Cattle Call

Guilford County Extension Beef Newsletter

October 2015

Howdy Cattle E-mailers,

Included in this October 2015 Cattle Call is Extension's Beef Cattle related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties. Please send me any announcements, or buy and sale items, hay or other that you wish to be included in EACH Cattle Call. (SHORT AS POSSIBLE) THERE ARE NO CONTINUAL RUNNING SPOTS, SO YOU NEED TO SEND THESE TO ME FOR *EACH* Cattle Call.

*****PLEASE PUT IN SUBJECT LINE – ***Cattle Call. *****

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was a total oversight

on my part. BUT LET ME KNOW!

******GOT A QUESTION OR WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SOMETHING, LET ME KNOW SO IT CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT CATTLE CALL!******

As Always - I would like to hear your comments!

Included in This Cattle Call

1. Guilford County October 20 Cattleman's Program

2. Regional BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE (BQA) Training

3. Winter Beef Conference Scheduled

4. Use Those Pumpkins as Supplemental Feed

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13. CATTLE REMINDERS

14. DON'T FORGET - Soil Testing Charges Fee During Peak Season

15. HAY DIRECTORY

16. Take A Load Off

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1. Guilford County October 20 Cattleman's Program

On October 20th beginning at 7:00 pm, Guilford County Cattlemen will be gathering at the Guilford County Agricultural Center, (Barn Kitchen) located at 3309 Burlington Road in Greensboro. This event will begin with dinner and then the program will follow. The short program, we will be discussing the new regulations with the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) and how it is understood right now. After the program we will discuss some possible program topics for future Cattleman's Programs

Dinner will be served at this event (Dutch) and the cost of your meal will be $10.00 and your responsibility. I hope that you will plan on attending this informative program on October20th beginning at 7:00pm at the Guilford County Agricultural Center. If you are planning to attend this event, PLEASE CALL or EMAIL Ben Chase, Extension Livestock Agent at 336-342-8235, or ben_chase@ncsu.edu by NOON Friday, October 16th TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE FOR DINNER! ($10 DUTCH) This is to make sure there is enough food & drinks to go around! (Or if you are on the reoccurring list, call me to cancel if you are NOT going to attend.)You will be held responsible for the cost of the meal(s) if you call and reserve places.

November 17 - Guilford County Cattlemen – Guilford County Ag Center, MAIN AUDITORIUM

December 15 - Guilford County Cattlemen – CHRISTMAS – Guilford County Ag Center, MAIN AUDITORIUM

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2. Regional BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE (BQA) Training

Central NC will be hosting a BQA producer training that will be held in Snow Camp *(Alamance County Cattlemen's Association, Livestock Building, 7351 Beale Road, Snow Camp, NC)* on November 4th Featuring Beef Quality Assurance Topics and Certification.

Agenda

9:30 am-10:00 am: Arrival; Registration

10:00 am-12:00 pm: General Session (Introduction to BQA and Body Condition Scoring)

12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Lunch (Bring $5)

1:00 pm-5:00 pm: Rotating Hands-on

Sessions Session Topics: Cattle Handling, Transportation, Herd Health (chute side demonstration), Nutrition, Calf Management

5:00 pm: BQA Certification Test BQA Certification Fee: $15 if you are a current member of the NC Cattlemen's Association, $40 if you are not a current member (this will provide you with a one year membership)

If you are interested and would like more detailed information or wanting to register, please go to https://docs.google.com/a/ncsu.edu/forms/d/15ysGO9UHEkNi7PqnaWsxSEFniBSvib3-2DtM37o2zyw/viewform?c=0&w=1

or give me a call at 336-342-8235 and I will be happy to send you information. **If you had been through the BQA program your certification would have expired back in August, this is a Great way to renew your certification if you haven't done so, if you would like to get certified, this is your opportunity to do so.**

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3. Winter Beef Conference Scheduled

Our Annual Regional Beef Conference has been scheduled for February 23rd at the Guilford County Agricultural Center. We are still finalizing the program, but I promise it will be a really good program and one that you will want to attend. Make sure you put this down NOW on your calendar!

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4. Use Those Pumpkins as Supplemental Feed

Halloween has gone but the pumpkins are still around. What can ya do with em?? Well feed them, pumpkins can be used as livestock feed. Pumpkins are a good source of nutrition for livestock including pigs, goats, sheep and cattle. They are considered a fruit and not a vegetable. Pumpkins are high in Vitamins A&B and potassium. Pumpkin seeds alone are high in fat with approximately 8.9% fat on a Dry Matter Basis (DM). Pumpkins as a whole contain approximately 16-20% CP, 85% TDN, 0.24% Ca, and 0.43%P on a dry matter basis.

It is not profitable to grow pumpkins strictly for animal feed, but it will make a nice "treat" for your livestock. Feeding will often not be economical simply due to the amount of water the fruit contains. A ton of pumpkins similar to what we analyzed would only be worth minimal for a large scale producer given the average corn and soybean meal prices. To a small scale producer, a ton of the same pumpkins is worth double due to the high cost of bagged feed. If you have pumpkins on your farm, it is worth feeding a few

pumpkins as a treat for your livestock, but you should consider the cost of labor and transportation before you volunteer to take pumpkins as a "free" feed.

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5. Are You Going To Be Taking Animals To The Processor?

Please think of your processor during wet weather spells. A muddy steer may take the processor 2-3 times as long to clean and prep than a clean steer, creating both a labor-intensive process and increasing the potential for uncleanly conditions. Clean animals are expected to have some mud on feet, ankles and possibly legs during wet conditions, however belly and/or sides of the body that have mud cakes on them is not considered acceptable for many processors. Some processors across the country rank mud/cleanliness and charge accordingly. Let's do our best to remember our processing partners' needs during these especially wet spells.

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6. Marketing & Labeling Terms

Marketing/Labeling terms that are being used in the raising of our food, such as Organic & Grass Fed.

A Meat Terminology Primer for Consumers

http://www.americangrassfed.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/A-Meat-Terminology-Primer-for-Consumers.pdf

Grain-fed -- The animal was fed grain at some point, probably in the last few months of life. This could be in a large CAFO or on a small family farm. If an animal has EVER consumed corn, soy, brewers grain, or other grain-based feeds, the meat can't be labeled grassfed.

Grassfed -- A USDA term that means the ruminant animal (beef, sheep, bison, or goat) has been fed nothing but grass from weaning to harvest. The term doesn't guarantee, however, that the animal wasn't given antibiotics or hormones at some point, and it also doesn't necessarily mean the animal was raised without some confinement. Meat labeled grassfed may be imported from other countries. This term has legal standing, and to use it as a marketing claim or on a label,

the producer has to be sure the animals were raised in accordance with the rule.

One note: Poultry and pork are omnivores and typically require more than grass feeding to be healthy. At this point, there isn't any accepted uniform terminology for poultry and pork raised on pasture. However, Animal Welfare Approved offers certification to small family farms who meet their standards for humane production practices, including pasture.

AGA-Certified Grassfed -- A term that takes the USDA standards to a higher level. AGA certification is a third party audit system with strict standards to insure the animal has eaten nothing but grass from weaning to harvest, has not been confined, and has never been given antibiotics or hormones. AGA-certified grassfed also means that the meat is produced in the United States from beef cattle and other ruminants born and raised in this country.

Grass Finished -- This term has no legal meaning and is a self-made marketing claim. If an animal is grassfed, it is, by definition, grass finished, so there's no need to claim "grassfed and grass finished." The term by itself on a label can mean anything, so it's up to the consumer to ask questions of the producer or seller.

Natural -- This USDA term applies to the finished product and means that it contains no artificial ingredients or added color and is only minimally processed. Minimal processing means that the product was processed in a manner that does not fundamentally alter the product. The label must include a statement explaining the meaning of the term natural (such as "no artificial ingredients; minimally processed"). The term has nothing to do with how the animal was raised or fed.

Naturally-raised -- This is another USDA term with legal standing. It means that the animal has never been fed animal byproducts, growth hormones, or antibiotics. The feed could be grain or grass, and the animal could be confined to a feedlot for a portion of its life.

Organic -- The USDA certifies organic production standards, which require that the livestock was raised without antibiotics or synthetic hormones; on feed that was vegetarian, pesticide- and herbicide-free, and contained no GMOs. Organic does not equal grassfed. A ranch with organic certification may feed its herd entirely on grass, but many also feed organic grains and grain by-products during periods of confinement. Conversely, many grassfed producers choose not to pursue organic certification, even though they follow organic standards in the production of their meats. With this label, the best thing to do is ask the farmer or research more about the brand.

Pasture Raised -- You may encounter this term in articles that use it as a general term for any animal that never sees confinement; however, when you see it on a label, it's another self-made claim with no legal definition or independent verification of production standards. This is another case in which you should ask plenty of questions.

Meat and Poultry Labeling Terms

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/food-labeling/meat-and-poultry-labeling-terms/meat-and-poultry-labeling-terms

What does 'mechanically separated meat or poultry' mean?"

"If chicken is labeled 'fresh,' how can it be so rock hard?"

"Does 'natural' mean 'raised without hormones'?"

These are just some of the questions consumers have asked USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline about words which may be descriptive of meat and poultry. Can they be legally used on labels and, if so, what are their definitions?

Here from USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is a glossary of meat and poultry labeling terms. FSIS is the agency responsible for ensuring the truthfulness and accuracy in labeling of meat and poultry products. Knowing the meaning of labeling terms can make purchasing of meat and poultry products less confusing.

Animal Production Claims

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/6fe3cd56-6809-4239-b7a2-bccb82a30588/RaisingClaims.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

UNAPPROVABLE CLAIMS - ANTIBIOTIC FREE, HORMONE FREE, RESIDUE FREE, RESIDUE TESTED,

NATURALLY RAISED, NATURALLY GROWN, DRUG FREE, CHEMICAL FREE,

ORGANIC, ORGANICALLY RAISED.

Hormones are only approved for use in beef cattleand lamb production. They are not approved for use in poultry, hogs, veal calves or exotic, non-amenable species. Therefore, the phrase "no hormones administered" on a chicken label cannot be approved unless it is followed (directly) with the statement "Federal regulations prohibit the use of hormones in poultry."

Organic Certification Guide

https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms-orgcertguide/

Overview of National Organic Program Requirements

https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms-organicoverview/

Natural Flavorings on Meat and Poultry Labels -

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/food-labeling/natural-flavorings-on-meat-and-poultry-labels

The Poultry Label Says "Fresh"

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/poultry-preparation/the-poultry-label-says-fresh/ct_index

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7. Sprouting Damage and Harvest Management in Sorghum

Ronnie Heiniger, Matt Poore – NCSU Extension Specialist

Recent prolonged rainfall following a period of dry weather has opened the door for preharvest sprouting of grain sorghum across all counties in North Carolina. Reports from the piedmont, coastal plain and tidewater indicate sprouting in almost every field. Preharvest sprouting of grain sorghum occurs when there is a period of prolonged rainfall, high humidity, high temperature and alternate periods of wetting and drying that last for several consecutive days. Weather variables that affect the amount of preharvest sprouting include the amount of rainfall, humidity, temperature, and wind that is received.

What is Preharvest Sprouting and How Does it Affect Sorghum Grain and Quality?

When inspecting the sorghum head or panicle the protrusion of the radicle through the seed

coat of one or more seeds is a visual confirmation of sprouting. During periods of wet weather the protrusion of the radicle is followed by the emergence of white or light green coleoptile and small green sprouts from the seed. Once the rainfall ceases and drying occurs, the radicle and coleoptile sprouts become shriveled and inconspicuous except upon close inspection. Sprouting leads to the breakdown of kernel structure and eventual loss of viability. Weathered grain is usually discolored in external appearance, has a dark discolored embryo, and the inside of the kernel is chalky in appearance due to partial hydrolysis of starch and protein. The most obvious damaging effects of sprouting are yield losses due to shattering, and lower grades and bushel weights. A lower grade will result in a lower price per cwt of grain sorghum. Also, the growth of fungi can occur increasing the incidence of mycotoxins. The conditions that favor sprouting often compound the problem by delaying harvest. At harvest time, weathered grain tends to be

trashier and has a higher percentage of fines and broken kernels. Grain sorghum is not significantly altered nutritionally by weather damage. For livestock feeding purposes only slight differences in nutritive value or chemical composition have been found when comparing non-weathered to weathered grain sorghum. Also, livestock and poultry feeding trials have shown that weathered grain sorghum does not hinder animal performance.

What Should a Grower Do About PreHarvest Sprouting?

Few remedies are available for preventing preharvest sprouting when weather conditions promote preharvest germination. Prompt harvest of the grain is usually the best solution to prevent further sprouting and to reduce the damage to the grain that has sprouted but this is easier said than done when rainfall persists over a long period of time. Depending on the stage of development of sorghum in the field growers should consider two options.

1. If over 60% of the grain in the field has some brown or red color indicating the beginning of maturity (or in the case of white or yellow sorghum has grain at the top of the head that has hard kernels) growers should apply a killing desiccant such as Roundup as soon as weather permits. This will kill the sprouts along with the sorghum plant itself and prevent further deterioration of the grain and hasten harvest. Plants that have green kernels that are in the milk or soft dough stage will dry down and those kernels will turn color allowing them to be harvested. While this will result in smaller kernels and some chaffy or light kernels this is still preferable to losing more of the earlier maturing grain.

2. If less than 60% of the field has kernels that are maturing then the grower should NOT apply a killing desiccant but rather wait for drying weather to stop further sprouting damage. In this situation the loss of the sprouted grain or the reduction of grain quality is a small loss compared to the loss of kernel weight in the immature plants. Clearly, whether or not a grower uses a killing desiccant is a judgement call that should be made on a field by field basis.

One option that can also be considered in areas with cattleis chopping for silage. We expect some hay shortages this winter, and that crop can be very successfully chopped and ensiled in conventional trench silos or in above ground piles with good packing and covering. At 35% dry matter concentration, or 65% moisture is just right for silage production.

Summary

• Preharvest sprouting of grain sorghum is caused by weather conditions that feature prolonged rainfall following a period of dry weather. While some sorghum hybrids will sprout less than others most growers will experience some preharvest sprouting in these types of weather conditions.

• While the grain is damaged causing lower grain weight, test weight and yield there is little loss of feed value

• The only remedy is to manage harvest – growers with 60% or greater of the field with maturing (brown or red) grain should desiccate and harvest as soon as possible – growers with less than 60% of the field with maturing grain should wait for dry weather to stop the sprouting and then harvest when the majority of the grain in the field has matured.

Take Your Soil Samples – Don't Forget That Charging A Fee During Peak Season - NCDA&CS Agronomic Division Peak-season Soil Testing Fee, a $4 fee will be charged for all soil samples processed by the NCDA&CS Agronomic Division during its busiest season: December through March. There will still be no fee April through November. SO GET YOUR SOIL SAMPLES TAKEN & SENT IN BEFORE THANKSGIVING!Guide, just let me know & I will be happy to send it to you.

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8. Downed Trees & Livestock

With this wet weather hanging over us for days on end, we need to be diligent in checking livestock, repairing damaged infrastructure, and looking for possible hazards in pastures caused by storm damage. If previous Hurricanes taught us anything we know that there could be toppled and uprooted trees across North Carolina. Cattle, horse, goat and sheep producers need to be aware of the potential dangers that exist. The wilted leaves of stone fruit trees (cherry, peach, plum and especially wild cherry) are toxic to livestock. These leaves are only dangerous in their wilted form. Wilting of the green leaves changes a glucoside in the leaves to hydrocyanic acid (prussic acid) and sugar. The sweet, wilted leaves are thus more attractive to animals than normal foliage.

Prussic acid interferes with the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood. Death is usually rapid and with little outward symptoms. Prussic acid contents vary widely, but in some cases just a few handfuls of leaves could be enough to kill a horse or cow. These leaves loose their poison when they become dry. Your best bet is to remove these trees entirely from your pasture systems, but if you have some, check for downed trees. Either remove the trees from the pasture (taking care to remove all of the leaves) or remove the livestock from the pasture until the leaves have dried.

Another threat is acorn poisoning. It seems that cattle like newly fallen acorns best. If you are grazing livestock in pastures with Oak trees, take proper precautions. Clinical signs of poisoning are loss of appetite, listlessness, weakness, constipation early, followed by diarrhea that may be dark colored or bloody and animals will appear

bowed in the back. Animals get weaker and eventually go down. Affected animals may show yellow color, bloody urine and dehydration. Treatment of down animals is rarely successful, while early treatment of cases is helpful. Again, if you suspect poisoning, remove the livestock from the affected pastures. In all cases of poisoning, contact your local veterinarian for proper diagnosis and treatment.

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9. There Are NO Antibiotics In Your Meat: Now Stop!

http://www.cattlenetwork.com/community/there-are-no-antibiotics-your-meat-now-stop

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10. Will powder lime help with the smell in a stall, if so will it hurt animals?

I will try to be as thorough as I can.

If Agricultural lime/Dolomitic Lime is used (in stalls & areas where waste has been) to dry up the moisture it does not actually absorb the smell of the ammonia. Ammonia comes from a substance in urine and manure called urea. While urea has no odor and is not toxic, it can quickly and naturally convert to ammonia. If there's too much ammonia in the air, it poses a threat to horses & others. Exposure to too much ammonia can cause respiratory problems & also Thrush.

Lime placed under a stall will help absorb the moisture. So Strip stalls or wet areas, place lime underneath bedding so the animals does not stand directly in it or get it on its skin, always cover with bedding before animals return.

The lime should not cause problems under normal situations (as far as consumption and hoof contact if does not come into direct contact) but the dust could cause an issue (especially in horses) if a lot is used, so be aware of this.

There are different kinds of Lime (we see a lot of Dolomitic lime use) It doesn't matter the type of Lime, all can cause Respiratory problems due to the dustiness.

Ag Lime ($CaCO_3$) is chemically known as, Calcium Carbonate and is essentially made from pulverized limestone. It is not generally considered caustic, toxic, or harmful, etc., BUT……IT doesn't have ability to take up ammonia. If you put enough of this lime on a urine area you may succeed in covering up the ammonia and odors (same is true if you used dirt/soil), however the ammonia remains and will eventually fill the environment again.

Dolomitic Lime ($CaCO_3$, $MgCO_3$) is made from dolomite. It contains similar high levels of calcium and also contains magnesium. Both can be effective & beneficial for improving soil.

Since Dolomitic Lime contains Mg, and if soil test indicates high magnesium levels, It would be best to use agricultural limestone.

HYDRATED LIME (also called Slack Lime or Builders Lime) – MAKE SURE YOU ARE AWARE OF HOW TO USE THIS MATERIAL! -Chemically known as, Calcium Hydroxide $Ca(OH)_2$. this material could raise pH to very high and even toxic levels with only short term effectiveness. Hydrated Lime is very caustic, toxic and hazardous to handle & breathe. Hydrated lime has a very limited ability to essentially "cover-up" ammonia odor for a short period of time. And in the long run can actually increase ammonia. Because urine contains an unstable molecule (NH_2), Lime and bacteria force the NH_2 molecule to pick up another hydrogen atom. NH_2 becomes HH_3, which is ammonia gas. Ammonia evolution takes place in a "basic" (a high pH) environment. Hydrated lime's composition is "basic", therefore contributing to the evolution of ammonia. The terms whitewash and, less commonly, milk of lime are used to refer to a suspension of hydrated lime in water.

Hydrated Lime is used in cleaning and the disinfecting process, it can be used to control pathogens (and reduce fly problems). According to current research, lime is effective at controlling the many poultry diseases.

HYDRATED LIME can be extremely dangerous. Dust inhaled or exposed to the eyes can cause severe burning of the eyes and mucous membranes, Hydrated Lime will have the following HAZARD WARNING: Avoid contact with eyes or skin. Avoid breathing lime

dust. Always wear NIOSH-approved eye goggles when handling lime &Wear protective clothing..... This Lime is caustic to organic matter and destroys debris in addition to pathogens. Lime can burns the hoof & footpads of birds if it is left on the ground or floor. It is important to take animals out of an area before treating the area with lime. When using lime, wear personal protective equipment.

If in a field situation, you would be using Ag lime or Dolomitic Lime as part of the overall fertility program. When high amounts are needed it is generally recommended to apply at less than 2 tons per acre at a time. High amounts applied can cause issues on the soil surface.

It's recommended to remove animals while being applied. Apply lime based on soil test results.

Know the Lime product that you are using to avoid any possible problems.

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11. POULTRY

All Poultry Owners, Large and Small, Must Register for Farm ID Number

https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/2015/07/all-poultry-owners-large-and-small-must-register-for-farm-id-number/

What is avian influenza?

http://www.ncagr.gov/avianflu/

Selling Eggs, Meat, and Poultry in North Carolina:

What Farmers Need to Know. http://chatham.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms/meatandeggs.html.

This web page explains what producers must do to get eggs ready for sale, and

explains the exemption for small-scale producers. It also

describes the regs governing the transport and sale of meat andpoultry and explains how to get registered as a meat handler. It also describes

the on-farm processing exemption for small-scale producers.

And speaking of processing, the web page also lists several meat and poultry processors in the state.

Avian Influenza

Factsheet - http://www.ncagr.gov/vet/FactSheets/AvianInfluenza.htm

Poultry in the Cooperative Extension Service

Backyard Flocks & Eggs - Small Flock Management Resources

http://poultry.ces.ncsu.edu/backyard-flocks-eggs/

Farms: Grower Resource List - Pastured Poultry

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/chatham/ag/SustAg/poultrylist.html

Small Scale Poultry Housing - Virginia Coop. Ext.

https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/2902/2902-1092/2902-1092_pdf.pdf

Designs for Small Poultry Structures -http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/category/poultry.html

Poultry Construction Plans - http://msucares.com/pubs/plans/books/poultry.html

Pastured Poultry Nutrition and Forages

file://rcfile01.rcnc.local/users$/bchase/My%20Documents/Downloads/pasturedpoultrynutrition.pdf

NC Ag Review (Bird Sources)http://www.ncagr.com/paffairs/AgReview/class.htm

Management Guide for the Backyard Flock

http://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.cfm?number=C969

*Sexing of day-old chicks

http://msucares.com/poultry/management/poultry_sexing.html

Frequently Asked Questions

http://msucares.com/poultry/management/index.html#faq

Livestock – Penn State http://extension.psu.edu/business/ag-alternatives/livestock

The NC CES Homepage has a great search engine athttp://www.ces.ncsu.edu/

search under free range chickens or poultry

or also go to E-answers at http://e-answers.adec.edu/

Virginia Tech Search engine at http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/index.html

OK State University (Site with Breeds) http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/poultry/

FeatherSite - The Poultry Page http://www.feathersite.com/Poultry/BRKPoultryPage.html

Poultry Sources

Ridgeway Hatcheries 1800-323-3825,www.ridgwayhatchery.com

Mt Hatcheries 1800-451-5603 www.mthealthy.com

Stromberg's 1-800-720-1134http://www.strombergschickens.com/

McMurray Hatchery 1-800-456-3280http://www.mcmurrayhatchery.com/

Ideal Poultry Breeding Farms 254-697-6677http://www.ideal-poultry.com/

Egg Cartons – www.eggcartons.com

Townline Hatcheries – 616-772-6514

Hoovers Hatcheries 1800-247-7014 www.hoovershatchery.com

But always check NC Ag Review classifieds for birds for sale.

http://www.ncagr.com/paffairs/AgReview/class.htm

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12. FALL PASTURE MANAGEMENT TIPS

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Fall is the time to stockpile fescue for late fall & early winter grazing for beef cattle, horses, sheep, & goats. Steps To Stockpile Fescue: In late August/Early September, graze or mow off fescue growth that has accumulated during the summer. This allows for fresh growth to be stockpiled which is much more nutritious and palatable for the livestock. Fertilize in Early to Mid-September with 225 pounds per acre of 33-0-0 (amonium nitrate) Remove livestock from section to be stockpiled so that the growth can accumulate throughout the fall growing season. Graze other grasses in the pasture, particularly summer type grasses such as bermuda, crab grass, and dallis grass. The growth of these summer grasses slows considerably as the nights and days cool off from the summer high temperatures. When all the other pasture grasses are grazed out, usually in November, move the livestock to the accumulated (stockpiled) fescue. For best results, grazing on stockpiled fescue should be controlled using temporary fencing. A recommended practice is to "strip graze" the fescue. To strip graze, the animals are given sections of grass each day. This effectively gives approximately 1/3 more grazing because ALL of the forage is eaten because none of it is trampled

or deficated on. Stockpiled fescue has been tested to be as high as 16% protein in the early winter grazing season. As the fescue goes into the winter season, the quality deteriorates somewhat but tests have shown it to be 13% protein even in late December.

As the fall season progresses, it is often asked in October if it is too late to fertilize for stockpiling fescue. Fescue will grow quite well through October and will grow some during November and December depending on how cold it gets. If fertilizing is delayed until October, cut the nitrogen rate back to 50 lbs/acre. This translates into 150 pounds per acre of 33-0-0 (ammonium nitrate). After Mid-October, it is too late to fertilize for the stockpiling process.

What if your pastures are worn out & consist mostly of bermuda grass, crab grass, & dallis grass?

First of all, the above mentioned grasses are excellent summer grasses! Livestock eat them quite readily & actually prefer these grasses over fescue during the summer. However, as the growth of these grasses slow during the fall & fescue starts growing again, livestock switch their grazing preferences back to fescue. If this describes your pasture, the following are some management tips:

Soil test to be sure phosphorous, lime and other nutrients are not limiting the growth of your grass. Follow soil test recommendations. Since fall is a major planting time for pastures, getting soil test results back on time is often difficult. The window of opportunity for fall planting is only opened for a short period of time and consequently one may not have the time to wait on soil test results. In the absence of a soil test, apply 1-2 tons of lime per acre & 400-500 pounds of 10-20-20 per acre. Soil tests should still be taken & corrections made when the results are obtained. To avoid this problem in the future, soil tests should be taken in early August. In Mid-September, plant a rye/ryegrass combination. Rye is a winter annual & provides late fall, late winter, & late spring grazing. Being an annual, it dies out in Mid-June. Incidentally, this is when the bermuda, crabgrass, and dallis grass comes back in. * Always remember the potential problems with Nitrates, Prussic Acid and Acorns*

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13. CATTLE REMINDERS: OCTOBER - ALL CATTLE:

*Provide (and check) clean fresh water. Cull animals that need to be culled. *Monitor Body Condition Scores. *Continue parasite control. *Provide High Magnesium mineral supplement. *Deworm and treat for grubs. *Monitor for health problems. *Check cattle regularly*. FALL CALVES: *Maintain condition on cows; graze cows on lower quality pasture. *Prepare for herd sire selection and vaccinate herd prior to breeding, and fertility check bulls. *Separate

herd into management groups (first calf heifers, mature cows, open heifers). *Start heifer replacements on development program. *Vaccinate replacement heifers. *Provide Magnesium mineral supplement. Cows should consume 1 oz. of mgo/hd/day *Wean and sale calves. *Prepare for calving season, keeping calving area clean *Observe frequently once calving starts. Make sure calf consumes colostrum within 4 hours of birth. ID, castrate, and dehorn calves. Look at giving newborn calves Vitamin A & D injections. *Make sure you have the bull power for breeding season. *Make sure cows are getting enough energy after calving. SPRING CALVES: *Evaluate bulls on calf performance.*Deworm & Vaccinate calves.*Select replacement heifers and feed to gain 1.5-1.75 lbs per day. *Wean & watch markets to market calves. *Look for unsound cows that should be culled and identify and cull bulls that have sired groups of calves that are below average performance.*Make replacement heifer selections.*Pregnancy check cows. *Body condition score cows at weaning and separate thin cows.*Prepare to wean calves.

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14. DON'T FORGET - Soil Testing Charging A Fee During Peak Season

NCDA&CS Agronomic Division

- Peak-season Soil Testing Fee

There is a $4 fee charged for all soil samples processed by the NCDA&CS Agronomic Division during its busiest season: December through March. (No fee April through November).

So if you are planning to take soil test, go ahead and get them sent in to avoid the fee.

GET YOUR SOIL SAMPLES TAKEN & SENT IN!

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15. HAY DIRECTORY

A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at 1-800-666-3625 or 342-8235 and let me know your name,

address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.

MANAGE YOUR PASTURES!

If you have hay to sell, please let me know!

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16. Take A Load Off

I need your clean Jokes, so please send em to me!

Domestic Dispute with Golfers

Police are called to an apartment to find a woman holding a 3 iron, standing over a motionless man.

The detective asks '"ma'am is that your husband?"

"Yes" says the woman.

"Did you hit him with that Golf Club?"

"Well, Yes, yes I did" she replies. "I caught him cheating on me." The woman begins to sob, dropping the club and she puts her face in her hands.

"How many times did you hit him Mam?"

"Well, I don't rightly recall, so I guess you can just put me down for a five."

OK – Y'all Need To Help Me Out With These

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I always want to know what you think of the CATTLE CALL, good or bad,

especially if it has had ANY IMPACT on you. Let me hear from you!

I NEED YOUR IDEAS FOR FUTURE CATTLE CALLS!

Please remember our Troops who are serving our Country (and there families) those who have come home with wounds and the families that paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Thanks & Have A Great SAFE Weekend!

BC

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North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University

Is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not

discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race,

color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability.

Moreover, North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State

University is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote

racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of black

students. North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State

University regards discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to

be inconsistent with its goal of providing a welcoming environment in

which all its students, faculty, and staff may learn and work up to

their full potential. The Universities values the benefits of cultural

diversity and pluralism in the academic community and welcomes all men

and women of good will without regard to sexual orientation.

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The use of brand names or any listing or mention of products or services does not imply endorsement by the NC Cooperative Extension Service nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned.

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