

Futures								
@LE - LIVE CATTLE - CME								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	125.675	126.875	125.500	126.250	0.625	125.625	12:56P	
Feb 18	129.500	130.300	128.900	129.950	0.400	129.550	12:56P	
Apr 18	127.250	128.150	127.000	127.875	0.300	127.575	12:54P	
@GF - FEEDER CATTLE - CME								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Nov 17	159.725	160.475	158.675	159.625	0.200	159.425	12:56P	
Jan 18	159.575	161.250	159.525	160.550	0.975	159.575	12:54P	
Mar 18	156.075	157.600	155.800	157.075	1.000	156.075	12:56P	
@HE - LEAN HOGS - CME								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	67.950	68.000	66.300	66.375	-1.625	68.000	12:56P	
Feb 18	72.750	73.300	71.850	71.900	-1.100	73.000	12:56P	
Apr 18	74.850	75.750	74.775	75.075	0.175	74.900	12:56P	
@C - CORN - CBOT								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	345'6	349'2	345'2	347'4	1'6	345'6	12:56P	
Mar 18	359'4	363'0	359'2	361'2	1'6	359'4	12:56P	
May 18	368'4	371'6	368'2	370'0	1'6	368'2	12:56P	

@S - SOYBEANS - CBOT								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Nov 17	974'4	984'4	973'6	980'2	6'4	973'6	12:56P	
Jan 18	984'6	995'0	983'6	991'0	6'2	984'6	12:56P	
Mar 18	994'6	1005'2	994'0	1001'0	6'0	995'0	12:56P	
@SM - SOYBEAN MEAL - CBOT								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	3120	3148	3108	3132	14	3118	12:54P	
@BO - SOYBEAN OIL - CBOT								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	34.69	35.05	34.64	34.87	0.12	34.75	12:55P	
@W - WHEAT - CBOT								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	418'6	422'0	416'4	418'0	-0'4	418'4	12:56P	
Mar 18	436'4	439'2	433'6	436'0	0'0	436'0	12:56P	
May 18	449'4	452'4	447'2	448'6	-0'4	449'2	12:56P	
@KW - HARD RED WINTER WHEAT - KCBT								
Month	Open	High	Low	Last	Change	Close	Time	More
Dec 17	416'4	419'2	414'2	415'6	-0'6	416'4	12:56P	
Mar 18	434'4	437'2	432'0	433'6	-0'6	434'4	12:56P	
May 18	448'4	451'0	446'0	447'4	-1'0	448'4	12:56P	

TODAY

NOV 1

44°/27°F

Clouds giving way to some sun

THU

NOV 2

43°/25°

Clouds giving way to some sun

More

FRI

NOV 3

37°/28°

A bit of snow in the morning

More

SAT

NOV 4

48°/37°

Warmer with low clouds

More

SUN

NOV 5

41°/19°

Cooler; a morning shower

More

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Symposium

SDSU Extension will host the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Symposium on November 15, 2017 in the South Dakota State University Student Union Volstroff Ballroom.

This is the 6th Annual Beginning Farmer and Rancher Symposium. The program is geared toward the next generation of farmers and ranchers and deals with the issues many families face when multiple generations are farming together. The Symposium begins at noon, and runs until 5. Understanding of SDSU class schedules, students are encouraged to come and go as their class schedules permit. There will be a keynote speaker, a finance panel, and a beginning producer panel throughout the day. Ice cream break and door prizes are also part of the Symposium.

While tools for transitioning the operation or estate planning are not part of the presentation, sponsors are on hand to provide the participants with ideas on who to contact to implement different transition and estate planning tools

Winter Wheat Planting Wraps Up in South Dakota

Winter wheat planting has wrapped up in South Dakota, and the soybean harvest is nearing completion.

The federal Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that the soybean harvest is 96 percent done following a mostly dry week.

About half of the sunflower and sorghum crops are harvested, and about one-third of the corn is in the bin.

The winter wheat crop is 91 percent emerged, with nearly half of the crop rated fair to good. In the ranching community, pasture and range conditions are rated 50 percent poor or very poor. Stock water supplies are 49 percent short or very short.

Farmers Diversify With Pumpkin Patches

Fall has families clamoring to the nearest pumpkin patch for fun autumn activities. The corn mazes, rows of pumpkins, trees full of apples and hayrides don't just make good Facebook photos: Agritourism is big business for local farmers.

Commercial gardener Jan Sanderson, of Aurora, S.D., started Sanderson Gardens in 1977. On 40 acres, Sanderson grows a variety of seasonal crops throughout the year, starting with rhubarb

and asparagus in late spring, moving to strawberries in early summer, raspberries in August and ending the season with pumpkins.

"I started this business long before anyone else in the area was making their living from gardening," says Sanderson. "Most gardeners market their produce through farmers markets, but I took a different approach, offering one or two crops at a time and inviting customers to come to the farm to pick up their own produce."

While at Sanderson's farm, customers have the full farm experience by walking through the fields to make their own selections from the rows of fruits and vegetables growing.

"Agritourism is a natural component of the farm," Sanderson says. "We have a large playground, and many young families come to spend the day hanging out and enjoying the farm. People love exploring the garden and getting their hands dirty. Payments are made through the honor system. We list our prices, and people put their money in an ammo box. It's worked well for us over the years."

Sanderson says his customers used to be elderly neighbors buying in bulk for canning purposes, but today the majority of his customers are young families wanting to take photos of their kids playing in the mud and picking pumpkins.

"Visitors to the garden get to experience a little bit of agriculture and discover where their food comes from," Sanderson says. "Most of our customers don't live on a farm, so it's a fun experience for them and something new for their kids to explore and do."

In addition to selling produce directly to consumers, Sanderson sells rhubarb roots nationwide to suppliers and also works with several of the state's vineyards to help produce rhubarb wines. His advice to others looking to diversify their own farm land? It doesn't take many acres to make a go of the commercial gardening business.

"Honestly, when I first got started in this business, so many people thought I was crazy," he says. "The learning curve was pretty steep, but you don't need 1,000 acres to be profitable like you might in a corn and soybean operation. There's a lot of hand labor, but each year, I've learned more and gotten better about pest and weed control. It keeps getting easier, and the

business keeps growing. I think I've got it down to where I would really only need five acres to be profitable. It's hard work, but it's creative work. There are unlimited possibilities in this business."

While some gardeners grow a wide range of seasonal produce, Hanselman's Pumpkin Patch of Ethan, S.D., focuses entirely on pumpkins for fall decorating, jack o'lantern-making and Halloween fun.

"We have 40 acres of pumpkins on our farm, along with a shed where we sell fall-inspired holiday decor," says Amy Hanselman, who works for her family's farm. "We also offer squash and colored corn, but our primary focus is pumpkins of all sizes, ranging from one-quarter pound to 50 pounds."

Open from a week after Labor Day through Halloween, Hanselman's Pumpkin Patch invites visitors to shop for pumpkins and take photos with the various props and fall scenes they've set up throughout the farm.

"Visitors love visiting the farm and enjoying country life for a few hours with their families," Hanselman says. "Many enjoy coming year after year to take photos and watch their kids grow through seasonal fall snapshots."

The Hanselmans start out the year in May with planting. Summer is dedicated to weeding, tilling and maintaining the pumpkin patch. By late August, the family begins preparing the yard for visitors and setting up displays.

"We've been in business for 23 years, and it's always interesting to visit with neighboring farmers who raise corn and soybeans," Hanselman says. "They always ask how our pumpkin crop is doing, because they know if there's a drought like what we experienced this year, it impacts us just like it does them. We are trying to make a living off the land just like they do, so they take us seriously and realize our crop is important, even if it's not traditional."

EPA Issues Guidance on Manure Emission Reporting

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued guidance to livestock producers and is expected to get more time to educate them on the manure emission reporting requirement, after losing a court petition to allow a farm exemption. The Washington, D.C. federal appeals court

insists, the law's the law, even when it comes to livestock waste. Michael Formica with the National Pork Producers Council argues, the whole thing 'stinks'...

He says its difficult for hog farmers, cattle ranchers or other livestock producers to tell when they're in violation.

Formica says the National Response Center has 17 employees who handle 30,000 calls a year. Suddenly, they'll have another 100,000-some calls, not about oil or chemical spills or rail car explosions, but about manure smells. Formica claims the Coast Guard and EPA want nothing to do with the new rule. But he says failure to comply could mean fines or lawsuits by neighbors or the Humane Society.

Farm Stress Growing Mental Health Hazard

Farming remains one of the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. due to the potential for PHYSICAL injury. However, the occupation can also take a toll on a person's MENTAL health. Doctor Michael Rosman of Harlan Iowa is a farmer who also works in the field of agricultural behavioral health. He says most people are well aware of hazards on the farm like heavy machinery and confined spaces, but another risk often goes unnoticed.

A recent study by researchers at the University of Iowa found the suicide rate among farmers is now 50 percent higher than during the peak of the farm crisis in 1982. Rosman says many farmers allow stress to compound and spiral out of control.

A program operated by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is designed to give farmers and all Iowans access to stress counselors and other resources at no charge. The Iowa Concern Hotline is active 24 hours a day, 7 days per week at 1-800-447-1985.

Dicamba Drift Damage Acreage Continue to Grow in South Dakota

The impact of dicamba drift injury to the 2017 South Dakota soybean crop continues to grow as the South Dakota Department of Agriculture compiles more data. South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture Mike Jaspers says information came to them through two avenues, including the formal complaint process.

However, Jaspers says they also collected information through an informal farmer survey, which resulted in another 57,000 acres with dicamba damage.

He says they're still running tests on field samples where farmers filed formal complaints on dicama and to date 70-percent had some level of the herbicide. They're also collecting yield data

and all that data will be used to make any label changes beyond EPA's listing of dicamba a restricted-use herbicide.

Jaspers says yield loss is hard to quantify, initial data indicates minimal yield loss to the crop that was in the vegetative stage and more significant losses to beans in the reproductive stage. However, he says where there is damage it's unfortunate that some insurance claims are being denied.

He says overall the Department still has a long process ahead, before determining what to do for next year.

Strong Winds Causing Downed Corn and Yield Loss

Several days of strong winds have caused damage and downed corn in many fields in the region. Pioneer Product Agronomist Matt Essick covers northwest Iowa and says the losses vary from field to field depending on the severity of stalk rot or lodging in the corn.

He says while stressors during the season are the overall cause of field loss, there are many factors that play into why some fields have more standability issues and ear droppage than others.

Essick recommends farmers consider harvest scheduling to make sure the fields with the most severe standability issues are combined first.

He says farmers that are waiting for corn to dry in the field may also want to consider harvesting above 18-percent moisture and adding some air or above 20-percent moisture and paying the drying cost.

SD Ag Secretary Meets with U.S. Ag Secretary During Visit

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue was in South Dakota yesterday touring wetland areas in Brown County and also traveled to Timber Lake to visit with the Intertribal Agriculture Council. South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture Mike Jaspers was part of that meeting and says Perdue's goal was to find out what is working and what is not, regarding USDA programs on the Cheyenne River Reservation. The meeting was largely positive, with just a few outstanding issues.

Jaspers says one program that is working well for tribal farmers is the Conservation Security Program and Perdue was impressed with the level of participation.

Perdue was in Brown County earlier in the day touring wetland areas that are part of the Prairie Pothole Region. The Secretary has heard many complaints since taking office about the negative impact of the backlog of wetland determinations made by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the Dakotas. Jaspers says he's hopeful the Secretary can standardize that process to help.

This is Perdue's second trip to South Dakota and Jaspers says he appreciates how the Secretary wants to talk directly to farmers to come up with solutions that will help them in their operations.

National Farmers Union on Tax Reform

Tax reform is expected to dominate the schedule in November. National Farmers Union President Roger Johnson says implications for the federal deficit will ultimately impact money available for the next farm bill. "This tax package is the great big question mark right now," says Johnson. "If that happens, does it blow up the ability to do a farm bill? We don't know the answer to that question yet, and we probably won't for some time." If tax reform becomes too complicated and doesn't pass, Johnson still sees the possibility action could come on the farm bill late this year or early in 2018. "The word we get is that Chairman Conaway has largely written the bill. I think all signs point to the House moving first this time, then the Senate would move fairly quickly thereafter." Johnson is still hopeful about getting a farm bill done on time.

South Dakota Beef Industry Council Meeting Sets FY 2018 Budget

PIERRE - South Dakota Beef Industry Council (SDBIC) directors held their annual meeting in conjunction with the 51st annual BEEF Bowl on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at the SDSU Performing Arts Center in Brookings, SD. Directors received staff and committee updates, heard from SDSU faculty, filled two federation and one USMEF seat, and passed a \$3.52 million-budget for the 2018 fiscal year. They also received updates from the Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB), Federation of State Beef Councils, and Operating Committee members.

The state's beef council, which is responsible for collecting and administering the \$1 beef checkoff on all cattle sold in South Dakota, is required to direct 50 cents of every dollar to the Cattlemen's Beef Board for programs on the national level. The SDBIC retains 50 cents, which directors can choose to invest in in-state programs and/or enhance national program investments.

SDBIC will be investing \$101,000 of the in-state promotion budget into projects focused on reaching consumers as well as food influencers in the northeast region of the United States where consumers outnumber beef cattle 20 to 1. Remaining dollars will be used to fund in-state promotions and events that build beef demand. SDBIC directors also increased the dollars earmarked for research this coming year. The budget will support three research programs through South Dakota State University, involving food safety, beef quality, and human nutrition with beef. A total research budget of \$183,634 will be invested. The consumer information budget was set at \$233,510 and will fund social media outreach, foodservice and retail programs as well as Team BEEF and the FACS and ProStart Beef programs. Industry information will total approximately \$51,660 with the producer communications budget set at \$45,000. The total budget for in-state investments in 2018 will be approximately \$1.2 million, with support for national beef promotion, research and education at \$2.3 million.

Gary Deering, Hereford, SD presented a CBB operating committee report where a \$38 million-dollar budget was set. Three outgoing board members were recognized during the meeting. John Symens, Amherst, SD; Ernie Mertz, Bowdle, SD; and Kari Sanders, Oral, SD were recognized for their dedicated service to the beef industry as SDBIC directors. Wayne Tupper, Kimball, SD was recognized as outgoing president, though he will continue to be a beef council board member. President-elect, Eric Sumption, of rural Frederick, SD will take over as president of the organization on October 1, 2017. The next quarterly board meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2017.

SD Sheep Growers Convention Looks at Farm Bill, Research and Promotion

BROOKINGS, S.D. — Sheep producers got updates on lamb promotion, research and industry policy priorities in the next farm bill at the South Dakota Sheep Growers Association Convention in Brookings, S.D., on Sept. 28-30.

American Sheep Industry Association Executive Director Peter Orwick provided an update on federal policy and says they're asking Congress to renew a critical animal health research program in the new farm bill.

"We have a minor use, minor species program that's incredibly important that we get funded. That's what helps bring sheep pharmaceuticals into the market in the U.S," he says.

The sheep industry also wants a Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine Bank and are unified with the rest of the livestock industry because it is a food security issue.

"There is just a tremendous concern that we don't have a bank available in this country to vaccinate our way out of an outbreak. It's a serious enough issue we want to have the same tool that's available in other countries around the world," says Orwick.

However, the big challenge for Congress is funding.

"Obviously, I don't think they're expecting a major increase in the amount of funding available. This is a new program so those monies available would have to come from somewhere," Orwick says.

The other change the group wants in the farm bill is an update to their only risk management tool — the Loan Deficiency Program for Wool.

"My guess is that Congress is probably going to look at doubling the base loan rate to try get a program that actually reflects production costs, and the market that we have for American wool," he says.

Producers learned about the various promotion programs being done by the American Lamb Board designed to boost lamb consumption. Michigan sheep producer and ALB Director Dale Thorne highlighted their efforts.

"American consumers eat about three-tenths of a pound of lamb per year, per person, so our push is to try and increase that amount," says Thorne.

One of the challenges they have in trying to increase lamb consumption is the high retail price versus beef, pork and chicken.

"The reality is, in the U.S., American lamb is already very high priced. It's as high priced as seafood products," says Thorne.

Despite this, consumers do have a positive overall view of the sheep industry.

"Their perception is that it's a very green-pasture, grass-fed, non-confinement operation," he says.

One bright spot regarding demand is the ethnic market for sheep is growing in the United States. Benny Cox, Vice President of the American Sheep Industry Board, is also the manager of Producers Livestock Auction Company in Texas, which is the largest goat and sheep auction in the nation.

Cox says ethnic lamb consumption in Texas, especially in Houston and Dallas, has steadily increased since 1990 due to the large Muslim population.

"There's been an increased demand by the people from the Middle East and the Caribbean," he says. "They're lamb and goat eaters and so they've increased the demand."

Lisa Webster, the owner and operator of North Star Sheep Farm in Windham, Maine, shared her enthusiasm for promoting sheep from farm to table. She says there is growing consumer interest in fresh, natural and locally produced foods, including lamb.

"I think the best thing we can do is show the consumers that we raise a natural product, that is ethically raised, that we're proud of it and it's sustainable to the farms that actually raise it," says Webster. That includes using social and traditional media campaigns to show consumers the stories of the families that raise those sheep.

Webster says their farm is only 16 miles from Portland, Maine, which is one of the fastest growing foodie areas in the country — an opportunity they are trying to capitalize on.

"We have 660 plus restaurants that are not chain restaurants in our area, so getting tourists into Portland and getting quality lamb on their plates is critical to telling our story. My chefs are my best avenue for my product," she says.

Sheep producers also got an update on leading production research at South Dakota State University from Dr. Jeff Held, SDSU Extension sheep specialist.

"It includes some work with improvement in antibody production in lambs, to improve their overall health, reducing mortality and morbidity," says Held.

As far as technology, it's an exciting time in the industry.

"We have growers who are interested in new and innovative approaches to sheep production and more intensified management systems," Held says. "There's new tools available, both from research and tools brought in globally to handle data, to look at genetics improvement and selection. There's a lot of drive to improve the production practices and do things different and more progressive, innovative."

Held went on to say that 2017 has been a good year for sheep and lamb producers.

"We had a great year in the sheep industry, especially as we look at both lamb and wool prices through the spring and lamb prices through the summer," he says.

Milk, Product Prices Soften

Early strength in the Class III milk markets reversed course by the end of the day on Tuesday. 2017 prices closed 8 cents higher in November, but were 8 cents lower in December. First half 2018 prices settled 4-16 cents lower and closed with an average of \$15.48 per CWT. Second half of 2018 prices gained 2-4 cents.

Class IV milk markets declined 17 cents in November and moved a penny higher in December. With Tuesday's trade in November, the price has now moved to sub \$14 levels.

CME spot product markets on Tuesday saw further price advancement in cheese but softness in butter and non-fat dry milk. Cheddar blocks traded twice and saw a bid to push the price a penny higher to \$1.76 per pound. Barrels added 2.25 cents on 3 trades and 3 bids to close at \$1.7325 per pound. The butter market continued its price erosion on Tuesday as another 2 cents dropped out of the market. In the end, 6 trades took place with butter settling at \$2.25 per pound. Grade A nonfat dry milk softened a 1.75 cents to 73.24 cents on 3 loads.

In other markets, cattle jumped 10.5 cents per pound in the last 7 trading sessions on the December 2017 chart. 2018 markets have followed suit out through April. While this move does come as a surprise, it is an opportunity for dairy producers to ensure higher values for future cull cows.

Forum Calls for Label Standardization

“Sell by,” “Use by,” “Best before” ... what do they all mean? Consumers navigate a wide range of date labels on food products. The resulting confusion costs families up to \$29 billion annually in the United States alone. The Consumer Goods Forum – a global network of 400 of the largest consumer-goods companies – along with Champions 12.3 has approved a call to action to standardize food-date labels by 2020.

The forum recommends that food producers and retailers take three steps to simplify date labels and reduce food waste by 2020.

1. Use only one label at a time.
2. Set a choice of two labels: one expiration date for perishable items – e.g., “Use by” – and one food-quality indicator for non-perishable items – e.g., “Best if used by.” The exact wording will be tailored to regional context.
3. Create consumer education to better understand what date labels mean.

The forum also recommends that companies partner with nonprofit organizations and government agencies to educate consumers about how to interpret date labels. Education efforts could include in-store displays, web materials and public-service announcements.

An estimated 1.3 billion tons of food worldwide is lost or wasted each year. The average American household with children loses \$1,500 per year to food waste. Food waste emits 8 percent of annual greenhouse gases, according to the forum.

The call to action was made at a Champions 12.3 event in September during Climate Week and the 72nd United Nations General Assembly. At the event Champions 12.3 also launched “SDG Target 12.3 on Food Loss and Waste: 2017 Progress Report,” which tracks global progress toward halving food waste and reducing food loss by 2030. Visit champions123.org for more information.

Past SDCGA President Hosts Latin American Trade Team

A Latin American trade team interested in ethanol production is in South Dakota today and will be touring the Keith Alverson farm near Chester. Alverson, who is past President of the South Dakota Corn Growers, says they’re hoping to show the team the logistics of how corn gets from the field to the ethanol plant.

He’s hoping the team will see the value of using corn for ethanol and that will help drive some future purchases of this biofuel from the U.S.

Alverson says by hosting this team one of his goals is to build and solidify relationships with the Latin American team members.

Representatives from six Latin American countries are in South Dakota, with two other trade teams visiting Missouri and Ohio this week.

South Dakota Senator Outlines Farm Bill Priorities

South Dakota Senator Mike Rounds sent a letter to Senate Ag Committee Chairman Pat Roberts and Ranking member Debbie Stabenow outlining a list of priorities for the upcoming farm bill. Rounds says he spoke with South Dakota's farmers and one of their top wishes is for a strong risk management program preserved in the farm bill.

He says another priority of South Dakota's farmers and ranchers is a solid conservation reserve program. Rounds says currently there are only 24 million acres allowed in CRP nationwide. He wants that increased to 30 million acres. Rounds says it's also important to include marginal acres in CRP.

Rounds says he also spoke with livestock producers and he thinks there needs to be funding provided for a vaccination bank for foot and mouth disease.

Rounds says a recent Iowa State University study found that an outbreak of F-M-D in the United States could potentially cost as much as \$197 billion over ten years. He adds one other priority for the farm bill is to increase the individual cap for USDA's Farm Service Agency guaranteed farm ownership loans and farm operating loans.