

Agriculture

CENTRAL KANSAS EXTENSION DISTRICT NEWS

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March 2019

Upcoming Events

March

- 26-** Mid-America Farm Expo,
28 Salina
- 30** Tractor Safety, Beloit

May

- 2** KFMA Summary Mtg.,
Salina
- 24** CKD Wheat Plot Tour,
Mentor & Minneapolis
- 28** CKD Tractor Safety,
Salina
- 30 -**
31 Plant ID Workshop,
Wilson

July

- 16-** Ottawa County Fair
19

August

- 8-** Tri-Rivers Fair
12

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Mud Considerations

As we move out of winter and into spring, prolonged periods of mud and moisture can significantly hinder cattle performance and profitability.

For cow-calf producers, mud can negate the insulation value of the hair coat. Calves can become chilled by mud, trapped in it, or sickened by pathogens thriving in it. This is why it is so important to closely monitor calving, routinely check cattle, and move cow-calf pairs to fresh pasture soon after calving.

Mud and manure can cause contamination of udders and teats and make for poor hygiene conditions for the suckling calf. Another problem associated with extended muddy conditions is foot rot. Constant exposure to wet conditions can lead to breakdown of the skin around the hoof. This opens the tissues up to bacteria and can lead to infection. Swelling and lameness are usually the first signs that an animal has foot rot.

From a performance standpoint, with mud conditions of just four to eight inches, cattle dry matter intake is reduced by 15% versus what it would be under the same conditions without any mud. When severe mud conditions are present (1 foot or more) dry matter intake plummets by 30%. It's no wonder that it becomes challenging to maintain good body condition on cows and desirable weight gains on calves when mud is all around.

From a feedlot or backgrounding yard prospective, when cattle are standing in four to eight inches of mud, gain can decrease by nearly 15%. A feedlot with mud that is belly deep can depress gain by 28 to 35%. Consequently, the negative impact of mud on feed efficiency can result in a 20 to 33% increase in feed:gain ratios and up to a 56% increase in cost of gain as more days on feed are necessary to reach an end target.

Managing mud is difficult. Frankly, it sucks. It makes for longer, dirtier chores and seems to slow everything down on the farm. While there is no silver bullet for getting cattle out of the mud, it can be managed to an extent. Hilltops, wheat straw, and speed movers should become our best friends over the next couple of months.

Annual Dicamba Training

Just a reminder that individuals are required to have additional label-required dicamba training when applying the restricted use pesticides (RUP) Engenia, FeXapan, or Xtendi-Max.

The labels of these products state that prior to applying this product in the 2019 growing season, all applicators must complete dicamba or auxin-specific training on an annual basis. So, even if you attended in 2018 you will need to attend a training again in 2019 prior to applying these products.

Many of you were able to participate in live trainings in January and February. For those that didn't, though, all is not lost. BASF, Bayer and Corteva all now have online offerings available that will meet the label requirements. Those can be found at:

BASF

www.engeniastewardship.com

Bayer

www.roundupreadyxtend.com

Corteva

<https://tinyurl.com/yysd48p2>

As a final note, anyone who applies RUP dicamba products must complete an approved dicamba training AND hold either a private or commercial applicator license. For more information on applicators licenses, please contact either CKD Extension Office.

Mid-America Farm Expo

Dates: March 26 - 28

Location: Tony's Pizza Events Center and Saline County Livestock & Expo Center, Salina

PROGRAMS

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Taking Care of Business

10:00 am – 11:30 am, 4-H Building

Presented by: Dr. David Kohl

(see next page for more info)

Estate/Succession Planning Overview

10:00 am – 11:30 am, 4-H Building

Moderated by KFRM Radio with a panel

including representatives from Norton,

Wasserman, Jones & Kelly and the Kansas Farm

Management Association

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Horsemanship Clinic

10:00 am - 11:30 am, Agricultural Hall

Conducted by: Curt Pate

Sponsored by: Farmers & Ranchers, Salina

Cattle Handling

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm, Agricultural Hall

Conducted by: Curt Pate

Sponsored by: Farmers & Ranchers, Salina

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Livestock and Grain Marketing Outlook

10:00 am – 11:30 am, 4-H Building

Presented by: Naomi Blohm, Stewart-Peterson

Sponsored by: American AgCredit

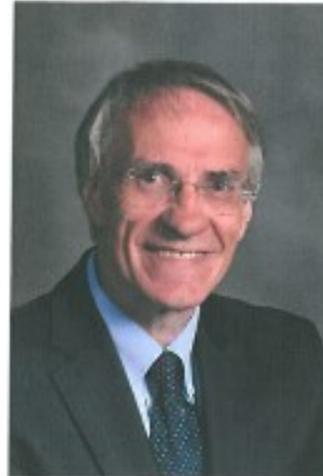
The Salina Area Chamber of Commerce



is proud to present...

Dr. David Kohl

Tuesday, March 26, 10-11:30am
4-H Building • Saline County Livestock
and Expo Center • 900 Greeley



Dr. Kohl will present **"Taking Care of Business"**, a session designed to contrast the best management characteristics of the top 40 percent of profitability compared to the bottom 30 percent of producers. The session will identify the financial management and risk management factors that place the business in the upper echelon of profits and sustainability. Come energize your business thinking with some practical tips and techniques that stand the test of time! The session is FREE and open to the public!

About the Speaker...

Dr. David Kohl is Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Finance and Small Business Management and Entrepreneurship at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. Dr. Kohl currently energizes agricultural lenders, producers, and business people with his keen insight into the agricultural industry gained through extensive travel, research, and exposure during his career. He has traveled over 9 million miles in his career; conducted more than 6,500 workshops and seminars for agricultural audiences; published more than 2,250 articles; and writes for many leading publications. Dr. Kohl was recently inducted into the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Hall of Fame. Dr. Kohl's personal involvement with agriculture and interaction with key industry players provide a unique perspective into future trends of the agricultural industry and economy.

The Salina Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank these sponsors who are making this session possible!



FARM EXPO dates:
March 26, 27 & 28, 2019
Saline County Livestock & Expo Center • Tony's Pizza Events Center
For more info, call (785) 827-9301

Central Kansas Extension District

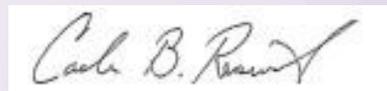
Salina Office

K-State Polytechnic
2218 Scanlan Ave
Salina, KS 67401-8196

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,



Carl H. Garten
District Extension Agent
Director
cgarten@ksu.edu

Cade B. Rensink, MS, PAS
District Extension Agent
Livestock Production
crensink@ksu.edu

Salina Office
K-State Polytechnic
2218 Scanlan Ave.
Salina, KS 67401-8196
785-309-5850
Fax: 785-309-5851

Minneapolis Office
307 N. Concord, Suite 190
Minneapolis, KS 67467
785-392-2147
Fax: 785-392-3605