

Agriculture

CENTRAL KANSAS EXTENSION DISTRICT NEWS

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February 2022

Upcoming Events

February

Winter Ranch
Management Series

8 Hays, KS
10 Council Grove, KS
15 Randolph, KS
24 Oakley, KS

March

5 Tractor Safety
Course

5 Junior Beef
Producer Day

9 YQCA Certification
- Minneapolis, KS

10 YQCA Certification
- Salina, KS

19 Junior Sheep
Producer Day

Preparing for the Calving Season

By Sandy Johnson, Extension Beef Specialist, Colby, and AJ Tarpoff, DVM, Extension Veterinarian

The checklist below is designed to help you plan and prepare to improve the success of your calving season and weaned calf crop.



- Balance cow rations for adequate protein and energy for increased third trimester and subsequent lactation requirements. Group and feed cows by body condition and age to the degree possible. Target body condition for first calf heifers at calving of 5.5 to 6 and 5 to 5.5 for mature cows.
- Develop sound vaccination program to prepare the cow to produce high quality colostrum.
- Control lice and internal parasites.
- Plan for recording calving data and consider ways to backup records.
- Make sure calving facilities are clean and in good repair
- Plan for ear tags, tattoos, scale or weight tape, banding or castration.
- Check flash lights and other quality portable light sources.
- Check-list for calving assistance
 - OB chains, calf puller, OB gloves, OB lube (non-detergent soap & water is one option), non-irritant antiseptic (Betadine or Nolvasan), flank rope to lay cow down
 - A cooler can be used to keep warm water in calving barn if no other source available
 - Old towels or similar
- Review basic treatment plans with local veterinarian for retained placenta, calf scours, colostrum replacers and supplements and ensure necessary treatments and supplies are on hand or readily available. Include a functional thermometer.
- Know the difference between colostrum supplements and replacers, in most instances use replacers that contain at least 100 IgG per dose.
- Have on hand at least 2 clean and functional esophageal tube feeders, clearly marked, one for healthy calves, one only used for sick calves.
- Plan and watch for opportunities to collect colostrum from within the

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herd. Date and freeze in quart sized plastic bags for future use.

- If replacement calves are obtained from outside the herd, plan for their isolation and testing before exposing to entire herd.
- Plan for severe weather; wind, freezing rain and blizzards are not uncommon. Plan for correcting calf hypothermia. Calf shelters should be in good repair, bedding on hand. Plans for portable windbreaks and calf shelters are available from your local extension office.
- Shift feeding to dusk or later to promote day time calving one week before anticipated start of calving season.

Develop standard operation procedures for calving and providing assistance. Include list and contact information for individuals who can provide more expertise or assistance as required. The following are suggestions on when to intervene.

- You suspect cow has been in Stage 1 over 8 hours. Stage 1 characteristics; restlessness, pain, lie down and get up frequently, seek isolation (signs more apparent in first-calf heifers than mature cows).

Stage 2 –

- Water sack visible for 2 hours and cow is not trying
- Cow trying for over 30 minutes and no progress is being made
- Cow has quit trying for over 15-20 minutes after a period of progress
- Cow or calf showing excessive fatigue or stress (swollen tongue or excessive bleeding)
- You can observe the calf presentation is other than two front feet and head first.

When Calving Starts

- Calves should have colostrum within first 2 hours of life, if calf can't get colostrum from dam, take steps to give colostrum within 4-6 hrs of birth.
- Colostrum intake should be 10% of calf's body weight, 0.5 – 1 gallon. First choice is for calf to nurse a bottle so that colostrum goes directly to the abomasum. Don't over feed to encourage calf to nurse on its own, 1.5 quart dose good starting point.
- Handle healthy calves before sick calves and avoid exposing newborns to contaminants on clothing or materials used on sick calves.
- If a cow is brought in for any amount of calving assistance, make sure she leaves with a clean udder.

Work towards developing a notebook that has all the standard operating procedures for your operation. Include things like yearly vaccination plans, treatment protocols, calving and calving assistance protocols, euthanasia protocols, drought management plans and weather emergency plans. This will be a valuable resource when communicating with employees new and old, when reviewing what needs to be improved for the next year or if a health emergency forces someone else to take care of the herd.

CKD Safe Tractor & Machinery Operation Training

Saturday, March 5th at 9:00 a.m.

Great Plains Conference Center

1525 E North St, Salina, KS 67401

The National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program (NSTMOP) is designed for 14- and 15-year-olds seeking employment in production agriculture.

Core content areas include:

- Safety basics
- Agricultural hazards
- Tractors
- Connecting and using implements
- Materials handling

Students are certified after successfully passing a 50-question test at the training and doing both an operating skills test and a driving test administered by the employer.

Scan here for registration
link!



SIGN UP: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bxss9WKVdp4AWqy

MANUAL COST: \$15 – Pick up at local Extension Office

BRING: Your course manual and enrollment form. Pay and pick up your course manual at your local Extension Office. Please pick up your manual PRIOR to the course.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact either CKD office at:

Salina 2218 Scanlan Ave.
 (785) 309-5850

Minneapolis

307 N. Concord
(785) 392-2147



Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Justine Henderson, 785-392-2147. **Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service.** K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Seminars

FEBRUARY 8, 2022

Wichita

DoubleTree by Hilton
2098 Airport Road

FEBRUARY 9, 2022

Hays

Memorial Union Ballroom
Ft. Hays State University
700 College Drive

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A prescription for economical and sustainable production
of high-quality wheat in Kansas

CCA CEUs available



Register at www.kswheat.com/wheatrx

Cost is \$110 per attendee.

Lunch and meeting materials
included.

**Kansas Association of Wheat
Growers members attend for
free.**



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Seminar agenda on page 2.

Central Kansas District Livestock Programming

Programming season is upon us and instead of bombarding your emails weekly to keep you updated on current programming, I have created a location on the Central Kansas District website with information, dates, registration links, and flyers for all CKD and KSRE Livestock Production programs. Programming for both adults and youth will be included on the page.

In addition to current and upcoming programs, links to the recordings from all past programs will be included and available as well under **Past Program Recordings**. This link will lead you to our Crop and Livestock Production YouTube page where we have uploaded all recording for you to view at your convenience.

If you have any questions about the programs on this page, please feel free to email or call Justine at jwho4@ksu.edu or 785-392-2147.



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Central Kansas District

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Upcoming Programs

Winter Ranch Management Series- February 8,10,15,24, 2021

The 2022 Winter Ranch Management Seminar Series include a series of presentations focused on enhancing profit in beef production and a 'Town Hall' question-and-answer session where producers can ask questions to local/district and state extension specialists. Producers are encouraged to bring their questions on cow-calf animal health, nutrition, genetics, reproduction and management to the session.

Please RSVP to your selected location contacts by close of business one week before the event. Registration fees and payment forms may vary by site. Contact your local host contact for registration/ RSVP details. Meal, if provided, is included in the registration fee.

Kansas Junior Beef Producer Day- March 5, 2022

On March 5, 2022, for the Kansas Junior Beef Producer Day will be held in Weber Arena on the Kansas State University campus. This family event will be a fun-filled, educational day of activities in which youth, parents, beef project leaders, and extension agents can expand their knowledge of youth beef projects. Presentations and demonstrations by K-State faculty, staff, K-State livestock judging team members, and guest speakers will cover topics such as selection, nutrition, meat science, reproduction, health, grooming,

Seminar Information

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Online updates about the series can be found at KSUBeef.org. If necessary, the option to conduct the meetings virtually will be made by the RSVP date for each respective location.

2022 K-State Winter Ranch Management Dates & Locations

Hays February 8, 2022

Council Grove February 10, 2022

Randolph February 15, 2022

Oakley February 24, 2022



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Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and United States
Department of Agriculture Cooperating, J. Ernest Minner, Director

K-STATE WINTER RANCH MANAGEMENT SEMINAR SERIES

**FEBRUARY
2022**



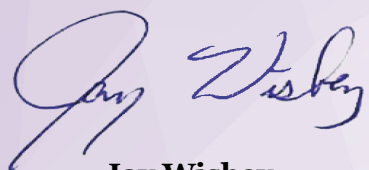
**Central Kansas Extension District
Minneapolis Office**

307 N. Concord, Suite 190
Minneapolis, KS 67467-2129

Address Service Requested

The enclosed material is for your information. If we can be of further assistance, feel free to call or drop by the Extension Office.

Sincerely,



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District Extension Agent
Crop Production
jwisbey@ksu.edu

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