



**September 11, 2009**

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### **Upcoming Events & Meetings**

## **MBIC Election results are in!**

District 1 Representative: Pat Wood

District 2 Representative: John Ridder

District 3 Representative: Gerald Campbell

Congratulations to all district representatives.

## **U of Missouri develops method to detect live E. coli in ground beef**

*Released by meetingplace.com 9/10/09*

University of Missouri food scientists have developed a new method to detect live E. coli O157:H7 cells in ground beef.

The two-step method can distinguish between dead and living E. coli cells. Dead cells will not make people ill, but as few as ten live cells can cause severe intestinal illness, according to Azlin Mustapha, associate professor of food science in the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

The research uses a technique called a real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR), a quick, reliable method for detecting and identifying pathogens in food. However, PCR can't differentiate living from dead microbial cells. The presence of dead cells may result in false-positive findings, which could result in unnecessary product recalls, Mustapha said in a news release.

To prevent this, researchers stain samples with a dye called ethidium bromide monoazide (EMA). EMA cannot penetrate live cells, but it can enter dead cells. In dead cells EMA binds to DNA molecules, making them insoluble and therefore invisible to PCR tests.

The researchers have had success using the new technique on ground beef, chicken and eggs.

Testing takes about 12 hours, compared with older methods, which require

### Tiger Ag Classic

Sept. 11, 10:30 a.m.  
L.A. Nickell Golf Course  
Columbia, Mo.

### Macon County

Sept. 14, 6:30 p.m.  
Northern Star Restaurant  
Macon, Mo.

### Farm Safety College

Sept. 15, 8 a.m.  
Trowbridge Arena  
Columbia, Mo.

### Johnson County

Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m.  
Phelp's Charolais Ranch  
Holden, Mo.

### Green County

Sept. 17, 7 p.m.  
Golden Corral - North Kansas

### Board of Directors

Sept. 24, 10 a.m.  
MCA Headquarters  
Columbia, Mo.

### MCF Charity Weekend

Sept. 25-27  
Golden Hills Trail Ride/Resort  
Raymondville, Mo.

**Newton County** Sept. 26,  
5:30 p.m.  
Cedar Creek Ranch

up to two days to generate results, Mustapha noted.

## Stockmanship and Stewardship Tour

**Who:** Sponsored by NCBA

**What:** 2009 Beef Research and Teaching Farm Field Day

**When:** 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17

**Where:** University of Missouri South Farm

**Why:** "Increase your profits ... and boost the beef economy!"

**For more info:** 573.882.2829

*"The Field Day cattle producers can't afford to miss!"*



## Members to receive discount with Mellor Trailers

Mellor Trailers in Booneville, Mo. is offering a discount to all Missouri Cattlemen's Association members (with proof of membership). Membership forms are available at the time of sale.

### Discounts include:

**10% discount** off parts and accessories

**\$100.00 off** trailer purchases **upto \$5000.00**

**\$200.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00**

**\$300.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00**

**\$400.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00**

**\$500.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$20,000.00 and up**

Discounts may not apply to certain items already discounted or on promotions. Please call for details.

**PLUS!** In conjunction with Elite Trailers and Mellor Trailers, MCA is rewarding

Neosho, Mo.

**Crawford County**

Oct. 3, 4 p.m.

Steelville City Park

Steelville, Mo.

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one member with the free use of an Elite trailer (as shown above) for one year, which will be given at the Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade show. To be eligible for this reward, an MCA member must pre-register for the MCA Convention and Trade Show. Furthermore, the member must be present at the convention awards banquet to win.

**Mellor Trailer Sales**

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**For more information, contact MCA at (573)499-9162 or at [cattleinfo@mocattle.com](mailto:cattleinfo@mocattle.com).**

## Upcoming Foundation events

**Farm Safety College** is will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at Trowbridge Arena in Columbia, Mo. The event is open to seventh through tenth grades. Stations include ATV, electricity, sun safety, first aid, firearm safety and more. The event is sponsored by MCF and by Mizzou Collegiate CattleWomen.

**Charity Weekend and Trailride** will be held Sept. 25-27 at Golden Hills Trail Ride and Resort in Raymondville, Mo. Enjoy a weekend on the trails, by the ponds and lakes, and out in the peaceful countryside. The proceeds of this event go to MCF's youth programs.

**BEEF** *Checking in on the Checkoff*

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**First woman set to chair Senate Ag Committee**

*Released by BEEFmagazine.com 9/11/09*

In a move sure to please Southern ag interests, Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) has been named chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. She is widely viewed as a friend to Southern agriculture. She will set precedent as the first woman and Arkansan to helm the 184-year-old committee.

The Wednesday announcement was part of a committee chairmanship reshuffle necessitated by the death of Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA), who had chaired the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. Lincoln's rise to chairman became possible when Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA), who had been helming the Senate Agriculture Committee, agreed to take Kennedy's former position.

"Coming from a seventh-generation Arkansas farming family, and as a farmer's daughter, I know my father is smiling down on me today," Lincoln, a Helena, AR native, said during a Wednesday press conference. "I'm honored and it's a privilege to serve as the Senate Agriculture Committee as chairman. ... It's a committee of significant importance to my constituents and (Arkansas') economy."

Lincoln has served on the Senate Agriculture Committee since being elected in 1998. Prior to that, during a stint in the House, she served on the House Agriculture Committee.

During the press conference, Lincoln was quickly reminded of several difficult issues she will face in her new role. First up: how will she tackle climate change legislation considering the decidedly unenthusiastic response to it by ag groups?

"I do share many of their concerns in terms of the climate change bill that came out of the House. It does appear to present them with an unfortunate circumstance of probably increased input costs without an awful lot of the allowances that are being used to try and offset industries that will see increased input costs.

"I think agriculture has a much bigger role to play. I have no problem with our objective of trying to lower our carbon output, certainly lessen our dependence on foreign oil and, more importantly, get Americans back to work in some of these new renewable energy efforts.

"But I must say that creating this bill presents some issues, particularly for the farm community. If there's anything I want, it's to get things right."

As chairman, Lincoln promised to strive for "balance. We have unbelievable diversity across this great country in terms of products we grow. I think enhancing that and creating an environment where everyone can be productive is key, particularly in this economic environment."

Regarding farm-bill implementation, "we negotiated a farm bill that got 80-plus votes. It's critical when we negotiate those bills and put that before Congress and get that kind of response, it's important that we follow through with implementing what was passed.

"It's not only important in terms of process - and that we don't let that process break down - but ... it's also for the people who are being ruled and regulated by the laws we create. It's basically a contract with production agriculture and gives them with some ... guidelines for a period of time. (Farming) is a very, very volatile industry with ups and downs caused by a multitude of things: disastrous weather, the marketplace, trade (and) input costs."

Farm bills provide producers "consistency to be able to make business plans

over a period of time. They know they'll have good years and bad years. But to have something they can predict in terms of what the government environment will be for them is really critical."

Asked about the USDA changing the definition of an "actively engaged" farmer, Lincoln was dismissive of the agency's current approach. "I thought it was well defined in the bill. If nothing else, (USDA) should certainly be doing it in consultation with (the Senate Agriculture Committee). If (the USDA) is confused about our intent, then they should work with us ... so it's done correctly."

Lincoln did strike a note a bit different than Harkin when asked about regulation of the derivatives market -- specifically for over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives. Unlike Harkin, who was contemptuous of OTC, Lincoln believes "there's a very small, narrow place for over-the-counter. We're investigating how that can be handled. There does need to be more transparency and I hope we'll see more regulations on derivatives ... and greater oversight.

Does she think more needs to be more done to crack down on excessive speculation by derivatives traders?

"Yes, I think there's a spot for that," she said.

-- David Bennett, Farm Press

## Save your Ralgro Wheels

### **Wheels for Bucks: Turn those empty wheels into cash!**

For every 10 empty wheels (or every 5 empty Magnum Strips) received, Schering Plough will donate a full wheel of Ralgro! These full wheels will be auctioned off Friday evening, Dec. 12 during the Cattlemen's Foundation Fund-Raising Auction.

The proceeds will be split equally between the MCF Scholarship Fund to assist young people achieve a higher education and leadership and youth development activities supported by the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

So get with your neighbors and start saving those wheels NOW!!!  
Get them to the Cattle Industry Headquarters or bring them with you to the Convention! Just don't forget to turn them in!

## Beef Cattle: Winter will be back sooner than you think, now is the time for planning!

*Released by CattleNetwork 9/4/09*

Researchers at the University of Missouri compared three typical methods of wintering beef cows. However, nobody has actually done the research, until now, to see if there truly is a difference in cow and calf performance between these "typical wintering methods." The three methods included in this study compared, feeding only hay (HY), feeding hay with a supplement (HS) or feeding stockpiled tall fescue (STF) over a two-year period, during the winters of 2006 and 2007.

The hay in the HY and HS treatments was very typical of Missouri fescue hay; the crude protein (CP) and neutral detergent fiber (NDF) were 7.7 %, 71.6% and 8.0%, 74.2% for year 1 and year 2, respectively. Needless to say, the

hay was definitely on the low end of the quality scale, but is very typical in Missouri.

During August of both trial years, 40 lbs N/acre from ammonium nitrate was applied to the STF paddock treatment and allowed to grow until the start of the trials in November 2006 and December 2007. The STF treatment had pre-grazing nutrition levels of 11.8 % CP, 67.2 %NDF, and 36.2 % ADF, which was definitely higher in nutrition than the hay. STF was strip-grazed and the cattle were moved approximately twice a week. At the end of the winter grazing season the STF had decreased CP 7.4%, and increased ADF and NDF levels (the higher the ADF and NDF values, the lower quality the forage is), and still better nutritionally than the hay.

During year 1 of the trial, HS treatment cows were supplemented with 0.88 pounds of corn per day until midway through the calving season (March 16th) and then increased to 2.7 pounds of corn plus 3.2 pounds of dried distiller's grains with solubles (DDGS) per day until March 27, 2006 (the end of year number 1). During year 2, cows in the HS treatment were supplemented with 2.4 pounds of corn and 2 pounds of DDGS for a total of 4.4 pounds per day of supplement, throughout the winter period, which ended March 26, 2007.

Basically, the results of the three treatments showed what producers could expect to see at home. The STF cows actually gained almost 50 pounds during the first winter while the cows on the HY and HS treatments lost 12 and 39 pounds, respectively. During year 2, cows on STF, HS and HY lost 114, 109 and 187 pounds respectively. One reason for the dramatic weight loss, in year 2, was the cold wet weather increasing their energy requirements. Snow and ice also decreased the accessibility of the STF, which could explain the average weight loss of 114 pounds.

When all was said and done, the STF and HS cows made it through the winter better than the HY cows. The HS cows seemed to regain their weight losses with spring grass. It is interesting to note in year 2 that the HS and HY cows had a higher incidence of calf death due to hypothermia and respiratory diseases. The researchers observed that the STF treatment didn't have the mud problems that the other two treatments had. Cows and calves were constantly being moved in the STF treatment, which decreased the time they spent in wet and muddy areas.

After seeing the results of this particular research project, stockpiling fescue makes practical sense. Take advantage of the ample rain we have had this past year, add some nitrogen fertilizer to a hay meadow or pasture and invest in some temporary electric fence and you will not only have a great source of nutritional winter feed for your cows. The beef cattle market is in somewhat of a downturn this year, so make every penny count and wean as many live healthy calves as you can. This research project shows that producers can keep more live healthy calves when stockpiling, and that cows will winter better with that "old fescue" when it is fed right. Cows and calves will be more comfortable and do better over the course of the winter.

Source: Wendy Flatt, University of Missouri Extension Livestock Specialist

**Missouri Farmer Today**

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## Livestock Indemnity filing deadline is Sept .13

Released by BEEFmagazine.com 9/8/09

If you're going to file a claim under the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) for losses incurred from Jan. 1, 2008, through July 12, 2009, you have until Sept. 13.

LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold.

"Producers need to file a notice of loss and complete the application for payment at the local county office of the Farm Service Agency (FSA)," says Dwight Aakre, North Dakota State University Extension Service farm management specialist. "A notice of loss can be reported by the producer to the local FSA office by phone, fax, email or in person."

Aakre explains LIP compensates producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality rates because of adverse weather that occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011. A disaster designation is not needed to trigger payment eligibility for LIP. Payments will be based on a producer's eligible losses due to adverse weather conditions.

"Payment rates are per head, type of livestock and weight range," Aakre says. "Payments are based on 75% of fair market value as determined by the FSA."

Last week, USDA announced it split its "above 400 lbs." LIP category for non-adult cattle into two categories: 400-799 lbs. and 800 lbs. or more. The change was made in order to assign market value more accurately and fairly.

"Producers should talk to their county FSA staff to clarify the evidence of loss that will be needed to substantiate their claim," Aakre says. "Most important is that if producers think they may have a loss but are uncertain, the producer needs to call the county FSA office before Sept. 13."

For more LIP information, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

## Dead Animal Disposal Issues

Please contact your MCA staff with any dead animal disposal issues you may be having as a result of the FDA's Enhanced Feedband Rule. MCA will take your information and pass it on to NCBA.

Call at (573)499-9162

Or email at [cattleinfo@mocattle.com](mailto:cattleinfo@mocattle.com)

## 2009 BEEF Quality Summit Postponed

*Released by BEEFmagazine.com 9/8/09*

Due to current economic conditions, BEEF staff have reluctantly have decided to postpone the 2009 BEEF Quality Summit set for Nov. 10-11 in St. Joseph, MO. We thank you for your support of the BEEF Quality Summit over its successful three-year history, and also for your continued support of BEEF magazine.

With surveys indicating that 95% of past participants considered the BEEF Quality Summit content valuable and attendance worthwhile, BEEF staff is exploring alternative ways of delivering the BEEF Quality Summit content to our audience. So stay tuned!

## Time is running out!

Are you 70 1/2 or older? Do you know someone who is 70 1/2 or older?  
Do you or they own an IRA or other tax qualified asset?  
Time is running out!

You only have until December 31, 2009 to make the most tax efficient donation to the Missouri Cattlemen Foundation that the IRS has probably ever allowed.

You will probably never have this chance again to help to children of Missouri with the help of the IRS. Yes, the IRS will help you contribute to the foundation.

Call your tax preparer and call our partners at APEX Financial LLC to find out if you qualify for this exciting opportunity. Call 800-843-9429 or 573-876-6011 and tell them you want to talk about a Missouri Cattlemen Foundation Contribution.

Remember time is running out! You have until December 31 to take advantage of this opportunity.

As always, MCA Membership is the key to the success of the organization. Without producers who back our association our voice is not as strong. Ask your friend, neighbor and fellow cattlemen to join the thousands of cattlemen in supporting the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

**For more industry news visit:**

[Missouri Cattlemen's Association Website](#)

[Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation Website](#)

[Missouri Beef Industry Council Website](#)

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If so, please contact Kaity Kerwin at (573) 499-9162 (Ext. 233) or [kaity@mocattle.com](mailto:kaity@mocattle.com).