

OFFERING CANADIAN LIVESTOCK TO THE WORLD!

VIDEO BISON AUCTIONS

January 17
February 11 - Grande Prairie, AB.
March 11 - Camrose, AB.
March 30 - April 27

PREMIER BREEDING STOCK SALES

February 25 MBA Great Spirit - Brandon, MB.
March 10 - BPA Wildrose - Camrose, AB.
March 11 - Irish Creek Bull Sale - Camrose, AB.
March 25 - SBA Cream of the Crop - Yorkton, SK.



Let's Have A Sale!

www.jackauctiongroup.com

1-306-641-9285



Weekly Update



bisoncentral.com

303-292-2833

The National Bison Association (NBA) Weekly Update is an exclusive service for NBA members.

Reprint is encouraged and permission is granted when the following credit appears:

©National Bison Association; Westminster, CO

NBA Weekly Update for January 6, 2023

The Weekly Update is a service designed to provide National Bison Association members with news and information affecting bison production and marketing. Many items in the Weekly Update are reprinted from outside sources. The content of those articles does not necessarily reflect the policy position of the National Bison Association. The articles are reproduced here only as a means to keep our membership informed as much as possible of all information and opinions relating to bison that is circulating publicly.

Last Call for Winter Conference Registrations!

Under the theme of "The Bison Benefit – Good for US, Good for our Planet", preparations are in full swing to welcome roughly 400 North American bison ranchers, processors and marketers who will convene at the Westin Westminster Hotel January 18-21. This is the annual meeting of the industry's largest bison organization, the National Bison Association (NBA).

Registration is open through Friday, January 6th at <https://bisoncentral.com/winter-conference/>.

The action-packed two days of conference programming features member recognitions, a bison junior judging contest, expert insight on topics and issues pertinent to bison health and marketing, and so much more. Amazing speakers include world renowned regenerative soil specialist, Nicole Masters, who will serve as keynote speaker. There will also be a new producer mentor session, a bison hauling panel discussion, and the annual bison marketer's panel session.

Preeminent bison-specific research will also be showcased with Turner Enterprises, Inc. sharing research results from their Grass v. Grain and Weaning Systems studies, and the Center of Excellence for Bison Studies many research projects will feature a student-led poster session.

The week concludes with the NBA's annual Gold Trophy Show and Sale, which is the premier bison breeding stock auction with animals coming from across the continent. The Winter Conference is preceded this year by a two-day workshop facilitated by Indigenous Led, which is a bison conservation and tribal focused organization with works with the NBA to continue the restoration of the bison species.

We can't wait to see you there!



National Bison Association

2023 NBA WINTER CONFERENCE:

THE BISON BENEFIT

JANUARY 18 – 21, 2023

Hotel & Conference
@ Westin Westminster
 10600 Westminster Blvd.
 Westminster, CO 80020

Gold Trophy Show & Sale and Junior Judging @ National Western Stock Show
 4655 Humboldt St.
 Denver, CO 80216

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

7:30am – 4:00pm GTSS Animal check-in – NWSS
 8:00am – 4:00pm Business Meetings (Invite Only)
 1:00pm – 3:00pm Exhibitor Setup
 3:00pm Conference Registration Opens
 3:00pm – 6:00pm Trade Show Open
 4:00pm – 6:00pm Foundation Welcome Reception

Thursday, January 19, 2023

7:30am – 5:00pm Conference Registration Open
 8:00am – 6:00pm Trade Show Open
 8:00am – 11:00am Mentor Session
Introduction: Jim Matheson, NBA
Infrastructure: Moritz Espy, 777 Bison Ranch
Animal Needs: Austin Puckett, Benjamin Lee Bison
Small Producer Panel
 8:30am – 9:30am TEI – Weaning Systems Study:
Tim Goodnight, Turner Enterprises Inc.
 9:30am – 10:30am Bison Cooking Demonstration
 11:00am – 11:45am Bison Hauling Panel:
4 Bison Hauling Experts Sharing Tips for Success
 12:00pm – 1:30pm Lunch & Video Contest Winners
 1:30pm – 2:30pm Keynote Presentation:
Massaging Landscapes to Life: Nicole Masters
 3:00pm – 4:00pm TEI Grain Vs. Grass Study:
Dr. Stephen Van Vliet & Lydia O'Sullivan
 4:00pm – Ken Burns Bison Documentary & Discussion
Featuring Ken Burns Presenting Virtually
 4:20pm – 5:30pm Annual Marketers' Panel:
Featuring 3 commercial and 3 direct marketers
 5:30pm – 8:30pm Benefit Auction Dinner and 2022 Member of the Year Award Ceremony

DON'T FORGET YOUR BENEFIT AUCTION ITEM!

Friday, January 20, 2023

7:30am – 8:30am GTSS Consignor's Meeting
 8:00am – 1:00pm Trade Show Open
 8:00am – 9:00am NBA Voter Registration Open
 9:00am – 12:00pm Junior Judging NWSS
 9:00am – 9:30am NBA Elections
 9:30am – 11:00am NBA Membership Meeting and Canadian Bison Association Update
 11:00am – 12:00pm Center of Excellence for Bison Studies Research Updates & Poster Session
 12:00pm – 2:00pm Food Truck Lunch at NWSS
 1:00pm – 4:00pm Media Day/Afternoon in the Yards @ NWSS with Buffalero Bison Handling Q&A
 1:00pm – 4:00pm Exhibitor Move out
 5:00pm – 6:00pm Gold Trophy Show and Sale Social
 6:00pm – 9:00pm Center of Excellence for Bison Studies Fundraiser and Gold Trophy Show and Sale Banquet Dinner
 9:00pm – midnight – Hospitality Room

Saturday, January 21, 2023

8:00am – 9:00am Gold Trophy Show and Sale Judges' Comments at NWSS
 9:00am – 10:00am – GTSS Buyer Registration
 10:00am – GTSS Live Bison Auction at NWSS

THANK YOU PRESENTING SPONSOR:



HARPER CATTLE
 TEXAS, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO

NBA Attends Montana Bison Association Winter Meeting

NBA Executive Director, Jim Matheson, is in White Sulphur Springs, MT this weekend to attend the Montana Bison Association Winter Meeting. Matheson will provide an industry and association update to attendees as well.

The MBA has a weekend packed with bison education and networking opportunities lined

up at their annual gathering. As in past years, the MBA will host its meeting at a hot spring for attendees to enjoy after a day of learning.

Said Matheson, "It's been a couple of years since I've been able to address this great group of bison stewards, and it's always a treat to squeeze in some R&R along with a business trip, which the MBA is so good at providing." Matheson attended Montana State University where he earned his undergraduate degree in economics and has worked with the MBA for over 15 years.

Learn more about the MBA and this weekend's activities at www.montanabison.org.

Bison Junior Judging Contest Offered at 2023 National Western Stock Show

Individuals 8 - 21 years of age are invited to compete in the Larry Higgins Bison Junior Judging Contest on Friday, January 20th at 9 am in the Yards at the National Western Stock Show. This event is hosted by the National Bison Association and the Rocky Mountain Bison Association and held in conjunction with the Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS) during the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado.

The GTSS has been the industry's premier bison breeding stock auction at the National Western Stock Show for over 40 years, and participants will judge bison that are already there for the show and sale. Students will judge four classes of bison and provide oral reasons on one class, to be selected by the judges.

Top three individual contestants are eligible to earn up to \$1,500 in college scholarships. Additional recognition will be provided for the top three registered teams and the top three junior participants (12 years of age or younger). There are no entry fees. This event is open to individuals 8-21 years old who are academically eligible. Registration in advance is encouraged.

Registration and full competition rules are available at: <https://bit.ly/3ePi8gw>.

The NBA's Junior Judging program is based on criteria used in 4-H and FFA livestock judging contests. The bison judging program is a brainchild of NBA member and Stratford, Okla., veterinarian and bison producer, Dr. Gerald Parsons, who proposed taking the contest to the national level after success with bison judging contests within the state of Oklahoma.

"The bison industry wants to attract young people to the business, and this judging contest is one way to encourage young people to learn about bison," Parsons said.

The NBA Junior Judging contest has been held for over a decade at the National Western Stock Show and has educated nearly 1,000 young people about how to discern a healthy, quality American bison that would be a beneficial addition to a breeding program. The event was named the Larry Higgins Bison Junior Judging Contest in memory longtime Colorado bison rancher and Junior Judging volunteer, Larry Higgins.

The NBA offers a Youth membership at a highly discounted rate to those 21 years of age and younger who would like to learn more about this emerging sector of American agriculture. Learn more at www.bisoncentral.com.

Thank You 2023 Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale Sponsors!

THANK YOU GOLD TROPHY SHOW & SALE SPONSORS



We appreciate your support for the bison industry!



THANK YOU WINTER CONFERENCE SPONSORS



We appreciate your support for the bison industry!

We Want to See YOUR Bison!

We know you've got a few videos of your bison on your phone. Share a 30 second clip with us, and you could win up to \$350!

Don't wait, because the deadline is Monday, January 9th for submissions. This is the first time EVER, National Bison Association is offering a Bison Video Contest!

Cash prizes will be awarded to Junior Youth (8-13), Senior Youth (14-18) and Adults (19+).

We're looking for short videos- 30 seconds or less. Those eligible to participate: National Bison Association Members or children/ grandchildren of members and/or InterTribal Buffalo Council members.

Click for [Full contest rules](#).

Over 100 Top Quality Bison Headed to the National Western Stock Show

The nation's premier bison show and sale will culminate with a live animal auction at the National Western Livestock Auction Arena starting at 10 a.m.,



Saturday, January 21 at the National Bison Association's Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS). See all the details at <https://bisoncentral.com/gold-trophy-show-and-sale/>.

Over 20 bison producers from across the continent will bring their prime quality animals to Denver for the 2023 GTSS held January 20-21 at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) complex. The winning entries at the Denver show have served as foundation seed stock for most of the top bison herds throughout the United States today.

The mission of the Gold Trophy Show and Sale is to create an environment where producers can compete to establish the value of their bison in the current marketplace.

For over 40 years, the Gold Trophy Show and Sale has been held each January in conjunction with the National Bison Association's annual winter conference, which takes place the preceding three days with bison-specific programming and education. The media and general public are invited to view the animals and meet hundreds of bison producers from across North America in the NWSS Yards on Friday, January 20, from noon – 4pm. The afternoon will feature bison burgers, a bison handler Q&A, bison viewing, and ample opportunity to visit with today's bison stewards who are restoring the bison species back to its native landscape across North America.

Today's bison herds continue to grow despite a three-year cycle of pandemic, drought, and economic uncertainty. Consumer demand for clean and healthy bison meat is at an all-time high. In response, more and more farmers and ranchers are adding bison to their livestock operations to take advantage of these new market opportunities. There are also exciting advances in understanding bison through the Center of Excellence for Bison Studies, established in 2020 within the South Dakota State University system. Join us to see our National Mammal and meet those stakeholders responsible for their restoration.

Bison is on the Menu!

The agenda is full, the contests are ripe with competition, but what is always at the back of everyone's mind is, "what are we going to eat?"

Thanks to generous donations from Rocky Mountain Natural Meat, Frontiere Natural Meats, and North American Bison we can guarantee that there will be high quality bison on your plates!

The onsite restaurant, [Kachina](#), will also be expanding it's menu for the week of the conference to offer several bison dishes.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to celebrate the quality bison raised by our members. The head chef is envisioning a true showcase of the different cuts of protein with the freshest seasonal ingredients to make some memorable pairings," said program manager Lydia Whitman.

Can't make it to the conference? You can still enjoy wonderful preparations of bison. We are also seeing a great response to the online marketing of bison through our Google Ad campaign, supported by the Growth Fund donations. We encourage you to check out the new online cookbook and resources! <https://bisoncentral.com/eat-bison-to-restore-bison/>



NBA Winter Conference Preceded by INDIGENOUS LED Bison Workshop

INDIGENOUS LED is a bison conservation and indigenous-focused organization that is coordinating a Continental Bison Working Group Workshop January 17-18 at the Westin in Westminster, Colorado. It will be their first in-person gathering of the Bison Working Group since 2019. They plan to co-create strategic priorities for collective action in 2023; deepen relationships; investigate and design social acceptance strategies and celebrate Buffalo culture. The workshop will dovetail with the 2023 National Bison Association Winter Conference January 18-21 at the same venue. Wednesday, January 18th, attendees of both events are warmly invited to gather for a Welcome Reception.

Who's Responsible for our Growth?

There's still time to give!

The end of the year is upon us and is always a good time to look back and see what this association and its committees are doing for us. We've seen some major changes in our association's operations. I hope you've all seen the new advertising initiative the commercial marketers are backing. Google ads have been putting out a number of different pieces that target our consumers, the folks who are really responsible for our growth. Moving this product is paramount for our businesses to expand and grow, and without the consumer buying our goods, we won't grow.

We've seen a renewed commitment from some of our commercial marketers in giving to the [growth fund](#), as we reshape the look of the direction and services our dollars are being spent on. I can't thank them enough. The money being generated by the sale and donation of a dollar or two per animal sold at a sale or slaughtered, and then in many cases being matched by the commercial marketer or entity conducting the sale, is targeting consumers at large. It isn't targeting specifically anyone's own customer, but rather anyone who might purchase a pound of bison meat, whether from them, from you directly, the farmers market you are a vendor at, or the grocery or health food store you supply.

I think the best way to thank them, is first, for all of us members to understand that this isn't the commercial marketers' fund, nor their responsibility. It's our fund, it's our

responsibility. Second, [join in the effort](#) to give a dollar amount from every animal you sell. If you sell by-products, do the same. It doesn't matter if you don't sell to a commercial marketer or if you may not do a huge volume of business in a given year. All of the business and all of us matter. On multiple occasions, I've heard that 80% of the bison owned are owned by the 90 % of our members who own 50 head or less. If there are 60,000 to 80,000 head of bison slaughtered every year, and all of our members both big and small make an effort to find a reason to give to the cause, a \$5.00 per head donation would bring in \$300,000 to \$400,000, for marketing your products, all of our products. Make it a dollar, two, five, or ten. [Contribute here](#).

My dad-in-law always noted what he called the death knell for businesses struggling through tough times. They started cutting back on portions or services or whatever it was they were selling, and then raised prices at the same time. They charged more and provided less. He said time after time, year after year, that those businesses faded to black. The businesses that dug in, advertised, didn't cut corners or services, but rather ran specials and made an effort to give the consumer a reason to pick their product, they came out on top and ahead.

I know prices aren't great, feed costs are high and money is tight. Trust me, I know, but now is not the time to whine about it and lay down. Now is the time to dig in, shout about what a great product we have, and get our product to an even higher demand than it already is. A really smart guy once said, the members just need a reason to give. So members, here you go. Let's [support our growth fund](#) and help our association, the marketers, and all of us that have already donated. Together, let's give our consumers a reason to buy our products.

Thanks, and I hope to see you all in Denver!
Dick

Dick Gehring
Chair, NBA Commercial Marketers Committee
Owner, Black Kettle Buffalo

Editor's Note: The following news stories were distributed by organizations not affiliated with the National Bison Association. They may not reflect the opinions or the positions held by the NBA on matters such as genetic integrity, animal management, and other issues.



<https://bisoncentral.com/eat-bison-to-restore-bison/>

Why this Louisville-area farm raises grass-fed bison sustainably

From *The Courier Journal*

If you've ever eaten a bison burger at a Louisville-owned restaurant, chances are the bison was raised on Woodland Farm in Goshen, Kentucky.

Farm manager Kristopher Kelley said the American Bison on Woodland Farm are as wild as they can get. Nearly 500 bison roam across the pastures eating as much grass as they like. Bulls are organized into herds, cows raise their calves in groups and calves stay with their mothers for a full year. The bison are typically handled by people only once a year to give them necessary vaccinations.

That sustainability was the focus for Louisville entrepreneurs and philanthropists Laura Lee Brown and Steve Wilson, who bought the historic Woodland Farm in 1996.

"From the beginning we liked the idea of helping to save a breed that was almost extinct," Wilson said. "And there's no question that ranchers and farmers brought the bison back from extinction. I was raised by a cattle farmer and thought bison had to be finished on grain, but they really don't. It takes a little longer to mature with grass-fed but ultimately it's the right thing to do."

The result is a steady supply of grass-fed, sustainably raised bison meat processed in a USDA-approved facility in Southern Indiana and sent right back into Kentucky Proud restaurants and grocery stores.

"Every cow on this farm was born here," Wilson said. "We know the source, we know who took care of it, and how it was processed. It's the most farm-to-table you could possibly be."

[Click for more.](#)

How tribes in Wisconsin are reintroducing the bison with an eye toward food sovereignty and cultural revitalization

From *The Green Bay Press Gazette*

MIDDLE VILLAGE - More bison are returning to Wisconsin to be managed by tribal nations.

The Menominee Nation this winter received 10 bison through a partnership among the South Dakota-based Intertribal Buffalo Council, The Nature Conservancy in Illinois and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Right now, the whole idea for us is to reintroduce ourselves to the bison," said Guy Reiter, whose Menominee name is Anahkwet and is the executive director of the Menominee community organization Menīkānaehkem, Inc. "They played a role at one time in our culture."

The bison currently have about 66 acres to roam between pastures on the Menominee reservation, Anahkwet said. Much of that land had once been a non-tribal farm that used chemicals. Now under tribal management, a restoration process that includes the Indigenous technique of prescribed burning is bringing back native grass for the bison to feed on.

One future goal is to harvest bison meat for tribal citizens as a healthy alternative to Western beef, Anahkwet said.

For now, though, the initial goal is to grow the herd and observe how the bison acclimate to the natural grass.

[Click for more.](#)

Documentary shares an overlooked Texas treasure.

From *Yanasa TV*

Late last fall documentary filmmakers Charlie and Shauna Rankin of Meet My Neighbor Productions, traveled to Quitaque Texas to film a genetic treasure roaming in the canyons of Caprock Canyon State Park. The story in Quitaque is part of a larger documentary project called NATIVE | The Prodigies of an Icon about the American bison and its remarkable comeback.

NATIVE | The Prodigies of an Icon will start with a recap of the history of the North American Bison. A story of a species that once roamed the vast landscape of nearly the entire North American continent. While it's population size varied from indigenous hunting and varying climates since prehistoric times, its ultimate demise came through a series of unfortunate events...

The National Buffalo Foundation provided the film makers with a grant in 2021. Other film supporters include Sierra Meat & Seafood of Nevada, Durham Ranch of Wyoming, Great Range Premium Bison of Colorado, Tender Bison of North Dakota, Mosquito Park Enterprises of South Dakota, The Buffalo Wool Company of Texas, Bigelow Fields Bison and Breadhouse of Maine, Herd Wear of Texas, and the National Bison Association.

"Admittedly we did not know how we would come up with the funds to film the bison across the entire North American continent when the project started. Shauna and I simply jumped in our car with a pop-up camper in tow and started filming, the story grew from there. We still have a long way to go in 2023, but are extremely grateful for the wide range of supporters the film has attracted. This is an important story that embraces the unity between ranchers, indigenous people, and conservationists. It's that unity that has made the bison a success story and not an extinction story," said Charlie Rankin.

[Click for more.](#)

13 bison were killed in a road accident near Yellowstone National Park

From *NPR*

Thirteen bison were killed near Yellowstone National Park after being struck by a semi-truck, police said Saturday.

The accident happened last Wednesday at mile marker four on U.S. Highway 191, between West Yellowstone, Montana, and Highway 287. The bison were initially thought to have been hit by both the semi and two passenger vehicles, but police later said the passenger vehicles were involved in a secondary collision, the West Yellowstone Police Department said.

Some of the bison had to be euthanized due to their injuries.

"We deal with wildlife being struck and killed on the roadways in our area on a regular basis due to the abundance of wildlife in our area and our close proximity to Yellowstone National Park," police said. "We are always saddened by any of these incidents, particularly when so many animals are lost."

The bison in the area often move toward paved roads during the winter time as the conditions make it easier for them to travel. Police urged travelers to slow down in accordance with road and weather conditions.

[Click for more.](#)

Five Places To See Bison Beyond The Rocky Mountains

From *Forbes*

When it comes to spotting North America's largest land animal in the flesh, it's no secret that Yellowstone National Park is the top destination. This iconic preserve is the only region in the United States that's been home to bison for thousands of uninterrupted years—all other populations met their demise at the hands of settlers, whether they intended to eat the animals, sell their hides, or devastate the indigenous tribes of the Great Plains by destroying one of their main food sources.

While states like Wyoming, Montana, and Utah all offer incredible opportunity for bison spotting today, they're far from the only states that support their own herds. From the vast Iowa prairie to the Texas Panhandle, naturalists across the nation have been working tirelessly to restore these iconic creatures to their former homes. If a trip out to Yellowstone seems a little too ambitious for your tastes, be sure to check out the list below—there might be a bison herd found just beyond your backyard.

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, Iowa

The bulk of Iowa's land is used for agricultural purposes, but that doesn't mean there aren't some incredible natural gems scattered in between the cornfields. Located roughly 21 miles east of Des Moines, Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge is home to some of the few remaining pockets of tallgrass prairie and oak savanna ecosystems in Iowa, serving as a crucial haven for the native species that have been displaced due to the agriculture industry. Herds of plains bison and elk both roam the refuge today, and in addition to these charismatic megafauna, visitors can also spot short-eared owls, Savannah sparrows, and a wealth of other birds.

[Click for more.](#)

Ag groups say new WOTUS rule muddies the waters

From *Meatingplace.com*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of the Army on Dec. 30 announced a final rule seeking to establish a "durable definition" of "waters of the United States" (WOTUS), but agricultural groups say it creates new uncertainty while preempting an impending Supreme Court ruling that will provide needed clarity.

The new final rule provides the sixth definition of WOTUS in the last decade. It restores water protections in place prior to 2015, overturning Obama and Trump policies that have been the subject of years of court debate.

Of primary concern to farmers and ranchers is that the new final rule does not clearly exempt ephemeral water features from federal jurisdiction and relies on case-by-case determinations of whether a water feature is federally regulated.

Mary-Thomas Hart, chief counsel of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), called the new rule "a far cry from the regulatory certainty provided the Navigable Waters Protection, creating a significant and costly burden for agricultural producers."

[Read more.](#)

2023 omnibus bill includes ag funding to benefit USDA, constituents

From *Meatingplace.com*

The \$1.7 billion Omnibus Appropriations spending mandate that will keep the U.S. government open through next September also includes several specific benefits for the meat and poultry industry through USDA programs.

Now that President Biden has signed the 4,000-page bill into law, USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack noted in a statement that the package “will support USDA’s operations and help make USDA more efficient, effective and better equipped to advance racial justice, equity and opportunity for the customers we serve.”

Some of the highlights Vilsack noted include funding for:

- Price transparency efforts that allow USDA and the U.S. Department of Justice to jointly analyze issues on transparent meat pricing and price discovery for cattle producers.
- USDA audits to evaluate a country or region covering veterinary control and oversight, including disease history and vaccination practices.
- Oversight and enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act through a \$5 million grant to USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).
- Disaster assistance under a \$3.7-billion fund to cover crop and livestock losses from drought and other related issues experienced in 2022.
- Increased investment in USDA’s agricultural research and development efforts nationwide.

“USDA is ready to hit the ground running in 2023 to keep expanding our economy from the bottom up and middle out and ensure that rural communities, farmers, ranchers and producers are empowered with the tools necessary to survive,” Vilsack added.

USDA Offers Disaster Assistance for Producers Impacted by Inclement Weather

From *USDA Farm Service Agency*

USDA also offers disaster assistance programs, which is especially important to livestock, fruit and vegetable, specialty and perennial crop producers who have fewer risk management options.

It's critical to keep accurate records to document all losses following this devastating cold weather event. Livestock producers are advised to document beginning livestock numbers by taking time and date-stamped video or pictures prior to after the loss.

Other common documentation options include:

Purchase records
Production records
Vaccination records
Bank or other loan documents
Third-party certification

Additional details - including payment calculations - can be found on our NAP, ELAP, LIP, and TAP fact sheets. On farmers.gov, the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet, and Farm Loan Discovery Tool can help you determine program or loan options.

While we never want to have to implement disaster programs, we are here to help. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local USDA Service Center. All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments because of the pandemic.

Grow your business through the Rural Ascent Agricultural Training Program

From *USDA Farm Service Agency*

If you've been in operation for less than five years, don't miss this no-cost opportunity to build or grow your small business through the Rural Ascent Agricultural Program for Women-Owned Farms and Ranches! The program is presented by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Space is limited and you must apply for consideration for this 12-week virtual program. If selected, you will join other entrepreneurs from rural areas across the U.S. on an interactive virtual platform packed with resources to set and achieve your business goals, consult with subject matter experts and build your peer network.

Being located in a rural area is required, so please check here to ensure you meet the requirement. The application period for the program ends January 15, 2023.

[Apply today](#)

Want to learn more? Join one of this online informational session:

[Tuesday, January 10, 2023](#)

For questions or special accommodations, please contact SBA Rural Affairs at Rural@SBA.gov.

2022 Census of Agriculture is Underway

From *USDA Farm Service Agency*

The Census of Agriculture remains the nation's only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state, county, and U.S. territory. Farm operations of all sizes, urban and rural, which produced and sold, or normally would have sold, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products in 2022, are included in the ag census. The data inform decisions about policy, programs, rural development, research, and more. The Census of Agriculture is the producer's voice in the future of American agriculture.

Survey codes and questionnaires were mailed to all known agriculture producers in November and December. Any producer who has not responded can complete the ag census at agcounts.usda.gov or by mail.

The deadline for response is Feb. 6, 2023. NASS will release the results of the 2022 Census of Agriculture in 2024.

To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit www.nass.usda.gov/agcensus.

USDA invests in projects to further strengthen meat supply chain

From *Meatingplace.com*

The USDA announced that [25 projects](#) will receive \$9.6 million to help strengthen the resiliency of the country's food supply chain.

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack hosted a teleconference to announce the investment, and that the department is taking several additional steps to help farmers, ranchers, processors and rural businesses diversify the nation's meat supply.

The department is awarding 23 grants totaling \$3.9 million to help producer-owned companies process and market new products. The USDA is also providing guarantees for a total of \$5.7 million in loans to two companies through the [Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program](#) using American Rescue Plan funding.

Through these two programs, USDA is investing in 25 projects in California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

Read [more](#).

Request for Proposals for Farmers for Soil Health

The submission deadline for full proposals is February 28, 2023.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with the Farmers for Soil Health collaboration, anticipates awarding competitive grants to accelerate the voluntary adoption of cover crops on corn and soybean farms in 20 states.

NCAT is a partner in this project. The program is expected to award approximately \$15 million in grants in 2023. Applicants should propose state-level or multi-state programs to support Farmers for Soil Health in one or more of the 20 eligible states.

Grantees are limited to state corn, soy, or pork commodity affiliate organizations or their designated partners.

[Learn more.](#)

farm crisis center

Even in the best of times, farming can be an incredibly high-stress occupation. Unpredictable weather, crop disease, volatile markets, heavy workloads, and social isolation are just a handful of the challenges that farmers may face.

These conditions force many family farmers and ranchers to make tough financial decisions that will impact their families, communities, and the entire country.

National Farmers Union compiled resources to help farmers through stressful times. Find them at:

<https://farmcrisis.nfu.org/>

National Suicide Hotline - 800-273-TALK (8255)



With more than 30 years of experience, Jud has the knowledge and resources to effectively and professionally market your animals at auction.

Call today to discuss your options!

Jud Seaman, Auctioneer
605-390-1419
qasbuy.com



Save the Date!

- 1/06/2023 - Montana Bison Association Winter Meeting - MT
- 1/07/2023 - Turner Bison Exchange Prairie Performance Simulcast Auction - SD
- 1/17/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 1/18/2023 - NBA Winter Conference - Westminster, CO
- 1/20/2023 - Larry Higgins Junior Bison Judging Contest - Denver, CO
- 1/21/2023 - NBA Gold Trophy Show and Sale - Denver, CO
- 1/30/2023 - TNC Smoky Valley Ranch Webcast Auction - Online
- 1/31/2023 - Gehl's Buffalo Hill Ranch & Guest Webcast Auction - Online
- 2/02/2023 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference - SD
- 2/04/2023 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Simulcast Auction - SD
- 2/11/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction, Grande Prairie, AB - Online
- 2/24/2023 - Beltway Bison Consignment Auction - PA
- 2/25/2023 - MBA Great Spirit - Brandon, MB
- 3/04/2023 - RMBA Spring Conference - Fort Collins, CO
- 3/09/2023 - Eastern Bison Association Winter Conference and Auction - PA
- 3/10/2023 - BPA Wildrose - Camrose, AB
- 3/11/2023 - Missouri Bison Assn. & Oklahoma Bison Assn. Show & Sale - MO
- 3/11/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction, Camrose, AB - online
- 3/11/2023 - Irish Creek Bull Sale - Camrose, AB
- 3/25/2023 - SBA Cream of the Crop - Yorkton, SK
- 3/30/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 4/27/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online

Please visit <https://bisoncentral.com/calendar/> for details and more up-to-date events. If you have a bison event coming up that's not listed, please send the details to jim@bisoncentral.com and the NBA will post the event on its website at no charge.

Click Here for NBA Calendar of
Events

National Bison Association | info@bisoncentral.com | 303-292-2833 | [@bisoncentral.com](https://bisoncentral.com)



National Bison Association | 8690 Wolff Court #200, Westminster, CO 80031

[Unsubscribe](#) jim@bisoncentral.com

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data](#)
[Notice](#)

Sent by info@bisoncentral.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!