

AG NOTES
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WOMEN IN AG

Women in agriculture have been invited to participate in a wonderful educational opportunity for women from all over. Jessica Young, Wilson County Extension Agent, sent this to all counties in the mid-state area as an open invitation.

“Wilson County is excited to be hosting our Women in Agriculture Summit on November 18th at the James E. Ward Agricultural Center in Lebanon! The day will include a panel discussion, networking with industry partners, breakout sessions (featuring animal science, horticulture, and farm management tracks), lunch with our keynote speaker, and will conclude the day with farm tours.”

The summit is on November 18, and it will be held at the James Ward Agricultural Center, which is the site of the Wilson County/Tennessee State Fair at 945 E. Baddour Parkway, Lebanon. There are eleven women speakers who are involved in agriculture, and all are speaking on various ag topics. After lunch, there will be farm tours as well.

This will be a great opportunity for all women who are interested in agriculture. I’ve got the registration details. Contact me for more information.

NEW TICK

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture, the Tennessee Department of Health, and University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture announced the detection of the invasive Asian long-horned tick in an additional six Tennessee counties. The tick was found in Knox, Jefferson, Claiborne, Cocke, Putnam, and Sevier. The tick was detected in Union and Roane Counties in May.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that there is no evidence to date that the tick has transmitted pathogens to humans in the U.S. There are concerns that the tick may transmit the agent of Theileriosis in cattle, and heavy infestations can cause blood loss and lead to death.

It is important to be aware of this tick, as cattle and canines are particularly susceptible to tick bites. Livestock producers are reminded to be vigilant when purchasing animals, apply a tick treatment to cattle prior to bringing them to your farm, and always use best practices for herd health. Dog owners should provide their animals with a tick preventative and check for ticks.

WHAT’S THE MARKET?

Drs. Andrew Griffith and Aaron Smith, UT Extension livestock and crop economists, shared these comments. (I may have some in brackets as well.)

Fed cattle traded \$1 higher compared to last week on a live basis. Prices on a live basis were mainly \$145 to \$148 while dressed prices were mainly \$230 to \$232. The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$146.77 live, up \$0.80 compared to last week and \$231.61 dressed, up \$1.42 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$123.85 live and \$195.73 dressed.

Based on Tennessee weekly auction average prices, steer prices were \$4 to \$8 lower compared to last week while heifer prices were also \$4 to \$8 lower compared to a week ago. Harvest cow prices were \$4 to \$6 lower compared to a week ago while bull prices were \$6 to \$8 lower compared to the previous week.

Drought and high feed costs continue to weigh heavily on cattle prices, and these conditions are simply compounding the seasonal price tendency of freshly weaned calves, which is declining prices.

Market participants have watched feeder cattle futures prices decline for two months since they reached their apex in August.

New corn crop cash prices ranged from \$6.45 to \$7.24 at elevators and barge points. December 2022 corn futures closed at \$6.89, up 6 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2022 corn futures traded between \$6.80 and \$7.06. March 2023 corn futures closed at \$6.96, up 5 cents since last Friday. December 2023 corn futures closed at \$6.29, up 5 cents since last Friday.

November 2022 soybean futures closed at \$13.83, up 16 cents since last Friday. For the week, November 2022 soybean futures traded between \$13.65 and \$14.14. January 2023 soybean futures closed at \$13.92, up 13 cents since last Friday. New crop cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$12.77 to \$13.79. November 2023 soybean futures closed at \$13.55, unchanged since last Friday.

December 2022 cotton futures closed at 83.15 cents, down 1.08 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2022 cotton futures traded between 82 and 89.78 cents. March 2023 cotton futures closed at 81.99 cents, down 0.67 cents since last Friday. December 2023 cotton futures closed at 75.65 cents, down 0.01 cents since last Friday. (One of the reasons cotton prices are important to us here is that we feed cattle cotton byproducts, such as cottonseed and cottonseed meal. This would affect the costs of those feed ingredients.)

Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$8.32 to \$8.72. December 2022 wheat futures closed at \$8.59, down 21 cents since last Friday. December 2022 wheat futures traded between \$8.57 and \$9.49 this week. July 2023 wheat futures closed at \$8.80, down 16 cents since last Friday.