



March Is A Telling Month For Cattle Ranchers

"It's all watermelon's fault," said Steve, shaking his head and sliding in to the philosophy counter. He nodded at Loretta while flipping his mug to the upright and fillable position. She brought the pot and filled it.

"I always thought you liked watermelon, Steve," Doc said. "I've eaten it with you, even." "That's why it's watermelon's fault, Doc," he said. "We love watermelon, and that lulls us into a false sense of security, and the first thing you know, we think other gourds are edible." "Other gourds?" "Yeah ... squash!" There was something in

the way he spat out the word ... we knew, of course, that squash is one of the ugliest words in the English language, along with maim, hirsute and duodenum. Hey, we told Steve, who wants to eat something that sounds as if it's been sat on?

"Makes you wonder just how severe Mr. Zucchini's crime was to live on through the ages as an ugly squash," Doc said.

"I think summer squash is not too bad," Dud said. We looked at him. "But hey," he said, "you have to have a lot of butter and cheese on it." "Why not just eat the butter and cheese? It'd taste better." "Yes it would, Doc. Yes it

would."

"And the worst part of it is," Herb threw in, "there are farmers who grow squash deliberately!"

We bemoaned the imminent crash and burn of civilization as a result of this.

"Well," Steve said, "to be fair, now, if you boil squash for a while and don't let it get too close to your mouth, you can grease wagon wheels with it." "Nope," said Dud, "you're thinking of okra."

Brought to you by Ol' Jimmy Dollar, a children's book by Slim Randles. <http://nmsantos.com/>

BROOKINGS — The month of March signals two seemingly very different events, basketball playoffs and for many South Dakota ranchers, the peak of calving season.

"On the surface they may not have much in common, but they both represent the end point of a lot of time, energy and resources," said Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist.

Rusche takes this analog one step further. "The goal of a basketball team is to make a deep run in the playoffs and the goal of a rancher is to save as many calves as possible," he said.

Preparation, Rusche said is the key component for success in both fields. "For a rancher, success during calving is critical. More than 60 percent of calves that are born and die before weaning are either born dead or are lost within the first 24 hours of birth," said Rusche quoting data from the USDA National Animal Health Monitoring System. "Calving difficulty is the most significant cause of death."

PREPARATION = SUCCESS

"Being well prepared for the start of calving season can make a tremendous difference in successfully getting live calves on the ground," Rusche said.

He explained that it is a lot easier to get all the necessary supplies on hand and in place ahead of time, rather than scrambling in the dark when the first heifer needs some help.

To ensure timeliness of preparation, he suggested cattle producers review gestation tables as well as breeding and turn-out dates to predict when the first calves will be expected. "However, some cows don't read the book," Rusche said. "It's not at all uncommon for genetic lines that have been selected for easier calving and lower birth weights to show a tendency for shorter gestation as well." In those cases, he said it would be prudent to be ready a week to 10 days earlier than what the gestation table suggests.

Ensuring that everyone on the team understands the game plan and their role is also important. "Going over the plan for calving season with the entire team is a good

idea to make sure that everyone is on the same page, even if the plan hasn't changed and even if the team is only one person," Rusche said.

He added that factors such as when to provide assistance and knowing when to call your veterinarian can impact not only this year's production, but future calf crops as well. Rusche referenced research from the Ft. Keogh Research Station in Miles City, Mont., which showed that heifers which were assisted later during labor had a 19 percent reduced pregnancy rate compared to heifers that were helped within a half hour.

Even in cows, the research demonstrated a 9 percent improvement in pregnancy rates by assisting earlier.

"Given the value of bred females this year, being prepared to assist early will help increase the odds of getting cattle bred back in a timely manner and lower the losses from premature culling," Rusche said.

Reviewing the actual procedures of delivering calves can also be useful, even if a producer has years of experience.

Below are some general recommendations from Dr. Russ Daly, SDSU Extension Veterinarian and Associate Professor, and State Public Health Veterinarian:

Take a short pause after the chest of the calf is delivered before pulling again. This mimics what happens in a normal delivery. When the calf takes its first breath it begins to transition away from oxygen from the umbilical cord to oxygen from the air.

A slight rotation (45 degrees) often allows the hips to pass more easily.

Use a piece of straw or vigorous rubbing to encourage the calf to breathe. One might think that picking up the calf with his head down would help get fluid out of his breathing passages, but actually that creates increased pressure on the lungs making it more difficult to breathe.

Call for assistance if one can't determine how to correct the problem or if 30 minutes of assistance have gone by without significant progress.

For more calving tips and insight, visit iGrow.org.

Cattlemen's Association Banquet Set For Tabor

TABOR — Gordy Pratt — the original fabulous ONE GUY — will be the guest entertainment for the Dakota Southern Cattlemen's Association Annual Banquet to be held on Saturday, March 28, at the Beseda Hall, Tabor.

Pratt, called the "Victor Borge of the guitar," has been writing and performing his brand of stand-up musical comedy since 1990. Pratt appeared on ABC's "Good Morning America" and shared the stage with Kenny Chesney, the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, The Beach Boys, and many more. He brings laughter to music and music to laughter.

The social begins at 6:30 p.m. At 7 p.m., a prime rib meal catered by Jack Sieben will be served.

Scholarship, cattle feeder of the year, and business of the year recipients will be recognized.

Tickets are available from any of the following directors: Keith Dvoracek, Chad Cooper, Bryan Nagel, Todd Bietz, Steve Sutura or Daryl Thomas. Tickets must be purchased by March 23. No ticket sales at the door.

Anyone interested may attend.

Call Classifieds

665-5884

www.missourivalleyshopper.com

If you read this you know... **advertising pays!**

Call the Missouri Valley Shopper at 665-5884 or stop by to place your ad today!
319 Walnut St. • Yankton



Too many mouths to feed? Place an ad in the Missouri Valley Shopper today!

605-665-5884



319 Walnut • Yankton, SD

CHECK ENGINE SERVICE ENGINE SOON

FREE Scan on OBD11/'96 or Newer Vehicles

Our service staff will retrieve Diagnostic trouble codes (DTCs) from your vehicle at no charge to help you determine needed services, repair or further diagnoses with a trained technician.

COUNTRY FORD Please see our services staff for more information.

605-589-3362
Toll Free at 1-888-877-5035

www.tyndallford.com

Open Monday - Friday 8-5:30 Saturday 8-1:00
Located 1 Mile West of Tyndall, SD on Highway 50

Schuermans Farm Supply

Looking for a Dust Free Way to Sweep Your Floor?

Great for use at:
Schools • Dealerships • Bars
Farm Shops • Manufacturing

Karcher sweepers are a great addition to your farm shop clean-up!

Schuermans is now handling 1/2", 3/4" & 1" air line kits and maxline to install into your new or existing shop!

In Stock Industrial Air Compressors 3 and 4 Cylinder 80 or 120 Gallon Tanks

We Will Set Up Your Air Compressor Just The Way You Need It For Your Shop

Auto Drains & Water Traps Also Available!

WHEN IT COMES TO GRILLING, TASTE RULES...

GREEN MOUNTAIN GRILLS
HARDWOOD PELLET GRILLS

\$599

EASY AS A PUSH OF A BUTTON SET IT & FORGET IT!

5 miles West of Tyndall on Hwy. 50 Corner of Hwys. 50 and 37
www.schuermansfarmsupply.com
Ph. (605) 589-3909 or Cell (605)464-1113

NEW LOCATION!!

Lewis & Clark Home Builders Association
10th Annual Home Show

March 14th & 15th, 2015
Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Yankton Archery Complex 800 Archery Lane, East Hwy 50
Admission: \$3.00/person • Children 12 & Under Free
\$1.00 OFF Admission with a non-perishable food item. Donations will be given to the Food Pantry.

Product Demonstrations and exhibits will include:

- Home Builders
- Design & Construction
- Windows & Doors
- Gutters & Siding
- Lighting & Electrical Supplies
- Construction Products
- Millwork
- Heating & Cooling
- Water Conditioning
- Sunrooms, Fencing & Decks
- Closet & Garage Organization
- Fireplaces
- Financial Institutions
- ...& much more!

Get Inspired...

The Lewis & Clark Home Builders Association Home Show is designed for home owners in all stages of building, remodeling, landscaping and decorating their homes.

Thank You To Our 2015 Yankton Storm Restoration Sponsor:

Local. Trustworthy. Professional.

Retirement Farm Equipment Auction

Thursday, March 19, 2015 • 11:00 A.M.

Location: From Hwy Junction 15-12 East of Wynot, Nebraska. 1 mile East to 573 Avenue, 1 3/4 mile south. Or From Newcastle, Nebraska: West on Hwy 12, to Brooky Bottom Road, or 573 Avenue, then 1 3/4 mile South. Physical Address: 88630 573 Avenue, Hartington, NE

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: PLEASE MAKE YOUR PLANS TO JOIN US FOR THIS RETIREMENT AUCTION. VERY FEW SMALL ITEMS WILL BE SOLD. PLEASE BE ON TIME - AUCTION WILL ONLY TAKE APPROX. 1 1/2 TO 2 HOURS. VISIT OUR WEB SITE WWW.MCHAUCTIONEERS.COM FOR SEVERAL PHOTOS

Tractors
JD 4560 FWD 15 sp. Pwr shift, axle duals, serial 004871, hours 7,353, 10 front weights, 1 set rear weights, 3 hyd., rear tires 18.4R x 42, front tires 380/85R x 30 (sold as a complete unit) JD 4450 FWD, 15 sp. Pwr shift, triple hyd., serial 14610, rear tires 18.4 x 38, front tires 14.9R x 26, axle duals and chains sold separate. JD 3020 Diesel, syn. Range, WF, serial 99623R, one hyd., rear tires 15.5 x 38, duals 15.5 x 38. Rounder Skid Loader L600 w/40' Bucket

Combine and Harvesting Equipment
JD 9550 Side Hill Combine, serial 685748, Vitteoe Chaffe spreader, eng. Hrs. 3520, sep. hrs. 2521, front tires 30.5 x 32, rear tires 16.9 x 26, JD 925 Bean Head, JD 643 Low Tin Corn Head w/poly snoots, JD 444 Hi Tin Corn Head, JD Dummy Head, 5 Belt Pickup, Killbros Head Carrier-30 ft., J&M Manufacturing 750 Grain Cart, 24.5 x 32 tires (near new) Demco Grain Cart 750, Posi Flow, 30.5 x 32 tires, A&L F700 Grain Cart, 24.5 x 32 tires, Feterl 10 x 66 Auger w/Swing Hopper

Machinery
Allied Loader, 895, w/8' Bucket, Allied 8' Bucket w/Grab Fork, Allied Pallet Fork, JD 220 Center Fold Disk, 22' w/Gates 3-Bar Harrow, JD 724 Field Finisher, 22' w/5-Bar Harrow, Buffalo 6 Row Cultivator, 9 Section Harrow w/Cart, MF 880 6 x 16 Plov, Hyd. Reset, Boomless Sprayer, 525 Gal. Tank, Tandem Axle with Orchard Nozzle, Small Heider Auger Wagon

Pickup & Trailer
Ford F250 Gas Pickup, 5 Speed, 1979 w/flat box, D&K 5th Wheel Flatbed Trailer, Tandem Single Wheels, 24' w/Beaver Tail

Miscellaneous
Winco Generator on Cart, 15,000 Watt, Pickup Fuel Tank w/12 volt Pump 3-Pt. Corn Head Carrier, 2-Shop-Built Bulk Bins, 10 ton, AP 2.5 Ton Bulk Bin Several 16' Galvanized Roofing Tin Sheets, 7-12" Tile Pipe, 6' long 24' Culvert, 24-inch, 15 Hog Self Feeders w/Poly Bottoms, Several Mirafont Hog Waters, Several Shop Built Hog Panels, 16-20 ft., Several Bridge Planks, 18' and various lengths, 3-Pt. 5th Wheel Carrier, Steel Cattle Water Tank, Behlen Bin Sheet Metal, Cutting Torch w/ Large Tanks, Gain Auger Bins, Lumber, 3-LB White Propane Heaters, Plus Other Misc. Items

Dwain and Marge Heimes, Owners

For more information call CHJ Auctioneers:
Alton at 402-254-3315, or Ryan at 402-254-9753

AUCTION CONDUCTED BY:
CREAMER HEIMES JANSEN
AUCTIONEERS & APPRAISERS L.L.C.

SEE WWW.MCHAUCTIONEERS.COM
FOR LISTING & PHOTOS
TERMS: CASH OR BANKABLE CHECK.
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR THEFT.