

2007 KFB Ag Advisory Committee Recommendations

Current Copy, Updated: January 17, 2008

Summary Data	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
<i>For Board Action</i>	17	5	7	8	8	7	15
<i>For Board Information</i>	10	17	9	2	4	5	4
<i>For State Policy Development</i>	4	4	2	1	4	6	3
<i>For National Policy Development</i>	4	1	8	10	7	5	6
Total Recommendations	35	27	26	21	23	23	28

The 2007 Kansas Farm Bureau Livestock Conference and associated committee meetings were held January 22-23 in Manhattan, KS. Primary presentations and speakers included:

Farm Labor, Immigration and Employer Liability: Austin Perez, AFBF

Animal Identification: USMEF, NAIS, PVP's, Policy Issues and BVS: Keith Miller, KFB Board and USMEF, BVS Team

Livestock and Feedstuff Outlook: Dr. James Mintert, KSU

A Science-Based Look at Animal Cloning: Dr. David Grieger, KSU

An Update from the President: KFB President Steve Baccus

The 2007 Kansas Farm Bureau Crops Conference and associated committee meetings were held February 5-6, in Manhattan, KS. Primary presentations and speakers included:

Yield Risk and How It Impacts Crop Insurance Premiums and Crop Planting Dates: James Hamilton, Topeka Regional Office, RMA

Managing Crop Production Risk in Uncertain Times: Dave Spears, Director of Ag Solutions

Changing Dynamics within U.S. Grain Markets: Terry Francl, Senior Economist, AFBF

2007 Farm Bill Update: Terry Holdren and Tanner Lucas, KFB Government Relations

Historical Cropping Patterns: Christine Soukup, Commodities Intern

An Update from the Executive Director – Executive Director and CEO: Dr. Dan Yunk

Beef Committee 6 of 10 members attending: D.J. Edwards (Chair), Ryan Arndt, Jim Elder, James Schlickau, Michael Braun, Michael Maneth, and Keith Miller (KFB Board Liaison), staff member present, Stephen Bigge. Elected Chair for 2007/08: NONE

Dairy Committee 6 of 9 members attending: Steve Strickler (Chair), Mark Bodenhausen, Steve Ohlde, Linda Foster, Mike Dorrell, Doug Anderson and George Pretz (KFB Board Liaison), staff member present, Nancy Brown. Elected Chair for 2007/08: **Lynda Foster** (At-Large)

Swine Committee 7 of 10 members attending: Scott Pfortmiller (Chair), Jeff Dohrman, Craig Gigstad, Michael Springer, Bruce Carselowey, Vinton Visser, Jeff Korber and Richard Felts (KFB Board Liaison), staff member present, Diane Hoobler. Elected Chair for 2007/08: **Michael Springer** (At-Large)

Sheep/Goat Committee 6 of 10 members attending: Dallas Hiebert (Chair), Dr. Pat Regier, Alan Radcliffe, Jeff Winter, Jim Smart and Keith McNickle, staff member present, Mark Nelson. Elected Chair for 2007/08: **Dallas Hiebert** (District 8)

Feedgrains/Oilseeds Committee 8 of 18 members attending: Richard Larson (Chair), Tom Halling, Francis Kelsey, John Scherman, Jeff Filingier, Mark Busch, Ken Penner, Jerry Bolding and Jeff Grossenbacher (KFB Board Liaison), staff member present, Mark Nelson. Elected Chair for 2007/08: **Francis Kelsey** (District 1)

Wheat Committee 9 of 10 members attending: Michael Jordan (Chair), David McMillin, Paul Shields, Jess Schweiterman, Bruce Thomas, Scott VanAllen, Harry Fowler, Gayla Moeckle, Dennis Swenson, Jerry McReynolds (KFB Board Liaison), staff member present, Nancy Brown. Elected Chair for 2007/08: **Dennis Swenson** (District 5)

Hay/Forage Committee 5 of 10 members attending: Glenn Brunkow (Chair), Damian Korte, Stacey Forshee, Brian Dunn, Rod Barrows, Robert Voegele (KFB Board Liaison), staff member present, Stephen Bigge. Elected Chair for 2007/08: **Brian Dunn** (District 7)

2007 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE

District	Attendance	Vacancies
1	7-7	Sheep/Goat
2	4-8	
3	2-8	
4	4-7	
5	5-7	Sheep/Goat
6	3-7	Dairy
7	6-6	Dairy
8	5-6	Dairy; Swine
9	2-6	Dairy; Swine
10	1-6	Dairy; Swine
At-Large	8-9	
Overall	47-77	61%

Committee members that did not respond and that we could not contact (3):
Dean Smith, Lukes Thielenhaus and Warren Willis.

Members that initially indicated they would attend but did not, and then did not notify KFB (6):
Casey Kimberlin, Roland Martin, Mike Delange, John Gableman, Brian Schmeeckle and Lance Russell.

Recommendations for National Policy Development – (4)

1) Beef Committee Recommendation for National Policy Development:
AFBF Policy # 106 – Third Paragraph; strike the word “voluntary.”

We support the establishment and implementation of a ~~voluntary~~ national animal identification system capable of providing support for animal disease control and eradication. Only non-profit agricultural or meat/livestock organizations should have control of the animal ID program, not a private "for profit" company. We support the opportunity for each state to decide the entity controlling their respective animal ID program database. However, in the event of a disease outbreak, the controlling entities must be equipped to communicate and utilize the system to track and trace animals in a timely manner.

Explanation: The committee believes there is consensus among members and livestock producers regarding the benefits and need for a national animal identification system capable of providing support for animal disease control and eradication but that the debate regarding voluntary vs. mandatory has polarized members and hindered advocacy efforts. By striking the word voluntary, our policy and advocacy efforts can focus on animal health.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- This was forwarded out of the Resolutions Committee for discussion at county and regional “Listening Posts,” in September. It later passed at the 2007 KFB Annual Meeting and was forwarded to AFBF. At the AFBF level, it was left out of the AFBF Resolutions Committee Report.
- Status: Completed

2) Sheep/Goat Committee Recommendation for National Policy Development:

AFBF Policy # 106 – Line 49; insert another guideline for a livestock identification program:

(7) To incorporate the current National Scrapie Eradication Program Premises ID Number into USDA’s National Animal Identification System. Producers should need only one number for all programs. (Keith McNickle; seconded, Jim Smart)

Explanation: The committee is fully in support of the NAIS and believes that all livestock producers should participate. Currently, sheep and goat producers in Kansas participate in the mandatory National Scrapie Eradication Program, designed to rid the national flock of this disease. The committee believes that a logical step should be to incorporate the Scrapie program, and its premises and animal numbering system into the National Animal Identification System format. One committee member was very frustrated when told by the Kansas Animal Health Department that they would need two separate premises identification numbers, one for the Scrapie program and one for NAIS. The committee believes all such eradication programs should be incorporated into the NAIS but felt they should only speak for sheep and goat producers.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- The following language was forwarded out of the Resolutions Committee for discussion at county and regional “Listening Posts,” in September. “(7) All current animal disease programs should be incorporated into the program as quickly as possible but in an organized manner and in line with overall program development, so as to maintain animal disease program integrity. Producers should need only one number for all programs.”
- The following language was approved at the 2007 KFB Annual Meeting, “(7) All current animal disease programs should be incorporated into NAIS. Producers should need only one number for all programs.” This language was then forwarded to AFBF and included in the AFBF Resolutions Committee Report.
- Status: Completed

3) Feedgrains/Oilseeds Committee Recommendation for National Policy Development:
AFBF policy #75 – Line 19; add the following language in **blue**:

**18 Farm licensed vehicles should be exempt from having to file Form
19 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax and exempt from filing for the International Fuel
Tax Agreement License (IFTA).** (Halling; seconded Kelsey)

Explanation: The committee believes that the requirement to file for the IFTA, like the requirement to file Form 2290, is intended for commercial carriers and places a significant burden on farmers and ranchers, especially those who live along a state border and occasionally haul farm production across state lines.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- This recommendation was not forwarded out of the Resolutions Committee because similar and effective language already existed in AFBF Policy #138, lines 35-41.

**35 We support modifying regulations concerning farm-licensed trucks
36 to facilitate the transportation of farm produce and supplies across
37 state lines, including the DOT and Interstate Fuel Tax Agreement
38 required regulations. Where technical differences exist between
39 federal and state laws and regulations, we support legislation
40 making state laws the governing authority, where state standards
41 are less stringent than federal.**

- Status: Completed

4) Hay/Forage Committee Recommendation for National Policy Development:
AFBF policy #48 – Line 19; add the following language in **blue** under items “we support:”

**18 (5) Expansion of revenue insurance products, including apiary, hay and forages, and
19 livestock products;**

Explanation: The committee believes that hay and forage crops are vital to many KFB members and that a viable revenue assurance type product should be made available.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- This recommendation was referred back to the Hay and Forage Advisory Committee for further study in 2007/08.
- Status: Completed

Recommendations for State Policy Development – (4)

1) Swine Committee Recommendation for State Policy Development:

The Swine Committee recommends the creation of state-based policy in support of the eradication of feral swine in Kansas.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- The following language was forwarded out of the Resolutions Committee for discussion at county and regional “Listening Posts,” in September. AG-9 paragraph three, **“We support state and federal efforts to eradicate feral swine in Kansas as part of their normal disease mitigation efforts.”**
- The following language was passed at the 2007 KFB Annual Meeting. AG-9 paragraph three, **“We support state and federal efforts to eradicate feral swine in Kansas as part of their disease mitigation efforts.”**
- Status: Completed

2) Swine Committee Recommendation for State Policy Development:

The Swine Committee encourages a re-examination of state-based policy supporting CRP.

Explanation: The committee believes that while the CRP is a very positive program, a balance must be struck between protecting fragile lands and the demands for additional, affordable, farmable acreage. Conservation needs must be balanced with the expanding acreage demands of the ethanol industry, livestock production and the acreage needs of beginning Farmers.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- This topic was extensively reviewed and discussed by the Resolutions Committee but no new language was forwarded out of the committee.
- Status: Completed

3) Sheep/Goat Committee Recommendation for State Policy Development:

KFB Policy # ED-3 – additional, new paragraph:

We support expansion of the KSU Sheep Program to include goats and the updating of facilities to accommodate research and extension programs. (Jeff Winter; seconded, Keith McNickle)

Explanation: The committee is very concerned about the future of the KSU Sheep and Goat Program, given the potential relocation of the sheep unit and imminent retirement of key faculty. The committee believes that it is vital that the sheep and goat industry monitor this situation and work to ensure a viable program now and in the future.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- This was forwarded out of the Resolutions Committee for discussion at county and regional “Listening Posts,” in September and later adopted into policy at the 2007 KFB Annual Meeting.
- Status: Completed

4) Feedgrains/Oilseeds Committee Recommendation for State Policy Development

Ag-new

We strongly support the continued exemption in Kansas law which allows for the bartering or trading of services applying fertilizer or restricted use pesticides and other agricultural practices. (Kelsey; seconded Bolding)

Explanation: There is growing pressure from commercial applicators to eliminate an exemption that allows for the bartering or trading of services by farmers. This is a threat to farmers who apply fertilizer and pesticides for neighbors with their own applicators.

- Board Action: Referred to KFB Resolutions Committee, 2/27/07
- This was forwarded out of the Resolutions Committee for discussion at county and regional “Listening Posts,” in September and adopted as policy (paragraph six, AG-3) at the 2007 KFB Annual Meeting.
- Status: Completed

Recommendations for Board Action – (17)

1) Beef Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

For the KFB Board to request of AFBF, to assign staff to perform research and compose a report regarding the ethanol industry and its economic impact in regards to livestock and related industries, both regionally and on a national basis.

Explanation: The high corn prices currently being experienced as a result of the growing ethanol industry, while good for corn producers, is having an adverse affect on livestock producers. The committee believes it prudent, to fully research the impacts that this rapidly expanding industry will have on all segments of agriculture, as an important step in developing national policy.

- Board Action: Accepted and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Communications Division to assist.
- In February, the AFBF Beef Committee recommended “that AFBF do a comprehensive economic outlook on the 5-10 year impact of biofuel production on all sectors of the agriculture economy and infrastructure, including, but not limited to, the livestock industry. The \$.51 tax credit and \$.54 import tariff should be particularly examined, with an analysis of the possibility of tying domestic production incentives to the price of oil in a counter-cyclical type of program.” KFB President, Steve Baccus, serving on the AFBF Board forwarded our states concerns but the recommendation was received and filed by AFBF. The AFBF Board believes that there are and will continue to be many research papers developed regarding ethanol production and its impacts on agriculture, and that another study, sanctioned by AFBF is not necessary at this time.
- Status: Completed

2) Beef Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to research and compose a white paper on the feasibility of developing a BVD PI Quick-Test.

Explanation: Persistently Infected (PI) Bovine Virus Diarrhea (BVD) is a growing health concern within the beef industry, negatively impacting animal health and beef profits. The committee would like to see a quick-test developed that could be used on a more regional basis by local veterinarians. Current technology requires samples to be sent to a major diagnostic lab such as the KSU Diagnostic Lab. A quick-test, usable by local veterinarians would make the test more readily available to producers, with a faster turnaround, allowing for better management decisions.

- Board Action: Accepted and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO for action, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Commodities Division for action.
- A White Paper was sent to the Committee on 9/6/07.
- Status: Completed

3) Beef Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to lobby the United States Department of Agriculture to provide funding to study the food safety risks associated with feeding ethanol byproducts to livestock.

Explanation: The committee believes that research has shown some products used in the manufacturing of ethanol, could have an impact in regards to food-borne illness safety.

- Board Action: Received and Filed, with the issue to be included with Action Item #1, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

4) Dairy Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to submit comments on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau in support of the FDA's findings that consumption of milk and meat products from cloned animals is safe.

Explanation: After reviewing the FDA's findings and listening to Dr. Greiger's (KSU Reproductive Biologist) presentation on cloning, the committee believes that milk and meat from cloned animals is safe and that KFB has a responsibility to advocate this belief on behalf of our livestock producers.

- Board Action: Accepted and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Commodities Division for action.
- On March 27, 2007 a letter in support of the FDA's findings that the consumption of milk and meat products from cloned animals was safe, was submitted on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau by Mark Nelson, KFB Commodities Director (See appendix 1).
- Status: Completed

5) Dairy Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

For the Kansas Farm Bureau President to draft a letter to the KSU Department of Animal Science, on behalf of the KFB Board, urging the continuation and active departmental support of the KSU Dairy Judging team.

Explanation: Over the years, KSU has not consistently fielded a Dairy Judging team. The committee believes that the dairy industry is a significant and growing part of Kansas agriculture and that it is important for KSU to remain actively involved in supporting this industry.

- Board Action: Accepted and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Communications Division to assist.
- On August 10, 2007, President Baccus wrote to Dr. Ken Odde in support of the continuation of the KSU Dairy Judging team. President Baccus' letter and Dr. Odde's response are attached under appendix 2.
- Status: Completed

6) Swine Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to research and publish articles in KFB-based publications about the effect the ethanol industry is having on Kansas agriculture.

Explanation: While there are many positives associated with bio-based fuel production in Kansas, the committee is concerned about the effects that higher feed prices are having on the livestock sector, both in the short and longer terms. The committee is concerned that the livestock sector, at least partially, may relocate away from Kansas to other regions/countries where feed prices are lower. The Kansas pork industry in particular may be very negatively impacted by ethanol driven grain prices.

- Board Action: Received and Filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

7) Swine Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to increase the amount of member education and information available on the KFB website, including; emerging swine diseases such as PCVAD, labor issues and research on feed grain alternatives.

- Board Action: Received and Filed as amended, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

8) Swine Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to develop a response plan of action for Farm Bureau members to assist them when dealing with people or entities that threaten, harass or are committing acts of vandalism against them.

Explanation: KFB Policy AG-9, specifically states that, "We also encourage programs to inform and assist livestock producers on methods of dealing with animal rights activists who may threaten, harass or commit acts of vandalism." The committee believes that KFB should actively participate in providing this information, education and support to members.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Safety and Ag Education Division for action. Recommends a cross-divisional team.
- A cross-divisional team lead by Holly Higgins was formed, creating a KFB-based state plan of action (with web-page) designed to provide animal welfare information and support to members and dovetail with AFBF efforts.
- Status: Completed

9) Sheep/Goat Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to work in conjunction with the KFB Sheep and Goat Committee, to coordinate and host a meeting between KFB and the KSA and KMGAs, to explore opportunities for coordination of joint activities and creation of a common voice for the Kansas Sheep and Goat Industry. (Jim Smart; seconded, Jeff Winter)

Explanation: The committee believes that, while the Kansas sheep and goat industry is growing and producer interest is increasing, it is vital that the industry work together to identify key issues and work in unison to create solutions. Because of this, they believe a joint meeting, hosted by KFB, would be very beneficial in bringing several of the key organizations together, the committee suggests an evening meeting, in April.

- Board Action: Received and Filed as amended, with possible action during the 2008 KFB Sheep and Goat Committee meeting, 2/27/07
- The President of the KMGAs was invited to present and participate in our 2008 Sheep and Goat Committee meeting and the President of the KSA is currently on our Committee.
- Status: Completed

10) Sheep/Goat Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

For the Kansas Farm Bureau President to draft a letter to Kansas State University's Dean of Agriculture on behalf of the KFB Board, specifying that Sheep and Goat Research and Extension is a vital and growing aspect of Kansas agriculture and that KSU should always maintain at least one tenure track, fully funded position and maintain an active extension and research program with adequate facilities. Attempts should be made to get other state sheep and goat organizations to co-sign the letter. (Jim Smart; Seconded, Alan Radcliffe)

Explanation: The committee is very concerned about the future of the KSU Sheep and Goat Program, given the potential relocation of the sheep unit and imminent retirement of key faculty. The committee believes that it is vital that the sheep and goat industry monitor this situation and work to ensure a viable program now and in the future.

- Board Action: Received and Filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

11) Sheep/Goat Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

[Part one] **To assign appropriate staff to research and coordinate with state and federal price reporting authorities to create a “Kansas Sheep and Goat Market Report.”**

[Part two] **In the absence of state/federal assistance, KFB staff should work to create this report and post it on the KFB website.** (Alan Radcliffe; Seconded, Jeff Winter)

Explanation: In FYE 2006, fifteen different livestock auctions in Kansas sold sheep and/or goats, yet there was no organized report of prices providing producers information on prices or price direction. In order to make sound marketing decisions, sheep and goat producers need sound information.

- Board Action: Part one was accepted and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, Part two was received and filed, 2/27/07
- Part one assigned to the KFB Commodities Division for action.
- An issue circular was researched and written (April, 2007) detailing information regarding sheep and goat auctions across Kansas, including estimates of the costs required to create a USDA price report for sheep and goats. The cost was significant and funding was an issue. A subsequent teleconference was held and the results summarized (August, 2007). At this time no further action is being taken.
- Status: Completed

12) Feedgrains/Oilseeds Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

~~To assign appropriate staff to submit comments that are in support of the establishment of a National Grain Sorghum Checkoff if and when the proposal is listed in the federal registry.~~ (Filing; seconded Halling)

Explanation: Currently a few state sorghum commissions and producer organizations including those in Kansas are working to establish a National Grain Sorghum Checkoff, which would be managed in similar fashion to other national checkoffs. The committee believes that KFB should openly support those efforts.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Commodities Division for action.
- On January 9, 2008 a letter in support of the proposed national sorghum checkoff, was submitted on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau by Mark Nelson, KFB Commodities Director (See appendix 4).
- Status: Completed

13) Feedgrains/Oilseeds Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to continue to work with KSU agronomists and RMA to realign crop insurance planting dates as per the ag advisory recommendations for the initial planting dates for corn and the final planting dates for wheat. (Halling; seconded Scherman)

Explanation: At the 2005 Ag Advisory Committee meetings, a recommendation to work with RMA on reviewing and updating initial and final planting dates for Kansas crops was made. KFB staff worked with the committees and KSU agronomists, ultimately coming up with recommendations for three crops. KFB Staff presented the suggestions to RMA in the summer of 2006, with little response, and invited RMA personnel to present to the committees at our 2007 meetings. As follow up to the RMA presentation, the committee believes that RMA may now be more receptive to two of our suggestions and would like KFB to continue to press for the changes.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Commodities Division for action.
- Currently our suggestions are on hold. RMA has a goal of combining the various products (CRC, RA and APH) into a single product. Currently these efforts are on hold but RMA staff believes that this effort provides the best opportunity to pursue our suggested changes. In summary, our suggestions are as follows but they are also illustrated in appendix 3:
 - Final Planting date for Wheat: To push the final planting dates back for 23 Kansas counties (5 to 15 days) to better align them with KSU Agronomy suggested ranges.
 - Initial Planting date for Corn: To take the southeastern most 35 counties that had an initial planting date of April 1 and create a “transition zone,” with the initial planting date pushed forward to March 20.
- Status: Completed

14) Wheat Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To assign appropriate staff to work with the Kansas congressional delegation to maintain FY 07 funding levels for Grain Marketing and Production Research Center small grains programs.

Explanation: The FY 2007 proposed budget for the Grain Marketing and Production Research Center in Manhattan, KS was decreased \$1,031,039 relative to the prior year. The cuts include a \$545,000 decrease in funding for Karnal Bunt research and a \$486,000 reduction in genetic research in wheat. The committee believes that public research is vital to the long run sustainability of wheat as a commercial crop. Private sector wheat research is minimal and as a result, the wheat industry relies much more on public funding. Because wheat is such an important crop to Kansas, maintaining adequate research funding is vital and should be a high priority of KFB.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Governmental Relation Division for action.
- Each year our Governmental Relations Division works in tandem with the Grain Marketing and Production Research Center and our congressional delegation to monitor and enhance funding levels.
- Status: Completed

15) Hay/Forage Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To ~~assign appropriate staff~~ to develop a White Paper on Public Law 109-59, the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005 which will replace the current Single State Registration System.

Explanation: The committee believes more research is needed in order to assist individual members and KFB in general, in understanding and developing policy regarding this new law which pertains to all interstate contract and regulated motor carriers, as well as the registration systems for all interstate Private and Interstate Exempt motor carriers.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Governmental Relations Division for action.
- Status: Completed

16) Hay/Forage Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To ~~assign appropriate staff (and funding)~~ to work with other hay and forage entities in Kansas to develop and implement a Statewide Hay and Forage Conference similar to the one currently held in Hutchinson.

Explanation: KFRM has chosen to no longer plan, support and manage the current state-wide hay and forage conference but the committee believes that the continuation of this type of conference is very important to the Kansas hay and forage industry. The committee believes that KFB should play a role in supporting this industry by either helping to maintain the current conference or through the development of our own conference similar to the KFB No-Till Conference.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and forwarded to the KFB Executive Director and CEO, for further study, 2/27/07
- The KFB Commodities Division has begun to send a representative on a periodic basis to attend Kansas Forage and Grassland Council meetings and work more closely with the council on certain issues. Specifically, the division is working with the council to plan and implement their 2008 Hay Conference which will be at KFB Headquarters on January 16, 2008.
- Status: Completed

17) Hay/Forage Committee Recommendation for Board Action:

To ~~assign appropriate staff~~ to develop a White Paper regarding the FDA rules on Implementation of the Bioterrorism Act of 2003 and their impact on hay transportation and recordkeeping requirements of hay transporters.

Explanation: Implementation of the Bioterrorism Act of 2003 by FDA has created much confusion among hay producers and dealers, regarding who is affected, and what is required. The committee heard a presentation from FDA staff and felt that much more information and clarity is needed in order to assist hay producing KFB members.

- Board Action: Accepted as amended and 2/27/07
- Assigned to the KFB Commodities Division for action.
- On August 27, 2007 a completed white paper was sent to the committee and posted on the Commodities web page.
- Status: Completed

Recommendations for Board Information – (10)

1) Beef Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Beef Committee fully supports the gradual phase-in of a mandatory national animal identification system.

Explanation: The committee believes that for both animal health and the maintenance of domestic and export demand for US meat products, a national animal identification system is vital. Currently the US is one of a few exporting countries that do not have a national animal identification system in place to track animal health concerns.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

2) Beef Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Beef Committee supports the continuation of the 30 month age limit regarding cattle originating from Canada.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

3) Dairy Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Dairy Committee fully supports the “Securing a Solid Future” seminars and encourages Kansas Farm Bureau to sponsor more of these sessions in the future, along with providing increased publicity in order to ensure that more members are aware of when and where they are.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

4) Dairy Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Dairy Committee is in support of the Kansas Dairy Commission exploring the option of issuing refunds on a quarterly basis instead of yearly.

Explanation: The committee was informed that the KDC was considering this option and that it may involve changing the appropriate state statute. The goal of the committee is to ensure that if the KDC asks for, or is in need of KFB support for this option, that the KFB Board is aware that the committee strongly suggests that Kansas Farm Bureau support the concept of the Kansas Dairy Commission issuing refunds on a quarterly basis instead of yearly.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

5) Sheep/Goat Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Sheep and Goat Committee is very concerned about the potential sale of the current KSU Sheep facility and potential retirement of Dr. Cliff Spaeth. The KFB Sheep and Goat Committee is worried about the future of the program and the impact it will have on the Kansas Sheep and Goat industry. (Alan Radcliffe; Seconded Pat Regier)

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

6) Feedgrains/Oilseeds Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The committee strongly believes that the current state and national tax incentives available to the renewable-fuels sector be vigorously supported and maintained. (Committee consensus)

Explanation: The committee is aware that livestock groups are increasing concerned about the effects that an expanding bio-fuels industry is having on feed prices and livestock sector profitability, and are concerned that there will be efforts made to eliminate many of the incentives that have been instrumental in creating and supporting the bio-fuels industry. The committee believes that it is still too early to reduce these incentives.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

7) Wheat Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Wheat Advisory Committee supports an increase in funding for wheat research.

Explanation: The committee believes that for much of Kansas, the primary grain crop grown will continue to be wheat. Because of this, funding for research is vital, especially given the lack of wheat research that occurs in the private sector.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

8) Wheat Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The KFB Wheat Advisory Committee is in support of the development of the Kansas Wheat Research Foundation, funded by royalties on seed wheat sales.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

Wheat Committee – Other issues discussed: The wheat committee prefers the separate crop and livestock conferences. They would like to have a speaker next year on wheat genome research (general – less technical). They would like to have Alan Fritz back and allow him more time.

9) Hay/Forage Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

We encourage the Board of Directors to support the Range Management camp, held at Rock Springs, as we feel it is important to provide the youth of Kansas the ability to attend a conference of this type and that it will also provide KFB with positive publicity supporting an event of this type.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

10) Hay/Forage Committee Recommendation for Board Information:

The committee supports the increased and ongoing funding of Cellulosic Ethanol Research as a viable alternative in the ethanol industry.

- Board Action: Received and filed, 2/27/07
- Status: Completed

APPENDIX 1

March 27, 2007

Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 2003N-0573

To Whom It May Concern:

Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) supports the release of the Draft Animal Cloning Risk Assessment by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and its science-based conclusions that meat and milk from cloned animals and their offspring is as safe to eat as corresponding products from animals produced using conventional practices.

Kansas Farm Bureau is the largest farm organization in Kansas with nearly 40,000 voting, farmer and rancher members involved in every facet of agricultural food, fiber and energy production. Our members believe that in order to maintain our competitive advantage in world markets we must continue to support and encourage safe, science-based advancements in technology. Because of this, KFB supports the continued development of animal cloning as an assisted reproductive technology (ART) available to farmers and ranchers along with other ART's such as artificial insemination, embryo transfer and *in vitro* fertilization.

Kansas Farm Bureau appreciates the agency's very thorough review of animal health and food consumption risks associated with animal cloning and we support the conclusions as reflected in the Draft Risk Assessment. We recognize that a rigorous, science-based risk assessment process is a vital step in ensuring the safety of the U.S. food supply. KFB further appreciates FDA's efforts to maintain a transparent dialogue with stakeholders, including the international scientific community, throughout the lengthy review process.

Our Farmer and Rancher driven policy states that, "Labels should not be required to contain information on production practices that do not affect nutrition or safety of the product." As a result, we look to FDA to provide assurance that food from animal clones would be subject to the same food safety and labeling standards as food from any conventionally produced animal and therefore not require special labeling.

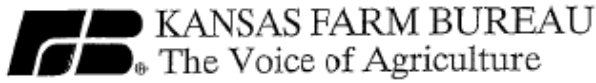
In conclusion, Kansas Farm Bureau applauds the FDA's thorough scientific review of this technology; we support the conclusions of the Draft Animal Cloning Risk Assessment that meat and milk from cloned animals and their offspring is as safe to eat as corresponding products from animals produced using conventional practices, and we encourage the finalization of the risk assessment.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Mark Nelson
Director of Commodities
Kansas Farm Bureau

APPENDIX 2



2627 KFB Plaza, Manhattan, Kansas 66503-8508 • 785-587-6000 • Fax 785-587-6602 • www.kfb.org

Office of the President

August 10, 2007

COPY

Dr. Ken Odde
Department of Animal Science
Kansas State University
232 Weber Hall
Manhattan, KS. 66506

Dear Dr. Odde:

I am writing this letter on behalf of our Farm Bureau members in Kansas concerning the important issue of the Kansas State University Dairy Judging team. It is important the Kansas State University Department of Animal Science continue its active departmental support of this key dairy judging team.

Kansas State University has a long reputation as being one of the finest dairy judging teams in the nation. Our fine university should continue to foster students in this endeavor and support from you will help ensure this continues.

The dairy industry is an important, viable part of Kansas agriculture. While the number of individual dairy producers has become smaller, milk production is on the rise. As you know, Kansas ranked 17th in the nation in total milk production last year. A decade ago, our state ranked 28th.

With your support, Kansas State University will remain actively involved in supporting this vital agricultural industry.

We thank you for your consideration on the issue of the KSU Dairy Judging team. This is an important issue. Kansas farmers and ranchers support this vital animal production industry.

Sincerely,

Steve Baccus, President
Kansas Farm Bureau

sb/js/dp



Animal Sciences and Industry
K-State Research and Extension
232 Weber Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-0201
785-532-6533
Fax: 785-532-7059

August 16, 2007

Mr. Steve Baccus
President
Kansas Farm Bureau
2627 KFB Plaza
Manhattan, Kansas 66503-8508

COPY

Dear Mr. Baccus:

Thank you for your letter concerning the Kansas State University Dairy Judging Program.

As you stated, Kansas State University does have a long history in Dairy Judging, and many other judging programs as well. The Department of Animal Sciences and Industry has recognized that judging programs offer students experience not only in the specie or discipline, but also in critical thinking and communication. Many of our graduates identify judging experience as their most rewarding experience at Kansas State University.

While we were absent a Dairy Judging Team for a period of time, I am pleased to inform you that we will have a team. In May of this year, we hired Mr. Justin Potts, a recent graduate of Virginia Tech to coach our team. Justin was a member of the Virginia Tech team a few years ago. He arrived in Manhattan in late July.

Again, thank you for your letter. I look forward to meeting you and visiting with you about this and other issues.

Regards,

Kenneth G. Odde
Professor and Head

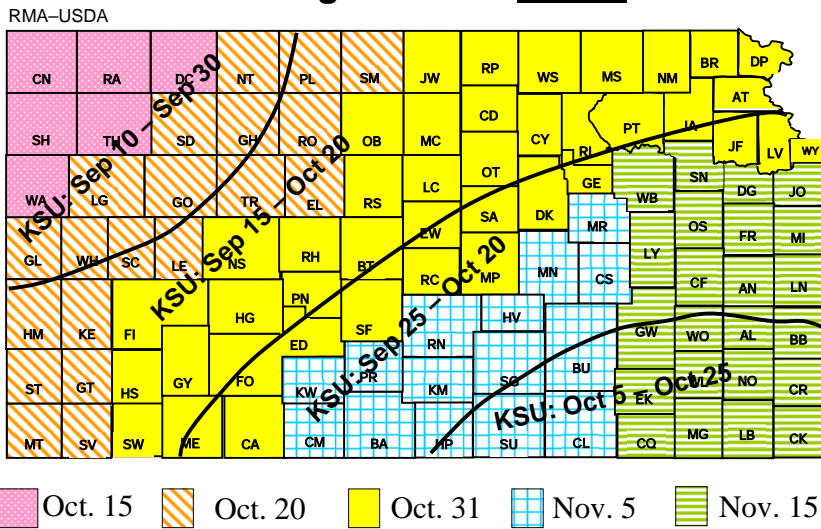
CC: Fred Cholick
Mike Brouk
Jeff Stevenson
John Smith

Kansas State University
Agricultural Experiment
Station and Cooperative
Extension Service

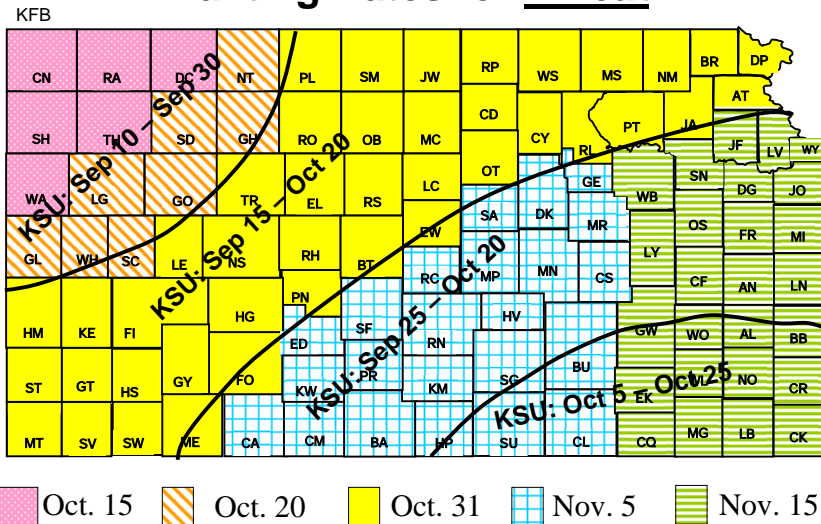
"Knowledge
for Life"

APPENDIX 3 – Feedgrains and Oilseeds Advisory Committee planting date recommendations. The first map illustrates what the RMA designated dates currently are and the second map reflects the committee’s suggestions.

Kansas 2005 Crop Year FINAL Planting Dates for Wheat

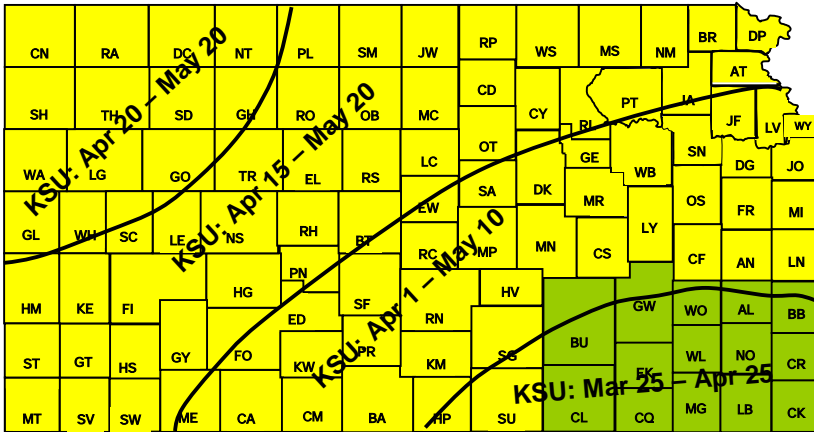


SUGGESTED Kansas FINAL Planting Dates for Wheat



Kansas 2005 Crop Year INITIAL Planting Dates For Corn

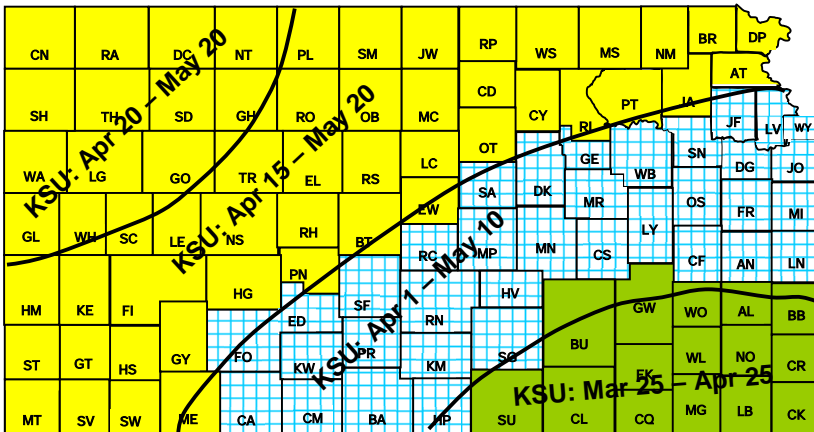
RMA-USDA



March 15 April 1

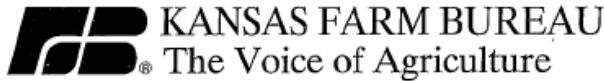
SUGGESTED Kansas INITIAL Planting Dates For Corn

KFB



March 15 March 20 April 1

APPENDIX 4



2627 KFB Plaza, Manhattan, Kansas 66503-8508 • 785-587-6000 • Fax 785-587-6914 • www.kfb.org

January 9, 2008

Kenneth R. Payne, Chief
Marketing Programs, Livestock and Seed Program
AMS-USDA, Room 2628-S
STOP 0251
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-0251

RE: Docket No. AMS-LS-07-0056; LS-07-02

Mr. Payne:

I am writing to convey Kansas Farm Bureau support for the proposed sorghum checkoff. Kansas Farm Bureau is the largest farm organization in Kansas with nearly 40,000 voting, farmer and rancher members and Kansas is the leading sorghum producing state in the nation. Our policy at both the state and national levels clearly supports the right and responsibility of producers to financially contribute to efforts to increase the research, sales and consumption of the commodities they produce.

Kansas Farm Bureau members believe that in order for sorghum to continue to be a viable crop in Kansas rotations, we must support and encourage safe, science-based advancements in crop technology. Since 1996, corn acreage in Kansas has increased 48%, from 2.5 million acres, to 3.7 million in 2007; while sorghum plantings have decreased 42%, going from 4.8 million acres in 1996 to 2.8 million acres in 2007. Through greater research, we can effectively close the technology gap that exists between sorghum and other crops most notably corn and soybeans.

We believe a national checkoff will allow more producers to pool their money, resulting in more dollars available for sorghum research. Greater dollars available will not only fund larger research projects but more importantly will create opportunities for researchers to address additional topics, such as new weed control technology and the use of sorghum in ethanol production – including cellulosic systems.

While we whole-heartedly support the proposed sorghum checkoff, we do suggest a change in the text in section §1221.116. We believe the maximum modification of the assessment rate for grain sorghum should be changed from “1” to “.4” in §1221.116(c) (1); and the maximum modification of the assessment rate for forage sorghum should be changed from “1” to “.65” in §1221.116(c) (2); effectively capping both rates at 1.0%. We would also ask that the Department consider a requirement that a producer referendum be held prior to any increase in the assessment, ensuring that producers remain in control of the dollars they pay to support checkoff activities.

In conclusion, sorghum is a vital crop in Kansas rotations and the industry needs the research a national checkoff can fund. Kansas Farm Bureau applauds the department’s efforts in developing the national sorghum checkoff proposal and we support its implementation.

Sincerely,

Mark Nelson
Director of Commodities
Kansas Farm Bureau