

Feb. 26, 2013

Greetings from Janzen Family Farms!

Valentine's Day Special: Sale Through End of February

Now's your chance to get some grass-fed beef for that special someone! Stock up on Janzen Family Farms 100% Grass-Fed Beef! We're having a sale on all quarters and eighths: now \$5/pound, down from the usual \$6/pound. We will run the sale through the end of the month!

New Farm Pets!

By Norm Oeding

A fall purchase of seed wheat also included 2 kittens (Fluffy and Mitten), who have adapted well here at the farm. For Christmas, I got a new border collie pup named MAX. And our most recent addition, is as yet an un-named cat, with a unique color combo. It is two-tone, orange over white. Maybe some of the JFF youngsters can help name it. (Below, see Maxine with Felix and Calvin, on the left, and with Norm, on the right. And if these photos don't pop up here in the newsletter, you can also see puppy photos here on our website: <http://www.janzenfamilyfarms.com/photos.html>.)

Notes from the Farm

by Norm Oeding

This winter is shaping up as warm and dry with a few brutal cold spells mixed in. (2-1-13, Wichita reported 13 ' F) The up side to all of this means there is less mud for us (LeRoy and I) and the cattle to contend with. The down side is a very significant addition to a drought that started here in the fall of 2010. Granted, the cattle do enjoy less mud and the rain / snow that we normally get.

Recently, I attended the annual Ks Grazers Conference where the main topic of discussion was the drought and how to plan for it. Of course, part of a drought plan is based on being flexible with the rain we do receive. According to the National Weather Service (nws / noaa), Wichita recorded it's wettest year in 2008 with a total of 53.82 inches of rainfall. And they have recorded 4 consecutive years of dwindling rain fall since. In 2011, here at JFF, I recorded 26" of rainfall (Wichita-26.06") and 2012 brought us 21.7" (wichita-25.01"). 9.7" of rain came here at JFF between 8-14-12 and 11-11-12.

Even as good as our wheat looks now, a couple of timely, adequate rains will be much appreciated to complete our wheat crop. And presuming at least 20" rain, this year we should have adequate grass for the herd and still be able to grow some crops.

April will be bringing new calves and prayers for rain. Best wishes for the new year.

Thanks!

As always, we are very grateful for your interest, and your business. We couldn't make it without our customers! Thank you so much! Let us know if you'd like to stop in.

With best wishes from all of us at Janzen Family Farms!

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