



August 15, 2008

In This Issue

[COOL Considerations for Cow-Calf & Stocker Producers](#)

[CRP Updates for Missouri Cattlemen](#)

[Seasonal Market Ahead](#)

[Cattle Don't Have Much to Do with Global Warming](#)

[Pastureland Values up 6%; Pasture Rent up 8%](#)

[MBIC Board of Directors Election](#)

[NJ Supreme Court Rules Against Animal Rightists](#)

[Cloning Company ViaGen Merges with Licensing Company](#)

[Missouri Beef House Schedule Posted](#)

[Missouri State Beef Tour](#)

[Cattlemen's Meetings](#)

Quick Links

[Missouri Cattlemen's Association](#)

[National Cattlemen's Beef Association](#)

[Missouri Beef Industry Council](#)

COOL Considerations For Cow-Calf & Stocker Cattle Producers

Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling will take effect on September 30, 2008. There are specific rules on the definition of retailers and on processed foods (which are exempted) and on food service establishments (which are also exempted) but in general, beef sold in retail markets must bear a label or notice to consumers about the origin of the beef. Only beef from animals born, raised and slaughtered in the U.S. may be labeled Product of U.S.A. Other product must identify the country or countries of origin, which might include the U.S. and other countries. USDA-AMS has indicated that they will use the first six months to help retailers and suppliers come into compliance with the law.

Meat packers are considered the originators of the origin claim but the interim final rule indicates that the slaughter facility "must possess or have legal access to records that are necessary to substantiate the origin claim." "A producer affidavit shall be considered acceptable evidence provided it is made by someone having first-hand knowledge of the origin of the animals and identifies the animals unique to the transaction." Records maintained in the course of normal conduct of business may serve as verification. Animals that are part of a NAIS compliant or other recognized official identification system may use the animal ID to verify origin claims.

Cow-calf producers can use a wide variety of herd or calving records, feed purchases, animal health or vaccine purchases to document the normal level of production that would verify the origin of calves they sell. Producers should be prepared to provide an affidavit to the buyer stating the origin and the existence of such records. Producers should keep a copy of the affidavit noting the buyer and/or the date and location of the sale. COOL also covers meat from breeding animals which means that producers should keep records of raised animals used for

[Missouri Cattlemen's Foundation](#)

[Missouri Department of Agriculture](#)

[Missouri Lunch and Learn Program](#)

Join our list

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

breeding and should request an affidavit for any purchased cows or bulls.

All animals in the U.S. as of July 15, 2008 are considered to be U.S. origin. It is important for cow-calf producers to document herd size and composition for these animals that are "grandfathered" in under this date. Young cows that may not be sold for several years may need this documentation to verify the status as of July 15, 2008.

Stocker producers, like other suppliers, must "maintain records to establish and identify the immediate previous source and the immediate subsequent recipient." Commingling of animals creates a challenge but AMS has indicated that as long as a producer has records of purchases and sales that reasonably account for total animal sales, individual animals or subsets of animals need not be traced back to specific purchase group(s). Thus, animals purchased from a variety of sources arriving with affidavits that show that animals all have the same origin, can be commingled into different sales groups and sold with affidavits that verify the origin of the animals.

Depending on the flow of animals into and out of an operation, producers may find it advantageous to use a more detailed tracking system to account for sources and destinations of cattle. Of course, if a producer has animals with different origins, those animals should be segregated by origin group with appropriate records to account for each origin group unless they are part of a NAIS compliant or other individual animal ID program to track animals. As noted above, NAIS compliant animals may use the animal ID as verification of origin. Animals on hand as of July 15, 2008 are covered under the previously mentioned grandfather clause.

Source: Derrell S. Peel, OSU Livestock Marketing Specialist; Released by: Cattle Network

CRP Updates for Missouri Cattlemen

Missouri CRP Release for Emergency Haying and Grazing:

Many Missouri counties have been approved via Presidential action and through the Department of Agriculture in response to the flooding experienced earlier this year. These CRP acres have been released for grazing with a 25% reduction in CRP annual payment on the acres actually grazed. Producers must visit the county FSA office and sign the applicable forms to release acreage for this emergency grazing. Counties must apply to be released for emergency haying.

Counties approved for 2008 Emergency Grazing are: Adair, Andrew, Atchison, Audrain, Barry, Barton, Bates, Benton, Bollinger, Boone, Buchanan, Caldwell, Callaway, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Chariton, Christian, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Cole, Cooper, Dade, Dallas, Daviess, DeKalb, Douglas, Franklin, Gentry, Greene, Grundy, Harrison, Henry, Hickory, Holt, Howard, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Lafayette, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Linn, Livingston, McDonald, Macon, Maries, Marion,

Mercer, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Newton, Nodaway, Osage, Ozark, Perry, Pettis, Pike, Polk, Pulaski, Putnam, Ralls, Randolph, Ray, St. Charles, St. Clair, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Saline, Schuyler, Scotland, Scott, Shelby, Stoddard, Stone, Sullivan, Taney, Vernon, Warren, Webster, and Worth.

Counties Currently Approved for 2008 Emergency Haying are: Adair, Andrew, Audrain, Barry, Bates, Buchanan, Caldwell, Callaway, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Clark, Clay, Dallas, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Knox, Lawrence, Lewis, Linn, Livingston, Macon, Maries, Marion, Mercer, Moniteau, Montgomery, Nodaway, Osage, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Ralls, Randolph, Ray, Saline, Schuyler, Scotland, Scott, Shelby, Sullivan, Vernon, and Worth.

On August 4th, Dept of Agriculture Secretary Ed Shafer announced that producers in counties approved for emergency haying and grazing on CRP land due to drought will have rental payments reduced by 15% instead of the standard 25%. This currently only includes counties in Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Texas.

The Missouri Cattlemen's Association will be composing a letter petitioning to Secretary Shafer to reduce the payment for Missouri producers impacted by the flooding as well.

Update on CRP Critical Feed Use Release: Many are curious about the lawsuit imposed by the National Wildlife Federation on the release of CRP ground for haying and grazing. Producers permitted to continue critical feed use after the ruling were broken into 3 categories:

Category A: includes producers who had applied for CFU pursuant to Notice CRP-598, and who were approved before the July 8, 2008 Temporary Restraining Order.

Category B: includes producers who applied for CFU before July 8, 2008 Temporary Restraining Order, but who had not yet received approval before the TRO was issued.

Category C: producers in the special situation later discussed.

Category A and B producers may continue utilizing CRP ground under the provisions stated prior to the TRO.

Category C producers: Except for cases permitted by Notice CRP-604, no CFU applications are authorized unless the producer can make a showing of significant reliance on Notice CRP-598, which must include BOTH of the following:

- documentary proof of investment of \$4,500 or greater toward haying or grazing equipment or preparation as a result of Notice CRP-598 that was made before the TRO (5 pm July 8, 2008). - When showing documentary proof, invoices, contracts, cancelled checks, and other forms of legal obligation that are dated between May 27 and July 8, 2008 may be considered acceptable.
- a declaration from the CRP contract holder attesting to the showing of significant reliance on Notice CRP-598 in making the investment defined above.

If you would like to speak to the individuals responsible for the NWF lawsuit concerning the reasoning and logic behind it, you may contact the following individuals:

Tom France: france@nwf.org or (406) 541-6706

Julie Sibbing: sibbing@nwf.org or (202) 797-6832

This update has been compiled to keep our MCA members as up to date as possible on

changes in CRP issues affecting cattlemen. Please feel free to contact the MCA office with any questions. Compiled with assistance from Missouri Farm Service Agency.

**BIG
OR
SMALL,**
1-800-325-9167
www.productionvalues.com

**EXPRESS[®]
THEM ALL**

Every animal in your herd is at risk for disease. Protect them all with Express[®] Vaccines from Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.

EXPRESS[®] YOUR HERD

**Boehringer
Ingelheim**

The Missouri Cattlemen's Association
would like to extend a
THANK YOU
to the Pettis County Cattlemen's Assoc.
for sponsoring the meal for the
Annual MCA Board Meeting
held on June 5th!!!

Your efforts are sincerely appreciated!

Seasonal Market Ahead

The feeder cattle market continues to trade within the range of \$108 to \$115/cwt as previously forecasted. At this time there is nothing to suggest the market would move out of this range. Offerings of yearling cattle are obviously very large at this time which could pressure the market before the forecasted range. However, feeder cattle are a demand driven market and in the CattleFax feedyard sector the percent fill level is at 72.4 percent as of August 1, the lowest since 1996 for this time of the year. There are a lot of empty pens to be filled. The equity situation in the feedyard sector is not a support factor to the yearling market, but the equity drain at this point is not enough to pressure the market.

Balance of Third Quarter: Feeder cattle will stay within the \$108 to \$115 range basis the CME feeder index. Heavier cattle that would be above the weight range of the CME index will trade in this same range, dependent upon location/freight.

Fourth Quarter: The yearling run is expected to be complete by early October. Supplies will be limited the rest of the quarter. The price trend is expected to follow season pattern and trade sideways to lower from early in the quarter. More time will be spent between a

\$105-112.

First Quarter 2009: Feeder cattle values will be heavily influenced by the deferred live cattle futures, the profitability of the feeding sector and corn values. Seasonally, the market trends lower from early in the quarter into the early spring. This will likely be the case to start the year. The forecast calls for narrowing of the feeder cattle to fed cattle spreads targets the risk area for feeder cattle near \$100. Risk managers should evaluate opportunities the market may be providign as they buy calves this late summer and early fall.

Bottom Line: Look for a seasonal feeder market the next 6-9 months with prices holding steady to firm in teh near-term and trending lower later. Evaluate risk managment opportunities and continue to read teh Update for changes in the forecast.

Source: Michael Murphy, CattleFax Update

Cattle Don't Have Much to Do with Global Warming

Since the release of a United Nations (U.N.) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report in 2006, we've heard more and more about the carbon footprints and the green house gases generated in livestock production. That report claims that, on a global basis, raising livestock generates more greenhouse gas emissions as measured in carbon dioxide equivalent than use of fossil fuels in driving cars and trucks. This story has appeared over and over again in the media.

A second study that was release by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) didn't receive much media attention, but it should. The EPA report titled "U.S. Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks" crunched the numbers to determine that 80 percent of annual greenhouse gas emissions come from the combustion of fossil fuels and only 2.3 percent from food animal production.

Although the EPA data clearly show the FAO statistics are irrelevant in the United States, mainstream media and online sources have called for Americans to reduce meat consumption to save the planet. Beef checkoff-funded media monitoring data show that cattle and global warming was the fourth-most covered beef industry environmental story in the past 12 months. Consumers are being told they can reduce global warming by reducing the amount of meat their household consumes.

That's undoubtedly bad news for America's beef producers, especially when we realize that the average American consumer is only eating beef twice a week to start with. For most farm and ranch families, only one beef meal a week is unthinkable, but for the average consumer it's not that big of a leap.

Research shows that that 55 percent of Americans believe global warming is occurring because of human activity, and needs immediate attention. Some consumers may be more likely to give up a steak than their SUV. It's the responsibility of cattle producers and industry partners to ensure that they're taking excellent care of the environment and telling the world about it.

Source: Minnesota Beef Extension; Released by: Cattle Network



SYDENSTRICKER



**MCA Would Like to Thank Sydenstricker's of Missouri
for Their Donation of Gators for Use at the
2008 Missouri State Fair!!!**

Sydenstricker's of Missouri:

Mexico: (573) 581-5900
Macon: (573) 385-2177
Columbia: (573) 446-3030
Kirksville: (573) 665-1500

Chillicothe: (660) 646-5493
Palmyra: (573) 769-2112
Moscow Mills: (636) 366-9400
Curryville: (573) 594-6493

Green Toys & More, Branson: (417) 334-8697

"Your Partner in Growing a Better Tomorrow"

Pastureland Values up 6%; Pasture Rent up 8%

You already knew pasture prices were record high. The "Land Value and Cash Rents" Summary for 2008 published Aug. 4 adds numbers to the reality.

According to the report from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), pastureland values have risen 6% to an average of \$1,230/acre in 2008; cash pasture rent have increased 8.3% to \$13/acre on average.

For perspective, cropland values rose by 10% to \$2,970/acre, up from the previous high of \$2,690 in 2007. Cropland cash rents increased \$11/acre (13%) to a national average of \$96/acre.

Total farm real estate values, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms, averaged \$2,350/acre on Jan. 1, 2008, up 8.8%. That's also record high, \$190 more than a year earlier.

"While commercial and residential development has slowed in many regions, farm real estate values continue to increase. Strong commodity prices and farm programs, outside investments, favorable interest rates, and tax incentives continue to be the factors that drive farm real estate values to record levels," the report says. "Livestock prices, recreational use and urban development remain the predominant influences that increase pasture land values."

You can find the complete summary at
usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/AgriLandVa/AgriLandVa-08-04-2008.pdf
Source: *Beef Stocker Trends*

MBIC Board of Directors Election - VOTE!

The Director of Agriculture will be conducting an election to fill three positions on the Missouri Beef Industry Council Board of Directors. One regional council member will be elected from each of regions 2, 3, and 4. The elected individuals will serve for three years. Any cattle producer within these regions of Missouri who produces cattle for market and is the legal owner of one or more head of cattle is eligible to vote in this election. There are MCA members running for each region and we encourage all of our producers in those regions to register. Registration can be completed at Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices prior to July 18, 2008. If you have participated in MBIC elections within the last five years, it is not necessary to register.

The MDA will mail ballots to the producers registered by August 15, 2008. Ballots must be postmarked no later than August 29, 2008 to be valid.

Any qualified producer may be nominated and have his or her name placed on the ballot. An independent nomination accompanied by a petition of at least 100 producers in the nominee's region and written permission of the candidate are required. Petitions must be delivered to the MDA Director's office by no later than July 18, 2008.

Register to vote!

Current Nominees:

Region 2 (NE)	Region 3 (SE)	Region 4 (SW)
Blue Geier*	Jim Freeman*	Jay Stahl*
Sally Angell	Mike Kasten	Chris Cloud
		Howard Hardecke

*Denotes incumbent



Checking in on the Checkoff

Running ads to remind health-conscience consumers that beef is a passion that is permissible.

It's earth-friendly fuel for your body!



Ads run in over 30 national publications like Health, Real Simple, Parents, Mens Fitness and many more. They also run in several Missouri publications.

NJ Supreme Court Rules Against Animal Rightists

In an attempt to force changes onto animal agriculture as it relates to animal rearing practices on the farm, some animal rightist groups focused their attempts on New Jersey. The issues involving gestation sows, poultry, cattle and more spent time under review within the state's legal system.

Recently, the New Jersey Supreme Court upheld several regulations that the state agriculture department had established as being humane. Among the practices in question were the use of gestation-sow crates, de-beaking, castrating animals without anesthesia and some steps to increase egg production.

The court did, however, find one routine practice objectionable -- tail docking of cattle, where a lower portion of the tail is removed. The court did rule that the department needs to do more work to evaluate and define what routine husbandry practices are if they want to keep relying on it.

"Because we find in those regulations both unworkable standards and an unacceptable delegation of authority to an ill-defined category of presumed experts, we conclude that the (state ag) department failed, in part, to carry out its mandate. We therefore conclude that some, but not all, of the regulations are invalid," wrote Justice Helen Hoens for a unanimous court.

Released by: Drivers Alert

Cloning Company ViaGen Merges with Licensing Comany

Geron Corp., and Exeter Life Sciences, Inc. announced the merger of Start Licensing, Inc., a joint venture between Geron and Exeter Life Sciences, and ViaGen, Inc., a subsidiary of Exeter Life Sciences.

Start manages and licenses a broad portfolio of intellectual property rights related to animal reproductive technologies, including animal cloning. ViaGen is a leading animal genomics and livestock cloning firm.

The merger of Start and ViaGen, combines the full breadth of intellectual property rights to nuclear transfer cloning technology, including that developed at the Roslin Institute for cloning Dolly the sheep, with in-house state-of-the-art breeding services and expertise in advanced reproductive technologies, particularly in cloning, to provide a one-stop licensing and operating company.

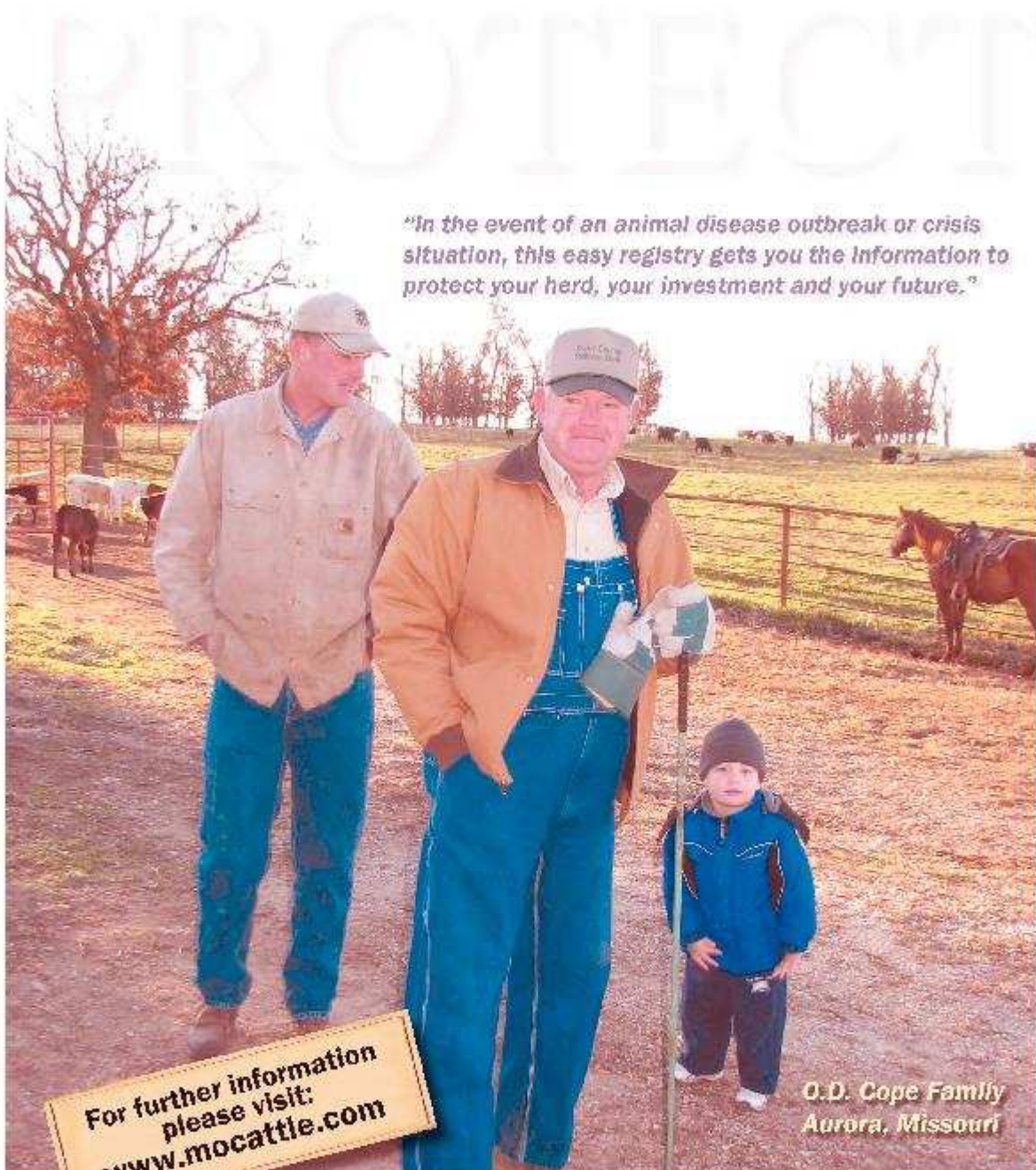
"We believe it makes sound business sense to join a patent estate for nuclear transfer that has been tested and is recognized as dominant with a leading operating company in the field," said David Greenwood, Geron's executive vice president and chief financial officer.

"We have built a world-class team of cloning practitioners and have key industry relationships in place," said Jonathan Thatcher, Exeter Life Science's chief executive officer. "We are now creating a company that holds the proprietary intellectual property and has demonstrated operating leadership in the field. Customers can secure a license to practice or contract cloning services."

"Our company has demonstrated expertise in use of nuclear transfer technology to clone animals for better breeding," said Mark Walton, ViaGen's chief executive officer. "To date more than a dozen species have been successfully cloned. There is a clear utility for animal cloning, ranging from agricultural applications to the conservation of endangered species and biopharmaceutical production."

Under the terms of the merger, ViaGen acquired the shares of Start held by Geron of

Menlo Park, Calif. and Exeter Life Sciences of Phoenix, in exchange for equity in ViaGen. Start will continue to operate as a wholly-owned subsidiary of ViaGen.
Source: Geron press release; Released by: Drivers Alert



For further information
please visit:
www.mocattle.com

O.D. Cope Family
Aurora, Missouri

REGISTER TO PROTECT
YOUR ANIMALS. YOUR LIVELIHOOD. YOUR FUTURE.

Visit the Missouri Beef House!

It's that time of year again! The Missouri State Fair is underway and the Beef House is open for business! Stop in for a visit!!

**The success of the Beef House is largely dependent
on our county association volunteers.
Please begin planning to carpool as a county and
come enjoy some time at the Fair and in the Beef House!**

**Thank you to everyone who has volunteered
their time and services in the Beef House this year!!!**

To see a schedule of assigned county shifts, please visit our website at www.mocattle.com or look for it in the July issue of the Missouri Beef Cattleman.

If your county will be unable to fulfill their shift or bring their allotted number of people please contact MCA as soon as possible at (573) 499-9162.

Missouri Extension - Upcoming State Beef Tour

The Missouri State Beef Tour will be held on Saturday, August 30th in Vernon and Barton Counties. To learn more about the event please follow the link below:

<http://agebb.missouri.edu/commag/beeftour/index.htm>

Cattlemen's Meetings

August 7-17 - Missouri State Fair; Sedalia, MO

August 21 - Henry County Cattlemen's Meeting
First Baptist Church Calvary Hall, Clinton - 7:00 pm

August 21 - Greene County Cattlemen's Meeting
Golden Corral, Springfield - 7:00 pm

*Looking for a program to present to your members during a county meeting?
MCA provides Beef Quality Assurance training programs for county cattlemen. More more
information contact (573) 499-9162.*

This newsletter is a publication of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association. All rights reserved - this newsletter may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, without permission of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

Do you have questions, comments or suggestions?

Would you like to advertise in our newsletter ?

If so, please contact Rachel Bartholomew at (573) 499-9162 or rachel@mocattle.com.

[Forward email](#)

✉ [SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

This email was sent to maureen@mocattle.com by rachel@mocattle.com.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



