



Angus Stakes

► by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

Not worth the worry

"You can't control everything. Sometimes you just have to let go and let God."

My husband likes to remind me of that at every opportunity, especially where he's involved. And while sometimes I think he may go overboard in trying to teach me that lesson, most of the time it's a pretty comforting thought.

All problems, big or small

It definitely helped last week when we were at the June Board of Directors meeting. The weather reports for back home looked pretty soggy, and our basement has a history of flooding. Worrying definitely wouldn't have changed a thing. It was clearly a time to let go and let God.

As it turned out, worrying about it would have been a waste of time; the basement was dry as a bone when we got home. Even if it had flooded, it would have been so minor compared to what others have experienced this summer that I'd be ashamed to complain about it.

I think it is hard for a lot of us in agriculture to watch the weather forecast these days. Here in the Midwest it seems we are due for a thunder boomer about every third day if not every other day. And there are bigger stakes at hand than a ruined carpet.

On the bright side, it's produced a lot of forage that was desperately needed after last

year's drought and longer-than-normal winter. Unfortunately, it doesn't provide good hay-making weather to replenish depleted hay stocks. And it is sure not helping the feedgrain outlook.

Still, even if the stakes are higher, all we can do is what we can do. Worrying just saps our strength so we can't function at our peak when we can make a difference. In First Peter 5:6-11, we are instructed to cast all our anxieties on the Lord because He cares for us and so the devil can't take advantage of those anxieties.

So, whether it's the weather, the markets, the hay, the government, the environmentalists, the competition or that stupid first-calf heifer, don't forget to let go and let God. The outcome will be far greater than we could ever imagine.



Calgary or bust

I guess I'd better not waste time worrying about whether my passport gets corrected in time for me to catch my flight to Calgary for the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) conference June 30-July 3. What's meant to be will be.

One way or the other, we'll bring you online coverage of the event at www.bifconference.com thanks to our major sponsor, Biozyme Inc., and the producers and industry affiliates listed on the seedstock directory page of the site.

Check out the awards page to see who is BIF's seedstock producer of the year and what the big topics of conversation are.

We'll cover the committees as well as the general sessions and award winners. Summaries of the sessions will be posted shortly after the meeting, along with PowerPoints and Proceedings. Audios will be posted within a couple weeks of the conference.

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