

BEEF BUSINESS

by Julie Mais, editor

In this month's "Beef Business," we present industry news from the USDA, resources for weather preparation as well as clean up and information about cattle conferences.

Disaster and Trade-Related Assistance

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue issued the following statement on disaster and trade-related assistance on June 10:

"Whether it's because of natural disasters or unfair retaliatory tariffs, farmers across the country are facing significant challenges and tough decisions on their farms and ranches. Last month, immediately upon China renegeing on commitments made during the trade talks, President Trump committed USDA to provide up to \$16 billion to support farmers as they absorb some of the negative impact of unjustified retaliation and trade disruption. In addition, President Trump immediately signed into law the long-awaited disaster legislation that provides a lifeline to farmers, ranchers and producers dealing with extensive damage to their operations caused by natural disasters in 2018 and 2019.

"Given the size and scope of these many disasters, as well as the uncertainty of the final size and scope of this year's prevented planting acreage, we will use up to \$16 billion in support for farmers and the \$3 billion in disaster aid to provide as much help as possible to

all our affected producers.

"I have been out in the country this spring and visited with many farmers. I know they're discouraged, and many are facing difficult decisions about what to do this planting season or if they've got the capital to stay in business, but they shouldn't wait for an announcement to make their decisions. I urge

farmers to plant for the market and plant what works best on their farm, regardless of what type of assistance programs USDA is able to provide."

Source: USDA

U.S. beef gains full access to Japan

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced May 17, that the United States and Japan have agreed on new terms and conditions that eliminate Japan's longstanding restrictions on U.S. beef exports, paving the way for expanded sales to the United States' top global beef market. On the margins of the G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Niigata, Japan, Secretary Perdue met with Japanese government officials and affirmed the importance of science-based trade rules. The new terms, which take effect immediately, allow U.S. products from all cattle, regardless of age, to enter Japan for

the first time since 2003.

The USDA estimates that this expanded access could increase U.S. beef and beef product exports to Japan by up to \$200 million annually. The agreement is also an important step in normalizing trade with Japan, as Japan further aligns its import requirements with international standards for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

Source: USDA

Range Beef Cow Symposium registration

The Range Beef Cow Symposium will be hosted Nov. 18-20, in Mitchell, Neb., at the Scotts Bluff County fairgrounds.

Hosted every other year, the Range Beef Cow Symposium educational program covers topics including nutrition and management, marketing, reproduction, genetic selection, grazing management and estate planning. This year's event will offer a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification opportunity, a Ron Gill stockmanship clinic, demonstrations and hands-on presentations.

To register online, visit www.regonline.com/RBCS2019.

Source: UNL Beef

Prepare for hurricane season

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is urging those along the coast to prepare homes, businesses, farms and ranches for a hurricane or other disaster.

“Hurricane season in the Atlantic and the Caribbean begins around June 1 and typically lasts through Nov. 30,” said Monty Dozier, AgriLife extension special assistant for Rebuild Texas, College Station. “It’s nearly impossible to know if a hurricane is approaching any sooner than five to seven days out, so it’s vital that people, especially those in coastal areas, take the time to prepare well in advance.”

Dozier said those along the coasts can begin to prepare for a hurricane by following the advice provided in disaster and emergency preparedness publications available through the Texas Extension Disaster Education Network (Texas EDEN) website at www.texashelp.tamu.edu. Additional information on disaster preparation is available through the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Bookstore at www.agrilifebookstore.org.

E-book format downloads are also available for mobile devices.

Dozier said one of these publications, *Texans, Get Ready! Be Prepared to Survive a Disaster*, explains how to protect a household during and immediately after a catastrophe by developing and practicing a family emergency plan along with preparing disaster kits for the home, office and each vehicle.

Source: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

MU Extension flood-related resources

Farmers dealing with flooding in Missouri can find reliable, up-to-date information on many flood-related topics from University of Missouri (MU) Extension at extension.missouri.edu.

“Our specialists in MU Extension have assembled information on flooded fields, crops, forages, livestock and property, as well as information on how to navigate an array of government agencies and entities prepared to help producers during and after flooding,” says Robert Kallenbach, interim associate dean for the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Online resources include helpful news and articles, downloadable publications, contact information for extension field specialists, and an extensive collection of answers to frequently asked questions related to livestock, field crops, horticulture, soil and more.

Source: University of Missouri Extension

Feeding Quality Forum

It’s no secret we’re producing more high-quality beef than ever before, but does that suggest a danger of oversaturation or swamping demand?

Buzzwords and marketing claims talk a lot, but consumers speak with their wallets. What do they say about the years to come?

As animal health concerns arise, how does traceability and antibiotic use play into your

operation’s plans from calving to finishing and beyond?

The 14th annual Feeding Quality Forum (FQF) in Amarillo, Texas, this Aug. 27-28, will serve up answers to these and other points of discussion. It’s an opportunity for cattlemen to stretch their thinking to take in the latest research and technology applications relevant to business now.

“The Forum is designed to create a learning environment for feeders and commercial cow-calf producers targeting high-quality beef to come together and network with the industry,” says Kara Lee, Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) production brand manager.

New this year, Cargill will host a packing plant tour on Tuesday morning, prior to forum kickoff. Space is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis and an anticipated waitlist.

Learn more and register at www.feedingqualityforum.com. The general registration deadline is July 22.

Source: Certified Angus Beef LLC

