

FARMTIMES

AGBRIEFS

Counting cows

Have you ever wondered how many cows there are in Iowa?
Or how many Iowa farms have cattle on them?
Here's the facts from the Iowa Beef Industry Council.

| Iowa’s Beef Cattle Industry Statistics | | |
|--|-----------------|--|
| Total Cattle Inventory in Iowa (as of January 1, 2025; 1.4%) | 3,500,000 | |
| State Rank All Cattle and Calves (January 1, 2025) | Eighth | |
| Cattle on Feed in Iowa (January 1, 2025; +2.5%) | 1,210,000 | |
| State Rank Cattle and Calves on Feed (January 1, 2025) | Fourth | |
| Yearly Fed Cattle Marketings (2023; -4.4%) | 1,624,000 | |
| Number of Feedlots (2022 Census) | 4,102 | |
| Number of Cattle Operations (2022 Census) | 21,750 | |
| Number of Farms with Beef Cows (2022 Census) | 17,214 | |
| Number of Beef Cows (January 1, 2025; -1.9%) | 825,000 | |
| State Rank Number of Beef Cows (January 1, 2025) | Twelfth | |
| Number of Farms with Dairy Cows (2022 Census) | 1,016 | |
| Number of Dairy Cows (January 1, 2025; 2.1%) | 245,000 | |
| State Rank Number of Dairy Cows (January 1, 2025) | Eleventh | |
| Cash Receipts from Cattle and Calves (2023) | \$5.877 Billion | |
| Iowa Jobs Directly Related to the Cattle Industry (2023) | 16,665 | |
| Iowa Jobs Indirectly Related to the Cattle Industry (2023) | 9,308 | |
| Iowa Jobs Induced by the Cattle Industry (2023) | 5,079 | |

In 2023, Iowa’s cattle industry contributed in excess of \$9.45 billion in business activity to Iowa’s economy

Sources: Department of Economics, Iowa State University; **Iowa Agricultural Statistics**, U.S. Department of Agriculture; **2024 Cattle Report** and **2022 Census of Agriculture**, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Sorghum forage: a resilient option

Sorghum Forage: A Resilient Option with Smart Management

A new resource provides insight on managing prussic acid toxicity in sorghum

AMES, Iowa – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach has published a new resource for livestock producers, “Management Strategies of Prussic Acid Toxicity in Sorghum.” Sorghum is a fast-growing and reliable forage crop for livestock.

“As weather extremes challenge consistent forage production, sorghum offers livestock producers a reliable, high-yielding alternative — especially during drought or delayed planting,” said Shelby Gruss, assistant professor and extension forage specialist at Iowa State University.

While sorghum presents several benefits, prussic acid toxicity (hydrogen cyanide) in sorghum is a serious concern, particularly after frost or when plants are young or over fertilizing, said Gruss. According to the publication, cattle death can occur within

two hours of ingesting prussic acid poisoned sorghum.

Strategies for managing prussic acid through different feeding options include proper grazing, silage and baleage.

“Silage and baleage production offer the safest choice for sorghum forage with high dhurrin accumulation. Dhurrin content can be reduced by 50% or more through chopping and fermentation,” said Gruss.

Key takeaways from the publication include:

Avoid grazing young plants

under 18 inches and monitor regrowth.

Remove livestock from fields for at least one week after frost.

Avoid over-fertilization with nitrogen.

Test forage when in doubt to ensure safe feeding.

Livestock producers are encouraged to download the full resource, available at no cost, through the Extension Store.

If you have further questions about prussic acid toxicity in sorghum, contact Shelby Gruss at sgruss@iastate.edu.



LEGAL NOTICE

CHEROKEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING APRIL 21, 2025

The Cherokee Community School District Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, April 21, 2025. The meeting was held in the CWHs Library, 600 W. Bluff St., Cherokee, IA.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement were recited.

Moved by Mullins, seconded by Riggert to approve the agenda. All Ayes

Roll call of board members was taken. Present were Jocelyn Riggert, Jared Barkley, Brian Freed, Ray E. Mullins II, Jodi Thomas

Visitors were welcomed. Thomas referenced board policy 213, Public Participation in Board Meetings.

Moved by Mullins, seconded by Freed to approve the consent agenda. All Ayes

- Minutes of the public hearing/regular meeting – 3/17/25; public hearing-3/24/25; special meeting-4/14/25

- Monthly Bills

- Financial Statements

- Resignations – Morgan Lester – CMS Para; Lucas Wook-CWHs Social Studies; Lily Wook – CWHs Social Studies; Gail Kremer – Co-Football Cheer Coach

- Internal Transfers – Pam Wilson –CES Kindergarten to 4th Grade Teacher; Karissa Wych – K-8 EL Instructor to 4th Grade Teacher; Streeter Johnson CMS 5th Grade Teacher to CMS Special Education; Nancy Ruhland CMS Therapeutic Classroom to CMS 5th Grade Teacher; Anna Blankers CES Para to CES Secretary; Kady Smith CES Success Coach to CMS Therapeutic Classroom Teacher

- Contract Extensions – Teacher Leadership Contract Extensions - list included in packet; Tyler Zeimen - 8th Grade Science Teacher and MS Football Coach; Brooklynn Tewes - CES Special Education Teacher; Madison Probst - ECLC Preschool Teacher; Shaylin Carlson - CES 1st Grade Teacher; Shannon Chaffin - CES 1st Grade Teacher; Nicole Morgan - CMS Special Education Teacher; Kris Alesch - CMS 6th Grade Science Teacher; Nancy Ruhland - 7th Grade

Volleyball Coach; Jessica Peterson - CMS Para; Ashley Henson - CES Para Principal and Superintendent reports were given.

Moved by Mullins, seconded by Riggert to affirm policies 303.2 - Administrator Qualifications, Recruitment,

Appointment; 303.3 - Administrator Contract and Contract Nonrenewal; 303.4 - Administrator Salary and Other Compensation; 303.5 – Administrator Duties; 303.6 - Administrator Evaluation; 303.7 - Administrator Professional Development; 303.8 - Administrator Civic Activities; 303.9 – Administrator Consulting/Outside Employment; 304.1 - Development and Enforcement of Administrator Regulations; 304.2 - Monitoring of Administrator Regulations. All Ayes

James De Vos and Connor York shared information about the new room identification/signage for the high school designed by the CAPS Research and Design class.

Moved by Barkley, seconded by Riggert to approve the 2025-26 district budget. Ayes: Barkley, Mullins, Thomas, Riggert, Freed

The board discussed the facility assessment from Beck Engineering. The building and grounds committee will meet with administration to discuss the facility assessment and future district projects.

Pam Barnes requested reimbursement for personal items lost over the summer.

Moved by Freed, seconded by Mullins to approve a resolution to continue participation in the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool for the purchases of natural gas. All Ayes

Moved by Freed, seconded by Riggert to approve the agreement for participation in the AEA Cooperative Purchasing Program. All Ayes

Moved by Riggert, seconded by Barkley to approve the agreement of service and addendum between Timberline Billing Service and Cherokee CSD for the period of July 1, 2025 – June 20, 2028. All Ayes

Moved by Freed, seconded by Mullins to approve the Chromebook bid for FY26 from Ricks Computers for \$98,550. All Ayes

Moved by Riggert, seconded by Freed to approve 2025 graduates from Cherokee Washington High School. All Ayes

Moved by Mullins, seconded by Freed to approve Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirement. All Ayes

Graduation Commencement will be

held on Sunday, May 18th at 2:00 PM.

Moved by Mullins, seconded by Riggert to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 P.M. All Ayes

Regular Meeting – May 19, 5:30 PM

President, Board of Education Cherokee Community School District Secretary, Board of Education Cherokee Community School District

CHEROKEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL GENERAL FUND

17th & Montgomery LLC, 6,400.00, Speaker

360 Custom Designs, 4,027.37, Shirts Advanced Network Professionals, 106.80, Tech Services

Ahlers and Cooney, PC, 551.00, Legal Services Amazon Capital Services, 2,935.76, Instructional Materials

Ascendence Trucks Midwest, LLC, 3,937.21, Outside Labor Repairs AZAR INTERNATIONAL, INC., 77.88, CAPS Signs materials

Blaine's Culligan, 989.60, Water Treatment

Boji Portable Toilets Inc, 200.00, Service Units

Bomgaars Supply, 837.68, Instru Materials

Book Vine, The, 15.19, Books

Builder's Sharpening and Service, 684.04, Parts

C-M-L Telephone Cooperative Assoc, 1, 095.17, Internet & Phone

Carolina Biological Supply Co, 26.06, Lab supplies

Carver, Angela, 24.00, Parking Pass

Champion Electric, 4,710.57, Outside Labor

Cherokee Chronicle Times, 656.44, Publication Expense

Cherokee Collision Center LLC, 7,915.54, Bus Repairs

Chesterman Company, 135.70, Vending Supplies

Christiansen, Kacee, 211.10, TAG

City of Cherokee, 1,994.35, Water & Sewer

Crisis Prevention Institute, 1,500.00, Subscription

Dave's Piano Service, 1,092.90, Piano tuning

De Vos, James, 92.45, Meals

Demco, 106.36, Library Supplies

Department of Education, 50.00, Bus Inspection

Diamond Vogel, 347.90, Paint

Donovan Group I, 1,000.00, Comm Services

DoorPro LLC, 209.19, Garage door

Elan Financial Services, 3,630.52, Fuel/Lodging

(Washington, D.C., April 30, 2025) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced today that Mexico has committed to eliminate restrictions on USDA aircraft, and waive customs duties on eradication equipment aiding in the response to the spread of New World Screwworm (NWS).

Due to this agreement the ports will remain open to livestock imports, however if at any time these terms are not upheld, port closure will be revisited.

This agreement follows Secretary Rollins' letter to Mexico Secretary of Agriculture Julio Antonio Berdegue Sacristan on Saturday pushing for a resolution of the restrictions.

“I am happy to share Mexico has continued to partner in emergency efforts to eradicate the New World Screwworm. This pest is a devastating threat to both of our economies, and I am pleased to work together with Mexico in good faith to protect the livelihoods of our ranchers and producers who would

have been hurt by this pest,” said Secretary Rollins. “At USDA we are working every day to keep pests and disease from harming our agricultural industry. I thank our frontline USDA staff and their counterparts in Mexico for their work to ensure the screwworm does not harm our livestock industry.”

New World Screwworm (NWS) is a deadly parasitic fly that infests warm-blooded animals, causing severe wounds and complications that can lead to death.

New Webinar Series Focusing on the Beef-on-Dairy Industry

AMES, Iowa – The I-29 Moo University is extending its service to the beef-on-dairy industry by moving beyond a single annual Dairy Beef Short Course to now offering the Beef-on-Dairy Dialogue webinar series. The webinars will focus on current topics and new research supporting calf growers and feedlot operators.

“With the growing dairy numbers along the I-29 corridor, beef-on-dairy feeders are an important part of most

dairy’s financial statements,” said Fred M. Hall, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach dairy specialist. “As the beef cow herd has shrunk, those calves are filling feedlots across the country.”

The inaugural webinar will be held from 12 to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, and feature Sarah Erickson, TELUS agriculture data advisor.

Erickson will discuss hoof health and lameness in feedlots feeding dairy crossbred steers. Webinar attendees will

learn about the clinical signs, epidemiology, treatment and prevention strategies for digital dermatitis, toe tip necrosis syndrome, and foot rot in feedlot cattle.

There is no fee to attend, but you must register at least one hour before the webinar at <https://go.iastate.edu/DBD>.

For more information, contact: in Iowa, Fred M. Hall, 712-737-4230; in Minnesota, Jim Salfer, 320-203-6093; or in South Dakota, Madison Kovarna, 605-688-4116.

Soil Management, Land Valuation Conference Set for May 21

Farm managers, rural appraisers, real estate brokers and others interested in the Iowa land market can expect timely updates at this year’s Soil Management and Land Valuation Conference on May 21 in Ames.

The annual conference – now in its 97th year – is the longest running at Iowa State University in research and extension.

This year’s conference will be held at the Scheman Building on the Iowa State campus from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Rabail Chandio, conference chairperson, assistant professor and extension economist at Iowa State, will begin the day reviewing attendees’ land value forecasts, followed by a discussion on global trade and U.S. ag profitability from Nathan Kauffman, senior vice president and Omaha branch executive for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

Doug Houser, digital agriculture extension specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, will share the impact of technology-driven ag innovations on income and land values. Then, Dennis Todcy, director of the Midwest Climate Hub at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will provide a weather outlook for the 2025 growing season. Panel speakers are Jeremy Gustafson, farmer and outreach leader with Practical Farmers of Iowa; Matt Russell, former state executive director of the USDA Farm Service Agency; and Jerry Hatfield, retired director of the USDA-ARS National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment.

After lunch, Kristine Tidgren, director for the Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation at Iowa State, will share legal updates affecting land purchases and sales, followed by a panel discussion

on conservation, soil health and farm productivity.

The final two sessions will feature Dr. Jeff Kaisand, the state veterinarian at the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Lastly, Chad Hart, extension economist at Iowa State, will share a crop markets outlook.

The cost to register for the Soil Management and Land Valuation Conference is \$150; registration is required to attend.

Participants are also eligible to receive seven hours of continuing education credit for real estate and appraisal licenses upon conclusion of the program.

For more information and an agenda, visit Soil Management and Land Valuation Conference, contact Rabail Chandio at rchandio@iastate.edu or Nathan Cook at nmcook@iastate.edu or 515-294-3809.

forms

Elan Financial Services, 9,798.48, Lodging/Supplies

Fareway Stores, Inc., 35.72, Concession Supplies

Galva-Holstein Schools, 332.21, Shared Wrestling Program

Godfather's Pizza, 65.00, Concessions

Grabinoski, Joel, 200.00, Lynn Jolly Relays

Hadar MFG Inc., 1,853.60, Volleyball

Hansen, Tessa , 100.00, Judge fee

Instrumentalist Awards, LLC, 168.00, Senior Awards

Iowa FFA Association, 278.00, FFA State Convention

Iowa High School Music Association, 265.00, Contest Fee

Iowa High School Speech Association, 205.50, Speech

Jugs Sports, Inc, 1,095.00, Baseball

Kalous, Shane, 200.00, Lynn Jolly Relays

Manson Northwest Webster CSD, 250.00, Track Meet Fee

Marcus Lumber, 57.98, Prom

MARTIN BROS. DISTRIBUTING CO., INC., 84.02, Concessions

MOC-FV Music Boosters, 160.00, Honor choir

Mount Marty College, 300.00, Track meet

North Stars Band, Inc., 250.00, Marching Band Competition

NOTA DJ Services, 800.00, Prom

Pappan, Julene, 40.00, Acting Monologue Rights

Pinnow, Liz , 25.95, FFA Supplies

Riddell All American Sports Corp., 2,079.79, MS Helmets

Ridge View Community School District, 500.00, Entry Fees

Saf Enterprises LLC, 139.76, Basketballs

Spencer CSD, 50.00, MS WR Fee

Spencer High School, 150.00, Indoor Lakes Track Meet

TIM VORLAND PHOTOGRAPHY, 25.00, State Speech Photo

USD ATHLETIC BUSINESS OFFICE, 300.00, USD Indoor track meet

Wye's Choice Fundraising, 700.00, Invoice Fundraiser

Fund Total, 34,456.37

SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND

East Side Jersey Dairy ESJD, 3, 974.85, Milk

Hobart Sales and Service, 251.00, Parts

MARTIN BROS. DISTRIBUTING CO., INC., 30,926.49, Purchased Food

PAN-O-GOLD BAKING CO, 1, 989.34, Purchased Food

Fund Total, 37,141.68

(CT05-09/L#389)