



Hot Dry Winds Take Toll On Agriculture Despite Relief In Locales

Rain changes everything in a minute. But when there is no moisture, optimistic outlooks quickly turn bleak as well. Temperatures and dry conditions were on the forefront of every conversation this week.

All was not bleak though as several communities in north central Kansas and northeast Kansas received showers.

“It’s a relief that will let us hold on a few more days,” evaluated auctioneer Jeff Hoffman at Effingham. “But, the moisture is so spotted.”

“Even when one area gets rain, most others are not,” analyzed Nancy Griffin of Griffin Realty at Cottonwood Falls.

Col. John Cline at Onaga agreed, “We had a good shower that freshened the grass up, and some of the corn and beans still have a chance.”

“There’s lots of corn going in the silo that we really thought would be a good crop,” added Phil Metzger, Lawrence farmer and Taylor Seeds sales manager.

Osage County Agent Rob Schaub at Lyndon echoed: “The hot dry wind has taken its toll on the corn and soybeans, and the late planted crops have really gone down hill. Things are in pretty bad shape.”

However, the story is even more bleak when talking to Todd Hertzog at the Mo-Kan Livestock Auction, Passaic, Missouri, and Burleigh Wheeler at Wheeler & Sons Livestock Auction, Osceola, Missouri, who are extensively advertising special stock cow sales on AM 580 WIBW at this time.

“We are dispersing a large cow herd Thursday afternoon that is being shipped in from Oklahoma, because there is no feed,” Hertzog related.

Wheeler, who has monthly cow sales, said, “It’s burned up here. There’s nothing green. Cowmen are feeding hay in July. Many of them are reducing their herds, and we are even having dispersions. Our Saturday night sale is going to be considerably larger than it would typically be this time of year.”

Some auction markets are seeing more than triple the number of cattle at weekly sales than they normally have at this time of year, the Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service said.

While these dedicated AM 580 WIBW listeners and advertisers evaluated conditions, WIBW farm director Kelly Lenz commented, “The folks we’ve been talking too say these are the worst conditions we’ve seen in Kansas since the drought of 1980. Moderate temperatures and more general rains are the only possible salvation at this time.”



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Fundraiser To Feed Steaks To The Troops

In appreciation of all military troops and their families for all of the sacrifices through their active duty in the states and overseas, Marysville Livestock, AM 580 WIBW advertiser, will be the site of a Steak For Troops benefit auction Thursday, Aug. 4.

Proceeds will be used to serve a steak dinner to troops and their families as well as the auction donors.

The auction will be in conjunction with the Customer Appreciation Sale at Marysville Livestock, and will feature a calf donated by Charlie and Sandi Loiseau, Frankfort.

“Interested parties will bid on the donated animal. The winning bidder will pay the purchase price to the fund and then donate the animal back to be sold again. This process continues until there is no more interest, and the animal will be sold to a cattle buyer who will donate the proceeds and keep the animal,” explained Donnie Kirkham, auction manager.

Those interested in participating should come to the sale barn at 11 a.m. on August 4, for lunch, and the benefit auction will begin in the auction center at noon.

If a person is unable to attend and would like to make a donation, they can contact the Loiseaus at 785-353-2270 or Marysville Livestock at 785-562-1015. Information is available at www.steaksfortroops.com.



No Drought In Auction Bidding



“We had a very good auction last Saturday for Mrs. Ralph Stites at Mound City, despite the heat and drought,” said Marty Read of Marty Read Auction Company at Mound City.

“The seller was very pleased. Attendance was great even though spirits were uncertain due to the lack of rain. However, buyers still came to buy,” Read evaluated.

“Thanks to WIBW for all your help in advertising this sale,” he added.

Padre says:

“Remember, it’s not what you do most of the time that really matters.”