



A Publication of Kansas Farm Bureau

Gov. Sebelius Visits Farm Bureau Families in North-Central Kansas

Governor Kathleen Sebelius traveled to Smith and Jewell Counties for her fifth KFB Governor's Farm & Ranch Tour. The state's chief executive officer was able to view agriculture first-hand as the tour kicked off at the Jewell Community Center for breakfast and a discussion of the relationship between rural communities and the surrounding farms and ranches. Panel participants included Jewell Mayor Bill Loomis, Jewell County FB President Jim Dooley and Jewell School Board member Scott Lienberger. The Jewell Community Center was built thanks to funds awarded from Kansas Department of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant.

Tour participants then traveled to the home of David and Sherrill Sasse to focus on transitioning the family farm to the next generation and to learn about the Sasse's agritourism operation.

The tour continued at the farm of first generation producers Theron and Lori Haresnape who shared challenges from their first years of operation in acquiring land and capital, complying with ever-

changing regulations and providing health insurance for their growing family. Lunch was offered in the barn at the Haresnape/Mary Feine farm, where Gov. Sebelius offered a message to those in attendance including thanking the families who prepared their farms for the annual KFB event.

After lunch, the busses traveled to "the bluff," for a young farmer and rancher panel discussion on land acquisition and financing, health insurance, profitability and school finance. Panel members included moderator Lori Haresnape and Smith County FB members T.J. Layman, Cory Frieling and Theron Haresnape who also entertained numerous questions from the 100+ crowd.

The final stop was at recently-consolidated Rock Hills High School. Tour participants learned about the 120 students enrolled there and heard from



WHY RETURN TO SMITH COUNTY? The Haresnapes, a young farm family, made the conscious decision to earn a living from production agriculture in their home county, Smith, which boasts one of the oldest populations in Kansas. Gov. Sebelius (right) heard about their hardships but also heard their thankfulness to be able to live a farm/ranch life.

members of the team who designed the consolidation. Ice cream and cookies, courtesy of Kansas State University's Call Hall and Grain Science program, greeted the tour guests upon their return to Jewell Community Center.



ENHANCE REVENUE PROTECTION

No question about it, choosing the best time to market your crops is important. Today's successful producer also must be prudent in his/her use of crop insurance coverage. Combining the two is a sure-fire recipe for the potential of increased revenue.

Current commodity prices continue to trade considerably higher than historical averages. Today's wheat futures for July '07 are trading at \$4.70 a bushel while '08 are trading at \$4.90. These prices are approximately \$1.30 to \$1.50 a bushel more than the 10-year harvest price average of \$3.43.

KCBOT FUTURES

KCNO7	\$ 4.7000
KCN08	\$ 4.9000

APH	38
INSURED YIELD STRIKE	85%

2007 \$/ac.>Avg.	\$40.89
2008 \$/ac.>Avg.	\$47.35

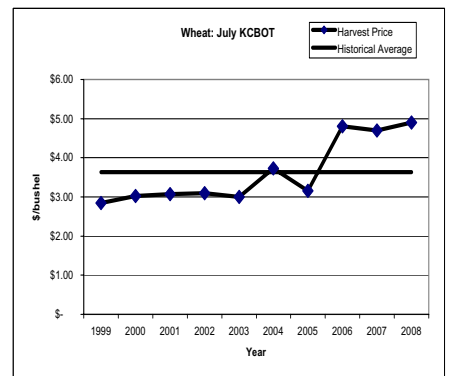
> 10 Yr. Avg.	\$88.24
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"MARKED TO MARKET" FARM UNIT CASH FLOW VALUE

If today's producer takes advantage of the current market increases and buys up higher levels of crop insurance coverage this can result in increased revenue protection. As illustrated in the chart, a yield strike at 85 percent at the 38 bushel APH (actual production history) when combined with today's commodity prices results in enhanced revenue protection of \$40.89 for 2007 wheat and \$47.35 for 2008 wheat.

KFB's *Agriculture Solutions* is a program that allows farmers the opportunity to establish a minimum hedged and insured cash flow while maintaining the upside in the market and minimizing delivery risk.

To learn more, contact Dave Spears at spearsd@kfb.org.



10 Year Avg.	Harvest Price
	\$3.43

Kansas 25x'25 Energy Group is Unveiled

Amidst reports of record-setting ethanol production in 2006, Kansas Farm Bureau was represented during a recent gathering of industry leaders and organizations who support the 25x'25 coalition. Kansas has formed a 25x'25 energy coalition to find ways to secure 25 percent of the nation's energy production from renewable resources by 2025. The coalition advocates increased use of renewable, ag-based energy production.

U.S. ethanol production set a record in June of 318,000 barrels per day, a 27% increase from last year. According to the federal energy department, renewable energy accounts for only 6 percent of the nation's total energy consumption.

Currently,

Kansas ethanol plants produce 170 million gallons of ethanol a year and new plants coming online in the next year will double that amount. The state's first biodiesel production is being developed and research and development efforts are focused on potential cellulosic ethanol production.

More information on 25x'25 is available online at 25x25.org.



THE KANSAS 25X'25 COALITION is modeled after the national organization with a steering committee including Sen. Mark Taddiken; Rep. Sharon Schwartz; Rep. Carl Holmes; Secretary of Agriculture Adrian Polansky; Brad Harrelson (pictured second from right) of Kansas Farm Bureau; Fred Cholick, dean of Kansas State University's College of Agriculture; Ken Frahm, chair of the Kansas Energy Council and Jere White representing corn and grain sorghum growers. U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran is pictured at the podium offering support for the national 25x'25 policy.

Natural Resource Winners Selected by Kansas Farm Bureau

Kansas Farm Bureau will once again recognize farm families who practice and implement outstanding land stewardship and conservation. Since 2001, Farm Bureau has selected winners from each of KFB's 10 geographic districts, along with overall state winners. These folks are recognized with a Natural Resources Award sign and a cash award and the state winners are recognized during the KFB annual meeting.

The ten district winners for 2006 are:

- ✓ 1st District, Steve & Barb Frank, Pottawatomie County
- ✓ 2nd District, Keith Thompson, Osage County
- ✓ 3rd District, James & Marie Banowetz, Labette County
- ✓ 4th District, John Cowley, Greenwood County
- ✓ 5th District, Darrell Duane Parks, Riley County
- ✓ 6th District, Jay Carswell, Osborne County
- ✓ 7th District, Cameron & Jeanne Pierce, Reno County
- ✓ 8th District, Ronald & Lois Sebes, Hodgeman County

- ✓ 9th District, Fred, Kathy, Raygan and Wil Bloom, Seward County
 - ✓ 10th District, Rick and Julie Roberts, Graham County
- State winners of the KFB Natural Resources Award are:

- ✓ 1st Place, Jay Carswell
- ✓ 2nd Place, Keith Thompson
- ✓ 3rd Place, John Cowley



CHAT WITH PAT. A group of dedicated young farmers and ranchers took time away from the farm to dine with Sen. Pat Roberts and members of his staff last month in Hays. During a listening tour, Roberts sat down with more than 65 members of Farm Bureau in Kansas and the Kansas Livestock Association to discuss issues. He entertained questions from the group for more than an hour. Roberts (right) is pictured visiting with Barton County Farm Bureau members Ron Stoss and Jeanne Wedd.



Kansas Fence Laws: Problems and Solutions

A partition fence is one located on the border between two adjacent properties held by different owners. It may be used as a common fence, meaning that each of the adjoining landowners may use it as an enclosure. These fences may be used to prevent trespassing or to mark the boundaries of the enclosed land and the possession of the person claiming title thereto.

Generally, the owners of adjoining lands are required to build and maintain in good repair all partition fences in equal shares, unless the parties agree otherwise. In practice, however, many adjoining landowners adopt the "right hand" or "left hand" rule, whereby they face each other at mid-point of their fence and agree to build and/or maintain the portion of the fence to either their respective right or left. Nevertheless, the Kansas statutes state the building and maintenance shall be in equal shares, not in halves.

If one person fails to keep his share of a partition fence in good repair and injury results to him because of his defective fence, he cannot recover for damages caused by the adjacent landowners stock. Also, the person who fails to maintain his share of a partition fence will be held liable to others who are damaged by stock escaping through the defective partitioned fence, regardless of who owns the livestock.

Controversies do arise concerning partition fences. The Kansas law does provide for settlement of these problems by any two county commissioners in the county where the fence is located. The county commissioners called in to resolve such quarrels are called fence viewers.

For more information, please contact Mike Irvin, Director of the KFB Legal Foundation at (785) 587-6621 or Terry Arthur, General Counsel, KFB. Please visit the KFB Legal Foundation Web site, kfb.org/kfblegalfoundation. For specific situations, be sure to consult a lawyer.

FARM FLASHES . . .

Interested in Renewable Energy? Attend this Event

■ The Kansas Corporation Commission's Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Conference will be Sept. 26-27 at the Ramada Inn, Topeka. Kansas Farm Bureau is a financial sponsor of the annual event.

Attendees will hear from Rep. Carl Holmes, Chair of the House Utilities Committee; Lola Spradley, Chair of the Colorado Harvesting Energy Network and Dave Hamilton, Director, Global Warming and Energy Programs for the National Sierra Club.

Multiple breakout sessions will be offered throughout the day and participants will learn the latest in Kansas' energy efforts. For more info, go to ksrenew.com.

Kansas Farm Bureau Staff Attends Animal ID/Info Expo

■ Keeping Farm Bureau members on the cutting edge of information on the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is the goal of KFB Commodities staff Mark Nelson and Nancy Brown. Nelson and Brown work with KFB's Beef Verification Solution (BVS) program and recently attended a three-day ID/INFO Expo on NAIS in Kansas City. The ID/Info Expo offered the latest information on as well as broad coverage of technical developments, traceability systems, state programs and various views on animal identification.

National Farm Safety Week Reminds Producers to Be Careful

■ The 63rd celebration of National Farm Safety & Health Week will be September 17 – 23 with the theme of "Prepare to Prevent." This week-long event began in 1944 under the direction of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. County Farm Bureaus can find promotion assistance on the Kansas Farm Bureau Web site, kfb.org/safety. As part of the national campaign on protecting farmers and ranchers, counties are encouraged to utilize education materials on preventing ATV injuries, childhood chemical poisoning and eye injuries.

USDA Announces Millions in Drought Assistance

■ Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns announced the availability of \$780 million to help farmers and ranchers manage drought and weather-related challenges. This includes a new \$50 million program for livestock producers impacted by drought, redirecting nearly \$30 million in unused conservation funds and accelerating the delivery of an estimated \$700 million in counter-cyclical payments.

Under the new Livestock Assistance Grant Program, states will distribute funds to livestock producers in counties that were designated as D3 or D4 on the Drought Monitor anytime between March 7 and Aug. 31, 2006. The nearly \$30 million in unused conservation funds includes almost \$19 million in unused Emergency Conservation Program funds and \$11 million in unused Grassland Reserve Program. Eligibility criteria and eligible counties are posted online.

USDA also plans to deliver crop year counter-cyclical payments as quickly as possible to expand the financial resources of farmers facing drought.

YF&Rs to Hold KSU Football Tailgate

■ Attention KSU fans: let us know if you're interested in gathering with your peers for a KSU football tailgate event on Oct. 7 in Manhattan. K-State will face Big 12 conference opponent Oklahoma State that day and interested ticket-holders are asked to RSVP their attendance to Rhonda McCurry at mccurryr@kfb.org or (785) 587-6826. Please RSVP by Sept. 25.

Young farmer/rancher tailgaters are asked to bring chairs and chips or cookies. Pop and water will be provided to the first 50 attendees. YF&Rs should meet two hours before kick-off in the KSU Agronomy farm parking area, north of Bill Snyder Family Stadium (on Kimball Ave). Families are welcome. Look for the purple YF&R banner and your fellow young producers and celebrate K-State football.

CRP Emergency Haying and Grazing Extended

■ Livestock producers in counties approved for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) emergency haying and grazing may now hay or graze CRP until September 30, 2006. Counties approved include Cherokee, Cheyenne, Clark, Comanche, Decatur, Edwards, Ellis, Ellsworth, Finney, Ford, Gove, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Haskell, Hodgeman, Kearny, Lane, Lincoln, Logan, Meade, Morton, Ness, Osborne, Rawlins, Rush, Russell, Scott, Seward, Sherman, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, Trego, Wichita and Wallace.

Livestock producers in eligible Kansas counties may hay or graze their own CRP, or may purchase hay or conduct emergency haying or grazing of eligible CRP acres from CRP participants in any county in an expanded area in the Midwest. The expanded area includes counties within a 150-mile radius of any approved county for emergency haying and grazing.

Kansas Farm Bureau CALENDAR

September 15

Farm Bureau Day at the Kansas State Fair

September 23

State YF&R Committee Meeting & Exhibitor Breakfast, Wichita

November 1

YF&R Contest Applications due (*Achievement Award, Discussion Meet, Excellence in Ag*)

November 16

KFB Presidents Conference, Manhattan

November 17-18

KFB Annual Meeting, Manhattan



AG EDUCATION. Johnson County Farm Bureau took advantage of county fairgoers to educate about agriculture. On Family Night of Fun, the county FB board presented stations on cow milking, egg gathering, a hay bale toss, wheat, corn and soybeans, fortune cookies filled with ag facts and a safety demonstration about skin cancer. They also offered KFB's Enviroscape, where kids built terraces and waterways with graham crackers and frosting and gave children the chance to spin an agriculture prize wheel. Kids also enjoyed a clown that made animals out of balloons. After the Family Night of Fun, Johnson County FB sponsored a mutton busting contest, grease pig contest and horse soccer game.

State Fair Features Roberts and Chambliss

U.S. Senator Pat Roberts brought Senator Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, to Kansas to visit with producers about the new Farm Bill and general agriculture policy.

Farm Bureau members and fairgoers heard from the two agriculture leaders on Sept. 9 as Roberts and Chambliss participated in an Agriculture Forum.

KFB debuted a new focus with their fair space. Attendees traveled through a hands-on and interactive exhibit called *Ag Central* to learn about commodities produced in Kansas and how they relate to their everyday lives.

FB members should bring their membership card on Farm Bureau Day, Sept. 15, for a special member prize.



FARM BUREAU FRIENDS. Farm Bureau's grassroots process to identify and endorse candidates for public office who understand and appreciate agriculture and rural Kansas is working. The Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau Board meets with Rep. Richard Carlson (61st District) to offer the FB campaign donation. Back row: Justin Abitz, Jennifer Brunkow, Ken Cravens. Front row: PT CO FB president Mike Hall, Rep. Carlson and Rheva Boswell.



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