

# Cattlemen's Corner Beef Newsletter

University of Idaho  
Extension

March, 2015

## Grass Tetany

*K. Scott Jensen, UI Extension Educator, Owyhee County*

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Beautiful spring-like conditions in the Treasure Valley are great for grass growth but can also potentially cause problems with grass tetany. Grass tetany (Hypomagnesemic Tetany or HMT) is a metabolic disease usually associated with grazing lush pastures, common in the spring after good winter moisture.

Several factors can contribute to grass tetany. These include low magnesium content of rapidly growing pastures, high potassium content of rapidly growing pastures, high crude protein content of grasses, bad weather/storms/stress/etc. that cause cattle to be "off feed" for 24-48 hours, lactation losses of magnesium and calcium in the milk, and ammonia fertilization of pastures.

Cattle require magnesium in the diet. Growing cattle need magnesium at a level of 0.1 percent of their diet on a dry matter basis. Lactating beef cattle require a level of 0.2 percent. Also,



most of the magnesium is absorbed in the rumen. If grasses are high in potassium, it can interfere with magnesium absorption. Grasses high in crude protein can also cause a problem as they are metabolized and ammonia is released. Ammonia can interfere with magnesium absorption.

Requirements for both calcium and magnesium increase during lactation. This puts cows that have calved at a greater risk, especially the heaviest milking cows. These cattle generally experience a more severe form of grass tetany as a lack of both calcium and magnesium increase the problem. Any type of stress such as storms, trucking, or fasting (being off feed for a period of time) decreases the levels of both calcium and magnesium and increases the risk of grass tetany.

Quite often, cattle with grass tetany are found dead. Evidence around the body will usually indicate that the animal

struggled as grass and dirt have been moved away from the feet and head where they thrashed about. If found alive, the cattle may exhibit convulsions, weakness, and disorientation.

In cases where an outbreak of grass tetany might occur, the best course of action is to immediately make some good quality alfalfa hay available. Alfalfa hay is high in both calcium and magnesium. This should be done without moving or otherwise stressing the cattle. For individual animals that are affected, treatment is usually accomplished with intravenous solutions of calcium and magnesium.

Prevention is key to handling grass tetany. There are several salt-mineral mixes and molasses licks or blocks that can be used to prevent grass tetany. These should be used with sufficient lead time to allow the animals to build and maintain proper levels of calcium and magnesium. If molasses licks are used, be sure that they do not contain urea as urea breaks down into ammonia and can inhibit absorption in the rumen. Remember, prevention is generally much more cost effective than treatment, especially when most cattle affected by grass tetany are found after it is too late. ♦

*This newsletter is provided as a public service. If you do not have an interest in receiving the Owyhee County Extension Newsletter in the future, please contact the Extension Office and we will remove your name from our mailing list. Likewise, if you know of someone who would like to receive the newsletter, please let us know, [owyhee@uidaho.edu](mailto:owyhee@uidaho.edu) or 208-896-4104. Past editions of the newsletter are available on our website at [extension.uidaho.edu/owyhee](http://extension.uidaho.edu/owyhee)*



## Rangeland Monitoring: There's an App for That

*Amanda Gearhart, Rangeland Extension Specialist  
University of Idaho*

We've all heard the saying "there's an app for that" and in the case of rangeland monitoring, there are quite a few. At the tip of your fingers on a smart device, is instantly accessible information to keep tabs on different aspects of rangeland monitoring. There are many apps, and those listed here are just a few selected apps. A more complete list can be found at <http://globalrangelands.org/content/multimedia>

The apps selected here, are generally informative, easy to use, and readily available. These apps can be divided into a couple of general categories: record keeping and general information, plant identification, and photo monitoring.

### Record Keeping and General Information:

- **Grazing Records:** This app was created by South Dakota State University and allows a user to input acres, animal units, days on forage, and adjust for a number of environmental factors including stubble height, precipitation and fertilization.
- **Converter+:** Although this app isn't specific to range monitoring, it will convert many different kinds of measurements; weight, volume, area, etc. and can be useful in the field.
- **SoilWeb:** Uses GPS location from the smart device to access soil survey and ecological site data. Ecological site data usually includes an annual production estimate and a reference plant community.



### Plant Identification:

- **ID Weeds:** Users input as many structural characteristics as they know about a plant and the app generates a list of possible weeds for users to select from. Weed profiles include several pictures from different life stages (e.g., rosette, bolt, flower) and herbicides used to treat the weed.
- **Wildflower ID:** Each state is a different app and has over 1,000 wildflowers in the app database from which it will identify wildflowers based on characteristics input by the user.
- **Montana Grasses:** A user-friendly plant identification app to help beginners and experts alike identify grasses native to Montana (and surrounding states). Users input as many characteristics as they know and the app generates a list of possible grasses. This app does not require an internet connection to run.

### Photo Monitoring:

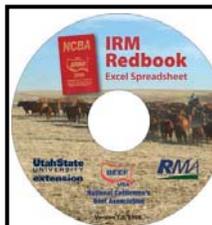
- **Solocator:** Imbeds GPS location, elevation, compass bearing, custom plot or project names, time and date on photos taken within the app. Photos can be exported as KMLs (which work with Google Earth).\*
- **GeoCam:** Imbeds GPS location, elevation, compass bearing, time, and date on photos taken within the app. Very user friendly and easy to use.\*

\*Solocator and GeoCam are very similar apps. The reason they are both included is because Solocator is only available to iOS and GeoCam to Androids.

- **GrassSnap:** Photo monitoring app that imbeds GPS location, elevation, compass bearing, time and date on photos taken within the phone app. Projects and transects are also identified and imbedded within the image. Image overlay function allows users to return to the same location and line the overlaid image up with the current picture to obtain the exact same photo.

App	Android	iOS	Cost
Grazing Records		X	Free
Converter+	X	X	Free
SoilWeb	X	X	Free
ID Weeds		X	Free
Wildflower ID	X		\$9.95/state
Montana Grasses	X	X	\$4.99
Solocator		X	\$0.99
GeoCam	X		Free
GrassSnap	X	X	Free

It is advised that before taking an app to the field to use for the first time, become familiar with it before you go. Also, it should be noted that most smart phones have internal GPS receivers that work without cellular service. However, it should be cautioned that these receivers require about 15 minutes of warm-up time to produce an accurate location. Be sure to back up your phone regularly! For more information please contact Amanda Gearhart at [amandag@uidaho.edu](mailto:amandag@uidaho.edu) or 208-736-3610. ♦



The **IRM Beef Redbooks** are now available in an Excel spreadsheet. This spreadsheet is a great companion tool to the Redbook in that you can enter and analyze the data that you have recorded in the field. The spreadsheet features the same record keeping sections as the Redbook in an easy to use Excel format. To download the spreadsheet free of charge go to [www.beefusa.org/CMDocs/BeefUSA/Resources/NCBA-Redbook-Worksheet-Excel-2007.xlsx](http://www.beefusa.org/CMDocs/BeefUSA/Resources/NCBA-Redbook-Worksheet-Excel-2007.xlsx).

Check out the new Owyhee Cattlemen's Association website at [owyheecattlemen.com](http://owyheecattlemen.com). We'd appreciate your input. Don't forget to Like and Share!





## What the U.S. Should Know About South American Beef Production

*Jason K. Abola, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Beef Management Systems, Colorado State University*

### World Cattle Inventory

The U.S. produces over 20% of the world's beef; however, we are home to only 9% of the world's cattle and 4% of the world's people. In comparison, 40% of the world's population resides in India, Brazil, and China as well as 60% of the world's cattle. Several South American countries (particularly Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Colombia, and Paraguay) are poised to become suppliers to this large and growing population. From 1990 to 2009, while the U.S. cattle inventory declined by 5%, inventory increased in Brazil (by 33%), Uruguay (by 22%), and Paraguay (by 39%). As a continent, South America's cattle inventory increased from being 23% of the world's total cattle in 1990 to 30% in 2009. South America has been expanding its cattle inventory for decades, but only recently has it been able to capitalize on growing global demand for beef.

### Beef Production in South America

The size, productivity, and efficiency of South American beef production industries vary by country, as seen in Table 1. Huge opportunity exists for increasing production efficiencies in these countries, particularly when their performance is compared to the U.S. Some aspects worthy of noting include:

- On average, South America slaughters 20% of its cattle inventory annually – this is about half of what the U.S. harvests (37%)
- All 4 of these countries export a higher percentage of their production vs. the U.S. – some much higher (i.e. 70-80% from Uruguay)
- Other than Paraguay (which has the least developed beef production system), the average South American producer has more cattle than in the U.S. (the U.S. averages 98 head of cattle per cattle operation – this includes all ranches, dairies, feedlots, etc.)
- There are more than three times as many cattle per person in South America (1.1 head/person) than in the U.S. (0.3 head/person)
- A higher percent of the population in South America raises cattle than in the U.S. (only 0.3% of Americans have cattle)
- Most cattle are slaughtered close to, or over, 30 months of age in South America – while the average U.S. feedlot steer/heifers is approximately 17 months old
- South American carcass weights are close to 500 lbs, while the average U.S. carcass weight for steers/heifers was 833 lbs in 2012 (over 60% heavier)

**Table 1.** Characteristics of South American beef production industries, among the major beef producing countries

Item	Brazil	Argentina	Uruguay	Paraguay
Cattle Inventory (1,000 head)	197,550	49,297	11,412	10,574
Beef exports (1,000 MT CWE)	1,350	280	315	170
Cattle slaughter (1,000 head/yr)	39,100	11,060	2,050	1,154
Percent of cattle inventory slaughtered/yr	19.8%	22.4%	18.0%	10.9%
Export value (\$/T)	\$5,083	\$8,088	\$5,841	\$4,355
Percent of production exported	20-25%	10-20%	70-80%	50-55%
Human population (millions)	190.8	40.1	3.2	6.5
Cattle per human (ratio of head per person)	1.0	1.2	3.6	1.6
Number of farmers	1,800,000	232,000	35,300	225,054
Percent of population raising cattle	0.9%	0.6%	1.1%	3.4%
Cattle inventory/farm (head)	110	212	323	47
Beef slaughter plants	750	456	40	100
Beef slaughter age (mo)	> 30	< 30	< 30	> 30
Carcass weight (lbs)	517	469	535	513

Source: Fabio Montossi, INIA, Uruguay

### South American Momentum

Looking forward, momentum is on the side of South American cattle producers. Assuming world cattle inventory doesn't increase dramatically while population continues to grow and wealth is amassed in Asia, cattle operations in South America are likely to benefit more than in the U.S. This is for a variety of reasons, including the facts that:

... continued on page 4



What the U.S. Should Know . . . continued from page 3

1. Beef production is a larger part of South American economies (relatively) than in the U.S., and more of the population is involved in beef production – there is more societal and governmental support for their beef industry to be successful
2. The average producer is larger and possibly more profit-driven in South America – possibly leading to more rapid improvement in production efficiencies
3. Average slaughter age is decreasing in South America – this will continue to improve beef palatability, efficiency, and cost of production
4. High-accuracy AI sires from the U.S. are already readily available in South America and their use is becoming widespread – over time much of their genetics will rival those in the U.S.
5. The percent of inventory slaughtered annually will increase due to improved genetics, better management, and younger slaughter age – more beef produced at a lower cost per pound
6. South Americans are already much more export-driven than the U.S. – with improved end-product, reduced cost, developing traceability systems (with near-complete producer buy-in), and less seasonality of production (vs. the U.S.) they will be increasingly competitive in export markets
7. Technologies that improve efficiency – growth-promoting implants, fed antibiotics, and beta-agonists – are not being embraced in South America as a result of widespread consumer concern, giving them an advantage in export markets including Europe
8. Grain finishing in feedlots will continue to increase (currently it is only approximately 24% in Argentina, 10% in Brazil, and 6% in Uruguay) – leading to heavier carcass weights, improved production efficiency, and enhanced palatability
9. End-product quality will continue to improve, in part due to a focus on identifying quality defects via national beef quality audits (modeled after the U.S.) that have been in place for almost a decade in places like Uruguay
10. South America's forage-base and temperate climate is better suited to raising cattle vs. the U.S. – cost of production is hard to beat when little or no winter hay feeding is required on most of the continent

The future of South American beef production looks bright, but it should be noted that they have challenges as well. The biggest obstacle currently is production efficiency and employing technologies, management, and genetics to increase beef production per unit input (whether it be cattle inventory, feed, or acres of land). Additionally, disease outbreaks, such as foot and mouth disease, will continue to hold back beef exportation (both beef and live cattle), which is vital to the growth of domestic production. Sustainable beef production that does not negatively impact the environment is also a major challenge. And, there are the same challenges that are occurring in the U.S. such as animal welfare, end-product quality and palatability, traceability, and inadequate communication between industry segments. Finally, escalating costs for land, labor, and natural resources will hinder South American's ability to have extremely low unit costs of production in the future. In the next decade, we will see tremendous changes in the South American beef industry. It will be worth keeping an eye on their progress. ♦

## IdahoRangeLivestockSymposium

INTEGRATING THE NEEDS OF ANIMALS, RANGELANDS, AND PEOPLE



FREE TO ATTEND!

April 7, Idaho Falls

April 8, Burley

April 9, Marsing

April 10, tour in the Treasure Valley area

RSVP for FREE LUNCH

### Contact:

Scott Jensen, Owyhee County Extension  
 scottj@uidaho.edu | 208-896-4104  
 Rangecenter.org | 208-885-6536

A one-day traveling program and networking event—packed with information on industry relevant topics, for producers and rangeland managers.

### 8:00 a.m. Trade Show and Coffee

**Economic Outlook for the Beef Cattle Industry:** Jessica Sampson, Livestock Marketing Info. Center

**Impacts of Climate Change to Ranching and Range Management:** Tony Svejcar, USDA-ARS Eastern Oregon Agriculture Research Center; and David Bohnert, Oregon State University

**Grazing Plans to Meet BLM Requirements:** Panel and moderated discussion featuring Merrill Beyerler, Rancher and Legislator; Linda Price and Kyra Povirk, BLM Salmon Field Office

**Cattle Genomics:** Speaker TBD (*Invited Allison Van Eenennaam, UC-Davis*)

**Ranch-level Economic Impacts of Grazing Management to Protect Sage-grouse:** Neil Rimbey, University of Idaho

**Family Estate Planning:** Pete Volk, Volk Law PLLC

**Cooperative Monitoring Program:** Brooke Jacobson and John Biar, Idaho State Dept. of Agriculture

**Perspectives from a local livestock operation**

### APRIL 10 FIELD TOUR

**Live Animal Demonstration, Targeted Grazing to Reduce Wildfire Risk, and Hands-on Photo Monitoring Demonstration**

**PARTNERS:** University of Idaho Rangeland Center | Idaho Cattle Association | Agribeeff | Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission | Idaho State Department of Agriculture



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### Don't Give Up!

We've reached the point where some of us have already given up on our New Year's Resolutions. If this is you, then you are giving up a little too soon. While some people may believe that a New Year's Resolution needs to happen all at once and if you give up on it, then you are "down for the count" or "there is always next year", you are wrong. Just because you may have set a determined goal before the clock struck midnight on the 31<sup>st</sup>, doesn't mean that it can be accomplished within a month's time, alone. That New Year's Resolution – depending on how intensive it was, may require the whole year. That means that you have another eleven months to help you get back on track and re-visualize what you would like for your lifestyle change.

Research conducted by the University of Scranton found that just 8% of individuals are successful in achieving their resolution. Instead of considering the 92% who did not complete their resolution (because we just discussed that some people lose track and immediately give up, instead of starting fresh and continuing on the journey), we are going to look at what these 8% did in order to maintain and accomplish what they set out to do. According to Forbes here are two easy tasks to set you straight:

**Keep it Simple.** This may sound so easy, that you believe that is exactly what you did when you were creating your resolution in the first place. If you wonder if it is simple – ask yourself this; "did you set a goal that was something that you could maintain over a long period of time?" Another question to put to use is "is it competing with several other priorities?"

- If your answer to the first question was "yes" – then you are probably working on a resolution that as long as you recognize that change will not occur overnight, will be attainable. If the answer to this question was "no," then you may want to consider adapting the resolution so that it can be something that you can work on over a long period of time.

- The second question might not be as easy to answer – having competing priorities can actually take a toll when you attempt to introduce an additional one into a situation. Ensure that you are able to handle your current responsibilities while adding a hopefully positive new addition. This can be done through time management.

**Make it Tangible.** If you make a resolution to "lose some weight" or "save some money" it will be difficult to gauge what you are really trying to achieve. Being specific is going to make that easier. If you can't measure whether you have accomplished your goal or not, it probably needs to be adjusted. Remember that setting ambitious goals can seem really fun, but achieving them could be a completely different story.

Source: "New Years Resolution Statistics." *Statistic Brain*. N.p., 1 Jan. 2014. Web. 26 Jan. 2015.  
 "Just 8% of People Achieve Their New Year's Resolutions. Here's How They Do It." *Forbes*. Web. 26 Jan. 2015.





# Love Your Workout

Are you having difficulty maintaining physical activity? Do you dread the time that you have set aside for your workout? Part of the problem may actually lie in the activity that you are completing. Think about it this way – some people are athletes, but may have a preferred sport that they like to succeed in. Although you may not consider yourself an athlete, this could be the same story for you – maybe you just haven't selected the right "sport" for you.

There are three main areas of physical activity with endless options of ways to maintain them:

**Aerobic or cardiovascular.** This type of physical activity will increase heart and breathing rates while burning calories. Types of exercise are- walking briskly, jogging, soccer, basketball, bicycling, swimming, even climbing the stairs.



**Strength and weight bearing.** Helps build strong bones and muscles by working the musculoskeletal system against gravity or weights. Examples are – pull-ups, push-ups, sit-ups, walking, running, and typical weight exercises.

**Flexibility and balance.** These reduce the risk of injury and should be incorporated into every moderate or vigorous activity, easily done by making a warm-up or cool-down. These can include yoga, stretching, balancing and even martial arts.



The last thing to remember about exercising – is that your body definitely needs a variety. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) claims that you need:

2.5 hours (150 minutes) moderate-intensity aerobic activity AND muscle-strengthening activities on 2 or more days a week (all muscle groups: legs, hips, back, abdomen, chest, shoulders, and arms)

**OR**

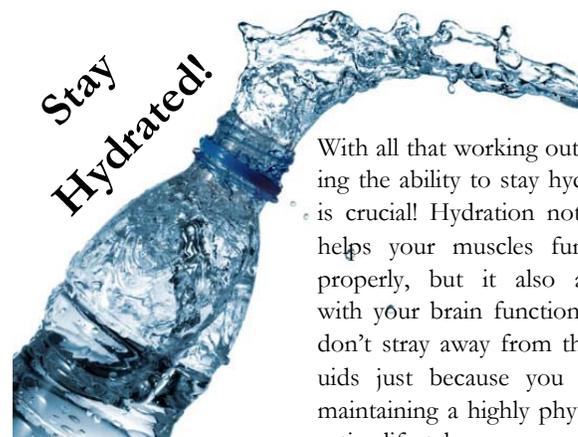
1.25 hours (75 minutes) of vigorous-intensity aerobic activity (i.e. jogging or running) every week

**AND**

Muscle-strengthening activities on 2 or more days a week that work all major muscle groups (legs, hips, back, abdomen, chest, shoulders, arms)

The greatest part is that several types of workout can be done with a partner – or even the entire family. So instead of looking at your workout routine being something that you need to set aside time when the kids are napping or otherwise occupied – start considering activities that could be done with the entire family – even house cleaning! Be creative, but remember that physical activity can easily be fun and a great way to bond with others through the time spent getting those muscles working right!

Source: <http://extension.psu.edu/4-h/leaders/resources/publications/10400c-up-for-the-challenge>



With all that working out, having the ability to stay hydrated is crucial! Hydration not only helps your muscles function properly, but it also assists with your brain function – so don't stray away from the liquids just because you aren't maintaining a highly physically active lifestyle.

### Tips for staying hydrated

- Keep a bottle of water with you during the day. Consider carrying a reusable water bottle and filling it from the tap rather than purchasing bottled water, which is expensive and creates plastic bottle waste.
- If plain water doesn't interest you, try adding a slice of lemon or lime to your drink.
- If you're going to be exercising, make sure you drink water before, during and after your workout.
- Start and end your day with a glass of water.
- When you're feeling hungry, drink water. The sensation of thirst is often confused with hunger. True hunger will not be satisfied by drinking water. Drinking water may also contribute to a healthy weight loss plan, as some research suggests drinking water will help you feel full.
- Drink on a schedule if you have trouble remembering to drink water. For example, drink water when you wake up; at breakfast, lunch and dinner; and when you go to bed. Or drink a small glass of water at the top of each hour.
- Drink water when you go to a restaurant. Not only does it keep you hydrated, but it's free!

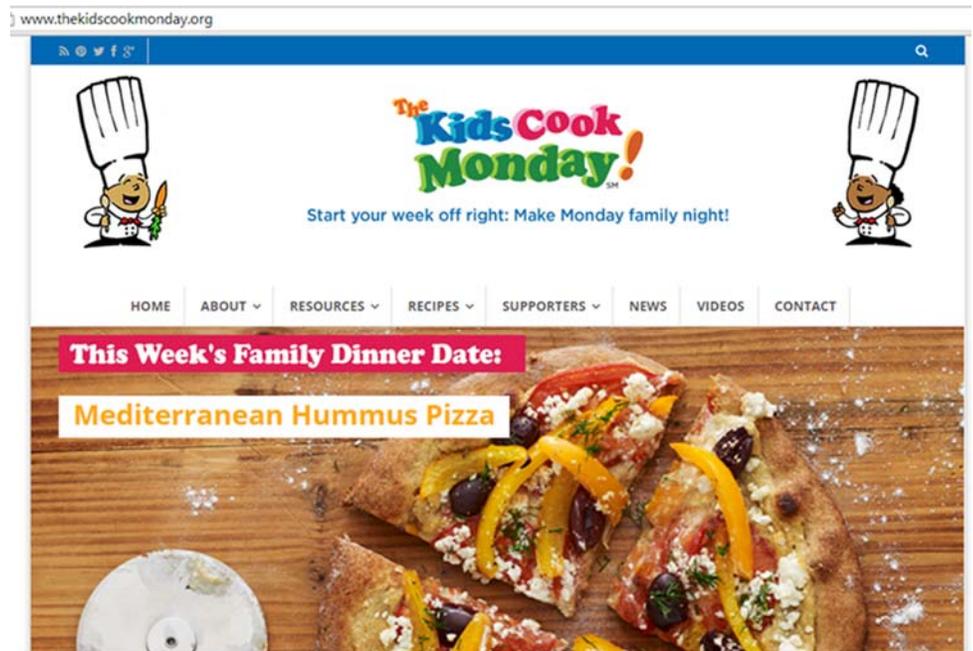
Source: The Coca-Cola Company



## Family Dinner

According to research developed by the University of Minnesota, having a family-comprised meal for just one to two meals a week can almost halve your child's risk of being overweight as an adult.

The study conducted on 2,100 tweens and teens caused researchers to believe that having the entire family regularly join in on the meal, while held at the table, helps them learn healthy-eating strategies; like loading your plate with vegetables and knowing to stop when you are full. They also believe that habits that are started with younger youth through the use of family mealtime routines can carry forward into adolescence.



Are you looking for ways to make dinner a successful event for the whole family? Especially now that you can see how beneficial it can be for your kids – not to mention how rewarding it can be for you! Try out this great resource developed by experts collaborating from Columbia, Johns Hopkins and Syracuse Universities. This website can help with recipes that will be easy for the whole family to make together, it contains research information, there are also conversation starters available as well as additional tools. Log on to: [www.thekidscookmonday.org](http://www.thekidscookmonday.org)

An Example of what this site contains:

### Cooking Tip of the Week



Pizza dough will be easiest to shape into a circle when it's at room temperature, so if you're using frozen dough, make sure it's fully defrosted before you start rolling.

### Food for Thought



Lots of research shows that the way people traditionally ate in countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea is super healthy and helps prevent heart disease and cancer. It's easy and delicious for your family to eat this way at home. Look for recipes that use lots of vegetables, whole grains, beans and olive oil and only a little bit of meat and cheese.

### Conversation Starter



What does "healthy" mean to you? Why is it important for our family? ♦







Is your club looking for something new to try out this year? Here's a fun and healthy opportunity!

## Idaho 4-H Healthy Club Challenge

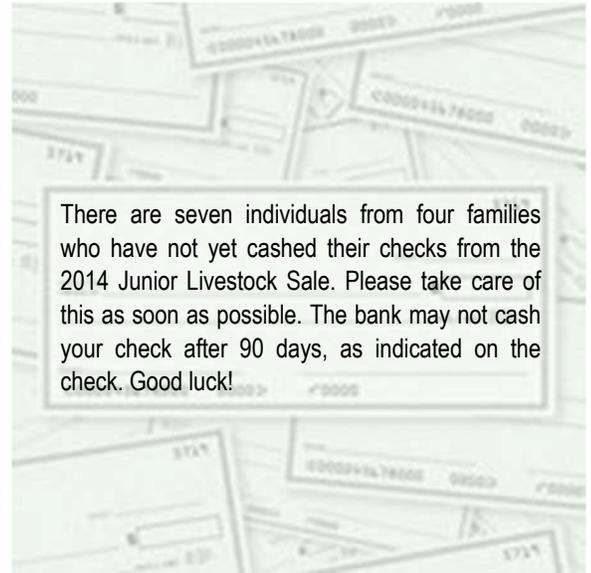
### Requirements:

- ⇒ During the course of one 4-H year, the club will incorporate one nutrition and one fitness idea or activity into at least six club meetings.
- ⇒ The club will need to elect a Health Living club officer to conduct nutrition ideas/activities and to do record keeping for the club's healthy activities.
- ⇒ Leader and HL club officer encourage members to complete the at home activities.
- ⇒ Submit club tracker sheet to your local UI Extension office one week prior to your county fair.
- ⇒ A portfolio is submitted to the county Extension office for recognition as a Healthy Club. Portfolio should include:
  - Tracker sheet
  - Photos of activities at club
  - Service learning activity
  - Photo of display
  - Impact on members and/or families of doing healthy living activities
- ⇒ Create and post a display at fair or community site or on social media.
- ⇒ Clubs can complete activities each year to maintain their Healthy Club status. Clubs will also be recognized for the number of years they have participated in the Healthy Club Challenge.



This is something that we hope to showcase at the 2015 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo — where we're "Shootin' for the Stars!"

If you are looking for additional information, please contact Surine Greenway at 896-4104 or [surineg@uidaho.edu](mailto:surineg@uidaho.edu) and see how we can help you get started with this new option!



There are seven individuals from four families who have not yet cashed their checks from the 2014 Junior Livestock Sale. Please take care of this as soon as possible. The bank may not cash your check after 90 days, as indicated on the check. Good luck!

### DO YOU NEED A FEEDER FOR YOUR PIG?

P.T. Rathbone has one that a youth could borrow. Call him at 896-4478 if you are interested. Thank you, P.T. for this great offer!



... to all of our new Owyhee County 4-H & FFA members! We are glad you're here and

can't wait for you to learn more about Owyhee County and for us to learn more about you!

Thanks to all of our clubs who are stretching and finding room for more members! Some of our clubs are huge — so if you think you could help by starting a new club, we would love to hear from you! If not this year, maybe next?! We can provide many resources to help ease you into it!





If you are in the 4th - 8th grade, come on over to the **Extension Office** for our **Spring Break Camp!**

**March 23-26 \* 9:00 a.m. - noon**

**Cost: \$15 \* Snacks will be provided.**

This day camp will provide youth with opportunities to learn about:

- Healthy Beverage Options, drink up!
- The MyPlate Model and how fruits and vegetables play a key role
- Understanding Nutrition Facts Labels
- What are grains and how can you make them whole?
- Eating healthier foods – fast!
- Powering up your day by eating breakfast

Limited spaces available, so please reserve your spot by registering today.

**Registration deadline: Wednesday, March 18.**

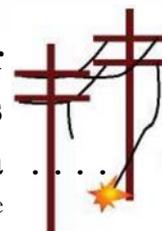
Parents are welcome to attend with their child.

4-H project option to complete and display at the Owyhee County Fair, August 3-8.

If you have any questions or need more information, contact Surine Greenway at [surineg@uidaho.edu](mailto:surineg@uidaho.edu) or 896-4104.

Information is available at the Extension Office for those interested in attending the **NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP**, June 22-27, north of Ketchum. The camp is for 12-14 year olds and focuses on wildlife, rangeland, forests, water and soil.

## Are your creative juices experiencing a . . . . **Power Outage?**



Do you want to shake things up and try something different this year? Is your club looking for a guest presenter? Or maybe you want to add a new activity for your next club meeting? We can help if you want to learn more about:

- ◆ The Healthy Club Challenge
- ◆ Budget and Financial
- ◆ Livestock — many different topics
- ◆ New Ethics Training Ideas
- ◆ Food Safety
- ◆ 4-H Food Preservation series
- ◆ Something your club would like to try but isn't on this list — we can probably do that!

Contact the Extension Office and we will help you come up with some great ideas or even come present or get you started if you need us.



### RESOURCES FOR CLUB USE

Leaders, don't forget that we have Beef, Sheep, and Swine Resource Kits you can check out for short-term use with your club. A \$25 refundable deposit is required. We also have Showmanship DVDs for each of these species you can check out.

Are there other resources you are aware of that would be beneficial to Owyhee County 4-H to provide for our clubs? Let us know and we'll definitely check into it!



We LOVE to hear about the community service projects your clubs are doing!

In February, Owyhee Outlaws 4-H Club made Valentines for the senior citizens in the community! What a great idea!

Let us know what other plans your clubs have come up with! Keep up the good work!





## Looking for a project to take? Look no further!

Owyhee Silver Spurs 4-H Club invites you to take a new self-determined project:

### “Healthy Modern Life Skills — In the Kitchen & At the Table”

You can be a member of another club and still participate!

Project is open to ages 9-16.

They will meet at the Owyhee Extension Office:

**10:00 a.m. - noon**

Friday, March 13

Friday, April 10

Friday, March 20

Friday, April 17

Friday, April 3

Friday, April 24



**A Silly Supper Celebration will take place on a Friday evening in June to highlight all of the skills learned by youth participants!**

### Can you . . .

- ◆ Plan a budget?
- ◆ Find your way around the grocery store?
- ◆ Store food at correct temperatures?
- ◆ Safely cook for you and your family?
- ◆ Set the table the whole family?



### After completing this project, you can!

Contact the Owyhee County Extension Office to get signed up today! Registration deadline is **March 5**.





## 2015 Owyhee County 4-H & FFA Market Livestock Weigh-in Schedule

Species	Days on Feed	Maximum at Initial Weigh-In	Minimum at Final Weigh-in	Weigh-in Dates and Location	Final Weigh-in
Beef	150	900 (Suggested 750-850 lbs)	1,100 lbs.	Saturday, March 7 7:00-9:00 a.m. Homedale (Burgess Angus) 11:00-11:30 a.m. (Jordan Valley) 2:00-3:00 p.m. Oreana (Bill & Bev White's)	Wednesday, August 5
Swine	114	85 (Suggested 65-80 lbs)	230 lbs.	Monday, April 13 Homedale, Rimrock, Marsing, Jordan Valley <i>[NOTE: Details on how we will be handling the initial swine weigh- in this year in Owyhee County will be coming soon.]</i>	Wednesday, August 5
Sheep* **	75	90 (Suggested 75-85 lbs)	110 lbs.	Friday, May 22 Homedale, Rimrock, Jordan Valley	Wednesday, August 5
Goats* **	75	Born after Jan. 1 and must have ADG of .3 at final weigh-in	65 lbs.	Friday, May 22 Homedale, Rimrock, Jordan Valley	Wednesday, August 5

\* NEW FOR 2015: No collars or leads may be worn by sheep or goats on the scale.

\*\* Scrapies tags are required for all ewes and does. All Market Sheep must be slick shorn within 7 days prior to final weigh-in.

Please contact the Owyhee County Extension Office at [owyhee@uidaho.edu](mailto:owyhee@uidaho.edu) or 896-4104 if you have any questions. For more information about these and other projects, visit our website at <http://extension.uidaho.edu/owyhee>.

Revised: 1-7-2015

### 2015 Rule Clarifications/Changes and Reminders:

- Online enrollment** for new families or re-enrollment for returning 4-H and FFA members for 2015 is open at [ida-ho.4honline.com](http://ida-ho.4honline.com) and must be completed by **March 1**. Your enrollment must be complete to weigh-in. **Please pay your 4-H dues to your club leader.** They will review and submit one payment for your club to our office.
- Boundary Exception Petitions** (for those meeting the criteria) are to be submitted to the Fair Board by **February 1**. (The form is on our website)
- Fair entries** are REQUIRED and will open on **June 15 and close on July 15**. No exceptions. FREE online entries and \$25 per child for paper entry forms.
- **Early Arrival.** If you need to bring your animal to the fairgrounds at a time other than during the posted animal check-in hours, contact your Superintendent **IN ADVANCE** of your arrival at the fairgrounds to see if arrangements can be made.
- **NEW: Underweight Animals.** Those living a great distance from the fairgrounds may keep their underweight animal at the fairgrounds as long as they are removed no later than Saturday night. NO underweight animals can be on the fairgrounds Sunday morning when sale animals are sorted for delivery to packers. ALL animals must be checked out with your Superintendent.

**Owyhee County Fair & Rodeo August 3-8, 2015 . . . "Shootin' for the Stars!"**

				MARCH
	1	S		Enrollment deadline for 4-H/FFA youth if participating in the Owyhee County Fair
	2	M	7:00 p.m.	Owyhee County 4-H Horse Leaders (OCHL) meeting (Extension Office)
	5	Th	7:00 p.m.	Fair Board meeting (Extension Office)
	7	S		4-H/FFA Beef weigh-in
	12	Th	7:00 p.m.	Farm Bureau meeting (Extension Office)
	14	S		4-H/FFA Beef Field Day for Youth (Marsing Ag Shop)
	20	F		Friday Activity (Extension Office)
	23	M	9 a.m. - noon	Spring Break Camp (Extension Office)
	24	T	9 a.m. - noon	Spring Break Camp (Extension Office)
	25	W	9 a.m. - noon	Spring Break Camp (Extension Office)
	26	Th	9 a.m. - noon	Spring Break Camp (Extension Office)
	27	F		Friday Activity (Extension Office)
				APRIL
	3	F		Friday Activity (Extension Office)
	6	M	7:00 p.m.	Owyhee County 4-H Horse Leaders (OCHL) meeting (Extension Office)
	8	W		Owyhee Watershed Council meeting (Extension Office)
	9	Th		IdahoRangeLivestockSymposium (American Legion Hall, Marsing)
	10	F		IdahoRangeLivestockSymposium (tour of local ranch, Treasure Valley)
	10	F		Friday Activity (Extension Office)
	13	M		4-H/FFA Swine weigh-in — be watching for details as to weigh-in procedures/PEDv
	17	F		Friday Activity (Extension Office)
	24	F		Friday Activity (Extension Office)
				MAY
	4	M	7:00 p.m.	Owyhee County 4-H Horse Leaders (OCHL) meeting (Extension Office)
	10	S		Mother's Day
	13	W		Owyhee Watershed Council meeting (Extension Office)
	19	T		Range Monitoring Workshop (Jordan Valley)
	20	W		Range Monitoring Workshop (Oreana)
	22	F		4-H & FFA Sheep & Goat Weigh-in
	25	M		Memorial Day (County Offices closed)
	26	T		4-H County Oral Presentation Contests (Marsing)
	28	Th		4-H County Oral Presentation Contests (Bruneau/Grand View)

**Owyhee County**

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(208) 896-4104 FAX (208) 896-4105  
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**Rangeland Monitoring Workshops**

May 19 in Jordan Valley; and May 20 in Oreana  
Learn more about what Range Monitoring is doing to help ranchers — and what it can do for your operation. More information coming soon!



**4-H & FFA swine weigh-in will be Monday, April 13.**  
Complete details regarding how we will be handling the swine weigh-in, due to PEDv, will be coming soon!

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<i>Cattlemen's Corner Beef Newsletter</i> 	<b>1-8</b>
<i>Family Issues Newsletter</i> 	<b>9-11</b>
<i>Owyhee County 4-H Newsletter</i> 	<b>12-14</b>
<i>Calendar</i> 	<b>15</b>