



**October 2, 2009**

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## **Food production will have to increase by 70 percent by 2050**

*Release by CattleNetwork 9/23/09*

Producing 70 percent more food for an additional 2.3 billion people by 2050 while at the same time combating poverty and hunger, using scarce natural resources more efficiently and adapting to climate change are the main challenges world agriculture will face in the coming decades, according to an FAO discussion paper published today.

The UN agency will organize a High-Level Expert Forum in Rome on 12-13 October 2009 to discuss strategies on "How to Feed the World in 2050". The Forum will bring together around 300 leading experts from academic, nongovernmental and private sector institutions from developing and developed countries.

The Forum will prepare the ground for the World Summit on Food Security, to take place in Rome 16-18 November 2009.

### **Cautious Optimism**

"FAO is cautiously optimistic about the world's potential to feed itself by 2050," said FAO Assistant Director-General Hafez Ghanem. However, he pointed out that feeding everyone in the world by then will not be automatic and several significant challenges have to be met.

Ghanem said there was a need for a proper socioeconomic framework to address imbalances and inequalities and ensure that everyone in the world has access to the food they need and that food production is carried out in a way that reduces poverty and take account of natural resource constraints.

Global projections show that in addition to projected investments in agriculture, further significant investment will be needed to enhance access to food, otherwise some 370 million people could still be hungry in 2050, almost 5 percent of the global population.

According to the latest UN projections, world population will rise from 6.8 billion today to 9.1 billion in 2050 - a third more mouths to feed than there

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## Upcoming Events & Meetings

### Crawford County

Oct. 3, 4 p.m.

Steelville City Park

Steelville, Mo.

### Monroe County

Oct. 7, 6:30 p.m.

Paris High School

Ag Education Bldg

Paris, Mo.

### Dallas County

Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m.

Simm's Restaurant

Buffalo, Mo.

### MCA Executive Meeting

Nov. 12, 10 a.m.

Cattle Industry Headquarters

Columbia, Mo.

### MCA Convention and Trade Show

Dec. 11 & 12

University Plaza  
Hotel/Springfield Expo Center  
Springfield, Mo.

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are today. Nearly all of the population growth will occur in developing countries. Sub-Saharan Africa's population is expected to grow the fastest (up 108 percent, 910 million people), and East and South East Asia's the slowest (up 11 percent, 228 million).

Around 70 percent of the world population will live in cities or urban areas by 2050, up from 49 percent today.

#### Food demand

The demand for food is expected to continue to grow as a result both of population growth and rising incomes. Demand for cereals (for food and animal feed) is projected to reach some 3 billion tonnes by 2050. Annual cereal production will have to grow by almost a billion tonnes (2.1 billion tonnes today), and meat production by over 200 million tonnes to reach a total of 470 million tonnes in 2050, 72 percent of which will be consumed in developing countries, up from the 58 percent today.

The production of biofuels could also increase the demand for agricultural commodities, depending on energy prices and government policies.

#### Land

Despite the fact that 90 percent of the growth in crop production is projected to come from higher yields and increased cropping intensity, arable land will have to expand by around 120 million hectares in developing countries, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. Arable land in use in developed countries is expected to decline by some 50 million hectares, although this could be changed by the demand for biofuels.

Globally, there are still sufficient land resources available to feed the future world population. FAO cautioned, however, that much of the potential land is suitable for growing only a few crops, not necessarily the crops with highest demand and it is concentrated in a few countries.

Much of the land not yet in use also suffers from chemical and physical constraints, endemic diseases and lack of infrastructure which cannot be easily overcome. Therefore significant investments would need to be undertaken in order to bring it into production. Part of the land is also covered by forests, or subject to expanding urban settlements. A number of countries, particularly in the Near East/North Africa and South Asia have already reached or are about to reach the limits of land available.

#### Water

Water withdrawals for irrigated agriculture are projected to grow at a slower pace due to reduced demand and improved water use efficiency, but will still increase by almost 11 percent by 2050.

Globally, fresh water resources are sufficient, but they are very unevenly distributed and water scarcity will reach alarming levels in an increasing number of countries or regions within countries, particularly in the Near East/North Africa and South Asia. Using less water and at the same time producing more food will be the key to addressing water scarcity problems. Water scarcity could be made more acute by changing rainfall patterns resulting from climate change.

#### Yield potential

All in all, the potential to raise crop yields to feed a growing world population seems to be considerable, FAO said. "If the appropriate socio-economic incentives are in place, there are still ample 'bridgeable' gaps in yield (i.e. differences between agro-ecologically attainable and actual yields) that could be exploited. Fears that yields are reaching a plateau do not seem warranted,

except in a very few special instances."

### **Stronger interventions**

FAO called for stronger interventions to make faster progress towards reducing and finally eliminating the number of hungry and poor people. Investment in primary agriculture should become a top priority and needs to increase by some 60 percent since agriculture not only produces food but also generates income and supports rural livelihoods.

Poverty reduction also requires investments in rural infrastructure (roads, ports, power, storage and irrigation systems); investments in institutions, research and extension services, land titles and rights, risk management, veterinary and food safety control systems; and non-agricultural investment including food safety nets and cash transfers to the most needy.

Without developing and investing in rural areas in poor countries, deprivation and inequalities will remain widespread, though significantly less than today, FAO said.

## 2009 Convention Info

### **42nd Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show**

Dec. 11 & 12

University Plaza Hotel/Springfield Expo Center - Springfield, Mo.

For a schedule of events, visit [www.mocattle.com](http://www.mocattle.com).

See below for information on the Mellor Trailer partnership information.



## Members to receive discount with Mellor Trailers

Mellor Trailers in Booneville, Mo. is offering a discount to all Missouri Cattlemen's Association members (with proof of membership). Membership forms are available at the time of sale.

### **Discounts include:**

**10% discount** off parts and accessories

**\$100.00 off** trailer purchases **upto \$5000.00**  
**\$200.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00**  
**\$300.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00**  
**\$400.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00**  
**\$500.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$20,000.00 and up**

Discounts may not apply to certain items already discounted or on promotions. Please call for details.

**PLUS!** In conjunction with Elite Trailers and Mellor Trailers, MCA is rewarding one member with the free use of an Elite trailer (as shown above) for one year, which will be given at the Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade show. To be eligible for this reward, an MCA member must pre-register for the MCA Convention and Trade Show. Furthermore, the member must be present at the convention awards banquet to win.

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Boonville, Missouri 65233  
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1 mile north on Hwy 5

**For more information, contact MCA at (573)499-9162 or at [cattleinfo@mocattle.com](mailto:cattleinfo@mocattle.com).**

*Checking in on the Checkoff*

**Pat Wood, Sedalia (re-elected)**

**John Ridder, Marthasville**

**Gerald Campbell, Licking (re-elected)**

*Congratulations to these newly elected board members!  
There are a total of 13 board members from across the state  
that oversee the checkoff funded programs in Missouri*

Learn more at [www.mobeeff.com](http://www.mobeeff.com), [www.mybeefcheckoff.com](http://www.mybeefcheckoff.com) or email [john@mobeef.com](mailto:john@mobeef.com)

**Rallies begin for Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board**

*Released by the Livestock Marketing Association 10/1/09*

Pro-industry supporters of an Ohio ballot initiative that would create the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board Saturday held the first in a series of public rallies across the state. The Ohioans for Livestock Care/Yes for Issue 2 will host 12 rallies through mid-October.

If passed on Nov. 3, Issue 2 will create the 13-member Board, made up of Ohio experts in animal care, food production, farm management and food safety. It would be responsible for establishing standards governing livestock and poultry care in the state. Issue 2 will ensure "that decisions about animal care in Ohio are kept in the hands of Ohio experts and away from out-of-state special interest groups," according to a statement by the group.

The Humane Society of the U.S., as part of its state-by-state, anti-livestock strategy to impose impractical standards for livestock care, opposes the Care Board, calling it a "power grab by Big Ag." HSUS was behind the passage of California's Proposition Two last year. Prop 2 will impose non-scientifically based standards on confinement housing for veal calves, pregnant sows and egg-laying hens.

The rallies behind Ohio's Issue 2 will help "educate voters about why creating a Board is so important for Ohio's number one economic contributor - agriculture," said Livestock Care spokesperson Jamie Butts. The group has also launched a website, [www.ohiolivestockcare.com](http://www.ohiolivestockcare.com)

## Identifying cows that gain more while eating less

*Released by RedOrbit 10/1/09*

Mizzou scientist leads the effort to help farmers decrease feed costs  
With more than 2 million cows on 68,000 farms, Missouri is the third-largest beef producer in the nation. Due to rising feed prices, farmers are struggling to provide feed for the cows that contribute more than \$1 billion to Missouri's economy. University of Missouri researcher Monty Kerley, professor of animal nutrition in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, is studying how cows might be able to gain more weight while consuming less, potentially saving farmers up to 40 percent of feed costs.

Two years ago, MU researchers started studying which biological processes could make cows feed-efficient. They examined the basic compound that cells use for energy, commonly known as ATP, using previous research that demonstrated how DNA influences weight gain in cows. Some animals can synthesize ATP faster than others, helping them to use energy more efficiently and, thus, gain more weight with less food. Kerley hopes that farmers will use this research to breed more feed-efficient cattle.

"We would love to go to the rancher and say, 'you can reduce your feed cost 40 percent with the same weight gain,'" Kerley said.

Kerley and his team are using a feed and weighing system that records individual intake and body weight of cattle daily. This research is being done at the Beef Research and Teaching Farm facility in MU's South Farm Agricultural Experiment Station. Whenever an animal steps to the bunk, or a trough, a computer notes the cows' arrival and departure times and how much they eat. When they drink, they stand on scales that keep track of their weights. If a beef producer just selected the top one-third of their most

efficient cows, forage intake would be reduced by 20 percent, Kerley said.

Kerley said that when feed intake is reduced, methane emissions and manure production also decrease.

"If 'cap and trade' regulations, in some form, become part of America, it is likely that cattle producers will have to defend themselves against claims of methane emission by ruminants," Kerley said. "If a farmer can demonstrate reduced carbon production, then he or she might be able to 'sell' production credits on an exchange. That could provide the farmer with an additional income stream."

Beef producers are using this research to make genetic selections in their beef herds. Missouri was one of the first states to have a private bull testing facility that tests for efficiency. The Division of Animal Sciences also has a research emphasis to study genetic control of feed efficiency and methods to predict animal efficiency.

Kerley's research has been published in a variety of scientific journals.

## Central Missouri Feed and Supply offers members discount

Central Missouri Feed and Supply is partnering with Missouri Cattlemen's Association to offer a 5 percent discount to all MCA members when they purchase electronic fence supplies. Plus, every time that 5 percent discount is used, another 5 percent goes to MCA.

For more information, contact Brian Lease, owner of Central Missouri Feed and Supply.

2707 W Rt. F

Clark, MO 65243

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[threebarl@socket.net](mailto:threebarl@socket.net)

## Family Farm Breeding Livestock tax credits still available

*Released by the Missouri Department of Agriculture 9/29/09*

Family Farm Breeding Livestock Tax Credits Still Available

Livestock producers can still get their first year's interest paid on loans to purchase breeding livestock. The Missouri Agricultural and Small Business

Development Authority (MASBDA) offers a program called Family Farm Breeding Livestock Loan Program that can help. Tax credits are still available for this program. In 2008, the Missouri legislature expanded the program from \$150,000 to \$300,000 so that more Missouri farmers could get this assistance.

The Family Farm Breeding Livestock Loan Program provides tax credits to lenders in the amount of the first year's interest for loans that are made to purchase breeding livestock - provided that the loan is to a small farmer who has less than \$250,000 in gross agricultural product sales per year. Each household is only eligible to participate in the program once and loans cannot exceed 90% of the cost of purchasing the breeding livestock.

The maximum amount of loan for each type of livestock is: beef cattle - \$75,000, dairy cattle - \$75,000, sheep - \$30,000, goats - \$30,000, and swine - \$35,000.

Applications must be signed by both the small farmer and lender. Each application will be considered individually and judged on the following criteria:

- 1) Farmer's ability to repay the family farm livestock loan
- 2) Purchase price of the livestock must be appropriate for the type and quality of livestock purchased
- 3) General economic condition of the area in which the small farmer is located
- 4) Prospect of a financial return for the small farmer
- 5) Additional factors as the authority may establish based on individual loan characteristics.

For more information regarding the Family Farm Breeding Livestock Loan Program or MASBDA, visit [www.mda.mo.gov](http://www.mda.mo.gov) or call (573) 751-2129.

## Save your Ralgro Wheels

### **Wheels for Bucks: Turn those empty wheels into cash!**

For every 10 empty wheels (or every 5 empty Magnum Strips) received, Schering Plough will donate a full wheel of Ralgro! These full wheels will be auctioned off Friday evening, Dec. 12 during the Cattlemen's Foundation Fund-Raising Auction.

The proceeds will be split equally between the MCF Scholarship Fund to assist young people achieve a higher education and leadership and youth development activities supported by the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

So get with your neighbors and start saving those wheels NOW!!! Get them to the Cattle Industry Headquarters or bring them with you to the Convention! Just don't forget to turn them in!

## Ag officials propose comprehensive plan for dairy and pork producers

*Released by Missouri Department of Agriculture 9/30/09*

(JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.) - Missouri's Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler has joined other leading agriculture officials from across the U.S. in proposing a national agriculture rescue plan called "Meat the Need" to immediately help the nation's dairy, pork and poultry industries that have been adversely affected by economic downturns. Director Hagler returned last week from the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Conference where agriculture directors, secretaries and commissioners met for four days discussing a plan to overcome the economic crisis that so many farmers are facing in Missouri and across the U.S. The "Meat the Need" plan, proposed by Director Hagler and other NASDA members, would not only take extra dairy and pork supplies off of the market but would provide low income families with more dairy and protein.

"Every day a call or a letter comes to my desk from another Missouri farm family running the risk of losing everything they have. These families are clearly facing dire circumstances where, over a sustained period of time, prices are not meeting the cost of production," said Director Hagler. "'Meat the Need' is a vital first step to help keep these farmers from losing their farms and their livelihoods. We will continue to work with folks in the agricultural industry in Missouri and across the U.S. as well as our elected leaders in Washington D.C. to find common sense approaches to help all sectors of agriculture."

"Meat the Need" calls for the federal government to purchase cheese and other dairy products in up to three installments of 75 million pounds each over 120 days. If the target price of \$16 per hundredweight of milk, the average cost of production for milk producers, is reached before the second or third installment, the purchases would stop. Likewise, the federal government would purchase up to three installments of 100 million pounds of pork products over 180 days until the target price of 49 cents per pound is reached. The plan also includes a one-time purchase of 100 million pounds of turkey.

The purchased dairy, pork and poultry products would be distributed to food banks, school lunch programs, foreign military food assistance programs and through a SNAP-PLUS program. The SNAP-PLUS component would allow the U.S. Department of Agriculture to increase allocations to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and require SNAP recipients to spend the new allocations only on meat and dairy products available through their local commercial grocers. Participants in the program would use separate electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards dedicated to the 'Meat the Need' proposal to purchase the meat and dairy products.

"When food is produced locally, consumers get a high quality product at a low cost. We all have a stake in preserving agricultural production in Missouri," said Director Hagler. "The agricultural industry is in desperate need of immediate assistance and we hope everyone will pitch in to support this important 'Meat the Need' initiative."

For more information about NASDA, visit [www.nasda.org](http://www.nasda.org). To learn more about the Missouri Department of Agriculture, visit [mda.mo.gov](http://mda.mo.gov).

## Weaker dollar suggests changing trade flows

*Released in Cattlemen's Capitol Concerns 9/25/09*

This week has seen the U.S. dollar fall to its lowest point of year against most currencies, including the Korean Won. It currently takes 1206 Won to buy one U.S. dollar, compared to an average foreign exchange (FX) rate of 1352 during the first six months of this year and a 2008 average exchange rate of 1103:\$1US. This means that for the Korean consumer, U.S. beef is now 11% cheaper than it was on average during the first six months of this year, based solely upon the difference in the exchange rate (assuming beef prices were the same).

U.S. beef exports to South Korea have been far below expectations during the first seven months of 2009 due to extremely large inventories remaining from beef imported from Australia and the U.S. in 2008, soft demand, and the exchange rate; but this may be changing. Just as the U.S. dollar is weakening against the Won, the Australian dollar is strengthening. The A\$ is currently 9% stronger compared to its average FX against the Won during the first six months of 2009, and 13% stronger than the 2008 average FX rate.

This would suggest that U.S. beef exports to Korea should be picking up (which anecdotal reports indicate they are). Another big reason why sales are improving is that Korea has finally been able to chew its way through the inventory it piled up late last year. We are encouraged by reports that emotions may be finally beginning to take a back seat to economics.

Japan: Supply, not demand, is the driving force behind U.S. beef exports to Japan. The 20 month and under age restriction will once again begin to limit our ability to supply that market until next spring. This is incredibly unfortunate considering the benefits that a weaker dollar is providing us into Japan. It currently takes 91.5 Yen:\$1U.S. versus 95.5:1 during the first six months of 2009 and a 103.5:1 FX rate on average during 2008. Thus, U.S. beef is 4% cheaper to the Japanese consumer than it was during the first half of this year and 12% more competitive than it was on average during 2008- which is one of the reasons why U.S. beef exports to Japan are up 18% on the year through July.

Canada: The volume of U.S. beef exports to Canada is down 12% through July, but with the Canadian dollar appreciating to \$C1.07:\$U.S.1 this week- which just happens to be the same as the average FX rate for all of 2008- U.S. beef is now 12% cheaper to the Canadian consumer than it was during the first six months of 2009. The opposite holds true for our NAFTA partner to the South, where the current Peso 13.35:U.S.\$1 rate is still well above the 2008 average rate of 11.2:1, and only 4% better than the 13.9:1 average for the first six months of this year. The comparison to last year explains much of why U.S. beef and beef variety meat exports to Mexico are off 25% through July. The FX factor has been particularly acute in terms of its effect on U.S. beef variety meat exports to Mexico, which are down 35% through July.

**Missouri Farmer Today**

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## Brazil to seize 100,000 cattle from Amazon

*Released by Industry News 9/30/09*

Brazil's environmental protection agency said it will remove 100,000 cattle from the Amazon in its effort to eliminate illegal cattle ranching in the region's rainforests, according to Brazilian newspaper O Globo.

The agency, Ibama, said its latest operation will be organized on the border of the states of Mato Grosso and Para, the newspaper reported.

Ibama said it already has seized 900 cattle from the area and has issued \$51 million fines to ranchers that illegally are razing trees to raise cattle, according to O Globo.

The impounded cattle reportedly will be donated to supply a social program called Zero Hunger.

Efforts to curb cattle ranching in the Amazon have accelerated in recent months following a report by Greenpeace that identified Brazil's beef industry as the largest contributor to the region's deforestation. Since then, a number of the nation's leading beef companies, including JBS S.A., Marfrig Alimentos S.A. and Bertin S.A., have agreed to discontinue sourcing from ranches in the Amazon.

## Time is running out!

Are you 70 1/2 or older? Do you know someone who is 70 1/2 or older? Do you or they own an IRA or other tax qualified asset? Time is running out!

You only have until December 31, 2009 to make the most tax efficient donation to the Missouri Cattlemen Foundation that the IRS has probably ever allowed.

You will probably never have this chance again to help to children of Missouri with the help of the IRS. Yes, the IRS will help you contribute to the foundation.

Call your tax preparer and call our partners at APEX Financial LLC to find out if you

qualify for this exciting opportunity. Call 800-843-9429 or 573-876-6011 and tell them you want to talk about a Missouri Cattlemen Foundation Contribution.

Remember time is running out! You have until December 31 to take advantage of this opportunity.

As always, MCA Membership is the key to the success of the organization. Without producers who back our association our voice is not as strong. Ask your friend, neighbor and fellow cattlemen to join the thousands of cattlemen in supporting the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

**For more industry news visit:**

[Missouri Cattlemen's Association Website](#)

[Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation Website](#)

[Missouri Beef Industry Council Website](#)

[National Cattlemen's Beef Association Website](#)

[Missouri Department of Agriculture Website](#)

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Would you like to advertise in our newsletter?

If so, please contact Kaity Kerwin at (573) 499-9162 (Ext. 233) or [kaity@mocattle.com](mailto:kaity@mocattle.com).