## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Cattle Economy!!

**February**
- 5-16 Florida State Fair, Tampa, FL

**March**
- 10 Forest Stewardship Workshop/Field Day, 8:30AM – 4:00PM, UF-IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Balm, FL
- 11 Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health, Parasite Diagnostics, 8:00AM – 5:00PM, DeSoto County Extension Office Work Room

**April**
- 4 Performance Horse Short Course, 8:30AM – 3:30PM, Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center
- 14 Southeast Beef Cattle Marketing School, 8:30AM – 5:00PM, Turner Center Exhibit Hall
- 16 UF/IFAS Ona Range Cattle Station Field Day, Ona, FL
- 23 DeSoto County Cattlemen’s Association Annual Spring Meeting, 7:00PM, Turner Center Exhibit Hall, Arcadia, FL
- 29-May 1 58th Annual Florida Beef Cattle Short Course, Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, Gainesville, FL

### WILL A DAIRY BUYOUT HAPPEN?

Beef producers were concerned last week when news items suggested Congress was considering a 300,000-head dairy buyout as part of the economic stimulus package. The industry might have overreacted though, as the House version of the stimulus package did not contain any provisions for a dairy buyout. According to a California newspaper, a drop in milk prices to $9 per hundredweight is prompting dairy organizations, including California-based Western United Dairymen, to continue to push for a dairy termination program that will take approximately 300,000 cows out of production. According to the report, Cooperatives Working Together, a national coalition of regional co-ops that represents 62 percent of U.S. milk production, is supposed to be discussing the plan in more detail this week.

To get to the bottom of the issue, AgriTalk radio host Mike Adams yesterday interviewed Michael Marsh, CEO of Western United Dairymen, and Colin Woodall, Executive Director of Legislative Affairs for NCBA. Marsh says that while there is a need for assistance for the dairy industry, there was no push for stimulus money for a buyout. He said the only mention of the buyout was in a National Cattlemen’s Beef Association press release opposing the idea. But NCBA’s Woodall says dairy interests were indeed shopping the buyout package around Capitol Hill, and NCBA pushed back to protect beef prices. **Source—Drovers Alert, February 5, 2008—Volume 10, Issue 5.**
MARKET INFORMATION

February 2, 2009

The summary below reflects the week ending January 30, 2009 for Medium and Large 1 -- 500- to 550-lb., 600- to 650-lb., and 700- to 750-lb. heifers and steers. Source: USDA National Feeder and Stocker Summary

### 5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1/31/09</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live Steer</td>
<td>80.71</td>
<td>81.91</td>
<td>89.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Heifer</td>
<td>80.59</td>
<td>81.96</td>
<td>89.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressed Steer</td>
<td>129.62</td>
<td>131.80</td>
<td>143.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressed Heifer</td>
<td>129.46</td>
<td>131.44</td>
<td>143.28</td>
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http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm ct150.txt

### BEEF PRODUCTION (Estimate) (Estimate) (Actual)

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1/31/09</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slaughter</td>
<td>631,000</td>
<td>638,000</td>
<td>612,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Weights</td>
<td>1307</td>
<td>1306</td>
<td>1293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressed Weights</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef Production (M. of Pounds)</td>
<td>352.8</td>
<td>381.1</td>
<td></td>
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</table>


### National Grading Percent

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>1/17/09</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prime</td>
<td>2.66%</td>
<td>2.73%</td>
<td>2.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choice</td>
<td>57.94%</td>
<td>59.35%</td>
<td>54.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select</td>
<td>31.53%</td>
<td>31.99%</td>
<td>33.35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/NW LS196.txt

### Choice/Select Spread

2/02/09

$3.36/cwt

http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/L M_XB403.TXT

### State Volume

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Steers</th>
<th>Heifers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Calf Weight</td>
<td>Heifers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500-550 lbs.</td>
<td>600-650 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>21,500</td>
<td>$95.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AL</td>
<td>10,700</td>
<td>$91-105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN</td>
<td>5,100</td>
<td>$94.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>$70-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>6,300</td>
<td>$80-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KY</td>
<td>9,800</td>
<td>$94-104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK</td>
<td>20,300</td>
<td>$106.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>21,900</td>
<td>$113.16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### CORN:

Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 5 to 6 cents lower from 4.13-4.24 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 4 to 5 cents lower from 3.77-3.78 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 3 to 6 cents lower from 3.66-3.70 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 2 ¼ to 5 ¼ cents lower from 3.51½-3.75 ¾ per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 5 ¼ cents lower from 3.74 ¼-3.76 ¾ per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 4 ¼ cents lower at 3.47 ¼ per bushel. Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday January 2, 2009 http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt

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CATTLE FAX ECONOMIC OUTLOOK REPORTED AT CATTLEMEN’S INSTITUTE

A couple of weeks ago at the Florida Cattlemen’s Institute and Allied Trade Show, Cattle Fax made a presentation on the Beef Cattle Economic Outlook. The talk was full of charts and slides that depict trends of the industry and related areas. Below I have inserted several of those for your consideration in this newsletter.
Beef Management Calendar

February/March

- Check mineral feeder.
- Check for external parasites and treat if needed.
- Work Calves (castrate, deworm, vaccinate, implant).
- Watch calves for signs of respiratory diseases.
- Cull cows that failed to calve & market in April.
- Check for lice and treat.
- Pull soil samples to be run at UF Soils Lab.
- Fertilize ryegrass if necessary.

AG PROGRAMS INCLUDED IN STIMULUS PACKAGE

U.S. economic issues are garnering all the attention in Washington, D.C. The House Democrats passed a stimulus package last week, and the Senate is considering it this week. In the House version, agriculture programs, including nutrition assistance, rural development and conservation, would receive about $27 billion, or about 3.3 percent, of the House-approved $825 billion economic stimulus package. That’s according to an estimate from the Congressional Budget Office. Republicans are criticizing the House stimulus bill because they argue it funds too many dubious programs and projects. Senate Republicans appear to be headed down that same path. President Obama wants a final bill on his desk by mid-month. Among the agricultural programs in the package, nutrition-assistance programs account for $21 billion. Rural development programs would receive $5.1 billion, including $2.8 billion to deploy broadband technology in rural areas and $1.5 billion for rural water and waste disposal projects. USDA’s infrastructure would benefit from facilities maintenance and computer improvements totaling nearly $500 million. Conservation and watershed programs would receive $400 million.  


58th ANNUAL FLORIDA BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE—Enclosed Brochure

The 58th Annual Florida Beef Cattle Short Course will be held again this year at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, Gainesville, FL on April 29th, 30th and May 1, 2009. You will find a brochure enclosed in the envelope with this newsletter. I hope to see you there. Jim Selph

INTERVET SCHERING-PLOUGH PARASITOLOGIST SAMPLE DIAGNOSIS

On March 11, 2009, a parasitologist, courtesy of Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health, will be set up all day at our office to do parasite diagnostics of fecal samples from your herd. Dr. Don Bliss owns Mid-America Ag Research Company based out of Verona, Wisconsin and he has many published articles on parasites. Samples should be taken as fresh as possible, should contain about a golf-ball amount of fecal material and should be enclosed in a zip lock sandwich plastic bag (squeeze out air). Put the individual samples (4-6) into a larger resealable bag and identify by date and herd. Refrigerate to ensure each sample is sufficiently cooled if taking prior to the 11th. The sample should be a rectal or an observed freshly dropped sample. Unless the demand is overwhelming, results should be available that day.

UF/IFAS ONA RANGE CATTLE STATION CATTLE AND FORAGE FIELD DAY

Mark your calendar for April 16, 2009 and plan to attend the UF/IFAS Ona Range Cattle Station Cattle and Forage Field Day. See page 7 of this newsletter for detailed information.

BLOOD TEST FOR CWD DEVELOPED

Researchers in Canada have developed a blood test that can diagnose chronic wasting disease (CWD) in elk and believe it may eventually provide a cheap way to screen cattle for BSE. The test looks for signs of damaged cells in the blood, the researchers reported in the journal *Nucleic Acids Research*. “We can now take a blood sample from a live animal and look at the DNA patterns in the blood and predict six months ahead of time whether an animal is infected with chronic wasting disease,” Christoph Sensen of the University of Calgary told *Reuters*. Rather than looking for prions, they studied circulating nucleic acids – little bits of DNA that get spat out when distressed cells die. Sensen said it will take four years to replicate the findings in cattle.

James F. Selph
DeSoto County Extension Director, IV, Livestock & Forages

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

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University of Florida/IFAS
Forest Stewardship Workshop / Field Day:
Manage for Multiple Objectives: Techniques and Demonstrations
UF-IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center at Balm

Agenda:

8:30 am  Sign-in, meet & greet
8:45  Program Introduction – Start with Your Plan, Chris Demers, UF-IFAS School of
      Forest Resources and Conservation
      Classroom Overview of Forest Management Objectives and Practices
9:00  Forest Management Objectives, Dr. Michael Andreu, Assistant Professor, UF-IFAS Gulf
      Coast REC
9:40  Growing Timber: Planting and Vegetation Management, Florida Division of Forestry?
10:15  Break
10:30  Field Demonstrations of Forest Management Equipment / Practices, Jose Moreno, Farm
       Manager, Gulf Coast REC; Dr. Michael Andreu, Assistant Professor, Gulf Coast REC;
       Dan Darby, Sales Representative, Marden Industries; others TBA
       • Vegetation management
         o Roller chopping
         o Herbicide: 4-wheeler, backpack
       • Scalp and Plant – machine and hand
12:00 pm  Lunch – Thanks Sponsors!

Classroom Overview of Wildlife Management Objectives and Practices
1:00  Manage Native Vegetation for Game and Nongame Species, Dr. Bill Giuliano, Professor, &
      Extension Specialist, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Department, UF/IFAS,
      Gainesville, FL
1:30  Supplemental Feeding, Food Plots, Jim Selph, UF-IFAS DeSoto Cooperative
      Extension Service, Arcadia, FL
2:00  Break
2:15  Field Demonstrations of Wildlife Management Equipment / Practices, Jose Moreno,
      Jim Selph, Dr. Bill Giuliano, Dr. Michael Andreu, & Dan Darby
       • Discing - available
       • Mowing / brush cutting – browns tree cutter
       • Food plot establishment – use ryegrass demo already in progress
3:30  Return to Classroom for Closing Remarks, Questions and Evaluation
4:00  Adjourn

Program is free, lunch provided, REGISTER NOW:
Contact Christine Cooley at (813) 634-0000 to register.

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University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating.
Functionality is key to your success and profitability. The following presentations provide insight to a more successful horse and rider team.

**AM**

- **8:30** Registration / Trade Show Opens
- **9:00** “Bit Selection”, Bob Myler, Bit Maker, Marshfield, MO
- **9:45** “Equine Nutrition”, Lori Warren, PhD, Equine Nutritionist, Animal Science Dept., University of Florida
- **10:30** Trade Show Break
- **11:15** “Parasite Control”, Lindsey Wiggins, Livestock Agent I, UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension

**PM**

- **1:00** “Weed Control in Horse Pastures”, Brent Sellers, PhD, UF/IFAS Weed Specialist, Ona Range Cattle REC
- **2:00** “Gastric Ulcers”, (Live Animal Demo.), Mike Porter, DVM, PhD, UF Mobile Equine Diagnostic Service (MEDS), Assistant Professor, UF College of Veterinary Medicine

**Trade Show Includes:**

- Feed Companies
- Western Décor
- Seed Companies
- Herbicide Companies
- Clothing
- Tack
- Plus many more!

**MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:**

The South Florida Beef Forage Program

Mail to:

Lindsey Wiggins
Po Box 68
LaBelle, FL 33935

**Persons requiring special accommodations per the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Lindsey Wiggins at (863) 674-4902 at least (5) five working days prior to the event.**
University of Florida/IFAS
Range Cattle Research & Education Center
Cattle and Forage Field Day

~ Special Event ~
Dedication of New Buildings
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony With Florida Cattlemen’s Foundation

Afternoon Field Tours
A) Tour new facilities
B) Forage research plots
C) Weed and forage garden
D) Pasture fertilization research plots

There is no charge for the day’s program or lunch, however we must have your completed registration form by April 8th to ensure adequate literature and lunch arrangements are made. Thank you.

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: ________________________________
State: ___ Zip: ____________________
Phone: (_____) ________-________ _____
E-mail: ________________________________

Additional person(s):

Please detach and send to:
Field Day 2009
Range Cattle REC
3401 Experiment Station
Ona, FL 33865

E-mail: ona@ifas.ufl.edu
Phone: 863-735-1314 ext 201
Fax: 863-735-1930

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Southeast Beef Cattle Marketing School

University of Florida/IFAS
DeSoto County Extension
The South Florida Beef Forage Program

Schedule of Events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Organizer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Welcome and overview</td>
<td>Jim Selph, DeSoto County Extension Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>Cattle market outlook for 2009</td>
<td>Walt Prevatt, Auburn Livestock Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>Developing a marketing plan</td>
<td>Todd Davis, Clemson Agricultural Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Seasonality of cattle prices</td>
<td>Curt Lacy, Georgia Agricultural Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Using futures to predict cash prices</td>
<td>Walt Prevatt, Auburn Livestock Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Sponsored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>Price factors, USDA grades and market news reports</td>
<td>Terry Harris, USDA Market News Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>Adding value to the cattle you sell</td>
<td>Jim Selph, DeSoto County Extension Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45</td>
<td>Marketing opportunities at your local livestock market</td>
<td>Carl McKettrick, Manager, Arcadia Stockyards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>Program evaluation</td>
<td>Jim Selph, DeSoto County Extension Agent</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Helping cattlemen better understand the cattle market, to add value to the cattle they sell at their local Livestock Market.

What you will learn:
- Market outlook for 2009 and beyond.
- The best and worst best times of the year to sell.
- Techniques to estimate cattle prices in advance.
- Factors that affect prices for individual calves and cows.
- Things to consider to avoid price discounts.
- Methods to increase total value of cattle sold.
- Marketing opportunities available through your local market.

Please return the registration form or call 863-993-4846 to make your reservations for this program.

Meal Sponsored by: Intervet Schering-Plough Animal Health

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