

(936)336-4558, Ext.221 ★ (281)593-0405, Ext.221 ★ FAX (936)336-4565

LIBERTY COUNTY AG NEWS NOTES

March 29, 2007

BEEF CATTLE PRODUCTION SERIES
MONDAY APRIL 9, 2007 10:15 A.M.
RAYWOOD LIVESTOCK MARKET

There will be a new educational program series on beef cattle production beginning on Monday, April 9, 2007 at 10:15 a.m. at the Raywood Livestock Market between Raywood and Devers. We will finish no later than 11:15 so you can view the cattle before the sale. This series will feature video clips from a beef cattle health management DVD developed by Texas Cooperative Extension that will be released in the very near future.

This first program will cover the operations that need to be done when working your calves. The segments will cover the following topics: Identifying Calves, Band Castration, Knife Castration, Dehorning Calves, Vaccinating Calves, De-worming Calves, Implanting Calves, and Branding Calves. These segments will total about 30-35 minutes. We will have a brief discussion following the videos. In addition we will also see two short clips on fly control Applying Fly Ear Tags and Applying Fly Pour On on cows that total about 6 minutes.

BEEF 101

A new educational series of meetings geared toward the basics of beef management and forage production will be led by Texas Cooperative Extension - Jefferson County and the Jefferson County Agriculture Committee. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2007 at 6:30 p.m at the TAMU Agricultural Research & Extension Center on Highway 90 in Beaumont. The theme for the meeting will be: Basics of forage production, varieties and fertilization, and a tour of a new forage variety trial.

PONDS 101

Come catch some information on pond management
Presented by: Terrie Looney, CEA - Marine, Jefferson County
Thursday, April 19, 2007 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Beach City Community Building
12723 FM 2354, Beach City, Texas 77520

Topics How to clear muddy water, stock fish, and manage aquatic weeds.
Bring weed and water samples for analysis. For more information and directions call 409-267-8347.
Pesticide Applicators earn 1.5 CEUs

HORSES, HAY, AND PASTURE A Pasture Management Program for Horse Owners

ATTENTION: HORSE OWNERS

Do you purchase hay but are unsure of the quality? Do you know how to raise the best hay for horses? Do you plan to establish hay meadows or grazing pastures? Do you know how to apply fertilizer for optimum pasture performance? Do you know how to effectively control weeds in your pasture? Do you have pastures needing re-establishment and management following the drought? Do you know what alternatives to hay can be used when hay is in short supply? Do you know which plants in your pasture are toxic to your horses?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then, this workshop is for YOU! On Thursday, May 3, 2007 at Pearce Pavilion on the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station there will be a Pasture Management Program for Horse Owners. This workshop is designed to address horse pastures, as well as the production, selection and reeding of various hays and processed roughages to horses. Plus, materials will also be available on Horse Theft Awareness and prevention, at this pastures/hays workshop. This workshop is co-hosted by the Department of Animal Science and Soil and Crop Sciences. It will include take home materials on Horse and Equipment Theft Protection. Registration is \$100 for the 1-day event and includes morning snacks, refreshments, and lunch. Also included as part of the registration fee is a cap with logo that is only available to workshop attendees. Please detach registration from below and return along with check to:

Dr. Larry Redmon
2474 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-2474

Call the Extension Office for directions to the workshop.

Registration for Horses, Hay and Pasture Workshop
May 3, 2007

Please make checks payable to HHP Workshop

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fertilizer prices have made things very interesting these days. With this situation you need to make sure you have your fertility program in order so you can maximize the benefit from the fertilizer you apply. Soil testing is the most important thing you can do in your operation. It is more important than ever before and cannot be ignored. You have to take 10-15 random samples for an area no larger than 40 acres for the most accurate analysis.

There has been some discussion about using the Class A Biosolids as an alternative fertilizer. This may be an option for producers that have 100 acres or more. It isn't really an option for small producers for a number of reasons. The Biosolids are a slow release fertilizer and take about 6 - 8 weeks to go to work. There will be a smell associated with it. The degree of odor depends on the stabilizing agent used and other factors. The odor may not last a long time. It does provide organic matter, nitrogen, phosphorous and some potassium plus some of the micronutrients.

There is still time to do a soil sample but time is running out for now. It is really better to do your soil test in the Fall. That gives you time to apply your lime so it will start working before you make your spring application of fertilizer. There should be at least 10 weeks between lime application and any type of fertilizer with phosphorous in it. Any time before that the lime will tie up the phosphorous FOREVER, and I mean FOREVER!

If you have questions, please feel free to call at anytime and we'll answer your questions as quickly as possible.

Until later,

Ron Holcomb
Liberty County Extension Agent - Ag/NR

If you require auxiliary aides, services or other accommodations for any Extension event due to a disability, please contact the Liberty County Extension Office at (936)336-4558, Ext.221 or (281)593-0405, Ext. 221 and a representative will contact you to discuss your needs.