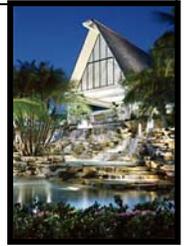


**DeSoto County  
Beef Newsletter**  
2150 NE Roan Street,  
Arcadia, FL 34266

**June 2009 / Volume 31 Number 6**



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Florida Cattlemen's Convention  
& Allied Trade Show**

**June**

**15-18** Florida Cattlemen's Association Annual Convention & Allied Trade Show, Marco Island, FL

**30** UF/IFAS Ona AREC Youth Field Day, Ona, FL

**August**

**15** Grazing Management 101, Highlands County Agri-Civic Center, Sebring, FL

**MOLE CRICKET SURVEY**

The Mole Cricket Task Force of the Florida Cattlemen's Association and UF/IFAS is conducting a web survey in order to gather more information to be able to successfully attack this pasture problem. They are using a method referred to as the "survey monkey". There are 3 short pages and I believe 7 questions, so it is not a long survey and will not take a lot of your time to complete. Go to: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aZ41XAPRo3p\\_2fy8BKCRtyNg\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=aZ41XAPRo3p_2fy8BKCRtyNg_3d_3d) and follow the instructions. I did it and it took me about 3 minutes to complete at the very most. **Jim**

**FARM LOAN TOTAL GROWING**

Last fall's reports of the near-collapse of the banking system notwithstanding, the nation's farm banks increased their lending to farmers in 2008, according to the ABA Center for Agricultural & Rural Banking's Farm Bank Performance Report. In 2008, the report said, the U.S. banking industry held \$123.5 billion in farm loans, an 8 percent increase over the \$114.2 billion in 2007. The 2008 figure for farm banks represents more than 50 percent of the total farm credit outstanding in the United States, according to the American Bankers Association's Center. The total also included \$69.1 billion in small farm loans, of which \$26 billion was invested in "very small farm loans." ABA Center officials said they consider a small farm loan as being one for \$500,000 or less. A micro-small farm loan is \$100,000 or less. The number of small farm loans in 2008 surpassed 1.2 million with the great majority — almost 1 million — under \$100,000. "Banks continue to meet the credit needs of agriculture, especially for small farms," said John Blanchfield, director of the Center for Agricultural & Rural Banking. Blanchfield said farm bank deposits increased 6.9 percent from \$197 billion in 2007 to \$211 billion in 2008. The number of full-time employees at farm banks increased 2.3 percent from 71,303 in 2007 to 72,942 in 2008. A farm bank is defined by ABA as a FDIC-insured bank with assets less than \$1 billion whose ratio of domestic farm loans to total domestic loans is greater than or equal to 14.20 percent in 2008. **Source—Delta Farm Press, May 28, 2009.**

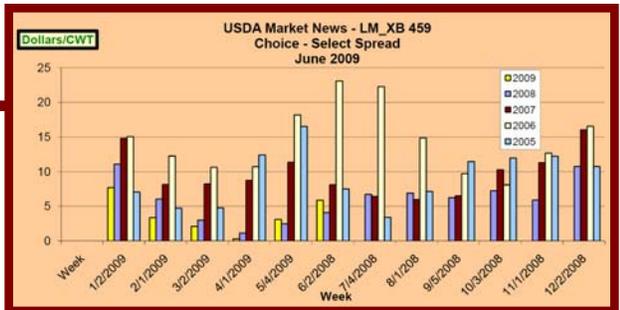
**RECESSION AFFECTING GROCERY PURCHASE TRENDS**

The recession is driving food shoppers of all regions, ages and incomes to adapt their spending and diet choices, reports the May 11 edition of the *FMI/Nielsen/Lempert E-Newsletter*. According to the Food Marketing Institute's "U.S. Grocery Shopper Trends 2009" report, 69% of shoppers say the recession is affecting their grocery shopping, compared to 48% in 2008. A *SupermarketGuru.com* Quick Poll found that when consumers were asked how many times per week (of 21 possible meals) they ate away from home (breakfast, lunch or dinner), 24% said "none" and 44% said "one to two." **Source—Cow-Calf Weekly, May 29, 2009.**

## MARKET INFORMATION—June 1, 2009

	5/30/09	Last Week	Last Year
<b>5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE</b>			
Live Steer	84.38	85.09	95.18
Live Heifer	84.35	85.07	95.24
Dressed Steer	135.04	136.17	149.75
Dressed Heifer	134.71	136.22	149.74

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm\\_ct150.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm_ct150.txt)



	5/30/09 (Estimate)	Last Week (Estimate)	Last Year (Actual)
<b>BEEF PRODUCTION</b>			
Slaughter	617,000	678,000	623,000
Live Weights	1265	1267	1256
Dressed Weights	769	769	764
Beef Production (M. of Pounds)	472.5	519.3	474.6

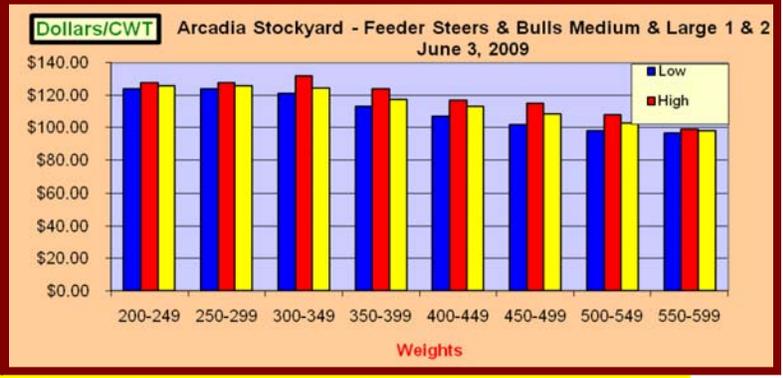
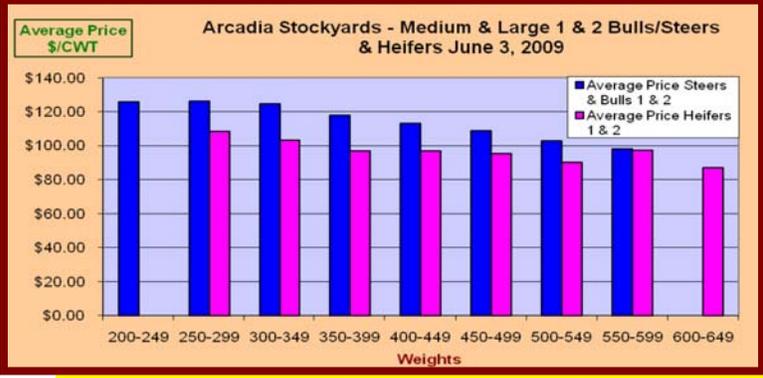
[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ\\_LS712.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS712.txt)

**Choice/Select Spread**  
**6/2/09**  
**\$5.87/cwt**

[http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM\\_XB403.TXT](http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM_XB403.TXT)

	5/16/09	Last Week	Last Year
<b>National Grading Percent</b>			
Prime	2.78%	2.72%	2.76%
Choice	58.90%	59.55%	55.52%
Select	32.20%	31.10%	34.01%

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/NW\\_LS196.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/NW_LS196.txt)



The summary below reflects the week ending May 29, 2009 for Medium and Large 1 & 2- 500- to 550-lb., 600- to 650-lb., and 700- to 750-lb. heifers and steers. **Source: USDA National Feeder and Stocker Summary-SJ\_LS850.**

State	Volume	Steers			Heifers		
		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.
Calf Weight							
TX	19,600	No Report	No Report	No Report	No Report	\$93.37	\$88.28
AL	9,700	\$107.41	\$99.49	No Report	\$95.78	\$92.37	\$86.18
TN	4,800	\$106.72	\$100.19	No Report	\$94.24	\$89.14	\$90.25 Load
FL	4,200	\$96-108	\$92-104	No Report	\$80-94	\$80-93	No Report
GA	5,900	\$92-111.50	\$87-105	\$81-94	\$86-101	\$80-93	\$78-85
KY	11,800	\$109.04	\$101.95	\$86.82	\$100.10	\$89.74	\$93.40
OK	21,700	\$113.39	\$110.59	\$99.28	\$101.62	\$99.60	\$92.78
MO	14,500	\$113.70	\$106.88	\$98.06	\$98.77	\$97.38	\$90.89

**Alabama reported only Med. Large 1**

**No report indicates that no sales were reported for that weight.**

### CORN:

Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 5 to 7 cents higher from 4.42-4.53 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 5-6 cents higher from 4.14-4.19 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 5 cents higher from 4.09-4.15 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 4 3/4-7 3/4cents higher from 4.02 3/4-4.30 3/4 per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 4 3/4-6 3/4cents higher from 4.19 3/4-4.24 3/4 per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 3 3/4 cents higher at 3.92 3/4 per bushel. **Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday May 1, 2009** [http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ\\_GR851.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt)

**FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL—2009** [HTTP://DESOTO.IFAS.UFL.EDU/](http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
2009	0.32"	0.37"	1.83"	0.62"	6.24"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	9.38"
2008	1.87"	1.51"	2.52"	3.33"	2.55"	7.09"	6.79"	8.42"	2.69"	2.12"	0.27"	1.14"	40.30"
2007	1.93"	2.09"	0.81"	2.80"	2.28"	5.04"	5.42"	5.57"	4.56"	1.46"	0.05"	0.78"	32.79"
2006	0.32"	3.26"	0.97"	0.14"	2.07"	2.71"	5.84"	9.30"	4.15"	1.36"	0.81"	2.13"	33.06"
2005						9.71"	8.73"	5.86"	4.03"	8.78"	3.78"	0.11"	NA

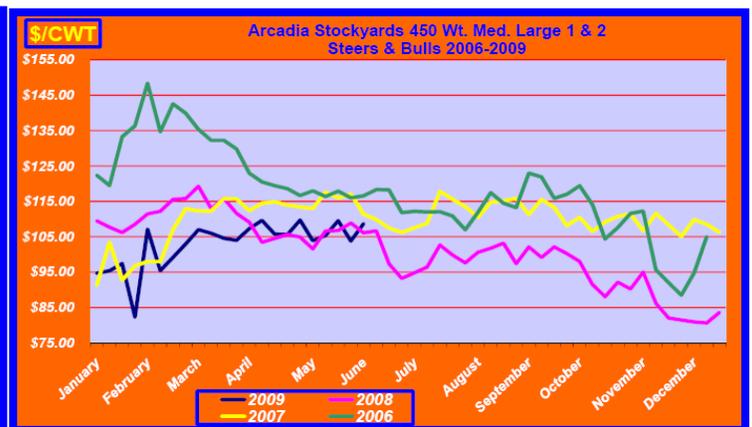
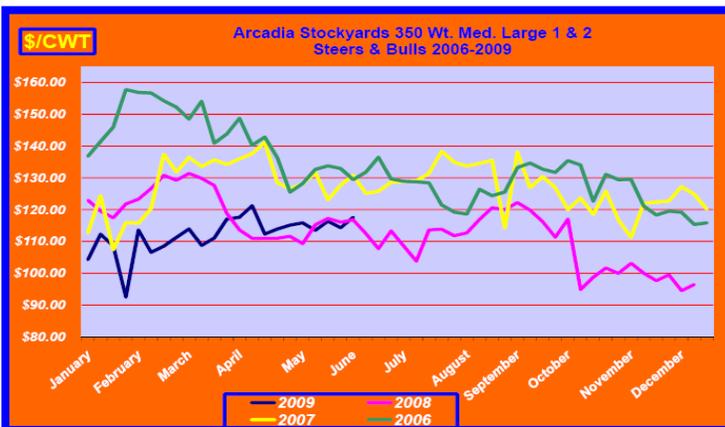
**FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES (2 METERS) AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE**

HIGH	82.8°	85.5°	87.9°	89.7°	96.0°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	NA
LOW	26.0°	26.2°	34.8°	42.1°	55.4°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	NA

**Rainfall for 2009 is 2.42 inches behind 2008—4.12" behind 108 Year Average**

**CHOOSING RIGHT-SIZED TRACTOR SAVES FUEL**

Matching up raking and/or merging equipment with the right-sized tractor helps save fuel during hay harvest, notes Scott Sanford, University of Wisconsin extension senior outreach specialist. "Very often, larger tractors than necessary are used for raking or merging." The power requirement for parallel bar or wheel rakes ranges from 20 to 40 hp, he points out. In comparison, rotary rakes can require 20-55 hp and mergers, 50-70 hp. Quoting Nebraska Tractor Test data, Sanford says a 45-hp utility tractor consumes 1.7 gallons/hour of diesel fuel to pull a rake requiring 20 hp. But a 100-hp row-crop tractor would consume 3 gallons/hour. "Based on \$2.25/gallon diesel fuel, it would cost about \$3/hour in increased fuel to use the larger tractor to do a light-duty task." **Source: E-Hay Weekly, June 2, 2009.**



Last month I created the 450 Wt. Chart and this month we have added the 350 Wt. Chart. In these charts, I eliminated the gaps that are primarily due to holidays when the market is closed to make the charts flow a bit better. **Jim**

**OUTLOOK FOR U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE**

The forecast for fiscal 2009 agricultural exports is \$96 billion. An improved outlook for soybeans and products more than offsets a downward adjustment for wheat. Fierce competition remains in global grain markets with the grains sector accounting for nearly all the expected annual decline in bulk commodity shipments. The outlook for the global economy has weakened further since February. Exports of livestock, poultry, and dairy products are forecast at \$18.4 billion, down nearly \$500 million from the February estimate. The \$400 million reduction in the dairy product outlook accounts for much of the decline with beef, and hides and skins making up most of the rest. Weakened dairy import demand is coupled with increased competition from subsidized exports of nonfat dry milk and butterfat from the EU. On a positive note, global dairy prices appear to have stabilized, and have recently begun to show signs of recovery. The beef export forecast is lowered \$200 million based on weaker demand by major trading partners Japan, South Korea, and Mexico. Hides and skins fall nearly \$200 million due to weak demand for leather as car sales slump. Conversely, poultry exports are revised upward \$300 million due to stronger shipments in the first half of the year. The pork export forecast is up slightly as stronger-than-expected sales to Mexico and Japan in early 2009 more than offset recent concerns about A/H1N1 influenza. A combination of foreign restrictions and reduced consumption in some countries is expected to temper growth, but the impacts are expected to be short term. Total livestock, dairy, and poultry imports are forecast at about \$11.4 billion. A \$100-million higher forecast for beef and veal imports is offset by lower cattle and calves imports, leaving total livestock and meats at around \$8 billion. A larger import volume of beef and veal is expected. **Source: USDA—AES-62, May 28, 2009.**

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# Beef Management Calendar

June/July

Last Date to plant Sorghum-Sudan Grass.	Check dustbags, oilers, etc.
Check mineral feeder. Use at least 8% phosphorus in mineral and not over 2 ½ to 1 calcium to phosphorus.	Check pastures and hay fields for grubs, mole crickets, spittlebugs and armyworms.
Get heifers vaccinated for brucellosis if not already done.	Reimplant calves at 90 to 120 days with growth stimulant.
Watch for evidence of pinkeye and treat.	Pregnancy check cows.
Control weeds in summer pastures.	Plant warm season perennial pastures.
Plan to attend the FCA Convention.	

## WORLD'S LARGEST PLANTER: JOHN DEERE DB120

Imagine you're planting down the middle of your local high school football field. With John Deere/Bauer Built's newest planter, the DB120, you'd only have 20 ft. from each outside row unit to the sidelines. "As growers get bigger, they're looking for more productivity from their equipment to plant more acres per day," says Rob Rippchen, Deere's division marketing manager for the new planter. "At 120 ft., the DB120 has 30% more productivity than our 36-row, DB90 planter and will match up with our 12-row corn heads."

Depending on field conditions, the DB120 should plant 90-100 acres/hour at the recommended 5-5½ mph, according to Rippchen. It's not just big, it's high-tech. "The DB120 is a front-fold, 5-section, flex-frame planter equipped with CCS RefugePlus and Pro-Series XP row units," Rippchen says. "The planter will be offered with 125 bu. of seed capacity." Retail price is \$345,000, according to Rippchen. The company introduced its first four- and six-row planters in 1957. In 1968, the company came out with its first eight-row planter. It was another 11 years, 1979, until Deere upgraded its planter line with 12- and 16-row planters in the 7000 Series. It took just three more years for Deere to bring out its first 24-row planter in 1982. Deere introduced its 36-row DB90 in 2003, then waited just six years to bring out the DB120. **Source—Corn & Soybean Digest, June 5, 2009.**



## AG ECONOMISTS OFFER WEBCAST

A Webcast video featuring a group of ag economists from the southern region will be available June 12 as a means of helping producers develop strategies to reduce risk during times of economic uncertainty. "Given the recent economic decline, turmoil in the financial markets and the uncertainty about recovery, we felt this would be a good time to deliver a wide-reaching message," says Steven Klose, Texas AgriLife Extension Service economist, who will moderate the event. "Managing Risk in a Turbulent Economy," will be available at 3 p.m. CST from the Auburn Extension host site at [wms.aces.edu/accordent/](http://wms.aces.edu/accordent/). The program will look at "Managing in Changing Markets" with John Anderson, Mississippi State University; and "Financial Management" with Danny Klinefelter, Texas AgriLife Extension Service economist.

## RUSSIAN PREZ CONCERNED ABOUT FALLING CATTLE NUMBERS

Among other fallout of the current economic crisis, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev is concerned about falling cattle numbers in his country and has called on the country's Ag Ministry to deal with the problem. "The number of cattle in our country has begun declining very sharply in recent years and no businessmen could stop this trend as the number of cattle continued to fall," he said at a recent. Russian authorities have been forced to import a large number of cattle and spent a great deal of money on this, he said. "Subsidized loans were allocated for this. Each loan was essentially subsidized by the government by 95%," he said. As a result, Russia has managed to build a rather large number of facilities to raise cattle for meat and milk. "The main goal now is to make sure this doesn't stop during the crisis," Medvedev said. **Source—Cow-Calf Weekly, June 5, 2009.**

**James F. Selph**

DeSoto County Extension Director, IV, Livestock, Forages & Wildlife

"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden". Thomas Jefferson