

# BEEF BUSINESS

by Julie Mais, editor

*In this month's "Beef Business," we present flood assistance information and how to view the 2017 Census of Agriculture report.*

## USDA flooding assistance

To help residents, farmers and ranchers affected by the devastation caused by recent flooding, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue has directed the USDA to aid people in their recovery efforts. USDA staff in the regional, state and county offices are providing a variety of program flexibilities and other assistance to residents, agricultural producers and impacted communities at large.

Following recent flooding in the Midwest along the Missouri and Mississippi River Valleys, Secretary Perdue encourages farmers and ranchers to contact their local USDA Service Center to help them identify the resources and tools needed to reestablish operations.

*Source: USDA*

## Nebraska Cattlemen Disaster Relief Fund

Nebraska Cattlemen is working to assist cattle producers affected by natural disasters by launching a new disaster relief fund.

The Nebraska Cattlemen Disaster Relief Fund is organized in the State of Nebraska as a not-for-profit corporation and will be seeking to qualify as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization under

which all donations made to the Fund would be tax deductible for the donor in accordance with applicable federal tax laws.

Checks can be written to Nebraska Cattlemen Disaster Relief Fund and mailed to Nebraska Cattlemen Disaster Relief Fund, 4611 Cattle Drive, Lincoln, NE 68521.

Those wishing to donate hay, feedstuffs, fencing materials, volunteer help, equipment, or if you are seeking assistance, call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at 1-800-831-0550.

*Source: Nebraska Cattlemen*

## Iowa flood relief

The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF) launched the Farming Community Disaster Exchange to offer help for those affected by the floods or to seek assistance. The online exchange, which can be found at [www.IowaFarmBureau.com/floods](http://www.IowaFarmBureau.com/floods), is a place where Iowans can offer goods and services to those who need them most.

The latest damage estimates from IFBF crop experts show the areas affected are more extensive than the 2011 Missouri River flooding, where more than 127,000 crop acres were lost.

*Source: IFBF*

## 2017 Census of Agriculture

The USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the 2017 Census of Agriculture results April 11. The full Census report includes millions of data points, including number of farms, land in farms, total value of production, demographics and more at the national, state and county levels.

The report, along with a number of related publications, video presentations, and searchable data query interfaces, is available on the NASS website at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

This Census report includes new information on military service, food marketing practices and on-farm decision-making. These additions help better capture the roles and contributions of beginning farmers, women farmers and others involved in running a farm enterprise. Data from this census as well as previous ones are searchable on the new online Census Data Query Tool.

*Source: NASS* 