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ARIZONA Cattlelog



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARIZONA CATTLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION



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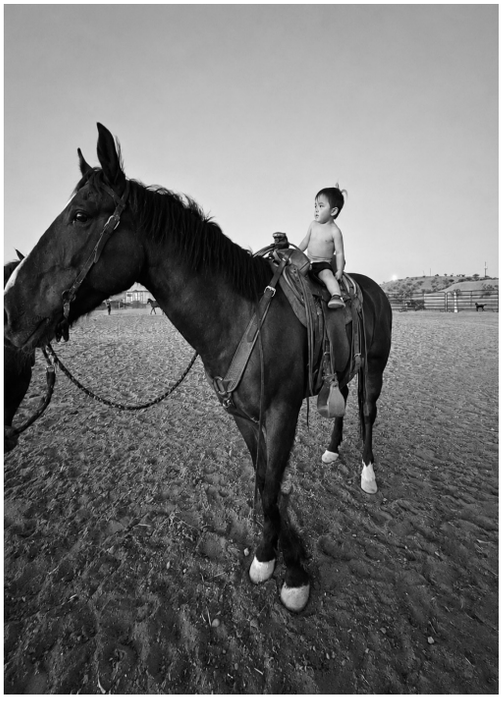
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Photograph by: Danae Calloway- "this is my son he is one years old."

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NEW WORLD SCREWWORM

ARIZONA'S TRUSTED RESOURCES

Screwworm.gov

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) leads national New World screwworm surveillance and response efforts and is the **primary source for official information, data, updates, and guidance**.



Arizona Department of Agriculture

The Arizona Department of Agriculture coordinates Arizona's response efforts, houses the State Veterinarian's Office, and serves as the primary **state contact for reporting suspected cases**.

Cooperative Extension

Cooperative Extension provides **free sampling kits through county Extension offices**, along with educational resources, workshops, and training to support New World screwworm awareness, detection, and reporting.

Cooperative Extension

AZ Livestock Incident Response Team



ALIRT, a partnership among AZDA, USDA, the U of A, and the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, **provides on-site investigations and laboratory testing** to diagnose livestock health issues at **no cost to producers**.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



By: ACGA President Brian deGanahl

I really enjoyed reading the article by Grant Boice last month about his family and their service for ACGA over the years. As we have moved into the office in Buckeye, I had a chance to glance at a whole lot of historical documents in our possession going back to the 1910's. What a treasure trove. I have not had time to go through them all, which will be a job by itself, but what I did see was so very interesting. Meet Abbie Keith, Secretary for ACGA for forty years and a leader in the Arizona cattle industry. Here she is standing in front of a brand new 1948 Chevy Fleetline presented to her by ACGA (Suzanne and Amanda don't get your hopes up). The quote to the right is a quote from the Arizona Memory Project website.



"Abbie Keith (1888-1984), a former rancher, served as the Arizona Cattle Growers Association Secretary beginning in 1923. In 1945 she established the Arizona Cattlelog magazine to provide increased news to members. A native of Wisconsin, Richard Schaus (1910-1981) was a new photographer in Phoenix following WWII. Keith hired him as a freelancer in 1949 to cover cattle and ranching events throughout Arizona for the Association. Soon he was also writing articles to accompany the photographs, and this led to a deep interest in all aspects of ranching and the cattle industry and their history. He became the magazine's editor upon Keith's retirement in 1962, a post he served until his own retirement in 1980."

Her story, as well as that of Richard Schaus, is just one of dedication over decades that ACGA has been the beneficiary of. This organization, still today, is based on volunteer leadership, and staff that bring more to the table then what their salary justifies. I hope to share more of our great history in coming months as it is something I am very proud of.

Hope all of us can catch some summer rains in a timely fashion.

Thanks

R Brian deGanahl



L to R: Mike Gannuscio, Immediate Past President, Bopper Cannon, 2nd Vice President, Richard Searle, Treasurer, Ben Menges, Member-at-Large, Brian deGanahl, President, Tim Petersen, 1st Vice President, Ken Ligon, Member- at-Large, Stephanie Teskey, Secretary

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HERE WE GO!



By: ACGA Executive Director Suzanne Menges

While writing this column for the July issue of the Cattlelog, I was informed that our application for the "New World Screwworm Grand Challenge" grant was approved. Let me tell you, I was a little shocked—not because I don't believe in our project or have any doubt that we can complete our portion of the work. It was because the announcement was several weeks late and I began to wonder if they were ever going to announce it. I am excited to tell you about this important effort we now have in front of us.

ACGA has been a consistent participant in many and varied meetings, webinars, discussions, workshops and trainings about this pest and the plans to fight it. After touring a former sterile insect technique facility in Douglas, we sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins urging her to consider developing this area to serve as a sterile fly dispersal facility at the Bisbee/Douglas International Airport.

On February 5th, I was made aware of this grant opportunity that supports the plan to combat New World Screwworm (NWS) as described in the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's August 15, 2025, press release titled "USDA Announces Sweeping Plans to Protect the United States from New World Screwworm." Through this "Grand Challenge", up to $100,000,000 is available to combat NWS and prevent its northward spread.

Funded through USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the NWS Grand Challenge grant program was designed to support organizations to help address the NWS problem through one of four topic areas:

· Projects that enhance Sterile NWS Fly Production

· Projects that Develop Novel NWS Traps and Lures

· Projects that Develop and Increase Understanding of NWS Therapeutics/Treatment; and

· Projects that Develop Other Tools to Bolster Preparedness or Response to NWS

For many years I wrote state and federal grants for two school districts in eastern Arizona, but this application was much more complicated and the deadline was only weeks away. I had no idea how we could put a project together in such a short amount of time-- until I spoke with Dr. Amy Ganguli of the University of Arizona.

Focusing on that last topic area of creating tools to prepare and respond quickly, we joined the team Dr. Ganguli was assembling. Many late nights and weekends later, we submitted a completed application in partnership with the University and the Arizona Department of Agriculture on February 23rd-an unheard-of timeline for a federal grant of this scope. Largely due to the leadership of Dr. Ganguli and a large group of committed people, our joint project was the only one in Arizona to be funded; in fact, there were only 40 across the country approved of over 200 applicants. Other awardees include Texas A & M, Kansas State, Auburn and Yale Universities.

What will this funding do for us as cattle producers?

I highly doubt there is a rancher left in Arizona that has not heard about NWS. Secretary Rollins

has stated that her plan was to over-communicate about it, and I think she's accomplished that. But there is much more than just learning about NWS-we have to know what to do and how we will handle it if it shows up in Arizona. To put this in perspective, let me ask you a few questions:

· Of the EPA-registered pesticides approved for use in the United States, which would you use and why?

· How will the continuity of business be accomplished?

· Are there movement requirements for animal products from an NWS infested zone?

· Which of the approved or conditionally approved animal drugs for NWS would you use and why?

· What are the five authorized classifications of persons approved to perform NWS inspections?

There is much more to this situation than we might realize. We need to know the details, the specifics of the procedures. ACGA's role in this grant project is to help make sure you get those details in a timely and efficient manner so you can make the best decisions for your operation. You will hear more about the joint grant project from Dr. Ganguli at our 123rd Annual Summer Convention in Thatcher/Safford July 22nd-24th.

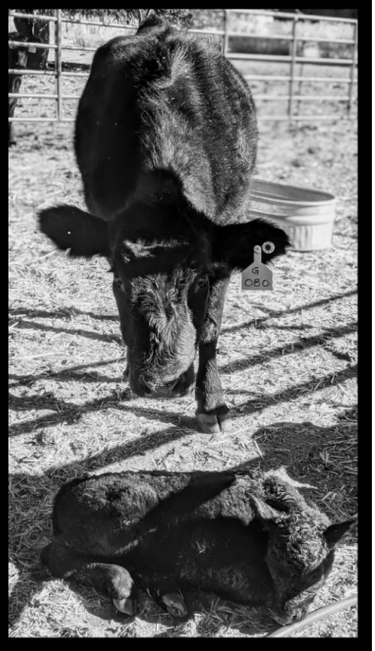
Keep in mind that when we had NWS some sixty years ago in Arizona, it took about thirteen years to accomplish eradication of the threat. We can shorten that time frame significantly this time around by providing the best information quickly, addressing angst about reporting an outbreak, and being diligent about monitoring our cattle for infestation. We will get rid of this pest, and we want to do it as efficiently as possible.

See you at the convention!

Suzanne Mengus

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LEGISLATIVE WATCH



BRITTANY BINGOLD

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION COMES TO A CLOSE

The 57th Arizona Legislature officially adjourned Sine Die in the early morning hours of June 13, bringing the 2026 legislative session to a close. Following several weeks of budget negotiations, lawmakers wrapped up the session by passing a bipartisan state budget and completing action on the remaining bills before them. The Governor then has ten days to act on the bills sent up to her in the final hours of session.

Final floor debates centered largely on Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) program after a last-minute proposal to add additional guardrails to the voucher program failed. The Legislature also approved several ballot referrals that will appear before Arizona voters in 2026, including measures related to educator labor unions, school district funding, and election procedures for mail-in voting.

Budget Highlights

The Legislature nearly unanimously approved, and Governor Hobbs has since signed, an $18.29 billion bipartisan budget. The spending plan includes approximately $1.4 billion in tax relief over the next four years and conforms Arizona's tax code with the recently enacted federal tax package.

This proved to be one of the most difficult budget years in recent memory. With limited available revenue and competing priorities, lawmakers were forced to make difficult funding decisions. Most state agencies absorbed a 2.5% reduction, and numerous one-time appropriations and ongoing funding requests were either reduced or eliminated entirely.

Despite the challenging fiscal environment, the budget includes several notable investments, including:

A three-year moratorium on new data center tax incentives.
Additional funding for childcare assistance, critical access hospitals, school infrastructure, and support programs serving low-income K-12 students.

An increase in Arizona's child tax credit to $150 per child.
A permanent 4% salary increase for state correctional officers.

Education Funding

The budget was not without controversy. With Proposition 123 having expired last year and no replacement yet enacted, many lawmakers expressed concern that public education continues to face funding challenges. The final budget also eliminated $16 million in one-time funding for Arizona's university system, along with reductions to community college adult education programs and workforce skill centers.

Agriculture

From an agricultural perspective, the budget included up to $250,000 to support Arizona's response to the growing threat posed by the New World screwworm, an important investment in protecting the state's livestock industry.

Given the significant budget constraints facing the Legislature this year, agriculture was not immune from difficult funding decisions. While we were pleased to see funding included for the state's response to the New World screwworm, several other agricultural priorities were unable to secure funding.

The final budget did not include continued funding for the Natural Resource Users Law and Policy Center at the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. Despite conversations with legislative leadership and the Governor's Office regarding the Center's important role it plays in supporting Arizona's agricultural community, the appropriation was ultimately removed from the final budget. While disappointing, this outcome reflects the fiscal reality that many worthwhile programs across state government faced reductions or elimination this year.

Looking Back

The Arizona Cattle Growers Association remained actively engaged throughout the legislative session, advocating on issues ranging from agricultural property classification and off-highway vehicle mitigation, to livestock protection and responsible public land management. The Association secured several meaningful policy victories and strengthened relationships that will continue to shape agricultural policy in future sessions.

As always, thank you to our members who took the time to meet with legislators, testify in committee, and share their experiences throughout the session. Your engagement remains the foundation of our advocacy efforts at the Capitol.

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ACGA 123rd Annual Summer Convention

July 22 - 24, 2026

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	# of Tickets	Amount $
ALL-INCLUSIVE: Cattlemen's College, Welcome Reception, All Sessions, Trade Show, Trade Show Reception, Lunches and Auction/Dinner/Dance **$200**		
THURSDAY ONLY: Thursday Sessions, Trade Show, Lunch, Joint Cattle Industry Auction/Dinner/Dance **$150**		
FRIDAY ONLY: Friday Sessions, Trade show, Lunch, General Membership Meeting **$100**		
CATTLE CLUB: (Must be 8-18 years) Includes all meals, Cattle Club Judging Contest, and a Cattle Club Membership **$50**		
Early bird registration closes on June 30th. Registrations must be postmarked by this date. After July 1st, the cost increases by $25, with an additional $25 fee for Non-Members. **TOTAL**		

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COUNTY _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

FOOD ALLERGIES? _____

ADDITIONAL NAME BADGES _____

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PREFERRED NAME FOR CATTLE CLUB NAME BADGES:

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***Registration fees are non-refundable.* Convention registration fees may be tax deductible. Please check with your tax preparer.**

PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE BY:

Credit Card: To make a credit card payment please contact the office at (602) 267-1129.

Check: If paying by check, make checks payable to ACGA with the memo: Convention Registration

Return this form with payment to

ACGA | PO BOX 1267 Buckeye, AZ 85326

To access lodging accommodations, visit our website:*www.azcattlegrowers.org/2026-acga-summer-convention*



YCC Trip Recap

BY: AMBER MORIN

Timm and I recently participated in the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's Young Cattlemen's Conference, an experience that reinforced the importance of leadership, advocacy, and relationships within the beef industry. From learning about the complex issues shaping the future of cattle production to engaging with producers and industry leaders from across the country, the conference provided a valuable perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing our industry.



One of the greatest takeaways was the reminder that the strength of the cattle industry lies in its people. We met thoughtful, hardworking producers from all segments of the supply chain who care deeply about their families, their livestock, their communities, the stewardship of the land, and providing consumers with the safest and healthiest protein in the world. Their willingness to lead, collaborate, and invest in something larger than themselves was both encouraging and inspiring.

If there is one thing we took away from our time at YCC, it is this: the future of the cattle industry is in good hands. Our next generation of leaders is engaged, innovative, and committed to preserving the values that define our way of life while adapting to the challenges ahead. We returned home grateful for the experience, energized by the connections we made, ready to advocate whenever needed, and optimistic about the road ahead for Arizona's ranching communities and the beef industry as a whole.

Announcing the 2026 Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Inductees

Wildlife for Tomorrow is proud to announce the induction of four exceptional individuals and one distinguished organization into the Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame as part of the 2026 class.

This year's honorees represent a remarkable group of conservation leaders and an organization whose work has made a lasting impact on Arizona's natural heritage. Through decades of dedication, leadership, innovation, and service, these inductees have helped preserve Arizona's wildlife, natural resources, and outdoor traditions for future generations.

About the Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame

Established in 1998 through a partnership between Wildlife for Tomorrow, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame stands as one of the state's highest honors for individuals and organizations dedicated to Arizona's wildlife, natural resources, and outdoor heritage.

For nearly three decades, the Hall of Fame has recognized the people, organizations, and leaders whose vision, service, and commitment have helped shape the future of conservation in Arizona. These honorees are more than contributors to the outdoors; they are champions of Arizona's wild places, advocates for responsible stewardship, and driving forces behind efforts that conserve wildlife, strengthen conservation programs, expand outdoor opportunities, and inspire future generations.

Induction into the Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame is a meaningful recognition of extraordinary impact. Each honoree has helped advance Arizona's conservation legacy in a way that will continue to benefit the state's wildlife, landscapes, and communities for years to come.

The 2026 Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Inductees include:
Leland "Bill" Brake
Mark Hullinger
James Marquardt, posthumously
John Millican
Southeastern Arizona Bird Observatory
Wildlife for Tomorrow invites the public, conservation partners, outdoor enthusiasts, agency leaders, businesses, and community supporters to join us in celebrating this year's honorees at the 28th Annual Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at The Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park.

The evening will begin with a social hour fundraiser at 5:00 PM, followed by dinner and the awards ceremony. Guests will have the opportunity to gather with Arizona's conservation community, celebrate the achievements of this year's inductees, and support the work that helps ensure Arizona's wildlife and outdoor heritage continue to thrive.

Tickets for the banquet are now available, and guests are encouraged to reserve their seats early by visiting www.wildlifefortomorrow.org/halloffame.

SIGN UP FOR THE PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL'S NEWSLETTERS: HTTPS://PUBLICLANDSCOUNCIL.ORG/NEWS-MEDIA/NEWSLETTERS

Daily Roundup

The Daily Roundup publication reaches PLC affiliates, subscribers and to individuals on the Hill. The daily electronic publication provides the latest news and updates about issues impacting federal lands ranchers directly to your inbox.

Weekend Roundup

The Weekend Roundup Publication reaches PLC affiliates and subscribers. This publication dives deeper into certain topics and issues and explains how thee matters affect cattle and sheep producers operating on federal land each Saturday morning.

Capital Issues

Capital Issues shares the latest happenings of the PLC. Sent directly to PLC affiliates and subscribers, the monthly publication includes a briefing from the PLC president, executive director and committee leadership.

ARIZONA PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL UPDATES



Online Dues Payment Option Now Available:

The Arizona Public Lands Council (AZ PLC) serves as the unified voice for Arizona's public lands ranchers, working to protect the future of livestock grazing and the multiple-use management of our federal lands. As an affiliate of the National Public Lands Council (PLC), the only organization in the nation dedicated solely to protecting public lands grazing, AZ PLC helps ensure that Arizona permittees have a voice not only here at home, but also in Washington, D.C., and in the halls and hearing rooms of Capitol Hill and wherever decisions affecting the future of public lands ranching are being made.

Through advocacy, education, and collaboration, PLC engages with issues that directly affect permittees, including grazing policy, land management planning, regulatory changes, endangered species concerns, and federal legislation. The organization works closely with agency partners and industry organizations to ensure that the practical experience and perspectives of ranching families are represented in important conversations and decision-making processes.

Importantly, all dues collected by AZ PLC are used to pay the dues invoiced to Arizona by the National PLC office, ensuring Arizona producers maintain representation through the National PLC. If you have not yet paid your annual dues, we're pleased to offer a convenient online payment option. Dues can be submitted through the AZ PLC webpage at https://www.aacd1944.com/arizonapubliclandscouncil.

Organizational Public Meeting:

AZ PLC members and interested members of the public are invited to attend an upcoming In-Person Organizational Update Meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, from 3:00–4:30 p.m. at the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, 2100 S. Bowie Avenue, Solomon, Arizona 85551. Discussion topics will include membership and dues updates, membership benefits, the organization's future, changes to communication, the formation of AZ PLC bylaws, and plans to host future in-person organizational update meetings. The meeting will conclude with membership comment forms and discussion of next steps and action items.

Thank you for your continued support and investment in the future of Arizona's public lands ranching community.

Amber Morin, AZ PLC Chair

AZ PLC DUES

Pay by check, payable to the Arizona Association of Conservation Districts and mail to 222 South Mill Ave., Suite 800, Box 49, Tempe, AZ 85281. Your payment will be in an account restricted account for PLC dues only.
Please note “AZ PLC AUM Dues” on the memo line of your check or “AZ PLC Supporter."

Please return this portion of the page with your payment.

Dues: $ _____ Select one by circling: AZ PLC AUM AZ PLC Supporter

First and Last Name: _____

Ranch Name:_____

ARIZONA PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL (AZ PLC)

IN-PERSON ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE MEETING

DATE: 22 JULY 2026

TIME: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

LOCATION: UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, 2100 S. BOWIE AVE, SOLOMON, AZ 85551

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

3:00 PM – CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

3:15 PM – CURRENT STATE OF AZ PLC

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

3:30 PM – FUTURE OF AZ PLC & CHANGES TO COMMUNICATION

3:45 PM – DISCUSSION OF AZ PLC BYLAWS FORMATION

4:00 PM – AACD ANNUAL MEETING: NEXT IN-PERSON UPDATE MEETING

4:20 PM – NEXT STEPS AND ACTION ITEMS

4:25 PM – MEMBERSHIP COMMENT FORMS

4:30 PM – ADJOURNMENT

Watch Their Aim

By: Bryce Angell

The winter, 1963, I was barely ten years old and learning how to milk our cows, night and morning in the cold.

I poured the grain and watched them eat, each cow in her own stall. Their stomachs churned away down low, forming cud into a ball.

That cud then slid back up their throat. It seemed a little crude. And when I quizzed my dad, he said, "It's undigested food."

I thought it seemed a little strange to belch up all that food, then start the process once again with stuff that had been chewed.

My father said, "Don't worry, son. These cows know what they are doin'. It's in their genes to ruminate. They just keep on a chewin'."

"The hay and grain they're eating is what makes the milk each day. We take it and we sell it. That's how we get our pay."

He then gave me a warning. "Watch those cows that have a cough. If you're anywhere behind them, try to stand a distance off."

That's all he said about the cough. He didn't elaborate. But what he was implying was about to be my fate.

I walked behind old Flossy. She coughed and out it flew. The speed with which it hit me must have been at least Mach 2.

So, the food that cows are chewing is changing as it flows. What don't make milk or muscle, well, out the back it goes.

It hit with such a splatter that my eye was matted shut. I've had some worse things happen, but I can't remember what.

My father laughed and said, "Too bad! This ain't a time for blamin,' the next time you're behind a cow. Give heed to where she's aimin'."

So back he sent me to the house to get a real quick shower. My mother saw me, laughed, and said, "You smell just like a flower."

My mother opened-up the door and handed out to me, a hot wet towel to wipe my eyes. I still could barely see.

But the towel was frosting over. It was almost ten below. She said, "Keep on a wiping son. I'll fill your tub. Now go!"

The years went by. I milked the cows, so faithful, twice a day. I've had some time to ruminate and now I'll have my say!

Seemed most my days were milking cows. I can't say I was bilked. But no matter how hard I tried, those cows would not stay milked.

ARIZONA GAME & FISH UPDATE

An old friend rides off, but help from the AZ Game & Fish continues

After working in cooperation with Arizona's ranchers and farmers for the last 26 years, Troy Christensen is retiring this August, from the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Many ranchers initially met Troy at ACGA conventions - Troy worked a booth at these events, as well as, Arizona Farm Bureau, Arizona Association of Conservation Districts, and some county cattle grower meetings to inform the agricultural community about how the Department's Landowner Relations Program could partner with them on ranch improvements.

Troy leads the Department's Landowner Respect Program, which provides regulatory and informational signs to ranchers in order to help manage public access on ranch lands. Through his tenure, Troy has visited hundreds of ranches across the state and installed helpful signage and/or sign-in boxes. The Respect Program has also provided swinging gates, fence ladders, and sometimes even cattle guards to reduce public access issues. Many of you may have had Troy install some or deliver some to your ranches.

Troy also administers the Department's Adopt-A-Ranch Program, where he arranged for sportsmen volunteers to show their gratitude for public access to ranch lands, by helping ranchers with annual maintenance and cleanups. Many weekends each year, Troy could be found working closely with Department volunteers as they rebuilt ranch fences, cleaned up litter, built erosion control structures, restored spring developments, and removed old unnecessary fences. Troy also provided assistance to Arizona ranchers through cooperative ranch/habitat improvement projects, road closures, and the 1-800-VANDALS hotline.

The Game and Fish Department will be refilling Troy's position as soon as possible to ensure the Department partnerships, cleanups, and mutually beneficial projects will continue for many more years to come. In the meantime, if you are interested in any of the opportunities mentioned above, please contact your Regional Game and Fish Department office and ask to speak to a Landowner Relations Specialist.







CBD TARGETS GRAZING ACROSS THREE AREAS IN ARIZONA

By: Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor

The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) has intensified its long-running campaign against livestock grazing on public lands in Arizona, launching three separate legal actions this spring aimed at restricting or halting cattle grazing in riparian areas that the group says harm endangered species and critical habitat.

Between April and June, the organization either filed lawsuits or issued notices of intent to sue federal agencies over grazing management in three regions: the Gila River system in southeastern Arizona, the Upper Verde River in central Arizona and the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area south of Tucson. In each case, CBD argued that federal agencies have failed to adequately protect endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and have allowed cattle to damage sensitive streamside habitats.

The organization contends cattle are repeatedly entering areas where grazing is prohibited, damaging riparian vegetation, trampling streambanks, degrading water quality and harming habitat for federally protected species. The group also argues the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) have failed to consult under the ESA properly or to reinitiate consultation despite new evidence of habitat impacts.

The latest filings continue a strategy the organization has pursued for years across Arizona, relying on field surveys, litigation and administrative challenges to pressure federal agencies to tighten grazing restrictions or remove livestock.

Gila River dispute

The first action came on April 23, when CBD issued a notice of intent to sue BLM and USFWS over grazing management in BLM's Gila District, including the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area. According to the notice, the challenge focuses on roughly 70 miles of river designated as critical habitat for numerous endangered species.

CBD argues that six years of field surveys have document-

WALLACE, CHARLES. "CBD TARGETS GRAZING ACROSS THREE AREAS IN ARIZONA." WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL, JUNE 19, 2026.

ed chronic grazing damage throughout the district and claims livestock continue to impact habitat despite restrictions intended to protect sensitive areas. The notice names 11 protected species, including the yellow-billed cuckoo, southwestern willow flycatcher, spikedace, loach minnow, Gila chub, Gila topminnow and Chiricahua leopard frog.

The latest filing builds on a series of challenges CBD has brought against grazing in the area since 2021. The group argues federal agencies continue to rely on biological opinions that downplay the impacts of livestock grazing while failing to address what it says is ongoing unauthorized cattle use in sensitive habitat areas.

"Federal agencies have spent years pretending that cow-trashed streams aren't a problem, leaving endangered species without a fighting chance at survival," said Chris Bugbee, Southwest conservation advocate at CBD. "These animals and plants are barely hanging on. It's time for the agencies that are supposed to protect them to finally do their job."

Upper Verde River conflict

On April 29, CBD issued another notice of intent to sue, this time targeting grazing management along the Upper Verde River within Prescott National Forest.

The dispute involves six grazing allotments: China Dam, Horseshoe, Muldoon, Perkinsville, Sand Flat and West Bear/Del Rio. The organization alleges that grazing restrictions designed to exclude cattle from riparian habitat are not working and that federal agencies continue relying on biological opinions based on assumptions that livestock are effectively excluded from sensitive areas.

According to CBD, surveys conducted over several years have documented livestock damage in habitat designated for species including the western yellow-billed cuckoo, northern Mexican garter snake, spikedace and loach minnow. The organization says approximately 40% of nearly 34 stream miles surveyed in 2026 showed moderate or significant cattle-related damage despite being closed to grazing.

The filing also references a previous lawsuit filed in 2020 after the organization released a report documenting livestock impacts in the area. That litigation resulted in an agreement requiring monitoring and the removal of cattle from closed areas. CBD now contends conditions have worsened since that agreement expired in 2024.

The organization is seeking renewed consultation under the ESA and wants grazing authorizations suspended while new reviews are completed.

Las Cienegas lawsuit

The most recent legal action came on June 8, when CBD and the Maricopa Bird Alliance filed suit in federal court over grazing management within the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area in southern Arizona.

Congress established the conservation area in 2000 to protect riparian ecosystems and biodiversity while allowing grazing in appropriate locations. The area contains several rare habitat types, including cienegas, cottonwood-willow riparian forests, sacaton grasslands and mesquite bosques.

According to the complaint, CBD has repeatedly documented cattle within nearly 4,000 acres of riparian habitat that the BLM designated as off-limits to grazing in its 2003 management plan. The lawsuit argues BLM failed to reinitiate consultation under the ESA despite new information showing continued habitat degradation.

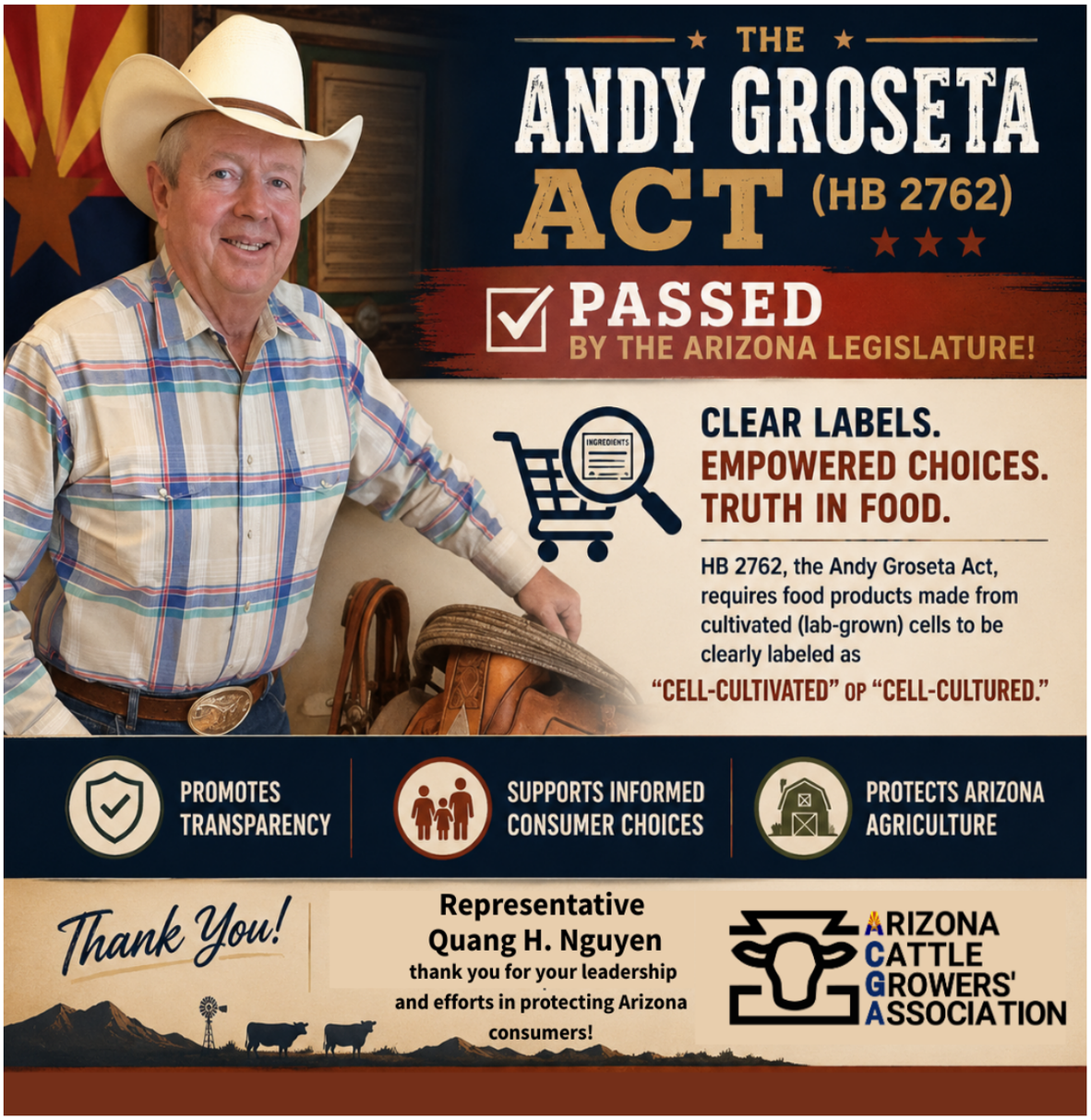
The complaint also challenges the BLM's 2025 reissuance of grazing permits on the Empire-Cienega Allotment and alleges the agency has failed, for more than two decades, to complete fencing and grazing-management requirements called for in its own resource management plan.

Environmental organizations are asking the federal court to declare that the BLM and USFWS violated the ESA by failing to reinitiate consultation on the impacts of livestock grazing and by continuing to authorize grazing activities that allegedly harm protected species and their critical habitat.

They are seeking an injunction requiring the agencies to conduct new consultations, review the impacts of ongoing grazing, and implement additional protections for listed species while that process is completed.



WALLACE, CHARLES. "CBD TARGETS GRAZING ACROSS THREE AREAS IN ARIZONA." WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL, JUNE 19, 2026.



Andy Groseta was a cattle rancher from Cottonwood and the former president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. He was always an advocate for ranchers and the cattle industry for decades. Representative Nguyen's goal is transparenecy for the consumer. Thank you, Representative Nguyen!



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ACIREF







Exzolt® Cattle-CA1
(fluralaner topical solution)

Antiparasitic

50 mg of fluralaner/mL

CAUTION: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

Conditionally approved by FDA pending a full demonstration of effectiveness under application number 141-617.

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product other than as directed in the labeling.

DESCRIPTION: Exzolt Cattle-CA1 (fluralaner topical solution) contains fluralaner, an antiparasitic of the isoxazoline class. Each mL of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 contains 50 mg of fluralaner.

The chemical name of fluralaner is (±)-4-[5-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl]-2-methyl-N-[2-oxo-2-(2,2,2-trifluoroethylamino)ethyl]benzamide. Inactive Ingredients: pyrrolidone, isopropyl alcohol, l-menthol, propylene glycol dicaprylate/dicaprate, FD&C blue No. 1, FD&C yellow No. 5.

INDICATIONS FOR USE: Exzolt Cattle-CA1 is indicated 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. Not for use in bulls intended for breeding 1 year of age and older, dairy calves, and veal calves.

DOSAGE 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.

Recommended site of administration:

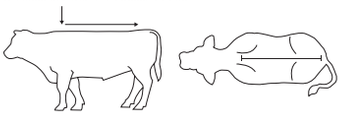


Figure 1: Recommended location for the topical application in a narrow strip along the dorsal midline from the withers to the base of the tail.

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 determented 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.

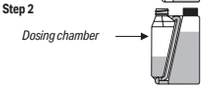
Practice the Administration and Overfill Reduction Instructions a few times to become familiar with operating the package before dosing animals.

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



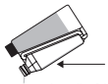
Do not remove cap from the bottle.

Step 2



Hold the bottle upright and at eye level while slowly and gently squeezing the bottle to fill the dosing chamber to the selected mark.

Step 3



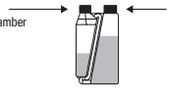
Pour the measured volume on the dorsal midline from withers to the base of the tail. Application to a small area should be avoided.

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.

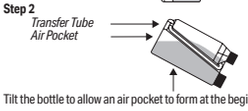
If the dosing chamber is overfilled follow the Overfill Reduction Instructions below:

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



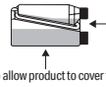
Confirm the cap is tight.

Step 2



Tilt the bottle to allow an air pocket to form at the beginning of the transfer tube inside the bottle.

Step 3



Hold the bottle horizontally to allow product to cover the end of the transfer tube inside the dosing chamber.

Step 4



Squeeze and release the bottle repeatedly.
Product will return to the bottle through the transfer tube.

Administration of the product with 5L bottle with an applicator device: These bottles are designed for use with the Simcro Breaze™ Applicator Device (30 mL). This applicator device and delivery tubing (sold separately by Simcro 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.



Figure 2. 5L bottle and applicator device with tubing

WARNINGS:

WITHDRAWAL PERIODS AND RESIDUE WARNINGS:

Environmental temperature affects the withdrawal period.

Cattle must not be slaughtered for human consumption within **98 days** of treatment.

If cattle are continuously exposed to temperatures at or above 60° F after product administration, then cattle may be slaughtered for human consumption 44 days after treatment. Violative residues may result if cattle are exposed to temperatures below 60° F after administration and are slaughtered at 44 days.

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 in 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 experiences, 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/reportanimalae.

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[a] after a single topical administration of Exzolt Cattle-CA1 in male and female cattle in warm conditions (54 – 98°F).

Parameter (units)	Estimate
Cmax (ng/mL)	127 ± 82.2
Tmax[b] (day)	5 (4 – 12)
AUC_{0-56} (day*ng/mL)	1570 ± 1220
AUC_{inf} (day*ng/mL)	1590 ± 1230
t½ (day)	8.48 ± 1.84

[a] Although total fluralaner (R+S) is reported, the S enantiomer is more abundant and active than the R

[b] Median and range

Cmax = maximum plasma concentration

Tmax = time to maximum plasma concentration

AUC_{0-56} represents the AUC from day 0 to day 56

AUC_{inf} = area under the curve from the time of dosing extrapolated to infinity

t½ = half-life

TARGET ANIMAL SAFETY
Margin of 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 dyed 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, coagulation, 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/scurfing 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 (3X 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 dyed 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/animalca.

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 induced 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.

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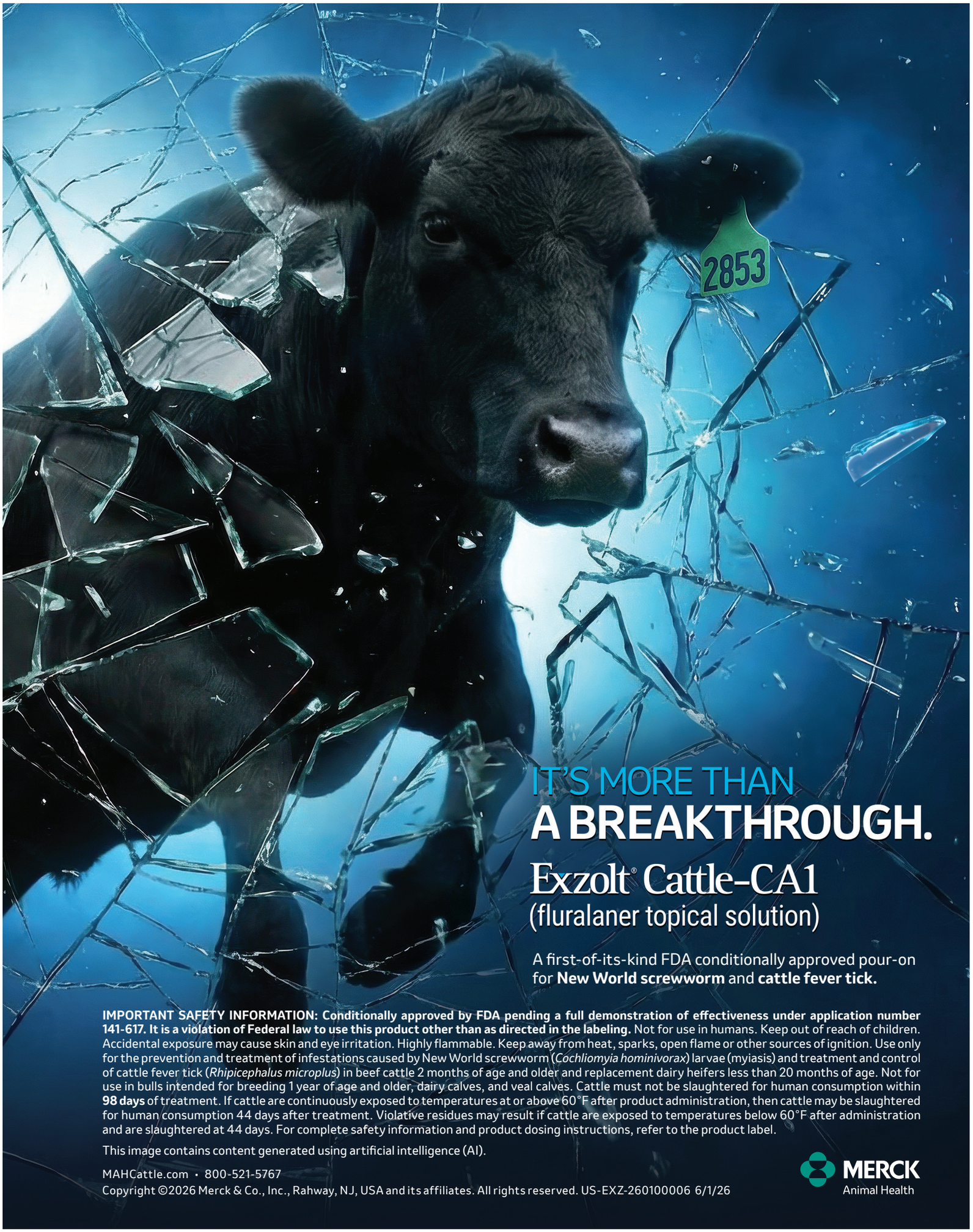
Formulated in New Zealand

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247620 R1

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CONVENTION SPEAKER

Introducing: Robyn Sahid

Robin Sahid, Commissioner, Arizona State Land Department

Robyn Sahid serves as the Commissioner of the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD), appointed by Governor Katie Hobbs to oversee the management of more than nine million acres of State Trust lands. In this executive capacity, she leads the department's mission to generate vital revenue for 13 beneficiaries, primarily Arizona's K-12 public schools.

Commissioner Sahid is dedicated to transforming ASLD into a proactive, customer-centric organization, prioritizing strategic initiatives that deliver optimal value for both the beneficiaries and the State of Arizona.

Prior to her current appointment, Ms. Sahid built an extensive career in public service and economic development across Arizona and California. Her tenure with the City of Phoenix spanned several key roles in the Aviation and Economic Development Departments. Within the Aviation sector, she managed business relationships and complex land development projects at Phoenix Sky Harbor International (PHX), Phoenix Deer Valley (DVT), and Phoenix Goodyear (GYR) airports. Her work in Economic Development was equally impactful, leading high-profile redevelopment projects and managing strategic partnerships for the Phoenix Biomedical Campus, the Downtown Arizona State University campus, and the Enhanced Municipal Services District.

Ms. Sahid held senior leadership positions in Northern California, serving as the Chief Economic Development & Land Use Officer for San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and as Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Santa Clara. In these roles, she provided oversight for mayoral and council offices and spearheaded major city-wide strategic initiatives.

Ms. Sahid holds a Master's degree in International Relations from the University of San Diego, a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from UCLA, and a Certificate in Airport Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She is also a Certified Member of the American Association of Airport Executives.

Originally from California's San Joaquin Valley, Robyn now resides in Scottsdale with her husband, daughter, and their Miniature Australian Shepherd, Brew.



Don't forget to register for Summer Convention! See you soon!

RANCH RULES FROM OUT OF THE BLUE

Reality

By: Ginger Cheney

Somewhere in the last 250 years in America's existence people have lost their sense of reality. That is a pretty broad statement and I would probably attribute it to the last 20 or so years. People don't seem to have a clue where their food comes from or how they vote can directly influence what ends up on their plate. Secretary Rollins understands the importance of American agriculture. She wisely stated that, "Food security is national security." Unfortunately, I believe that many people believe that food magically appears in the back of the grocery store and right into their cart. They don't have a clue what is happening on the ground.

A few days ago, I had close to an 18-hour day outside of my home, so not waking hours. I left about five in the morning and I didn't get back until almost eleven that night. As my dear friend Cody says, "It's a dynamite day, you deal with one explosion at a time." That is pretty much every day in agriculture and mainstream Americans have no idea.

They don't have a clue about the countless hours we spend on fences, water improvements, hauling water, range management, providing supplements for both cattle and wildlife, road maintenance, etc. Let alone the caring for and feeding cattle, doctoring, caring for dogies, vet trips, heifer duty, and all of the other countless tasks. They don't understand the incredible amount of time we devote to educating and trying to protect our ranches through meetings, comments, and travel.



Yet, here we are, day in and day out, working unbelievable hours, just to provide them with amazingly nutritious and delicious beef and being stewards of the land.

Ranchers and other agriculturalists are a different breed. No one else is willing to dedicate the hours, blood, sweat, and tears that we all put in to provide amazing animals for consumption or crops to fill people's plates. People don't understand what ranchers and farmers do to provide hamburgers or the plants they enjoy. I hope America will have a reality check without having something catastrophic happen. We need America's support to continue to provide them with the best food for the next 250 years.



COWBELLES UPDATE

By: Michaela McGibbon, President
Arizona State Cowbelles

I hope this article finds everyone well. The heat is setting in and the weather has been unpredictable. We have had lightning and thunder with only one cloud in the sky. I pray as we go through summer that everyone is blessed with rains, creeks begin to run again and dams catch runoff to water wildlife and cattle for the foreseeable future. I pray for this all over the state.

For the last 2 months as the Arizona State Cowbelle President, I have travelled across the southern part of Arizona. I began in Duncan visiting the Greenlee County Cowbelles. Ms. Pearl was a perfect hostess and it was wonderful meeting such active ladies. This group teaches their community about ranching by participating in a field trip at their local community center with 3rd graders. The old house depicts life lived long ago without electricity or indoor plumbing. That in itself makes for great conversations with third graders that do not even know phones used to be connected to walls! When the students reach 4th grade, Greenlee County Cowbelles gives them a first-hand ranch experience with many informational stations teaching the importance of ranching and many of its components. This along with a booth at the county fair and other community activities keeps them active all year long.

Closer to home, Tucson Cowbelles had their last meeting of the year in Florida Canyon at the University of Arizona's headquarters for the Experimental Range. The Florida Work Station provides the perfect outdoor setting with a creek, large trees and picnic area. After learning more about the history of the U of A Experimental Range, the ladies grabbed a steak and had a spice bar to season their steak with what they might usually put on a steak or break old habits and use different spices such as espresso powder. Each steak was grilled on mesquite coals. It was a great year end get together. Tucson prides itself on promoting beef on the U of A campus during the Tucson Festival of Books and Pima County Fair. Each event takes the Tucson Cowbelles into the public eye and they are able to educate people that are not familiar with ranching or certain of the benefits of beef.

The next trip I took was to Willcox Cowbelles. Even though I pulled up the incorrect address and was late to the meeting, they still welcomed me with open arms and impressed me with their ability to have a dinner/dance; silent and live auction to raise money for scholarships for local students. It is so nice to see the younger generation show up to luncheons to give new ideas and participate in older traditions. Sometimes it is difficult to combine the two but Willcox has done a great job keeping to traditional ways while keeping up with modern times.

I took my second trip to The Cowbelles in Douglas. Each time I have gone to The Cowbelle's Hall, I notice something new on their wall of historical pictures. I appreciate learning the history of the area and hearing of the challenges pioneers faced as they settled there. I enjoyed their lunch and even bought a Beef t-shirt to show off! I have to thank Denise Varner for driving with me to Douglas and enriching me with history along the way!

Finally, to end this round of meetings and instalments of officers, I attended the annual Santa Cruz County Cowbelle meeting in the beautiful rural town of Elgin, just southeast of Sonoita. The location of the historical hall on top of the hill provided the perfect view of the creek and old train tracks trains used to travel to Nogales. History of the area was shared by ladies from the Bowman Stradling History Museum in Pioneer Hall in Sonoita. The Santa Cruz ladies split duties on both sides of the Santa Rita Mountains with locals known as Elgin/Sonoita and one in the Santa Cruz Valley, Tubac/Amado. Another group active throughout the year, you can catch them selling their merchandise and promoting beef at events held at the Santa Cruz County Fair Grounds or on special occasions at the Empire Ranch. They also have ranch days for elementary school students and give generous scholarships to students in their community.

All across the state, Cowbelles are active in their communities. If you have not yet attended a Cowbelle meeting, I encourage you to make this the year to come to the Arizona State Cowbelle meeting taking place in Safford, Arizona on July 22 in conjunction with the ACGA Summer Convention. The state meeting is where all of the locals share what they have done during the year to promote beef or fund-raiser. The meeting will also have Tiffany Selchow from the Arizona Beef Council talking about the AI most of us do not think about in the cattle business – Artificial Intelligence. How to use it, when to use it and I am sure we will have a great conversation about moral values as they pertain to the use of this new tool. Become a member or renew your membership by June 22 if you would like a vote in the meeting. If you cannot attend this year, you can support us by becoming a member or sponsor. Arizona State Cowbelles will also have silent and live auction items at the ACGA Summer Conference. All support is welcomed and appreciated as we continue our mission of promoting beef and other aspects of the cattle industry and being the women's voice of the beef industry. If you would like to get on the ASC email list, please send an email to azcowbelles@gmail.com. We will make sure you receive a link to register for the summer meeting.



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ARIZONA STATE FLOOR SESSION- JUNE 2026

Compiled by: ACGA STAFF

During the Arizona Senate floor session on June 1, 2026, Senator Priya Sundareshan presented a legislative proclamation officially recognizing 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, highlighting the vital role that rangelands and the people who steward them play in Arizona and around the world.

Representing Legislative District 18 in Pima County, Senator Sundareshan serves as Senate Minority Leader and is a member of both the Senate Federalism Committee and the Natural Resources Committee. Prior to reading the proclamation, she recognized several guests seated in the Senate gallery whose work reflects the spirit of the designation: Leatta McLaughlin, representing the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association (ACGA); Dr. Flavie Audoin, University of Arizona Range Extension Specialist; Dennis Moroney, a cattle and sheep rancher from Cochise County; and Elena Dosamantes, Program Coordinator for the Altar Valley Conservation Alliance.

The invited guests were honored for their dedication to the stewardship, management, and conservation of Arizona's rangelands and natural ecosystems. Their collective efforts represent the collaborative work being done across the state to sustain working landscapes, protect natural resources, and ensure the long-term health and resilience of Arizona's rangeland communities.

Arizona State Senate

LEGISLATIVE PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING 2026 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS

Whereas, rangelands are natural ecosystems and cover nearly 75% of Arizona's terrestrial land surface and up to 54% globally and

Whereas, rangelands are largely comprised of grasslands, shrublands, deserts and savannas (grasslands with scattered trees and shrubs); and

Whereas, Arizona rangelands are economically, socially and culturally vital to human communities through an array of ecological services, including food and fiber production (livestock, forage, etc.), water resources, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, and carbon sequestration and storage, provide renewable and nonrenewable energy resources, and aesthetic and recreational opportunities; and

Whereas, Arizona pastoralists are people who raise livestock or semi-domesticated animals on rangelands, such as ranchers, including indigenous peoples and transhumant herders; and

Whereas, Indigenous Arizona pastoral peoples have stewarded rangelands for millennia through deep knowledge and connections with the land; and

Whereas, pastoralism exists in one form or another across six continents and a multitude of cultures; and

Whereas, shared experiences of land, livestock and stewardship connect pastoralists around the world through historical knowledge and integration of new technologies toward sustainable rangelands; and

Whereas, the United Nations, in recognition of the vital nature of rangelands and the significance of pastoralism to the stewardship and societal benefits of rangelands, designated 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists; and

Whereas, national, regional, provincial, and local governments around the world will celebrate the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in 2026 through education, advertisements, film (documentaries, festivals, etc.) and adoption of national and local policies that are supportive of rangelands and pastoralists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, Senator Sundareshan, do hereby proclaim 2026 as the Year of Rangeland and Pastoralists throughout Arizona in solidarity with the United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026.

Dated this 1st day of June 2026

Priya Sundareshan
Arizona State Senator LD 18



RIGHT TO LEFT: DENNIS MORONEY, DR. FLAVIE AUDOIN, SENATOR PRIYA SUNDARESHAN, LEATTA MCLAUGHLIN, ELENA DOSAMANTES

U of A Update



Dr. D. Scott (Scotty) Merrell, Director of the School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences (ACBS) at the University of Arizona (UofA) provided the following updates for the ACGA membership.

1. Dr. George Smith will join the University of Arizona as the next dean of the College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences on August 1st. Dr. Smith is currently a professor of animal science at Michigan State University where he also serves as director of AgBioResearch and as the senior associate dean for research in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

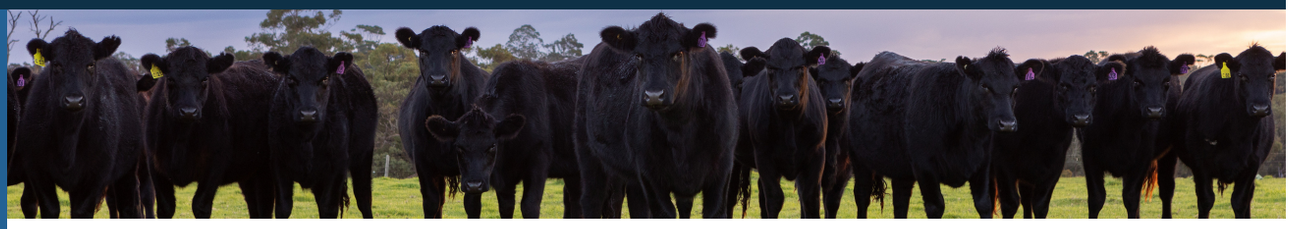
2. Numerous members of the CALES Extension team continue to work on the New World Screw Worm issue. To prepare and respond, the Extension teams will be on the front line communicating with stakeholders and community members. The team is awaiting results of their efforts to secure USDA funding to support specific research and extension objectives in this area.

3. Those interested in processing at the FPSL can call 520-318-7021 for the current schedule. Additionally, the Wildcat Country Market (https://wildcatcountrymarket.arizona.edu/index.html) will only be open Fridays from 9-4 during the summer months. 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.

As always, I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have (dscottmerrell@arizona.edu), and I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming ACGA Summer Convention.

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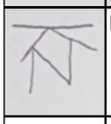
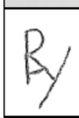
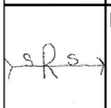
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Proposed BRANDS

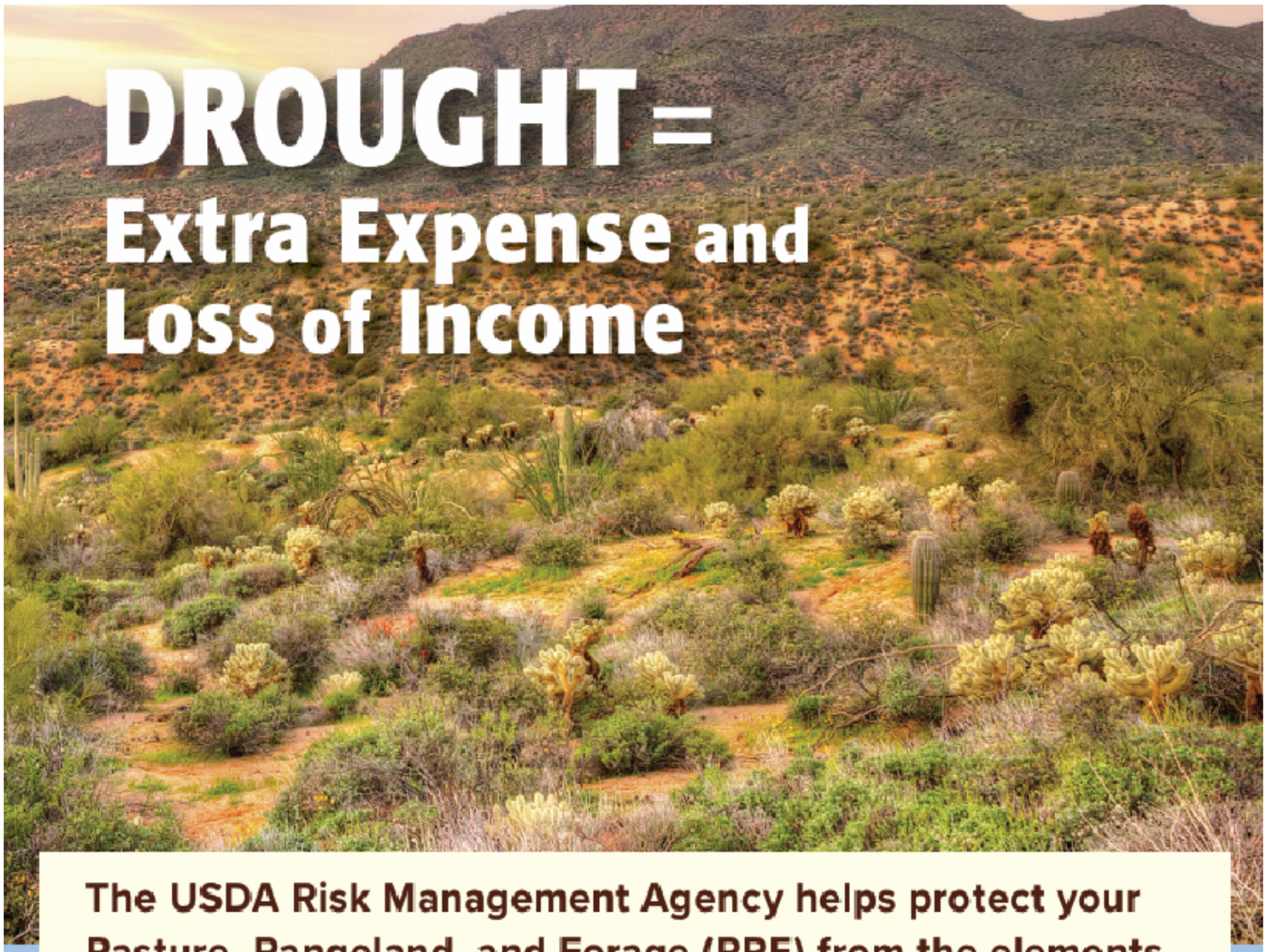
Important Notice!
The following are proposed brands submitted by the Applicants listed below in accordance with A.R.S § 3-1261(C).

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	Earmark	Brand No.	Location	Applicant	Range/County	End Date
	NONE	30701	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO	NOWAKOWSKI, KRYSTYNA	MARANA / PIMA	07/16/2026
	UNDER BIT L OR SPLIT L	30700	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO	RAY, CALEB OR ELISABETH	DRAGOON / COCHISE	07/10/2026
	NONE	30699	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: NO Goat: NO	SANCHEZ, LUCY K AND DANIEL A AND KIMBERLY G	BLUE GAP / APACHE	07/05/2026
	RIGHT HOLE IN CENTER	30698	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO	PRICE, JONA MARIE	BISBEE / COCHISE	07/01/2026
	LEFT UNDER BIT	30697	Cattle: LR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO	GILLESPIE, MARIA DONIA OR MICHAEL L JR OR MICHAEL L III OR BENNETT ANDREW	FLAGSTAFF / COCONINO	06/27/2026







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