



Cow Camp 2025

Agricultural Research Center Hays
[1232 240th Ave, Hays, KS 67601](https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/locations/hays)

Sept 10th

Noon – Lunch, introductions and overview – Auditorium

1:00 – 2:40 – Rotation Topics - Feedlot

- 1) Forage sampling – Emma Briggs and Mindy King
- 2) Using the forage analysis – Emma Briggs and Mindy King
- 3) Vaccine effectiveness and chute-side cooler – Brett Melton, Boehringer Ingelheim, and Alicia Boor

Break

3:05 – 4:45 – Rotation topics

- 1) Calving -decisions and practice – Lauren Mack, DVM, FHSU
- 2) Calving Kit – Justine Johns
- 3) Tail Bleeding– Sandy Johnson & Emma Briggs

5:00 – Beyond the Brisket – Auditorium

Erin Beyer

6:00 – Evening meal – Auditorium

7:00 - Ledger & Lens: Photography skills for farm documentation and creative storytelling

Kelsey Stramel

Sept. 11

7:30 – arrival

7:45 – 8:25 – Risk Protection - Auditorium

Paige Hrabe, High Plains Farm Credit

8:30 -9:20 - Body Condition Scoring, Auditorium and feedlot

Sandy Johnson and Rachael Brooke

9:25 – 10:05 – EPD basics – Feedlot

Emma Briggs

Break & Move

10:30 – 12:15 – Pasture monitoring, stocking rate calculations, and plant ID – nearby pasture

Keith Harmony and Kelsi Luman

12:30 – Lunch and Wrap-up

Session descriptions

- *Body Condition Scoring (BCS)* – Learn to evaluate cow condition visually and confidently through a photo history of cows changing condition over time and live evaluation.
- *EPD Basics* – Understand the basics of genetic selection using real data and live animals—no statistics degree required!
- *Calving Kit Essentials & Simulator Practice* – Learn about taking care of people, cows, and calves during the calving season. Learn decision-making skills and aftercare, and what you should have in your own calving kit. Gain hands-on practice using a calving simulator to prepare for critical moments.
- *Tail Bleeding* – Learn how to collect blood samples that can be used for pregnancy detection.
- *Livestock Risk Protection* – Safeguard your bottom line while setting your operation up for growth, no matter what the markets throw your way. Paige Hrabe, livestock risk protection agent with High Plains Farm Credit, will walk through examples of how strategic LRP coverage can help stabilize cash flow and shield you from price drops – so your herd and your business can thrive through economic ups and downs.
- *Forage Sampling* – Learn how to properly sample and assess forage quality.
- *Vaccine Gun Cooler* - Learn about ensuring vaccine effectiveness by how you handle and deliver the vaccine. Build your own custom chute-side cooler for vaccination work.
- *Pasture Monitoring & Plant ID* – Strengthen your grazing management skills with hands-on plant identification and stocking rate calculations.
- *Beyond the brisket: Mastering other beef roasts*- This session will explore how and why to cook lesser-known beef roast cuts. Participants will gain insight into the science behind cooking meat, learn practical preparation techniques, and enjoy tasting a variety of the cuts discussed.
- *Ledger & Lens: Photography skills for farm documentation and creative storytelling*
Learn how to use your camera (or smartphone lens) for both accurate farm documentation and creative storytelling, with practical tips you can put to work in your recordkeeping and your art.

Training Team

Alicia Boor – Cottonwood District Livestock Agent, aboor@ksu.edu

Emma Briggs, Beef Production Systems Specialist, ARC-Hays, eabriggs@ksu.edu

Ketih Harmony -Range Scientist, ARC-Hays, kharmone@ksu.edu

Paige Hrabe - High Plains Farm Credit, Hrabe, paige.hrabe@highplainsfarmcredit.com

Justine Johns - Central KS District Livestock Agent, jwh04@ksu.edu

Sandy Johnson – Beef Specialist, NWREC- Colby, sandyj@ksu.edu

Mindy King – Animal Science and Industry, mindy24@ksu.edu

Kelsi Luman – Golden Prairie District Director and Ag Agent, kjwertz@ksu.edu

Lauren Mack, DVM – Fort Hays State University, lcmack@fhsu.edu

Brett Melton - Boehringer Ingelheim. brett.melton@boehringer-ingelheim.com

Kelsey Stremel – Communications Specialist, ARC-Hays, stremelk@ksu.edu