

NEBRASKA CATTLEMEN NEWSLINE

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Guest Presentations Will Highlight Midyear Meeting June 8-9 in Holdrege

Next month's NC Midyear meeting will include addresses by Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman and deputy USDA undersecretary for farm and agricultural services Floyd Gaibler, who will speak about efforts to re-open foreign markets such as China and Japan.

A UNL graduate who grew up on a farm near Farnam, Gaibler will speak as part of the Midyear General Session, which starts at 4 p.m. Friday, June 9.

Another General Session speaker is Steve Waller, dean of UNL's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, who will discuss UNL's multi-faceted partnership with NC to assist the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) in regaining its prominence as a leading agricultural university while enhancing the beef industry.

It has not been determined when Heineman will speak.

The Midyear meeting of NC and the Nebraska CattleWomen is open to all cattle producers and will begin with a noon golf tournament on Thursday, June 8, at the Holdrege Country Club. Thursday evening's steak social for early Midyear arrivals will begin around 5:30 p.m. at the Country Club.

Business begins at 9 a.m. Friday morning with committee meetings at the air-conditioned Holdrege Middle School.

The Brand Committee meeting will include a summary of brand legislation in

the 2006 Legislature and a report from the Nebraska Brand Committee.

The Marketing and Commerce Committee agenda includes a presentation on progress toward instrument grading, an update on research at the Meat Animal Research Center, a report on the role that the Nebraska Corn Board has played in promoting U.S. beef in foreign markets, and a discussion of further marketing options.

The Taxation Committee will discuss workers compensation and receive a report on tax changes from the 2006 Legislature.

Midyear will then break for lunch before other committees meet in the afternoon. The registration fee includes Friday's noon luncheon hosted by the NC Research & Education Foundation. The luncheon program includes the awarding of this year's college scholarships and an update on activities at the Panhandle Research Feedlot in Scottsbluff and the Gudmundsen Research Ranch in Whitman.

The foundation will also present final feeding results and announce the winners of the 2005-06 Retail Value Steer Challenge. In December, donors contributed 72 steers to the foundation, which placed them on feed at the Darr Feedlot in Cozad. Those steers have been processed and winners in such categories as best daily rate of gain and highest gain in retail beef value will be announced.

Meanwhile, the foundation is a partner in a livestock industry fundraising drive to raise private monies to help UNL's IANR make up for its budget shortfall. Jay Wolf and George Cooksley will present a report on that campaign.

In the afternoon, the Animal Health & Nutrition agenda includes NC Past President Allen Bright providing an update on national animal identification. Tim Loy will discuss the nutritional feed value of wet distillers grains, and committee chair Anne Burkholder will provide an update on the Beef Transportation Quality Assurance program.

The Education Committee will hear a report from NC's UNL Task Force chairman Homer Buell. UNL dean Waller will also give a presentation.

In the Natural Resources and Environment Committee, UNL's Rick Koelsch will discuss phosphorous issues and a tool for measuring odor at livestock facilities. Also, updates will be presented on the Sandhills Task Force and the Sand County Foundation.

The NC Board of Directors will meet Friday morning and then again after the General Session in order to take up new business out of the committees. Midyear wraps up with a beef-and-wine fundraising event at Cheex bar in downtown Holdrege. A separate \$30 ticket is needed for this event, which benefits local charities.

To receive the *Newsline* via e-mail, send a message to nc@neccattlemen.org. Include your name, company or ranch name, postal address and phone number.

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Nebraska CattleWomen
NEWSLINE

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Livestock Expansion Funds Available From State

With some of the money being allocated on a “first-come/first-served” basis, NC members are encouraged to apply early for funds available under new legislation passed by the 2006 Legislature.

Come January, Nebraska livestock producers are eligible to receive tax incentives for facility modernization and expansion under the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act. These new incentives result from the passage of LB990, an NC priority bill that was signed into law by Gov. Dave Heineman.

Producers can qualify for incentives under one of two new programs. However, in one, they will compete with other businesses for

a total of \$3 million to be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. To apply for either program, submit an application to the Tax Incentive Division of the Nebraska Department of Revenue. Contact Mary Hugo at (402) 471-5790.

Under the first program, if a livestock producer invests at least \$125,000 and creates two new full-time jobs, the individual will qualify for a \$3,000 per-employee refundable tax credit and a \$2,750 refundable credit for each \$50,000 invested. Or, a producer can qualify for a refundable tax credit equal to 10 percent of each \$50,000 invested, up to a maximum of \$30,000 per application.

Candidates Sought For State Beef Council Directors

Petition packets are now available for cattle producers who would like to join the Nebraska Beef Council, which oversees spending of the state’s share of the \$1-per-head checkoff.

A vote will be held this fall for directors from council districts 2, 4, 6 and 8. To be on the ballot, you must present 100 petition signatures to the council office by Sept. 1.

To obtain a petition packet, call the council at 1-800-421-5326.

To qualify, you must be a Nebraska beef

producer over 21 years of age and a registered voter.

It is suggested that you attend a board meeting to view the role of the directors. Many of the meetings are held at council headquarters in Kearney, but others are held around the state. All are open to the public.

This fall’s vote for regions 2, 4, 6 and 8 will take place by mail, with winners to take their seats on the board in January.

A map of the districts is available at www.nebeef.org, under the Newsroom menu.

Sallie Atkins Resigns Beef Council Post

Nebraska Beef Council executive director Sallie Atkins has announced plans to retire later this year after eight years of service. A national search will be conducted for her replacement.

“Atkins has served the beef industry well, overseeing beef checkoff programs and serving Nebraska’s beef industry in a leadership role,” says council chair Ann Bruntz. “She has been a wonderful asset to all of the beef industry both here in Nebraska and worldwide.”

Atkins says the time is right to transition to new leadership and keep moving the beef council in a positive direction. Although she plans to remain involved in the industry, she may scale back. “My husband has sacrificed a lot for me to follow my dreams. The time has come to return to the ranch and focus on family.” Atkins and her husband, Al, have a ranch in the Sandhills near Halsey.

Before being named executive director, Atkins served two terms as a volunteer director for the beef council, which distributes the state’s share of the \$1-per-head checkoff.

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NC's New Water Subcommittee To Meet At Holdrege June 8 During Midyear

At the direction of the board of directors, NC President Pete McClymont has named a Water Issues subcommittee to examine water policy in Nebraska.

Looking to get representatives from across the state and representing various sectors of the cattle industry, McClymont chose George Cooksley of Anselmo (chairman), Eric Hansen of North Platte (vice chair), Art Brownlee of Ashby, Pete Lapaseotes of Bridgeport, and Lee Bose of Orleans. Also serving is Jack Maddux of Wauneta, past president of the Nebraska Stock Growers, new NC Natural Resources chairman Chuck Folken, and Galen Frenzen of Fullerton, who serves on the governor's water policy committee. (Folken became Natural Resources chair last month with the resignation of Craig Utter.)

As a subcommittee, the water panel will present its recommendations to the Natural Resources Committee. NC members are invited to join the subcommittee at 3:30 p.m. June 8 at the Holdrege Country Club. Agenda: Groundwater monitoring, interbasin water transfers, dams and diversions, and control of riverbank vegetation.

NC was the only Nebraska agriculture group to present testimony at the Legislature's Natural Resources Committee hearing May 16 to examine interbasin transfers during water-short years.

NC has policy opposing interbasin transfers. "We cannot over-emphasize the paramount importance of developing wise long-term policy protecting this most precious resource for all Nebraskans," said Cooksley.

Nebraska Beef Industry Historical Project Gets Underway This Summer

With generous grants from the Nebraska Beef Council, the Nebraska Cattlemen and the NC Research & Education Foundation, production of a major film documentary on the history of Nebraska beef will begin soon. The Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) and Nebraska Educational Telecommunications (NET) will collaborate to produce this one-hour TV documentary.

This summer, representatives from NSHS and NET will travel the state scouting stories and places to film, as well as viewing historic photographs and film footage that might be included in the documentary. "We are eager to hear from anyone connected with the cattle industry in Nebraska if they have stories or historical resources to share," says NSHS researcher John Carter.

For more information, visit www.nebraskahistory.org, email beefstate@nebraskahistory.org, or write to Nebraska State Historical Society, PO Box 82554, Lincoln NE 68501.

UNL Seeks Herds For BVD Project

Nebraska's Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center is seeking cattle herds to take part in a BVD research project.

If your calves are individually identified, the center would like to test them for the presence of bovine viral diarrhea virus at either weaning or branding. Testing is quick, as a small punch is used to take an ear notch sample from each animal. The samples are then sent to a lab for identification of persistently infected (PI) animals.

The initial testing costs will be covered by project funds, other costs such as postage, labor in sample collection and service by herd veterinarians will not be covered, says Gary Rupp of the GPVEC at Clay Center.

Results from the testing will be used to help develop a cost-effective testing system to help identify PI calves, as well as evaluate the long-term effectiveness of BVD immunization practices.

For information, contact Rupp at (402) 762-4502.

NC/NCW Midyear Schedule June 8-9, Holdrege

Thursday, June 8 (All events at Holdrege Country Club)

11 am Golf Tournament Lunch
12 noon Golf Tournament
5:30 pm Welcome Reception and Steak Feed

Friday, June 9 All events at Middle School (unless noted)

7 am - 4 pm Registration
7 am - 4 pm PAC Silent Auction
7-9 am NC Board of Directors Meeting
9-11 am NCREF Board of Directors Meeting
9-11 am NCW Meeting
9-11 am Committee Meetings

- Brand
- Marketing & Commerce
- Taxation

11-11:30 am Break
11:30 am NCREF Luncheon
1:30-3:30 pm NCW Meeting
1:30-3:30 pm Committee Meetings
- Animal Health & Nutrition
- Education
- Natural Resources

3:30-4 pm Break
4-5 pm General Session
5-6 pm NC Board of Directors Meeting
6 pm Beef & Wine Fundraiser (separate ticket)
(to be held at Cheex Bar downtown)

REGISTRATION: Registration forms for Midyear can be found in the April 19 and May 3 *Newslines* or you can register on-line at www.nebraskacattlemen.org, or call the Lincoln office at (402) 475-2333. The \$5 discount for early registration expires this Friday. After Friday, registration costs \$50. On-site registration will be available at the middle school on June 9 at \$55.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Attendees are encouraged to reserve lodging early, as rooms are limited in the Holdrege area. Some suggestions: In Holdrege - Super 8 Motel (308-995-2793 or 800-800-8000); Plains Motel (308-995-8646 or 800-340-8000); Das Gasthaus Bed & Breakfast (308-995-2440). In Kearney - Country Inn & Suites (308 236-7500), Wingate Inn (308-237-4400). In Funk - Uncle Sam's Hilltop Lodge (308-995-5568); in Loomis - Clifton Classic Bed & Breakfast (308-876-2187).

DIRECTIONS: Country Club is in northwest Holdrege. Take 18th Avenue west from Highway 183. The Holdrege Middle School is in north-central Holdrege. From Hwy 183, drive east on 14th Avenue to the 600 block.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: NC would like to thank its Phelps/Gosper affiliate as well as the Holdrege Public Schools and the Holdrege Chamber of Commerce for hosting this event. It's made possible through the support of many generous sponsors, including Platinum-level partners Farm Credit Services of America, Grace/Mayer Insurance, Tyson Fresh Meats and John Deere.

Hurry And Submit Your Pictures For NC/Elanco Photo Contest By July 15

There's less than two months to go in the 2006 NC/Elanco Animal Health Photo Contest, which features more cash prizes this year. Entry deadline is July 15.

The contest is divided into a junior division, age 8-21, and an adult division, age 22 and over. Within each age division, photos will be grouped into four categories: cattle, people, landscape and miscellaneous "nuts and bolts."

Vertical photos are preferred, as they are considered as covers for the Nebraska Cattleman magazine. All photos should be taken within Nebraska.

Cash prizes of \$60 will be awarded for first place in each category, \$35 for second and \$20 for third, plus \$10 each for four honorable mentions. A premium of \$20 will be paid for the best overall picture in each age group. All NC members, their families and employees are eligible.

Photos must be no larger than 8 by 10 inches. Both color and black-and-white prints will be accepted. An index card that lists the entrant's name, address, phone number and NC membership number must be attached to the back of each photo. For junior division photos, list the entrant's age. For senior divi-

sion entries, "adult" is sufficient.

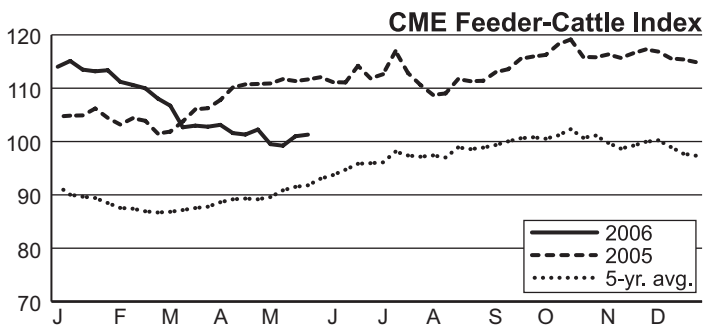
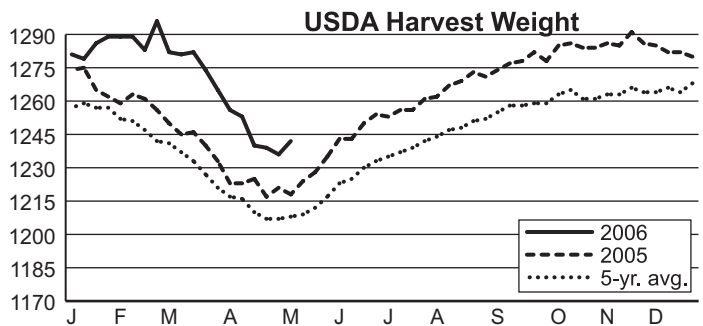
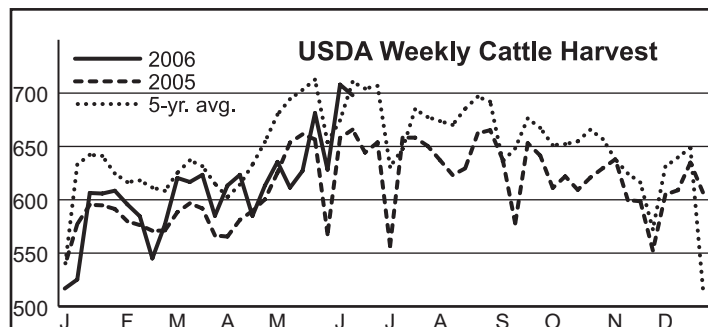
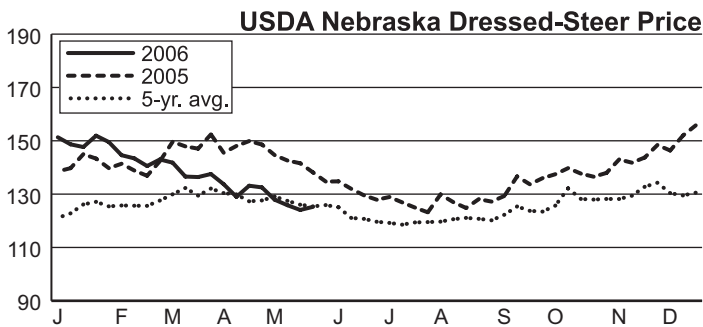
For more information about the contest, or how to join NC, call the NC office at (402) 475-2333 or send an e-mail to nc@necattlemen.org.

Mail photos to Nebraska Cattlemen, 134 S. 13th St. Suite 900, Lincoln NE 68508.

Photographers can submit as many pictures as they want, but entries must be postmarked by July 15. Electronic images are acceptable; please contact NC for special rules.

Winning photos will be displayed at the State Fair, and all entries become NC property for use in the association's publications.

A Look at the Market



Next Newsline: June 14

Upcoming Events

May

- 25 Sandhills Cattle Association annual convention. Gordon. \$40 members; \$55 non-members.
- 27 Team Penning, 5 p.m. Roger Williams Arena, St. Paul. (308) 754-4141.

June

- 1 Cattle Capital Cattlemen membership meeting, Alliance Country Club. 6 p.m. social. Please bring a potential member. Speaker: NC EVP Michael Kelsey. RSVP to Melody at (308) 762-3005.
- 6 BQA Training Seminar, Webster County Fairgrounds, Bladen. \$10. 12:45 registration, 1:30 start. Runs through 5:30 supper. Topics include feeds & feeding, testing & necropsy, biosecurity, QSA/animal ID.
- 11 Northeast Cattlemen's Summer Steak Fry. \$20. Pender Legion Hall. 6 p.m. social; 7 p.m. meal. Entertainment: Comedian/impressionist Ric Roberts. For tickets, call Joel Bruns (402) 922-0112.
- 15 Southeast Nebraska tour for small livestock operators. Focus is on Vegetative Treatment Systems to replace holding ponds. Tour is free but noon lunch is \$8. Departs Lincoln 8 a.m. Call (308) 865-1594.

Tickets Remain For June 3 Cattlemen's Ball

Tickets are still available for the Nebraska Cattlemen's Ball June 3 at the Midwest Feeding Co. just north of Milford. Gates open at 1 p.m. for a daylong gala that includes an art show, wagon rides, games, live and silent auctions, fashion show, general store, health screenings, casino, concessions, a prime rib evening meal and a performance by country artist Phil Vassar and the Blackwater band.

Tickets are \$65 and dress is casual. Proceeds are used to benefit cancer research at the UNMC Eppley Cancer Center, plus local health care activities. To obtain tickets, call (402) 761-3602 or (888) 562-3602. For more information, visit www.cattlemensball.com.

Hay Growers Concerned By Bioterror Rule

NC is keeping close watch on NCBA efforts in Washington to revise a federal bioterrorism rule that imposes new recordkeeping requirements on commercial hay producers on June 1.

Many in USDA and Congress seem unaware that the Bioterrorism Act of 2002 required such documentation, notes NC legislative affairs vice president Duane Gangwish.

NC and NCBA will continue working with USDA and the FDA to limit the reach of the law to specifically exclude farm production and marketing of feed ingredients between farmers.