



Our Beef is...

100 % grass-fed. No grain

All natural. No hormones or antibiotics.

Certified by A Greener world as 100% Grass-fed and Animal Welfare Approved.

Do as I Say, Not as I Do (when working cattle)

In my younger days, rounding up and working cattle was an adventure to say the least. I would get worked up and try to force the cattle into the corral, into the pens, and into the chute to get the job done as fast as possible. Lots of regrettable actions and words were used at times, especially when the cattle did not cooperate (my sons are laughing now if they are reading this). In fact a few years ago, I had t-shirts printed up that said "Sorry for What I Said When We Were Working Cattle" and passed them out to the roundup crew after we were done.



The older I get, the more I realize that handling your emotions is the key to handling cattle. Patience is the needed for low stress management of cattle. Now patience is not something I was necessarily born with...I think it skips a generation.

Over the past couple of years, we have had a few extremely wild and even aggressive cattle and I would wonder how I would ever get these calves in a pen much less loaded onto a truck. I had to really take a step back and think about my handling practices and how I could improve in this area. Then, I took some actions:

- 1) We invested a significant amount of money into a new pen system in the corral. I had a couple of long time ranchers/neighbors help me design and build the new system. The new system uses many more gates and sections to allow to move the cattle in a more logical way and allows the handler to always keep a gate between the cattle and himself for safety. This was the best investment I have made on the ranch recently.
- 2) Spent more time with the animals, offering them treats of alfalfa cubes or high quality hay in small bales to get them to approach you and get more comfortable with me.

3) Researched to better understand cattle behaviour and traits, such as angles of approach, flight zones, point of balance, etc.

With these improvements, I have been successful in getting the wild and aggressive animals into a pen and eventually into a truck to haul to the processor or auction in a relatively orderly fashion. I read somewhere that every time you work with your herd, you are training your animals and setting the tone for how handling will go in the future. So I have a lot of work to do to correct my past mistakes.



We will be rounding up the cow/calf herd in a couple of weeks to wean the calves. I am sure my patience will be tested. At least writing this has been good therapy for me, if nothing else.

Beef Updates:

BULK BEEF

Whole, half, or quarter beef

- We are currently sold out of our pre-sales for 2025. We will put those still interested on a waiting list if something becomes available.
- For those on the waiting list, we will contact you when there is availability in the order you were added to the waitlist. Then, 1) You tell us you want a quarter, half, or a whole. 2) We will follow up with you with additional details. 3) You can confirm your interest and send a deposit (\$100) to reserve your beef
- Please contact us with any questions.

RETAIL BEEF

Cuts directly from MJ Ranch

• We have a limited quantity of retail beef, primarily ground beef, available on the farm. Contact Joyce at mjranch66044@gmail.com or 785-865-2503 if you are interested. Please leave a message if we do not answer.

What's New on the Ranch

We have been busy rotating cattle about every two days to keep them moving so that the do not over graze any pasture when the grass is just starting to come on. They are so glad to be off of hay and their winter pastures.

We will be weaning and vaccinating the fall calves in a couple of weeks and there is a lot of preparation work to be done to prepare for this event

The fall calves will be moved to our "finishing pasture" next week. This is an 80 acre field segregated into 25 sub plots where they will be rotated into a new paddock every 1-2 days.

We are sold out of our pre-sales for 2025 due to extremely high demand this year. We will be releasing more for sale later this summer, so let us know if you want to be on the waiting list.



Our beef is all 2-year old, 100% grass-fed Angus beef, that has <u>never</u> been fed grain, always been kept on pasture, never in a feedlot, no growth hormones or antibiotics, and always been given humane care....as certified by A Greener World. We have 2 certifications: Animal Welfare Approved (humane care) & Certified Grass-fed (fed only grass/hay)!





Connect with us!

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And on Facebook and Instagram @MJRanchLLC