



EXTENSION

Ag News

October 2025 Edition Blaine County Extension

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Feedlot Production Continues to Decline

**Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University
Extension Livestock Marketing Specialist**

The September 1 feedlot total was 11.08 million head, down 1.1 percent year over year and the tenth consecutive monthly decrease compared to one year earlier. Feedlot inventories continue to decline slowly. Average inventories the past year are down just 3.1 percent from the peak in 2022, but the September 12-month moving average is at the lowest level since January 2019. With the September on-feed total up slightly from the previous month, the August total was likely the seasonal low for the year. The feedlot inventory on August 1 this year was the lowest monthly inventory since October 2017.

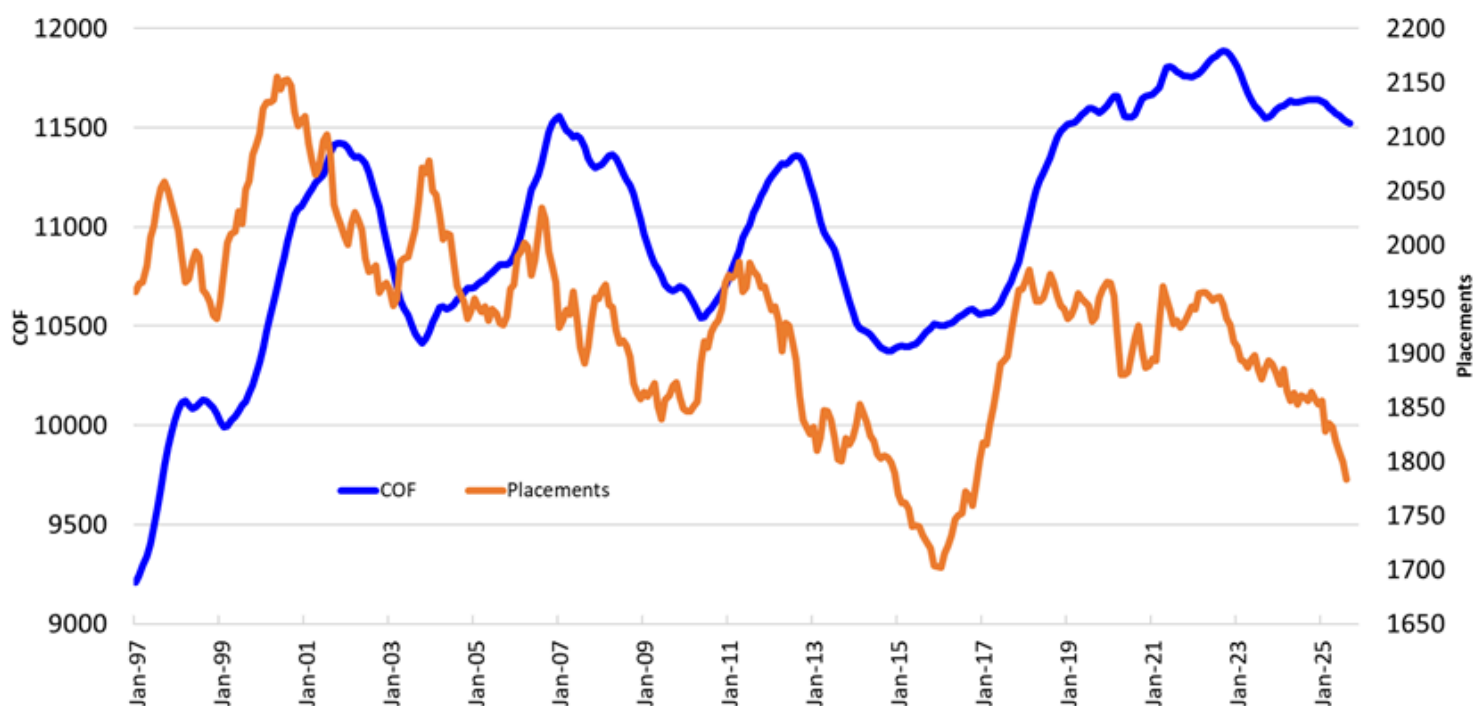
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Feedlot Production Continues to Decline, cont.

Total feedlot production is declining more rapidly than the slowly declining feedlot inventories would indicate. Feedlot placements in August were 90.1 percent of last year and the smallest August placement total since 2015. Figure 1 shows the relative comparison between 12-month moving averages of cattle on-feed and feedlot placements. Placements have declined more than the on-feed inventory up to this point aided by a slower turnover rate in feedlots.

Figure 1. Cattle on Feed and Feedlot Placements

Monthly, 12 Month MA, 1000 Head



August marketings were down 13.6 percent compared to last year. Feedlot marketings for the first eight months of 2025 are down 5.4 percent year over year. Average feedlot marketings the past year are down 8.2 percent from peak average marketings in 2022. Smaller calf crops and limited feeder cattle supplies mean there is less cattle available for feedlot production. Feedlot production and beef production are expected to continue to decline into 2027.

2025 Schantz Family Farm Field Day

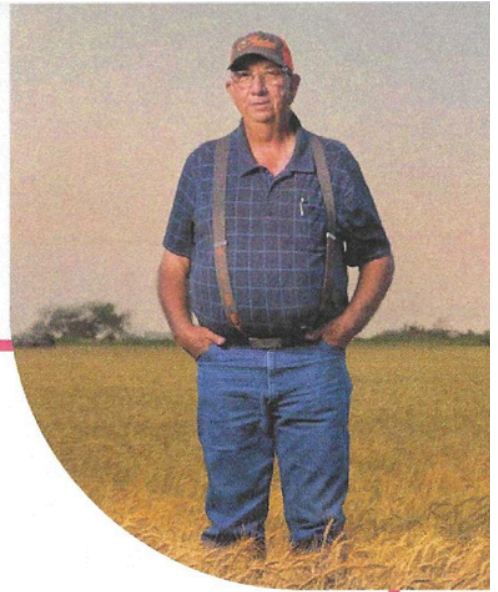
Honoring Merlin Schantz

October 9, 2025

**2 miles north of Hydro on Hwy 58,
1 mile west, 1/2 mile north**

Agenda

- 7:30 am Sign In – Coffee & Donuts
- 8:00 am Welcome – Aaron and Ben Schantz
- 8:15 am Board Bus
- 8:15 am Cotton Location
- OSU Cotton Race Trial - Dr. Jenny Dudak, OSU Cotton Specialist
 - Bayer (DeltaPine) - Jason Lawles
 - Corteva (Phytogen) - Shane Suttle
 - Weed Management in Cotton - Maxwell Smith, IPM for Cotton Assistant Extension Specialist
- 9:30 am Board Bus
- 9:45 am Peanut Location
- USDA - ARS Peanut Variety Trial - Dr. Kelly Chamberlin, USDA-ARS-Stillwater Research Unit Leader
 - Peanut Disease and Nematode Management - Dr. Rebecca Bennett, Research Plant Pathologist USDA-ARS Research
 - Peanut Disease Management - Dr. Maira Rodrigues Duffeck, Extension Plant Pathologist OSU
- 10:45 am Board Bus
- 11:00 am Soybean Stop - Schantz Farm and Schantz Barn
- Soybean Weed Management - Maxwell Smith, IPM for Cotton Assistant Extension Specialist
 - Soybean Stink Bug Management - Dr. Ashleigh Marie Faris, Cropping Systems Extension Entomologist, IPM Coordinator
 - Corn Leafhopper - Dr. Ashleigh Marie Faris, Cropping Systems Extension Entomologist, IPM Coordinator
 - Corn Stunt Disease - Dr. Maira Rodrigues Duffeck, Extension Plant Pathologist OSU
 - Cotton Market Update - Kevin Huddleston
 - AgriAero - Craig Nightengale
- 12:00 pm Sponsor Introductions and Comments / Drawing / Door prizes
- 12:30 pm Lunch - Catered by Pecinas



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EXTENSION

RURAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

October 8, 2025

DATE & LOCATION

- ▶ **October 8, 2025**
8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- ▶ **OSU Alumni Center, Click Hall**
201 S. Hester St.
Stillwater, OK 74078

LEARN ABOUT

Join OSU Extension specialists and experienced professionals to learn about rural economic conditions and current issues facing agriculture and the rural economy. The lineup of speakers includes Heather Hampton Knodle, Vice chair of FCC's Precision Ag Force and producer and an AI/Technology Panel.

REGISTRATION

- ▶ **Register online**



CONTACT

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Visit us at extension.okstate.edu

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation need to contact Brent Ladd at 405-744-6159 or brent.ladd@okstate.edu at least two weeks prior to the event. Oklahoma State University, as an equal opportunity employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination. Oklahoma State University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all individuals and does not discriminate based on race, religion, age, sex, color, national origin, marital status, disability, or veteran status with regard to employment, educational programs and activities, and/or admissions.

Producers, lenders, and policy-makers seeking to gain insight into the rural agricultural economy and make more informed decisions will be interested in attending this year's Rural Economic Outlook Conference on Wednesday, October 8. This annual one-day conference features outside keynote speakers plus OSU faculty. Our featured keynote speaker is Heather Hampton Knodle, FCC Precision Ag Task Force Member, Chairman of the Accelerating Broadband Development Working Group (2020-21, 24), Chairman of Connectivity Needs Working Group (2022-2023), and President of Knodle, Ltd. Farms speaking on AI in the Ag Industry.

This conference will feature an AI/Technology panel discussing how producers are currently using AI and other technologies. Participants will also have an opportunity to hear from OSU experts about Agricultural Economics departmental research, updates on the livestock market, and faculty views on Ag finance and grain markets. Early registration ends on October 1. It is \$50 and includes breakfast, lunch, and breaks. The registration fee is \$75 after October 1. The conference will take place at the Conoco Phillips OSU Alumni Center in Stillwater, Oklahoma on October 8 beginning with breakfast at 8:00 and the first presentation at 9:00.

Interested parties may view the agenda and register by clicking [https:// agriculture.okstate.edu/departments-programs/agecon/extension/rural-economic-outlook-conference.html](https://agriculture.okstate.edu/departments-programs/agecon/extension/rural-economic-outlook-conference.html).

Fall is a Good Time to Plant

David Hillock, Senior Extension Specialist, Consumer Horticulture



Now is an excellent time to plant most trees and shrubs as well as other landscape plants such as perennials and cool season annuals. Cooler temperatures reduce stress to allow ideal root growth and establishment before cold weather. In fact, roots continue to grow if soil temperatures are above 40 degrees F. Plants installed during the growing season are susceptible to high transpiration rates leading to drying of plant tissues.

Research suggests that early fall planting is best for container-grown and B&B shade and ornamental trees and pines, but spring is best for planting bare-root plants and broadleaf evergreens, such as holly and Southern magnolia. However, many containerized plants can be planted at any time if handled properly. Be sure to water regularly to keep roots and soil moist.

Proper planting techniques are also critical for trees. Do not plant too deep. The base of the tree where the roots begin to branch out (the flare) should be visible. Be sure to remove all packaging and support material used in the growing process. A light mulch would also be in order around plants. Mulch, about 2 to 3 inches thick, provides benefits such as moisture retention, weed control, and temperature control. Do not pile mulch up against the base of a plant; keep the mulch a few inches away from the base of trees.

Planting pansies along with spring flowering bulbs will not only add to the spring display, but can provide a needed color during those cool, sometimes dreary fall and winter months. Pansies are extremely cold hardy and will tolerate snow and ice. After properly preparing the bed area, pansy transplants can be set out at the recommended spacing with spring flowering bulbs scattered throughout. It won't matter too much if they are spaced close together because the spring bulbs will poke right up through the pansy foliage.

Fall is a Good Time to Plant, cont.

This arrangement creates another dimension to the garden; the pansies form an “understory” of color, while the spring bulbs form an “upperstory” of color. Often the colors of pansy and spring flowering bulbs provide striking complementary color combinations making the spring bed come alive.

Success for a cool-season annual planting is dependent, however, on bed preparation and location. A sunny to partly shady location with excellent drainage is ideal and will encourage the most blooming. A heavily shaded spot will result in smaller, fewer flowers and may never dry out, which could result in root rots. On the other hand, do not let the plants become too dry. Cold, dry winter winds with little moisture in the form of rain or snow will result in winter scorch. Be sure to water the landscape enough to wet the soil to a depth of about 6 - 8 inches.

Additional cool-weather-loving annuals that can be planted this time of year are ornamental cabbage and kale, snapdragons, and others. Young trees with green or tender bark should be wrapped by late October. Remember to start wrapping from the ground up to the first major limb.

Advantages of tree wraps for young plants:

- Deter animals from browsing on bark.
- Reflects sun that either scalds the trunks or makes them susceptible to southwest injury during the winter months (bark is warmed followed by a sudden plunge in temperature which kills that portion of the bark).

Do not apply any more fertilizer to trees or shrubs. By refraining from fertilizer applications, woody plants can harden off their latest growth to avoid freeze injury. Likewise, pruning should be discontinued at least until dormancy occurs. Otherwise, new succulent growth could be damaged as temperatures drop below freezing.



Blaine County Extension Office
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EXTENSION

Dates to Remember

October 8th

Rural Economic Outlook Conference

October 8th

Fairboard Meeting

7pm at Blaine County Fairgrounds

Foley Building

October 10th to 11th

Watonga Cheese Festival

October 13th

Columbus Day

OSU Office &

County Courthouse Closed

October 31st

Halloween

November 27th to 28th

Thanksgiving Holidays

OSU Office &

County Courthouse Closed



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