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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

SEPTEMBER 19, 2014

“Today’s action is an unmistakable signal that the tide is turning against those who ignore the constitutional separation of powers in the United States. We will ditch this rule.”

— Bob Stallman, AFBF
Sept. 9, 2014

Lucas praises House passage of bill to block EPA’s latest attack on American agriculture

On Sept. 9, Chairman Frank Lucas issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 5078, the Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act, by a vote of 262-152. This legislation prohibits the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers from finalizing and enforcing a proposed rule that would redefine “waters of the United States” under the Clean Water Act, or using the rule as a basis for future administrative actions. It is the authority of Congress, not the administration, to change the scope of the Clean Water Act.

“I am pleased the House approved this bipartisan, common-sense bill to block the EPA from expanding its control of our nation’s land and water resources.

“Whether it’s trying to regulate farm dust out of existence, milk as oil, or now treat ditches like major water tributaries, the EPA has demonstrated a hunger for power and a lack of understanding of how its actions impact America’s farmers and ranchers. The agency’s latest action would trigger an onslaught of additional permitting and regulatory requirements for our agricultural producers to protect not our great natural resources, but rather our backyard ponds.

“It is an underhanded way to harm American agriculture and threaten America’s food security. I urge Majority Leader Harry Reid to bring H.R. 5078 to the floor for swift Senate passage,” said Chairman Frank Lucas.

OKFB president’s statement regarding H.R. 5078

“Oklahoma Farm Bureau applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for standing with farmers and ranchers across the country by passing H.R. 5078, Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act. This legislation will help protect rural Oklahoma from the regulatory overreach by the EPA, specifically the proposed WOTUS rule. We now ask our Oklahoma senate delegation to work with the House and pass H.R. 5078.

“We encourage our members to continue making public comments on the EPA proposed rule for the Waters of the U.S. The deadline for comments is Oct. 20.”

— Tom Buchanan, OKFB President

It’s football season!

Join us for our second-annual **Tailgate**

OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU **Chisholm Trail Farm Credit**

Saturday, October 4
Oklahoma State vs. Iowa State

NE Corner of Knoblock and Athletic Ave., just south of Boone Pickens Stadium

Members bring your favorite side dish for barbecue or dessert and join us for a fun filled tailgate!
There will be a TV for those who don’t have tickets to the game.

OKFB Membership and Organization Division update



By Chris Kidd
OKFB Vice President of Membership and Organization

For years, Oklahoma Farm Bureau has been known and respected as an effective agricultural organization. Now, people are seeing a progressive, cutting-edge organization which is leading the way for redevelopment in Oklahoma, all the while keeping our focus on rural communities.

OKFB's Membership & Organization Division contains our safety division, member services and benefits, Women's Leadership Team and commodities division. Our team's unwavering dedication to rural Oklahoma is a catalyst for stronger communities, stronger schools and a stronger state.

The work we do is guided by our members' values — hard work, love of community and a passion for the

land. Beliefs rooted in faith and family keep us passionate about our professions. The dedication of our department is evident when looking at our active schedule.

August and September have proven to be especially busy for the Farming and Ranching Foundation's commodity trailer as it made its way across Oklahoma to county fairs and schools, educating youth in at least 10 different communities. The trailer will continue to be present at county fairs, schools and farm shows throughout the end of the year with many locations already scheduled for 2015.

OKFB members have the opportunity to take advantage of an impressive array of member benefits. Whether it's on the farm or ranch, medical services, buying a new vehicle or a family's vacation, we are always adding new ways for OKFB members to save money and enhance their membership.

The Women's Leadership Team helped replenish school libraries of the tornado-stricken Plaza Towers and Briarwood Elementary Schools in Moore with books focused on agriculture and farming. In addition, the Women's Leadership Team provided lunch for teachers across the state during an in-service while educating teachers about Ag in the Classroom

curriculum.

OKFB's commodity division has been preparing for the addition of a new group whose focus

will be Oklahoma's agriculture commodities. The commodity committee will be made up of OKFB members with knowledge and direct involvement in issues of importance to Oklahoma farmers and ranchers. Committee members will discuss cross-commodity concerns for agriculture, serve as OKFB's "brain trust" on issues, provide recommendations on matters relating to commodity policy to the OKFB president and board of directors, and participate in commodity-related advocacy efforts covered by their committees. The committee will also work with other commodity groups

to promote, advance and educate about commodities important to Oklahoma.

August and September also have been a busy time for the OKFB safety division as they have traveled to 21 different Oklahoma locations offering fire safety, defensive driving, DUI prevention, school bus safety and women's self-defense training. In addition, the safety team is currently preparing for "Farm Safety Day" at the Heart of America Farm Show in Beggs. Students in fourth through sixth grades will learn safety measures concerning fire, lawn mowers, ATVs and farm equipment.

As we continue to better serve OKFB's members, my hope is the benefits and services we provide increase the vitality of our rural Oklahoma communities, creating a stronger Oklahoma.

“Our team's unwavering dedication to rural Oklahoma is a catalyst for stronger communities, stronger schools and a stronger state.”

— Chris Kidd, OKFB



Oklahoma Farm Bureau would like to congratulate the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service on celebrating its centennial anniversary this year.

OKFB is proud to be a partner in agriculture with the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, and we look forward to working together for many years to come. Thank you for all you do to extend knowledge and change lives.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Harvest Watch Blog: Cowboy in Canada

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers member River Mitchell recaps his summer in Canada on the Harvest Watch blog. The cowboy tells stories of his Canadian adventure and shares pictures from the trip with readers. Be sure to check out his entry and many more at okfbharvestwatch.wordpress.com.



SoundCloud: It's state fair time!

The Oklahoma State Fair opened Sept. 11 and runs through Sept. 21 in Oklahoma City! Richie Oaks, livestock superintendent for the fair, visits with us about the history of the fair and its original intention. Listen to this and many other radio segments on our website at www.okfarmbureau.org.



www.okfarmbureau.org

Washita County Farm Bureau hosts Ag Day for sixth graders

More than 165 sixth graders from across Washita County attended the inaugural Ag Day at the Washita County Free Fair on Sept. 5 near Cordell.

The theme of the event was “A Day as a Wheat Farmer.” Students rotated around eight different educational stations to get a first-hand look at the process wheat takes from seed to consumption.

The stations took students through the process of wheat production. They began with an introduction to soil and moved on to learn about preparation, financing and machinery. The participants then had the opportunity to see the process of milling, learn about livestock grazing, and get a glimpse of what it takes to get the grain from the field to the elevator.

Washita County Farm Bureau plans to highlight a different commodity each year for future Ag Day events.



Top left: Two Washita County sixth graders learned the hands-on process of grinding wheat into flour.



Top right: Larry Peck, Washita County Farm Bureau president, hosted an educational station about feed and nutrition in beef cattle.



Right: Sixth graders attending Ag Day at the Washita County Fair got their hands dirty while growing their own wheat using wheat seed, soil, panty hose and a plastic cup.

Six counties reach membership quota for the year

Farm Bureau offices across the state of Oklahoma are quickly approaching the end of the membership year on Oct. 31. As it approaches, several counties have already reached their membership quota for the year.

Beaver, Cherokee, Cotton, Kiowa, Noble and Okfuskee counties have crossed

the barrier of making membership quota while working to recruit new Farm Bureau members in their counties.

“We want to congratulate these counties for striving to meet and achieving their membership quota goals,” said Holly Carroll, vice president of field services. “Numerous counties can still reach their

quota goals before the end of the year and we encourage all counties to continue working toward that goal to finish this year strong.”

Adding one additional member to the county per year determines the membership quota for each county.

Member Benefits

KJD Enterprises

KJD Enterprises offers a \$150 dollar cash rebate to all OKFB members who are the end user upon the purchase of a new K/D front end loader. Call 1-888-641-0420 toll free for instructions and a rebate voucher.

OKFB highlights a benefit in each issue of Perspective as a reminder of the savings available to OKFB members. You can find a complete list of savings on the Oklahoma Farm Bureau website.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

OKFB Farm Safety Day

Sept. 20 at 10:30 a.m. — Heart of America Farm Show, Tulsa
Contact: Jennie Bruning (405) 530-2696

YF&R Award Applications Due

Oct. 1 — Statewide
Contact: Holly Carroll (405) 523-2307

County Resolutions Deadline

Oct. 10 — Statewide
Contact: Sara Rogers (405) 530-2681

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YF&R sponsors several county fair events



The Payne County YF&R hosted the Payne County Bucket Calf Show Aug. 29 at the Payne County Fair. Participants have to complete an interview process about their calf along with showmanship.



A Noble County high school student races back to her team by hopping in a bulk feed bag during the Noble County YF&R annual Farmhand Olympics Monday, Aug. 8. Eight teams of four area high school students competed against each other, completing five farm-related activities: racing in a bulk feed bag, corn husking, corn cob throwing, small bale stacking and rolling a large round bale.



Pittsburg County Farm Bureau and YF&R hosted their first Aggie Olympics during the Pittsburg County Fair Sept. 5. Thirty six 4-H and FFA students competed in the event and had to perform cow milking, hay stacking, fence building and calf roping.



The Comanche County YF&R sponsored the annual Farmhand Olympics at the Comanche County Fair. Participation doubled since last year with more than 35 teams of students present to take part in the various activities.