Midwest Messenger

Cannabis for cattle

K-State research among first to analyze safety of industrial hemp as cattle feed

A pair of studies at Kansas State University is bringing new insight to farmers and producers seeking to incorporate industrial hemp in cattle feed.

After the 2018 Farm Bill legalized hemp production in the U.S., interest has grown in industrial hemp as an agricultural commodity, including as feed for animals. FDA approval, however, through the Association of American Feed Control Officials would be required before hemp could be fed to livestock or pets.

"Although hemp can be legally cultivated under license in Kansas, feeding hemp products to livestock remains prohibited because the potential for cannabinoid drug residues to accumulate in meat and milk has not been studied," said Hans Coetzee, professor and head of the anatomy and physiology department in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

A team of K-State researchers recently received a \$200,000 Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture to establish concentrations of cannabinoids in livestock after exposure to industrial hemp.

"Industrial hemp is typically grown to produce oil, seed, fiber and medicines," said Michael Kleinhenz, assistant professor of beef production medicine. "While varieties of hemp may be planted for a single or dual purpose, such as for seed and fiber, byproducts consisting of leaves, fodder and residual plant fibers remain after harvest. These byproducts could serve as potential feedstuffs for animals. Because these are predominantly cellulose-containing plant materials, the ideal species for utilizing these feeds are ruminant animals, specifically cattle."



TOG

ROUNDUP

Looking back...

Seven cousins pose on the back of a very gentle horse around 1926 on the Arends farm near Talmage, Nebraska: Mayree Arends, left, Raymond Arends, Lucy Teten, Amelia Teten, the next two boys are unknown, and the last boy is Herman Arends. Photo submitted by Herman Arends' children, Duane Arends. Nebraska City, and Barbara Neemann, Weeping Water.

Set up calves for success before weaning this fall

As college kids leave home for the first time, it is important that they transition with a plan that includes being current on immunizations, following good study habits, establishing selfcontrol at the buffet counter and having financial support in place so they have the greatest chance for success in their new environment.

In much the same way, calves are most successful in transitioning off the farm when they've had good care, are current on their vaccinations, and have been exposed to the challenges of a changing diet. For the experts at the Kansas State University Beef Cattle Institute, many of these factors occur before weaning to minimize the stress of change.

"The goal of any pre-conditioning program should be to prepare the calf for the next event in its life," said Bob Weaber, K-State beef cattle extension specialist.

Pre-conditioning refers to the care the calf gets on the ranch before it's weaned and before it enters the feedlot or a stocker operation.

From a health standpoint, vaccinations should be given

while the calf is still nursing its dam, said K-State veterinarian Bob Larson.

"The best immune response to vaccinations will happen when the calves are not stressed and they are not carrying a parasite load," Larson said.

He added that immunity often does not reach effective levels until about three weeks after the vaccines are administered.

Another step in preparing the male calves is to have them castrated. The veterinarians advise cow-calf producers to take care of that early in the calf's life.

"Castrating calves when they are two to three months of age causes minimal stress, allowing them to recover quickly. But the older the calf is when he has that done, the more it will challenge him," Larson said.

Along with taking care of the animal's health needs, the experts said it is important to train the calves to eat from a feed

LIVESTOCK ROUNDUP

Cannabis

Continued from page 22

While there is interest in the use of hemp for cattle feeds, there are questions about whether the feed can be used safely because of concerns about tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, intoxication and the presence of other bioactive cannabinoids. Kleinhenz noticed that most research was focused on humans, mice and swine, but not on cattle.

"This is surprising because cattle can readily utilize industrial hemp byproducts as they can digest cellulose plant materials in their rumens," Kleinhenz said

Kleinhenz is part of a multidisciplinary research team consisting of pharmacologists, toxicologists, analytical chemists and horticulture experts. The hemp used in the studies was grown at K-State's John C. Pair Horticultural Center near Wichita.

"We observed that the acidic cannabinoids, such as CBDA and THCA, are more readily absorbed from the rumen than other nonacid cannabinoid forms, such as CBD and CBG," Kleinhenz said. "Now that we have found that some cannabinoids are readily absorbed from the rumen, the next steps are to study the tissue and milk residue depletion profiles of these compounds after animal feeding experiments. The effects of cannabinoids on cattle are also unknown."

Follow-up experiments will include pilot studies to examine the effect of feeding hemp on animal behavior and immune function.

"Our goal is to fill in the knowledge gaps," Kleinhenz said. "Until feedstuffs containing hemp are established as safe in animals, our data will assist producers in managing situations involving intentional or unintentional hemp exposures.

The two published studies are "Nutrient concentrations, digestibility, and cannabinoid concentrations of industrial hemp plant components," which can



Submitted photos

(TOP) Buds from industrial hemp plants that are being studied at Kansas State University for possible use in cattle feed.

(BOTTOM) Kansas State University veterinary researchers Hans Coetzee, left, and Michael Kleinhenz are studying the safety of using industrial hemp in feed for cattle.

be found in the journal Applied Animal Science, and "Plasma concentrations of eleven cannabinoids in cattle following oral administration of industrial hemp (Cannabis sativa)," which was published in Scientific Reports.



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Pasture and Forage Minute

Use caution when feeding weedy hay Winterizing alfalfa key to production

By Ben Beckman

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension

Whether its cattle or corn, hay or hogs, we take pride in what we produce. However, when it comes to hay, sometimes a weedy pasture or field is all that's available, and the extra forage is needed. Can weedy bales still find use on the farm?

Foremost, weedy hay has the potential to move weed seed around and create problems in pastures and yards that we didn't have to worry about before. If weedy bales come from our own operation, we can confine their storage and feeding, keeping weed seed from spreading to new areas.

This becomes more difficult when bales are purchased and brought in, especially in emergency situations like a wildfire or drought when we can't afford to be picky. Purchasing quality hay from a reputable seller can help, but even then a few weeds may slip by. Keep track of where off-farm bales are fed and check back in the spring and summer for new plant species. Catching a possible problem early can help keep it under control.

Some weedy species have the potential to be toxic to livestock even after drying and curing. When grazing, animals can pick around problem species, but dried in hay, selectivity is reduced, especially if the hay ends up in the grinder. Identify questionable species to make sure problems won't arise when feeding. Identification is best done with a fresh sample, but even a ballpark ID on a dried sample is better than leaving it to chance.

Finally, weedy hay can have issues with quality. Often this hay came from an already stressed location that allowed the weeds to establish and take over. Overall quality of this hay may be low enough to not meet animal nutrient requirements. Sampling hay for analysis takes minimal time and money, but can pay off big later in animal performance.

Weedy hay isn't ideal, but it can still be useful. Be mindful of weed seed, check for potentially toxic species, and test for quality when feeding to keep issues to a minimum and maximize use.

By Megan Taylor

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension

The consideration to cut alfalfa later into September or October has implications for next spring.

Typically alfalfa needs six weeks of uninterrupted growth before the average first frost to winterize. The winterization process itself, takes three weeks, but having a total of six weeks helps to mitigate risks by allowing the alfalfa to move stored reserves to the roots and become acclimated to changing temperatures. The added three weeks before winterization acts as insurance for early frosts as well.

Allowing alfalfa to successfully winterize is key to having productive stands next spring and reducing long term losses in your alfalfa stand.

Stress during the season also plays a role in the winterization process. Environmental stresses such as drought, heat, hail or frost cause slower regrowth and shorter stands in season. Even the amount of times we cut stands and the age of the stand are stress considerations.

If you are trying to push the six-week rule, remember that alfalfa that has been heavily stressed throughout the season or older stands would benefit from having uninterrupted growth to complete the winterization process.

When planning your last cutting for older or stressed alfalfa stands, keep in the mind the dates for establishing fall alfalfa as a guide to your last cutting. The window for growth leading into fall ranges throughout the state of Nebraska.

In northern and western portions of Nebraska the last cutting has wrapped up and stands are beginning the winterization process. However, as we move south the date is expanded to mid-September. In areas that have also received adequate rainfall it may be tempting to try to take another cutting in September or even push October.

Remember that these fields will have a slow start next year and may have issues overwintering if the stands are stressed or older.

Bottom line: alfalfa needs at least six weeks of uninterrupted growth into the fall to be the most successful when it comes to winterization. Edging into that six weeks is an added risk. Later cuttings can be possible for stands that are newer and have been under relatively low stress this season, but expect delays next spring.

What to consider when pricing silage? By Brad Schick

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension

How much is silage worth? What about drought or hail damaged corn silage? Setting a fair price is not always easy.

With the basis right now in many areas in Nebraska, corn is floating just north of \$3 per bushel.

One ton of corn silage that is priced standing in the field is valued at 7.65 times the price of corn, for silage is put up at 60-65% moisture. Right now that means about \$23 per ton. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln recommendation is to use the 7.65 factor, but a range of 7-8 is very typical.

What about chopping, hauling, filling or packing? The Nebraska Custom Rates Survey indicates \$10 per ton for these services. What if you do your own packing, but someone chops and hauls the silage out of the field? Then the most common rate is \$8 per ton of silage.

Adjusting price for drought or hail damaged corn silage can be more difficult. This silage will generally still have 85-95% of the energy value of normal silage. Specific numbers will depend on how extreme the hail or drought has been. Taking a starch analysis of the silage to base the price on starch or energy can accurately reflect the true value of silage. The dry matter starch content as a percentage divided by 0.70 will give a close idea of how much grain is in the silage.

To review: standing silage is 7.65 times the corn price per ton. Custom chopping hauling and packing will be around \$10 per ton. Consider a starch analysis to price hail or drought damaged corn silage later.



Weaning

Continued from page 22

bunk and locate the type of water source they will see during the next phase of life.

"If the calves get dehydrated and aren't eating, then their immune response will be weakened," Larson said.

Part of that preparation may include letting them drink from a cattle waterer instead of a pasture pond, Weaber said. Exposing them to grain prior to weaning will help them make the transition to the backgrounding operation easier, as

Submitted photo

well. Backgrounding refers to co-mingling weaned calves of a similar age and continuing to grow them prior to entering the feed yard.

To build the best pre-conditioning program, the experts recommend the following:

- Prepare the calves for their new environment by exposing them to new water sources and feed.
- Manage the nutritional needs of the calves.
- Minimize stressors prior to weaning.
- Stimulate immunity through a vaccination program that matches the disease challenges those calves are going to face.
- Create a comprehensive plan for understanding optimum preweaning activities.

Getting pre-weaned calves accustomed to drinking from cattle waterers is one way to prepare them for their transition off the farm.

LIVESTOCK ROUNDUP



Senses and sense: To perfect your sport, think like a leader

By Morgan Marley Certified Angus Beef

Humans developed over millennia to hunt and herd. When it's time to move animals, instincts send us out with a purpose but sometimes little thought to how our aggressive behavior affects what they do.

Stepping into a cattle pen, we naturally act the predator, manipulating where animals go. But good handling practices should turn us into leaders, says Kip Lukasiewicz.

The veterinarian now works through Production Animal Consultation to teach ranchers and cattle feeders across the country how to use their senses-sight, hearing, smell and touch - to understand and guide animals.

Study the behaviors

Rather than simply putting animals up front and pushing, a true communicator leads them through any facility or environment.

"I wish people could lose their voice," Lukasiewicz said, "and learn to directly communicate with their eyes, their position and their posture.'

The shoulder, rib and hip are pressure points applied through body language. Response time is grounded in trust. Like a close friend, familiar cattle have a smaller flight zone and need more pressure to move. Less trust takes less pressure.

Disciplined learning

Special-forces military teams train to understand what another person is thinking, what they will do in any situation, to predict what will happen so there are no mistakes.

To work as a team, Lukasiewicz suggests new ranch hands watch and learn before stepping into the corral.

"A cow can focus on one or two people at a time," he said.

Sorting pairs doesn't take but two people. It helps ensure a quiet process that's also efficient.

The USDA Meat Animal Research Center (MARC), with its 8,000-head cow herd and 6,400-head feedyard, is a testament to the benefits of a change in approach. In just six years working with Lukasiewicz, herd demeanor has changed dramatically, says MARC livestock manager Chad Engle.

He's seen a difference across the 28 cattle breeds at MARC, with fewer accidents and injuries, too.

"Doctor Kip has evolved my thinking on training new employees," he said. The need for experience on a resume has been replaced by "want to" in the interview.

Every win comes from disciplined action, and good stockmanship is no different.

"All professional athletes watch film of themselves," he said. "And I consider myself a professional athlete at the end of the day."

Visuals are still important to Lukasiewicz, whether it's a drone shot above a facility or just watching cattle load out. How cattle behave as they move though pens or where they place their feet on unlevel ground tells what the animals need.

"By doing that, I designed a chute load-out with steps," he said. "The width and depth of the steps gave more animal comfort as they were loading or coming off the truck."

Being in the cattle business comes with high risk and investments.

"So make sure it's right," Lukasiewicz said.

The bottom line

"Good health isn't secured with just a needle and syringe, it's our approach," Engle said.

Weaning starts the day a calf is born, in terms of how they're handled and human interaction.

"It takes a skill that isn't just born and natural," he explained. "It takes being taught."

Avoiding psychological pressure in stressful situations leads to more effective vaccine treatment.

"If we treat an animal, something went wrong in the system," Engle said. "Not treating calves or having people get injured is hard to put a price tag on."

When cattle have positive interactions with people, it's more fun for evervone.

"I hope cattle enjoy our interaction," said Byron Ford, a rancher and feeder near Cairo, Nebraska. "When you learn to work cattle this way, they look forward to seeing you."

It makes his role as caregiver easier, too. Prey animals are experts at hiding sickness, so when they're more comfortable it's easier to find those having a bad day, Ford said.

Making big changes requires leader buy-in, and the leader isn't always atop some corporate ladder.

"Sometimes the team leader isn't the smartest or most well equipped," Lukasiewicz said. "But they are the person that is relatable and inspiring."

It just takes the action of one person to show others the way.

LIVESTOCK CALENDAR PAGE

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Broken Bow Livestock, Special Cattle & Bred Cow, Broken Bow, Neb.
- 11 Carlson Cattle Co Annual Female Sale, Monroe, Neb.
- 11 Dunlap Livestock Auction, Special Calf/Yrlg, Dunlap, Iowa
- 11 Dunlap Livestock Auction, Special Calf/Yrlg,
- 11 Ft. Pierre Livestock, Special Yrla & Fall Calf. Ft. Pierre, S.D.
- 12 Ogallala Livestock Auction Market, Regular Sale, Ogallala, Neb.
- 15 Bassett Livestock Auction, Western Video
- 15 Creighton Livestock Market, Feeders & Yearlings, Creighton, Neb. 27
- 15 Pender Livestock Market, Cattle Sale, Pender,
- 17 Broken Bow Livestock, All Class Cattle,
- 17 Ogallala Livestock, Special Stocker & Feeder,
- 17 Schultz Cattle Cairo, Neb. Online Show Cattle Sale at Show Cattle Connection
- 17 Valentine Livestock, Special Feeder, Valentine,
- 17 West Point Livestock, All Class Calf &
- 18 Burwell Livestock, Weigh Up, Burwell, Neb.
- 18 Lexington Livestock Market, Special Feeder,
- 19 Creighton Livestock Market, Bird & Animal/ Alternative Livestock, Creighton, Neb
- 19 Ericson Spalding Livestock, Special Cattle, Ericson, Neb......27
- 21-22 Sandhills Cattle Association 81st Annual Convention & Trade Show at Thedford County Fairgrounds, Neb.
- 23 Triple J Show Cattle Craig, Neb. Online Show Cattle Sale at SC Online Sales

OCTOBER

- PAGE
- Grand Hills Charolais Dispersal Sale, Eaton, 3 CO.
- 3 Overmiller Gelbvieh & Red Angus/ September Farms Sweetest Cherries on the Prairie Female Sale, Smith Center, Kan.
- 5 Gateway Genetics Pierce, Neb. Online Fall & Heifer Sale Online at SC Online Sales

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	Mike Cell 402-380-8275	LIVESTOCK MARKET,	SPALDING ERICSON, NEBRASKA	F. SEIDEL: D. GEIGER:	 70 Black, BWF & RWF Heifers 675-750#, Preg'd Open, Green 70 Black & Baldy Steers 750-825#, No Implants, Off Grass, Green
Gyplia Special Stocke Thursday Septe Odd Lots - 9:00 Loa A BAR C CHRIS GENTRY (6 Hfrs., 750-850#, IMI NHTC & A	All Natural	2500-3000 H <u>Weigh Ups</u> 9:00, Odd Lots 10:00, Pa Most calves have been preconditioned—Vac. Calves/Yearlings 650 ANG HFRS, Off Grass 700-800#. 25 ANG STRS, Off Grass 700-800#. 200 ANG STRS, Off Grass 700-800#. 200 ANG YEARLING HFRS, G.O. 1 Iron, 200 ANG & ANG X STRS, Off Grass 85 100 ANG CALVES, Mostly HFRS 600-7 100 ANG HFRS, Off Grass, Home Rais 750-800#	DAVID & ERIC VOLK 1 Raising 850-900#. DAN DAVENPORT 50-900# CODY & KAYLA CONE 700# MELVIN KNOX & FAMILY	C & N VINSON:	 60 Black Angus Steers & Heifers 950# 58 Black Angus Yearlings 750-850# G.O. 50 Black & a few BWF Steers 850-925# 50 Black Angus Yearlings 950-1050# 45 Black & a few Char X Calves 300-400# 30 Black Angus Fall Yearlings 650-750# 30 Black Angus Fall Steers 650-700# Green 28 Black & Red Angus-Simm Composite Steers 775-850#, Green 26 Mostly Black Steers & Heifers 700-750# 25 Black & Red Heifers 750-800#, No Implants, G.O. 25 Black WF & a few RWF Steers & Heifers 500-700#, No Implants, Off Grass
Red Ang Strs, 950-1025#, 32- RUSHCREEK LAND & LIVES Born Strs & Hfrs, 550-650# COYOTE LAKE RANCH ML Hfrs., 800-925#, Hfrs-Spayed BRIAN BIESEMEIER (150) Ar Checked Open WINE GLASS RANCH (150) A LARRY TRENARY (100) Blk, I ***Many more lots rang	d, NHTC & China EV) 115-Blk & Ang & Bwf Strs, 750-775# TOCK (300) Char Ang X Fall & CHARLIE (270) Ang Strs & & Preg Checked Open ng Hfrs., 700-750#, Preg	70 ANG CALVES 600-700#	MARK MORROW MARK MORROW CHAD PETERSON ED SLADEK & SONS MCKAY AND PELSTER SCOTT KLINGINSMITH MIKE & MARLENE PRITCHARD JAMES RITZ ROBERT GODDARD salves at side VECH RANCH 4, 31 – Special Cattle Auctions iew & bid, www.cattleusa.com	D. KAUTH: C & J WINGERT: T. BRAUN R. RYSTROM R. SOBOTKA Other Consignments Timperley, C. Forker, B B. Kuester D. Fick D &	 20 Black Yearlings 900-950# 20 Black Heifers 600-700# 20 Black Mostly Steers 200-400# PC 21 Mixed Heifers 750-800# 16 Black Steers 700-750# Green, Off Grass 16 BWF Steers 900-925# No Implants, Off Grass 15 Black & BWF Yearlings 800-850# 15 Black Mostly Steers 400-450# Vaccinated 15 Black Angus Fall Yearlings 600-700# by: D. Kienow, H. Gubbels, S. Wieseler, G. Wostrel, D. 3 & D Munter, A. Haase, M. Ahlers, S. Nelson, J. Kirstine, A Schlote September 19th: Alternative Animal & Fauiment Auction

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CREIGH 402-35	TON LIVESTOCK MARKET 8-3449 • Toll Free 1-877-SALEBARN			
	DAY, SEPTEMBER 15 TH , 2020 11:30 AM** BALES OF UPLAND PRAIRIE HAY – 2020 CROP**			
	FEEDER CALVES & YEARLINGS			
BIERMAN FAMILY:	160 Black Angus Yearlings 800-950# Green, Heifers G.O.			
GREAT WEST:	128 Black Steers & Heifers 675-750#			
D. SCHAEFER:	90 Black & a few Red Mostly Heifers 850-950#			
E. FICK:	75 Red Angus & a few Black Yearlings			
	40) Heifers 600-700# (35) Steers 700-800#			
A. WRAGGE:	70 Black & Red Steers & Heifers 600-700# PC,			
	No Implants			
PAVLIK BROTHERS:	70 (50) Black & BWF Mostly Steers 850-950#, No Implants, Green			
	(20) Black & BWF Calves 575-675# W & PC, Green			
F. SEIDEL:	70 Black, BWF & RWF Heifers 675-750#,			
I. OLIDEL.	Preq'd Open, Green			
D. GEIGER:	70 Black & Baldy Steers 750-825#, No Implants,			
D. GEIGEN.	Off Grass, Green			
B & C BROCKMAN:	60 Black Angus Steers & Heifers 950#			
L. SCHACHT:	58 Black Angus Yearlings 750-850# G.O.			
E. EBEL:	50 Black & a few BWF Steers 850-925#			
J. CRUMLY:	50 Black Angus Yearlings 950-1050#			
A. BRASCH:	45 Black & a few Char X Calves 300-400#			
D. GREGOR:	30 Black Angus Fall Yearlings 650-750#			
R. RUDA:	30 Black Angus Fall Steers 650-700# Green			
B & D. PINKERMAN:	28 Black & Red Angus-Simm Composite Steers			
D & D. FINKLINNAN.	775-850#, Green			
R. HOFER:	26 Mostly Black Steers & Heifers 700-750#			
HASELHORST BROS:				
C & N VINSON:	25 Black WF & a few RWF Steers & Heifers 500-700#.			
	No Implants, Off Grass			
J. BORG:	20 Black Yearlings 900-950#			
M. SCHLOTE:	20 Black Heifers 600-700#			
R & P SCHROEDER:	20 Black Mostly Steers 200-400# PC			
	5: 17 Mixed Heifers 750-800#			
D. KAUTH:	16 Black Steers 700-750# Green, Off Grass			
C & J WINGERT:	16 BWF Steers 900-925# No Implants, Off Grass			
T. BRAUN	15 Black & BWF Yearlings 800-850#			
R. RYSTROM	15 Black Mostly Steers 400-450# Vaccinated			
R. SOBOTKA	15 Black Angus Fall Yearlings 600-700#			
	s by: D. Kienow, H. Gubbels, S. Wieseler, G. Wostrel, D.			
Timperley, C. Forker, B & D Munter, A. Haase, M. Ahlers, S. Nelson, J. Kirstine,				
B. Kuester, D. Fick, D & A Schlote				
UPCOMING SALES	S September 19th: Alternative Animal &			
C. Somma SALL	Equipment Auction			
	Sentember 22nd: NO SALE			

September 22nd: NO SALE

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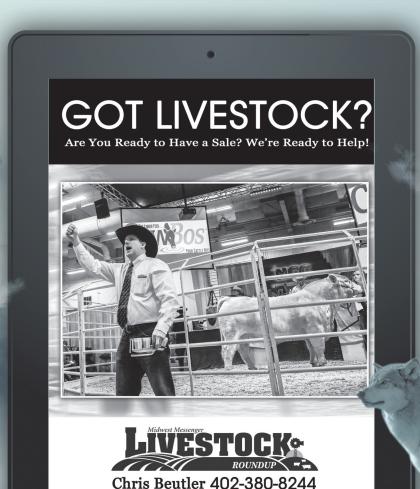
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