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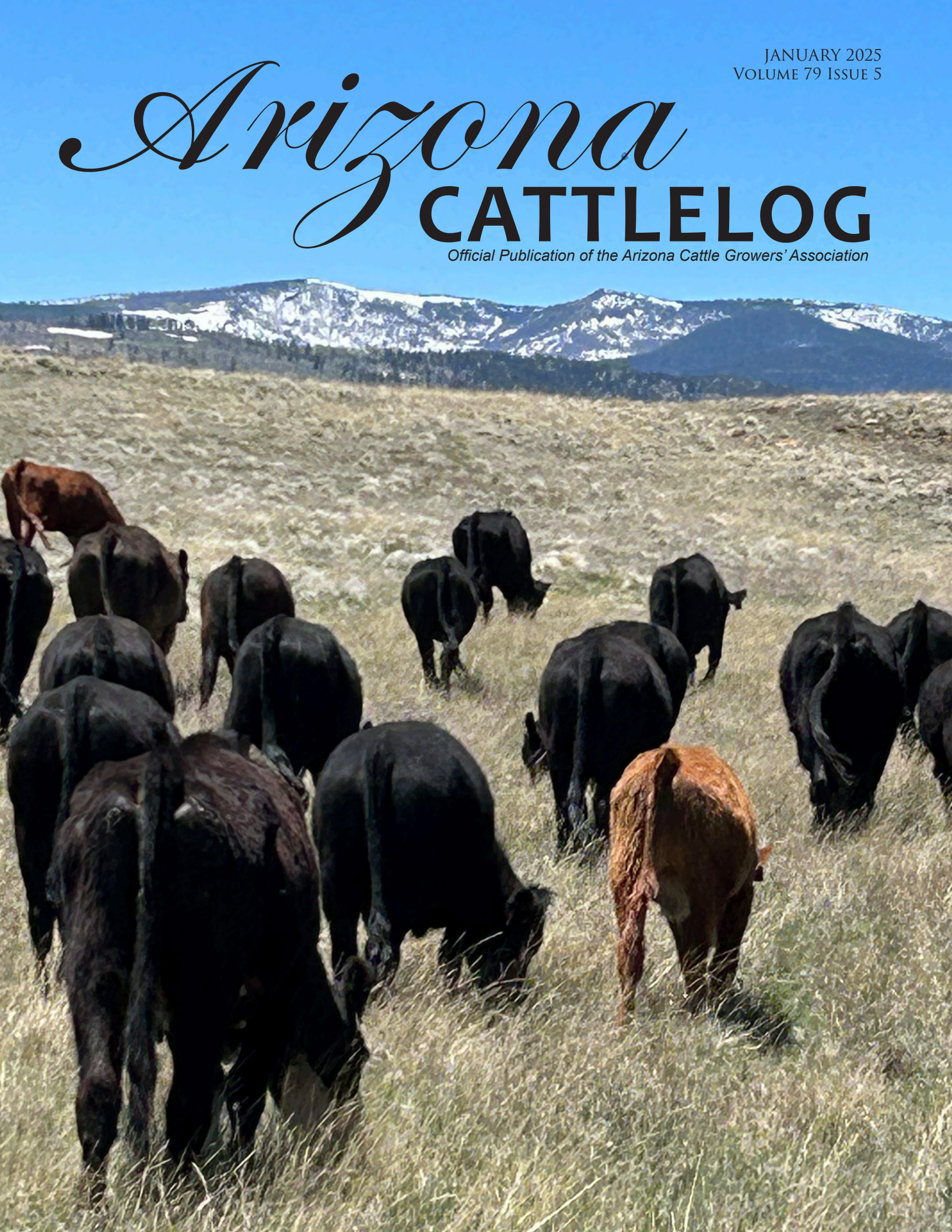

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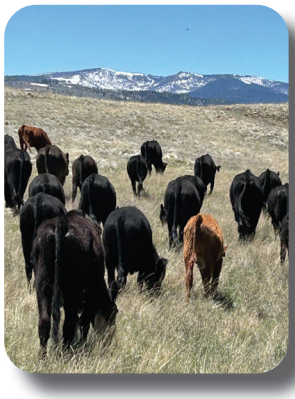

ON THE COVER

This month's cover photo was submitted by Roxanne Knight for the ***2023 Photo Contest.*** *Titled "Winter Lasts a Long Time Up Here!" At 9,000 ft, trailing the herd to the high country at the foot of Mt. Baldy, Arizona's second highest peak.*

Arizona Cattle Growers' Association
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March 1, 2025

Willcox Livestock Auction Bull Sale

TBD

Cattlemen’s Weekend Bull Sale - Chino Valley, AZ

March 15, 2025

Private Treaty at the Ranch

“LKK Crusher 719”

VANDALISM AND WILDLIFE CRIMES AFFECT EVERYONE. POACHERS AND VANDALS ARE CRIMINALS, HELP US CATCH THEM!

Provided by Arizona Game & Fish Department

The Arizona Game and Fish Department encourages everyone to report any suspicious activity or knowledge about a violation to our anti-poaching or anti-vandalism hotlines. The Department's anti-poaching hotline is Operation Game Thief, **1-800-352-0700**, and the anti-vandalism hotline is **1-800-VANDALS**. Both toll-free hotlines are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

A good witness is a critical link to many arrests in poaching and vandalism cases. An officer's chances of apprehending the violator while they are still in the field is greatly improved when the violation is reported immediately. Individuals who make a report will remain confidential and can report anonymously.

The who, what, when, and where are all important. You can be a good witness and help stop poaching and vandalism by following a few of these tips:

- Write down license plate numbers and descriptions of vehicles
- Note the number of people involved and their physical descriptions
- Take pictures and/or video if possible
- Do not interfere with or attempt to stop the violator, and never tell them that you are reporting the violation.

Reported violations are usually prioritized based on the severity of the violation, as well as the timeliness of the report. While an immediate response is not always possible, your call and assistance are vital to the Department's enforcement efforts. All reported violations are logged, tracked, and analyzed for trend data to determine violation hot spots. Special projects, patrols, or criminal investigations are conducted directly as a result of the trend data.

No matter the degree of the reported violation, your tip usually makes the difference in whether a violator will be apprehended.

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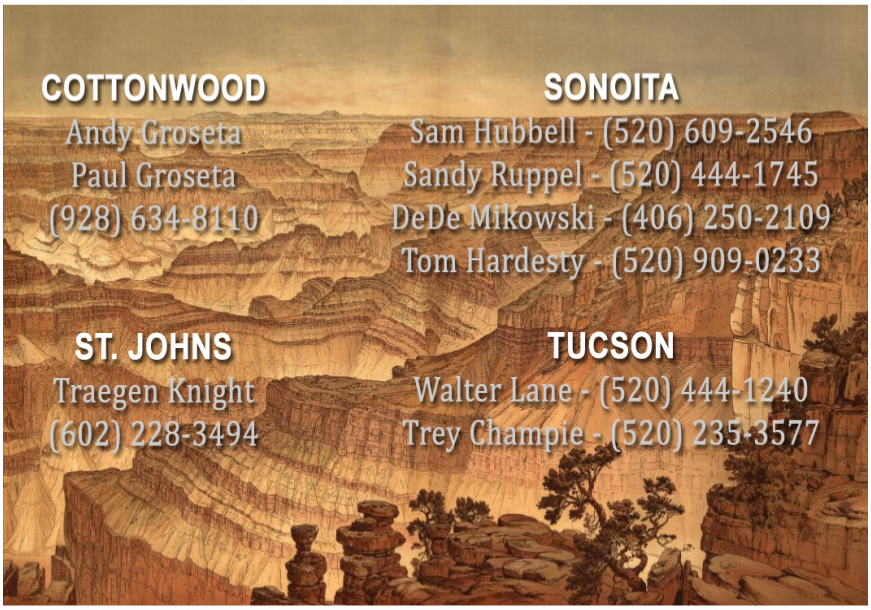

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at Marana Stockyards

Saturday, March 1, 2025, 12 pm

Viewing on Friday 2/28/25 & Saturday 3/1/25 until sale time.

BIDDER APPROVAL DEADLINE NOON, THURSDAY, 2/27/25

Bidders who have not done business with MSY before must contact Clay Parsons no later than Noon, Thursday, February 27, 2025, to make arrangements to bid.

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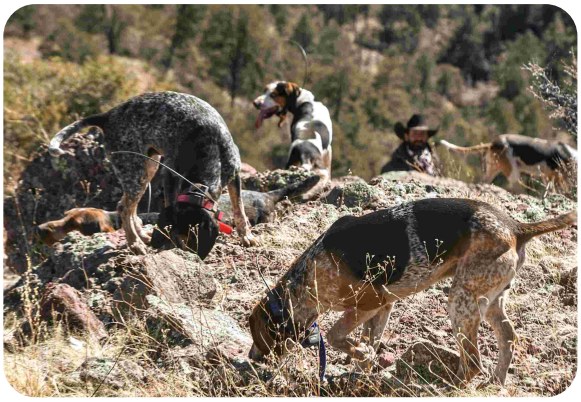
Online bidding through CATTLEUSA.COM

UNITING FOR WILDLIFE: STANDING TOGETHER TO PROTECT HUNTING TRADITIONS

From Ginger Cheney and Barbara Marks Greenlee and ACGA Members



On December 13, 2024, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission heard comments on the petition that had been presented to them on eliminating the use of dogs for hunting many different species. This petition was presented by Center for Biological Diversity, WildEarth Guardians, Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter, and many others. People could attend the meeting in person in Phoenix or via Zoom at the AZGFD regional offices.

There were over 60 people who spoke and all of them were against the petition. This was very good to see. It was amazing to see all of the different groups who were represented. There were a few ACGA members who spoke along with members from the hunting community, the falconer's associations, and several species specific groups. There were about ten kids who spoke and the commission really enjoyed these young people. Uniting many groups together is what it is going to take in order for this to be fought successfully. In fact, several people said that they don't hunt with dogs, but still felt they needed to support hunting, so they decided to go and speak. Overall the meeting was very positive and encouraging.

These ecoterrorist groups are all about the money and not truly following the science. One lady spoke about how she went to CBD's website and looked at their financial statements. They spent their money on wages, rent, utilities, etc. Do you know what they didn't spend their money on? Helping animals. On the other side, groups like the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and many other organizations spend money creating viable waters and many other projects that benefit animals. The green groups use the money they raise to make a living and not support wildlife. The groups took the petition to the AZGFD commission knowing that they more than likely wouldn't act on it. These groups are jumping through the hoops. The next step is they will take it to the ballot, probably in two years. That means we have two years to unite all of these groups and educate the public. Ali did send me a link on how Idaho has protected their hunting through the legislature. This is probably our best bet to unequivocally protect our rights. How can we all work together to protect those rights? The more the agriculture and hunting communities can work together and establish these crucial relationships, the better off we will be for all of the battles we will continue to face far beyond hunting with dogs. We probably won't come close in money to these green groups, but with all of us together, we have a louder voice and more resources.

AC

COMMENTS TO SUPPORT REMOVING BRUCELLA SPECIES FROM THE SELECT AGENT AND TOXIN LIST, DOCKET NO. APHIS-2019-0018

On December 16th, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced in the Federal Register the results of its biennial review of the Biological Select Agents and Toxins list and removed five select agents from the list—*Brucella abortus, Brucella suis, Brucella melitensis*, African horse sickness virus, and Perconosclerospora philippinesis. NCBA submitted comments in April 2024 to a USDA, APHIS proposed rule to possibly delist these agents and recommended delisting of the Brucella species consistent with our member-driven policy. *NCBA's comments are below.*

The decision to delist the *Brucella* species will remove the regulatory barriers to significantly advance research on vaccines and diagnostics and improve efforts to control the disease in animal populations. Delisting the *Brucella* species does not change the already recommended biosafety levels for work with this species of bacteria. Select agents are subject to strong regulations on both their use and movement to protect the American public and agriculture. These regulations while effective at keeping the public safe, also limit the amount and types of research that can be done to develop effective countermeasures and treatment.

(***April 1, 2024***) The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback and comments concerning the proposed rule to amend the list of select agents and toxins that have the potential to pose a severe threat to animal or plant health, or to animal or plant products. NCBA is the oldest and largest national trade association representing cattle producers in the United States (U.S.). Our members are firmly committed to ensuring the health and well-being of the cattle under their care and to producing high-quality, safe beef for consumers.

NCBA strongly supports the delisting of *Brucella abortus, Brucella suis, and Brucella melitensis* from the Select Agent and Toxin List. These *Brucella* species are considered overlap agents and subject to regulation by the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA, APHIS) and the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS, CDC). We will submit our comments to both agencies.

Brucellosis, a zoonotic bacterial disease, can be a costly disease to agricultural production. USDA's National Brucellosis Eradication Program, a cooperative statefederal program, has made significant progress over the past eighty years in eliminating brucellosis from most of the country through diagnostic testing and vaccination. Brucellosis is currently present in less than one animal per million in the national beef and dairy cattle herds. The last known focus of *Brucella abortus* exists in wild elk and bison in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA). The risk of transmitting brucellosis remains minimal in areas of the United States that do not currently have brucellosis present in wildlife or feral swine populations.

NCBA recognizes the need to conduct host animal studies involving swine, bovine, and cervid species to advance brucellosis research. The listing of *B. abortus* as a select agent has hindered the ability to perform much needed research on the organism. Large animal outdoor containment studies with *Brucella abortus* and *Brucella suis* cannot be conducted under the normally applicable Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories Guidelines for select agents; therefore, APHIS and CDC have proposed alternative Federal Select Agent Program biosafety and containment procedures for these outdoor studies. There is a critical need for both improved diagnostics and brucellosis vaccine development related to wildlife species, many of which are not amenable to traditional studies. Delisting the *Brucella* species would ease restrictions for research involving *Brucella* species in cattle as well as for wildlife in the GYA. A detailed study by the National Academy of Sciences in 2017 concluded that we do not have the tools to enhance studies on practical wildlife surveillance systems and to develop new vaccines and vaccine delivery mechanisms for brucellosis.[1] Removal of *Brucella abortus* from the select agent list would allow for optimization of research funds to provide advancements in vaccine development to better protect cattle and wildlife from brucellosis.

B. abortus, B. suis, and B. melitensis present low risk for use as biological agents for terrorism activities. While *B. suis* was one of the first bioweapons developed by the U.S. back in the 1950's, there have been many more insidious and potent pathogens that have been identified as greater terrorism risks in the past 70 years. Although the *Brucella* species have zoonotic capabilities, humans are essentially dead-end hosts for brucellosis, making it improbable that an infected person can transmit the disease to another person. Other disease characteristics of brucellosis, including a long incubation period, positive response to antibiotic treatment, and a low mortality rate, further decrease the attractiveness of *B. abortus* and *B. suis* as bioweapons. Both *B. abortus* and *B. suis* can be obtained from natural sources since there are wildlife populations within the U.S. where these organisms are endemic as well as with wildlife serving as a reservoir for brucellosis. The seroprevalence of *B. suis* in feral swine populations has been well documented in many states throughout the U.S., especially in the Southeast.

While vaccination is an essential component of a disease eradiation plan, improved vaccines alone cannot achieve the goal of eradicating of *B. abortus* and *B. suis* from the U.S. The success of brucellosis eradication programs also requires diagnostic tests and disease modeling.[2] Although there are multiple testing methods available for brucellosis, some of the tests, such as culture and serology, are susceptible to cross reactions from other pathogens resulting in false positives. Other issues include difficulty in culturing *Brucella* due to its slow intracellular growth. The existing serological tests are useful in conducting general surveillance for animals infected with brucellosis but are unable to distinguish between infected and exposed animals, and between *Brucella* species.

PCR-based assays can be used to detect and type *Brucella* species but are only able to provide information on the presence of a *Brucella* species and not information on the genetic relatedness between isolates, which would be helpful when conducting epidemiological investigations.[3] In addition, *B. abortus'* long incubation period and lack of clinical signs, apart from abortion, can present diagnostic challenges. Most animals will not react positively to a diagnostic test until 30-60 days post infection, but for others it can take over one year. It has also been noted that some infected animals will never abort, while others will abort prior to reacting as positive on a diagnostic test.[4] Furthermore, it is often difficult to detect persistently infected young animals that were infected in utero or by nursing prior to their first parturition or abortion.[5] Improvements to the current diagnostic tests are needed to address these challenges and progress in using other testing methods, such as whole genome sequencing, for the *B. abortus* and *B. suis* disease eradication programs.[6] Unfortunately, these advancements have been stagnated by the costly and onerous regulations associated with the Select Agent and Toxin List, further highlighting the need for *B. abortus* and B. suis and B. melitensis to be removed from the list.

NCBA fully supports the Federal Select Agent Program and believes the risk of B. abortus, *B. suis*, and *B. melitensis* being used as weapons of bioterrorism against the United States is extremely low. NCBA believes removing the *Brucella* species from the costly and restrictive regulations of the Select Agent and Toxin List, will allow more facilities to conduct the research needed to develop improved vaccines and diagnostics tests for domestic, wild, and feral species susceptible to brucellosis. The benefit of enhancing our understanding of the pathogenesis and improving the prevention methods for the *Brucella* species outweighs the limited risk of human and animal exposure posed by the exclusion of these bacteria from the Select Agent and Toxin List. NCBA requests USDA, APHIS proceed with the agency's recommendation to remove the overlap agents, *B. abortus*, *B.suis*, and *B. melitensis* from the Select Agent and Toxin List and work with the CDC to achieve their removal.

For more information contact:
NCBA's Chief Veterinarian, Dr. Kathy Simmons ksimmons@beef.org

Sources:
[1] *Revisiting Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone Area (Washington, D.C.: The National Academy Press, 2017).*
[2] *Brucellosis: 3-6; 65-68.*
[3] *"Brucellosis: Brucella abortus," The Center for Food Security and Public Health, Last modified May, 2018: 4 http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/brucellosis_abortus.pdf; Lieser et al., "Swine Brucellosis in the United States," 2; 4-7.*
[4] Facts About Brucellosis," accessed April 20, 2020.
[5] "Brucellosis: Brucella abortus," 2.
[6] Lieser et al., "Swine Brucellosis in the United States," 4-7.

ACGA 2025 WINTER MEETING

Ranching Resilience: Advocating for Tomorrow

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

AGENDA

Arizona Industrial Commissions Building | 800 W Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85007

8:30 a.m. Registration
9:15 a.m. Welcome Mike Gannuscio, President
9:20 a.m. AZ Department of Agriculture, Paul Brierly
9:50 a.m. Arizona Game and Fish Department, Dan Strula
10:20 a.m. 15 - Minute Break
10:35 a.m. NRCS Conservation Easements

11:05 a.m. Lunch and Bills Currently Affecting Ranchers
Beef donated by AZ Grass Raised Beef

12:05 p.m. **"Post Election Tax and Financial Outlook"Jason Thomas,** Frost PLLC.

12:35 p.m. General Membership Meeting and Policy Discussion
*Agenda is subject to change

6:00 p.m. Reception at Frasher's Tavern
4180 N Drinkwater Blvd,
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

7:00 p.m. Legislative Steak Dinner
Steaks Donated by JBS Processing

Thursday, February 20th
9 a.m. ACGA Board of Directors Meeting
U OF A Scottsdale Center
7135 E Camelback Rd Ste, 2d floor, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Additional Names: _____

Please register by 2/14/2025. Prices increase on day of the event!

Lodging: The Monarch 4000 N Drinkwater Blvd, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 (623) 352-7272

	# of people	Total
Winter Meeting- February 19th Includes Lunch & Legislative Steak Dinner at Frasher's Tavern	$175 x _____	= _____
	Grand Total =	_____

Registrations can be made online or mail this form to the office with a check.
Please make checks payable to ACGA; Memo: Winter Meeting
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office: **602 267 1129**

Speakers at Winter Meeting

Paul E. Brierley, Director of the Arizona Department of Agriculture – Paul was raised working on his family's diversified farm. After earning a computer science degree, he returned to production agriculture in southeast Arizona.

He worked with producers across Arizona as Farm Bureau's Director of Organization for 10 years. Then, in 2014 became the founding Executive Director of the University of Arizona's Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture, which he built into a highly effective agricultural research organization.

On June 26, 2023, Paul took over the reins as Director of the Arizona Department of Agriculture under the appointment of Governor Katie Hobbs. He is highly respected and represents the best of our agricultural industry in Arizona, and will no doubt succeed in leading the Department with diligence, respect, and a deep understanding of the work involved.

Daniel P. Sturla, Director, Arizona Game and Fish Department – Dan is the Landowner Relations and Habitat Enhancement (LRHE) Program Manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department, which has more than 13 statewide employees that partner with Arizona's ranchers for the conservation of the landscape and wildlife.

Dan has worked for the Department since 2010, starting out as a research biologist conducting lizard surveys in the Yuma Region of the state. He has served in several capacities within the agency throughout his career, including research biologist, HPC coordinator, and Habitat Enhancement Coordinator. He became the Program Manager in December 2022.

Over his career, Dan has focused his efforts to improve processes and amply project effectiveness. He has worked closely with partner land managers including the NRCS to secure over 13 million dollars for EQIP Programs through six Regional Conservation Partnership Programs across the state

Dan received a B.S in Wildlife Management (2010), M.A.S. in Geographic Information Systems (2011), B.A. Communication (2002), and a C.P.M, all from Arizona State University. His passion for wildlife and conservation belgian at a very early age where his father previously held a long career. Dan is passionate about deer and elk hunting and looks forward to every fall. Dan and Julie, his wife of 5 years, reside in Scottsdale with their two dogs.

USDA NRCS Ag Conservation Easements – USDA NRCS: Since the Dust Bowl days of the 1930s, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has helped people make investments in their operations and local communities to keep working lands working, boost rural economies, increase the competitiveness of American agriculture, and improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and habitat.

Today, through voluntary conservation programs, NRCS helps producers, soil and water conservation districts, and other partners protect and conserve natural resources on private lands throughout the United States. With approximately 2,300 Service Centers in communities nationwide, NRCS and other USDA employees work side-by-side with producers in every State and territory. Producers can learn more or apply for a program by contacting your local Service Center or visit *farmers.gov.*

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

"Post Election Tax and Financial Outlook: How Things are Changing and Solutions for the Future"

Jason Thomas, CPA, JD, Frost PLLC. – Jason is a Certified Public Accountant, tax partner, and attorney with extensive expertise in tax planning and compliance, focusing on the agriculture, cattle, manufacturing, and food processing industries. He began his career with Arthur Andersen, later practiced law at a nationally recognized firm, and worked as an investment banker before joining Frost, PLLC in 2008. Jason holds a B.S.B.A. in Accounting from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and a Juris Doctor from the University of Tulsa. He is a Certified Public Accountant and Licensed Attorney, with memberships in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants (ASCPA), the Arkansas Bar Association, and the Tennessee Bar Association.

AC

GILA COUNTY CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES THE 2024 RANCHER OF THE YEAR - JAMES RASMUSSEN

Provided by the Gila County Cattle Growers Association

The ***GCCGA 2024 Rancher of the Year***, **James B Rasmussen (Jim)** grew up raising cattle on the family farm in Lower Buckeye. Jim's grandfather had the 2-Bar brand, dated to 1906, which Jim still holds today.

In 1946 the family bought the ranch out of Showlow. They moved up north in the summer taking cows, horses, turkeys, kids and friends where it was a lot cooler. In 1957 they bought the ranch near Why, AZ, south of Ajo, where they ran cattle and horses.

After graduating high school in 1959, Jim moved to Palo Alto, CA to study Electrical Engineering at Stanford University. In the summers he returned to Ajo to work at the mine, help his dad on the ranch, and haul cattle for his dad and Fred Greer, another rancher at Why. Upon his graduation in 1963, Jim hired on with a mining company in Ely, NV. It was here he met and married his first wife in 1966. He was also able to continue pursuing his first love, ranching, by helping his new father-in-law run cattle on his ranch outside of Ely while also traveling back and forth to Arizona to help his parents. Sadly, in 1987 Jim lost his wife to cancer.

Shortly after, Jim and his young daughter moved to Round Mountain, NV. While working as an Electrical Engineer at the Echo Bay Gold Mine, Jim met a lovely lady, Marilynn. They married in 1990. In 1992 they decided to move back to Arizona to be closer to Jim's parents. He came to Globe to work for Magma Copper.

After moving to Globe, Jim and Marilynn met Rose and Larry Huff, Gila County Ranchers, who invited them to the rancher's dinner. This launched their interest in becoming involved with the Gila County Cattle Growers Association. Jim was taking on more of the ranching responsibilities for his dad. About 1995, dad turned the ranches, the cattle, and the horses over to Jim.

In 2002 Jim became treasurer for GCCGA and served until 2006, supporting the GCCGA Annual Spring auction for years - bringing quality cattle from his other ranches to Globe. In 2016 he was encouraged to serve again. Jim stepped up and served diligently in all offices becoming President in 2022.

Even though he had other jobs, his love of ranching and horses started when he was a kid growing up in Ajo. And his dedication to the ranching community continues on.

Congratulations to our Rancher of the Year 2024, Jim Rasmussen, and a big THANK YOU for your years of support and service to the Gila County Cattle Growers Association and the ranching industry.

AC

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2024 DATA

		Average Cow Wt	Average Wean Wt	Percent Weaned
9-13 yr old cows	102 of 104 bred	1260	650	52%
2 yr olds	72 of 75 bred	1080	580	54%

29th Annual
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ACGA BYLAWS & POLICY

The purpose of ACGA's Bylaws Committee is to ensure that our bylaws represent our members' and organization's needs and remain up-to-date. According to Section 4.8 of our bylaws, they "may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the membership in attendance at the Annual Summer Convention, Annual Winter Meeting, or at a special meeting called by the members for such purpose."

We've received proposed amendments to two sections of our bylaws, which will be voted on during the Winter Meeting on February 19, 2025:

Section 5.4: Ranchers for Tomorrow – A member has suggested adding the word "young" to better describe the members of this group. Additionally, the phrase "a living" would be replaced with "income."

5.4 RANCHERS FOR TOMORROW. Any person who aspires to make a living in the cattle industry, and may or may not own cattle, may become a member upon written application. Ranchers for Tomorrow shall be afforded the privileges of Cattle Producer, except the right to vote, upon written application and payment of the specified dues for Ranchers for Tomorrow Members so provided.

Section 9.1: Nomination of Candidates – Since the first sentence already mentions "geographic areas of the state," a member has recommended deleting the fourth sentence as it is redundant. The following sentence would also be added: "A majority of the members of this Committee shall elect a chair."

9.1 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES. Nominations for Executive Committee shall be made by the Nominating Committee, with consideration given for equal representation of all geographic areas of the state. A Nominating Committee shall be formed at least six (6) months prior to the Annual Summer Convention of the Association for the purpose of nominating officers of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall consist of one (1) person appointed by each county organization, the immediate Past President, and the current (outgoing) President. Consideration shall be given to all geographic areas of the state and for continuity in the succession of officers. This Committee shall notify the Membership of its nominations at least sixty (60) days before the biennial election. Such notice may be given in the Cattlelog, by mail, or by email. The Nominating Committee shall submit a slate including all officers at the general session of the Annual Summer Convention. Following the report of the Nominating Committee, nominations may be made from the floor.

In addition to these bylaw amendments, we will also have a discussion on ACGA policies during the general membership meeting. According to Section 11.1 of our bylaws, "New policy resolutions shall be adopted by the general Membership. Such resolutions can originate from the Board, a county/ regional affiliate association, or Members." While there are no proposed policy amendments currently, members will have the opportunity to bring forth amendments on the floor during the meeting. If you'd like to submit a policy amendment in advance, please send it to the committee chairs by February 12, 2025, so it can be printed and presented for discussion.

Bylaws Committee Chair: Leatta McLaughlin *leattamc@yahoo.com*

Ag Issues Committee Chair: Sonia Gasho, *strongholdbeef@yahoo.com*

We encourage all members to participate in these important conversations as we work together to shape the future of ACGA.

Our current bylaws and policy book can be found on our website *azcattlegrowers.org*

AC

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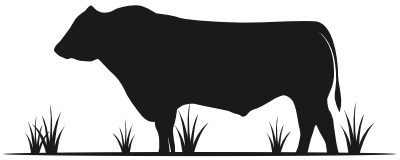

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ARIZONA CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Arizona Cattle Growers' Association Ranchers for Tomorrow, along with Arizona Cooperative Extension would like to invite you out for a lunch and learn on the beef industry in Arizona

Come discuss the challenges for young ranchers in the Arizona beef industry!

Wednesday February 12th 2025 – Globe

Wednesday April 9th 2025 – Williams

Wednesday June 11th 2025 - Holbrook

Cooperative Extension

R4T Lunch & Learn series is funded by the Arizona Cattle Industry Research & Education Foundation (ACIF)

GILA COUNTY CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES THE 2024 WRANGLER OF THE YEAR - RICK LEHMAN

Provided by the Gila County Cattle Growers Association

Rick Lehman, ***GCCGA 2024 Wrangler of the Year***, grew up on a farm in Iowa milking cows and raising pigs and beef cattle. His dad was an auctioneer and part owner in a sale barn. When his dad was out sick, Rick, at the age of 10-years, sold his first farm at auction.

In 1984 He moved to Arizona. In 1998 he began working for Marana Stockyards sorting cattle and selling butcher cows. 28 years later you can still find Rick selling at Marana Stockyards & Livestock Market.

He has been married to his wife Karen for 25 years. They have 17-year-old twins, Jake and Kallie who are seniors in high school. They keep him on his toes and fulfill his life. For the past 10 years, when he's not on the auction block you can find him coaching flag football teams.

Fully devoted to youth and the cattle industry, Rick has been an integral part of Gila County livestock auctions and fundraisers. Not only at the Gila County Cattle Growers' Association Annual Spring Auctions, but also at our Gila County Fair Junior Livestock Auctions.

For the past 10 years, Rick has also volunteered his time, talent and enthusiasm to support our GCCGA Annual Salute to Ranching Dinner-Dance and Auction. Rick is well liked, highly respected, great at audience engagement, while garnering as much as he can for our cause.

With gratitude, it is our honor to award Rick Lehman the Gila County Cattle Growers' Association Wrangler of the Year 2024.
AC

KOREAN BEEF SKILLET

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound Ground Beef (93% or leaner)
- 2 cups baby or regular bok choy, cut into 1 inch pieces
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup Korean barbecue sauce
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 cup thinly sliced red cabbage
- 1/2 cup fresh bean sprouts
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
- Hot cooked brown rice

Toppings (optional):

- Thinly sliced seaweed and thinly sliced red radishes

COOKING

1. Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add Ground Beef, bok choy and garlic; cook 8 to 10 minutes, breaking into small crumbles and stirring occasionally.

Cook's Tip: Cooking times are for fresh or thoroughly thawed Ground Beef. Ground Beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160ºF. Color is not a reliable indicator of Ground Beef doneness.

2. Stir in barbecue sauce, water, red pepper; cook 1 to 2 minutes or until heated through, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat. Stir in cabbage, bean sprouts and green onion. Let stand 5 minutes.

3. Serve beef mixture over rice. Top with seaweed and red radish, if desired.

Recipe courtesy of the Beef Checkoff ***www.beefitswhatsfordinner.com***

NEW SNOW BOOTS

By BRYCE ANGELL, *email: angellranch62@gmail.com*

I'd worn a hole in my old boots. The weather came right through. I didn't have the cash to buy a pair that were brand new.

But the snow was coming down, I needed warm boots on my feet. And were there really boots that wouldn't let out all the heat?

I drove on down to Merkel's store. The snow boots were on sale. But even at the lower price my face was turning pale.

I spied a pair of boots that bragged, "Your feet will not be cold". But the price tag got me thinking. Are these snow boots made of gold?

The tops were made of leather and the bottom's rubber sole. Not sure about the middle, but would clean out my bank roll.

I gave the clerk my credit card. She said, "It looks well used." I pointed to her price of boots. "That's why it's been abused."

She said, "The boots are rated down to 45 below." I paid her the extortion price. Now, something you should know.

It wasn't but a day or two I put my boots to use. My first thought was they're overrated, sorriest excuse.

I'd crawled out of my sleeping bag and slipped my new boots on. The mercury said 5 below. Did someone say,"Moron?"

My feet would not warm up. I felt dumber than a bag of rocks. Why did I pay that much for boots? It's called the school of hard knocks.

But then a fellow cowboy handed me a pair of socks. He said, "They're made of wool and are preferred for winter walks."

I pulled up my new woolen wear. I sure could feel the heat. I'd say that 45 below meant sheep hair on your feet.

I guess I'll stop complaining 'bout the price of winter boots. I should have known that woolen wear and boots are in cahoots.

I finally had warm footwear. No more cussing cold in vain. The next thing I should work on is to warm my frozen brain.

So, when you buy your snow boots, rated 45 below. Buy a pair of wool socks. They'll keep your feet warm in the snow.

AC

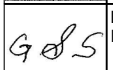
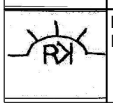
AZDA ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

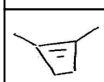
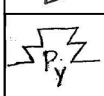
Licensing Section
1010 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007
Mail To: 1802 W. Jackson St #78
Phoenix, AZ 85007
PHONE (602) 542-3578 FAX (602) 542-0466

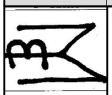
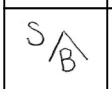
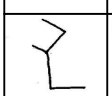
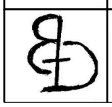
Proposed BRANDS

The official location for notice of proposed brands is the Arizona Department of Agriculture's website at http://searchagriculture.az.gov/mastercontent/brandsnotice.aspx. **To view the complete list of proposed brands,** be sure to check the AZDA website. Below are a few of the brands submitted in accordance with A.R.S § 3-1261(C).

These brands are not available for sale by the Arizona Department of Agriculture. The "End Date" shown is the deadline for receiving protests for the proposed brand. All protests or objections must be submitted in writing and postmarked before the "End Date" in the chart below. Protests that are postmarked after the End Date will not be considered.

Brand	Brand No. I End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 20025 End Date: 1/25/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20023 End Date: 1/23/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20017 End Date: 1/19/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: LS Sheep: LR Goat: LR
	Brand No.: 20015 End Date: 1/18/2025	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: NO Goat: LS
	Brand No.: 20016 End Date: 1/18/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20010 End Date: 1/15/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20006 End Date: 1/8/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO

Brand	Brand No. I End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 20024 End Date: 1/23/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20020 End Date: 1/22/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20018 End Date: 1/19/2025	Cattle: RT Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20012 End Date: 1/18/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20014 End Date: 1/18/2025 AMEND	Cattle: LH Horse: LT Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20009 End Date: 1/11/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: RS Goat: RS
	Brand No.: 20007 End Date: 1/8/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: LS Goat: LS

Brand	Brand No. I End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 20022 End Date: 1/23/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: RH Goat: RH
	Brand No.: 20021 End Date: 1/22/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20019 End Date: 1/19/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20013 End Date: 1/18/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20011 End Date: 1/15/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20008 End Date: 1/10/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20005 End Date: 1/4/2025	Cattle: LS Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO

CHECKING IN ON YOUR CHECKOFF:

BUILDING CONNECTIONS: FUTURE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS EXPLORE ARIZONA'S BEEF COMMUNITY AND NUTRITION

Future health professionals were offered a unique learning opportunity as they joined the Arizona Beef Council staff on a tour of Pinal Feeding Company and the Quarter Circle U Ranch. This experience provided a firsthand understanding of how beef cattle are raised and their significant contribution to a balanced and healthy diet for Arizonans, Americans, and people worldwide.

Arizona State University and Maricopa Department of Public Health dietetic interns met and learned from Arizona cattlemen, women, and fellow dietetic professionals on September 19, 2024. The day started at Pinal Feeding Company in Stanfield, Arizona, a large cattle-feeding operation that has been family-owned and operated since 1959. On the bus and in a walking tour, Operations Manager Rebecca Laemmel shared insights on bovine nutrition and how cattle are managed to reduce stress, ultimately leading to high-quality beef.

The next stop took the interns to the Quarter Circle U Ranch, where Amy Doyle, owner, and Jordan Selchow, ranch manager, shared their unwavering dedication to the well-being of their animals and the delicate desert landscape in which the cattle live and graze. Amy gave a history of the ranch, which started in 1896. She included the family legacy she shares with her father, Chuck Backus, who purchased the ranch in 1977. Amy and her husband Mike continue the work to raise high-quality cattle to produce high-quality beef.

A final highlight of the day was a nutrition presentation given by Emma Mortensen, a registered dietitian with a background in animal and meat science. Emma shared the nutritional benefits of beef, covering topics such as the types of nutrients found in beef, including protein. One serving of beef, which is about 170 calories, contains 51% of the recommended amount of protein for adults, making it a nutrient-dense food.

This year's tour pre and post-tour survey results were stand-outs. 85% of participants expressed

their intent to recommend beef as often as other proteins after the tour. Along with positive comments, the survey data and insightful “aha” moments serve as a testament to the tour's impact and the potential it holds for the future of beef recommendations.

When asked about something that stood out to them about how cattle are raised, one survey response was, "The main goal is to reduce the stress that animals experience to produce good quality meat." Another said, "Something that stood out to me was how much work and care went into raising a healthy cow. All along, I thought that ranchers would only feed their cows a high-calorie diet so that they are plump, but today I learn that they would have to consume a moderately healthy diet that allows them to gain weight steadily so that they are able to produce high-quality meat products."

This tour provided future health professionals with invaluable insights into the beef community and the principles of animal husbandry that prioritize animal well-being and environmental stewardship. By engaging directly with Arizona cattlemen and women, the interns gained a deeper appreciation for the complexities of raising cattle and the nutritional benefits of beef as part of a balanced diet. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants highlights the importance of such educational experiences in shaping perceptions about beef and its role in nutrition.

To read more about these programs and others, visit bit.ly/azbeefnews

ARIZONA BEEF COUNCIL

UNITY

By GINGER CHENEY *Greenlee County Cattle Growers President*

As we embark on the new year, we all have a little more hope that things will be better. Now with that being said, we do know that things will continue to come our way that we will need to address. One important thing we need to be sure that we are working on is unity within many groups.

In December, several ACGA members spoke during the AZGFD Commission meeting. There was a petition presented to no longer use dogs for hunting. (There is more on this issue in another article). The important takeaway for me was that lots of different groups were unifying to stand against this petition. That is what we need to do, continue to have that unity to protect our important lifestyle.

We've all been fighting battles for so long that sometimes that seems to be all we do. We need to use our resources and unify in order to be able to make the difference we need to make. I'm hoping that common sense will once again prevail, however we do know the people who spend the money in advertising and getting the word out are the ones who usually sway the people. Alone we don't have much money, but united with groups like the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Mule Deer Foundation, etc. would all add money to the pot.

I wish you the very best for the new year. I'm praying for good moisture and great cattle prices and hopefully a chance to enjoy ranching. We know we have to fight to maintain our lifestyle, but we do have friends out there that we need to use as resources. Who do you know who can help us?

AC

If you're attending the NCBA CattleCon from February 4–6, 2025, in San Antonio, Texas, our partners at AgWest Farm Credit warmly invite you to join their reception.

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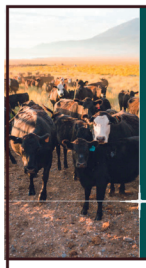

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ACGA CATTLE PRODUCER MEMBERS
Roger Nusbaum • Santa Cruz County

ACGA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
Rio Tinto - Resolution Copper Mining
Janeane Moreno

ACGA FRIENDS OF THE INDUSTRY MEMBERS
Jordan Whipple • Apache County

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 4-6, 2025 - NCBA Cattle Con *San Antonio, Texas*

February 19, 2025 - ACGA Winter Meeting *Phoenix*

February 20, 2025 - ACGA Monthly Board Meeting *Scottsdale & Zoom*

March 22, 2025 - Arizona Farm & Ranch Group Hall of Fame Dinner *Chandler*

March 29, 2025 - YCGA Team Roping *Camp Verde*

April 4, 2025 - ACGA Monthly Board Meeting *Zoom*

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A Century

Learning, Improving and Advancing the Family Legacy

Join us as we celebrate 100 years ranching on the Mogollon Rim.

ANNUAL BULL SALE

Saturday, April 12 • 1:00 p.m. PDT

Selling 225 Bulls

75 Balancer
120 Balancer x Stabilizer
35 Southern Balancer
10 Angus
100 are Calving Ease Specialists

FIELD DAY • Friday, April 11

Speakers • Trade Show
Customer Appreciation Evening

Utilize the most proven database in the industry for traits that go directly to your bottom line and give you a marketing advantage.

$RANCH

- All sale bulls' averages rank in top 13%.
- Mothers calve every year in 45 days or they are gone.
- All sale bulls' averages rank in top 13% for Fertility.
- All sale bulls' averages rank in in 10% for Teat and Udder.

$PROFIT

- All sale bulls' averages rank in top 8%.
- Balanced trait selection for Life Cycle Efficiency, moderate size, post weaning growth, carcass merit and low PAP.

$FEEDER

- All sale bulls' averages rank in top 13%.
- Feed Efficiency Testing since 2010.
- Every bull feed efficiency tested.

Bulls out of the most proven range cow herd in the Southwest.

OWNERS
Bob & Judy Prosser
(928) 380-5149

SEEDSTOCK HERD MANAGER
Kristin Hovey
(970) 485-0974

Bar T Bar Ranches

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FINDING THE BALANCE

EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE

BAR T BAR RANCHES
"A CULTURE OF STEWARDSHIP"