

FROM THE GROUND UP

UF/IFAS DeSoto County Extension

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



There are so many things happening here at the extension office! Over the coming months you will see several classes and programs popping up both here at the extension office and around the Southwest Florida Heartland. As you can see below we are starting a program for young farmers and Ranchers beginning with a leadership development series. We are also starting a Master naturalist program starting in the fall/winter time frame. Along with that we are beginning a training program for Master

Gardener's in the fall. We will be a part of Agfest again this year and will be starting our pumpkin patch with the kids later this summer. We look forward to seeing you at these and many other events this season. In concert with the UF/IFAS Extension mission, we here at the DeSoto County Extension office make it our goal is to take the knowledge developed in agriculture, human and natural resources, and the life sciences at the University of Florida and throughout the land grant system and to make that knowledge accessible to all.
- Looking at life from the ground up.

FL - AG

YOUNG & BEGINNING FARMERS & RANCHERS

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 2, 2012 THE DESOTO COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE UF WEDGEWORTH INSTITUTE WILL BE HOSTING THE FIRST ANNUAL FLORIDA AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP SERIES (FLAG). THE FLAG SERIES CONSISTS OF FOUR SINGLE-DAY LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS. EACH DAY WILL FOCUS ON A DIFFERENT SET OF LEADERSHIP SKILLS (LEADING * SPEAKING * LEARNING * SERVING) TO HELP YOU IN YOUR BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY WHILE EQUIPPING YOU TO BETTER SERVE THE FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES INDUSTRY.

TO REGISTER FOR THE PROGRAM PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.



WEDGEWORTH
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
Developing Leaders for Florida Agriculture's Natural Resources

Ag Calendar

July

July 27th-28th National Day of American Cowboy Cattle Drive & Ranch Rodeo, Okeechobee

July 27th-29th Florida Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Conference, Kissimmee

August

August 2nd-3rd, Forage Workers Tour, Okeechobee Extension Office

August 3rd-4th DeSoto County Ranch Rodeo

August 15th Winter Supplementation Program, Labelle Extension Office

August 15th -16th Citrus Expo, Lee Civic Center

August 21st, CEU Day, Extension Office (Polycom)

September

September 6th-7th Grazing Management School, Turner Agri-Civic Center

September 12th-14th FCA Fall Quarterly Meeting, Okeechobee

September 28th-29th Florida Ranch Rodeo State Finals & Heritage Festival Kissimmee

BEEF MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

- Control weeds in summer pastures.
- Consider preconditioning calves before sale including vaccination for shipping fever and IBR at least 3 weeks before sale.
- Check mineral feeder.
- Wean calves and Check dust bags, oilers, etc.
- Check pastures and hay fields for grubs, mole crickets, and army worms.
- Revaccinate calves at weaning for blackleg.
- Pregnancy check cows. Cull Cow Herd.

2009-2012 RAINFALL AMOUNTS

	2012	2011	2010	2009
Jan	0.48	2.39	1.59	0.32
Feb	0.75	0.17	2.53	0.37
Mar	1.80	4.47	7.03	1.83
Apr	0.83	1.71	1.85	0.62
May	3.45	3.22	3.58	6.23
Jun	12.92	3.67	8.66	3.95
Jul		8.22	4.26	13.88
Aug		11.92	10.57	8.44
Sep		5.66	6.04	7.91
Oct		4.79	0.04	0.17
Nov		0.24	2.74	1.16
Dec		0.07	1.33	4.86
	20.23	46.53	50.22	49.74

SOLUTIONS
for your LIFE

Solutions for Your Life is the official Web site of UF/IFAS Extension, making IFAS faculty expertise available on-line under such categories as lawn and garden care, family life and consumer choices, agriculture, community development, the environment, and youth development. The web site is focused on providing timely and relevant solutions.

The url is
SolutionsForYourLife.ufl.edu

CATTLE ANALYZER

CBOT
Resource Center

Daily Reports	Thu	Fri	Mon	Tue	Change
	12-Jul	13-Jul	16-Jul	17-Jul	
CME Live Cattle	117.03	117.2	116.8	115.48	-1.32
CME Feeder Cattle	141.23	139	136	134.2	-1.8
Feeder Cattle Index	143.71	140.54	139.66	0	-0.88
CBOT: Corn	7.71	7.41	7.77	7.77	0
DJIA	1,250,200	1,271,200	1,264,800	1,264,800	0
Meat Price Cash Index	137.49	137.19	136.33	137.56	1.23
Boxed Beef: AM	186.74	183.56	184.15	184.09	-0.06
Boxed Beef: PM	186.03	183.94	183.84	184.45	0.61
Daily Drop	13.24	13.33	13.4	13.27	-0.13
Est. Cattle Slaughter	125,000	121,000	125,000	128,000	3,000
Cutter Cow Cutout	170.56	171.62	171.6	170.45	-1.15
Weekly Reports	22-Jun	29-Jun	6-Jul	13-Jul	Change
Beef Production	507.7	512.5	451	505.9	54.9
Cattle Slaughter	649,000	653,000	574,000	641,000	67,000
Cattle Weights: Live	1,286	1,289	1,291	1,294	3
Cattle Weights: Dressed	784	786	787	791	4
Cattle Trade: Steers	116.51	116.69	117.11	114.65	-2.46
Export: Sales	15,027	18,395	19,851	17,347	-2,504
Export: Shipped	15,658	17,819	18,176	14,320	-3,856
COT: Open Int - Live Cattle	311,786	315,289	314,169	300,961	-13,208
COT: Open Int - Corn	1,117,515	1,057,772	1,036,438	1,088,659	52,221
Feedstuffs: Soybean Meal	419.9	419.7	448.6	477.8	29.2
Gasoline Prices	3.79	3.83	3.87	3.92	0.05
Diesel Prices	3.89	3.99	4.01	3.96	-0.05
Monthly Reports	Apr	May	June	July	Change
Cattle on Feed	11,677,000	11,482,000	11,110,000	11,082,000	-28,000
Feedlot Occupancy	69.92%	68.75%	66.53%	66.36%	-0.17%
Marketing	1,755,000	1,918,000	1,815,000	2,015,000	200,000
Beef In Storage	414,647	435,174	444,963	460,238	15,275
Cattle Slaughter	2,557,700	2,751,100	2,569,300	2,875,600	306,300
Retail Beef Prices	4.465	4.489	0	4.549	4.549
Exports By Country	229,891	182,248	181,660	194,502	12,842
Imports By Country	156,258	190,393	168,729	223,115	54,386
Red Meat Production	3,914.00	4,171.80	3,855.00	4,182.80	327.8
Supply & Demand Estimates	Apr	May	June	July	Change
Beef	28,205	28,316	28,221	28,351	130
Pork	24,631	24,652	24,739	24,669	-70
Total Red Meat	53,311	53,431	53,411	53,468	57
Poultry	43,499	43,541	43,867	43,842	-25
Total Red Meat & Poultry	96,810	96,971	97,278	97,311	33
Corn	12,358	14,790	14,790	12,970	-1,820
Soybeans	3,056	3,205	3,205	3,050	-155
Wheat	1,999	2,245	2,234	2,224	-10



Do you love to explore the outdoors? Do you have a passion for understanding nature? Are you a citizen scientist, environmental educator, biologist, or some other type of natural resource volunteer or professional? Are you simply interested in learning more about the science and techniques of wildlife conservation? Then the Florida

Master Naturalist Program might be right for you! The Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) is an adult education UF/IFAS Extension program that will benefit persons interested in learning more about Florida's environment or wishing to increase their knowledge for use in education programs as volunteers, employees, ecotourism guides, and others. The FMNP consists of three **Core Modules: [Freshwater Wetlands](#), [Coastal Systems](#), [Upland Habitats](#)** Each Module is 40 contact hours of classroom learning, field trips, and practical experience.

The inaugural courses in DeSoto County will be starting later this fall beginning with the Upland Habitats Module. If you are interesting in participating please contact the office for more details. More information to come soon!



This year, we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Morrill Act, which created the land grant university system, of which the University of Florida is a part. This public investment in higher education has made a significant difference in the quality of life for Floridians. Not only did it allow for the education of those who previously had little access to higher learning, but it created a system in which university faculty and researchers share their knowledge and discoveries with the public for the betterment of Florida's communities and economy. For a century and a half, in thousands of ways, big and small, the University of Florida has helped make Florida a great place to live, work and play through its core mission of teaching, research, and outreach, and it has played a vital role in helping the United States produce the safest and most plentiful food supply on earth. To continue this work, UF will need strong support from all of us.



Are you someone who has an interest in gardening and in giving back to their community? Then you should think about becoming a Master Gardener? The Florida Master Gardener Program is a volunteer-driven program that benefits UF/IFAS Extension and the citizens of Florida. Certified Master Gardeners work through their county Extension office to educate Floridians and provide research-based information about gardening.

Interested volunteers complete a 50-hour (or longer) training course sponsored by the University of Florida and the local county Extension office. In return for their training, these new Master Gardeners serve 75 volunteer hours within the first year of their certification Master Gardeners can fulfill their volunteer hours in a variety of ways, including: answering horticultural questions over the phone, in person or through a regular newspaper column, participating in community and school garden

projects, giving educational programs to the public, supporting youth activities, and in many other ways! If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener please call the office for details and to sign up for the next training event.

Citrus Expo, August 15-16, 2012 Lee Civic Center, North Ft. Myers, FL
 Grower & Non-Vendor Registration
 Complimentary attendance, breakfast and lunch are provided both days to bona fide grove owners, managers, professional crop advisers, association executives, association board members, government, legislative, and the citrus research community.



EVENTS



Florida Small Farms and
Alternative Enterprises
CONFERENCE

July 27-29, 2012

Kissimmee, FL

**Educating Entrepreneurs
to Strengthen Local Food
Systems**

**Contact the extension
office for more
information**

Winter Supplementation Seminar

When: August 14, 2012

**Where: Hendry County
Extension Office
LaBelle, FL**

**Sponsored by: The South
Florida Beef Forage
Program**

**For more info please call
863.993.4846**

2012 GRAZING MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

September 6 - 7, 2012

DeSoto County Exhibit Bldg

**Turner Center Complex
2250 NE Roan Street
Arcadia, Florida**



**Call the Extension
office for more details.
863.993.4846**

**Sponsored By:
The South Florida Beef-
Forage Program
University of Florida
IFAS Extension**

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Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

NAP is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occurs as the result of natural disasters. Natural disasters include:

- drought, hail, freeze, hurricane, tornado, excessive moisture or wind, earthquake, flood, volcanic eruption.
- A condition related to damaging weather or adverse natural occurrence such as disease, heat, or insect infestation.

Service Fees -To participate in NAP, you must pay a nonrefundable service fee and file form CCC-471 no later than the application closing date for the crop(s) you wish to obtain coverage. The service fee is \$250 per crop not to exceed \$750 per county or a total of \$1,875 for all counties combined. The administrative service fee requirement is waived for limited resource producers. A limited resource producer is a producer with BOTH of the following:

- Direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than \$100,000 in both of the previous 2 years
- A total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of 4, or less than 50 percent of county median household income in both of the previous 2 years

Limited resource producer status can be determined by using an online self determination tool at <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/tool.asp>. A limited resource producer is required to recertify limited resource producer status annually.