



Around THE WORLD

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“The rules have changed.”

That’s a slogan Dodge used heavily to gain acceptance in the auto industry. Today it pertains to nearly everything we do in agriculture.

With rising input costs, it seems everyone is looking at every alternative to cut costs while maintaining or improving their level of production. I think as a whole, many in agriculture have done things for years because their dad or granddad did it that way. If it’s not broke, why fix it?

But the rules are changing. Ask any car dealer how much \$4 gas has changed the dynamics of their business in the last year. They are still selling cars, just different models compared to a few short months ago.

That said, as a seedstock producer you have some pretty important decisions to make as fall weaning approaches. When sorting off your replacement females or trying to decide how many bulls to keep and sell, here are a few things you might want to keep in mind.

With high-priced feed, it’s going to be easy to send the bottom-end calves to town. But what about the top end? The good news is as input costs have increased across the board,

farmers and ranchers have also seen an increase in prices for their products.

Depending on who you want to listen to, many are saying fat cattle could be as high as \$1.10 to \$1.15 this fall. With the bottom-end bull calves going to town and a strong cattle market, one would think the demand and prices for the top-end bulls could be very strong.

The other thing I think is a huge positive is that during these times of change, the buzz word seems to be “efficient.”

Whether it’s the person looking to trade off their two-year-old SUV or the farmer pushing the pencil on whether it’s worth it to spray the pastures or cultivate the fields, everyone is looking to be more efficient.

Aren’t cattlemen the same way? The feed efficiency of this breed has been well-documented and in times like these I don’t believe that will go unnoticed. The fact that Limousin are superior in terms of efficiently producing case-ready product makes me believe there will be more people looking to capitalize on the strengths of this breed.

Even though the rules have changed, Limousin will play a key role in the change. **LW**