

THE Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City

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Save The Date: Upcoming Events!!

March 29: Member Workshop

Join us for a panel discussion from 3-5 p.m. on March 29th on the implications of the 2012 drought, and what that means for food prices in 2013.

April 4: Rep. Kevin Yoder

The Council welcomes U.S. Representative Kevin Yoder, Kansas (R) to their April monthly luncheon. Join us at the American Royal to hear Congressman Yoder's update on Agriculture for 2013!

Bayer HealthCare Animal Health Division: FDA Approves Bayer's Baytril 100 Injectable

Last month the FDA approved Bayer HealthCare's Animal Health Division's Baytril 100 (enrofloxacin) Injectable for treatment and control of swine respiratory disease (SRD) associated with bacterial pathogens *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (M. hyo) and *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (B.

Dust In The Wind: Council to Host Drought Workshop



Join us, March 29 at 3:00 pm for the Council's first member workshop of the year: Dust In the Wind: Prospects for 2013.

The 2012 drought has destroyed or damaged portions of the major field crops in the Midwest, leading to increases in the farm prices of corn and soybeans, and in turn, led to price increases in the food supply. The past year's drought has the potential to increase retail prices for beef, pork, poultry, and dairy products throughout 2013. Will we see historical food price inflation in the coming year? Has the recent precipitation brought us any closer to making up that lost in the past year? Our panel discussion will explore crop prospects for 2013 and help us understand what is to come if the drought is to continue.

Featured Panelists:

Blake Hurst
President, Missouri Farm Bureau

Mary Knapp
State Climatologist, Kansas

Steve Meyer
President, Paragon Economics

The workshop will be held at the American Royal from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and have a reception directly following. To register, [CLICK HERE.](#)

Thanks to sponsors John Deere and Great American Insurance - Crop Division for their continued support! If you are interested in your company sponsoring the workshop, please contact erica.venancio@agbizkc.com

Rep. Kevin Yoder to Speak in April

The Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City is pleased to announce Representative Kevin Yoder as their featured speaker for the luncheon meeting on **April 4th, 2013** at the American Royal.

Representative Kevin Yoder is a 5th generation Kansan who grew up on a grain



bronchiseptica).

The approval now provides swine producers and veterinarians with a powerful tool to treat and control six major swine pathogens, noted Dr. Andy Holtcamp, Bayer Senior Veterinarian, Technical Services. Baytril 100 is an effective treatment tool for pigs eight to 12 weeks along in the finishing stage; it helps knock down the "10-Week Wall" of respiratory disease. In addition, producers may use Baytril 100 as a health management tool to control SRD in the nursery and the farrowing barn.

Animal Health Company Expands Operations In Manhattan

Midwest Veterinary Services (MVS) is expanding its operations in the Manhattan area. At a press conference last week at the Kansas State Research Park, MVS said it is building a veterinary biomedical research facility in Pottawatomie County.

The Nebraska-based company expects to create 18 new positions with an average salary of \$65,000 over the next few years and will invest approximately \$10 million in Kansas. MVS will partner with Kansas State University's veterinary college in research efforts.

"Our company helps the animal health manufacturers so companies that make animal health products and vaccines for food animals to bring those products to the market to help prove and help determine that products are both safe and effective," said Dr. Kelly Lechtenberg, of the Veterinary & Biomedical Research Center.

MVS is constructing their 20,000 square foot facility in the Green Valley Business Park in Blue Township along the Highway 24 corridor. Construction is expected to be finished in July.

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and livestock farm in rural Kansas near a town called Yoder. On January 5, 2011, Representative Yoder was sworn in to serve his first term as a Member of the 112th Congress.



During the 113th Congress, Representative Yoder returns to the House Appropriations Committee, where he serves as the Vice Chair on the Agriculture Subcommittee, the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee, and the Financial Services Subcommittee.

Prior to being elected to Congress, Representative Yoder served as a State Representative in the Kansas Legislature, representing Leawood and Overland Park. Representative Yoder chaired the House Appropriations Committee where he led the effort to cut spending, balance the Kansas state budget, and oppose tax increases.

The 3rd Congressional District of Kansas includes Johnson County, Wyandotte County and the northeast corner of Miami County. Congressman Yoder is a proud graduate of the University of Kansas where he received degrees in Political Science, English, and law. He lives in Overland Park with his wife, Brooke.

To register for this meeting, [CLICK HERE](#).

AFA Students Attend Policy Training

The Agriculture Future of America will host 40 college men and women at the AFA Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., March 17-20. Held in conjunction with Agriculture Council of America's National Ag Day observance, this Institute experience allows AFA delegates to join Student NAMA, 4-H and FFA students for activities on Capitol Hill. Students will take part in training sessions to further their understanding of agriculture policy and regulations. They will also visit with their home state legislators and advisors to learn more about promoting agriculture awareness.



Additionally, AFA delegates will receive briefings on specific Institute activities during visits with current and former secretaries of agriculture and at a forum featuring leaders in agriculture policy. Students will also benefit from networking with like-minded students who are passionate about agriculture and the legislative process.

AFA students are able to take part in these activities through the generosity of AFA Policy Institute and National Ag Day partners. To learn more about the AFA Policy Institute and AFA's partners, visit www.agfuture.org/agday.

The National Ag Day campaign, hosted by the Agriculture Council of America, encourages every American to understand how food and fiber products are produced, value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy and appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products.

Farrell Positive About Agriculture Outlook

Agribusiness is enjoying a gilded era of economic performance that Jim Farrell, President of Farmers National Company, Omaha, Nebraska, says is sustainable in the near future, providing several conditions are met. If commodity prices remain strong and interest rates low, Farrell told Council members at the March 1 luncheon meeting, the outlook for agribusiness is bright - especially if the renewable fuel standards remain intact and if the Chinese economy continues to grow.



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Farrell said 2013 could be a pivotal year. Growers will have to be nimble in the market since high grain prices could limit demand and record level input costs will shrink margins. The livestock sector will be less gilded. He also warned: "We need to be cognizant of the fact that we usually produce ourselves out of prosperity."

[Continued here...](#)

Senator Moran Retains Key Committee Assignments

The Senate Subcommittee Assignments for the 113th Congress were announced recently, and Kansas Senator Jerry Moran will maintain his position on several subcommittees whose jurisdictions have a direct impact on the Kansas and American economies.

"As a member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations," he said, "I have been chosen to continue my service with the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and R related Agencies."

Sen. Moran pledges continued efforts to find the proper balance that allows the USDA to provide necessary services to rural America while reducing spending and getting the federal debt under control. He will also serve as Ranking Member on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

Additionally, Sen. Moran will serve on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, which oversees funding for the Department of Homeland Security. "Strengthening our nation's security efforts is one of my top priorities and a critical responsibility of Congress," he said, "and I will continue to advocate for construction of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF)."

Specialty Crop Funds Awarded to Missouri to Further Enhance Industry

The Missouri Department of Agriculture today announced that 13 agricultural projects across Missouri have been selected to receive funding provided by USDA's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program to assist in the competitiveness of specialty crops in the state. The federal assistance totaling over \$300,000 for Missouri projects is targeted to specialty crops such as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits and horticulture, including floriculture and turf grass sod.

"The innovative specialty crop growers throughout Missouri are dedicated to education, good management practices and seeking new ways to increase market opportunities for Missouri farm families," said Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler. "As specialty crops continue to grow in popularity among both producers and consumers, we are committed to connecting Missouri farmers with value-added opportunities and the resources necessary for them to succeed in meeting their customers' needs."

To see a list of the grants from the Missouri Department of Agriculture, [CLICK HERE](#).

By The Numbers: Food Supply At The Heart of Kansas Economy

As Kansas celebrates Kansas Agriculture Week March 12-19, the work and worth of growing the nation's food supply is told in the numbers:

- Agriculture is worth \$33 billion to the Kansas economy.

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- There is a total of 52,320,102 acres of land and farmland accounts for 88.6 of it: More than 28 million are devoted to growing crops; nearly 16 million for pastureland.
- Agriculture employs more than 427,000 people through direct, indirect and induced effect careers, according to the U.S. Census Bureau and the USDA.
- The agricultural sector includes renewable energy production, food processing, research and education, agribusiness and more.
- Kansas is part of the animal health corridor between Columbia, Missouri and Manhattan in which the single largest concentration of animal health interests in the world operate.
- In 2011, Kansas exported nearly \$5.3 billion in agricultural products. The top four exports include wheat, beef and veal, soybeans and corn.

NBAF Central Utilities Plant Construction Contract Awarded

Kansas Senator Jerry Moran disclosed late last month that the Department of Homeland Security awarded the \$40 million utility work contract for the construction of the Central Utilities Plant (CUP), an initial step toward constructing NBAF. "The contract being confirmed is good news," said Sen. Moran, "because without the capabilities NBAF provides, our country is at risk from foreign animal disease threats." The CUP will be a free standing 87,000 square foot building built on the NBAF site on the Kansas State University campus, and is expected to be completed in two and a half years.

The NBAF utility deal was officially awarded to a contracting team formed by Capital Electric from Kansas City and Inglett and Stubbs from Atlanta who are partnering with the joint venture enterprise McCarthy MortensonMcMjv to provide preconstruction services including electrical estimating, value engineering and constructability reviews for the NBAF project in Manhattan Kansas.

The Capital Electric/Inglett and Stubbs team was selected for this project because of its extensive experience with bio-containment projects. Capital Electric is one of the largest electrical contractors in the region and has completed many projects in the Manhattan area. Inglett and Stubbs is one of the leaders in construction of High Containment facilities.

Kansas City Life Sciences Industry Alive and Well

The number of life sciences companies in the region has increased by 17 percent in the past three years, according to a study released by Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute.

The new report listed 240 current life sciences companies in the 24-county Kansas City region, up from 206 companies in 2009. Along with this growth in the number of life sciences companies was a 21 percent increase in employment in the sector - a total of 22,864 compared with three years earlier.

"In the midst of the recession, we had really remarkable growth in Kansas City in the life sciences sector," noted Wayne Carter, CEO of the KC Area Live Sciences Institute. "That's a really big story."

[Continued here...](#)