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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

Feb. 16, 2018

CELEBRATE YOUR FARM BUREAU MEMBERSHIP

#OKFBWEEK

FEBRUARY 19-23

**OKLAHOMA
FARM BUREAU**

Fallin declares Feb. 19-23 "Oklahoma Farm Bureau Week" in Oklahoma

As county Farm Bureaus across the state celebrate the grassroots agriculture organization next week, Gov. Mary Fallin has proclaimed Feb. 19 through Feb. 23 "Oklahoma Farm Bureau Week" in Oklahoma.

In her proclamation, Fallin praised Farm Bureau for its dedication to agriculture, the base for Oklahoma's economic prosperity.

"Farm Bureau has maintained a rich legacy of protecting farmers, ranchers and rural Oklahomans over the past 75 years," said Rodd Moesel, OKFB president. "We're proud to share our efforts to bolster the agriculture industry with our friends, neighbors and communities this week and throughout the year."

Observed annually, the week provides county Farm Bureaus an opportunity to promote the organization in communities throughout Oklahoma.

In honor of Farm Bureau Week, many county Farm Bureaus throughout Oklahoma will host events within local communities. To find a list of county events, visit the OKFB website.



Gov. Mary Fallin (left) presents a proclamation to OKFB Interim Executive Director Thad Doye declaring Feb. 19-23 "Oklahoma Farm Bureau Week" in Oklahoma. Farm Bureau members across Oklahoma will celebrate the week by hosting events within local communities.

AFBF President Duvall praises disaster relief, cotton provisions in Congress' budget deal

“**T**he budget deal approved by Congress and signed by President Trump (Feb. 9) includes a number of important agricultural provisions that will help America’s farmers and ranchers and support food security for all Americans. First, the measure assists farmers affected by natural disasters. Last year’s fires and hurricanes were devastating for many farmers. This disaster assistance is much needed so that affected producers can recover and continue to help feed, house, fuel and clothe our citizens.

“By including measures to improve policies for cotton and dairy farmers, Congress has taken important steps to address two of our biggest farm bill priorities. Also important was eliminating the cap on USDA livestock risk management tools to provide more options in the livestock sector.

“We appreciate the efforts of congressional Agriculture Committee leaders and congressional leadership to craft this package, secure bipartisan approval and get it signed by President Trump.”



Farm Bureau leaders host welcome back reception for state legislators



Left: Rep. Zack Taylor (far left) and Rep. Carl Newton (center) visit with Woodward County Farm Bureau President Eldon Merklin (right) at OKFB's welcome back reception for legislators held Feb. 7 at the home office. Top: OKFB YF&R Chair Brent Howard of Jackson County visits with Rep. Charles Ortega during the reception.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Celebrate Farm Bureau week! Tag us in your Facebook, Twitter and Instagram photos

As county Farm Bureaus across the state celebrate Farm Bureau Week Feb. 19-23, we want to know why you are proud to be an Oklahoma Farm Bureau member! Post your photos on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and use #OKFBWeek.



Noble County Farm Bureau member shares about the impacts of drought on FOX 25 News

With most of Oklahoma facing severe or extreme drought, Ryan Luter of Noble County Farm Bureau explained how a lack of rainfall affects farmers and ranchers across the state in a story on Fox 25 News in Oklahoma City. Watch the full story on the OKFB Facebook page.



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Tentative schedule released for March 5-6 leadership conference in Oklahoma City

County Farm Bureau leaders from across the state are invited to attend the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Leadership Conference held March 5 and 6 at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City.

Held annually, the conference is an opportunity for county leaders to discuss current issues affecting agriculture and rural Oklahoma, learn more about their role as county board members, and interact with state lawmakers and elected officials.

A tentative agenda can be found below. More information will be released as it becomes available.



OKFB Leadership Conference 2018 – Tentative Agenda

Monday, March 5

- 12 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Welcome
Thad Doye, OKFB interim executive director
- 1:15 p.m. State of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Gary Crawley, OKFB vice president
- 2 p.m. Oklahoma Senate Pro Tempore Mike Schulz
- 3 p.m. Speaker
- 3:30 p.m. 2018 Oklahoma Gubernatorial Candidate Panel
- 5 p.m. Reception
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner, 2017 Champion Awards Ceremony and 100 Percent Club Recognition

Tuesday, March 6

- 6-8 a.m. Breakfast
- 8 a.m. Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation Update
David Von Tungeln, board president
- 8:15 a.m. Dr. Shannon Ferrell, OSU Agricultural Economics
- 9:15 a.m. Speaker
- 10 a.m. Speaker
- 10:30 a.m. Speaker
- 11 a.m. Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legislative Update
- 12 p.m. Lunch
- Afternoon Visits to State Capitol

Member Benefits

Gold Buckle Construction

OKFB members receive a 10 percent discount on Gold Buckle construction services and products such as metal buildings, sheds, welding, pasture fencing, game fencing, pipe fencing, pipe and cable fencing, continuous fencing, chain link fencing, privacy fencing, metal roofing and custom projects. For more information about Gold Buckle Construction, call Dusty Gracia at (580) 309-0988.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

Farm Bureau Week

Feb. 19-23 • Oklahoma
Contact: Marcia Irvin 405-523-2405

OKFB Leadership Conference

March 5-6 • Oklahoma City
Contact: Tasha Duncan 405-530-2681

YF&R Legislative Day

March 5-6 • Oklahoma
Contact: Zac Swartz 405-205-0070

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OKFB to host informational ELD meeting Feb. 26 in Okmulgee County

Farmers, ranchers and agribusinessmen are invited to attend an educational meeting on the electronic logging device and hours of service mandate held Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds.

Hosted by Okmulgee County Farm Bureau, Oklahoma Farm Bureau, Okmulgee County Fair Board and Okmulgee County Extension, the informational meeting will cover the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's electronic logging device mandate and hours of service requirements for agriculture.

Representatives from the FMCSA and the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Troop S will lead the meeting and answer questions.

Most farmers and ranchers should be exempt from the ELD mandate because they can claim covered farm vehicle status, but drivers who haul livestock, live fish and insects are likely to fall under the requirements.

Drivers who have to use ELDs would be limited to current hours of service rules, which restrict a driver to only 14 "on duty" hours, with no more than 11 active driving



Under the ELD mandate, farmers and ranchers who haul livestock and other agricultural commodities could be subject to a problematic hours of service requirement.

hours. Once a driver hits those maximum hour allotments, he or she must stop and rest for 10 consecutive hours, which would be problematic when transporting livestock and other live animals.

For more information on the event, contact Gage Milliman at 918-629-1101, Marla Peek at 405-523-2437 or the Okmulgee County Extension Office at 918-756-1958.