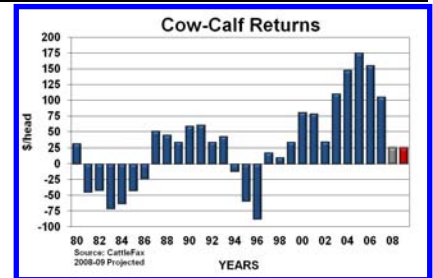


**DeSoto County  
Beef Newsletter**  
2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

**February 2009 / Volume 31 Number 2**



**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** 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Beef Cattle Short Course, Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, Gainesville, FL

**WILL A DAIRY BUYOUT HAPPEN?**

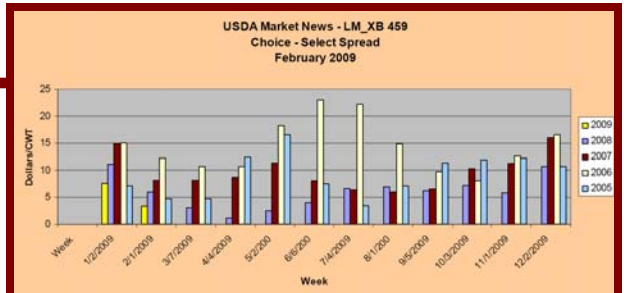
Beef producers were concerned last week when news items suggested Congress was considering a 300,000-head dairy buyout as part of the economic stimulus package. The industry might have overreacted though, as the House version of the stimulus package did not contain any provisions for a dairy buyout. 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

	1/31/09	Last Week	Last Year
<b>5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE</b>			
Live Steer	80.71	81.91	89.47
Live Heifer	80.59	81.96	89.67
Dressed Steer	129.62	131.80	143.34
Dressed Heifer	129.46	131.44	143.28

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



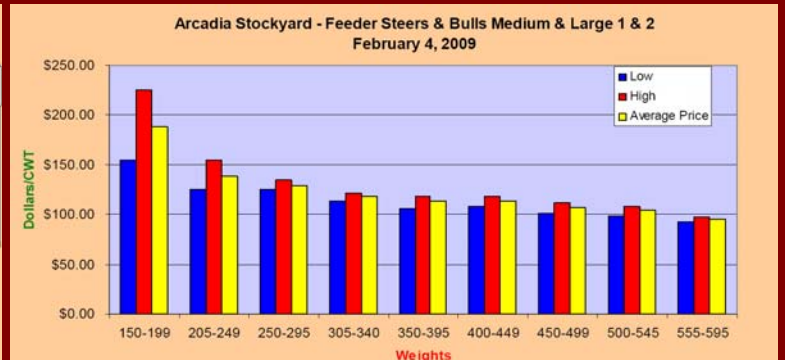
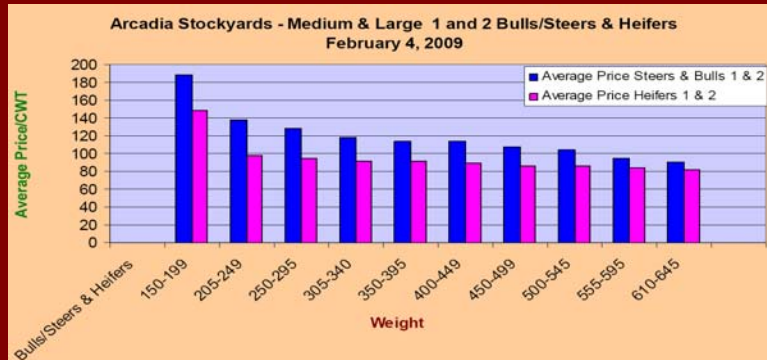
	1/31/09	Last Week	Last Year
<b>BEEF PRODUCTION</b>	(Estimate)	(Estimate)	(Actual)
Slaughter	631,000	638,000	612,000
Live Weights	1307	1306	1293
Dressed Weights	783	785	778
Beef Production (M. of Pounds)	352.8	466.2	381.1

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

**Choice/Select Spread**  
2/02/09  
**\$3.36/cwt**  
[http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM\\_XB403.TXT](http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM_XB403.TXT)

	1/17/09	Last Week	Last Year
<b>National Grading Percent</b>			
Prime	2.66%	2.73%	2.55%
Choice	57.94%	59.35%	54.93%
Select	31.53%	31.99%	33.35%

[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 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.**

State	Volume	Steers			Heifers		
		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.
TX	21,500	\$95.60	\$93.10	\$91.06	\$85.02	\$83.12	\$85.25
AL	10,700	\$91-105	\$88-91	\$79-88	\$77-85	\$72-80	\$71-78
TN	5,100	\$94.42	\$86.85	\$83.16	\$80.65	\$76.12	\$74.14
FL	7,400	\$70-95	\$70-86		\$66-85	\$70-81	\$65-69
GA	6,300	\$80-98	\$69-89	\$66-84	\$69-86	\$67-80	\$68-77
KY	9,800	\$94-104	\$85-93	\$80-88.50	\$75-87	\$71-83	\$73-82
OK	20,300	\$106.55	\$98.37	\$94.64	\$90.64	\$89.91	\$87.00
MO	21,900	\$113.16	\$100.71	\$91.04	\$97.81	\$90.54	\$87.29

## 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 ¾ to 5 ¾ cents lower from 3.51¾-3.75 ¾ per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 5 ¾ cents lower from 3.74 ¾-3.76 ¾ per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 4 ¾ cents lower at 3.47 ¾ per bushel. **Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday January 2, 2009** [http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ\\_GR851.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt)

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**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"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
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

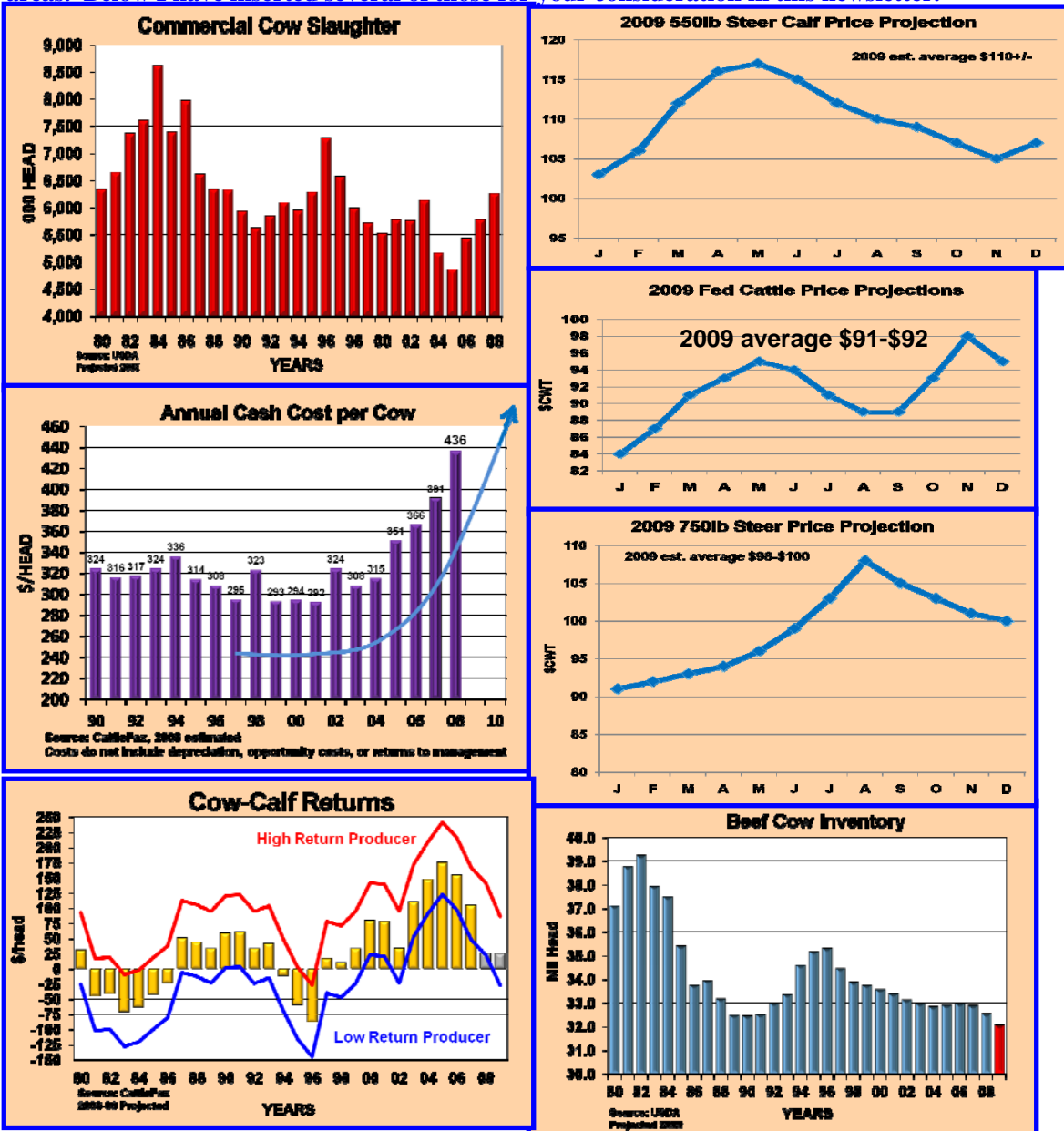
**FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES (2 METERS) AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE**

<b>HIGH</b>	82.8°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	NA
<b>LOW</b>	26.0°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	NA

Rainfall for 2009 is 1.55 inches behind 2008

**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.



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# 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. **Source—Drovers Alert, February 5, 2008—Volume 10, Issue 5.**

### 58th ANNUAL FLORIDA BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE—Enclosed Brochure

The 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Beef Cattle Short Course will be held again this year at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, Gainesville, FL on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> 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

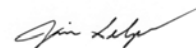
On March 11, 2009, a parasitologist, courtesy of Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health, will be set up all day at our office to do parasite diagnostics of fecal samples from your herd. Dr. Don Bliss owns Mid-America Ag Research Company based out of Verona, Wisconsin and he has many published articles 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 11<sup>th</sup>. The sample should be a rectal or an observed freshly dropped sample. Unless the demand is over whelming, 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



**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:**

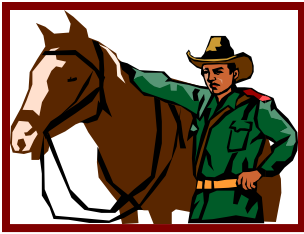
- 8:30 am** Sign-in, meet & greet
- 8:45** Program Introduction – Start with Your Plan, Chris Demers, UF-IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation  
Classroom Overview of Forest Management Objectives and Practices
- 9:00** Forest Management Objectives, Dr. Michael Andreu, Assistant Professor, 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
    - Roller chopping
    - 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.**



**Saturday, April 4, 2009**



**“Performance Horse Short Course”**  
Featuring: **Bob Myler, World Renowned Bit Maker**



**University of Florida/IFAS**  
**The South Florida Beef/Forage Program**  
**Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center**  
**4601 Highway 710 E**  
**Okeechobee, FL**

Functionality is key to your success and profitability. The following presentations provide insight to a more successful horse and rider team.

- |                                                                                                               |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AM</b>                                                                                                     | <b>12:00</b> | <b><u>Lunch / Trade Show</u></b>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>8:30</b>                                                                                                   | <b>PM</b>    |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>9:00</b>                                                                                                   | <b>1:00</b>  | <b>“Weed Control in Horse Pastures”, Brent Sellers, PhD, UF/IFAS Weed Specialist, Ona Range Cattle REC</b>                                                               |
| <b>9:45</b>                                                                                                   | <b>2:00</b>  | <b>“Gastric Ulcers”, (Live Animal Demo.), Mike Porter, DVM, PhD, UF Mobile Equine, Diagnostic Service (MEDS), Assistant Professor, UF College of Veterinary Medicine</b> |
| <b>10:30</b>                                                                                                  |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>11:15</b>                                                                                                  |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b><u>Registration /Trade Show Opens</u></b>                                                                  |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>“Bit Selection”, Bob Myler, Bit Maker, Marshfield, MO</b>                                                  |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>“Equine Nutrition”, Lori Warren, PhD, Equine Nutritionist, Animal Science Dept., University of Florida</b> |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b><u>Trade Show Break</u></b>                                                                                |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>“Parasite Control”, Lindsey Wiggins, Livestock Agent I, UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension</b>                |              |                                                                                                                                                                          |

**Performance Horse Short Course**  
**Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center**

Please Print  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
(4-H/FFA, High School/Jr. Rodeo, NBHA)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration Includes:  
**All seminars, trade show, and lunch.**  
*Postmarked on or before March 20, 2009.*  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Registration fee  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$5 FFA or 4-H members  
(membership card required @ gate)  
*Postmarked after March 20, 2009 or pay @ gate fee.*  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Late Registration fee or pay  
@ gate  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Late FFA or 4-H members

**Trade Show Includes:**

<b>Feed Companies</b>	<b>Western Décor</b>
<b>Seed Companies</b>	<b>Herbicide Companies</b>
<b>Clothing</b>	<b>Tack Plus many more!</b>

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**MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:**  
**The South Florida Beef Forage Program**  
**Mail to:**  
**Lindsey Wiggins**  
**Po Box 68**  
**LaBelle, FL 33935**

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Persons requiring special accommodations per the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Lindsey Wiggins at (863) 6744902 at least (5) five working days prior to the event.



**Thursday, April 16, 2009**

**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**

**~ Directions from Arcadia ~**

From SR 70 in Arcadia travel west about 1.5 miles to CR 661. Take a right on CR 661 and travel about 12 miles to Goose Pond Road. Take a left on Goose Pond Road and travel 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Experiment Station Road. Travel about a mile to reach the Range Cattle REC offices and facilities.

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:ona@ifas.ufl.edu)  
Phone: 863-735-1314 ext 201  
Fax: 863-735-1930**

- 9:00 AM Sign in
- 9:30 AM Welcome and Introductions -  
Dr. John Arthington, Director
- 9:45 AM Opening Remarks  
Dr. Larry Arrington  
UF-IFAS Senior Vice President
- 10:00 AM Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
Jim Handley  
Executive Vice President  
Florida Cattlemen's Association  
and  
Dr. John Arthington, Director

**Faculty Presentations**

- 10:30 AM Forage Nutritive Value: What is the value of purchased hay?  
Joe Vendramini, Assistant Professor
- 11:00 AM Combating Hard to Control Weeds  
Brent Sellers, Assistant Professor
- 11:30 AM Pasture Fertilization Decisions  
Maria Silveira, Assistant Professor
- 12:00 PM Steak Lunch



**Southeast Beef Cattle Marketing School**



Your Experts for Life

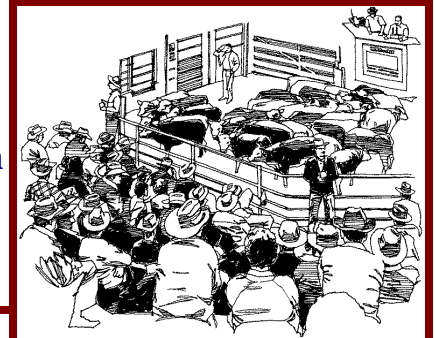


THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

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



**Schedule of Events:**



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

**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.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Sponsored by:**

