



Heartland Highland Cattle  
 Association  
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Summer 2017, Issue 27

# Highlands of the Heartland

## Letter from the HHCA President Blake Coble

Hello everyone from the Coble Highland Ranch and Zoo! We have been so busy here at our Ranch getting ready for our Fall Festival! We love this time of year because we get so much done. We have added more animals to our Ranch and have added some full time help here at our Zoo.

Here in Oklahoma our weather doesn't know what it wants to do. One week it will be super hot and the next is mild and nice. We have been getting tons of rain, so much so that my front yard looks like an extra pond! The critters are especially fat and happy with all the green grass.

Our Fall Festival consists of having our petting zoo, but we also do a HUGE round bale hay maze. Our maze is built out of over 500 round bales all built into a maze that takes kids 15-30 minutes to get out of! We love doing it, but it makes our fall season seem very long!

Another awesome thing about this fall is our First Annual Fall Scottish Highland Cattle Auction in Oklahoma! I am so proud of our association for helping its members to promote their cattle! This auction should be a great place to buy or sell your cattle. I have talked to several breeders that are consigning cows and bulls both registered and unregistered cattle. I have had lots of different buyers also calling wondering if there will be bigger steers and heifers at the sale. I know its hard to know what will happen with our first sale, but just know that our spring sale started with a first sale and now it's the biggest Scottish Highlander sale in the United States! We are very proud of our spring sale and I know this will be a very successful auction for our Association as well!

I know that many of you are involved in the HHCA and we thank you so much! You are what is making this Association do so well and grow like it is! Please keep talking about the cattle you love so much and spreading the word about how great these cattle are and how healthy and tasty the meat is! If you want to get more involved with the HHCA please jump in and get involved by doing a Farm Day at your Ranch to show off your animals or attend an event and help another farm with theirs. Another great way to get involved is to attend our auctions and our annual meeting. By attending events you get to know more people who love raising the same cattle and its fun to share stories about your cattle. If you have been apart of the HHCA for a few years and want to make a positive impact, we are always looking for new people to run for our Board of Directors and help us think of new and creative ways to help promote your cattle.

*Picnic continued on page 2*



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I love the HHCA and can't wait to meet each and everyone of you. Please feel free to come to Henryetta, Oklahoma and enjoy our Fall Festival any weekend in September or October. I love hearing from you and seeing pictures about your farms on Facebook! Please feel free to call me if you ever need anything or have any questions. Thanks again for making this Association so fun to be a part of!

Have a great Fall,

El Presidente, Blake Coble

## **Highland Beef Study Summary**

A 2016 research study concluded that Highland beef is not only lean, but also tender. Under the guidance of Bryon Weigand, professor of animal science at the University of Missouri, the study showed Highland beef has an average shear force value of 3.6 kilograms in the ribeye muscle.

To frame this, most store-purchased beef measures between 4 and 6 kilograms of shear force, with the lower scores being more tender. So that being said, you definitely can promote your Highland beef as being in the tender category.

*Call for photos for our newsletter!  
If you have clear photos of your cattle that you would like to share in the newsletter, please let Gloria know. They need to be a good resolution (150 dpi maximum), no larger than 4 x 6.  
Thank you!*

## **Mark Your Calendar: First Highland Field Day in Kansas**

Saturday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, the first HHCA Highland Cattle Field Day will be held at Lazy R Ranch, Eudora, KS, hosted by Pam Ferguson and Steve Reynolds.

This event will begin at 1PM and there will be two presentations.

Randy Winchester, a Highland breeder and representative from the Lawrence NRCS will present followed by a representative from the Douglas County Ext. Office. They will speak on agriculture in the county.

**THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO MEET MORE HIGHLAND BREEDERS IN YOUR STATE.**

It is also a great time to network, bring pictures of your Highlands, buy and sell.

The HHCA is hosting these Highland Field Days to help breeders come together in their own states.

For more info, contact Pam at 913.638.3141, or Gloria at HHCA 417.345.0575.

Look forward to meeting many of the KS Highland breeders .

## 2017 Summer picnic

Greetings from the Hawkeye State!

My name is Chris Batz, and I am the vice president of the Heartland Highland Cattle Association. My husband, Randy, and I live on a farm in northwest Iowa. We have 5 children and have been raising Scottish Highlands for about 11 years. Like most of you, we started out small, with a herd of 4, and now have around 30 head. Shortly after purchasing our first Highlands, we became acquainted with the Heartland Association. Though it is nearly 500 miles one way for us, we have found driving to southern Missouri for the Heartland's annual activities, such as the spring conference in March and auction in April, to be well worth the trip. Recently we returned from the annual Independence Day potluck picnic, this year, hosted by Tracee & Roger Riley of Cedar Creek Farm LLC. After enjoying a wonderful lunch and visiting with new and old friends, we listened to the very knowledgeable, Dr. Haley Dingfelder, DVM who is a mobile large animal veterinarian. Like many of us being small breeders, and from different states, we have questions but don't always find answers for them as if you read explanations in print, it is so long and precise, that it is hard to understand, so being able to talk and interact with Dr. Dingfelder was very helpful for so many of us. This is why I hope this will be helpful to everyone who reads this.

Haley presented her information in an open discussion with questions and answers. She began by talking about the health papers that are needed when selling an animal or taking it to a show or fair. Haley recommended contacting your vet as soon as you know that you will need the health papers. Though the papers will be good for 30 days, many of the tests that may need to be done require more than 10-14 days time to obtain the results. The vet may need to visit your farm more than once. The last visit will be 2 weeks before the papers are needed. The destination of the animal will determine which tests need to be completed. Many sale venues, shows, and fairs have their own regulations as do the various states. More tests will need to be done if the animal is being sold at auction and you do not know where it will be going. If you will be traveling with an animal out of state, you must have the health papers with you. They will be written for the state of destination, not the states in-between. Each animal will also need a steel tag with its federal ID number. You can contact the Veterinary Services Office of the USDA on line for more information. Each local office has a contact person. The key is to begin the process early.

One test that may be done is a semen test. Bull calves should be showing something by 18 months of age. Results of the test will also vary depending on the breed and the individual animal. How much a bull has been with cows can also affect the results of the test.

Another test that may be completed is for Trichomoniasis or "trich." Trich is a venereal disease found in the reproductive tract of cattle. Cows that have the disease will self-clear, however, the bulls will not. You will need to allow at least 2 weeks for this test to be completed. A negative result will continue as long the bull is kept with the same cows in a closed herd and no new cows are added.

One of the attendees then asked about Hairy Heel Wart. Haley related that this condition was first found in dairy cows and has moved to beef. It also began in California, but has been found in Illinois. She said that she has not seen it in Missouri. Someone else asked about the need to trim hooves. Haley related that producers should observe their cattle. Whether or not to trim hooves should be made on an individual basis. Many times hooves will wear down if on rocky surface compared to soft ground.

Another question raised was if Haley knew what had caused a bull that had been raised with steers to lose interest in heifers. The attendee related that the bull had to be given a shot and then another later. Haley did not think being with the steers caused the problem, but that it was an issue the bull would have had anyway.

Pink Eye was the next topic of discussion. Haley related that there is a vaccination that will reduce, but not prevent it. She went on to explain that there are several strains and causes including flies, high weeds, and grasses that scan scratch. Flies can be decreased using the usual rubs, fly tags, and medicated minerals. Another then questioned the use of minerals, stating they won't always eat it. Haley stated that the animals will usually self-regulate, and perhaps just didn't need minerals at the time. She stated that sometimes the mineral tubs will rot if they are not mixed right and made properly. Another asked if she knew of a connection between the petroleum-based mineral tubs with fly control and cancer. Haley said she did not. She explained that the medicated minerals contain "IGR" or "insect growth regulator" that inhibits the fly and insect larva from hatching from the manure.

The next question had to do with cows that won't breed back unless their calves are weaned. Haley explained that the body condition of the cow can play a role. Using a creep feeder for the calves can help. Over condition can be just as bad as under condition. She also said that environmental conditions can be an influence. The topic of "free-martins" then came up. Haley explained that a "free-martin" is the heifer twin to a bull calf and will be infertile.

Blindness in cattle was the next topic of discussion. Haley commented that she did not know if white Highlands were prone to

*Picnic continued on page 6*

## Welcome New Members

### Illinois:

John Vlahovic, Hennepin, IL  
Mike & Andrea Allen, Pittsfield, IL

### Iowa:

Tom Darland, Vinton, IA

### Kansas:

Kevin Zerr, Perry, KS  
Michael Olenhouse, Neodesha, KS  
Nick Messer, Manhattan, KS sponsored by Ron & Corinne Laveau, Larned, KS

### Kentucky:

Kathy Burgess, Versailles, KY; sponsored by Billy & Kathy Bolch, Stoutland, MO

### Louisiana:

Cecillia Langley, Husser, LA sponsored by Gary Cheek, Fair Grove, MO

### Minnesota:

Jasper Flynt Spears-Thomas, Bemidji, MN

### Missouri:

Adam Huntley, Lebanon, MO  
Sondra Howell, Hartshorn, MO  
Dan Goeden, Pineville, MO  
Brian & Monica Crouch, Monett, MO  
Tonia Campopiano, Linn, MO  
Derek Brown, Pineville, MO  
Dennis Bacci & Debbie Daniels, Ozark, MO  
Kyle Alcorn, Ste Genevieve, MO  
Amy Younce, Knob Noster, MO sponsored by Arthur & Kathrine Kanneman, Warrensburg, MO  
Jeff & Erin Cole, Turney, MO  
Chet & Laura Mackiewicz, Warsaw, MO  
Darrell & LaVonne Turner, Buffalo, MO

Joe Valentine, Edwards, MO sponsored by Todd Sheckly, Nica, MO

K. R. Logan, Willard, MO sponsored by Jerry Delcour/Janet Melton, Crane, MO  
Matt & Sarah Schilling, Raymondville, MO sponsored by Jerry Delcour/Janet Melton, Crane, MO  
Nathan Farrow, Cape Girardeau, MO

### Nebraska:

John Zutavern, Broken Bow, NE  
Christina Kranz, Eddyville, NE sponsored by Gloria Asmussen, Buffalo, MO

### Oklahoma:

Brian & Deven Gibbs, OK City, OK  
Beckie Kendrick, Pryor, OK sponsored by Kristi & Larry Andrews, Red Rock, OK  
E. Dale & Rhonda Roach, Bristow, OK sponsored by Jay & Cheryl Bednarek, Choctaw, OK

### Tennessee:

Nancy Geller, Treadway, TN sponsored by Gloria Asmussen, Buffalo, MO  
Kim Roby, Vanleer, TN sponsored by Zac & Heather Ruble, Pleasant Home, MO

### Utah:

Tom & Sharon Perkins, Bear River City, UT sponsored by Gary & Cindy Cheek, Fair Grove, MO

### West Virginia:

Ashley Peacock, Dunmore, WV

### Wisconsin:

Courtney Foulker & Andrew Myers, Monticello, WI sponsored by Virgil & Susie Gordon, Orangesville, IL

*A sincere thank you to all the HHCA members who sponsored some of these new members. When they sold their Highland Cattle, they sponsored the buyer a HHCA membership.*

***It is only \$15 to sponsor a new member.***

*This sponsorship gives the new members info and networking with the Association and many other benefits.*

*Please think about sponsorship when you sell your Highlands;  
it can bring repeat customers and broadens the Association audience.*

## Showing at the Fairs

Well it's show time at the fair. On July 15<sup>th</sup> Chelsea Campopiano and Nikki Say showed their Highland heifers at the Linn Fair. Both the girls received ribbons for their first time showing at this fair.

There were three HHCA member farms that showed at the Ozark Empire Fair in Springfield, MO; Cheek's Farm, Cedar Creek Farm and Shady Oak Highlands. The two Junior girls showed cattle.

**Cheek's Farm** won a second and fourth place ribbon, Cedar Creek Farm took Grand Champion Bull class with Shady Oak Farm taking Reserve Champion bull. **Chelsea Campopiano** showed the Grand Champion bull and received overall points Championship Banner. **Nikki Say** of Shady Oak Farm won over Grand Champion bull class and showmanship in the Junior Class show.

Congratulations to all, great job.



## Preventing Coccidiosis

—By Meghan Anderson/OFN

**The parasite is common in the livestock environment, but it can be deadly if abundance is ingested**

**According to the OK State University Extension Service, coccidia is a parasite that is specific to the host.**

Cattle have their own coccidian specific to their species, which is different than what may be found in sheep or goats. Like staphylococcus in humans, it is common in the livestock's environment, but dangerous when the animal ingested an abundance of the parasite.

Coccidiosis is transmitted from animal to animal by the fecal-oral route, according to OSU Extension. Infected fecal material can contaminate feed, water or soil; therefore, cattle can contract the disease by eating and drinking from contaminated sources, or by licking itself or other animals.

The severity of disease depends on several factors, including the number of eggs eaten, the species of coccidian present, and the age and condition of the animal. The symptoms usually include diarrhea varying in severity from watery manure to containing blood. Dehydration, weight loss, depression, loss of appetite and occasionally death may also occur. Even less severe infection, where there are no signs of the disease, may affect the growth and health of an animal. Additionally, nervous coccidiosis can develop in some calves with acute intestinal coccidiosis.

Dehydration is also another setback that the disease can cause. Per NDSU Extension Service, symptoms in young (3 to 6 weeks of age), sucking calves, clinical signs of coccidiosis may develop following stressful events such as weather changes, or if the calves are in unsanitary conditions.

The disease can be costly, including vet bills, medication, hindrance in livestock growth and productivity, and in some cases livestock loss. It can be a costly disease for producers.

Consulting a trusted veterinarian is always key when treating a sick animal. Coccidiostats are the drugs given to treat coccidian, however it doesn't kill the coccidian, and it just slows it down,

"If there's any positive that on it, there are still several options for controlling it that don't fall under the VFD since they aren't considered medically important to humans. Medicated feed is an efficient way to help prevent coccidiosis, by constantly slowing the coccidian. Calves are more at risk to coccidiosis, so treating them with a Coccidiostate additionally to medicated feed is also an option. Other preventable measures include sanitary conditions.

Coccidia is passed through feces, it is important to keep the feed and water areas clean. It is also important to not let the livestock eat off the ground, to prevent the ingesting of coccidian from contaminated feces. For pasture-raised livestock, medicated water is an alternative to feed. Mixing the Coccidiostate into drinking water or stock tanks can help prevent coccidiosis.

*Picnic continued from page 3*

eye cancer like Herfords. She recommended training your cattle using multiple senses including sight, sound, and smell, by doing things like shaking a bucket, and verbally calling them. Several of the participants commented that they had a cow that was blind.

Someone then asked about dehorning. Haley said horns could be banded and estimated that it would take about 8 weeks. She also related that you may have to tape the bands to keep them in place. You can dehorn them surgically also. Some people have to dehorn their steers as they don't have slaughter facilities who take horned animals.

Artificial Insemination or AI was the next topic. Haley said there are professionals that are not vets that do this. Vets do not ordi-

narily learn to do this in vet school, but there is a class they can take. Someone then asked why cows will try to ride cows. Haley related that the cow being ridden will be in heat, but the cow trying to ride her will be coming into heat. She went on to say there are only a couple days in their cycle that they can actually conceive, but that they may stand longer, for 2-4 days.

The discussion then moved to castration. When to castrate is a matter of opinion and personal choice. Haley said that she prefers to cut and to cut young. The time of year makes a difference due to flies. There is no conclusive evidence that castrated males grow slower. They will grow fatter, thicker, and have less muscle due to the lack of testosterone. If using bands to castrate, new bands should be purchased each year as they will rot. Giving a

*Picnic continued on page 7*

*Picnic continued from page 6*

tetanus vaccination is important. Using Catron Spray is also a useful wound spray that helps in preventing screw worm and fly larvae. Make sure the testicles are down before castrating. Henderson tools were also discussed. This is an instrument that attaches to a drill and utilizes a twisting action that minimizes bleeding.

“The solution to pollution is dilution,” Haley related, and the topic turned to pastures, grazing, parasites, and manure. Flies and other insects will become active when the outside temperature is above 32 degrees, so prevention should start early. Drying of manure also helps control parasites. Many will run goats in a pasture after cows to clean up and help dry the manure. Any change in diet can change the consistency of the stools. The thinner the pile, the more nutrition is being retained. The firmer the pile, the more fiber is going through. Supplementing magnesium will help prevent grass tetany. Cattle may develop this magnesium deficiency disease after grazing on pastures of rapidly growing grass, especially in the early spring. Another disease, Coccidiosis, is caused by parasites and will infect smaller animals such as calves. Stress can also cause issues. Stocking rates of 1 animal per acre is a good rule of thumb. Warm, wet, and close conditions as well as shipping can cause diarrhea and weight loss. Rotational grazing is always a benefit.

Concern about the spread of Bluetongue disease from deer and elk was raised. Haley explained that Bluetongue (BTV) is a non-

contagious, insect-borne, viral disease. It is usually found in sheep, and less commonly found in cattle. Another disease, Anaplasmosis is a deadly disease caused by a parasite and transmitted by a tick. It can also be transmitted by surgical, dehorning, castration, tattoo instruments and hypodermic needles, so these should be disinfected between uses. Producers should look for a change in the membrane color, such as the whites of the eyes appearing yellow. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) began in the four corners region in concentrated deer farms and is caused by a protein in the brain and spinal cord. It is found in deer, moose, and elk. Though it is like mad cow disease or BSE in cattle and scrapies in sheep, it cannot be transmitted from deer to cattle. In cattle, BSE is transmitted by nose to nose contact between cattle, biting, and grazing over an area where a carrier died. Haley explained that Listeria, another illness, is a type of “food poisoning” for cattle and is caused by a bacteria found in old silage and moldy feed. She explained that many times vets will treat the symptoms, but not know the problem.

Finally, Haley spoke briefly about VFD’s. Beauford Wilson finished up by showing and explaining various obnoxious weeds, and Roger and Tracee gave tours of their farm and cattle. Everyone enjoyed a beautiful day and came away much more knowledge than before.

## **Events Page**

There are a number of events that HHCA members displayed Highlands at this spring and summer. Check out the pictures and info of the events.

### **Thanks go out to :**

Dr. Alan Cameron, Minden, LA for hosting the 11th LA Scottish Highland Games

Alon Morrison and family, from OK for displaying Highland cattle at the Irish Thistle Festival in OK

Dick Reinap from TX for displaying his Highland heifer at the San Antonio Highland Games & Fest

Davis Edwards from MS for displaying his Highlands at the Mississippi Irish Festival

Tracee Riley, Preston for displaying her Highlands at the Living History Days in Warsaw, MO

Z Rock Ranch, Phil & Donna Scritchfield for displaying Highland heifer at the Renn Faire in Kingdom City, MO for two weekends

Taylor Hawk Farm, Jacque Hawkins, AR for hosting a Highland Field Day at her farm

Cedar Creek Farm, Preston, MO for hosting the HHCA Summer picnic

Terry & Kay Clemans, IL for displaying their Highland at the Chicago Scottish Festival

Cheek Farm, Cedar Creek Farm and Say Highlands for showing Highlands at the Ozark Empire Fair, MO

Tracee Riley & Linda Say for displaying their Highlands at the Sedalia State Fair, MO

IF I MISSED ANYONE, PLEASE SEND ME PICS AND INFO

## What?!? A Fall Highland Cattle Auction is coming!!

The HHCA members asked for a fall Highland cattle auction, and the Board of Directors agreed and voted unanimously to host an auction in Oklahoma. HHCA President Blake Coble is ramrodding this event in Oklahoma. This auction will be included at the Exotic Auction at the Sycamore Springs Ranch Exotic Sale Barn, on Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9 AM. All consignments will have to be sent to the HHCA office with info and pictures and will be posted on the Highland auction site at [www.highlandauction.com](http://www.highlandauction.com)

There will be registered, unregistered, bulls, heifers, cow/calf pairs and maybe some Highland crossbred animals. Consignment is \$15 per head. There are many Highland breeders wanting to sell their weanling/yearling bull calves before winter. This will be a great opportunity for the beef processor to purchase these bulls to finish for their beef business.

For more info and to consign as of Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, call or email [heartlandhighlandcattle@gmail.com](mailto:heartlandhighlandcattle@gmail.com) phone 417.345.0575 or phone/text 417.733.3201.

This auction will be advertised in OK and the surrounding states as well on FB, agricultural publications and many Exotic and Heritage sites.



### UV Mesh Cow Fly Masks

HHCA member, Angel Anderson Morrison from Newcastle, OK sent a Facebook post about these cow fly masks. She purchased them for her Highlands and said they work great. She also sent me the website address. Here are pictures of them for your cow.

Cow masks are another method of helping prevent the spread of pink eye without the use of chemical fly sprays. There are two styles of UV fly masks.

(Top photo) The celery colored mask on the left has metal slide/webbing throat latch adjustment. This style is good for cows with a thick throat/neck since it allows for more adjustment.

The red mask on the right has the hook/loop closure.

(Bottom photo) This is a 2 year old Scottish Highland cow wearing the regular size cow mask.



***Check out the website at  
<http://custompetandtack.homestead.com/cowflymasks.html>***



# Summer Herd Health

Reprinted from OFN

What to watch for to keep your herd in good shape this summer

**Summer can be a wonderful time on the farm-haying season is in full swing, calves are growing and the kids are out of school.** But as enjoyable as summer is, it can also bring some problems for the health of your cattle herd. If you do run up against any of the health concerns listed below, contact your veterinarian and begin treatment immediately to prevent the situation from taking a much more serious turn.

**Heat Stress:** “The most consistent health concern for Ozarks cattle herds in the summer is heat stress,” said Dr. Heidi Ward, assistant professor and veterinarian for the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service. This summer’s only health concern can quickly become costly and devastating problem.

“One of the largest costs of heat stress is reduced fertility, said Reagan Bluel, University of MO-Ext. Regional Dairy Specialist for SW MO. “Fertility is primarily compromised through early embryonic loss,” she said, and can be a direct result of heat stress. In extreme cases, this condition can even cause death. Knowing the signs of heat stress is crucial for producers.

“Heat stress shows itself in several ways. High respiration rates, drooling and open-mouth breathing are classic visible signs,; said Eldon Cole, MO Extension Livestock Specialist. “Of course, checking body temperatures is another way. The normal cattle temperature is 101.5 degrees. Under heat stress conditions the temperature may rise to 105 or more.”

**Tick Borne Illness:** “The most common infectious problem is anaplasmosis, a tick-borne disease that spreads from herd to herd through biting insects,” Ward noted. “Adult cattle with anaplasmosis are even more susceptible to heat stress and often die when the stress triggers the immune system to attach infected red blood cells. According to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, the first symptoms of anaplasmosis typically begin within one to two weeks after the bite of an infected tick and symptoms include reluctance to eat, weight loss, pale skin around the muzzle, labored breathing, constipation and high fever. If cattle exhibit any of these symptoms, a veterinarian needs contacted immediately—if the disease is caught early enough , cattle can be treated with antibiotics and potentially a blood transfusion with a good chance of recovery.



*This photo of the Highland panting from the heat is a normal cow panting, which Highlands do to excrete their heat, sometimes they will even have foam at their nose and coming from their mouth.*

*This is normal, as they pant like a dog to excrete heat. As in this picture, you see there are ample trees for shade, but this cow is out grazing now.*

*They need shade and ponds, or misters to cool down, but they will also cool themselves by panting.*

*(Photo provided by Stepping Stone Acres)*

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

**Delaney DeHart**, from Urich, MO, HHCA Junior member who has been awarded the \$1500 Scholarship from the Highland Cattle Foundation of AHCA. Delaney is one of two winners. The HHCA is very proud of your accomplishment. Remember she also won a \$500 Scholarship from HHCA. Delaney will be attending Northwest Missouri State University and majoring in Agricultural Education.

**Courtney Hutson**, Shattuck, OK, HHCA Junior member for being awarded the Junior Highland Allegiance Award. This Award which acknowledges AHCA juniors who have gone above and beyond to represent the Highland cattle breed. This award symbolizes the winner’s dedication and perseverance in promoting and educating the public about Highland cattle, participation in public venues, research projects and overall participation in the AHCA junior membership.

## Summertime Pasture Management

—By Klaire Howerton

### KEEPING A WATCHFUL EYE ON PASTURE CONDITION AND GROWTH IS KEY

Summer in the Ozarks mean grazing is in full swing. Anybody driving through a rural area will most likely see herds of cattle and other livestock grazing on fields of bright green grasses and other forages.

As picture perfect and seemingly simplistic as this image is, it takes the producer quite a bit of work and management to keep up on the aforementioned scene—I am not a simple as turn the cows out and leave. It requires a summer pasture management plan, which can be created with the help of your local agronomy and forage specialists.

**Monitor Your Grass:** The first step in your summer pasture management plan should be regular monitoring pastures. Make it part of your chores to check grass growth-keeping track of this will help prevent overgrazing.

“Producers should always monitor their pasture growth, especially if we have hot, dry weather,” advised Jill Scheldt, agronomy specialist for the Barton County University of Missouri Extension. But just what do you monitor for? Scheldt went on to explain that producers “can follow the three leaf or take half, leave half rule. Always make sure the grass has three living leaves or no more than half of the grass the cattle started with gets grazed off.”

**Be Mindful of Root Growth:** You can’t have good grass without good root growth. Properly monitoring pastures and not overgrazing will ensure a solid root system. Remember the take half, leave half rule.

“Root growth reduces if pastures are grazed harder than this,” said Scheldt. “If grass is grazed lower than 2-4 inches root growth will stop completely until the plant has recovered. Root growth is especially important during the summer as roots search for moisture and nutrients in the soil. If roots are unable to grow deeper, they will not be able to find water deeper in the soil profile for the plant.”

**Clip Where Needed:** While some pastures are grazed enough to keep the grass from getting too tall and going to seed, those with small numbers of livestock, may need to clip pastures in the summer to ensure superior quality grass for animals.

“It is a good idea to clip stems and heads if grass becomes too tall in order to preserve higher quality,” Scheldt advised. “As fescue matures, quality is reduced because cells have more lignin and cellulose. Highland qualities found in the leaves, so the more leaf-material, the better-quality pasture.”

Clipping can also aid in the fight of summer fescue toxicity problems. “If pastures are in KY31 fescue, clipping pastures can reduce negative effects of fescue toxicosis like reduced weight gain, reduce milk production and reduced conception rates,” said Jill.

**Consider the Stocking Rate:** “Every pasture has a carry capacity, which is the number of animals an area of land can support on a long-term basis without causing damage to the ecosystem. Setting a stocking rate that exceeds the carrying capacity will result in over grazing,” said Rob Cook, Noble Research Institute Pasture and Range consultant. “Simply put, if you are continuously grazing and your pastures are too short, you are over stocked. If you are using rotational grazing, rotating properly and your pastures are too short, you are over stocked. Remember that forage production for each pasture will vary based on rainfall, temperature and past management. This means a stocking rate cannot be set and forgotten. The rate must change to match current conditions. It must be flexible, not only from year to year but also throughout the year.”

**Avoid Overgrazing:** Overgrazing damages the forages and the soil, prevents the livestock from having superior quality forage, and can create higher production costs for the producer.

“If pastures become overgrazed, undesirable plants will take advantage of bare spots in the pasture. Not only is the amount of quality forage reduced, but the number of acres it takes to sustain livestock will increase, this is decreasing stocking rate. If pastures are overgrazed, producers may have to start utilizing stored hay sooner than expected and run the risk of low winter feed reserves,” cautioned Scheidt.

*It is never too early to shop for Christmas gifts!  
There are a lot of clothing and other items for sale AND the 2018 HHCA  
calendar which comes in 2 versions!  
Check out the Highland merchandise at our website  
[www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org/merchandise](http://www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org/merchandise)*

## Highland Beef Stuffed Green Peppers—from the Black Bell Acres Kitchen (Kirsten Kosinski)

6-8 green peppers (depending on size)

1# Ground Beef

2 large onions

1 egg

Salt, pepper, paprika, and a pinch of garlic

Mix all the ingredients together.

Stuff mixture in peppers, place in deep pan and add a little olive oil and water

Cook until stuffing is done.

*Hurrah! The HHCA is now accepting credit cards! Contact Gloria at 417-345-0575 and give her the CC number when you want to purchase merchandise, pay your dues, or sponsor a new member. All cards accepted.*

## Bigfoot on the Strip: Branson, MO

At our HHCA annual meeting in March, Darrell Henley, member of HHCA had an announcement for the association. Darrell and three other partners have almost finished a 10 million dollar project located at 3608 W. Hwy. 76 Branson, MO. "Bigfoot on the Strip" offers a variety of attractions, all themed around Bigfoot (as in Sasquatch) and designed to appeal to all ages and abilities. The Bigfoot themed project features both indoor and outdoor activities, a food truck dining park, a large outdoor patio, indoor and outdoor party spaces and a visitor center. There are rides and many other events, such as 18 hole golf adventure, Adventure Maze, and an 8 Di Leadslinger Cinema.

**Another first of its kind is the Bigfoot Discovery Expedition where guests will join our Bigfoot Research team and board safari trucks for a visit to Bigfoot Farms, just ten minutes outside of Branson. Guests will experience the beauty of the Ozark Mountains and interact with mystical Scottish Highland Cattle on a working farm, featuring cows from the largest Scottish Highland producer in the Ozarks, while always keeping on the lookout for signs of Bigfoot activity.** The approximate one hour and twenty minute tour will take them off road and over rugged terrain with twists, turns, and a few surprises that will be sure to keep them on the edge of their seat.

Darrell and his partners have decades of experience in the tourism and attraction industry. They have five different successful attractions in Branson and also co-founded Vacations Made Easy, which has been providing online access to attraction tickets to destinations across North America for over twenty years.

They opened in May and have been doing well. People who have gone on the safari have talked about the beautiful Highland cattle they saw.

Darrell has over 160 Highlands on a 1000 acre farm parcel. He has been a member of the Heartland Highland Cattle Assoc. for the past five years and is an active promoter of Highland cattle. He raises both registered and unregistered Highlands. If you come to Branson, MO, check out this adventure.

## Board of Directors

Year	Name	Location
2020	Steve Stewart	Spokane, MO
2020	Clint Deardorff	Yale, IA
2019	Jacque Hawkins	Deer, AR
2018	Harold Ramey	Alton, MO
2018	Gary Trevorrow	Crane, MO

**Check out the  
HHCA website!**

[www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org](http://www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org)

On the site you will find updated classified ads, membership page of new members, and the Events page with the Calendar of Events and pictures from the events.

This is a great place to get and give information about your farm and Highland cattle.

Use your FREE ad and get exposure and results.

## Officers' Contact Information

President	Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer
Blake Coble 13055 New Lake Road Henryetta, OK 74437 918-652-1411	Chris Batz 2828 Voss Avenue Sac City, IA 50583 712-662-7509 rcbatz@vertek.net	Gloria Asmussen 976 State Highway 64 Tunas, MO 65764 417-345-0575 heartlandhighlandcattle@gmail.com

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## Renewal or New Membership Application Heartland Highland Cattle Association

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Please remit \$25.00 yearly (12 month) membership dues to:*

**Heartland Highland Cattle Association**  
**976 State Highway 64**  
**Tunas, MO 65764**

If you have questions, comments or concerns, please contact the Secretary, Gloria Asmussen, at 417-345-0575

## HHCA Classified Ads

CHECK OUT ALL THE ADS ON THE HHCA WEBSITE AT [www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org](http://www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org)

Use your FREE membership ad on the website classified section and in the newsletter, your ad will pay off. There are always SOLD signs being placed on ads.

**Please note: only ads with specific livestock and/or beef for sale are listed on this page. To see general farm site ads, please go to the website as noted above.**

### **Arkansas:**

2 unreg. bulls/black dob 7/16; red, dob 12/15 Harrison, AR Tim 870.754.0086

### **Missouri:**

Reg 2015 bulls, Cheek's Farm, Fair Grove area 417.818.2255

(2) Bred Registered Highland Cows \$1500 each Hwy. H Highlands, Stoutland, MO 417.286.3540 [bkbk@missouricom.com](mailto:bkbk@missouricom.com)

Highland steer and yearling bull, Black Bell Acres, Alton, MO 417.778.6009

Unreg. 8 yr. old cow with 6 mo. old steer calf Nixa, MO Todd 417.616.9743

Reg. breeding bulls and heifers, Eolia, MO Bruce/Thistle Hill Plantation 314.739.0001

Yearly haltered trained red bull calf Strafford, MO contact Ian 417.848.4464

2/ three yo cow/bull crossbred calf pairs and two breeding bulls all unreg. Ava, MO Herman 417.683.1351

Downsizing 35 unreg. Highland bulls, heifers, cows; cow/calf pairs Richland, MO Chris 573.765.0150

Yrly reg. dun bull dob 10/10/16 Alton, MO High-Land Farm 309.251.4114

Yrly unreg. dun heifer \$800 and yellow bull \$650, likes treats, Willow Spring, contact Dave 417.855.0415

3 older bred unreg cows-preg checked to calve in Nov. Alton, MO Darin 559.816.5068

Reg. 6 yo proven Highland bull, nice calves, different colors, Cape Fair, MO Cholly Farm 417.699.2318

Unreg heifers and bull willing to take reasonable offers Licking, MO Brett, 573.629.7152

Highland/Jersey cow with Highland bull calf, looking for milk cow/Willow Springs, Dave 417.855.0415

### **Illinois**

4.5 yr. old unreg. Highland bull, Red Bud, IL Dennis Hepp 618.560.8315 [heppj@htc.net](mailto:heppj@htc.net)

### **Kansas:**

Pending reg. Highland yearling bull, black, Albert, KS 785.650.3182 [troyas@gbta.net](mailto:troyas@gbta.net)

Red yearling Highland bull, reg. pending; 4 Highland steers approx. 800#; Baldwin, KS 913.710.4362

3- unregistered bulls, one 2yo and two 3yo, \$500 each Douglass, KS Carolyn 316.747.2043

### **Texas:**

5 yr. old Highland cow bred to Angus bull, Brownwood, TX 325.752.0006

### **Tennessee:**

2016 calves; 2 reg. heifers, 4 bull can be reg. red, dun, yellow and silver Dan Blandford Knoxville area 865.692.4215

3 yearling registered bulls, red, white, and black, great bloodlines, Harrison, TN 423.344.4415 [sbbl@comcast.net](mailto:sbbl@comcast.net)

### **Mississippi:**

Three unregistered red heifers Riverview Farms, Oxford, MS 615.319.2710

### **Oklahoma:**

Crossbred Highland/Belted Galloway, 2 heifers/1 bull Idabel, OK Rebecca 405.356.2839

2015 reg. and unreg. bulls and heifers, will be reg. at sale; Red Rock Highlands, Red Rock, OK 580.761.1405

Reg. black cows, downsizing Sand Springs, OK Sean 918.521.1688

Red bull calf, ready when weaned, Kevin; Prague, OK 405.567.9309

2-Yearling Registered red Highland heifer, located Newkirk, OK contact Charlotte Shiever 405.742.7221

2 reg. Highland bulls, good confirmation, ready to breed. Welsh, OK Michael 505.228.7438

Downsizing fold, unreg. cows/bull calves pairs 18 & 19 mo. heifers, 2 yo bull Wellston, OK 405.356.2839

### **Minnesota:**

Downsizing Highland fold: heifers, cows, Larry/Cindy, Little Falls, MN 320.745.2444

2 weanling Highland bulls black & red; Arvida Farm, Grand Marais, MN 218.387.9479

### **Pennsylvania:**

2 bred unreg. cows due to calve summer & red/LimoHighland steer, NE PA David [clarkfarms777@gmail.com](mailto:clarkfarms777@gmail.com)

Heartland Highland Cattle Assn.  
976 State Highway 64  
Tunas, MO 65765  
417-345-0575

PLEASE  
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