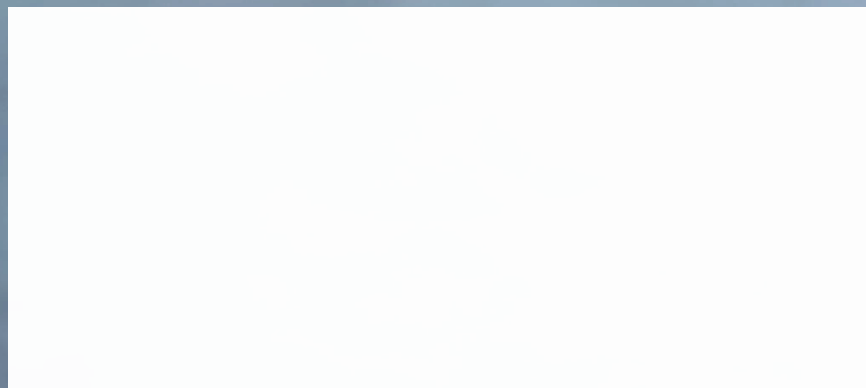


March 2026
Volume 80 Issue 7

Arizona CATTLELOG

Official Publication of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association



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Photograph taken by Amanda Calloway

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Letter from the President



Through contacts of your 1st VP Tim Petersen, he and I were invited to a dinner sponsored by the Phoenix Committee on Foreign Relations. The special guest was USDA Under Secretary on Trade, Luke Lindberg. He is directly under Secretary Rollins and has been the person responsible for all the trade talks going on involving anything agriculture related. It was a great conversation with a small group of about 12 people, including our friend in agriculture Senator Tim Dunn, Yuma. As the news of the Argentina beef imports was only a day or two old, that was a topic of conversation. It was a nuanced discussion. As we all agree we would like to produce all the beef consumed in the US. Right now with the cow numbers where they are, we just can't keep up with demand. The Argentina deal has a time limit and is only lean trim for hamburger. If we cannot keep up with demand for the fast food industry, I am worried about losing market share to other proteins. So, this is not what we want long term, but may not be a bad decision in the short term. What does need to happen, and we talked with the Under Secretary about this, is making sure all food safety protocols are being met. USDA needs to be in county with a clip board and eyes on the product. We are in the last leg of this great market and I would hate to see some food safety problem to cause us to miss out on it. I think we got our point across and it was a valuable discussion. ACGA is working for you, and we are the go to organization in Arizona for cattle related issues. Hope you all got a little rain.

R Brian deGanahl

Brian deGanahl

President of Arizona Cattle Growers' Association



ACGA LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

Our mission: At Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, we protect, promote, and sustain Arizona cattle ranching for present and future generations through grassroots advocacy, policy formation, and education.



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CATTLE CALL

Your monthly update from the ACGA Executive Director, Suzanne Menges



What a great gathering we had in mid-February at our annual Winter Meeting! Thank you to all of you who made the trek to the capitol to attend. There were so many highlights of the day! We heard from leaders Paul Brierley of the AZ Department of Ag, Sine Kerr of the Farm Service Agency, and Keisha Tatem of NRCS. As I listened to their presentations, it struck me that all three of them have experience in the real world of ag: we bought hay from Paul and his family for years, Sine and her family are currently raising cattle and crops, and Keisha's grandfather and great-grandfather raised hogs and grew much of the food the family ate. They all "get it", and it showed.

Commissioner Robyn Sahid of the Arizona State Land Department provided an in-depth overview of the current status of the Department, its structure and mission, and the struggles and opportunities they have. Commissioner Sahid has been at ASLD since 2023, inheriting a complex set of issues and challenges. Our Solar Working Group members met with Commissioner Sahid earlier in February, and it was a fruitful conversation. It has been many years since we have had such frank conversations with ASLD and we are very grateful to the Commissioner for her openness and sincerity.

We finished the morning session with a General Membership meeting, and a final presentation by Dr. Ed Martin of the UofA who is the Director of Cooperative Extension. Funding for these vital programs is currently being discussed by lawmakers, so it was helpful for us to understand the needs and goals of Cooperative Extension.

After a lunch of beef sandwiches donated by Arizona Grass Fed Beef, we moved to the Senate where we used a caucus room as home base, having legislators come in to speak to us as they had time between committee meetings. This set up worked very well, as we heard from so many legislators and a Governor's office representative. We also sent a few ACGA members to attend committee meetings or speak to other legislators. Since it was the last week for bills to be dropped, the pace was hectic but very efficient. ACGA members remarked that they had never felt so engaged in the legislative process.

Of course, we ended the day with our traditional Legislative Dinner with about a dozen lawmakers attending. It was another terrific time to get to know them and educate them about our industry. We awarded a few members special recognitions-see our lobbyist's update for this year's award recipients (page 7). We give sincere thanks and appreciation to our lobbyists, Brittany Bingold and Nick Simonetta, for their dedication to helping make this event such a success!





Arizona Cattle Growers Winter Meeting: Building Relationships Where It Matters Most

The Arizona Cattle Growers' Association (ACGA) Winter Meeting was an incredible success and a powerful reminder of the strength of our industry when we show up, engage, and tell our story together.

Members heard directly from key industry leaders and policymakers shaping the future of agriculture and land management in Arizona. We were honored to welcome Paul Brierley, Director of the Arizona Department of Agriculture, and Robyn Sahid, Arizona State Land Commissioner, who shared timely insights on issues impacting ranchers across the state.

The meeting then shifted into high gear as members headed to the capitol for a series of meaningful, in-depth conversations with decision makers who play a critical role in shaping Arizona policy. These were not rushed hallway interactions, but thoughtful discussions that allowed members to speak directly about what is happening on the ground in the cattle industry. Meetings ranged from key members of the Governor's Office to House and Senate leadership, to lawmakers from both sides of the aisle.

These discussions reinforced the value of direct engagement. By sharing real-world experiences from Arizona's ranches and rural communities, members helped policymakers better understand the challenges, and opportunities, facing the cattle industry today. The Winter Meeting served as an important opportunity to deepen relationships, share on-the-ground realities, and continue building trust across the Capitol.

Honoring ACGA's 2026 Legislative Champions

In addition to a productive day at the Capitol, ACGA was proud to honor our Legislative Champions of the Year at our Legislative Dinner. These awards recognize lawmakers who consistently go to bat for Arizona cattle growers and stand up for agriculture year after year.

House Legislative Champion of the Year

ACGA is proud to recognize Lupe Diaz, Chairman of the House Land, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs Committee. Chairman Diaz is a staunch defender of agriculture and leads his committee with a thoughtful, grounded approach that reflects a deep respect for rural communities and working lands.

Senate Legislative Champion of the Year

Our Senate Legislative Champion of the Year is T.J. Shope, Senate President Pro Tempore and Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee. Coming from a family rooted in the grocery industry, Senator Shope understands that food does not simply come from the store, it starts with producers. He has long recognized the importance of agriculture in feeding Arizona and has consistently stood up for our industry at the Capitol.

Cattle Growers Trailblazer Award

This year, the ACGA Executive Committee introduced a new honor: the Cattle Growers Trailblazer Award, recognizing lawmakers who focus on problem-solving and effective governance. The inaugural recipient is Senator Brian Fernandez. Born and raised in Yuma, Senator Fernandez understands firsthand the importance of agriculture. He has established himself as a lawmaker who gets things done, finding practical, thoughtful solutions and working across the aisle to deliver results. ACGA recognizes Senator Fernandez as a true champion of agriculture and a model of bipartisan effectiveness.

Overall Legislative Champion of the Year

As our Overall Legislative Champion of the Year, ACGA proudly recognizes Representative Gail Griffin, Chair of the House Natural Resources, Energy, and Water Committee. Chairwoman Griffin has been a steadfast ally of agriculture and a tireless defender of Arizona's water and land users for years. Her leadership, institutional knowledge, and unwavering commitment to her constituents make her one of the most respected, and effective, voices at the Capitol. It is a true honor to recognize her for her continued strength and advocacy on behalf of Arizona agriculture.

-Brittany Bingold
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NCBA CattleCon Recap

By: **Suzanne Menges**

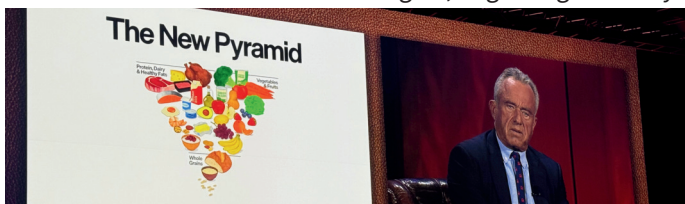
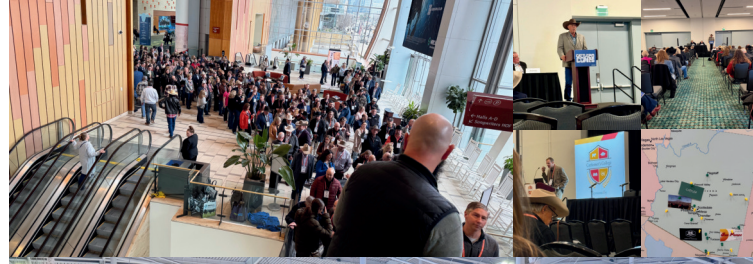
While the weather was certainly chilly outside, the 2026 NCBA Cattle Convention in Nashville was full of hot topics impacting the cattle industry today. Brian, Sidnie and I arrived on Monday morning and hit the ground running by attending the Region VI meeting early that afternoon. Each state in our six-state region discussed challenges and successes, and we also heard from the state Beef Council executives about their programs. At this meeting we heard about a proposal to re-establish the “Cow-Calf Council”, which was a part of the national organization until NCBA was formed in 1996. Apparently, the idea is to include a cow/calf chairperson seat on the NCBA executive committee as a non-voting member. This idea has gained a lot of ground across the country, and was referred to a task force for study.

Tuesday and Wednesday we attended various Cattlemen’s College sessions, which are now included in the registration fee. Just about every topic dealing with beef production was on the schedule. We learned about the impacts of larger carcasses on everything from feedlot infrastructure to cutability to the need to redesign equipment such as chutes and trailers. We heard much about the loss of market access to China and details about how trade negotiations have changed under the Trump administration. New World Screwworm was also on the trade agenda, discussing its potential impact. There was a very interesting presentation from a director of the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service regarding the implementation of the Product of USA voluntary labeling rules. There was some tough news about Brazil slightly surpasses the US in beef production, but we also have export opportunities opening up more in the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) region, which includes ten countries.

The ever-popular CattleFax Outlook seminar did not disappoint. Matt Makens reviewed the extremes in weather patterns in the last few years, noting that Colorado has historically low snowpack. Matt explained that as La Nina and El Nino drive the global weather patterns, the dry La Nina system will begin to fade and the Southwest will be in neutral mode for the next few months. El Nino will slowly begin with at least a 60% chance that we will see some moisture in our area mid-year.

A very exciting session was the discussion between the 2025 NCBA President Buck Wehrbein and Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. on national nutrition and the recently released Dietary Guidelines. I can tell you the room was packed as attendees squeezed in to hear it. Brian, Sidnie and I were joined by Trever Hall and Lauren Maehling in one of the front rows. While waiting for the interview to begin, Brian chatted with Colin Woodall, NCBA’s CEO, who told him that Secretary Kennedy actually contacted NCBA to ask if he could come speak! Now, that’s a switch, isn’t it? Secretary Kennedy declared that the “war on protein was over”. At the end of the interview, Mr. Wehrbein asked him if there was anything else he would like to say. The Secretary turned to the audience and said, “Yes! Produce more beef! Increase your herds!” And, yes, the crowd went wild. What a great way to end an excellent and worthwhile convention!

The 2027 Convention will be in Nashville again, beginning February 2nd.



2026 Winter Meeting Photo Bomb



Janice Bryson: 2025 Pioneer Stockman of the Year

By: Nichole Cardona, Edited by Sidnie Conerly



Janice Bryson has been honored as the 2025 Pioneer Stockman of the Year, a recognition that reflects a lifetime devoted to Arizona agriculture, heritage, and community service. A proud Arizona native, Janice's roots run deep in the state's ranching history. Her ancestors arrived from Ireland in 1881, settling in the Arizona Territory and laying the foundation for generations of resilience, adaptability, and commitment to livestock production. Throughout her life, Janice has remained deeply involved in agricultural organizations, youth programs, and

and cultural preservation, all with a focus on ensuring Arizona's ranching legacy endures.

Janice's family began in dairy production, operating a free-range dairy cow outfit in Globe. Like many early Arizona livestock families, they worked in rugged country that demanded grit and flexibility. Beyond agriculture, the Ryan family also played a role in the local business community; Janice's great-grandfather founded Ryan and Company, later Ryan-Evans, which expanded to 32 stores before being sold in the 1960s. Despite those business ventures, agriculture remained at the heart of the family's identity.

After several years in the dairy industry, the family transitioned into beef cattle, running cattle on the Apache Reservation and later purchasing the Five Slash Ranch along the Salt River outside Globe. During that same period, her grandfather Will Ryan expanded into sheep with the Ryan Sheep Company. Janice was born after both the ranch and sheep company were established, and many of her fondest childhood memories stem from that time. She recalls traveling with her father and grandfather to check sheep camps and remembers the beauty of the Mogollon Rim, saying, "It was always so beautiful up there."

Although her grandfather believed strongly that cattle were the family's future, economic realities required adaptation. During difficult cattle market years, banks were more willing to finance sheep, and the family adjusted accordingly. That willingness to adapt would become a defining trait Janice carried throughout her life.



Eventually, her grandfather returned to cattle, purchasing the Box Bar Ranch. After his retirement, Janice's father, Emmett, took a position at the Spear S Ranch in New River. Janice remembers the school bus picking her up at 5:30 a.m., making rounds through surrounding ranches before taking her to Washington High School in Phoenix. Later, Emmett leased the P Bar Ranch near present-day Fountain Hills, where the family ran beef cattle for several years. He partnered with Bob Roether, who purchased cattle from the Papago Reservation, feeding them at the Tyson Feed Lot in Laveen and selling them through Roer's Livestock Auction.

The family later purchased a share in the Conley Ranch near Wenden. With cattle prices low, ranch work became a true family effort. Janice recalls pushing cows on horseback when a stray calf led her galloping toward a wash. Holding tight to the saddle horn, she closed her eyes as her horse jumped the wash safely. "I was never much of a horsewoman," she admits. Following her grandfather's passing and ongoing market challenges, Emmett sold his portion of the ranch and herd, and the family eventually stepped away from the cattle business.

Though ranching operations shifted, Janice's connection to agriculture never faded. She was a talented trick roper, performing with the Mesa High School team and riding in Arizona's 50th anniversary statehood parade in 1962. In 1973, Janice began a 39-year career with American Express in global security, retiring in 2012 after working with people around the world.

Janice's service to agriculture has been extensive. She and her late daughter, Kelly, devoted decades to 4-H, with Janice serving as a leader for 25 years. Both were inducted into the Arizona 4-H Leader Hall of Fame, and the Bryson family was named Maricopa County 4-H Family of the Year. Her involvement also includes Arizona Cowbells, ACGA, and the Arizona National Livestock Show, where she has served as editor of the Pioneer Stockman Histories since 2005.

Through ranching, youth leadership, and historical preservation, Janice Bryson has built a legacy that bridges Arizona's past and future. When asked what advice she would give the next generation of stockmen, she shared, "With our state's growth, don't get discouraged — be patient and keep trying. There is a place for you in livestock production."



Dedicated to John Fowler: A Steady Hand Behind Arizona National Livestock Show

By: Janice Bryson

The Arizona National Livestock Show is proud to dedicate the 2025 Show to John Fowler. For more than thirty years, John has provided equipment, operators, materials, and expertise to support Arizona National. His leadership, generosity, and practical wisdom have strengthened the show and the community it represents.

Raised on a farm in Illinois, John showed cattle in both 4-H and FFA. During college, he and a few friends traded snow for sunshine and enrolled at Arizona State University, where he joined the ASU rodeo team and competed in calf roping. After graduation, he stayed in Arizona, working for Tanner Companies for over thirty years before founding Arizona Materials.

In 1989, John returned to ranching, purchasing several ranches with his longtime friend Bill Brake. Today, he operates the J Bar B and Rafter Cross Cattle Companies in the Globe area and near Heber. In 2023, he was honored as Pioneer Stockman of the Year by the Pioneer Stockman Association, sponsored by Arizona National.

John became involved with the Arizona National Livestock Show through his daughter Julie, who showed horses. One rainy year, when the outdoor arena became unusable, John brought in equipment, worked the ground, and got the show running again. For many years after that, he was an essential asset to the show in helping to coordinate over 1,300 tons of dirt each year to the show to set the outdoor cattle show ring (recently renamed the Bud Webb Memorial Show Ring), bedding for cattle in all three cattle barns and the Farm Experience ring where activities for youth are conducted. Just as important as the delivery of the dirt, he made sure it was properly stored at the Arizona Materials facility 11-1/2 months out of the year until the show needed it again. In 2023, when Arizona Materials was sold, John again made taking care of Arizona National a priority when he negotiated with the new owners to continue to store the massive pile of dirt for us and transporting it each December.



Grant Boice (Arizona National Executive Director 1996-2013) describes John as both a friend and mentor, someone who can cool a heated discussion with a few calm words and bring people back to focus. That same steady hand has guided his work far beyond the showgrounds.

Serving on the Arizona National board, John worked his way up to president in 1992-93. He was a strong supporter of the Junior Livestock Auction during the years of its existence and served on the Ranch Replacement Heifer Show Committee. During his tenure as president, the Junior Dairy Division was added to the Show as well as Supreme Bull and Female Champions.

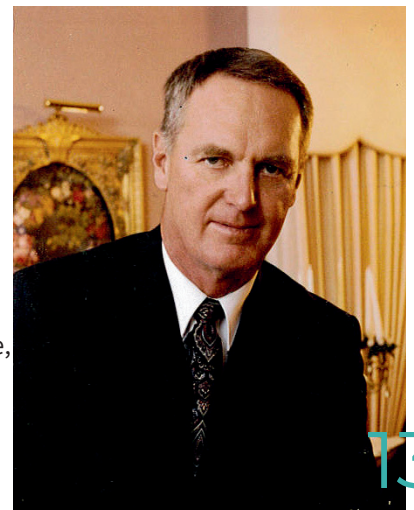
The lessons John has learned on the range have shaped his leadership within the Livestock Show. He understands that real progress comes through persistence and collaboration, not quick fixes. Just as he works to balance land stewardship and government oversight, he has helped Arizona National balance tradition and growth. His ability to listen, mediate, and find solutions under pressure has made him a trusted leader among ranchers and show organizers alike.

Through fire, regulation, and rebuilding, John has never stepped back from his commitment to Arizona agriculture. His advocacy through the Gila County Cattle Growers Association, the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association mirrors his work with Arizona National which has been steady, principled, and forward-looking. Serving on NCBA's Public Lands Council and the Arizona Cattle Industry Research and Education Foundation, he continues to ensure the ranching community and the Livestock Show share the same foundation of integrity, resilience, and service to the next generation.

John's late wife, Kerstin, shared his love of ranch life. Together they raised two children, Julie and Erick, both of whom live and work in the Phoenix area. They have given John five grandchildren to enjoy.

He often says one of agriculture's greatest challenges is public perception. He believes the Arizona National Livestock Show helps bridge that divide by connecting urban families to the people and practices that feed them.

Arizona National Executive Director Tyler Grandil notes that John's influence runs deep. His endurance, principle, and generosity have shaped the organization's success for decades.



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DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION: Exzolt Cattle-CA1 is a ready-to-use topical formulation intended for direct application to the hair and skin in a narrow strip extending along the dorsal midline from the withers to the base of the tail (see Figure 1). The recommended rate of administration is 1 mL/44.1 lbs (1 mL/20 kg) body weight, which is equivalent to 1.13 mg of fluralaner for each pound (2.5 mg/kg) body weight. Effectiveness has not been evaluated in cattle with wet hides.

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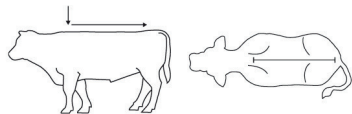


Figure 1: Recommended location for the topical application in a narrow strip along the dorsal midline from the withers to the base of the tail.

Administration of the product with 250 mL and 1L bottles with built-in dosing chamber:

To ensure administration of a correct dose, body weight should be determined as accurately as possible, and accuracy of the dosing volume should be checked before administration. Round the dose up to the nearest volume increment on the dosing chamber, which goes up in 2.5 mL increments.

The table below can be consulted to assist in the calculation of the appropriate volume which must be applied based on the weight of animal being treated.

Body Weight (Pounds)	Dose Volume (mL)
220	5
330	7.5
440	10
550	12.5
660	15
770	17.5
880	20
990	22.5
1100	25
1320*	30

*Add 2.5 mL for each 110 pounds above 1320 pounds of body weight.

Practice the Administration and Overfill Reduction Instructions a few times to become familiar with operating the package before dosing animals.

Step 1
On first use remove cap and peelable seal from the dosing chamber.

Step 2
Dosing chamber

Step 3

A small amount of liquid will remain on the walls of the chamber, but the chamber is calibrated to account for this.

Avoid squeezing the container section while the solution is poured from the dosing chamber.

If the dosing chamber is overfilled follow the Overfill Reduction Instructions below:

Step 1
Re-apply cap to dosing chamber and tighten.

Step 2
Transfer Tube Air Pocket

Step 3

Step 4

A small amount of liquid will remain on the walls of the chamber, but the chamber is calibrated to account for this.

Avoid squeezing the container section while the solution is poured from the dosing chamber.

If the dosing chamber is overfilled follow the Overfill Reduction Instructions below:

Step 1
Re-apply cap to dosing chamber and tighten.

Step 2
Transfer Tube Air Pocket

Step 3

Step 4

Administration of the product with 5L bottle with an applicator device: These bottles are designed for use with the Simco Breeze™ Applicator Device (30 mL). This applicator device and delivery tubing (sold separately by Simco as a kit) should be used with the 5L bottle. The 5L bottle is supplied with spigot cap attached to dip tube for its use with the applicator device. A strap is also included for use of the 5L bottle as a backpack.

To ensure administration of a correct dose, body weight should be determined as accurately as possible, and accuracy of the dosing volume should be checked before administration. Round the dose up to the nearest volume increment on the applicator device, which goes up in 1 mL increments.

The table below can be consulted to assist in the calculation of the appropriate volume which must be applied based on the weight of animal being treated.

Body Weight (Pounds)	Dose Volume (mL)
220	5
440	10
660	15
880	20
1100	25
1320*	30

*Add 1 mL for each 44 pounds above 1320 pounds of body weight.

Assembly, Disassembly and Cleaning Instructions for the 5L bottle with applicator device:

Step 1
Follow the applicator device manufacturer's assembly directions. Connect one end of the delivery tubing to the connection point on the dosing applicator.

Step 2
Remove the transit cap and protection seal from the 5L bottle and replace with spigot cap attached to dip tube. Tighten spigot cap to bottle and attach other end of delivery tubing to the spigot cap. Do not discard the transit cap until the contents of the 5L bottle are completely used. Please refer to Figure 2 for the assembled 5L bottle with applicator device.

Step 3
Keeping the 5L bottle in an upright position, gently prime the applicator device per the included manufacturer's instructions, checking for leaks. With the applicator device in an upward position, expel all visible air from the barrel and confirm that product is visibly expressed from the tip of the applicator device so that it is free of any residual air.

Step 4
Follow the applicator device manufacturer's directions for adjusting the dose.

Step 5
When the interval between uses of the applicator device is expected to exceed 1 week, take off the entire spigot assembly (delivery tubing connected to the spigot cap with attached dip tube while still connected to the applicator device), from the 5L bottle. Return any unused product remaining in the applicator device and in the delivery tubing back into the 5L bottle. Raise the spigot cap with dip tube attached and place the tip of the applicator device into the 5L bottle. Discharge the remaining product from the spigot assembly into the bottle. Place the transit cap onto the 5L bottle to close it. Submerge the dip tube in warm, soapy water. Flush warm soapy water through the delivery tubing and through the applicator device, followed by flushing them with clean water and allowing them to dry. Once dry, store the entire dosing assembly (applicator device, delivery tubing, spigot cap with attached dip tube) in a safe, clean place until next use. Refer to the manufacturer's directions for maintenance of the applicator.

WARNINGS:

WITHDRAWAL PERIODS AND RESIDUE WARNINGS: Cattle must not be slaughtered for human consumption within 93 days of treatment. Not for use in female dairy cattle 20 months of age or older, including dry dairy cows; use in these cattle may cause drug residues in milk and/or calves born to these cows or heifers. Not for use in beef calves less than 2 months of age, dairy calves, and veal calves. A withdrawal period has not been established for this product in pre-ruminating calves.

USER SAFETY WARNINGS:
Not for use in humans. Keep out of reach of children.
This drug product is a skin and eye irritant; special care should be taken to avoid contact. Personal protective equipment should be worn, such as gloves, long sleeve shirt and pants, as well as glasses or goggles to prevent skin, eye and mucous membrane contact and/or drug absorption, while handling the product. In case of skin contact, wash with soap and water. If contact with eyes occurs, immediately rinse thoroughly with water. In case of accidental spill, immediately remove affected clothing and wash contacted skin with soap and water. In case of accidental ingestion, immediately rinse the mouth with plenty of water and seek medical advice.
Do not eat, drink, or smoke while handling the product. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately after use of the product.
The product is highly flammable. Keep away from heat, sparks, open flame or other sources of ignition.
To obtain a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) or for technical assistance, call Merck Animal Health at 1-800-211-3573.
CONTACT INFORMATION: Contact Merck Animal Health at 1-800-211-3573 or <https://www.merck-animal-health-usa.com>. To report suspected adverse drug experience, contact Livestock Technical Service at 1-800-211-3573. For additional information about reporting adverse drug experiences for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-888-FDA-VETS or <https://www.fda.gov/reportanimalad>.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
Mechanism of Action: Fluralaner belongs to the class of isoxazoline-substituted benzamide derivatives. Fluralaner is an inhibitor of the arthropod nervous system. The mode of action of fluralaner is the antagonism of the ligand-gated chloride channels (gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA)-receptor and glutamate-receptor).

Pharmacokinetics: The pharmacokinetic properties of a single 2.5 mg/kg dose of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 administered topically along the dorsal midline from the withers to the base of the tail to cattle that were not restricted from grooming are presented in Table 1 (n = 12).

Table 1. Mean (± standard deviation) plasma pharmacokinetic parameters of total fluralaner* after a single topical administration of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 in male and female cattle in warm conditions (54–98°F).

Parameter (units)	Estimate
C _{max} (ng/mL)	127 ± 82.2
T _{max} [†] (day)	5(4–12)
AUC ₀₋₂₄ (day·ng/mL)	1570 ± 1220
AUC _∞ (day·ng/mL)	1590 ± 1230
t _{1/2} (day)	8.48 ± 1.84

*Although total fluralaner (R+S) is reported, the S enantiomer is more abundant and active than the R.
[†]Median and range
C_{max} = maximum plasma concentration
T_{max} = time to maximum plasma concentration
AUC₀₋₂₄ represents the AUC from day 0 to day 56
AUC_∞ = area under the curve from the time of dosing extrapolated to infinity
t_{1/2} = half-life

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AUC_∞ = area under the curve from the time of dosing extrapolated to infinity

t_{1/2} = half-life

TARGET ANIMAL SAFETY

Marginal Safety: In a margin of safety study, Exzolt Cattle-CA1 was well tolerated in 32 six to seven month old healthy beef cattle (16 males and 16 females). Study animals were administered 3.7, 11.1, or 18.5 mg/kg body weight (1X, 3X, and 5X the maximum anticipated labeled dose) of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 by topical application three times 42 days apart (Days 0, 42, and 84). Cattle in the control group (0X) were treated with green dye sterile saline at a dose volume similar to the 5X treated group. General health observations were conducted twice daily from acclimation to the end of the 98-day study. Variables measured periodically throughout the study for each animal were body weight, physical examinations; neurological examinations; analysis of blood for hematology, clinical chemistry, coproanalysis, and toxicokinetics; fecal and urine analysis; and feed and water consumption. All animals were necropsied at the end of the study for gross and histopathological examination and select organs were weighed.

Test article-related application site reactions, including skin flaking/scuffing and scabbing were observed. These findings were dose-dependent in both incidence and severity. Reactions in the 1X animals appeared after the second administration. These reactions in the 1X group were cosmetic in nature and did not require treatment.

Female Reproductive Safety: In a reproductive safety study, Exzolt Cattle-CA1 was well tolerated in 200 healthy beef cows between the ages of 3 to 11 years old. Study animals were administered 11.1 mg fluralaner/kg body weight (5X the maximum labeled dose) of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 by a single topical application once during breeding (estrus; before timed-artificial insemination), early in the 1st trimester of pregnancy, during the mid-1st trimester of pregnancy, or in the 3rd trimester of pregnancy. Cattle in the control group (0X) were treated with green dye sterile saline at a dose volume similar to the treated groups (3X). General health observations were conducted twice daily from acclimation to the end of the study at 30±2 days postpartum. Variables measured at start of acclimation and at the end of the study for each animal were body weight (including prior to each dosing) and physical examinations (including at parturition for offspring). Reproductive safety parameters included conception rate, abortion rate, calving rate, live births, stillborn calves, perinatal death, premature deliveries, neonatal death, dystocia, ability of calf to stand, walk and suckle, and abnormalities. Three stillbirths and one premature delivery were observed in animals in the control group. One stillbirth associated with dystocia and one premature delivery were documented in cows treated with Exzolt Cattle-CA1. Six abortions occurred across three of the Exzolt Cattle-CA1 treated groups (2 out of 31 cows in the estrus-treated group; 2 out of 34 cows in the early first trimester-treated group; 2 out of 27 cows in the mid-first trimester-treated group). One calf was found dead within 24 hours of birth in an Exzolt Cattle-CA1 treated cow. These events were considered to occur at rates typical for the source herd and unlikely to be test article related. Not for use in bulls intended for breeding over 1 year of age, as reproductive safety has not been evaluated.

Reasonable Expectation of Effectiveness: A reasonable expectation of effectiveness may be demonstrated based on evidence such as, but not limited to, pilot data in the target species or studies from published literature.

Exzolt Cattle-CA1 is conditionally approved pending a full demonstration of effectiveness. Additional information for Conditional Approvals can be found at www.fda.gov/maimca.

A reasonable expectation of effectiveness for Exzolt Cattle-CA1 for the prevention and treatment of infestations caused by New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) larvae (myiasis) and treatment and control of cattle fever tick (*Rhipicephalus microplus*) in beef cattle 2 months of age and older and replacement dairy heifers less than 20 months of age is based on results from the following foreign studies conducted in Australia, Brazil, and South Africa.

A. New World Screwworm (NWS) (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*)
Three effectiveness studies utilizing natural NWS infestations conducted in Brazil in 2018 are described below:

1. Support for a prevention indication: This study evaluated prevention of New World Screwworm (NWS) myiasis in a surgical wound created seven days after treatment administration. Animals received either a placebo (n=6) or Exzolt Cattle-CA1 (n=6) on Day -7. Seven days later, two surgical incisions were made on each side of the body at the shoulder. Animals were housed outside to facilitate natural infestation of the wounds with NWS. Cattle were monitored twice daily for 10 days post-incision to assess the presence of eggs and larvae. A single topical application of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 at the dose of 2.5 mg/kg provided 100% prevention against myiasis for the length of the study.

2. Support for a prevention indication: This study evaluated prevention of NWS myiasis in a castration wound created on the day of treatment with either a placebo (n=15) or Exzolt Cattle-CA1 (n=15). Animals were housed outside to facilitate natural infestation of the wounds with NWS. Cattle were monitored daily for 14 days post-surgery to assess the presence of eggs, larvae, and the progress of wound healing. A single topical administration of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 at the dose of 2.5 mg/kg provided 100% prevention against myiasis for up to 14 days following castration.

3. Support for a therapeutic indication: This study evaluated the effectiveness of the product to treat a wound already infested with NWS. A surgical wound was created and left exposed to facilitate natural infestation with NWS. Three days later, after confirming the presence of live larvae, animals were treated topically once with either a placebo (n=12) or Exzolt Cattle-CA1 (n=12). A single topical administration of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 at the dose of 2.5 mg/kg achieved 90.9% effectiveness by the second day post-treatment and reached 100% effectiveness by the third day. No myiasis in treated animals was observed up to day 5.

B. Cattle Fever Tick (*Rhipicephalus microplus*)

Three dose confirmation studies conducted in Brazil and South Africa and a rain exposure study conducted in Brazil utilizing infested infestations of *R. microplus* were evaluated. These studies were conducted between 2018 and 2021. In each study, animals were individually housed and randomly assigned to control and Exzolt Cattle-CA1-treated groups. Exzolt Cattle-CA1-treated groups received a single administration at the dose of 2.5 mg/kg. A total of thirty animals were treated with Exzolt Cattle-CA1 across these four studies. The product demonstrated 100% effectiveness within the first week after Exzolt Cattle-CA1 administration. Length of consistent 100% persistent effectiveness ranged from 39 days to approximately 110 days post-treatment.

Thirteen field effectiveness studies conducted in Brazil and Australia utilizing natural infestations of *R. microplus* were evaluated. These studies were conducted between 2017 and 2023. In each study, animals were grouped housed and randomly assigned to control and Exzolt Cattle-CA1-treated groups. Exzolt Cattle-CA1-treated groups received a single administration at the dose of 2.5 mg/kg. Approximately 220 animals were treated with Exzolt Cattle-CA1 across these thirteen studies. The product demonstrated 100% effectiveness within the first week after Exzolt Cattle-CA1 administration. Length of consistent 100% persistent effectiveness ranged from 28 days to 70 days post-treatment.

C. Rain exposure study

One study was conducted to evaluate the impact of simulated rainfall post-treatment on the effectiveness of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 with cattle artificially infested with *R. microplus*. A total of 30 cattle (cross-bred beef bulls) were randomized to one of five groups with six animals each: Groups A, B, C, and D were treated with Exzolt Cattle-CA1 (2.5 mg/kg) and Group E with saline (equivalent volume). Groups A, B, and C were exposed to simulated rainfall at the following post-treatment timepoints: 6 hr, 12 hr, and 24 hr, respectively. Groups D and E had no exposure to rain. Percent effectiveness of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 was 100% in Groups A, B, C, and D up to 77 days. Rain exposure as early as 6 hr post-treatment did not affect the therapeutic or persistent effectiveness of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 in beef cattle.

HOW SUPPLIED: Exzolt Cattle-CA1 is available in 250 mL, 1L, and 5L bottles.

STORAGE AND HANDLING: Store at or below 30°C (86°F), with excursions to 40°C (104°F). Use within 6 months after first opening. Store the dosing applicator when loaded with product at or below 30°C (86°F) and use within 1 week.

Distributed by: Intervet Inc. d/b/a Merck Animal Health, Rahway, NJ 07065

Formulated in New Zealand

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Revision Date 01/2026

246425 R1

48 YEARS AGO ...

HAMBURGERS



ARE A NECESSITY

C. Curtis Cable, Jr.

**Marketing Specialist, Cooperative Extension Service
College of Agriculture, University of Arizona**

Americans love hamburgers... they are good, easy to cook and relatively inexpensive. They are a favorite for picnics and backyard cook-outs, and "the hamburger" simplifies preparation and serving of the main course at many fast-food eating places. Also, ground beef is used in numerous other meat dishes by housewives and restaurant chefs.

The popularity of "hamburger meat" has increased at such a rapid pace in recent years that some are saying "we are becoming a hamburger society." Does this mean that we Americans are demanding more and more hamburgers because we actually prefer them? If this is the case, there are important implications for cow-calf ranchers, cattle feeders, packer wholesalers, retailers and all other segments of the cattle-beef industry. For example, which breed of cattle is the most efficient producer of hamburger meat? Will it be necessary to feed grain to cattle that are eventually going through the meat grinder? Many similar questions could be listed. And, if during the next five years it becomes more evident that "we are becoming a hamburger society," these questions must be answered... by "trial and error" and research.

However, before devoting a lot of time and effort to an swering these questions, I think it is important to consider whether or not we are definitely becoming a hamburger society.. that is, are we going to demand larger and larger quantities of ground beef in relation to other beef cuts.

At this point in time I am not convinced that this will happen.. certainly not in the near future. It is my contention that hamburger is currently very popular because 1) it is being produced in relatively larger quantities than in the late 1960s and early 1970s, and 2) as a consequence it is being priced relatively lower than other beef cuts to encourage consumption.

Larger volumes of hamburger have been produced be cause annual cattle slaughter and beef production have been all time highs for the last three successive years - 1974, 1975, and 1976. In 1976 the U.S. slaughtered 42.7 million head of cattle, producing 25.7 billion pounds of beef. The number slaughtered was 27 percent greater than the 33.7 million killed in 1973, and beef output was 22 percent greater than the 21.1 billion pounds produced in 1973.

Cattle and beef industry people know the reasons for this pronounced increase in cattle slaughter. They are numerous and interrelated, but it finally comes down to the fact that when cow-calf ranchers are losing money, they sell-off a greater than usual number of cows and keep fewer replacement heifers.

Also, when feeding becomes unprofitable, a greater than usual number of calves and yearlings bypass the feedlot and go directly to slaughter.

An indication of the extent to which this has occurred since 1973 is shown in Figure 1. Almost 30 million cows were slaughtered during the three-year period 1974-76, compared to 19 million total in the three previous years.

FROM THE

Also, almost 18 million non-fed steers and heifers were slaughtered in 1974-76, compared to less than 5 million total in 1971-73. It seems logical that the big increase in cattle slaughter numbers, plus the proportional changes in kinds and classes of cattle going to slaughter has greatly increased the supply of hamburger meat in relation to other cuts.

From the standpoint of consumers, hamburger has been a relatively good buy the past three years. The U.S. average retail price for hamburger meat reached a high of \$1.10 per pound in early 1974, whereas retail prices for beef cuts such as porterhouse and round steak, and rib, rump and chuck roast peaked in the summer of 1975. Prices for pork chops, bacon and other pork cuts reached highs in the fall of 1975.

Referring to Figure 2, it is evident that the price for hamburger has trended downward since early 1974. I would argue that this was necessary to "clear the market" of the relatively large supplies of ground beef.

In contrast, there has been an irregular but definite upward trend in the price of porterhouse steak since late 1973 and early 1974. This is probably because the supply of this particular cut was relatively scarce in 1974-76, whereas there was a surplus of "hamburger type" beef.

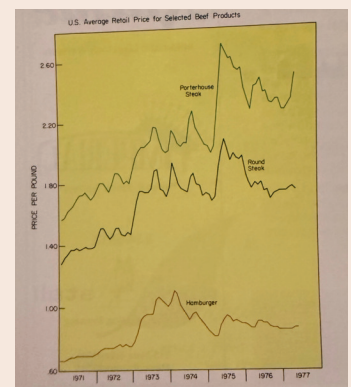
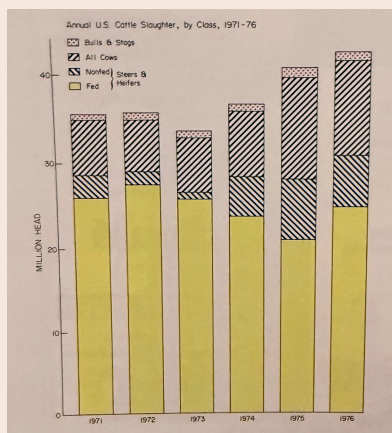
In order to move the surplus of hamburger type beef into consumption, it has to be processed into a product that receives widespread consumer acceptance, and it has to be priced attractively. I think this has been occurring since late 1973... the industry has been "grinding" its way out of a surplus beef situation, and consumers are responding by eating more and more ground beef which is relative low in price.

My basic argument is that the current popularity of hamburger is based on necessities... not preferences. It has been necessary for cattle producers to sell-off the large, price-depressing surplus of beef animals, and because of the necessity to stretch their food-buying dollar, consumers have cooperated by buying more and more hamburger.

When the down-side of the current cattle cycle ends and a new cycle begins with cow herd expansion, I am sure less hamburger will be produced relative to other beef cuts. In turn, this should reduce the price difference between hamburger and steaks. And, if the demand for beef remains strong, some consumers will buy less hamburger and more of the higher-priced beef cuts.

I realize my logic may be wrong. However, I think we will have to be at least one year into the next cycle before sufficient price and beef products data are available to decide if I am right or wrong. This is likely to be three or more years from now. Therefore, during this period I would urge cattlemen to keep close tabs on retail prices for hamburger and other beef cuts.

If consumers really prefer hamburger, they will bid the price up appreciably compared to other beef cuts. This is the clue that the cow-calf rancher should use in deciding if he should change over to hamburger-type COWS.



CATTLELOG VAULT

47 YEARS AGO ...

BE ON THE
LOOKOUT FOR THE

hamburger STEER

Beth Pesmen, Outlook

Despite predictions that by 1990, the nation's diet will be 65% ground beef product, American cattlemen continue to produce for a steak market.

There is a question that a cattleman must ask regarding his future plans in raising his cattle: As the demand for ground beef continues to rise, is it economically feasible for a rancher to raise his cattle for hamburger?

Three men at the University of California-Davis are trying to answer that question. Ken Ellis, Cooperative Extension Service animal scientist, and Bill Garrett, animal nutritionist, are working on a special experiment with some not-so-special beef animals.

It all began when a Modoc County, California rancher, Bob Byrne, decided to give up his own money and cattle to research the concept of raising beef for America's large hamburger demand.

In the first phase of the experiment, the calves, primarily Hereford, intermingled with a few crossbreds, were split into two groups. For testing, half of the calves were left as bulls and half were steered.

The calves were then weaned and brought to the University of California-Davis feedlot in January 1978, where Ellis and Garrett began their feeding program.

Ellis felt that an ideal "hamburger steer" would be a faster-growing animal fed a lower energy ration. Subsequently, Garrett placed half of the steers on a medium-energy ration and half on a high-energy ration. The bulls were fed the same. On the medium-energy ration, the cattle were given just enough feed to promote growth, but not fat.

The cattle were then fed a "common feedlot ration" that consisted of alfalfa hay, oat hay, barley, molasses, fat, trace mineral salt, dicalcium phosphate, calcium chloride, gypsum, urea and Vitamin A. Weights and feed consumption of the cattle was record-ed, and half of each group was killed when their efficiency of gain showed the beginning of fat deposition. At present, the process for adding final pounds to a potentially heavier animal is expensive.

Ellis reported that there was a difference in the group's overall performance: weight gain, feed conversion and carcass composition.

At slaughter, the average steer weighed between 850-900 pounds, with the bull's weights slightly heavier. Of the four groups, $\frac{3}{4}$ graded Good, and $\frac{1}{4}$ graded Choice.

According to Ellis, the high-energy rationed bulls were the most efficient and returned the most profit. The medium-energy bulls followed in efficiency, with the high-energy Steers and medium-energy steers returning the least profit of the bunch. Due to higher testosterone levels, a bull will always grow faster and leaner than a steer.

Ellis stated that lighter slaughter weights may not be an answer to cheaper beef, since it costs about the same to kill and bone a small animal as it does a larger one. Higher quality cuts also end up too small for commercial market

Data kept on the ground beef percentage and fat percentage showed that the fat found in the ground beef from these cattle was "quite acceptable." Local restaurants and fast-food outlets were given the beef for a "taste-test" and were "very pleased" with the flavor and texture of the

Although the cost of processing the carcasses and feeding are to be compared with the returns in the various methods of marketing, this project will not yield all answers to whether hamburger beef" will be economical.

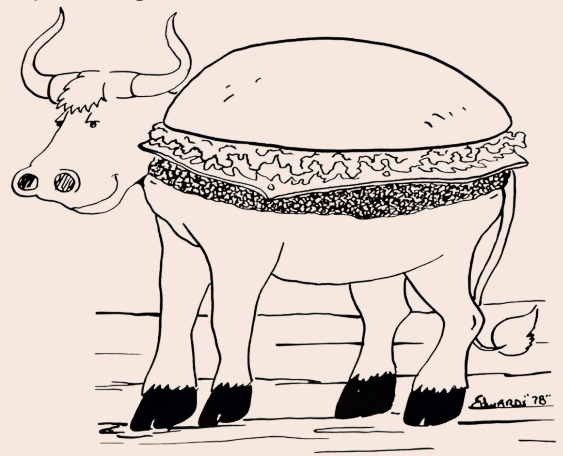
These tests are also being conducted to draw attention to the trend of the amount of beef being used in ground form and going to market without a grade.

Ellis is still not sure if it will be more practical to retain the high price cuts and grind only part of the carcass or grind the whole carcass.

A lot depends on the availability of beef and the market situation, and Ellis explained that it is important that more methods and alternatives are explored to produce cattle for hamburger. Next, he will be feeding some Exotic Breeds and Holstein cattle to compare the Modoc County group.

Exact cost comparisons and specific data on this research will not be available until Ellis and Garrett can compare the Exotic and Holstein cattle with the group already processed.

Meanwhile, it is necessary that cattlemen at least know that these experiments are underway, because the results may predict his future in producing beef.





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 1ST ROPING

#11.5 PICK OR DRAW | ENTER 5X | 4-STEER
 BUCKLES TO AVERAGE WINNERS
 \$100 / MAN
 2ND ROPING

SUPER 9.5 PICK 1 DRAW 1 OR DRAW 2
 3-STEER | ENTER 3X FOR 6 RUNS
 3RD ROPING
SADDLES TO 1ST PLACE | **\$150 / MAN**
 CAPPED AT #5+ HEELER

#7.5 2-STEER | PICK 1 DRAW 1 OR DRAW 2
 BUCKLES TO AVERAGE WINNERS
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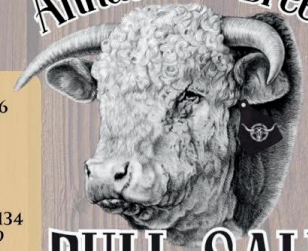


MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

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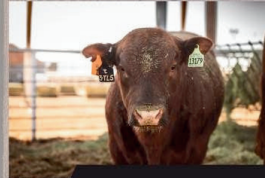
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February 19, 2026

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4 ENGLISH X	449	\$558.00
9 ENGLISH X	444	\$552.00
15 BLK WF	528	\$497.00
6 BLK	539	\$502.50
4 ENGLISH X	506	\$504.00
14 BLK WF	562	\$461.00
3 BLK	605	\$438.00

HEIFERS

3 ENGLISH X	345	\$510.00
3 ENGLISH X	402	\$500.00
7 ENGLISH X	406	\$492.50
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The Reality of Being Married to a Rancher

By: Sidnie Conerly

People love the idea of a ranch.

They love the sunsets, the wide-open desert, the silhouettes of cattle trailing across a ridge at dusk. They love the word “cowboy.”

They love the romance of it.

But the reality of being married to a rancher in Arizona does not fit neatly into a photograph.

It fits into drought maps.

It fits into midnight phone calls.

It fits into barbed wire pulled tight one more time.

Living this life in Arizona means we don't just work cattle. We work against drought that seems to stretch on without apology. We watch monsoon clouds build in July with hope in our throats, only to see them split and go around us. And when it does rain, sometimes it does not soak. It floods. It takes fences with it. It rips washes deeper. It moves dirt and leaves work behind.

We are always rebuilding something.

If it were just Mother Nature, we would call that ranching.

But Arizona ranchers close to Phoenix carry another layer. On any given weekend, the desert fills with rock crawlers, side-by-sides, quads, off-road clubs, target shooters, and folks looking for open space to treat like a playground. They see desert. We see pasture. They see public land. We see grazing allotments that we are responsible for maintaining.

Fences get cut. Gates get torn down. Private property lines go ignored. Vehicles push through washes and leave deep scars that channel the next storm straight through our improvements. Cattle get out. And when cattle get out, it is not the off-road club that spends the next 10 hours gathering them. It is us.

A gate blocking private property getting repeatedly torn down so off-road clubs can go to old historic Tip Top Mind (private property)

There are “designated” shooting areas. We find televisions shattered against rocks. Refrigerators shot full of holes. Mattresses dragged out and abandoned. Brass scattered like confetti. Targets left to flap in the wind.

We find burros multiplying beyond reason, protected while they strip native forage down to dust. We find vehicles abandoned. We find squatters setting up camps on federal land with no regulation, no patrol, no accountability.



Sometimes those midnight calls are about cows killed on the highway or cattle shot inside so-called designated shooting areas.

There is no good way to walk up on that.



We have had people open gates and let our horses out of their grazing pasture, thinking it was funny or harmless. Horses that ended up on the roadways because someone treated a fence like it didn't matter.

Our favorite mare, our autistic daughter's horse — the “safe one.”

A drunk driver hit her. We found her broken in the middle of town. There wasn't time for a trailer. There wasn't time for anything but mercy. We had to put her down right there, in front of our children, in front of traffic, in front of people who will never understand what that animal meant to us.

There is no training for explaining that to your kids.

There is no line item in the budget for that kind of loss.



That is the part no one sees when they talk about open land like it belongs to everyone and responsibility belongs to no one. Ranchers already carry drought, markets, feed costs, land access, and regulation. Adding unmanaged human damage to the list feels like pouring salt into already cracked ground.

In the middle of it all are the ranch wives.

No one has more confidence in a wife's ability than a rancher who is short-handed and overworked.



We are the day worker when there is no hired hand.

We are the gate getter.

The fence stretcher.

The colt rider when one needs riding.

The town runner for parts that "can't wait until Monday."

The accountant balancing operating bills and receipts.

The cattle hauler when another truck is needed.

The vet run chauffeur.

The mediator.

Off the ranch, we raise families. Some of us homeschool. Some of us drive hours for school pickup. We feed, clothe, and shelter the wayward cowboy who always seems to find his way to our table. We stand beside our husbands not only in the pasture but in the quiet moments when the numbers do not pencil and the rain does not come.

We are 50 percent hardened toughness and 50 percent softness that keeps the whole thing human.

We know how to pull a calf.

We know when to push and when to let silence settle.

This life is not curated for comfort.

It is blistered hands and dust in your teeth and paperwork after dark.

It is cleaning up messes you did not make.

It is explaining, repeatedly, that the desert is not empty.

It is responsibility that does not clock out.

Ranch wives learn early that time works differently out here. "I'll be home in an hour" doesn't mean sixty minutes. It means if nothing breaks, if no one calls, if a cow doesn't calve, if a water line doesn't burst, if a fence doesn't go down, if someone doesn't leave a gate open. If a trailer tire doesn't blow.

It usually means after dinner.

Birthdays get rearranged. Anniversaries get postponed. Holidays are celebrated when the cattle are fed, the water is running, and the emergencies are handled.



We have cut cake at 11 o'clock at night. We have moved Christmas morning to the evening because something had to be gathered or fixed first.

The livestock comes first. Not because family matters less, but because responsibility does not take days off.

The animals depend on us completely. They do not understand weekends. They do not recognize holidays. They rely on consistency. And so, we build our lives around that responsibility.

As wives, we advocate for our husbands in rooms they are too busy to sit in. We explain to friends and families why he cannot leave in the middle of branding season. We smooth over misunderstandings when someone thinks he is choosing work over family, when in reality he is choosing duty over convenience.

We understand that the weight they carry is not just physical. It is drought pressure. It is market swings. It is land use battles. It is public perception. It is the constant calculation of whether this life will still be viable for the next generation.

We see the worry lines before anyone else does and we hold the line with them.

We are often the steady voice when frustration rises. The reminder that tomorrow is another day. The quiet strength when a plan falls apart. We are the ones who say, "We'll figure it out," even when we are not entirely sure how.

We are part partner.

Part labor.

Part logistics coordinator.

Part counselor.

Part defender.

Part soft place to land.

Being married to a rancher means this life will never be neat. It will never be predictable. It will never revolve around convenience.

Instead, it revolves around commitment.

Commitment to the cattle.

Commitment to the land.

Commitment to each other.

When the dust settles at the end of the day, when boots are finally set by the door and the house goes quiet, we know something most people never will:

This life demands everything.

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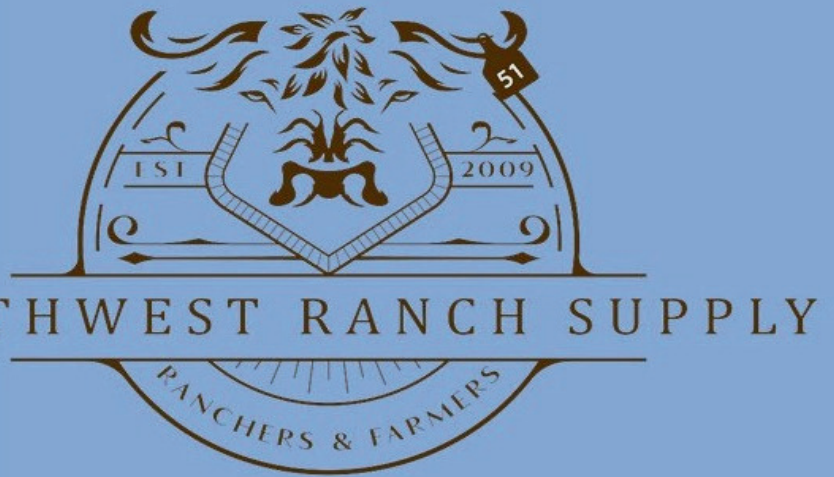
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Ranch Rules From Out of the Blue

By: Ginger Cheney

Renewal

Each season has its benefits and its challenges. There is beauty within each season, but sometimes we have to look for it. I used to absolutely love spring. It was a time of new baby calves, green grass, flowers, and all of the beautiful things that happen during that season.

Spring is a time of renewal. It's when the earth wakes back up from winter and life starts all over again. We need this time and all of the wonderful baby animals to help us continue to fight for our passion for taking care of the earth and its animals. There is nothing bougie about chopping ice at zero degrees or endless feeding because of drought. However, that is what we do, because we aren't afraid of hard work or challenges. Ranching isn't easy, but we love what we do. That's why spring always meant so much to me. When you see those precious baby calves' faces, how can you not be happy and feel renewed?!

Unfortunately, over the last several years, spring doesn't hold the magic it once did for me. A few vicious wolf packs have changed my outlook on spring. Now that being said, I still get very excited to see the new babies, but the fear and stress of trying to save and doctor them has become overwhelming. There are a lot of things that individuals and groups are working on to make some positive changes on a national level. I still have hope and part of that hope is that I can enjoy spring again and the renewal it brings.

Sometimes we get in the trenches and we lose sight of the big picture. We are the true stewards of land. We are doing our best to care for it all. We are fighters and we have people fighting to protect our way of life. I went to a lot of meetings last year and I see momentum in areas where we need help. Mr. Gravell with the SBA told me, "Let's try to help you love spring again." There is renewal and there is hope.



Date Night

by Bryce Angell

When dating back in high school, the price of gas was cheap. Two bits would buy a gallon and a Five would fill my Jeep.

The tickets at the Roxy were about a buck back then. Two Cokes, a bag of popcorn, still left money from my Ten.

Fifty years have come and gone. Now prices are sky high. I ain't got a lot of money. I'm a flat broke kinda guy.

My wife and I got married back in 1991. The preacher told me, "Date your wife to keep your marriage fun." It's a crying shame how we neglect our chosen lifelong mate. But I had no recollection of our last official date.

So on Friday, after lunch, I asked, "How 'bout a date tonight?" She was taken back so quickly and said, "You sure you're feeling right?"

I think the so-called ton of bricks hit me squarely on the head. And to top it off the look she gave was just shy of dread.

I hinted 'bout a movie, even though they charge too much. I was looking to impress her. Said, "This time we won't go Dutch."

So, we readied for the evening, mind made up, hell bent to go. I even took a shower, only been a week or so.

Sixty dollars filled my Chevy's hungry appetite! We drove down to the movie house. The tickets took a bite! The attendant took my Twenty, then I said, "Two tickets please." He needed five more dollars and demanded with such ease.

I stepped up to the snack bar. The prices almost out of reach. 'Cuz the popcorn and the soda pop were five whole dollars each.

Last of all a box of Goobers came in movie size. Ten dollars for the chocolate covered peanuts sure ain't wise.

I'd spent a whopping hundred bucks before the movie showed. My Mastercard was handy but was running overload!

The Superheroes movie wasn't bad, I must admit. But, ain't got much recollection 'cuz I slept through most of it.

So, next time when I'm thinking of a date night with my wife. We'll sit down on the porch swing, share a Coke and talk 'bout life.



RANCH RASCALS



WORD SEARCH

Words to Find: roundup, wrangler, ranch, herd, branding, windmill, livestock, trailboss, cattle, longhorn, barn, bridle

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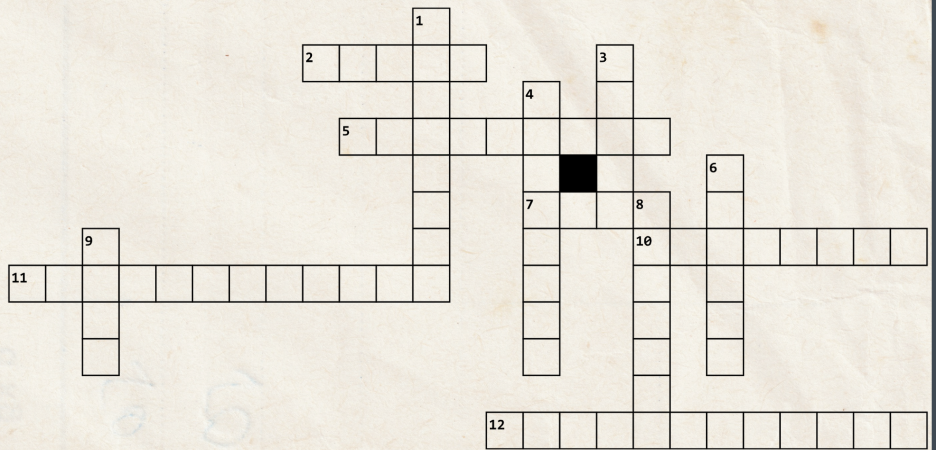
CROSS WORD PUZZLE

Across

- 2. A cowboy skilled with a lasso
- 5. Bag carried over a saddle for supplies
- 7. Fine dirt kicked up by hooves and wind
- 10. Small circular corral used for training horses
- 11. Metal tool heated to mark cattle with a ranch symbol
- 12. Spot where livestock drink, often a tank or natural pond

Down

- 1. Person responsible for managing and tending livestock
- 3. Leather leggings worn by cowboys for protection
- 4. Trough or container where cattle are fed grain or hay
- 6. South American cattle herder, similar to a cowboy
- 8. Used to haul livestock, hay, or equipment
- 9. Another term for a ranch worker or cowboy



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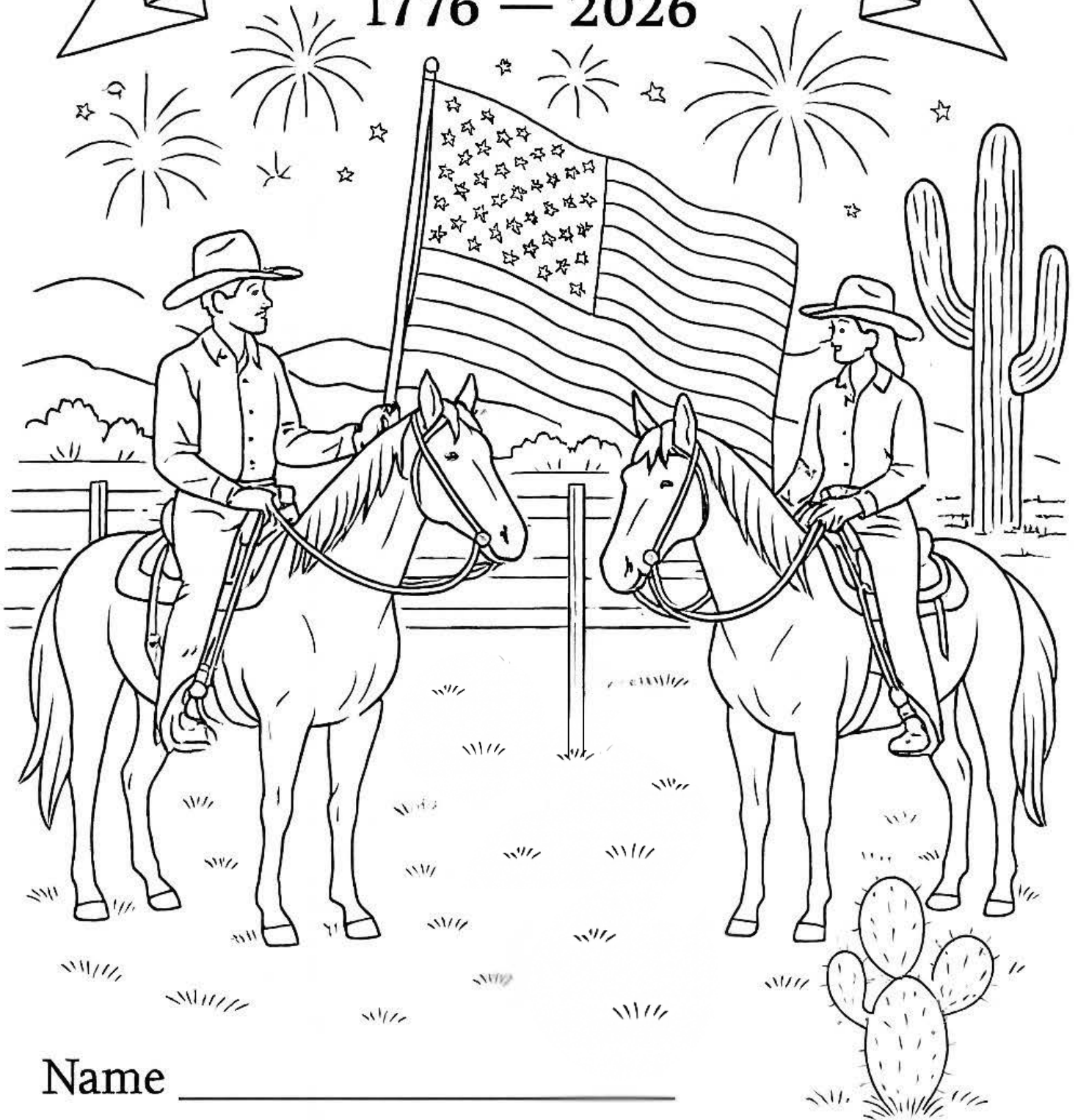
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Screwworm—A Scourge Difficult to Defeat

Published in *Keepers of the Range* 2007

The screwworm fly, reported in the West as early as 1825, is potentially fatal to cattle or any warm-blooded animal, including humans. The female fly, after a one-time mating, deposits eggs in wounds and abrasions. When the eggs hatch, the larvae sustain themselves by eating only live flesh. The larvae grow to a half-inch long pupa, drop to the ground and eventually emerge as adult flies to mate and repeat the cycle. Untreated, a full-grown steer with numerous infestations can die within five to seven days.

In his memoirs, rancher Stuart Krentz wrote that the screwworm really “altered the cattle business . . . from the first day of June, when the first rain started, until cold weather—all we ever did was watch for screwworms. . . . You had to get all your branding work done . . . before the screwworms started.”

But help was on the way. In the early 1930s, the screwworm was costing livestock producers in the Southeast \$400 million annually. Agricultural Research Service scientist Edward F. Knipling and colleague Raymond C. Bushland began to look further than topical wound applications for screwworms. In 1946, Knipling became head of the Insects Affecting Man and Animals subdivision of the USDA. He read a paper by a Nobel laureate discussing radiation’s use to alter the genetic material of insects and became convinced that radiation could sterilize male screwworm eggs. Sterile flies would mate with the native females, the eggs would not hatch and no offspring would be produced. Eventually, problem solved.

Airplanes dropped sterilized male flies, and by 1959, the nation’s Southeast was free of screwworms. In 1962, attention turned to the far more extensively infested Southwest. The novel biological control approach was used, and the barrier zone between the United States and Mexico was cleared for a time. But it wasn’t long before traveling cattle and flies began to reinfest the area.

As a result, ACGA executive director William C. Davis, and Yavapai rancher John Hays, ACGA chairman of the Arizona Screwworm Eradication Committee, testified before a congressional agriculture subcommittee. Arizona and the rest of the Southwest were again suffering from cattle-killing screwworms, they reported. Davis argued that although a permanent 2,000 mile-long fence on the border might prevent an influx of screwworm-infected Mexican cattle (at least for a while), they had another suggestion. Why not set up a subsidized program to introduce irradiated male flies into Mexico, which would push the buffer line back to just north of Guatemala, a better solution than a fence.

Davis and Hays said Arizona cattlemen had levied one dollar a head on their range stock and contributed \$350,000 to the control effort. That was matched by the state legislature. Not long after, a Senate agriculture committee approved a joint U.S.-Mexico commission and the two-nation pest fight began. Arizona Senator Carl Hayden praised the cattlemen, noting that “There is no better way to authorize screwworm investigation in Mexico than to amend [the law] which originally set up the U.S.-Mexico cooperative program for foot-and-mouth disease some 20 years earlier.” Screwworm nightmares haunted then-Senator Lyndon B. Johnson and he vigorously supported the Texas sterile-fly breeding program from its very beginning. “LBJ obtained funding for the ‘fly factory’ in Mission, Texas, and dedicated the opening of the plant himself,” Hays said.

In 1963, following the Texas program’s rapid success, Arizona became a part of the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation, Hays noted, joining cattlemen from Texas, New Mexico and Louisiana in an effort to promote private funding to match federal dollars. They also lobbied to continue the battle.

A barrier zone of sterile flies was established along the border, and the screwworm population disappeared for a couple of years. But screwworms do not just fade away, and by 1967 Hays reported in the *Arizona Cattlelog* that funds were exhausted, and the USDA was considering cutbacks in the program. However, the program had powerful allies. Hays said Senator Carl Hayden told him he was very familiar with screwworms and had memories of their threat based on cases he saw while growing up along the Salt River in the Tempe area. “Through the Senator’s influence, funds became available, and the fly war continued.”

By the early 1970s, weather conditions began to work against the ranchers. Periodic high rainfall led to flooding, and humid weather—an ideal habitat for screwworms. The ACGA Newsletter of April 1972 reported six cases of screwworms, all in Cochise County. By October 3, 1972, the Newsletter’s front page story noted the screwworm case count had climbed to 1,605 in Arizona. By November 28, the Newsletter reported 2,095 cases in Arizona. In Texas and New Mexico there were similar increases.

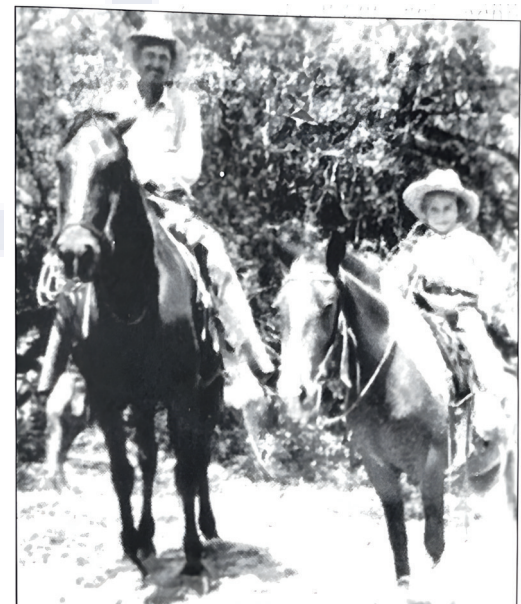
The screwworm’s return to Arizona sparked a new program, and the USDA created a fiercer (but sterile) “Superfly,” called 009. Hays pointed out that the new sterile screwworm centers in Mexico provided renewed hope: “We have a good chance to push this pest out of Arizona for good,” he said.

The joint Mexico-U.S. Screwworm Eradication Program was now in full swing, doubling the number of sterile flies available. At that time, the U.S. produced 200 million flies annually in Mission, Texas. Richard Lyng, USDA assistant secretary, assured Texas cattlemen that \$2 million in additional funds would be made available so the sterile fly program at Mission could continue.

The Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation monitors and supports efforts to eradicate screwworms as far south as Panama, where a fly factory, dedicated in 2006, maintains a barrier against a fly invasion from South America.

“Eradication was completed in Arizona, saving cattle and wildlife,” said Hays, “and by advancing the barrier to Panama, we have won the battle.

No other program has resulted in such dramatic results in the southern half of the U.S. and unless an accidental re-infestation occurs, no one will remember the screw fly!”



Marion H. Keith with 6-year-old daughter Daisy Mae (Keith) Cannon on patrol for screwworms in 1941. Courtesy Daisy Mae (Keith) Cannon.



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Lawsuit Targets Grazing in AZ National Forest

By: Anna Miller Fortozo, Western Livestock Journal managing editor

The Center for Biological Diversity and Maricopa Bird Alliance sued the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Feb. 3, alleging illegal cattle grazing in Arizona's Tonto National Forest.

The groups filed suit after threatening a lawsuit in September. They claim the federal agencies violated the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by failing to protect threatened and endangered plants and animals from cattle grazing in the forest. "We won't tolerate destruction of Arizona's precious desert riparian habitats, so we're going to court to protect them," said Center for Biological Diversity co-founder and board member Robin Silver.

The groups allege that through surveys conducted by the Center for Biological Diversity, damage was found from cattle grazing along 55% of 122 miles of waterways across 25 grazing allotments.

As a result, the groups said, habitat has been damaged for yellow-billed cuckoos, southwestern willow flycatchers, Chiricahua leopard frogs, northern Mexican garter snakes, narrow-headed garter snakes, spikedace, razorback suckers and Gila chub.

The lawsuit asks a Phoenix, AZ, district court to find the federal agencies in violation of the ESA and Administrative Procedure Act and enjoin USFS from authorizing livestock grazing in occupied habitat for the aforementioned species. The suit also asks for all active USFS grazing authorizations in the Tonto National Forest that allow livestock grazing in occupied species habitats to be set aside.

Finally, the groups ask for the 2022 and 2025 biological opinions guiding grazing authorizations to be set aside, and for the impacts of grazing on the species to be reevaluated.

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March: The Social and Economic Backbone of Ranching Communities

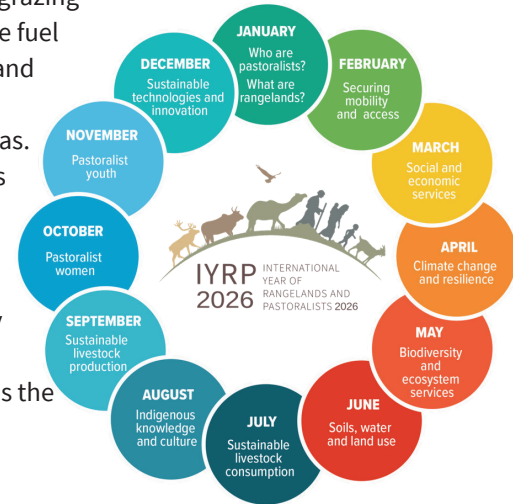
When people talk about ranching, they usually picture cattle, grass, and wide-open country. What often goes unseen is the network of social and economic services that quietly keep those landscapes and communities alive.

Across Arizona, ranching supports far more than individual operations. It fuels local feed stores, veterinarians, equipment dealers, sale barns, truck drivers, and small-town cafés that open before daylight. Property taxes from working ranches help fund rural schools, fire districts, and county services. Agricultural suppliers depend on livestock producers. And when ranch families shop local, sponsor youth programs, or volunteer at the fairgrounds, they strengthen the social fabric that holds rural communities together.

Rangelands themselves provide services that extend beyond the ranch gate. Well-managed grazing supports open space conservation, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, and reduced wildfire fuel loads. These benefits reach urban residents as much as rural ones. Clean water, healthy soils, and intact landscapes do not stop at fence lines.

In many parts of Arizona, ranchers are among the last steady economic drivers in remote areas. When a ranch disappears, it is rarely replaced by another small business. Instead, communities lose jobs, infrastructure declines, and open land becomes fragmented. Recognizing the social and economic services tied to pastoralism means understanding that ranching is not a relic of the past. It is an active contributor to Arizona's present and future. Policies that support working lands, fair markets, and infrastructure investment are not simply agricultural issues. They are rural survival issues.

Healthy rangelands and strong ranching families go hand in hand. When one thrives, so does the community built around it.



Written by: Sidnie Conerly
Office Manager & *Cattlelog* editor/designer

U of A Update



1. The University has announced the search for the next Dean of the College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences. Details can be found at <https://wittkiewer.com/positions/201719>
2. The FPSL is working on expanded staffing. Those interested in processing can call 520-318-7021 for the current schedule. Additionally, the Wildcat Country Market (<https://wildcatcountrymarket.arizona.edu/index.html>) is currently open Fridays from 9-4 and Mondays from 9-2. Please make sure to check the website or give us a call at 520-318-7021 to confirm that we are open and that wanted cuts are available before stopping by our storefront at 4181 N. Campbell Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719.
3. ACBS still has an open faculty search for a Livestock Extension Specialist and applications are being reviewed as they are submitted. One candidate visited campus and the Verde Valley a few weeks ago. Additionally, we have a Professor of Practice in Animal Science faculty position that is open and accepting applicants for individuals to teach animal science courses. See the following link for details: <https://arizona.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/4/home/requisition/24132?c=arizona>
4. Numerous members of the CALES Extension team have been working on the New World Screw Worm issue. To prepare and respond, the Extension teams will be on the front line communicating with stakeholders and community members. Efforts are ongoing to secure USDA funding to support specific research and extension objectives in this area.

As always, I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have (dscottmerrell@arizona.edu) and I wish you all the very best as we move forward into 2026.

Dr. D. Scott (Scotty) Merrell,
Director of the School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences
The University of Arizona

Cowbelles Update

In the beginning of February, I had the pleasure of traveling to Nashville, Tennessee to represent the Arizona State Cowbelles at the American National CattleWomen Winter Convention. When I landed, my phone said that it was 21 degrees out. It also said 'feels like 3'. The wall of icy cold outside air hit me like an ice block as my daughter and I ran around looking for our ride to the hotel. Our ride was filled with many firsts for me. Never had I seen ice hanging on the sides of the road from where the hills were carved to make way for the highway. Planters were filled of solid ice instead of flowers, and snow lined the sidewalks and roadsides under the cloud covered sky. Being a native Arizonan has its advantages!



Sunday, February 1st kicked off the business portion of the meeting. The conference room was filled with women from all over the United States. There were first generation farmers and ranchers reaching up through 6th generation cattle women. It was a pleasure to be able to listen to their ideas about how to promote beef, empower women in the beef industry and bring more women into ANCW to strengthen the association and continue to support the beef industry.

The conference kicked off with a brief from NCBA's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Ethan Lane and NCBA's CEO, Colin Woodall. Each spoke highly of ANCW and how the two associations work with each other to educate the congress about our issues. They mentioned how it took both associations to 'rattle windows' up at the nation's capital. Both NCBA and ANCW held their ground when Trump said beef prices were too high. Both associations stood firm and respectfully confronted the President to educate him about the price of beef. Both men complimented ANCW for the work done in the cattle industry.

If anyone is interested in going to Washington D.C. for National Ag Day, ANCW is hosting a Women in Ranching Education Development (WIRED) event in Virginia March 22-24, 2026. It would be a great way to see cattle in a different part of the country with hands-on workshops on cattle handling and health.

Another thing that was mentioned at the meeting was the free online course called Masters of Beef Advocacy. This program teaches the resources needed to be a strong advocate of the beef industry. I highly suggest looking into the program. Did you know ANCW has a book of the month club for kindergarten – 12th grade? ANCW also has its own podcast – Calling All CattleWomen! ANCW continues to grow as Kansas and Oklahoma started new CattleWomen affiliate groups.

The demand for beef is up. The beef market is up. The excitement all around our industry is buzzing with new opportunities and new people that are both veterans to the industry and those who are new. Now is a great time to get involved and become part of your local cowbelles, Arizona State Cowbelles and American National CattleWomen.

By: Michaela McGibbon, President, Arizona State Cowbelles



Livestock Monitor

Market Situation Newsletter

Livestock Marketing Information Center

State Extension Services in Cooperation with the USDA



United States Department of Agriculture

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

February 13, 2026

U.S. Cattle Herd Falls to Lowest Level Since 1951

The January 1, 2026 USDA-NASS inventory report confirms what many producers have already been seeing in sale barns and pasture counts: the U.S. cattle herd continues to contract.

Total cattle and calves now stand at 86.155 million head, marking the seventh consecutive year of decline and the smallest national herd since 1951 monitor.2.13.26. For perspective, that level has not been seen in more than seven decades.

The overall reduction of nearly 317,000 head from last year may appear modest on paper, but the story becomes clearer when broken down by region. Kansas and Missouri each posted the largest numerical declines at 100,000 head monitor .2.13.26. In the West, percentage losses were more pronounced. New Mexico reported a -7.6 percent decline, Arizona -6.9 percent, Wyoming -5.2 percent, and Nevada -3.6 percent.

Drought continues to shape these numbers. Much of the western United States and High Plains have dealt with prolonged dry conditions, limiting forage growth and pasture recovery. In many operations, stocking rates have been adjusted conservatively to protect rangeland health and maintain long-term viability.

Beef cow inventory declined to 28.2 million head, the lowest level since 1961. Notably, today's cow numbers are even smaller than post-drought levels recorded after the severe 2011 to 2013 drought cycle. The cow herd has clearly reached historically tight territory.

Heifers held for beef cow replacement also declined, down 1.4 percent from the previous year. While that decrease was slightly smaller than the overall cattle inventory decline of 1.9 percent and the beef cow decline of 2.5 percent, replacement numbers are still not strong enough to indicate a significant expansion phase. The industry has not yet entered a rebuilding cycle comparable to 2015 and 2016, when herd expansion was clearly underway.

Several outside factors are influencing that cautious pace. Imports of live cattle from Mexico remain banned due to concerns surrounding New World Screwworm, tightening feeder supply flexibility. At the same time, historically high calf prices, especially for quality heifers, create a strong incentive to market rather than retain females. For many ranchers, the economics of the moment weigh heavily against aggressive herd rebuilding.

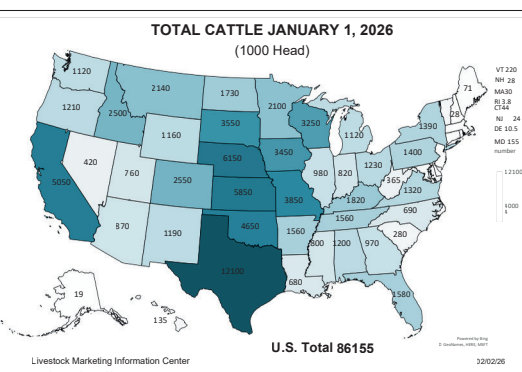
On the feed side, the outlook offers a measure of stability. The 2025 U.S. corn crop reached a record 16.8 billion bushels, exceeding the previous record by 1.3 billion bushels. Corn exports are projected to climb to 3.3 billion bushels in 2026. Despite strong export movement, ending stocks are expected to remain near 2.1 billion bushels. That balance supports a steady price outlook for feed costs heading into late summer.

Strong export shipments to Western Europe, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan have supported the corn market, while livestock feeding usage is also projected to increase. Steady feed costs provide some predictability in an otherwise tight supply environment.

Consumer demand continues to provide underlying strength. Retail sales at food service and drinking establishments in December were up 4.5 percent from a year earlier, outpacing overall retail trade and grocery store sales monitor .2.13.26. Although growth has moderated from the rapid increases seen in prior years, long-term trends continue to favor dining out, supporting beef demand.

Taken together, the numbers reflect an industry operating at historically tight inventory levels while balancing cautious optimism. The herd may be nearing a cyclical bottom, but meaningful expansion will depend on improved moisture conditions, manageable input costs, and producer confidence.

For Arizona cattle producers, these national statistics mirror what is happening locally: careful stocking decisions, attention to pasture conditions, and disciplined marketing in a high-price environment. The smallest herd in decades is not just a headline. It is a reflection of long-term cycles, weather realities, and practical ranch management decisions made one season at a time.



Production			Prices			
Week Ending 2/14/2026	Last	Year Ago	Weekly Average (\$/Cwt)	Last	Week Ago	Year Ago
FI Cattle Slaughter (Thou Hd)	541	562	LiveSteer	241.00	241.31	202.91
FI Hog Slaughter (Thou Hd)	2497	2521	Dressed Steer	NQ	378.00	320.52
FI Sheep Slaughter (Thou Hd)	39	36	Choice Beef Cutout	366.11	368.70	319.46
Young Chicken Sltr. (Mil Hd)	178.4	169.0	USDA Hide/Offal	11.83	11.74	11.68
Slaughter Cattle Live Weight	1467	1438	OK City Fdr. Str. (6-7 Cwt.)	436.02	414.17	296.74
Slaughter Hog Live Weight	294	291	National Negotiated Hogs	87.99	86.22	88.92
Slaughter Lamb/Sheep Live Wt.	121	129	Natl. Net Hog Carcass	86.79	86.38	87.91
Beef Production (Mil Pounds)	483.1	491.9	Feeder Pigs (40 Lbs) (\$/Head)	124.19	123.14	112.33
Pork Production (Mil Pounds)	547.1	546.5	Pork Cutout	95.17	95.02	100.17
Lamb, Mutton Prod. (Mil Lbs.)	2.4	2.4	Lamb Cutout	539.01	545.32	456.74
				1.40		1.92
Previous 6 Wk. Moving Avg.			Cheddar, 40 lb Block(\$/lb)	4.19	1.38	4.78
Total Beef (Mil Lbs)	486.4	514.7	Corn, Omaha (\$/Bu)	11.38	4.24	10.16
Total Pork (Mil Lbs)	561.0	552.7	Soybeans, Cntrl IL (\$/Bu)		11.15	
Total Lamb, Mutton (Mil Lbs)	2.3	2.3				

Source: Various USDA-AMS reports. Data are preliminary.



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. End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 30693 End Date: 3/14/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: RH Goat: RH
	Brand No.: 30690 End Date: 3/13/2026	Cattle: LT Horse: LT Sheep: LH Goat: LH
A5	Brand No.: 16711 End Date: 3/11/2026 AMEND	Cattle: RH Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30687 End Date: 3/11/2026	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: LS Goat: LS
0=	Brand No.: 30683 End Date: 3/8/2026	Cattle: LT Horse: LT Sheep: LS Goat: LS
	Brand No.: 30678 End Date: 3/5/2026	Cattle: RS Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30677 End Date: 2/22/2026	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: B Goat: LS
	Brand No.: 30674 End Date: 2/14/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
J	Brand No.: 6912 End Date: 2/12/2026 AMEND	Cattle: LH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30669 End Date: 1/30/2026	Cattle: RR Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO

Brand	Brand No. End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 30692 End Date: 3/14/2026	Cattle: LT Horse: LT Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30688 End Date: 3/11/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 17511 End Date: 3/11/2026 AMEND	Cattle: RH Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30684 End Date: 3/8/2026	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: LH Goat: LH
	Brand No.: 30681 End Date: 3/5/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: B Goat: RR
	Brand No.: 30682 End Date: 3/5/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30676 End Date: 2/21/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30672 End Date: 2/12/2026	Cattle: RR Horse: RT Sheep: RS Goat: RS
	Brand No.: 30671 End Date: 2/5/2026	Cattle: RS Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO

Brand	Brand No. End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 30691 End Date: 3/13/2026	Cattle: NO Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30686 End Date: 3/11/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30689 End Date: 3/11/2026	Cattle: RR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30685 End Date: 3/8/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RS Sheep: RH Goat: RH
	Brand No.: 30680 End Date: 3/5/2026	Cattle: RR Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30679 End Date: 3/5/2026	Cattle: LR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30675 End Date: 2/21/2026	Cattle: RT Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30673 End Date: 2/12/2026	
	Brand No.: 30670 End Date: 1/30/2026	

DROUGHT = Extra Expense and Loss of Income

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