

**DID YOU KNOW...**

.....Pond owners can easily produce 1,000 pounds of edible-size catfish per surface acre per year in small farm ponds? Up to 1,000 one-inch fingerlings stocked in March or April will gain a pound of weight by November if they are fed six or seven times a week with a good quality floating fish ration containing at least 28% crude protein. However, the total pounds of fish in the pond should never exceed 1,000 pounds per surface acre in the hot months. Otherwise, oxygen depletion could be a problem.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Restricted Use and Non-Restricted Use Herbicides

Agents Radio Schedule

Rusk County Farmers' Market

Early Weaning

Antibiotic Resistance in Meat

Beef Cattle Short Course

Boom Sprayer Calibration

Boomless Sprayer Calibration

Baling & Using Hay

Farmers' Almanac Weather Forecast

Rusk County Hay Show

Hay Entry Form

Perfect Beef Cow

Crop Planting Dates

BQA: Tip of the Month: Management of Horns

Private Pesticide Recertification Requirements

## Rusk County

# Ag News & Views

SUMMER 2019

### Restricted Use<sup>1</sup> or State-Limited Use<sup>2</sup> Herbicides

Grazon P+D  
Tordon 22K  
Surmount  
2,4-D  
Weedmaster  
Banvel (Dicamba)  
GrazonNext  
Weedar 64  
Weedone LV6  
Crossbow  
Cimarron Max  
2,4-DB  
GrazonNext HL  
PasturAll HL  
PastureGard HL

### Non-Restricted Use Herbicides

Milestone  
Chaparral  
PastureGard  
Redeem R&P  
Spike 20P  
Spike 80DF  
Vista XLT  
Cimarron Extra  
Remedy Ultra  
Cimarron Plus  
Reclaim  
VelPar L  
Amber  
Pastora

<sup>1</sup>**Restricted use:** for purchase and use only by certified pesticide applicators or persons under their direct supervision. Designation is placed on the product by EPA, and the label will state restricted-use.

<sup>2</sup>**State-limited use:** pesticides containing certain active ingredients, with the potential to cause adverse effects to non-targeted vegetation, are classified as SLU when distributed in containers larger than one quart liquid or 2 pounds dry or solid.

## Rusk County Extension Agent's Radio Report



Tune in to 98.5 FM & 1470 AM Monday thru Friday at 8:00 AM and 12 PM to hear the Rusk County

Extension Agents Report on KWRD radio in Henderson, Texas.

We will be discussing a wide array of agricultural, natural resource, 4-H, and Family and Community Health related issues. [easttexastoday.com/KWRD](http://easttexastoday.com/KWRD)



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**Rusk County AgriLife  
Extension Ag**

*Jamie Sugg*

Jamie Sugg  
County Extension Agent-Agriculture  
Rusk County





## Rusk County Farmers' Market Open For The Season

### Hours of operation:

**Saturdays - 7:00 a.m. 'til sold-out**

**Location: Henderson Community Center,  
Parking Lot: Fair Park/South High Street**

**Locally grown vegetables, herbs, fruits,  
handmade crafts, jewelry, candles, jellies/jams  
and brown bag mixes**

### EFFECTS OF EARLY WEANING WITH FIRST-CALF HEIFERS

When pasture is scarce and feed is expensive, early weaning is sometimes suggested to minimize nutrient needs of dams, particularly first-calf heifers. Over two years, calves on 90 first calf heifers were either weaned early (WE, avg. age 130 days) or left on dams until weaned traditionally (WT) at average age of 226 days. All cows were then limited feed to meet maintenance requirements. Calves had ad lib access to creep feed but not to dam's feed.

After the WE date, calf ADG to weaning was significantly higher for WT. WE calves gained more efficiently but efficiency was higher for WT for the total of a calf and cow unit. There were no significant differences in maintenance energy requirements for WE and WT dams.

(J. Anim. Sci. 96. Suppl. 1: p.13; Oklahoma St. Univ.)

### ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE IN MEAT: HOW AND WHEN DID IT DEVELOP?

A new study by the US Department of Agriculture found similar levels of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in ground beef raised with and without antibiotics. Their report was published in the *Journal of Food Protection*. The authors noted the data, along with that from previous research in conventionally raised cattle and cattle "raised without antibiotics" (RWA), show that antimicrobial use in US cattle production has "minimal to no impact on AMR in the resident bacteria."

(Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy Univ. of Minnesota 11/28/2018)  
Another study analyzed DNA from 30,000-year-old permafrost sediments and found genes resistant to several antibiotics, including tetracycline. The authors stated, "These results show conclusively that antibiotic resistance is a natural phenomenon that predates the modern selective pressure of clinical antibiotic use."

(Nature 477:457; McMaster Univ., Canada)

# Welcome to the 65th Annual Beef Cattle Short Course



**DATES:** The 65th Annual Beef Cattle Short Course begins at 8:00 am on Monday, August 5th, and ends at noon on Wednesday, August 7th.

**LOCATION:** Registration check-in will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Rudder Tower on Joe Routt Boulevard. Registration will begin at 6:00 am with the first general session at 8:00am on Monday, August 5th. You may pick up your badge and materials early on Sunday, August 4th, between 1-5 p.m. if you wish to do so.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** The Short Course fee of \$210 per person includes the following: 3 daily breakfasts, Monday and Tuesday lunch, 1 Prime Rib Dinner Monday, 1 proceedings, trade show admittance, refreshments and access to campus shuttle service. There is no need to purchase additional tickets for any of those events since they are included with your registration. The Short Course fee will be \$250 after July 29th and for onsite registration.

**PARKING PERMITS:** The three day pass for Lot 61 (MSC) can be purchased for a flat event rate of \$15 at: <https://transport2.tamu.edu/account/conference/parkingpermits.aspx>

Parking is available across the street from the MSC in the University Center Parking Garage or Cain Garage for \$15 per day if you do not prepay. Parking will be enforced by Texas A&M.

**YOUTH TRACK:** A special youth program is available for ages 13-18yrs. Please go to <http://beefcattleshortcourse.com/> for the registration and medical release form.

**EXHIBITORS:** Please go to <http://beefcattleshortcourse.com/> to receive the exhibitor packet and registration form. Registration will go directly through Dr. Jason Cleere's office at 979-845-6931

\*Please note that when completing the online registration you will be asked to enter an email address. Please put the e-mail address of the person attending the conference.

**In order to complete the registration you will be asked to enter a password of your choice and confirm. There are no special parameters for creating the password.**

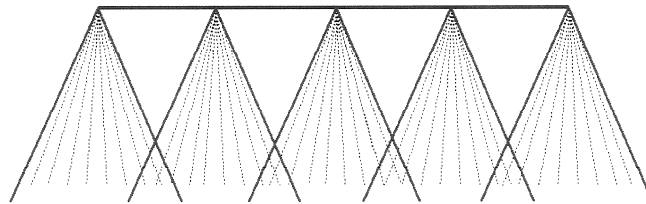
When your registration is complete, you will be directed to check out and pay with a credit card. You will be given an option to register someone else. Click into option to register someone else or submit payment. Once the payment is accepted, you will receive a confirmation receipt. Please print this confirmation for your records.

Please contact Joani Groce at 979-845-8902 regarding any registration questions.

# Boom Sprayer Calibration

**Dr. Paul A. Baumann**

*Professor and Extension Weed Specialist*



1. Determine nozzle spacing.
2. Refer to table below for length of calibration course.
3. Mark off calibration course.
4. Record time required to drive calibration course at desired field gear and rpm.
5. Park tractor, maintain rpm used to drive course, turn on sprayer.
6. Catch water from one nozzle for time equal to that required to drive calibration course.
7. Ounces of water = gallons per acre.

**Chart for Nozzle Spacing and Length of Calibration Course**

Nozzle Spacing (inches)	18	20	30	40
Length of Calibration Course (linear feet)	227	204	136	102

*\*To determine the calibration course for a nozzle spacing not listed, divide the spacing expressed in feet into 340 (340 sq. ft. = 1/128 of an acre). **Example:** Calibration distance for 19-inch nozzle spacing =  $340 \div 19/12 = 215$  feet).*

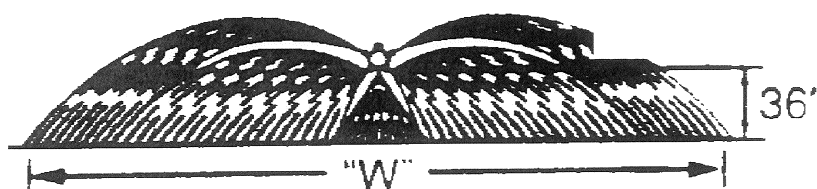
Educational programs conducted by Texas Cooperative Extension serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

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# Boomless Sprayer Calibration

**Dr. Paul A. Baumann**

*Professor and Extension Weed Specialist*



1. Determine swath width.
2. Refer to table below for length of calibration course.
3. Mark off calibration course.
4. Record time required to drive calibration course at desired field gear and rpm.
5. Park tractor, maintain rpm used to drive course, turn on sprayer.
6. Catch water for time equal to that required to drive calibration course.
7. Pints of water caught = gallons per acre.

**Chart for Swath Width and Length of Calibration Course**

Effective Swath Width (feet)	25	30	35	40	45	50
Length of Calibration Course* (linear feet)	218	182	156	136	121	109

*\*To determine the calibration course for a swath width not listed, divide the swath width expressed in feet into 5460 (5460 sq. ft. = 1/8 of an acre). **Example:** Calibration distance for 32-foot swath width =  $5460 \div 32 = 171$  feet).*

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## BALING AND USING HAY

A survey responded to by 548 people asked questions about how large bales are baled and fed. The majority of respondents were cow/calf producers.

Results were:

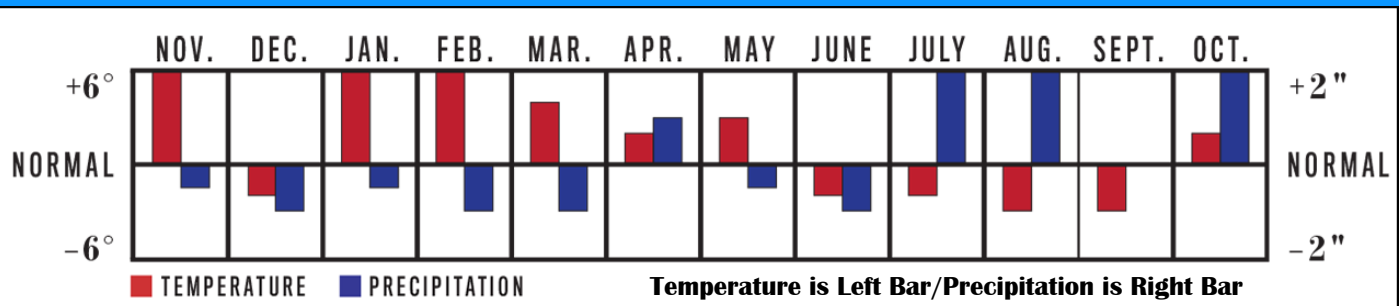
- > 67% used net wrap,
- > 26% used twine,
- > 7 % alternated between wrap and twine,
- > 54% always removed wrap or twine before feeding whole bales in bale feeder or on ground,
- > 11% always removed wrap or twine before grinding or processing,
- > 24% did not remove wrap or twine before feeding or processing,
- > 11% sometimes removed wrap or twine before feeding.



<https://animalscience.tamu.edu/beef-cattle-browsing-vol-23-no-4/>

## FARMERS' ALMANAC LONG RANGE WEATHER FORECAST FOR TEXAS-OKLAHOMA NOVEMBER 2018—OCTOBER 2019

Winter will be milder and drier than normal, with below-normal snowfall. The coldest periods will be in late December, late January, and mid-February, with the best chances for snow in mid- and late December, early January, and mid-February. April and May will be warmer and slightly rainier than normal. Summer will be cooler and rainier than normal, with the hottest periods in mid-June and early and mid-July. Watch for a tropical storm threat in mid- to late August and a hurricane threat in early September. Otherwise, September and October will be slightly cooler and rainier than normal.





# RUSK COUNTY HAY SHOW

Thursday, November 7  
6:00 p.m.

Rusk County Youth Expo Center  
3303 FM 13 West  
Henderson, TX 75654

Free Meal

Door Prizes and Awards for winners

All hay samples  
due by  
October 11th

1 CEU

***Enter your hay NOW!***

For more information call 903-657-0376

Persons wishing to attend with special needs are asked to call in advance, so that necessary accommodations can be made.

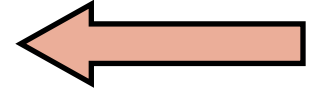
**\*\* Important—use one-gallon clear bags for your hay samples (example: Ziploc baggies)  
Hay Will Not Be Returned To Producer**

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**2019 RUSK COUNTY HAY SHOW**

Rusk County Youth Expo Center  
3303 FM 13 West, Henderson, TX 75654  
November 7 @ 6:00 P.M.

\_\_\_\_ Entry Number  
(OFFICE USE)



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you RAISE or PURCHASE this hay?

(circle one)

RAISED

PURCHASED

**CLASS OF HAY ENTERED:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Hybrid Bermuda Grass (Coastal, Jiggs, Tif85, Tif44, Alicia, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Common Bermuda Grass

\_\_\_\_\_ Bahia Grass

\_\_\_\_\_ Mixed (All Others)

**CUTTINGS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1ST \_\_\_\_\_ 2ND \_\_\_\_\_ 3RD \_\_\_\_\_ Other

If more than one sample of the same grass & same cutting, give additional information below  
(for your personal identification).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ENTRIES ARE DUE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11th**



# What I Want in the Perfect Beef Cow

By Ryon Walker, Ph.D.  
Noble Research Institute  
Livestock Consultant

## ONE: ENVIRONMENT

### Fit her environment. (35%)

How the cow fits with her environment is the most important trait for me. This means she will deliver a healthy calf every year and maintain her body condition throughout the year as she accomplishes that. She will be more efficient at forage utilization because she likely has a lower intake, can metabolize and prioritize nutrients more efficiently. If a cow cannot maintain a body condition score (BCS) 5 throughout the year, this can have negative impacts on fertility, milk production and health.

## TWO: FERTILITY

### Must calve every 265 days, no exceptions. (25%)

In my mind, fertility is one of the most important traits in a female. However, if the cow does not fit her environment, she won't survive. Because of this, I rank it second. From an economic standpoint, however, fertility ranks the highest.

To deliver a healthy calf every year, the cow must calve by 24 months of age (in non- or low-percentage Brahman crosses).

Age and weight at puberty are moderately to highly heritable traits. By selecting for these traits in your replacement heifers, you increase their chances of reaching their target calving dates. This cow must calve every 365 days. No exceptions.

The average gestation period for a cow is approximately 283 days. Based on what we know, if a cow calves in adequate body condition (BCS 5-6), she needs 60 to 75 days after calving to begin cycling again and have an opportunity to become pregnant naturally.

To meet that goal, she needs to conceive within the first 30 days of the breeding season and calve in the first 30 days of the calving season. If she calves at a lower body condition, her recovery period after calving is longer, reducing the likelihood of her conceiving early in the breeding season.

## THREE: EFFICIENCY

### Be efficient throughout her production cycle. (15%)

This can be defined in many ways: as a single trait (reproductive, forage, what she produces, etc.) or she can be efficient in every stage of production. I want a cow that can be efficient in all of the traits listed above and throughout her production cycle. I am looking for a cow that can:

- Wean a calf greater than or equal to my average weaning weight.
- Be moderately framed and weigh less than or equal to 1,300 pounds.
- Maintain a BCS of a 5 ( $\pm$  0.5) throughout the year.

## FOUR: PRODUCTION

### Provide the nutrient resources for her offspring to reach their genetic potential. (15%)

If the cow fits her environment and calves when she needs to, that calf is likely your biggest source of income. The cow must provide sufficient resources for the calf to reach its genetic potential. This not only includes the genetic potential for this calf to grow, but also the mother's nutrient resources available during lactation and the conversion of feed and forage resources (other than from its mother) to protein prior to weaning. Major factors that can impact the genetic potential of a calf are:

- Length of calving season.
- Mother's milk production.
- Forage resources.
- Environmental conditions.
- Health.

## FIVE: DISPOSITION

### Must not be crazy. (10%)

A cow's disposition is becoming more important as we find ourselves not having the time to deal with poorly dispositioned cattle. Because the average herd size in the U.S. is approximately 40 head, many beef producers have a full-time job outside of raising cattle. So, my cow must not be crazy. Research has shown us that poor disposition in cattle causes stress, resulting in increased risk for reductions in fertility and animal performance as well as higher susceptibility to sickness and disease. So, cull based on disposition. We do!

CROP	SPRING PLANTING DATE	FALL PLANTING DATE
Asparagus	2/1 – 3/15	N.R. *
Beans, Bush	3/15 – 4/15	8/1 – 9/1
Beans, Pole	3/15 – 4/15	8/1 – 9/1
Beans, Lima	3/15 – 4/1	7/15 – 8/15
Beets	2/1 – 4/1	9/1 – 10/15
Broccoli (plants)	3/1 – 3/15	8/1 – 9/15
Brussels Sprouts	N.R.	8/1 – 10/1
Cabbage (plants)	2/1 – 3/1	8/15 – 9/15
Cabbage, Chinese	2/1 – 2/15	8/15 – 9/15
Carrots	2/1 – 2/15	8/15 – 10/15
Cauliflower (plants)	2/15 – 3/1	8/15 – 9/15
Chard, Swiss	2/15 – 4/1	8/1 – 10/15
Collard/Kale	2/1 – 2/15	8/15 – 10/1
Corn, Sweet	3/15 – 5/1	8/1 – 8/15
Cucumber	3/15 – 4/15	8/1 – 9/1
Eggplant (plants)	4/1 – 4/15	7/15 – 8/1
Garlic	1/15 – 2/15	9/1 – 10/15
Kohlrabi	2/1 – 3/1	8/15 – 9/15
Lettuce (leaf)	2/1 – 3/1	9/15 – 10/15
Muskmelon (Cantaloupe)	3/15 – 5/1	7/15 – 8/1
Mustard	2/1 – 3/1	9/15 – 10/15
Okra	4/15 – 7/1	4/15 – 7/1
Onion (plants)	2/1 – 3/1	N.R.
Parsley	N.R.	8/15 – 10/1
Peas, English	1/15 – 2/15	8/15 – 9/15
Peas, Southern	4/15 – 6/1	7/1 – 8/1
Pepper (plants)	4/1 – 4/15	7/1 – 8/1
Potatoes (Irish)	2/1 – 2/15	8/15 – 9/15
Potatoes (Sweet) (slips)	4/1 – 5/15	N.R.
Pumpkin	4/1 – 5/15	7/1 – 8/1
Radish	2/1 – 4/1	9/15 – 10/15
Spinach	2/1 – 3/1	9/1 – 10/15
Squash, Summer	3/15 – 4/15	7/15 – 8/15
Squash, Winter	4/1 – 4/15	7/1 – 7/15
Tomato (plants)	3/15 – 4/1	7/15 – 8/1
Turnips	2/1 – 3/1	10/1 – 11/1
Watermelon	3/15 – 5/1	7/1 – 8/1
Watermelon (Seedless)	3/25 – 5/1	7/1 – 8/1

\* Not Recommended



**Save The Date  
More Information To Follow**

**East Texas  
Regional Forage Conference  
Sept. 6, 2019  
2 CEU**

**Rusk County Expo Center**

**East Texas  
Beef & Forage Clinic  
Oct. 4, 2019  
5 CEU**

**Henderson Civic Center**

## BQA: TIP OF THE MONTH - Management of Horns

Management of horns in beef cattle is important for animal welfare, animal handling, handler safety, and animal value. The easiest way to manage horns is using polled genetics; quality polled genetics can be found in all major beef breeds. Using homozygous polled bulls in *Bos taurus* cattle will result in a 100% polled calf crop even if the cows have horns; in *Bos indicus* influenced cattle the expression pattern is sometimes different, but most calves will be polled. Stocker and feeder cattle with horns should be dehorned or tipped as early as possible using methods that minimizes stress.

(From Jason Banta, Ph. D., [jpbanta@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jpbanta@ag.tamu.edu) , Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Beef Quality Assurance Coordinator)

### PRIVATE PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Licensed private applicators are required to re-certify every five years by obtaining 15 continuing education credits, including two credits in Laws and Regulations and two credits in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), prior to expiration of the license.



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

Phone: 903-657-0376

E-mail: [jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu)

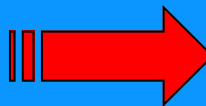
Rusk County

113 East Fordall Street

Henderson, Texas 75652

We are on the web:  
[rusk.agrilife.org](http://rusk.agrilife.org)

Extension Office will be closed  
Thursday, July 4



Want your news before  
everyone else?? Sign up for  
e-mail delivery!



If you would prefer to receive the Ag & Natural Resource Newsletter via e-mail, please email me at [jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu) and I will add you to a mailing list.

The benefit of being on the e-mail list (other than saving us money on postage) is that I will e-mail weekly Livestock Market reports and trends to that list.