trade show of equipment and exhibits representing all aspects of our business and many of our elected officials on hand to specifically express appreciation for the contributions that the Virginia cattle industry makes to our Commonwealth’s overall economy. Best of all this can be enjoyed with a complimentary BBQ meal provided by Virginia Tech Block & Bridle in a setting geared towards fellowship and networking. We are excited about this event and very much looking forward to having you there to gather with old friends and make new ones while enjoying the special business that ours is. I promise you will learn a few things while there and leave being glad you came. You won’t have to get up before the rooster to be there on time and you’ll be home in plenty of time to watch the sun set without missing a thing we’ll have to offer. On behalf of the VCA Executive Committee and staff, we look invite you to be a part of a great day on July 17th.

I’ll conclude with two things. First, and going back to the earlier commentary on change, it does continue indeed in Daleville both on the Association and Beef Council sides of the house. Much of it comes from member input and grows opportunity. We are here to serve you and the changing industry and not simply to vaguely spend your membership and Checkoff dollars. Second, when you read this, Memorial Day will have passed. However lesser only to God and family, is service to our country. I hope you each found a way to share gratitude for the many that have afforded us all we have because of military service.

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400-500 lbs 240.00-304.00, mostly 267.00-304.00, average 277.94
500-600 lbs 157.50-275.00, mostly 252.00-275.00, average 258.09
600-700 lbs 157.50-266.50, mostly 227.50-240.00, average 233.20
700-800 lbs 200.00-222.00, average 209.32

State Graded Feeder Heifers, Medium and Large 1
400-500 lbs 227.50-247.00, mostly 240.00-247.00, average 240.86
500-600 lbs 185.00-231.00, mostly 213.00-231.00, average 224.67
600-700 lbs 160.00-216.00, mostly 200.00-216.00, average 201.09
700-800 lbs 175.00-193.00, average 186.88

Slaughter Cows Boning, 800-1200 lbs, 86.00-116.00, average 102.97

May 14, 2015

State Graded Feeder Steers, Medium and Large 1
400-500 lbs 246.00-300.00, mostly 267.00-300.00, average 277.72
500-600 lbs 230.00-276.00, mostly 254.00-276.00, average 257.67

Slaughter Cows Boning, 800-1200 lbs, 86.00-116.00, average 104.38

May 21, 2015

State Graded Feeder Steers, Medium and Large 1
400-500 lbs 241.00-290.00, mostly 270.00-290.00, average 279.46
600-700 lbs 220.50-244.00, average 234.72
700-800 lbs 205.00-227.50, average 217.90
State Graded Feeder Heifers, Medium and Large 1
400-500 lbs 216.00-265.00, mostly 240.00-253.00, average 247.39
500-600 lbs 210.00-237.00, mostly 226.50-237.00, average 230.23
600-700 lbs 180.00-220.00, mostly 200.00-220.00, average 203.58
700-800 lbs 177.00-186.00, average 182.52

Slaughter Cows Boning, 800-1200 lbs, 88.00-119.50, average 105.95

Slaughter Cows Boning, 800-1200 lbs, 86.00-116.00, average 104.38

May 7, 2015

State Graded Feeder Steers, Medium and Large 1
400-500 lbs 252.50-286.00, mostly 270.00-286.00, average 272.33
500-600 lbs 200.00-284.50, mostly 247.25-265.00, average 247.14
600-700 lbs 195.50-256.00, mostly 231.00-241.50, average 234.80
700-800 lbs 203.00-236.50, mostly 209.00-222.50, average 215.94

State Graded Feeder Heifers, Medium and Large 1
400-500 lbs 221.00-253.00, mostly 238.00-253.00, average 241.33
500-600 lbs 214.00-232.00, average 226.32
600-700 lbs 165.00-217.50, mostly 198.00-208.75, average 201.91
700-800 lbs 175.00-194.00, average 185.44

Slaughter Cows Boning, 800-1200 lbs, 82.50-111.00, average 98.00-124.00, average 110.00

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Fly Control Essential To Gains and Animal Wellness?

By: Steve McKinley, DVM. PhD

As we move through to spring and summer grazing season, livestock producers should start to consider their fly control management systems. There are three primary fly species that economically impact grazing cattle; horn fly and face fly.

Horn Fly

The horn fly is considered the most important blood-feeding pest of pastured cattle and can have significant economic impact on cattle operations. Horn flies are 3/16 – long and are normally seen on the backs, side, and poll areas of cattle. During the warm part of the day, horn flies can be observed on the belly of cattle. Both male and female horn flies will spend most of their lives on cattle feeding 20-30 times a day. After mating, the female will leave the animal only long enough to deposit eggs in fresh cow manure. Eggs hatch within one day, and larvae feed and mature in the manure, pupating in the soil beneath the manure pat. Newly emerged horn flies can travel several miles searching for a host. The entire life cycle can be completed in 10 to 20 days depending on the weather. Economic losses associated with horn flies are estimated at more than $800 million annually in the United States. Horn fly feeding causes irritation, blood loss, decreased grazing efficiency, reduced weight gains, and a decline in milk production. Furthermore, horn flies have been implicated in the spread of mastitis. Many studies have been conducted in the U.S. and Canada to assess the economic effects of horn flies on cow and calf weaning weights. Nebraska studies have demonstrated calf-weaning weights were 10 to 20 pounds higher when horn flies were controlled on mother cows. The economic injury level (EIL) for horn flies is 200 flies per animal. Yearling cattle can also be impacted by the horn fly; other studies have indicated yearling weight can be reduced by as much as 18 percent. The best methods of reducing horn fly numbers is using a treatment where the animals are forced to contact an insecticide on a daily basis such as a dust bag, oiler, spray or an insecticide impregnated ear tag. Another viable, inexpensive option is an oral larvicide feedthrough product containing an Insect Growth regulator (IGR), like new JustiFLY® Feedthrough. This new, EPA-registered product contains diflubenzuron, a compound that has not shown any fly resistance and is safe to use in beef cattle, calves and veal as well as lactating and non-lactating dairy and beef cows. There’s no milk withholding or withdrawal period with the new product.

Face Fly

Face fly adults closely resemble houseflies except they are slightly larger and darker than the housefly. Other differentiating characteristics include: 1) the abdomen of the male face fly is orange and the female has an orange stripe; the abdomen of the house fly is white or light gray and 2) the compound eyes of male flies nearly touch, but are separated in the house fly. The persistence and habit of congregating about the eyes and nose of animals helps distinguish the face fly from the housefly in the field. Houseflies may congregate on the faces of cattle in confined feedlots and dairy pens. Face flies are pasture flies and are not found in feedlots. The face fly is a non-biting fly that feeds on animal secretions, nectar, and dung liquids. Adult female face flies typically cluster around an animal’s eyes, mouth, and muzzle, causing extreme annoyance. They are also facultative blood feeders, gathering around wounds caused by mechanical damage or other injury.

Face flies are present in the field throughout the summer with peak populations occurring in late July or August. Face flies are most numerous along waterways, areas of with abundant rainfall, canyons where the canyon floors have trees and shaded vegetation, and on irrigated pastures. Feeding of the female face fly around the eyes causes eye tissue damage, which creates susceptible tissue for eye pathogens. In addition to be very annoying, face flies vector Moraxella bovis, the causal agent of bovine pinkeye or infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis. Pinkeye is a highly contagious inflammation of the cornea and conjunctiva of cattle. If coupled with the infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) virus, M. bovis can cause a much more severe inflammatory condition. Controlling face fly numbers is a key to reducing most pinkeye problems. Attaining adequate face fly control can be difficult because of where the flies feed and the significant time they spend away from the animal. Not unlike controlling horn flies, the best methods of reducing face fly numbers is using a treatment where the animals are forced to contact an insecticide on a daily basis such as a dust bag, oiler, spray or an insecticide impregnated ear tag. JustiFLY® Feedthrough is also an excellent, inexpensive and extremely environmentally safe means of controlling face fly populations. This is an excellent option where animals are in confinement situations, where broad-spectrum insecticides are not a viable option and where economics are paramount. Controlling both horn flies and face flies with a single insecticide option like an oral larvicide is an excellent, cost-saving option. Make sure and ask your veterinarian or nutritional consultant for advice.

Continued on Page 7
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Antibiotic Use Deserves Serious Conversation, Not Scare Tactics

By Robin Ganzert, Food Safety News

The recent release of the Food and Drug Administration’s report on antibiotic sales brought a round of calls from certain advocacy groups to ban the use of antibiotics in animal agriculture. These advocates remind me of another crowd: the anti-vaccination movement. Both the groups pushing for an antibiotic-free animal agriculture and the “anti-vaxxers” ignore established science on their respective issues in a way that leads to diminished human and animal welfare.

We certainly should have a debate about the judicious use of antibiotics in agriculture, but jumping to an outright ban defies science and common sense, will cause more animal suffering, and may have adverse effects on public health.

While those pushing for an outright ban are on the fringe, concerns about antibiotic-resistant bacteria in agriculture are starting to hit the mainstream. In the American Humane Association’s 2014 Humane Heartland Farm Animal Welfare Survey, more than half of the respondents indicated that they seek out food labeled “Antibiotic Free,” second only behind “Humanely Raised.”

Opponents of antibiotics frequently point to U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that, every year, at least 2 million Americans become infected with bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics. Reports indicate that the most resistant infections reside in human hospital settings. However, there is no evidence that antibiotics used in animal agriculture have decreased the effectiveness of antibiotics in humans. According to Dr. Stephanie Doores of Pennsylvania State University, “People would be more likely to die from a bee sting than for their antibiotic treatment to fail because of macrolide-resistant bacteria in meat or poultry.”

A look across the world to Denmark is also instructive. Despite a complete ban on antibiotic use for growth promotion instituted in 2000, there is very little evidence that it led to any positive impacts on human health or a decline in antibiotic-resistant bacteria. In fact, it has resulted in a significant increase in the therapeutic use of antibiotics in animals due to animals getting sick. Science — and common sense — tell us that antibiotics can and do help improve well-being, decrease mortality rates of farm animals, and prevent unnecessary suffering. Just as they do when given to a child with strep throat, antibiotics relieve the pain and distress of sick animals while helping them to recover. One of the Five Freedoms upon which the American Humane Certified program is based is the freedom “from pain, injury and disease.”

An outright ban would be inhumane to sick animals and would violate one of the Five Freedoms that serve as the internationally accepted social contract with animals. Additionally, what is not often discussed is that use of antibiotics in farm animals provides for a safer food supply, and that FDA has long required withdrawal periods for such use. As noted by Dr. Christine Hoang, assistant director of the American Veterinary Medical Association, in her 2010 testimony to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health: “For food animals, drugs additionally contribute to the public health by mitigating disease and thereby reducing the numbers of bacteria entering the food supply. Studies show that a reduction in the incidence of food animal illness will reduce bacterial contamination on meat, thereby reducing the risk of human illness.”

Because it is an issue of concern for the public, antibiotic use in agriculture demands a healthy and robust discussion. But veterinarians, public health professionals and scientists should be determining what the appropriate use of antibiotics is. And such a discussion needs to include outcomes for the sick animal as it’s simply not humane to leave an animal to suffer needlessly.

Recent moves by Chick-fil-A and McDonald’s demonstrate that the issue is becoming more urgent. Let’s set aside the scare tactics and pressure campaigns and have a real, honest conversation about safe and proper antibiotic use that’s driven by science.

Agriculture, researchers and humane organizations must work together to educate the public and food companies about proper antibiotic use or else the dialogue will be led by misinformation. In working together, we can develop policies that improve animal health and welfare, safeguard our abundant food supply, and protect public health. Better science is needed to advance a better understanding of human and animal health and define what it is to be humane.

From Page 6

Fly Control

consultant about this new higher concentrated diflubenzuron larvicide today. Controlling flies doesn’t need to be expensive, but it does need to start just prior to flies emerging this spring.

Author: Dr. Steve McKinley, a veterinary pathologist with more than three decades of animal health and production experience, has been writing about animal health and animal production issues for more than 35 years. Dr. McKinley, VP of AgLand Consulting, LLC, writes from his office in Spanish Fort, AL.
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Most farmers and ranchers learned how to build and mend wire fences from their fathers and grandfathers, who learned it using the traditional ways taught to them by the generations that came before them. Truth is, the methods and materials used to construct and mend smooth and barbed wire fencing haven’t seen many improvements over the decades. Until now, that is.

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NCBA Urges Secretaries to Reject Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee’s Flawed Recommendations

The National Cattlemen’s Beef Association submitted comments on May 8th to the Departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture on the flawed advice in the 2015 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee’s report. The report serves as a set of recommendations to the Secretaries of HHS and USDA as they finalize the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. However, the misleading recommendations are inconsistent with decades of scientific evidence and data within the report. Along with NCBA, numerous scientific organizations and individual scientists, including several former Advisory Committee members have also raised similar concerns in their public comments.

NCBA President Philip Ellis said he hopes the Secretaries will carefully review the science and draft a final report that reinforces lean beef’s role in a healthy lifestyle.

“The Advisory Committee ignored the overwhelming body of scientific evidence that shows lean red meat plays an important role in a healthy dietary pattern and ultimately made an unsubstantiated decision to remove lean meats from a healthy dietary pattern for Americans,” said Ellis. “To date, there are nearly 20 randomized controlled trials including the BOLD study showing healthful dietary patterns with 4-5.5 ounces of lean red meat daily supports good health. The Advisory Committee ignored this evidence, and instead relied heavily on weaker forms of science, such as observational evidence.”

Dr. Shalene McNeill, Registered Dietitian and Nutrition Scientist with NCBA, said the report contradicts itself with qualitative messaging that states American diets should be lower in red meat, while providing quantitative data that shows lean red meat consumption is within the recommended amounts and that an increase in lean beef consumption fits into a healthy dietary pattern. Total beef consumption contributes five percent of the total calories and 10 percent or less of the total and saturated fat in American diets, yet it supplies more than five percent of eight essential nutrients including potassium, an underconsumed nutrient and iron, a lacking nutrient for adolescent females.

“The Secretaries need to step back and look at the real world application of these recommendations,” said McNeill. “Americans have already moderated their red meat servings, and science reinforces that current consumption is within amounts needed to promote good health, protecting the population from a shortfall of nutrients and providing a satisfying form of nutrition. Rather than cutting back, Americans need to be encouraged to eat lean meat more often with vegetables, fruits and whole grains.”

The charge of the Advisory Committee is to evaluate the latest nutrition research and make science-based recommendations to help mold the dietary guidelines, yet the Committee excluded sound research, made unsubstantiated recommendations and then went as far to as to venture into topics that are outside of their scope and expertise, Ellis said.

Continued on Page 11

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Pass the Salt: Beef Cattle Gains Increased in DDGS Study

By: Mary Lou Peter, Kansas State Research & Extension News

A recent Kansas State University study found that providing growing cattle with dried distillers grains (DDGS) plus salt on a self-feeding basis while the animals grazed native pastures helped boost average daily weight gain without the indirect expenses linked to daily delivery such as fuel and labor.

During the two growing seasons prior to the 2013 study, the Flint Hills area of Kansas, like much of the state, experienced drought which stressed pastures. Looking for ways to optimize cattle performance and maintain pasture health, a team of K-State researchers conducted a study with beef heifers over a 78-day period at K-State’s Beef Stocker Unit in the northern Flint Hills. While grazing, some of the heifers had access to DDGS mixed with salt at two different levels. DDGS are a byproduct of ethanol production and are commonly fed to beef cattle, particularly in areas where ethanol is made. Most ethanol is derived from corn, but can also be made from other feedstocks such as sorghum or wheat. “We have known for several years that DDGS is a good source of protein and energy when fed as a supplement for cattle,” said Dale Blasi, extension beef specialist with K-State Research and Extension. “In this study we wanted to determine the consumption and resulting growth from supplemental DDGS when provided at two levels of salt addition.”

“Salt limits the intake of DDGS,” said Blasi, who led the research team. “The more salt that is included, the less DDGS is consumed.”

The cattle were split into three grazing “treatments,” each consisting of four pasture paddocks. Heifers in the control paddocks (85 head total) were fed no DDGS with salt, while heifers in the “low” paddocks (94 head) had access to DDGS with 10 percent salt. Heifers in the “high” paddocks (100 head) had access to DDGS with 16 percent salt. The cattle in the control paddocks had an average daily weight gain of 1.91 pounds over the 78-day grazing period. Those in the “low” paddocks that consumed DDGS with 10 percent salt had an average daily gain of 2.62 pounds and those in the “high” paddocks with access to DDGS with 16 percent salt gained an average 2.41 pounds. Cattle in the “low” treatment paddocks consumed approximately 3 pounds per day more DDGS than their counterparts in the “high” group consumed.

“This supports the idea that providing DDGS with salt in a self-fed fashion can be used to improve cattle performance without the indirect expenses associated with daily delivery, such as fuel expenses, labor, and others,” Blasi said. “Providing DDGS to cattle on native grass at about 0.3 percent of body weight will significantly improve performance.”

From Page 10

NCBA Rejects

“The U.S. cattle industry welcomes an evidence-based discussion on the significant achievements of the overall environmental and social footprint of the beef industry,” said Ellis. “Our producers have a great story to tell on sustainability and beef is an ideal protein for a healthy diet, but those are separate conversations. The topic of sustainability is outside the scope of the Dietary Guidelines and we urge the Secretaries to reject any recommendations beyond health and nutrition.”
Focus on Sustainable Beef

By: Matthew Cawood, The Land

Senior executive Gary Johnson piled on the compliments for the Australian beef industry during his talk at Beef 2015, but his words carried a clear subtext. Consumers are demanding ethical clarity around what they eat, and McDonald’s wants to be able to point to those qualities in the beef it uses. “Help us find what sustainable means here in Australia,” said Mr. Johnson, senior director of McDonald’s worldwide supply chains. “We want to create that greater demand so we can satisfy what the customer means by quality. We want Australia to be involved in our future plans.”

Underlying the appeal is Australia’s decision to go its own way on defining ‘sustainable beef’, rather than sit at the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (GRSB) that McDonald’s initiated to resolve the same question. Australia is now the only major beef-exporting nation not to sit on the GRSB, and Mr. Johnson’s talk appeared to be urging the Australian beef industry not to drop the ball on the issue. For McDonald’s, arriving at a definition of sustainable beef is better done sooner rather than later - and not just because it has declared it will start preferentially sourcing verified sustainable beef from 2016. Although it is still a food behemoth that serves 70 million people a day, McDonald’s is running into the headwinds of market saturation and social change. Last year, growth in McDonald’s United States operation stalled as people bought less in the company’s restaurants. At the same time, growth exploded at Chipotle, the ‘fast casual’ restaurant chain that has built its market on overt sustainable sourcing strategies - including declaring that it would eliminate GMOs (genetically modified organisms) from its supply chain. Chipotle sources what it calls “responsibly raised” beef, which translates to grassfed beef, a rarity in America’s grainfed beef systems.

McDonald’s sustainable sourcing programs have to be more pragmatic to feed a global restaurant chain. The GRSB is an attempt to find a global definition of beef sustainability that respects different production systems, but carries genuine sustainability merit that McDonald’s and other retailers can use in their marketing. Australian beef is increasingly important to McDonald’s. It bought 135,000 tonnes of local beef in 2014 (up from 71,000t in 2013), of which 27,500t was used in Australia, and 107,500t exported to its Asian, Middle East and United States operations. Mr. Johnson is evidently keen that Australian beef retain its place in the McDonald’s supply chain, but his talk to Beef 2015 implied that just producing good beef “of sustainable beef is better than nothing.” In a world awash with competition, people don’t have to buy from brands that don’t align with their values - as the McDonald’s/Chipotle stories are reporting from the US.

That trend is being reinforced by the digital revolution, which allows consumers to quickly spread stories, positive and negative, of their experiences and perceptions. In this story-driven world, McDonald’s wants to tell a good story - but it needs Australian beef to tell a good story first. “The more we tell stories about the good work we’re doing, the more our customers will want to align themselves with our brand, hopefully buy our products more, hopefully buy your products more,” Mr. Johnson said. “We’ve waited too long to address consumer concerns around beef. We’ve waited too long to have a framework to communicate the value system of this great industry.”
Virginia Selects Beef Ambassadors

The Beef Ambassador Program is for young people aged 13 to 20 and is sponsored by the Virginia Beef Industry Council and Virginia Cooperative Extension. The purpose of the Beef Ambassador Program is to identify and train young people to become spokespersons for the beef industry. The opportunity will allow students to help educate consumers and youth about beef nutrition, food safety and stewardship practices in the beef industry.

The Virginia Beef Ambassador Contest was held in conjunction with the Virginia Junior Beef Roundup in Harrisonburg on April 18, 2015. Contestants were divided into two divisions: Junior (13 - 16) and Senior (17 – 20). The contestants were evaluated on their abilities in three areas of competition: issues response essay, media interview, and consumer promotion. Two judges for each respective area evaluated each contestant on their knowledge, articulation, poise and overall ability to effectively educate the consumer.

Hannah Craun of Bridgewater won first place in the Senior division, while Caley Ellington of Linville took 2nd place and Zack Jones of Chilhowie placed 3rd. In the Junior Division, Sarah Harris of Buchanan was the winning contestant. This Virginia Beef Ambassador Team will serve as spokespersons for Virginia’s beef industry during the coming year, attending consumer events to educate consumers about beef and beef production.

Hannah Craun and Sarah Harris will represent Virginia in the National Beef Ambassador Competition September 25 – 26, 2015 in Denver, CO. Each year a team of five National Beef Ambassadors is selected during the national contest to travel throughout the United States sharing the story of beef from pasture to plate with consumers and students.
Members of the beef industry have a lot to say about Simmental and SimAngus™. This feedback is invaluable and tells us that Simmental is headed in the right direction. ASA’s focus on profitability through science means that we will continue to put our customers’ best interests at the forefront of everything we do.
A Dirt Road Diary - Billy and Bobby, Dirt Roads and Wall Street

By: Steve Lucas

Billy and Bobby grew up on a dirt road. They rode the same bus to school, they both played high school baseball. After high school, Billy stayed on the ranch to work with his dad. He married Sally, a waitress at the Court Square Restaurant. When Jake, their son, was born, Billy strapped him into the car seat mounted in the middle of the pickup truck seat. Jake was Billy’s right hand man if was checking cows, fixing fences, or feeding calves. As he grew, Jake watched his dad and granddad struggle to grow their operation through droughts and floods, good prices and bad. They persevered and more than a few folks said they had the best ranch in the valley.

Bobby, on the other hand, traded the dirt road for Wall Street. He graduated college with honors, married Sarah, a lawyer and swelled with pride when their son, Brian was born. Within three years, Bobby and Sarah were divorced, but Brian was still Bobby’s son. Bobby made sure he was Brian’s father in more than just a name. He tried to be at every little league game and school event. He and Brian traveled the country and the world together. Brian saw the hard work and long hours his dad put in, and how he dealt with people. Every decision Bobby made, whether Brian was there or not was made while considering the example he was setting for his son.

Bobby and Brian came back down the dirt road before the funeral for Billy’s Dad. The fathers talked old times while they watched their sons. The two tall boys looked older than their years as they mixed with the folks crowded in the farm house. They answered questions about what they had been doing and future plans that reflected maturity and character. The two fathers looked at each other with a smile and nod that said “you’ve done a good job raising that boy.”

So to all the fathers who, in spite of circumstances have done the best they can to raise sons and daughters they can be proud of, we say thank you and Happy Father’s Day.

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The Department of Agriculture is proposing new regulations that it says will improve the food safety and humane treatment of veal calves at USDA inspected facilities. The changes are designed to improve compliance under the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (HMSA), which mandates proper treatment of all food animals harvested in USDA inspected plants with the exception of chicken and birds. Under the changes, veal calves that are unable to rise and walk will be promptly and humanely euthanized and prohibited from entering the food supply. Previously, veal calves unable to rise from a recumbent position were set aside to be warmed or rested and presented for harvest when they were able to walk. However, according to USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), “this practice may contribute to the inhumane treatment of veal calves.” Since 2004, FSIS has prohibited the slaughter of non-ambulatory cattle for human food because the inability to rise may be a symptom of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), also known as mad cow disease. While BSE is not a serious risk in cattle younger than 30 months of age, the regulations apply to all cattle, including veal calves. In 2013, FSIS granted a petition by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) asking the agency to remove this provision. The proposed regulation would do just that, requiring that non-ambulatory calves be promptly and humanely euthanized, in keeping with requirements for adult cattle. In its petition, HSUS asked USDA to require immediate and humane euthanizing of veal calves under the same principles that govern more mature cattle under the HMSA, “(b)ecause USDA has interpreted (the HMSA) as mandating prompt euthanasia for mature cattle too sick or injured to stand, and because the same humane-spirited reasons and the same legal standard apply to calves.” The proposed rule will be open for comment for 60 days beginning May 8, 2015.
The GMO Controversy Misses the Point

By: Nathanael Johnson, TIME

Several food companies have recently reformed their menus: McDonald’s will stop using chicken treated with human antibiotics, Chipotle is going GMO-free, Panera is eliminating a long list of ingredients, Pepsi is abandoning the use of aspartame, and Kraft is removing the colors from its mac and cheese. All this is certainly good for business: These companies are responding to their customers, and showing they care. But is it good for us? That is, will it improve public and environmental health? Some will, some won’t, and it’s crucial to differentiate.

Getting farm animals off medically important antibiotics is a good idea. Every time we deploy antibiotics, germs evolve, and resistance spreads. We’re rapidly running out of ways to kill these antibiotic-resistant bugs. The germs that make people sick are different from the germs that make farm animals sick, but bacteria can trade the genetic code for antibiotic-resistance across species. Now companies such as McDonald’s, Perdue, and Tyson are taking significant steps to reduce antibiotic use.

When you try to weigh the effects of the rest of these menu changes, things get pretty muddy pretty fast. The food coloring that makes macaroni and cheese that neon orange is potentially connected to various health issues. But there are more studies suggesting they are safe than those suggesting these colors have any risk. The evidence on aspartame is similar: There are studies that suggest a troubling connection to cancer, and then there are others that show no association with cancer. Pepsi is replacing aspartame with another artificial sweetener, sucralose, which simply hasn’t been studied as much.

Panera is basically removing every ingredient with a science-y sounding name. Some of these are potentially bad (again, things like food-coloring), but others are almost certainly benign. For instance, Panera is cutting caffeine (what were they adding caffeine to anyway?), and vanillin—the chemical that grows in vanilla beans and gives them their distinctive scent.

Chipotle’s GMO ban is also fairly superficial. Most of the same debate (and believe me, there’s plenty of insane debate) on GMOs is not about health hazards, but about the high-tech farming practices associated with genetically engineered seed. Chipotle is ditching GMO seed, but keeping the industrial farming. Chipotle’s corn will be sprayed with less of the herbicide glyphosate, but more of the herbicide atrazine. Instead of repelling pests with corn genetically engineered to resist insects, Chipotle’s farmers will be more likely to use other insecticides. Instead of getting oil from soybeans genetically engineered to tolerate being sprayed with herbicides, Chipotle is getting oil from sunflowers conventionally bred to tolerate being sprayed with herbicides.

In the public debate, the term GMO is a symbol that stands in for heavy pesticide use and environmentally dubious farming practices. Chipotle is just changing the symbol, not the things it symbolizes. Instead of improving transparency, public-relations moves generally make the food system more opaque. Chipotle’s PR move is a bad deal for the public if it makes an idealistic young person think that by eating GMO-free burritos, they are fixing agriculture. Panera’s PR move is truly insidious if it convinces a single overweight dad that his high-calorie panini lunch is healthy.

Food makers have a long history of using insubstantial health claims to sell food. Wonder Bread was the progenitor (“Builds strong bodies”), and that’s led to gluten-free Cocoa Pebbles, and POM promising its sugar water will help you “cheat death.” The trick is to provide eaters with an icon that seems to indicate health and quality, while actually doing almost nothing. We tend to worry about the wrong things—Ebola, airplane crashes, and chemicals in food—while ignoring real dangers—car crashes, obesity, and climate change. Food companies capitalize on our risk blindness. It’s cheaper to make a superficial shift. As a Chipotle executive noted, the cost of eliminating GMOs was “de minimis.” Real change, like eliminating antibiotics, affects the bottom line. If consumers can’t differentiate between real and token changes, which do you think companies will choose?
‘Typical’ beef consumer evolves

At a conceptual level, Glynn Tonsor, Kansas State University agricultural economist, believes there are a couple of other reasons beef demand remains stronger than many predicted as retail prices increase. First, Tonsor believes the definition of the typical beef consumer — a person willing and able to buy beef — has evolved in that the consumer is less price-sensitive than in the past. That’s not saying that price doesn’t matter. It’s saying that typical beef consumers, who increasingly may have incomes higher than the average of the general population, will continue to buy beef despite the cost, much as consumers of gasoline adjust their budgets in other areas. “The other shift that is occurring is that more pounds of beef are finding their way to the consumer via food service rather than retail,” Tonsor says. He explains food service operators have more opportunity than consumers buying packages of beef at retail to build a plate of goods that includes beef at a price point that meets expectations.

USDA Suspects Eastern Livestock, Ex-president for 10 Years

USDA’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) May 6th announced the latest administrative actions against Eastern Livestock and its former majority owner over theft and deception allegations dating back to 2010. GIPSA said it entered a consent decree with Eastern Livestock that suspended the company’s registration under the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act) and Regulations and for 10 years, effective Dec. 17, 2014. The decree also called for the New Albany, Ind.-based company to stop failing to pay farmers the full purchase price for livestock, issuing checks to pay for livestock without having sufficient funds in its accounts and failing to maintain adequate bond levels. The consent decision ends the GIPSA action against Eastern Livestock, the agency said in a news release. The agency also issued a separate order barring former Eastern Livestock President Thomas Gibson from registering under the P&S Act for 10 years as of April 20, 2015 for his role in the alleged fraud. Gibson – who once owned 65 percent of the company’s stock – was dismissed as an officer in November 2010 and creditors forced Eastern Livestock into bankruptcy a few weeks later.

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**Virginia Cattlemen’s Association Annual Business Meeting**

**Friday July 17, 2015 at 2:30 PM**

There will be several items of business requiring VCA membership approval and participation slated for the business meeting. Below is a summary of the action items for the meeting. Please review these carefully and be prepared to vote accordingly that day. All supporting official VCA documents cited can be found on the Virginia Cattlemen’s Association website at [www.vacattlemen.org](http://www.vacattlemen.org)

**Feeder Council Issues and Recommendations**

- **Proposal of the following addition to the Standard Operating Procedures for Feeder Cattle Sales,**
  - “All cattle handled sold a Virginia Cattlemen’s Association sponsored sale shall have that transaction handled by a bonded dealer, marketing agency or packer.”
- **Proposal to increase marketing fees on a per head basis for VCA sponsored sales.** The proportional increase of marketing fees will be designated 100% to a reserve fund created for the purpose of meeting VCA employee obligations of accrued vacation and other benefits associated with employee retirement or separation from VCA or other financial situations deemed critical by the VCA Executive Committee. The minimum amount to be maintained in this fund will be $100,000 and 25% of the marketing fee increase will be designated to this reserve fund perpetually after the $100,000 minimum is attained. Fee increases proposed are as follows:
  - Tel O Auction fee increase from $4.00 to $5.00 per head
  - Board Sale fee increase from $1.75 to $2.75 per head
  - In Barn Sale fee increase from $1.75 to $2.00 per head
- **Proposal for the following Feeder Council Director recommendations,**
  - Region 1: currently Glenn Wheeler has completed one three year term and is eligible for second consecutive term
  - Region 7: currently Lin Jones has completed one three year term and is eligible for second consecutive term
  - County Cattlemen: this is a Director position that has never been officially defined in the VCA by Laws. To affirm this position the Feeder Council recommends: “Replace current County Cattlemen Director with At Large voting Director on the VCA Feeder Council with eligibility for At Large Director to come from any VCA affiliated local marketing association and Director selection determined by vote of the Feeder Council membership”

**Policy & Industry Advocacy Board**

- **Approval of VCA 2015 Policy on State Issues**
  - Entire policy can be viewed at [http://vacattlemen.org/by_laws.php](http://vacattlemen.org/by_laws.php)
- **Caucusing and report of six VCA Policy Districts**
  - District 1: Joey Davenport first term expires
  - District 2: Steve Furrow first term expires, Bill McDonald resigning with two years remaining on first term. Resigning due to being appointed to the Cattlemen’s Beef Board
  - District 4: Jared Burner first term expires
  - District 6: Mike Henry first term expires
2015 Virginia Cattle & Dairy Expo Field Day

July 17, 2015 at Kentland Farm

Join cattle producers at Virginia Tech’s Kentland research farm near Blacksburg, VA for a day of fellowship, education, good food, exhibits and the Virginia Cattlemen’s Association annual business meeting.

Agenda

**10:00 AM**  
Registration, Exhibits, and Equipment Trade Show Open

**10:30 AM**  
Continuous educational tours begin with transportation between sites provided

- **Dairy Science facility**: see the newly completed Dairy Center for Virginia Tech along with a guided tour of the infrastructure
- **Animal Science Beef feedlot & reproductive center**: Animal Science department faculty will show folks around the facility as well as discuss current basic research in the department
- **Aerospace & Ocean Engineering Drone Airport**: one of six drone airports nationwide, see how drone technology and how it is supporting agricultural research
- **Kentland Plantation home**: the history of Kentland Plantation is rich and an interpretive tour of the manor home and farm’s history will be offered

**11:30 AM**  
Continuous free BBQ lunch served by the Virginia Tech Block & Bridle Club

*Please RSVP for lunch by calling the VCA office at 540-992-1009 or emailing Jacquelyn Davis at jdavis@vacattlemen.org*

**Noon**  
Remarks from Governor Terry McAuliffe and Virginia Tech President Dr. Timothy Sands as well as others invited officials and guests to honor the Virginia cattle business and dedicate the newly constructed Virginia Tech Dairy Center

**2:30 PM**  
Virginia Cattlemen’s Association annual business meeting

**3:00 PM**  
Adjournment and end of day

Directions to Kentland Farm: drive west from the Town of Blacksburg and past Blacksburg High School on Prices Fork Road approximately 2 miles, turn right onto McCoy Road (Route 652) and travel just over 3 miles to a left on Whitethorne Road (Route 623) and Kentland Farm entrance will be at the end on right. Follow signs on gravel drive to meeting headquarters near drone airport.

FREE BBQ LUNCH!!

L jdavis@vacattlemen.org
2015 - 2016
VCA Officers

Bill Thompson - President
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Clifton Forge, VA 24422
540-968-1987

Kaitlin Smith - Vice President
454 Old Farm Road
Lexington, VA 24333
540-463-6778

Deidre Harmon - Secretary
124 Kindig Road
Waynesboro, VA 22980
540-943-6144

Rob Farmer - Past President
8030 Greenwich Road
Catlett, VA 20119
540-270-3886

Chad Joines - Southwest Director
Virginia Tech Dept Animal & Poultry Science
Blacksburg, VA 24061
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We would like to invite anyone interested in becoming a member of our association to call one of the officers list above.

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Eastern Director
Wayne Patteson
PO Box 248
Amherst, VA 24521
434-946-7341

At Large Director
Philip Johnson
4841 Free Union Road
Free Union, VA 22940
434-566-2750
You’ll Need a (Veterinarian’s) Note For That

By Mary Soukup, Drovers Cattle Network

Among the priorities cattlemen and women balance each day, it’s a safe bet that the health and well-being of their animals is close to or at the top of the list. A producer’s animal health and well-being program likely includes practices related to nutrition, genetics and reproduction, animal handling and more, but central to any comprehensive animal health program is having effective tools available to prevent and control specific diseases. For producers in all segments of the cattle industry, changes are coming in the way certain antibiotics are accessed and used, and now is the time to begin taking steps to prepare for those changes.

FDA Guidance
In order to understand the impending changes, a brief refresher is in order to understand the path taken to get here. In April 2012, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the federal agency that for more than 40 years has approved labels for antibiotics, including those used in livestock and poultry, released its final Guidance for Industry 209 (GFI 209) that outlined the agency’s position on phasing out the use of medically-important antibiotics in feed and water for growth promotion. Also in that document, FDA indicated that the agency intended to bring the use of medically-important antibiotics in feed and water under veterinary control. FDA based its definition of “medically important” on a previous agency guidance document, and includes such compounds as Aminoglycosides, Cephalosporins, Lincosamides, Macrolides, Penicillins, Sulfas, and Tetracyclines, some of which are available over-the-counter. Ionomophores, which are not used in human medicine, and bacitracin are not included in GFI 209.

Then, in December 2013, FDA issued another guidance document, GFI 213, which spelled out the process for achieving GFI 209, or the process for antibiotic-producing companies to withdraw growth promotion claims from the label of products containing medically-important antibiotics and how to apply for a pre-approval claim on the same products, which will require additional data to be sent to the agency. Dr. Gerald Stokka, associate professor of livestock stewardship, North Dakota State University, says this is a process that will take companies some time because labels for proper use need to be changed reflecting the removal of all claims for growth promotion. In addition, changes must accompany official publications to guide antibiotic use manuals in feed stores and veterinary clinics. That is one reason FDA is giving companies until December 2016 make the changes. Earlier this year, FDA reported that 294 product labels were affected by the GFI documents and that the companies of all the affected products have indicated they will comply.

Also in December 2013, FDA issued a proposed rule to amend its Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) regulations to make them more efficient and practical for producers, and to bring them in line with GFI 209. VFD regulations were first established in the late 1990s as a mechanism to require producers to obtain veterinary approval for certain antibiotics used in animal feed. The December 2013 proposed rule would bring all medically-important antibiotics from their current OTC status to VFD status. Antibiotics have historically been used in feed to prevent or treat health issues such as scours, coccidiosis, respiratory diseases, anaplasmosis, foot rot and liber abscesses. (Currently, injectable products with an OTC status will remain available without a VFD.) The final rule is expected to be released from FDA this spring. A new field of play

What does all this mean for cattle producers? Stokka says, for example, the cow-calf producer who in the past has used tetracyclines in the feed to treat respiratory disease in calves or who has used medicated milk replacer to treat calves with E. coli scour, or the feedlot operator who has used antibiotics to control liver abscesses will now need a VFD from a veterinarian to purchase the products. “If you don’t use a vet, you better find one you can work with. This is a new field of play,” Stokka says.

It’s a new field of play for many veterinarians too, according to Dr. Gatz Riddell, executive vice president, American Association of Bovine Practitioners. Riddell says AABP has and continues to be engaged with FDA on this process. He notes all of the association’s comments pointed out that cattle veterinarians have had little experience writing VFDs in the past and that educational materials and training will be crucial in the implementation of the new regulations. Riddell says AABP urged FDA to make VFD forms electronically transmitted and reduce the record-keeping requirements from two years to one to be consistent with current record-keeping requirements for feed mills. Riddell also AABP urged the FDA to remove the requirement that the total amount of feed to be consumed was a necessary part of completing the VFD form.

Dr. Sam Ives, feedlot research group professor, West Texas A&M University, agrees saying training will be necessary to understand how inclusions are figured. Since the extra-label use of VFD products is strictly prohibited, when completing the VFD order, the veterinarian will be required to make sure the VFD is consistent with current record-keeping requirements for feed mills. Riddell also AABP urged the FDA to remove the requirement that the total amount of feed to be consumed was a necessary part of completing the VFD form.

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Continued on Page 24
From Page 23
You’ll Need a Note

with the approved application of the product. That means understanding how the products can be mixed into specific feed rations. While the proposed rule will result in reclassification of some products from OTC status to VFD status, Riddell says FDA committed early in the process that the change will not result in a supply chain disruption. “FDA committed that if you can get that feed from an unlicensed feed mill, once the VFD regulations go in place, you will still be able to get that feed from that source, you’ll just have to have a VFD order from a veterinarian,” he says.

Additionally, the proposed VFD states that a “licensed veterinarian may only issue a VFD for the use of VFD drugs in animals ‘under his or her supervision or oversight in the course of his or her professional practice, and in compliance with all applicable veterinary licensing and practice requirements.’” This is a more objective definition than the current VFD regulation and the proposal would allow individual states to adjust their own criteria to align with local needs and capabilities.

While the final VFD rule may be published soon, Riddell says part of educating veterinarians requires knowing what the VFD forms look like. That, in itself, presents a challenge because the VFD form is part of the legal, and he says most of the labels may not be available until they are approved by FDA, which probably won’t happen until very late in the process – possibly as late as December 2016. Riddell says the AABP’s educational focus would be benefitted if a generic “strawman” label were created. “Whether it’s a paper copy, a mobile app or another electronic service, hopefully we’ll have that. We’d like to develop slide sets or videos that provide use-specific guidance for correct generation of a VFD by the herd’s veterinarian of record. It doesn’t take away the art of diagnosing and the management skill acquired by the producer, but it just puts into black and white terms how you would go about filling out a VFD for a product in this situation,” he says.

Don’t sit and wait. While all of the details and new requirements under the VFD regulation are not finalized yet, Riddell says producers and veterinarians can begin preparing today. “The first step for producers is to make a list of all the antibiotics you’ve used over the last couple of years and those you expect to use during the next couple of years. This list should include what may be used and why it would be considered necessary. Plan for a year and a half from now about what you think you will use,” Riddell says. The next step for producers is finding a veterinarian to talk to about the list. “Find somebody you can work with that. That may be a big ask because there are probably some producers who do not want to have a veterinarian on their place. Today, that may be OK, but in another year and a half, that’s going to make life a lot harder. The general or consuming public expects things of our industry and profession that they didn’t expect ten years ago,” Riddell says. For veterinarians, it goes back to the same list. “Go to producers and review points one and two. That’s a starting place. We can complain about everything we want, but if we’re going to prepare for that date (December 2016), we need to know what we’re using and who we can talk to in order to get the animals under our care the antibiotics needed to maintain health and well-being,” he adds.
Beef Council Update

Mission: To effectively maintain and build beef demand in Virginia for beef and beef products that satisfy consumer preferences through market development programs (consumer information, promotion, research, and industry information), thereby increasing the opportunity for the cattle industry to earn an adequate return on investment.

Valerie Van Dyke
Social Media Home Run

For many months now, I've petitioned through the VCA paper and other avenues for producers to volunteer to be part of the VA Beef Council website. We have had a section on the page titled, “Meat Your VA Beef Producers” since February 2014, just waiting for someone brave enough. Luckily, someone volunteered just in time for this year’s Beef Month!

The Bagley family of Swoope, VA were featured on the website. We posted the link on Facebook and it has been a wild success! This post has had the most reach of any post, with 20,976 people viewing the post in just 3 weeks.

We’ve known through Checkoff research and outside news publications that people care more than ever about where their food comes from. We also know from recent Checkoff research that of all commodity groups, consumers most often associate “factory farming” with beef production, despite the reality that beef operations are 97% family owned.

This is a great way for us to help consumers put trust back into their food system by putting a face with the name of their favorite protein, beef! To be featured next, contact Valerie Van Dyke.

Are you up for the challenge?

Join the 9,500 other Americans who have already signed up for the #Protein-Challenge! The protein challenge is a 30-day, email-guided diet journey that encourages participants to include 30 grams of protein in each of their 3 daily meals over the course of 30 days and “feel the difference” in their energy and well-being.

Virginia helped roll out this national campaign during May Beef Month, with a large online digital media buy. Advertisements for the Protein Challenge were circulated to 300,000 people in the Richmond area through various fitness, health, and food websites.

You can find out more about the Protein Challenge, and sign up, by going to www.BeefItsWhatsForDinner.com/ProteinChallenge.aspx. I encourage you to share your pictures and experience with us!! Contact Valerie (vlvandyke@vabeef.org).

Grilled Steak & Fresh Mozzarella Flatbread

Total Recipe Time: 20-25 minutes
Makes 4 servings

1 lb beef Top Sirloin Filets, cut 1 in thick, tied
1.5 tsp lemon pepper
2 C fresh baby spinach
1/4 lb mozzarella cheese, cut into 1/2 in
4 naan breads (Indian flatbreads) or pita breads
1.5 tsp balsamic vinegar
2 Tbsp chopped basil

1. Press lemon pepper onto steaks. Place steaks on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, covered, 12-17 minutes for medium rare (145 degrees), turning occasionally.
2. Meanwhile, combine spinach, cheese, and basil in large bowl. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar, toss to coat and set aside.
3. Remove steak from grill and let stand 5 mins. Place naan on grill; grill covered 1-3 mins until lightly browned, turning once.
4. Carve steaks into slices. Top naan evenly with spinach mixture and steak slices.

Enjoy!
U.S. Beef Industry Outlines Traceability System for Access to China

U.S. beef industry interests said they have agreed to implement a traceability system that would satisfy China’s demands for one, and thereby gain access to its beef market.

In a letter to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, the Meat Institute (NAMI), National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) and U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) urged a quick conclusion to negotiations with Beijing to reopen its market to U.S. beef.

The groups outlined a voluntary traceability system to meet China’s requirement that the U.S. certify at the slaughter plant the birth premise of every animal from which beef is derived to export to that country. The system includes cattle in existing animal identification programs — such as the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s (APHIS) National Uniform Ear Tagging System and the brucellosis ear tagging system — that permit the documentation of birth premise. Information that would permit the identification of the birth premise or any animal that falls under this traceability system would be made available to APHIS in the event of an animal health incident.

“To be acceptable to the industry, participation in this system must be voluntary, recognizing that only beef from cattle that are covered by the system will be certified for export to China,” the groups wrote.

The groups also noted that the system will be auditable and will include current and future programs that could be developed and managed by private companies under verification programs like the Process Verified Program (PVPs) managed by the Agricultural Marketing System (AMS) of the USDA.

Total U.S. beef exports reached a record-high of $7.1 billion in 2014. However, China, which has been closed to U.S. beef since 2003 upon the first discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in the U.S., is the foreign market with the greatest growth potential.

“Our industry associations represent the entire beef value chain, from ranchers to feedlot operators to meat packers and export trading companies, and we believe that access to the large and growing Chinese beef market is essential to the future health of the U.S. beef industry,” the groups wrote.

Bovine Practitioners Offer Drug Use Guidelines for Dairy, Beef Cattle

The American Association of Bovine Practitioners has released its new drug use guideline document to assist beef and dairy livestock veterinarians in guiding appropriate, effective and legal drug use on cattle operations. A task force of veterinarians and pharmacology experts developed the AABP drug use guidelines document, which took more than three years to compile.

“This was the result of a very deliberate and careful process that took into account the great diversity of bovine practice types that our members find themselves engaged in,” explained task force chairman and veterinarian Dr. Keith Sterner. “Ensuring that these guidelines met our members’ and their clients’ needs, complying with new and changing regulations and taking into consideration societal concerns and perceptions were the underlying principles that the task force concerned itself with in developing these guidelines,” Sterner added.

Dairy and beef cattle drug use guidelines are divided into sections:

- Establishing and maintaining a veterinarian/client/patient relationship;
- Using scientific knowledge and veterinary training for livestock disease management;
- Providing oversight on drug use on cattle operations;
- Prescribing or dispensing drugs in a legal and ethical manner.

Continued on Page 27
Pyrethrins Safe for use in Breeding Bulls

“The use of insecticides containing pyrethrin and cyfluthrin (a pyrethroid), regardless of application, did not alter reproductive parameters in beef bulls when administered over 18 weeks,” says Jamie Stewart, DVM, veterinary intern at the University of Illinois (UI) Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program. Stewart is referring to the most recent UI research aimed at examining whether pyrethrins or their synthetic cousins — pyrethroids — used for fly control negatively impact bull fertility. That question gained steam a couple of years ago based on an observational study at the University of Missouri. Stewart says controlled research studies have shown using insecticides with these ingredients on mammals can impair semen quality and inhibit testosterone production. But she emphasizes that dosage levels used in those studies are extremely high and oral administration is often used, which dramatically increases absorption rate. Conversely, Stewart says the label recommendations for products containing pyrethrins and pyrethroids, approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in controlling flies in cattle, are for much lower dosage rates, and the route of administration is never oral. Thus, there is less that can be absorbed, as well as significantly less opportunity for absorption, she adds. “Previous UI experiments demonstrated pour-on, ear tag, and spray applications of pyrethrin and pyrethroid insecticides had no effects on bull semen quality in the short term [zero to nine weeks],” Stewart says. “However, spray applications of these insecticides decreased serum testosterone concentrations at nine weeks, suggesting potential detrimental effects on reproductive parameters if used long term.” Since testosterone levels vary widely in bulls day to day, researchers were unsure whether the decrease noted at nine weeks was due to treatment. So, they repeated the study. The objective was to determine the effects on bull reproductive parameters of pyrethrin and beta-cyfluthrin spray applications used at labeled dosages over 18 weeks (two spermatogenic cycles), in combination with cyfluthrin pour-on and ear tags. With the first study in mind, Stewart notes, “Our hypothesis was that the addition of spray applications would negatively impact reproductive parameters in bulls after nine weeks.” Instead, she says, “Despite using the same treatments as in our previous study, we were not able to repeat the dip in testosterone seen previously in the ninth week. And there were no negative effects observed on sperm motility and morphology, or testosterone, in bulls receiving insecticides alone as pour-ons or fly tags, or those applications in combination with premises spraying or fogging.” She said a comparison was made to a control group of bulls receiving no individual or premises treatment of the insecticides. Angus, Simmental and Sim-Angus bulls were randomly assigned to one of three treatment groups:
- no exposure to pyrethrins or pyrethroids
- fly tags and pour-on
- fly tags, pour-on, premise spray and fog spray

The active insecticide ingredients included pyrethrins and the pyrethroids, cyfluthrin and beta-cyfluthrin. Body weight, body condition score and scrotal circumference were assessed on weeks zero, nine and 18. Semen was collected every three weeks via electro ejaculation and assessed using computer-assisted semen analysis for overall and progressive sperm motility and morphology. Serum testosterone concentration was also measured each of the weeks. “There were some changes that occurred over time, but they occurred synchronously in all groups,” Stewart explains. “The changes were not due to differences in group treatments, and can be attributed to weather and photoperiod fluctuations.” Stewart’s bottom line recommendation: “As long as producers stick to the label recommendations for these products, there should be no risk of any adverse effects on semen quality or testosterone levels.”

From Page 26

Drug Guidelines

- preventing violative residues;
- avoiding compounded and unapproved drugs;
- assuring responsible use of antimicrobials;
- using analgesics to control pain when indicated.

The guidelines also contain a list of prohibited/illegal drugs in cattle, the definition of an animal drug and numerous industry and government resources for further livestock drug information. “They are a straightforward resource for good decision making that is accountable, measurable and repeatable. They are based on sound scientific principle but they allow for the vastly varied geographic and types of livestock operations North America.” The guidelines can be found on the AABP website and are available to members and the public.
The 2015 Virginia Beef Expo and Junior Beef Roundup show were held at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg, VA, April 17-19, 2015. The Youth State Stockmen’s Contest started off the youth events on Friday, April 17th. The 2015 Junior Stockmen’s Contest consisted of 105 junior and 88 senior competitors that are in the 4-H or FFA programs. The contest consists of a livestock specific quiz, identification of livestock equipment, breeds, feeds, and meat, judging of live sheep, live cattle, meats, and hays. This year the contest featured a keep/cull class, questions on meats and hays, and a judging scenario judged solely on data. The winning Senior team will go on to compete at the National 4-H Stockmen’s Contest that will be held later this fall in Louisville, KY. This year’s winners are from Shenandoah County 4-H. Team members include: Haley Shoemaker, John Robert Helsley, Gracie Bailey, and Tiffany Heishman. In addition to Shenandoah, a congratulations goes out to our top 5 Senior teams, Frederick County 4-H, Augusta County 4-H, rockingham County 4-H. The top 5 Senior individuals were: 1st Place – Haley Shoemaker (Shenandoah County), 2nd Place- John Robert Helsley (Shenandoah County), 3rd Place- Cody Boden (Frederick County), 4th place-Kaylee Greiner (Montgomery County), and 5th Place- Nicole Masiello (Shenandoah FFA). Top honors were also awarded in the junior division, which consists of youth ages 9 – 13. The top five teams were (in descending order) – Rockbridge County 4-H, J Frank Hillyard FFA, Montgomery County 4-H, Frederick County 4-H, and Augusta County 4-H. The top 5 junior individuals were: 1st Place – Zach Call (Augusta County), 2nd Place- Ethan Clouse (Montgomery County), 3rd Place- Jordan Strickler (Augusta County), 4th Place- Mikayla St. Clair (Frederick County), and 5th Place- Peyton Fravel (J Frank Hillyard FFA).

The State Youth Cattle Working Contest was held on Saturday, April 18th. Earlier this spring, five regional contests were held in various locations across the state to determine the Top 10 teams that would be represented at the 2015 State Youth Cattle Working Contest. A total of 43 teams competed at the regional levels. The State Youth Cattle Working Contest, as well as the regional contests, begins with teams completing a cattle processing map. This processing map is judged and returned to the team with any corrections prior to the team working the cattle. The teams then work a total of three head of cattle and are judged on the preparation and administration of a growth implant, a 7-way clostridial vaccination, a respiratory complex, ear tags, dewormer, and any other products that are deemed appropriate. In addition, the teams are also judged on the safety and handling of the cattle, as well as the time it takes to work all three head. For the 2015 State Youth Cattle Working Contest, first place was awarded to Grayson County 4-H, which consisted of Ethan Halsy, Shane Osborne, and Garrett Shumate. Orange County Team A (Blake Hopkins, Robert Nixon, and Zach Swoope) took home second place honors. Third place honors were awarded to Rockingham County Team A (Caley El-lington, James Ritchie, and Alec Turner). Congratulations to all those teams that made it to the state level. The Youth Meat Quality Assurance (YMQA) Program hosted youth training in conjunction with the Junior Beef Roundup. The youth learned proper animal management, husbandry, and handling techniques while at the training. By attending the classroom portion of the training, youth were certified in the Youth Pork Quality Assurance Plus program; youth who participated in both the classroom and a chuteside training were Beef Quality Assurance certified. Both YPQA Plus and BQA certifications are recognized as national certifications through the Virginia Department of Education and are both part of the YMQA certification program that is administered through Virginia Cooperative Extension. All youth participating in these trainings will be fully eligible to compete at the State Fair of Virginia held in October.

The 2015 State Cattle Sales Contest was held Saturday morning, April 18th, of the Junior Beef Roundup. The objective of this contest is to gain a working understanding of performance and pedigree information. Competing teams were to take pedigree information, marketing materials, and an animal to a panel of judges and attempt to sell the judges that...
animal, based on a pre-chosen scenario. Top Junior honors went to the Junior Angus Association (Samantha Moore, Suter Clark, and Chet Boden). Top Intermediate division honors went to the Montgomery County 4-H and their team members: Ethan Clouse, Francesca Shaver, and Sidnie Saville. The Senior Division was won by the Junior Angus Association, a team consisting of Cody Boden, Jake McCall, Caleb Boden, and Zach McCall. Rockbridge County 4-H, Lindsey Fenster, Jenna Hamilton, and Sarah Harris took home second place honors.

The 2015 State Cattle Fitting Contest began Saturday afternoon. This contest was open to exhibitors at the Junior Beef Roundup and encourages youth to gain the ability to work with a team to enhance the showing performance of a groomed animal. The 2015 Contest saw three teams compete. The Intermediate Division (ages 13 – 15) was won by the Junior Hereford Association: Brent Hostetter, Ashley Hostetter, Jenna Hamilton, and Olivia Williams. The Junior Angus Association won the Senior Division (ages 16 – 19) of the cattle fitting contest. Their team members included Jake McCall, Zach McCall, Caleb Boden, and Cody Boden. Second place went to Shenandoah County 4-H, with team members Bethany Gochenour, Kara Hockman, MaKaylyn Nesselrodt, and Shianne Nesselrodt. The Youth Cattle Fitting Contest would like to thank Sullivan’s Show Supply for sponsoring the 2015 event.

The Junior Beef Roundup hosted nearly 180 exhibitors, 57 commercial heifers, 144 prospect steers, and 141 breed entries, making for a grand total of 342

Continued on Page 30
Senior Showmanship. Reserve champion showman was awarded to: Cody Boden in Senior Showmanship, J. Gordon Clark in Intermediate Showmanship, Shianne Nesselrod in Junior Showmanship, and Suter Clark in Novice Showmanship. Sunday featured Junior Beef Round Up head shown throughout the weekend. The youth beef shows started off with the Showmanship division, held the youth registered breed shows, as well as the commercial heifer and prospect steer shows. The Youth Angus Show saw a very strong showing of 63 head of Angus cattle. The Overall Grand Champion Angus Heifer was exhibited by Bryce Bowman of Barboursville. The Overall Reserve Champion Angus Heifer was awarded to Zach McCall of Greenville, VA. Other Angus honors included: Grand Champion Bred & Owned Angus Heifer – Callie Eastin; Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Angus Heifer – Zach McCall; Grand Champion Owned Heifer – Bryce Bowman; Reserve Grand Champion Owned Heifer – Zach McCall; Grand Champion Angus Steer – J. Gordon Clark; and Reserve Champion Angus Steer – Robert Nixon. The youth Hereford show followed the Angus show. The Hereford show featured 26 head of cattle. The Overall Grand Champion Hereford Heifer was awarded to Blake Keppel of Harrisonburg, VA. Hannah Crain from Bridge-water received the Overall Reserve Grand Champion Hereford Heifer. Other honors included: Grand Champion Hereford Steer – Will Clark; Reserve Champion Hereford Steer – Walker Bowman; Grand Champion Bred & Owned Hereford – Abigail Allen; and Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Hereford – Rachel Bryan. The youth Simmental Show followed with 16 head. Overall Grand Champion Purebred Simmental Heifer honors were awarded Kelsey Powers-Barb of Boston, VA. Reserve Champion Simmental Heifer was exhibited by Carlee Taylor from Saltville, VA. The All Other Breeds division saw breeds such as Limousin, Percentage Simmental, MaineTainers, Lim-Flex, and Shorthorn compete for top honors. Samantha Moore of Raphine won the AOB Grand Champion Heifer with a Lim-Flex heifer. Courtney Durrer of Ruckersville exhibited the AOB Reserve Champion Heifer, a Shorthorn. Sunday morning also featured with the Youth Commercial Heifer show and was followed by the Youth Prospect Steer Show. Charles Hoofnagle of Lexington won the Grand Champion Commercial Heifer and Caley Ellington from Linville was the exhibitor of the Reserve Champion Commercial Heifer. Grand Champion Prospect Steer honors went to Matthew Ferrari of Purcellville, VA, while Jenna Kibler of Edinburg won Reserve Champion Prospect Steer. The Overall Supreme Champion Heifer drive rounded out a great weekend of events. This Supreme Drive saw the overall champions from all the youth heifer shows. Bryce Bowman, from Barboursville, VA exhibited the Overall Supreme Champion Heifer, the winner of the Angus show. The Reserve Supreme Champion Heifer was exhibited by Kelsey Powers-Barb of Boston, VA, with her Simmental Heifer.
Thank You!!

Thank you to all of the buyers and bidders who participated in this year’s Spring Bonanza Sale!

Sale Results:
- 32 Female Lots averaged: $3116
- 1 Steer Lot averaged: $1225
- 19 Bull Lots averaged: $3626
- 29 Baldie Lots averaged: $1660

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the

2014 MID- ATLANTIC FALL BONANZA SALE
November 14, 2015

And These Junior Show Dates:
- June 12th.........South Eastern Regionals, Abingdon, VA
- June 27-July3.........Junior National Hereford Exposition
- October 1-4.................................Virginia State Fair
- November 14................Mid-Atlantic Fall Round Up Show

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STEAK NIGHT! Members of the Blue Ridge Cattlemen’s Association Enjoyed a Rib Eye Steak Dinner Prepared by Mill Valley BBQ, at the April 30th Meeting.

Kevin Jennings, Board of Director for Fauquier Livestock Exchange, explains the new solar panel system installed on the roof of the stockyard at the spring meeting of the Blue Ridge Cattlemen’s Association.
Beef Fuels Team Beef at the 2015 Boston Marathon

The national beef checkoff, through its Northeast Beef Promotion Initiative (NEBPI) and in partnership with the South Dakota Beef Industry Council, ensured that beef was proudly represented during the historic running of the 119th Boston Marathon on Monday, April 20.

Twenty-one members of Team Beef started in Hopkinton, Mass., and ran along the rolling streets into downtown Boston on “Marathon Monday” to celebrate Patriots Day alongside nearly 30,000 other marathon runners. Members of Team Beef received nutritional education on how best to incorporate lean beef into their diet during training, beef recipes and cooking tips and a Team Beef running jersey to wear during the race.

Each of the members of Team Beef participating in the Boston Marathon this year had to achieve a strict qualifying time during a previous marathon. For most marathon runners, achieving a ‘Boston Qualifying’ time is a ‘Bucket List’ accomplishment.

Wade Foster of Washington D.C was the first Team Beef member to cross the Boston Marathon finish line with a final time of 2:44:25. Ruel Sword of Woodway, TX was the first female finisher for Team Beef with a final time of 3:23:17. The average finish time for the Team Beef runners was 3:32:26. Team Beef runners were from New York, New Jersey, Washington D.C., Ohio, Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Colorado and Texas.

Ruel Sword commented about her experience running for Team Beef in Boston, “I loved wearing BEEF during the marathon and hearing ‘BEEF’ being shouted all along the course and shouting ‘BEEF’ back as I ran by! Lots of BEEF lovers!”

Mother and daughter pair, Connie and Elizabeth Wilkinson of Joplin, Mo., had similar reflections after running on Team Beef: “I wanted you to know that we probably heard 350+ shout outs as we ran, from whole groups of people shouting ‘Beef! Beef!’ to ‘GO, Team Beef!’ to ‘Where’s the beef?!’ Over and over and over.”

Valerie Van Dyke, Director of Consumer Marketing and Team Beef Coordinator for the Virginia Beef Industry Council commented, “Because the Boston Marathon is such an elite athletic event, and beef is an elite protein source, it makes sense to pair the two. It’s a great way to showcase that beef is a valuable fuel for our finest athletes, and healthy consumers in general.”

Social media activity surrounding Team Beef at the Boston Marathon this year can be found searching the #BeefFuelsBoston hashtag. Nearly 80,000 Twitter impressions were achieved surrounding the social media activity.

Photo By: Jacquelynn Davis
**MONEY MAING MATHEMATICS:**

2 + 2 = 5

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

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Vice President: Tom Lavelle 276-223-4488
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Treasurer: Judith Sweeten 276-228-6347
Details Announced for 2015-16
Virginia BCIA Central Bull Test Station Program

Joi D. Saville
Extension Associate, Beef
Virginia Tech

The Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association will begin its 58th year of sponsoring the Virginia’s Central Bull Test Station Program. Rules and regulations for the upcoming test and sale season are now available through Virginia BCIA. A total of three test groups of bulls will be developed and sold from the two stations located at Culpeper and in Southwest Virginia.

The Culpeper Senior test is conducted at Glenmary Farm in Rapidan, VA, owned and operated by Tom and Kim Nixon. The Southwest Bull Test Station is located at Hillwinds Farm owned by Tim Sutphin of Dublin, Virginia. At the Culpeper station, a set of fall-born Senior bulls will be developed. The Southwest Test Station will develop both a set of fall-born Senior bulls, as well as spring-born Junior bulls. In addition to the traditional tests, the opportunity exists for breeders to custom feed bulls through the BCIA program so that contemporary groups may be maintained. Additionally, provisions to the program allow breeders flexibility in developing both sale-eligible and custom tests bulls. The following table provides details of age requirements, entry deadlines, and the test and sale schedule for each group of bulls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULPEPER SENIOR BULLS</th>
<th>SOUTHWEST SENIOR BULLS</th>
<th>SOUTHWEST JUNIOR BULLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entry Deadline</td>
<td>June 15, 2015</td>
<td>September 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery of Bulls</td>
<td>June 30, 2015</td>
<td>October 6, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start Test</td>
<td>July 14, 2014</td>
<td>October 27, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finish Test</td>
<td>November 3, 2015</td>
<td>February 16, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale</td>
<td>Saturday, December 12, 2015</td>
<td>Saturday, March 26, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(112 days)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A gain this year, we will feature the enhanced bull guarantee which covers fertility, structural soundness problems (including foot soundness), and other issues on all bulls sold through the program. To compliment this good-faith guarantee, fall-born senior bulls will be subject to a semen evaluation as part of breeding soundness exam required for sale eligibility. Volume discounts will be available to bull buyers purchasing three or more bulls at a BCIA bull sale.

Registered bulls of any recognized beef breed, or recorded percentage bulls of breeds which have an open herd book are eligible for the central tests. All bulls must be recorded in their respective breed association, and have a complete performance record (including EPDs). Bulls must also meet breed-specific minimum YW EPD requirements, individual performance specifications, as well as pre-delivery health and management protocol to be eligible for the tests.

Breeders in Virginia and bordering states who are members of Virginia BCIA are eligible to consign bulls. For details and copies of the rules and regulations as well as entry information regarding the central bull tests, contact the Virginia BCIA office at 540-231-9159 or visit http://www.bcia.apsc.vt.edu.
Have You Paid Your $1.00 Per Head Beef Checkoff?
It’s The Law - There Are No Exceptions!!!

The beef checkoff law applies every time cattle are sold. This includes purebred sales and private treaty sales. The law requires that a dollar per head be withheld from the sale proceeds by livestock markets, order buyers, or buyers in the field.

Under the law, the seller is also responsible. In many cases, it is more practical for the seller to remit the dollar per head in private treaty transactions, such as purebred sales. To avoid a late payment charge, checkoff dollars must be remitted by the 15th of the month following the sale transaction. Penalties of up to $5,000 per transaction apply to violators. All sale transactions are subject to audit to insure compliance with the checkoff law.

The simple remittance form can be obtained from the Virginia Beef Industry Council’s website at www.vabeef.org (under the checkoff heading) or by calling (540)992-1992. Checks should be made payable to the Virginia Beef Industry Council and postmarked and mailed by the 15th of the month to Virginia Beef Industry Council, P.O. Box 9, Daleville, VA 24083.
Clock Bar Jokes

Riding The Train

A lady from the city and her traveling companion were riding the train through Vermont when she noticed some cows.

“What a cute bunch of cows!” she remarked.
“Not a bunch, herd”, her friend replied.
“Heard of what?”
“Herd of cows.”
“Of course I’ve heard of cows.”
“No, a cow herd.”
“What do I care what a cow heard. I have no secrets to keep from a cow!”

Emergency Room

A man staggars into the emergency room with a concussion, multiple bruises, and a five iron wrapped around his neck.
Naturally the doctor asks him what happened.
“Well, it was like this” said the man. “I was having a quiet round of golf with my wife, when at a difficult hole, we both sliced our balls into a pasture of cows. We went to look for them, and while I was rooting around I noticed that one of the cows had something white in it’s rear end. I walked over and lifted up the tail, and sure enough, there was a golf ball with my wife’s monogram on it stuck right in the middle of the cow’s butt. Thats when I made my mistake.”
“What did you do?”, asked the doctor.
“Well, I lifted the tail, pointed, and yelled to my wife, “Hey! This looks like yours!”

Religious Cowboy

The devout cowboy lost his favorite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range.
Three weeks later, a cow walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth.

The cowboy couldn’t believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the cow’s mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, “It’s a miracle!”
“Not really,” said the cow.
“Your name is written inside the cover.”

Trading Post

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Membership benefits include a one year subscription to The Virginia Cattleman newspaper—providing valuable and timely information to VCA members!!

For more information call our office at (540) 992-1009 or visit http://vacattlemen.org/membership_join.php

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<th>Membership Level</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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<td>General Membership</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>(Includes subscription to The Virginia Cattleman newspaper)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allied Industry Member</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>(Local Cattlemen groups and breed associations with budget &lt;$10,000)</td>
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<td>Allied Industry Member</td>
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<td>Please renew my membership</td>
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VIRGINIA CATTLEMEN’S ASSOCIATION AND VIRGINIA STATE DAIRYMEN’S ASSOCIATION JULY 17, 2015 EXPO AND FIELD DAY AT KENTLAND FARM, VIRGINIA TECH, BLACKSBURG, VA. SEE PAGES 20 - 21 FOR INFORMATION. DON’T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!

Photos?

VCA is having a cover photo contest for The Virginia Cattleman Newspaper. Please mail, email, or facebook your favorite photos by August 1st. VCA will vote on the photo and announce the winners in the September Virginia Cattleman’s Newspaper. The photo can be taken from anytime of the year. They do not have to be summer photos.

GOOD LUCK!

jdavis@vacattlemen.org
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Rockingham Feeder Cattle Association Annual Banquet
Tuesday June 23, 2015 at 6:00 pm at the Weyers Cave Community Center
Weyers Cave, VA.

Featured Speakers: Kim Brackett, 2013-2014 Cattlemen’s Beef Board Chair
Phillip Saunders 2014 National Jr. Beef Ambassador Contest Winner

Cost: Free to members plus 1; $10 for non-members and additional guests
RSVP to the Augusta Extension office by june 16 at 540-245-5750

Photos?

Heifers grazing against beautiful backdrop of Gary Ramsey’s farm in Fort Valley where he hosted the Virginia Red Angus Field Day on May 16th. Photo taken by Jason Carter.
Select a 7 CODE SIRE for every desire

SUMMIT

7AN340
16433346
Game Day x Expedition
Sires daughters that excel for rib capacity and exceptional udder quality
CED: +34 BW: -8 WW: +61 YW: +103
$W: +69.46 $B: +51.68

ADVANCE

7AN396
16767972
Progress x 5050
Progress son with more width and shape than his sire
CED: +20 BW: -25 WW: +61 YW: +100
$W: +67.78 $B: +122.83

COURAGE

7AN384
17302304
Confidence x VRD
Sires a powerful hip and hind leg with above average muscle
CED: +38 BW: -5 WW: +58 YW: +105
$W: +48.46 $B: +76.66

HORIZON

7AN363
17076135
Daybreak x Analyst
Daybreak son with good feet, good looks and solid performance
CED: +38 BW: -1.9 WW: +54 YW: +99
$W: +45.06 $B: +55.65

REMEDY

7AN419
17331233
Thunder x Bando 9074
Take advantage of superior foot quality along with maternal extras
CED: +34 BW: -3.2 WW: +51 YW: +102
$W: +50.58 $B: +99.33

UNION

7AN365
17302232
Consensus x In Focus
Siring outstanding calves that are consistent, balanced and attractive
CED: +30 BW: -3 WW: +58 YW: +105
$W: +61.48 $B: +118.39

EPDs as of 5/8/15


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