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# Dairy/Livestock

## Glanbia names top-quality producers

Capital Press

Kowz R Us Dairy, owned and operated by Harry Hoogland at Castleford, Idaho, has been named Glanbia's 2015 Quality Patron of the Year.

The award comes with a commemorative plaque and an all-expense paid trip for two to Ireland.

"It's all about consistency," Hoogland stated in a Glanbia press release.

"Our team works closely with the veterinarian, nutritionist, employees and our inside-outside foremen. If we find our somatic cell count increasing or if we have several new employees, we will pull together milk training," he said.

That training is facilitated by the Castleford High School agriculture teacher, who provides a translator. The training helps everyone understand the expectations of running the dairy, Hoogland said.

The annual patron award rotates between small, medium and large dairies. To be recognized for the award, Glanbia's milk suppliers must meet strict quality standards over 12 months, paying close attention to all facets of dairy operations, Glanbia stated.

"Kowz R Us Dairy is a culmination of many years of dairy experience in Idaho," said Russ De Kruyf, Glanbia's director of milk procurement.



Carol Ryan Dumas/Capital Press  
Harry Hoogland, right, talks with John Brubaker during an Idaho Dairymen's Association district meeting in Twin Falls in January. Hoogland has been named Glanbia's 2015 Quality Patron of the Year. Brubaker was also recognized as one of Glanbia's top quality milk producers.

Hoogland and his family were among the early transplants from California in the late 1960s. They saw the potential for the dairy industry in Idaho and paved the way for those who followed, he said.

"Harry and (wife) Vicki have been very successful and are well respected in the Buhl and Castleford area. They surround themselves with excellent partners, managers and employees. Harry has some of the most dedicated long-term employees, and it is evident in their milk quality," he said.

The Hooglands have been Glanbia patrons for the last 10 years, and Glanbia has had the privilege of Hoogland's insight and advice on its patron advisory board for most of that time, said Daragh Maccabee, Glanbia

senior vice president of procurement and dairy economics.

"We would like to thank Harry, Vicki and all at Kowz R Us Dairy for their commitment to excellence over the years and congratulate them on their richly deserved award for 2015," he said.

The grand prize drawing for an additional all-expenses paid trip for two to Ireland was awarded to Lael and Justine Schoessler of No-View Dairy of Kimberly, which was also recognized for quality production.

Other dairies recognized with awards for quality milk production were:

Buhl: Alania Dairy, Knott-Run Farms, Kral Dairy and Robert and Monica De Kruyf.

Gooding: Ballard Dairy and Big Sky West

Jerome: Aardema-St. Bridget Dairy, Aardema Dairy No. 7, Millenkamp Milkers No. 1, Ted Baar Dairy, Toledo-T3 Dairy, Toledo Dairy and Valencia Dairy.

Richfield: Bill Johnston Dairy, R and L Lezamid Dairy, and Robinson & Sorensen Dairy.

Shoshone: 4 Bros Dairy No. 1, 4 Bros Dairy No. 3, 4 Bros Dairy No. 5, U.S. Dairy

Terreton: Sunview Dairy No. 3

Twin Falls: Lane Franco Dairy, Manuel Faria Dairy

Wendell: DeJong Dairy, Dinis Dairy No. 1, Dinis Dairy No. 2, Rietkerk Dairy No. 2, Sunview Dairy No. 2, Toledo T&F Dairy, Van Dyk & Sons Dairy and West Point Dairy.



A photograph from the "Public Lands Hunt Club" Facebook page. Multiple Facebook posters have criticized the page and asked that it be taken down.

## Cattlemen criticize phony 'Hunt Club' Facebook page

By ERIC MORTENSON  
Capital Press

A Facebook page that mockingly calls for shooting cattle that are illegally grazing on public land has riled producers and generated dozens of heated responses.

But all indications are it's fake, a parody intended to make people angry in the wake of the Ammon Bundy group taking over the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge south of Burns, Ore. Among other things, the occupiers demanded that federally managed land be turned over to the people and urged ranchers to tear up their grazing permits.

The "Public Lands Hunt Club" page is an apparent response.

"Since the Bundy Militia has secured public lands for the good of the people all Federal restrictions are null and void. Cattle season is open!" it says.

The hunt club "rules" go on to say "members" should only target cattle owned by ranchers from several counties who he said opposed the fee increase.

The Cattle Producers' treasurer, Nate Hare, told senators that the fee increase was far more than the commission needed to balance its budget.

He questioned whether the Beef Commission was the answer to cattlemen's problems and said that the commission hasn't explained how it would spend the new revenue. "We haven't heard where it's going, and where it's going to be spent," he said.

Doubling the fees could be expected to bring the commission another \$1 million. The commission board's goals include promoting beef's nutritional value and burnishing the industry's image, but it hasn't made a detailed plan on how it would spend the money, Brumbach said. "I think the majority would go toward advertising," she said.

The Senate committee's chairwoman, Moses Lake Republican Judy Warnick, passed the bill through her committee Thursday. Otherwise, the bill would have died for this year. The bill must still be approved by the full Senate before going to the House, and Warnick said she hoped the cattlemen's groups could resolve their differences.

Dansel opposed keeping the fee increase alive. He said that in the past few days, as more ranchers learned about proposal, "hundreds of cattle producers (have been) calling, emailing, text messaging, saying to oppose this wholeheartedly."

The ever-resilient butter, after dropping 12 1/4-cents Monday, regained 10 1/4 cents, then lost 3 cents on Friday, to close at \$2.17, 5 cents lower on the week but 37 1/2-cents above a year ago. Twenty-three cars traded hands on the week.

The spot gave up another

The page includes posts from people claiming to have shot cattle. Photos of supposed hunters and their "prey" appear to have been badly Photoshopped.

One poster on the page links to a news account of two men arrested in Umatilla County on charges of killing a cow on private property. However, an Oregon State Police account of the arrests indicates they were local residents who partially butchered the animal.

Otherwise, OSP has no information of any cows illegally killed or "anything related to that FB page," spokesman Lt. Bill Fugate said in an email.

Multiple Facebook posters have criticized the page and asked that it be taken down.

The Oregon Cattlemen's Association is monitoring the page, spokeswoman Kayli Hanley said.

The OCA has provided information to "authorities" about the "illegal message" on the Facebook page, she said. She would not elaborate.

"We encourage our members to continue to post their own positive experiences of ranching through their own pages and avoid engaging with groups like this one," Hanley said by email.

The Capital Press sent a Facebook message to the page, asking for an explanation, but received no reply.

## Washington cattlemen in beef over promotion fees

### Bill would double Beef Commission's state revenue

By DON JENKINS  
Capital Press

OLYMPIA — Cattlemen hotly debated a bill Thursday to double the fees ranchers pay to support the Washington Beef Commission.

The Washington Cattlemen's Association and Washington Cattle Feeders Association support raising the per-head assessment that cattle sellers pay to the commission to \$2 from \$1.

The Cattle Producers of Washington, however, opposes the increase, and a northeast Washington lawmaker said he's heard from "hundreds" of cattlemen in the past few days who don't want to pay more to the commission.

"I think if you had a poll done of the cattle producers throughout the state of Washington, this would fail miserably," said Sen. Brian Dansel, R-Republic.

The rift was exposed at a hearing on Senate Bill 6638, which would authorize raising the beef checkoff.

For the past 15 years, cattle sellers have paid \$1.50 a head, with 50 cents supporting the national Cattlemen's



Don Jenkins/Capital Press  
Washington Sen. Brian Dansel, shown at a Senate Agriculture Committee meeting Feb. 2, says he doubts a majority of producers supports doubling fees that support the state Beef Commission.

Beef Board.

The other dollar goes to the Washington Beef Commission, a state agency that received a little more than \$1 million last year and dipped into reserves to cover a slight budget deficit.

The commission's executive director, Patti Brumbach, said in an interview that inflation and declining cattle sales have eroded the agency's annual advertising budget over the past eight years to about \$320,000 from \$600,000.

To adjust, the commission has narrowed its target audience to young parents in Western Washington and shifted advertising from radio

and TV to social media websites, she said.

Cattlemen's Association Executive Vice President Jack Field told the Senate Agriculture Committee that doubling support for the Beef Commission was embraced at the group's state convention in November.

Several ranchers vouched for that position, telling senators that the Beef Commission was a valuable advocate, particularly to urban audiences.

"There are groups out here that just as soon the cattle industry go away, and we're fighting that daily," Snohomish County Cattlemen's Association President Jerry Labish said.

The Cattle Feeders' executive director, Ed Field, said in an interview that his organization also sees the commission as a wise investment.

"We are totally in support of the increase," he said.

Dansel questioned whether the fee hike really had

widespread support, especially after Moses Lake cattle breeder Mark Ellis read to the committee names of ranchers from several counties who he said opposed the fee increase.

The Cattle Producers' treasurer, Nate Hare, told senators that the fee increase was far more than the commission needed to balance its budget.

He questioned whether the Beef Commission was the answer to cattlemen's problems and said that the commission hasn't explained how it would spend the new revenue. "We haven't heard where it's going, and where it's going to be spent," he said.

Doubling the fees could be expected to bring the commission another \$1 million. The commission board's goals include promoting beef's nutritional value and burnishing the industry's image, but it hasn't made a detailed plan on how it would spend the money, Brumbach said. "I think the majority would go toward advertising," she said.

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## Cheese holding, butter slipping

By LEE MIELKE  
For the Capital Press

**Dairy Markets**  
Lee Mielke



Cash dairy prices showed some strength the first week of February despite the week's GDT auction plunge, but expectations aren't so strong.

CME cash Cheddar blocks closed Friday at \$1.47 per pound, up a penny on the week but 6 1/2-cents below a year ago. The barrels finished at \$1.4650, up 3 1/2-cents on the week and 1 3/4-cents below a year ago. Two cars of block traded hands on the week and none of barrel.

The blocks and barrels were unchanged both Monday and Tuesday.

Midwestern cheese production remains active with a more than adequate milk supply, according to Dairy Market News.

The ever-resilient butter, after dropping 12 1/4-cents Monday, regained 10 1/4 cents, then lost 3 cents on Friday, to close at \$2.17, 5 cents lower on the week but 37 1/2-cents above a year ago. Twenty-three cars traded hands on the week.

The spot gave up another

penny and a half Monday and 2 cents Tuesday, slipping to \$2.1350 per pound.

Eyes were particularly on last week's sales, in view of the CME's change of policy requiring the Double A Grade on product offered there but Jerry Dryer, editor of the Dairy and Food Market Analyst, said in Friday's DairyLine that he didn't believe the policy change caused Monday's dip or the following rebound. He doesn't see a huge falloff after the Super Bowl, at least not on butter, because Easter is early this year.

CME Grade A nonfat dry milk dropped 2 1/4-cents by Tuesday but gained it back and then some, closing Friday at 75 cents per pound, up 3 1/4-cents from the previous week but 31 cents below a year ago, with 16 cars sold last week.

The powder was unchanged Monday but lost 2 cents Tuesday and slipped to 73 cents per pound.

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