

Topic of the Month

Parasite Control

Spring is coming and with it the green grass. Along with the grass comes the threat of worms. Cattle and other ruminants that graze are especially susceptible to parasitism from worms.

Worms like the brown stomach worm and the barber pole worm not only rob animals of growth and vigor, they can be fatal, especially in sheep and goats. Young cattle, generally those under 2 years old are particularly sensitive while mature cattle generally develop a degree of immunity against the worms.

An effective parasite control program is more than dumping some dewormer on the calves in the spring and fall. With knowledge of the degree of infection in the herd and the life cycle of the parasite(s) present, we can develop an effective control program specific to your situation. Ask us about parasite control at our next visit.

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(May) as of Mar 31	\$5.02
Soybeans(May) as of Mar 31	\$14.64
Soybean meal(May) as of Mar 31	\$479.30
Cheese Mar 31	\$2.26
Class III(Mar) as of Mar 31	\$23.27
Class III(Apr) as of Mar 31	\$23.79
Class III(May) as of Mar 31	\$21.71

In The News

Obama Administration Targets Livestock in Push to Cut Methane Emissions

From: *WSJ.com*

CHICAGO—The Obama administration's push to cut methane emissions puts a bull's-eye on an issue that has long drawn criticism of the agriculture industry from environmentalists.

But the White House's proposals for curbing gas emitted by livestock are relatively tame, relying strictly on voluntary measures that are largely already under way and are focused primarily on the dairy sector.

Agriculture accounts for 36% of the human-related methane produced in the U.S., the White House said. Livestock is by far the biggest source, with the nation's herd of about 88 million cattle particularly big producers. Cattle and other ruminant animals have digestive systems that use fermentation to metabolize plant materials that many animals can't easily digest. The Darwinian advantage also produces methane that cattle exhale or belch in large quantities. Livestock emissions also come from giant pools of manure from cattle, pigs and other animals.

Soybeans Rise to Nine-Month High as U.S. Reserves at 10-Year Low

From *Nasdaq Private Market*

Soybeans climbed to the highest price in more than nine months after inventories in the U.S., the world's largest producer, fell to the lowest level in a decade.

Stockpiles in the U.S. dropped to 992.3 million bushels as of March 1, the lowest for that date since 2004 and compared with 998 million a year earlier, the Department of Agriculture said yesterday. Supplies stored on farms were 381.9 million bushels, compared with 456.7 million a year earlier, according to the USDA. Soybeans held in commercial grain bins were 610.4 million bushels versus 541.3 million, it said.