

Oakley to be remote site for 2013 beef conference

Kansas State University's 2013 Beef Conference, "Strategic Cow Herd Management: Surviving and Rebuilding after Persistent Drought," will start at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, in Frick Auditorium at the College of Veterinary Medicine in Manhattan, with a remote site at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center of U.S. 83 in Oakley.

Dave Lalman, extension beef cattle specialist with Oklahoma State University, will give the keynote address, "Addressing Cow Herd Efficiency in a World

of Mixed Message for Producers: Matching Production Levels to Environmental Conditions."

Other topics will include techniques to enhance the value of low-quality roughage, confinement feeding of cows, management and feeding of early-weaned calves, pasture, rangeland, forage and livestock risk protection, and income tax implications following livestock liquidation. Other topics include control of trichomoniasis in beef herds, impending regulations of livestock antibiotics and

capturing strategic opportunities when culling/rebuilding the cow herd.

The fee to attend is \$60 per person or \$100 for two or more from the same operation. The early registration deadline is July 30. Information, including how to register for the webcasts or in-person attendance, is available at www.KSUBeef.org or by calling (785) 532-1280. Remote sites are planned in Pratt and Parsons as well.

Without proper pollination, vegetables will not bear fruit

You've set the stage - planted healthy vegetable plants, then watered, weeded and waited. And now your vegetables are blooming, but not producing fruit.

Situations where vegetable plants are flowering, but not setting fruit may indicate a problem with flower pollination, according to Kansas State University horticulturist Ward Upham.

"There may be several reasons for pollination problems, which usually vary by species," Upham said. "One condition that can affect several species at the same time is over fertilization. Too much nitrogen causes the plant to emphasize vegetative growth, often to the detriment of fruit production."

Over fertilization can lead to

a delay in flower production and a decrease in fruit set among the flowers produced, Upham said.

Squash, cucumbers, watermelon, and muskmelon can have a couple of other problems, he added. The early flowers on these plants are usually all male. The production of both male and female flowers becomes more balanced as time passes.

You can easily tell the difference between the two because only the female flower has a tiny fruit behind the blossom, he said. If you have both, have not overfertilized, and still have a problem, make sure you have pollinators. Look for the presence of bees visiting the plants. If you don't see any, try hand-pollinating several flowers by using a painter's brush

to transfer pollen from the anther of the male flower to the stigma of the female flower.

"If you get fruit on only those flowers you pollinated, you need more pollinators," Upham said. "Make sure you aren't killing them with overuse or misuse of insecticides."

Tomatoes are wind pollinated so don't depend on pollinators. But they face another possible problem, high temperatures. Tomatoes normally won't set if the night temperature is below 50 degrees due to sparse pollen production. They also won't set when nighttime temperatures are above 75 and daytime temperatures are above 95 with dry, hot winds.

University gets stolen sword back

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) - A Brown University spokesman says a Virginia antiques collector has turned over a Civil War-era sword that was stolen from the Ivy League school in the 1970s.

Last week, a federal judge in Virginia ordered Williamsburg collector Donald Tharpe to surrender the Tiffany silver sword

to Brown. Tharpe bought it for \$35,000 in 1992 after it had passed among dealers for years.

A Brown spokesman told *The Providence Journal* (bit.ly/pX8R-JW) on Monday that Tharpe has given the sword to a Virginia attorney who represented the university, and it's being shipped to Providence.

Brown officials say the sword was stolen from the Annmary Brown Memorial at the school. The sword was given to her husband, Col. Rush Hawkins, in 1863 for his service to the Union during the Civil War.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
July 6

3:11 a.m. - Caller requested officer check on subject. Vehicle was there; subject was notified.

4:05 a.m. - Subject called, advised of smoke smell like grass fire in the area. Didn't locate anything.

10:12 a.m. - Caller reported white smoke in air. Not found.

11:38 a.m. - Provided information on local gun ranges.

9:59 p.m. - Caller reported fireworks being shot off. Spoke with subjects.

10:22 p.m. - Caller wanted information about diesel trucks in the City of Colby.

10:52 p.m. - Caller reported fireworks being shot off. Spoke with subjects.

July 7

12:07 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle parked in the area. Everything OK.

12:15 a.m. - Caller reported subjects being loud. No report.

2:58 a.m. - Caller reported subjects being loud. Spoke to all subjects.

11:35 a.m. - Caller caught dogs at large. Turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

3:09 p.m. - Subject flagged down officer off Range, found

wallet in parking lot. Owner contacted.

4:35 p.m. - Caller wanted information to see if a subject still lives in Colby for a repossession. Provided information.

9:19 p.m. - Provided traffic control for two people working on stalled motorcycle.

9:28 p.m. - Caller reported subjects using fireworks. Not found.

9:34 p.m. - Caller reported accident in parking lot; one vehicle left scene. Report filed, vehicle came back.

Last Monday

3:03 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle. Subject sleeping, everything OK.

6:19 a.m. - Caller reported a subject sleeping. Unable to locate.

8:25 a.m. - Helped subject who had dog jump out of vehicle.

9:09 a.m. - Driving while suspended report filed on traffic stop.

10:54 a.m. - Walk through at Walmart.

12:38 p.m. - Helped ambulance crew. Contacted a responsible person for subject.

9:50 p.m. - Caller reported trailer broken into.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
July 6

6:30 p.m. - Narcotics violation

report filed on incident in jail.

6:34 p.m. - Booked Latisha Morgan.

9:46 p.m. - Booked Ramona Bohall.

July 7

7:46 a.m. - Driving while suspended report filed on traffic stop.

1:27 p.m. - Accident with deer on I-70.

Last Monday

8:55 a.m. - Brought inmate from Rawlins County Sheriff's Office to Colby for doctor's appointment.

10:39 a.m. - Caller reported theft of 220 watt power cables from bin site in Levant. Report filed.

11:02 a.m. - Provided traveler's aid.

11:14 a.m. - Helped State of Kansas at Prairie Dog Town. All OK.

12:38 p.m. - Helped Colby Police and ambulance on possible pill overdose at Comfort Inn.

1:55 p.m. - Oakley woman wanted to speak to deputy about possible credit card fraud. Information given.

2:59 p.m. - Transported female inmate to Rawlins County Sheriff's Office.

3 p.m. - Insufficient funds report filed.

Menlo farmer to serve as delegate at national meeting for corn growers

Leading Kansas corn farmers, including a man from Menlo, will arrive in the nation's capital next week to determine the direction of their national organization.

Five corn producers will represent Kansas at the National Corn Growers Association meeting July 17 and 18 in Washington as delegates for the 2013 Summer Corn Congress: Brian Baalman, Menlo; Bob Timmons, Fredonia; Dennis McNinch, Utica; Roger Pine, Lawrence; and Pat Ross, Lawrence.

For two days preceding the con-

gress, some growers will participate in association's action team and committee meetings, where each panel will consider current issues and opportunities. The farmer-led teams will discuss areas including public policy, ethanol, biotechnology, research and business development, government regulation, trade and grower services. Timmons serves on the Research and Business Development Action Team and McNinch on the Ethanol Action Team.

Following the action team and committee meetings, the congress

will convene to review policy and elect leadership. The delegates discuss and vote on policy that guides the group throughout the year.

Growers will spend an afternoon and a morning meeting with their state's House and Senate delegations on Capitol Hill. Top issues for corn growers this summer are passage of a five-year farm bill with a strong crop insurance program and stressing the importance of ethanol to our nation's rural economies and to energy security.

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