

**AG NOTES**  
**By John Teague**  
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**EQUIPMENT SALE**

The annual fall consignment sale of farm equipment will be held at the Bedford County Ag Center by Tradition Auctions on Saturday, November 28, at 9:00 AM. Consignments will be received on Wednesday November 25 and Friday November 27 from 8 am to 5.00 pm. They'll be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday.

This is the fall edition of the annual event that has been on-going for years. It is open to the world and there are two lines of consignments, one being the absolute row and all items there sold for the final bid, and the other line is the regular row allowing the consignors to accept or reject bids.

This is usually a large sale with several consignments. If you are looking for something, you very well might find it there!

Concessions will be provided by the Bedford County 4-H Club. If you have any questions, contact Bob Morton at 931-842-1234.

**WHAT'S THE MARKET?**

Drs. Andrew Griffith and Aaron Smith, livestock and crop economists for UT Extension, shared these comments about the markets last week. (I'll add my comments in brackets.)

The 5-area weighted average prices for fed cattle through Thursday were \$109.59 live, up \$0.13 compared to last week and \$171.73 dressed, down \$0.15 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$115.96 live and \$183.56 dressed.

Based on Tennessee weekly auction market price averages, steer prices were steady to \$2 higher compared to last week while heifer prices were unevenly steady with instances of \$3 lower to \$3 higher compared to a week ago. Harvest cow prices were \$1 to \$3 higher while bull prices were steady to \$3 higher compared to last week's prices.

Corn, cotton, and soybeans were up, and wheat was down for the week. For the week, December 2020 corn futures traded between \$4.09 and \$4.28. March 2021 corn futures closed at \$4.28, up 9 cents since last Friday. December 2021 corn futures closed at \$4.08, up 4 cents since last Friday.

January 2021 soybean futures closed at \$11.81, up 33 cents since last Friday. For the week, January 2021 soybean futures traded between \$11.44 and \$11.96. March 2021 soybean futures closed at \$11.81, up 33 cents since last Friday. November 2021 soybean futures closed at \$10.49, up 9 cents since last Friday. (This is a lot of strength, welcomed at this point.)

December 2020 wheat futures closed at \$5.93, unchanged since last Friday. December 2020 wheat futures traded between \$5.86 and \$6.04 this week. March 2021 wheat futures closed at \$5.99, down 3 cents since last Friday. In Tennessee, new crop wheat cash contracts ranged from \$5.87 to \$6.17. July 2021 wheat futures closed at \$5.98, down 4 cents since last Friday.

**THE KIDS**

The boys have been wanting a puppy. They have a dog, well, Beth and Jason have a dog they rescued when they got married, so the boys have a big brother dog. Sonny is a Dalmation-Jack Russell cross. He's the perfect dog...well behaved, calm nature, quiet, devoted, just a perfect pet. He's 15, and he has some health issues. But he is a good 'un.

Both boys have been talking about a pet of their own. The parents have been slow to react, out of concern for Sonny and the whole COVID-19 stress on time and kids and managing careers and school and the like.

Dad took the boys camping last weekend, and on the way, there he was! Abandoned at the side of the road in an isolated area, an immature dog about 5-6 months old, a genetically-mixed pup who could trace his lineage to about every continent on the planet. Odd colored, medium sized, thin, you get the picture. He loves the boys, follows their every step, cuddles with them every chance he gets. Even Sonny puts up with him in his own reserved way.

After a family conference about whether he would be staying, a vet check for health issues and a disposition evaluation since he does have a slightly brindle color, a new collar and leash, a crate to help in training him, his name is Duke! Welcome to the family.

Piper has a new pet as well. Her family of cats are bob-tailed cats Ginger and Stinker. I have a long-tailed calico cat, Precious, that showed up in 2019 as a starved shy young female, but now she meets us and loves the petting. Now Piper has a new bob-tailed young cat, and she named it Santa! It loves the attention and the petting and the loving! Between all of the cats and the dogs, we get plenty of rabies shots every year.

We do not have any mice at the barn.

## **WISDOM**

I've been thinking about what is important. Given the events of the year, it's easy to get discouraged. But there is still reason for optimism. Here are some quotes that for me put things into perspective. This comes after I watched Michael J. Fox discuss his 30-year battle with Parkinson's disease and other health issues. One of the most optimistic people I've ever heard. Much more positive than I can imagine.

He was quoted in Progressive Farmer's Cornerstone section. He said "Family is not an important thing, it's everything." Think about it. (And family can be extended friends and other families, a group that has you good at heart. JKT)

There are a lot of opinions on the economy, the pandemic, the election. Voltaire said "Opinion has caused more trouble on this little earth than plagues or earthquakes." One of our co-workers, the late Juanita Patterson, said "Things are usually not as bad as we think they are, nor as good as we think they are." And she also said "This, too, shall pass." And Job 32:10 (KJV) says "Therefore I said, hearken to me; I also will shew mine opinion." Alfred Austin said "Public opinion is no more than this: what people think that other people think." If we had more respect than opinion we might be better off. That's my opinion!

To have the optimism of Fox and a high opinion makes one feel that we will survive all of this. We always have.

## **THANKSGIVING**

Our staff wishes you a happy and safe Thanksgiving.