

Livestock Systems Impact At-A-Glance



beef.unl.edu

The Nebraska Ranch Practicum serves as a live laboratory for ranchers to learn about how the research and knowledge produced by UNL can improve their own businesses.



Jonathan and Trenda Nielson, and their children, Hazy and Tyler, the fourth generation on the ranch, are committed to innovative ranching practices, which they were able to pursue as part of the Nebraska Ranch Practicum. Hazy says the biggest benefits are the relationships her family has built with Extension educators, and the confidence to ask questions. The Nielsons have felt more able to make changes in their business, knowing they have access to people who know, or who can find the answers to their questions, and that they aren't alone in trying to find better ways to raise cattle.

"UNL's systems-based research serves as the curriculum and translating that to real-world concepts gives producers a broader understanding of how management decisions impact their entire operations." -Brent Plugge, Extension Educator

200,600

Head of livestock managed by the 30 ranchers in the 2022-2023 Nebraska Ranch Practicum

\$499,847

value added to Nebraska's beef industry because of the 2022-2023 Nebraska Ranch Practicum

100%

Ranchers who will make management changes as a result of the Nebraska Ranch Practicum

Livestock Systems



Strengthen Nebraska Agriculture & Food Systems Nebraska is the global epicenter for beef production. Nebraska Extension has a team devoted solely to supporting every step of the beef industry with University research and resources—from pasture management to nutrition, from disease prevention to developing innovative cuts of beef. Extension also contributes to the state’s diversity in animal agriculture including pork, dairy and poultry—helping Nebraskans produce protein in ways that are safe, responsible, and economically and environmentally sustainable.

1.42 Million

online impressions of our BeefWatch and associated social media channels

Livestock Systems 2023 Highlights

- 90 Poultry enthusiasts learned about properly caring for handling chickens and eggs.
- 1,141 people were certified in Beef Quality Assurance, an industry animal welfare standard.
- 172 people participated in the manure land application training program. Including 300,000 of cattle, 227,000 of swine.
- Participants manage between 233,000 and 500,000 acres of crop, range and pasture land.
- 131 sheep and goat producers representing 500,705 sheep and 5,648 goats made changes in their parasite control program and biosecurity plans after attending several small ruminant educational programs.
- \$21 estimated per-head increase in value of sheep and goats was reported from producers as a result of attending the program.



The annual Stocker/Yearling Tour, organized by beef Extension educators, gives producers a chance to learn from other successful beef producers. The tour was in Sioux County, and 72 people attended. Attendees reported a \$41 per head increase in value of their cattle as a result of the program.



89%

of beef producers are likely or very likely to make changes as a result of the program.