
I look forward to assisting with your livestock production and forage crop needs in this Fall!

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Upcoming Events

Please check this and upcoming editions of the newsletter for more information about coming events. Tentatively scheduled meetings and activities include:

- KSU Swine Day        Nov. 21
- Allen County Farm Bill Mtg. Nov. 21
- Women in Ag Jan 15,22,29  Feb 5
- Winter Ranch Management TBD
- Stocker Cattle Meeting Feb 20
Allen County Farm Bill Meeting

Access to Winter Hay

Pasture Burning Video

Soybean Stubble for Cows

Hay Testing

KSU Swine Day

Health Insurance Enrollment

Quick Links

Southwind Extension District

KSU Animal Science Department

K-State Research and Extension

Kansas Livestock Association

Kansas Pork Association

Kansas Meat Goat Association

Kansas Forage and Grasslands Council

Society for Range Management - Kansas Section

Join My Mailing List

Allen County Farm Bill Meeting

Plan Access to Winter Hay

Thursday, November 21, 2019
8:30 - 10:30am and 6:00 - 8:00pm
Allen County Courthouse Assembly Room
1 North Washington, Iola, KS

Agricultural producers can now enroll in the Agriculture Revenue Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) safety net programs. Web-based decision tools are available to assist making informed, educated decisions using crop data specific to each respective farming operation.

Doug Peine, Allen County Farm Service Agency Director, will help you learn more about your options, give yield updates, and share important dates and deadlines for 2020.

For more information, call the Southwind Extension District Iola office: 620-365-2242 or the Allen County Farm Service Agency: 620-365-2901
What happens to your hay if you have a snowy or muddy winter? Will you be able to get to it? Prepare now for winter barriers with proper placement.

Do you remember any heavy snow periods last winter? How about mud last spring? Of course you do.

How did this snow or mud affect you? Did you have adequate feed supplies for your livestock on hand? Did you have easy access to all your hay supplies during the blizzards, or during the rains and mud? Were you able to easily get your hay to all your animals?

While driving across the K-State Research and Extension - Southwind District, I see many hay stacks and round bales stored next to trees or in low spots or along fence lines that might get drifted in during a blizzard. In some cases, the access road to this hay might get drifted in. And in a lot of sites, when the snow eventually melts during winter or next spring, or when the rains begin to fall, it might be too muddy to get to the hay or maybe too muddy to get the hay to the cattle.

I also wonder how well the hay is organized. Is good hay separated from
poor hay? Has it even been tested so you know what hay should be fed to cows needing only a maintenance diet and what hay should be saved for animals needing extra protein and energy. And then, can you get to either one whenever you want?

Also, has the hay been tested for nitrates, especially hay made from annual grasses like millets, sorghum-sudangrass, and oats? Nitrate poisoning occurs most frequently when high nitrate hay is fed to hungry animals right after a snow storm.

Don’t neglect planning for bad weather in placement of your hay yards. Then if storms do occur, you’ll be ready.

**Pasture Prescribed Burning**

Are you planning on burning pastures next spring? Burning is a natural part of
the ecosystem, and can be used successfully to help control brush and trees. It also opens up the ground to allow tillerling of grasses, and earlier warming of the soil. This being said, it can be a dangerous practice if done without proper planning. Fires can easily get out of control and burn outbuildings, or neighboring property. Smoke can cross over roadways and make for dangerous driving conditions. Do your homework and make a plan before burning pastures. Be sure to notify the proper county officials. For more information, check out the following video:
After soybeans are harvested, cows can be put out on the residues to graze. Some bean residues are even baled. But how good is this feed?

The problem is a matter of perception. When most of us think of soybeans, we think high protein. So we expect bean residues will be a high protein feed, too. Unfortunately, the opposite is true; soybean residue is very low in protein.

Soybean stems and pods contain only about 4 to 6 percent crude protein, well below the 7 to 8 percent needed for minimum support of a dry beef cow. And even though leaves can be up to 12 percent protein, it's only around one-third digestible, so that's not much help. In
fact, protein digestibility is low in all bean residues.

Energy is even worse. TDN averages between 35 and 45 percent for leaves, stems, and pods. This is even lower than wheat straw. As a result, cows fed only bean residue can lose weight and condition very quickly. Heavy supplementation is needed to maintain cow health.

Now, this doesn't mean soybean residues are worthless for grazing or even baled. They can be a good extender of much higher quality hay or silage. But, cattle must be fed quite a bit of higher energy and protein feeds to make up for the deficiencies in soybean residues.

Is Your Hay Good Enough This Year?

Feed costs represent the lion's share of a cow/calf and stocker operator’s expenses and are an ideal starting place to implement and maintain hard-nosed cost-control measures.

Forage grazing systems utilized by beef producers throughout the United States are all vulnerable to unpredictable precipitation patterns as well as the seasonality of pasture and range forage quality.

Simply put, forage is harvested to hedge against periods of time when the base forage supply is low or when animal nutrient requirements are elevated relative to what is available.
However, forages are grown, harvested and stored under a variety of conditions that can dramatically affect feeding value. A nutrient analysis is the only means by which to properly establish the feeding value and determine if additional nutrient supplemental programs are necessary.

Click Here to Read More!

Alfalfa Payments Available

Listen up, alfalfa hay growers! Did you ever think you could benefit from alfalfa exports to China? Turns out, this year there may be a way for all alfalfa growers to capitalize.

Because of the trade war, China imposed retaliatory tariffs and non-tariff barriers on exports of agricultural goods from the United States. This caused our federal government to develop the Market Facilitation Program, which is designed to provide financial assistance to farmers with commodities impacted by tariffs.

Soybeans are the most well known and highest ranking among crops covered by the program. However, prior to the trade war, China was the number one importer of alfalfa hay from the United States. As a result, alfalfa hay also qualifies for Market Facilitation payments.
You don't need to be involved with selling your hay for export. All alfalfa growers are eligible for payments, including growers who feed all their alfalfa on-farm to their own livestock. Payments are based solely on planted acres as long as conservation compliance requirements are met.

To receive payments, you do need to apply at your local Farm Service Agency office by December 6. In order for your field to qualify it must contain at least 60 percent alfalfa. Now, at this time it's unclear how the amount of alfalfa in alfalfa-grass mixtures is going to be determined but it probably will be done locally. If you do apply, make sure you report your acres as alfalfa. Do not report it as alfalfa-grass because mixtures are ineligible for payments.

Take advantage of Market Facilitation payments for alfalfa. They may not be particularly high, but something is better than nothing.

KSU Swine Day
SAVE THE DATE
for the 2019 KSU Swine Day to be held at the KSU Alumni Center in Manhattan, Kansas on
November 21, beginning at 8:00 a.m. with the trade show.

We have a great program lined up for you including:

- Latest update on K-State Applied Swine Nutrition Research: 15-minute rotation including topics on Swine Nutrition, Management and Feed Processing
- K-State Swine Faculty Decision Processes and Implementing a Nutritional Program in an Integrated System
  - Dr. Josh Flohr, Seaboard Foods, Guymon, Oklahoma
- What the Canadian Industry is Doing to Prevent an ASFV Incursion
  - Dr. Egan Brockhoff, Prairie Swine Health Services, Alberta, Canada

Mark the date on your calendar and plan on attending this outstanding event. Please note that the registration deadline is November 12. For online registration visit [www.KSUswine.org](http://www.KSUswine.org). For questions, contact Lois at [lschrein@ksu.edu](mailto:lschrein@ksu.edu) or 785-532-1267.

[Click here for a printable brochure!](#)

Health Insurance Open enrollment
Medicare Part D & Advantage Plans  Marketplace Health Ins
October 15- December 7       November 1 - December

Need assistance with reviewing your health insurance options for N or Marketplace? Make an appointment with Joy Miller, certified Sen Health Insurance Counselor for Kansans (SHICK) and certified Ass Marketplace Health Insurance. This service available for no charge.

Southwind Extension Offices
Monday- Fort Scott
Tuesday- Erie
Wednesday- Iola
Thursday- Yates Center

October 30th- Bronson Public Library
November 6th- Humboldt Public Library

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