

PERSPECTIVE

April 8, 2022



Kay and Garfield County Farm Bureau members stand in the senate chamber with Sen. Roland Pederson Wednesday, March 30.



Cleveland County Farm Bureau President Jake Calvert (left) visits with Rep. Mark McBride at the state Capitol Wednesday, March 23.



Noble County Farm Bureau members visit with Rep. Ty Burns at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Wednesday, March 23.



Woodward County Farm Bureau board members Wes Crain and Eldon Merklin visit with Sen. Casey Murdock at the State Capitol on Tuesday, March 29.

Legislative update: Quiet work week, county Capitol visits

Following last week's deadline rush, the week of March 28 was unusually light for both chambers of the legislature. The Senate met for a handful of committee meetings during the week, while the House canceled all but one committee meeting. Floor agendas reflected the reduced committee workload with only five bills receiving consideration on the House floor.

On Tuesday, March 29, members from Canadian and Woodward counties came to Oklahoma City to meet with their legislators. They discussed a variety of bills currently working their way through the legislature and visited with their elected officials on

how the legislation would impact their agricultural operations.

A group of 20 members and 4-H students from Garfield and Kay counties visited the Capitol on Wednesday, March 30, where they received updates from the lawmakers representing their counties on legislation they have worked on throughout the 2022 session, as well as forecasts for what might take shape in the last two months of session. Following the combined group update, members were able to visit with the legislators who represent them personally to discuss legislation important to them.

Both groups were able to visit the newly opened Oklahoma State Capitol

Museum. The museum contains several exhibits featuring historical information of the Oklahoma State Capitol as well as information and artifacts from the restoration work that will be completed this summer.

If you or your county would like to visit the Capitol and visit with legislators, contact the public policy team at (405) 523-2300 or contact your field representative.

For weekly updates on the action at the Capitol and an outlook on what is ahead, be sure to tune in to Oklahoma Farm Bureau's weekly public policy update each Friday at noon via Zoom.

Schieber honored, awards presented, Farm Bureau members participate in Ag Day at the Capitol

The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry hosted Ag Day at the Capitol March 24 at the state's Capitol.

The annual event celebrates the impact agriculture has in Oklahoma while highlighting agricultural producers and the numerous commodities they grow across the state.

Kay County Farm Bureau member Don Schieber was presented with the 2022 Governor's Outstanding Achievement Award in Agriculture by Gov. Kevin Stitt and Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur. Schieber, a Ponca City native, is a past Kay County board member.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau hosted a booth in the Capitol rotunda alongside fellow agriculture organizations and Made in Oklahoma producers. The OKFB Women's Leadership Committee shared Farm Bureau's efforts and the story of agriculture with guests and legislators.

The OKFB WLC supported the Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom program by providing prizes to teachers and students honored as Ag in the Classroom contests winners along with the 2022 Teacher of the Year, Teresa Brunnermer.



Kay County Farm Bureau member Don Schieber (center) is recognized as the 2022 Governor's Outstanding Achievement Award in Agriculture recipient by Gov. Kevin Stitt (left) and Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur during Ag Day at the Capitol March 24.



Rep. Eddy Dempsey visits with OKFB WLC Secretary Karen Dodson at the OKFB booth during Ag Day at the Capitol.



OKFB WLC Chair Mignon Bolay helped present Teresa Brunnermer with the 2022 Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the year award. The WLC awarded a prize to Brunnermer as part of her recognition during the 2022 Ag Day at the Capitol.

AFBF welcomes supreme court decision to hear prop 12 case

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall issued the following statement on the U.S. Supreme Court decision to hear the case against California's Proposition 12 filed by AFBF and the National Pork Producers Council.

The state law seeks to ban the sale of pork from hogs that do not meet the state's arbitrary production standards,

even if the pork was raised on farms outside of California.

"AFBF is pleased with the Supreme Court's decision to consider the constitutionality of California's law imposing arbitrary requirements on farmers well outside its borders. We share California's goal of ensuring animals are well cared for, but Prop

12 fails to advance that goal. We look forward to presenting the facts to the Court, including how Prop 12 hamstring farmers' efforts to provide a safe environment for their animals, while harming small family farms and raising pork prices across the country. One state's misguided law should not dictate farming practices for an entire nation."

OKFB supports ag youth at 2022 OYE Sale of Champions

Oklahoma Farm Bureau purchased more than \$45,000 in livestock premiums to support agriculture youth at the 2022 Oklahoma Youth Expo Sale of Champions Friday, March 18 at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds.

OKFB purchased 65 premiums – alongside other agricultural groups and individuals – out of the 212 animals sold, including a portion of the grand champion market steer, shown by Sadie Wynn of Newcastle 4-H.



(Above) OKFB received the 2021 volume buyer award for dedicated support to Oklahoma's agriculture youth.



OKFB was also recognized as the OYE volume buyer for 2021, having purchased more premiums than any other buyer in last year's sale.

Additionally, OKFB purchased the chalice for the grand champion market steer, shown by Sadie Wynn of Newcastle 4-H.

OKFB contributed a total of \$65,000 to the Oklahoma Youth Expo through livestock premiums, event sponsorships and more.



OKFB teamed up with fellow members of the agriculture community to purchase premiums for Aubbri Johnston of Cordell FFA (above) with her reserve breed champion Yorkshire and Canadian County 4-H member Kenna Gay (left) who made the 2022 OYE Sale of Champions with her market goat.

EPA clears use of Enlist products in all Oklahoma counties

The United States Environmental Protection Agency released a statement Tuesday, March 29, expanding the use of Enlist herbicide products to an additional 134 counties across the U.S., including the 46 previously restricted counties in Oklahoma.

The EPA prohibited the use of Corteva's Enlist product line in a number of counties across the country in early 2022 citing a threat to the American burying beetle. Oklahoma was hit with the highest impact of any state.

On March 28, Rep. Frank Lucas voiced his frustration with the EPA's restrictions in a press release, urging EPA administrator Michael Regan to reconsider the decision. Oklahoma Farm Bureau appreciates Rep. Lucas' steadfast commitment to agriculture and the farmers and ranchers in rural Oklahoma.

The Enlist products – developed for use on soybeans, corn and cotton – are now approved for use in all 77 counties in Oklahoma for the 2022 growing season. This decision by the EPA allows farmers and ranchers to utilize any Enlist-compatible seeds already purchased, relieving them of the burden of finding a substitute for the upcoming season.

For more information on the EPA's approval of Enlist One and Enlist Duo, visit okfb.news/3wTGgoP.

OKFB reminders and updates

OKFB Ag Tour wait list now open

As of press time, all spots for the OKFB Ag Tour, scheduled for May 4-6 in the Muskogee area, were full.

If you would like to be placed on the wait list in the event a spot becomes available, contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2300.

OKFB nutrition matching funds now available

County Farm Bureaus that make donations to their local community nutrition assistance programs in April can apply to receive up to \$100 in matching funds from OKFB.

Learn how to participate at okfb.news/CFAMP22.

OKFB 2022 policy books now available

Printed copies of OKFB's 2022 policy books containing the organization's grassroots policy positions are now available.

Field representatives are distributing copies to county Farm Bureaus. Contact your field representative for details.

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Collegiate Farm Bureau members visit Oklahoma Capitol



More than 30 collegiate Farm Bureau members visited the state Capitol on March 24 for Collegiate Farm Bureau Day at the Capitol.

Students from Oklahoma State University, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Northwestern Oklahoma State University met with legislators, heard from Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur, participated in Ag Day at the Capitol events and heard from fellow agriculture organizations.

The students kicked off the event on March 23 with an evening in Oklahoma City as they toured the Oklahoma National Stockyards and participated in a community service event at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma.

(Left) Collegiate Farm Bureau members from several Oklahoma colleges and universities pose for a photo with Lt. Gov. Matt Pinnell during their visit to the State Capitol March 24 during Ag Day at the Capitol. More than 30 collegiate Farm Bureau members were in attendance for the event, which included activities the previous evening.