# Options for livestock producers

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### Overview

- Using put options to set a minimum price for feeder cattle sold this fall.
- Using call options to set a maximum purchase price for feed.



# Review -> Two Types of Options:

- Put Option gives the holder the right but not the obligation to <u>SELL</u> a futures contract at a set price before the option expires. (Insurance against falling prices). → If you will be selling the commodity use a Put
- Think of a put option as a price FLOOR



# Review -> Two Types of Options:

- <u>Call Option</u> gives the holder the right but not the obligation to <u>BUY</u> a futures contract at a set price before the option expires. (Insurance against rising prices!) → If you will be buying the commodity use a CALL
- Think of a call option as a price CEILING





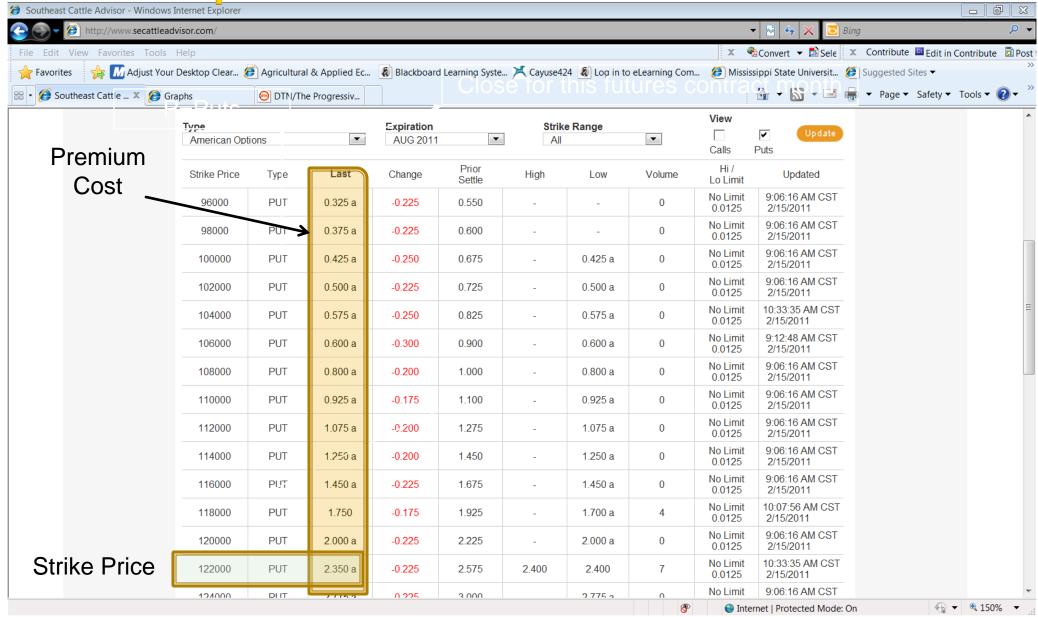
### What is the "Minimum" Sales Price?

Strike Price

- + Basis
- Option Premium
- "Minimum" Sales Price



## **Options and Premiums**



# So how does a Put option work?

Ima Seller has a group of steers he is considering selling in late July or August. Based on his figures, his breakeven sales price for a 550 pound calf is \$115. Assuming a +3.00 basis, if a Aug FC put sells for \$120 @ \$2.00 premium, how would this work?

# So how does a Put option work?

Ima Seller has a group of steers he is considering selling in late July or August. Based on his figures, his breakeven sales price for a 550 pound calf is \$115. Assuming a +3.00 basis, if a Aug FC put sells for \$120 @ \$2.00 premium, how would this work?

#### Minimum Sales Price

Strike =	120.00
Basis =	3.00
Premium =	2.00

Minimum Sales Price = 120, 121, 123, 125, or none of the above?



# Put Option Example – Market Rises

Cash Market		Future	es Market	
February 16, 2011				
		Buy 1 Aug Feede	er Cattle O	ption
Expected basis	\$3.00	Strike =	\$	120.00
		Premium =	\$	2.00



# Put Option Example – Market Rises

Cash Ma	arket		Futures	Marke	t
February 16, 2011					
			Buy 1 Aug Feeder (	Cattle C	Option
Expected basis		\$3.00	Strike =	\$	120.00
			Premium =	\$	2.00
	ı				
August 10, 2011					
Cash market =		\$133.00	Futures Market =	\$	130.00
Option gain or loss	\$	(2.00)	Option Gain/Loss	\$	(2.00)
Net sales Price	\$	131.00			



# Put Option Example – Market Declines

Cash Market		Future	es Market	
February 16, 2011				
		Buy 1 Aug Feede	er Cattle O	ption
Expected basis	\$3.00	Strike =	\$	120.00
		Premium =	\$	2.00



# Put Option Example – Market Declines

Cash Ma	arket		Futures	Marke	t
February 16, 2011					
			Buy 1 Aug Feeder C	Cattle C	Option
Expected basis		\$3.00	Strike =	\$	120.00
			Premium =	\$	2.00
August 10, 2011					
Cash market =		\$113.00	Futures Market =	\$	110.00
Option gain or loss	\$	8.00	Option Gain/Loss	\$	8.00
Net sales Price	\$	121.00			



# **Call Options**



### What is the "Maximum" Purchase Price?

Strike Price

+ Basis

+ Option Premium

"Maximum" Purchase Price



### What is the "Maximum" Purchase Price?

Strike price = \$7.00

+ Basis = \$0.45

+ Premium = \$0.36

Max Purchase Price \$7.71



# So how does a CALL option work?

Ima Buyer anticipates that he will need to purchase 5,000 bushels of corn in Mar. He expects a basis of (+\$0.50) at this time. If Dec Corn futures are at \$6.00 in Feb, how would a \$6.00 call with a premium of \$0.69 work?

# So how does a CALL option work?

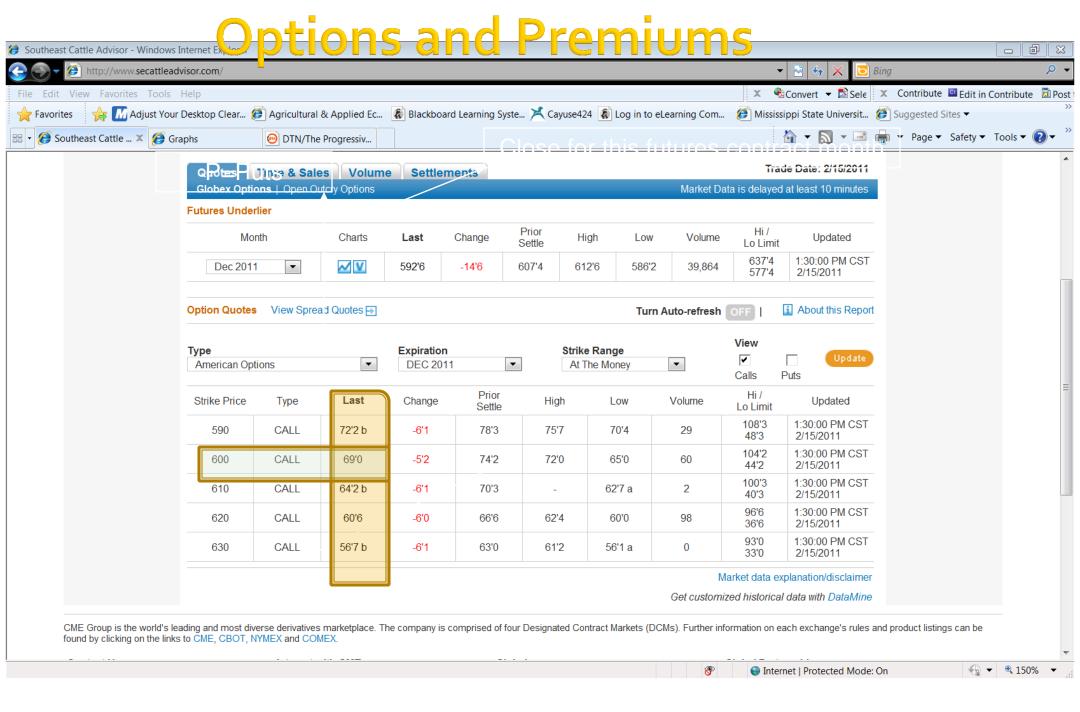
Ima Buyer anticipates that he will need to purchase 5,000 bushels of corn in Mar. He expects a basis of (+\$0.50) at this time. If Dec Corn futures are at \$6.00 in Feb, how would a \$6.00 call with a premium of \$0.69 work?

### Maximum Purchase Price

Strike =	6.00
Basis =	0.50
Premium =	0.69

Max Purchase Price = 5.31, 6.50, 7.19, or none of the above?





# Call Option Example – Market Declines

Cash Ma	arket	Future	es Market	
February 16, 2011				_
		Buy 1 Dec Corn	Option	
Expected basis	\$0.50	Strike =	\$	6.00
		Premium =	\$	0.69



# Call Option Example – Market Declines

Cash Ma	arket	Futures	Market	
February 16, 2011				_
		Buy 1 Dec Corn Op	tion	
<b>Expected basis</b>	\$0.5	Strike =	\$	6.00
		Premium =	\$	0.69
October 10, 2011				
Cash market =	\$4.5	Futures Market =	\$	4.00
Option gain or loss	\$ (0.69	Option Gain/Loss	\$	(0.69)
Net Purchase Price	\$ 5.19	9		



# Call Option Example – Market Increases

Cash Market		Futur	es Market	
February 16, 2011				
		Buy 1 Dec Corn	Option	
Expected basis	\$0.50	Buy 1 Dec Corn Strike =	\$	6.00
		Premium =	\$	0.69



# Call Option Example – Market Increases

Cash Ma	arket		Futures	Market	
February 16, 2011					
			Buy 1 Dec Corn Opt	tion	
Expected basis		\$0.50	Strike =	\$	6.00
			Premium =	\$	0.69
October 10, 2011					
Cash market =		\$7.50	Futures Market =	\$	7.00
Option gain or loss	\$	0.31	Option Gain/Loss	\$	0.31
Net Purchase Price	\$	7.19			



# Summary

- Options are price insurance against a price catastrophe
- In hindsight, options will always be 2<sup>nd</sup> best.
- Remember, this is RISK MANAGEMENT → Can you make decisions after the fact?



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