



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.

Weathering the Storms

Every year brings a new set of challenges, and this year has certainly been no exception...from unpredictable weather to emerging pest threats. A fellow rancher commented to me recently that “it seems like something is always trying to kill our cattle or their food.” If there's one thing every rancher knows, it's that no two years are ever the same. Just when we think we've seen it all, another challenge comes along. This summer has reminded us that successful ranching requires flexibility, patience, and more than a little sense of humor.

One of the biggest challenges this year has been the unusual weather patterns. From the late freeze in March to a record rainfall in June, the hay crops in this area have been greatly affected. There is an old saying that “If you don't like the weather in Kansas, just wait five minutes...unless you're making hay. Then it'll rain exactly when you cut it.”

However, one thing I will never complain about is getting rain in the summer. Grass has been plentiful and our cattle are looking great. The extra moisture has also created ideal conditions for armyworms. These caterpillars can strip a pasture almost overnight. Regular pasture scouting has become more

important than ever, to try to catch infestations early before serious damage occurs. Healthy, well-managed pastures are resilient, but even the best grazing systems can be tested when armyworms arrive in force. Although we are yet to see them on our property, many of our neighboring farms have been affected.



Another growing concern across the whole livestock industry is the spread of New World screw worms. I have received several questions about this. Although not currently in our area, recent detections closer to our borders have everyone paying close attention. Unlike common flies that simply annoy livestock, screw worm larvae feed on living tissue, creating painful wounds that can quickly become life-threatening if left untreated. Animal health officials are monitoring the situation closely. We will continue to inspect the herd daily, treat any wounds promptly, and report any suspicious

cases to our veterinarian. Right now early detection remains the best defense.

Beyond insects and weather, rising input costs continue to challenge ranchers. Even grass-fed operations that depend less on purchased feed are seeing higher prices for fencing supplies, equipment, fuel, minerals, and veterinary care. Every decision requires careful consideration to balance animal health, pasture productivity, and financial sustainability.

Despite these challenges, ranching has always been an industry built on resilience. Every obstacle encourages innovation, whether it's improving rotational grazing systems, selecting genetics that thrive on forage, enhancing soil health, or simply learning from each season's successes and setbacks. As grass-fed beef producers, we understand the value of working with nature instead of against it, building healthy soils and diverse pastures that are better equipped to withstand both drought and excessive rainfall.

While we can't control the weather or eliminate every challenge that comes our way, we remain committed to raising healthy cattle, producing high-quality grass-fed beef, and caring for the land that supports both.

Beef Updates:

BULK BEEF

Whole, half, or quarter beef

- We are sold out of our pre-sales for 2026. We are putting all customers (previous and new) on a wait list and will be contacting them when something becomes available.
- If you want to be on the wait list, let us know, and please contact us with any questions

RETAIL BEEF

Cuts directly from MJ Ranch

- We are also completely sold out of our retail beef here at the ranch due to the high demand. Since our inventory is down this year, we have decided to temporarily suspend our retail beef sales this spring. We will revisit this decision in the fall.
- Joyce is introducing some tallow products. Contact her for more information.



What's New on the Ranch

Last month I was hoping that we would be done or nearly done with our hay season. However we are just getting started. We will be hitting the hay fields hard this month, as a drier pattern is predicted.

We did purchase a “new to us” tractor this year to assist with the hay production. This replaced our 1962 tractor that has been difficult to keep running the past couple of years. It is nice to have a tractor that was made in this century!

This month we will try to wrap up the hay production, continue to rotate the calves in our finishing pasture, and continue to mow pastures as we have time. With all the rain, the weeds are enjoying the weather as much as the grass is!



Our beef is all 2-year old, 100% grass-fed Angus beef, that has **never** 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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