



BEEF CATTLE INSTITUTE
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

THE GRAZIER

Brought to you by the Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State University.

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

Jan. 13: Cow-Calf Conference, Stanley Stout Center, Manhattan, Kansas

Feb. 1-3: Cattle Industry Annual Convention and NCBA Trade Show, Nashville, Tennessee

Mar. 30-Apr. 1: AVC Spring Conference, Irving, Texas

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BCI adds resources for Veterinary Feed Directive changes

With a Jan. 1, 2017, deadline looming, veterinarians and producers now have more resources available to help them comply with the Veterinary Feed Directive being issued by the Food and Drug Administration.

In response to increasing demand, the Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State University developed additional free educational modules to complement its original set of modules released earlier this year. The new modules are pertinent to separate sectors of the beef industry.

In collaboration with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension, the institute has developed a new website, VFDInfo.org, which houses modules specific to producers, feed mill operators, veterinarians and distributors. Experts from each sector address concerns and questions to ease the transition under new regulations.

Experts include Mike Apley, professor of production medicine in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University; Brian Lubbers, director of clinical microbiology at the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, also in the College of Veterinary Medicine; A.J. Tarpoff, beef



extension veterinarian at Kansas State University; and Ken Bowers, dairy and feed safety, Kansas Department of Agriculture.

The website also hosts a sample Veterinary Feed Directive form as well as additional resources to guide users through any additional questions.

“These changes will be significant for the livestock and feed industry, and we are eager to provide guidance as much as possible,” Bowers said. “Collaboration between these organizations has been valuable as we work to reach all producers, veterinarians and feed mills. The website is a great resource.”



www.VFDInfo.org

Prepare for the Upcoming Calving Season

Calving schools to be held across Kansas with Dr. AJ Tarpoff, Extension Beef Veterinarian, Kansas State University

- Jan. 4: Seward County, Seward Activity Center Liberal
- Jan. 5: Hamilton County Fairgrounds, Syracuse
- Jan. 5: Finney County Fairgrounds *** evening
- Jan. 11: Phillips County Fair Building ** morning or mid day
- Jan. 11: Twin Creeks, Gateway Civic Center, Oberlin *** evening
- Jan. 12: Post Rock, Sylvan Sales Commission, Sylvan Grove
- Jan. 17: Helper Community Building or Girard High School

Join the Conversation **ONLINE!**



The_BCI



Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State University

2017 Cow-Calf Conference

Friday, January 13, 2017 • Stanley Stout Center, Manhattan, KS

Tentative Schedule of Events

8:00 a.m.	Registration Opens
8:25 a.m.	Welcome
8:30 a.m.	Role of Momentum in Cow-Calf Production - Dr. Bob Larson
9:00 a.m.	Postpartum Anestrus: Importance and Assessment - Dr. Doug Shane
9:30 a.m.	Timing of Heifer Breeding Relative to Cow Breeding - Dr. Doug Shane
10:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break
10:30 a.m.	Beef Cow Herd Planning: The Long View - Breeding Plan and Bull Selection - Dr. Bob Weaber
11:00 a.m.	Matching Cows to Forage Production: Timing of Calving and Level of Cow Production - Dr. KC Olson
11:30 a.m.	Beef Cow Herd Planning - Selecting Replacement Heifers (EPDs and other considerations) - Dr. Bob Weaber
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Using the BCI Pregnancy Analytics App/Interpreting Pregnancy Histograms - Dr. Bob Larson
1:30 p.m.	Evaluating Reproductive Soundness of Heifers - Dr. Brad White
2:00 p.m.	Monitoring BCS - Dr. KC Olson
2:30 p.m.	Refreshment Break
3:00 p.m.	Economic Considerations for Cow-Calf Operations (Within the Farm Gate) - Dr. Glynn Tonsor & Dr. Ted Schroeder
3:30 p.m.	Economic Considerations for Cow-Calf Operations (Outside the Farm Gate) - Dr. Glynn Tonsor & Dr. Ted Schroeder
4:00 p.m.	Reproductive Programs Targeted for Purebred Producers - Dr. Bob Larson
4:30 p.m.	Suite of Reproductive Services for Cow-Calf Clients - Dr. Brad White
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn



To register, visit: www.vet.k-state.edu/education/continuing/conferences/cowcalf-conf17/

Sponsored by the Beef Cattle Institute and the KSU Bovine Club.

Checkoff Logs Record 3,300 BQA Certifications

By Melissa Jackson, Beef Board

This fall, more than 3,300 producers from across the country became Beef Quality Assurance (BQA)-certified, the largest number in the history of free-certifications supported by Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. (BIVI). And, of those who signed up during the free certification window, 68 percent completed their certification, also the highest percentage in the program's seven-year history. Through the sponsorship of the BQA certification program, BIVI provides financial support for the Beef Cattle Institute, which developed the certification module.

The checkoff-funded BQA program is important to the cattle industry as it provides producers with a set of best practices for producing quality beef. It also gives consumers the assurance that the beef they eat is both safe and wholesome.

"BQA has benefited every aspect of what we do from accurate record-keeping, to calm gentle handling practices, and everything in between. We are teaching these fundamentals to our kids to carry on for generations to come," says Mary Huff, beef producer from Murphy, Idaho. "We have seen time and time again, that cattle sold from BQA-certified producers bring higher prices at market. BQA practices have reduced animal

issues, increased beef safety, and increased profit margins. Getting BQA-certified is not only the ethical and right thing to do, it is a value-added, best practice that every producer should be fully engaged in."

The BQA certification modules are customized to fit the specific needs of each segment of the cattle industry – cow-calf, stocker, feedyard and dairy operations. The program covers best-management practices, such as proper handling and administration of vaccinations and other products; using low-stress cattle-handling principles; and eliminating injection-site blemishes. Although the free certification period has passed, it's never too late to demonstrate your commitment to quality by becoming BQA-certified through your state trainings or online at www.bqa.org.

For more information about your beef checkoff investment, visit MyBeefCheckoff.com.



PRODUCER spotlight

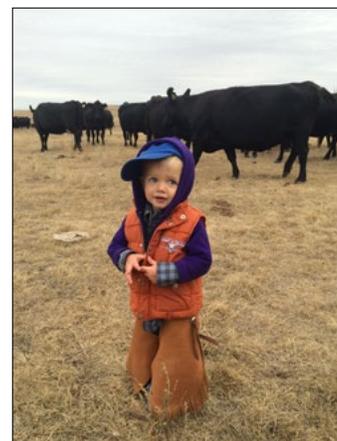
Virgil Huseman

HUSEMAN RANCH

Ellsworth, Kansas



Virgil Huseman pictured with his wife and partner of 47 years, Mary Jo Huseman.



Above and right: Family around the Huseman Ranch.

By Audrey Hambricht

Many agricultural ventures are successful because they are family operations. Huseman Ranch is no different.

Virgil Huseman of Huseman Ranch near Ellsworth, Kansas has a strong background in agriculture and Kansas State University. A native of Kanopolis, Kansas, Huseman graduated from K-State in 1967 where he competed on the livestock judging team, was a part of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and served as president of the Block and Bridle Club. After graduation, he worked as a farm reporter for WIBW Radio & TV in Topeka. He also held the position of Executive Secretary of the Feedlot Division at the Kansas Livestock Association from 1971 to 1979.

Huseman's passion has always been in production agriculture. While living in Topeka, he and Mary Jo decided that they didn't want their sons, Clayton and Mark, 4 and 2 at the time, to "look funny on a horse." So, they made the decision to move home.

Along with Mark and Clayton, Huseman makes the management decisions for the operation. The ranch is mostly native grass with creek bottoms devoted to commercial alfalfa hay production. Calves are produced "all natural" and sold through video auction on Superior Livestock in July. These calves usually go to a natural supply chain such as Whole Foods. Heifer calves are retained for replacement or sold as replacement females. Emphasis is placed on maternal characteristics with moderate size and milk production.

Huseman Ranch has been rewarded for their accomplishments in the industry. In 1995, they were recognized as commercial producer of the year by the Beef Improvement Federation. They were also awarded Stockman of the Year in 2013 by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council and the KSU Block and Bridle Club in 2016. Huseman has served on the Cattlemen's

Beef Board and the first Long Range Plan group.

"Success is continued growth in land ownership and resources," Huseman said.

With continued success, Huseman recognizes challenges in the industry and noted the loss of the cash fed cattle market and the lack of price discovery at the fed cattle marketing level.

Each member of the Huseman family is involved in the operation or in agriculture. Mark, who helps oversee the operations, lives on the ranch with his wife Lindsey and their two children, Hagen and Heidi. Clayton

also lives on the ranch with his wife Sharla, who works for the Kansas Beef Council, as well as their three children Tucker, Paxton and Hadley. Clayton works for the Kansas Livestock Association and helps on the weekends and holidays. Daughter Ashley and her husband Brent, live on the Judd Ranch near Pampa, Kansas with their two children, Oliver and Avery.



RURAL practitioner

Dr. Randall Norton

WALNUT FORK VETERINARY SERVICE

Utica, Kansas



KSU students pictured during their mentorship with Dr. Norton (far right).

by Audrey Hambright

Dr. Randall Norton, Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine alum, places high value on relationships with clients in his role as a rural practitioner.

A native of Ness County, Norton was raised on the family farm helping his grandfather and father raise wheat and cattle. It was this experience and his interest in science classes that led him to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. After high school, he attended Fort Hays State University before transferring to K-State to finish his pre-veterinary course work. Following graduation in 1989, Norton practiced in Albion, Nebraska, for a year before returning to the family farm. He opened a mobile veterinary practice while farming with his father before opening Walnut Fork Veterinary Service with his wife, Dr. Judy Norton, in 1995.

The practice, located in Utica, Kansas, serves clients in eight counties with approximately 70 percent food animal (cow-calf, stocker, feedlot, and small ruminants) and 30% small animal. In addition to the veterinary practice, they farm and run a beef cattle herd.

Serving a rural community has proved to be rewarding for Norton.

“The relationships I have built with my clients have been very satisfying,” he said. “I consider many of them close friends and I enjoy working with them to make their operations more profitable.”

Norton also noted the changes that have evolved in the industry. This includes the move towards more preventative health and production medicine in food animal in addition to the use of technologies such as ultrasound, digital radiography, and genomic testing.



The upcoming changes to the Veterinary Feed Directive will also have an impact on the profession that may prove challenging, yet Norton feels it could offer some new opportunities to develop relationships with those producers who are not currently being seen by a practitioner.

Along with developing client relationships, Norton has also had

the chance to mentor and work with veterinary students. He served on the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners and the Admissions Committee for the College of Veterinary Medicine for 10 years. This allowed him to make connections with many of the students.

“We have had the pleasure of mentoring many impressive veterinary students in our practice and have enjoyed watching their progress in their careers,” he said.

Just as importantly, as students are making the decision to pursue a career as a veterinarian, he offers some wise advice:

“We advise students considering veterinary medicine to critically evaluate whether this is the right career for them, due to time commitments and financial obligations associated with training,” he said. “If so, make every attempt to expose themselves to all aspects of the profession so they can make the best decisions for their career choice.”

The Nortons have been recognized for their achievements in veterinary medicine. They were selected by the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association, to receive the 2016 Alumni Recognition Award presented during the annual Central Veterinary Conference held in Kansas City, Missouri, in August. In 2010, they were presented with the Kansas State University Beef Cattle Institute’s Beef Cattle Veterinarian of the Year award.

They have also made time to be involved in industry activities and organizations. Norton has served on the Kansas Veterinary Medical Loan Repayment Program task force since 2010 and was a national panel reviewer for the federal Veterinary Medical Loan Repayment Program from 2011-2013.

Additionally, they are members of the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, American Association of Bovine Practitioners, Academy of Veterinary Consultants and Society for Theriogenology.



Pictured l-r: Dr. Judy Norton, Dr. Curt Vogel and Dr. Randall Norton

According to Norton, the practice will undergo some changes in 2017. Dr. Curt Vogel, who has joined the staff at Walnut Fork in the last year will be purchasing the practice on January 1. The Nortons will continue to work in the practice.

“We (Judy and I) are pleased that he will not only maintain the services currently provided to our clientele, but expand in several areas due to his training and interests,” he said.

As a third-generation owner/manager of the family farming and cattle operation, the addition of Dr. Vogel will allow Norton to spend more time pursuing this endeavor.

