

**DID YOU KNOW...**

..... that the key to producing more bass is to grow more forage? A pond fertilization or supplementation feeding program can double or triple the pounds of forage fish (e.g., bluegill, redear sunfish, threadfin shad, tilapia) and double or triple the pounds of bass present. Pond fertilizers are available in granular, liquid and powder formulations. However, ponds that are muddy, acidic or full of weeds are not good candidates for fertility programs.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Can An Anti-Inflammatory Drug Affect Reproduction?

Agent's Radio Report

Save the Date TAMU Beef Cattle ShortCourse

10 Steps to Vegetable Gardening Success

Establishing Bermudagrass from Sprigs

Weed and Brush Herbicides

Tip: Establishing Warm Season Food Plots

Pesticide Recertification

Cattle Working Workshop

Multi-County Noble Foundation

Effects of Stocking Rate, Forage Management, and Grazing Management on Performance and Economics of Beef Cows

Restricted Use & Non-Restricted Use Herbicides

## Can An Anti-Inflammatory Drug Affect Reproduction?



In an effort to improve reproductive success, temporary (48-hour) calf weaning (TCW) has sometimes been advocated in estrus synchronization for artificial insemination. TCW causes stress-related changes in temperament and physiology of calves and cows. Among other physiological effects, associated inflammation may impair reproduction. Researchers wondered if this impairment might be countered by treatment with meloxicam, a nonsteroidal inflammatory drug.

A group of 943 lactating, open Nelore cows which had calved at least twice were synchronized for estrus before being artificially inseminated. Cows were divided into three groups: 1) calves not weaned for 48-hours before AI; 2) calves weaned before AI; 3) calves weaned and cows treated with meloxicam at weaning. There were no statistically significant differences in pregnancy rates among the three groups. The authors noted "meloxicam failed to benefit pregnancy rates to timed AI". NOTE: In addition, unlike some studies, in this study temporary calf weaning also did not improve pregnancy rate.

(J. Animal Sci. 94: 406; Oregon St. Univ., Universidade Estadual Paulista, Brazil; Centro Universitario Catolico Salesiano Auxilium, Brazil)

## Rusk County Extension Agent's Radio Report



Tune in to 100.7 FM Monday thru Friday at 12:30 PM to hear the Rusk County Extension Agents Report on KPXI radio in Henderson, Texas.

We will be discussing a wide array of agricultural, natural resource, 4-H, and Family and Consumer related issues and events.



*Jamie Sugg*

Jamie Sugg  
 County Extension Agent-Agriculture  
 Rusk County



# 10 Steps to Vegetable Gardening Success



TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

**Speaker:**  
**Dr. Joe Masabni,**  
*Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension  
Small-Acreage  
Vegetable Specialist*

**March 15, 2016**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Rusk County**

**Extension Meeting Room**

**115 E. Fordall Street**

**(Additional Parking on Charleviox St.)**

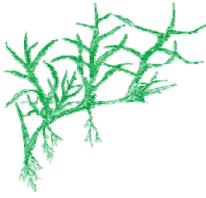
**Henderson, Texas**

**Door  
Prizes**

**Public Invited  
No Charge**

Persons wishing to attend with special needs are asked to call 903-657-0376 in advance, so that necessary accommodations can be made.

# Establishing Bermudagrass from Sprigs



As temperatures rise we often start getting an itch to plant. When it comes to establishing bermudagrass from sprigs there are several things to keep in mind before we start tilling the soil...

- 1. Location:** Choose a well drained soil; bermudagrass does not do well on wet-land (except for Jiggs Bermudagrass).
- 2. Variety Selection:** Match variety to soil type, average rainfall, production goals, and willingness to manage (provide fertility, etc.).
- 3. Weed Control:** Destroy existing vegetation by spraying actively growing weeds with glyphosate. Ideal time to start is the year prior to actual planting. In late summer/early fall year prior to planting, destroy existing vegetation with 5 quarts/acre of glyphosate. Weed control following establishment can be critical to achieving a stand.
- 4. Soil Fertility:** Obtain a soil sample the fall prior to planting. Apply recommended limestone during land preparation. Any recommended phosphorus should be applied during seedbed preparation to incorporate into the soil. When sprigs begin to green up, apply 40 to 60 lbs. of actual N/acre and any potassium (K) according to soil test recommendation.
- 5. Sprigs:** Identify a reliable source of sprigs well before planting time. Your County Extension Agent may know of someone locally who provides sprigs. Plant into a moist seedbed at 2 to 2 ½ inches deep. Do not plant deeper than 3".
- 6. Planting Date:** Sprigs can be planted from March, when danger of a heavy freeze is past, until August. The earlier you plant, the longer you will have to get established and the better chance they will survive a severe winter. The underground rhizomes develop much slower than the above ground stolons and are

necessary for winter survival. Planting later into the summer increases the risk of losing newly planted sprigs to drought.

To establish a seeded bermudagrass plant about May in northeast Texas. Optimum temperatures for bermudagrass seed germination are when daily low temperatures reach 60F. Planting after mid-June is discouraged because of normally hot and dry weather conditions. Prepare a good firm seedbed and pack with a roller. After the first rain, kill any emerging weeds. After the weeds turn brown, broadcast the bermudagrass seed at 5 to 10 lb/acre and pack again to press the seed into the soil surface.

Source: Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Associate Professor, Forage Extension Specialist



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

Phone: 903-657-0376  
E-mail: [jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu)

Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension Service  
Rusk County  
113 East Fordall Street



**ATTENTION!**

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 be e-mailing weekly Livestock Market reports and trends to that list.

# Weed and Brush Herbicides

Product	Manufacturer	Active Ingredients	Rates/Acre	Weeds Controlled
2,4D*	Multiple	2,4D	1-2 quarts	Broadleaf
Brash*	Winfield Solution	2,4D / Dicamba	1 - 2 quarts	Broadleaf / Brush
Chaparral	Dow	Aminopyralid/ MSM	1-3 oz.	Broadleaf / Bahiagrass/ Brush
Cimarron Max*	Dupont	Metsulfuron/2,4D/Dicamba	Variable	Broadleaf / Bahiagrass/Brush
Cimarron Plus	Dupont	Metsulfuron/Chlorsulfuron	.4 - 1 oz.	Broadleaf/Bahiagrass
Grazon Next HL*	Dow	Aminopyralid / 2,4D	1 - 1.5 pints	Broadleaf
Grazon Next*	Dow	Aminopyralid / 2,4D	1.5 - 2.6 pints	Broadleaf
Grazon P+D*	Dow	2,4D / Picloram	2 - 8 pints	Broadleaf / Brush
Journey	BASF	Glyphosate / Imazapic	4 - 12 oz.	Grassy weeds
Journey	BASF	Glyphosate / Imazapic	4 - 12 oz.	Grassy weeds
Outrider	Monsanto	Sulfosulfuron	1.33 oz.	Johnsongrass / Sedges
Pastora	Dupont	Metsulfuron / Nicosulfuron	1 - 1.5 oz.	grassburs, and other
PasturAll HL	Dow	2,4D, Aminopyralid	1- 1.5 pints	Broadleaf
Pasturegard	Dow	Triclopyr / Fluroxypyr	3 - 8 pints	Broadleaf / Brush
Pasturegard HL	Dow	Triclopyr/Fluroxypyr	.75 - 4 pints	broadleaf/ brush
Prowl H2O	BASF	Pendimethalin	2-3 quarts	Sandbur
Rangestar* / Brash*	Albaugh	2,4D / Dicamba	1 - 2 quarts	Broadleaf / Brush
Reclaim*	Dow	Clopyralid	2/3 - 11/3 pints	Mesquite
Remedy	Dow	Tryclopyr	1 - 4 pints	Broadleaf / Brush
Roundup	Monsanto	Glyphosate	1 - 5 quarts	Broadleaf / Grass
Spike 20P	Dow	Tebuthiuron	Variable	Brush / Trees
Spike 80DF	Dow	Tebuthiuron	Variable	Brush / Trees
Surmount*	Dow	Picloram / Fluroxypyr	3 - 6 pints	Broadleaf / Brush
Telar	Dupont	Chlorsulfuron	.25 - 1 oz.	Broadleaf / Berryvine / Brush
Tordon 22K*	Dow	Picloram	1 - 4 pints	Broadleaf / Brush / Cactus
Velpar	Dupont	Hexazinone	2 - 6 pints	Smutgrass / Brush / Trees
Weedmaster*	BASF	2,4D / Dicamba	2 - 4 pints	Broadleaf / Brush

## TIP:

**If you plan to establish warm-season food plots, now is the time to soil test and order seed and fertilizer. It's best to plant 2% (2 of every 100 acres) of the habitat base.**

## 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.

# CATTLE WORKING WORKSHOP



Dinner served at 5:00 p.m.

Program at 6:00 p.m.

**RSVP by April 8th to 903-657-0376**

***Speakers:***

***\*Dr. Scott Vancil, Cow Doc Veterinary Services***

***\*Larry Hand, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers***



**NO CHARGE  
to  
ATTEND**

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
 EXTENSION



**2016**

## Multi-County—Noble Foundation Tour

**Ardmore, Oklahoma**

***May 25 & 26, 2016***

**Cost—\$75.00 per person, plus 2 meals and lodging!**

**(Cost includes transportation and Noon meal on the tour)**

**Registration is due by May 4, 2016**

### **Trip & Tour Information...**

We will be travelling by charter bus with pickup points in Carthage, Marshall and Longview (depending on participation from producers). The \$75.00 fee is for transportation for the trip and the noon meal while on the tour. Other meals and lodging is not included. We will have the last pickup point in Longview, travel to Ardmore, Oklahoma, eat supper, then check in for the night at the hotel. The next morning, we will then leave early, travel to the Noble Foundation, tour all day, then travel back home, eating supper on the way back. Plans are to have a noon meal at the foundation during the tour and is included in the registration fee of \$75.00.

**NOTE:** We need to have 42 people for this to work, so seriously think about this, we would love to have you participate, have fun and enjoy a good trip with us! Registration is due no later than May 4, 2016 at 5:00 PM. We will be staying at the Spring Hill Suites in Ardmore Oklahoma.



Educational programs conducted by the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the Gregg County Extension Office at 903-236-8429 to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

### Thursday, May 26

<p>7:30 a.m. ↑</p> <p>7:35 a.m.</p> <p>8:05 a.m.</p> <p>8:30 a.m.</p> <p>8:35 a.m.</p> <p>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>9:15 a.m.</p> <p>9:20 a.m.</p> <p>9:50 a.m.</p> <p>10:25 a.m.</p> <p>11:00 a.m.</p> <p>12:00 p.m.</p> <p>12:30 p.m.</p> <p>1:15 p.m.</p> <p>1:45 p.m.</p> <p>2:15 p.m.</p> <p>3:00 p.m.</p> <p>3:30 p.m.</p> <p>4:00 p.m. ↓</p>	<p>Arrive to Noble Foundation</p> <p>Welcome &amp; Noble History Overview</p> <p>Consultation Program</p> <p>Transport Memorial Pond</p> <p>The BoarBuster</p> <p>Center for Pecan &amp; Specialty Ag</p> <p>Transport to Hort Center</p> <p>Pecan Industry &amp; Research</p> <p>Hoop House Construction</p> <p>Raised Beds Steve Upson</p> <p>Lunch &amp; Integrity Beef Program, Kruse Auditorium</p> <p>Depart for Pasture Demonstration Farm</p> <p>New/ Forage Measurement Technology for Cattle Production</p> <p>Pond Fencing with Livestock Water Access Points</p> <p>Beaver Enclosures</p> <p>Depart for Oswalt Ranch</p> <p>Cattle Handling Facility – Live Demo</p> <p>GrowSafe System</p> <p>Depart Noble Foundation</p>	<p>Mary Howard</p> <p>Hugh Aljoe</p> <p>Josh Gaskamp</p> <p>Charles Rohla</p> <p>Charles Rohla</p> <p>Steve Upson</p> <p>Robert Wells</p> <p>James Rogers</p> <p>Mike Porter</p> <p>Devlon Ford</p> <p>Bryan Nichols</p>
--	--	--

The program registration fee for the 2016 Noble Foundation Tour is \$75.00 per person. This includes Charter bus transportation and the Noon meal on the tour itself. Participants will have to pay for their own lodging and two meals, Wednesday evening and coming home Thursday night. Please fill out the registration form and mail with your check. Make sure that you call Spring Hill Suites and reserve you room for Wednesday night, May 25<sup>th</sup>!! (You might want to also have a roommate to lower the cost...)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

How many in your group \_\_\_\_ X \$75.00 = \_\_\_\_ Total Fee

Please complete the registration form and mail back to the address below by May 4, 2016 with your check made payable to;

**Gregg, Harrison & Upshur Ag Fund**

Gregg County Extension Office  
c/o Noble Foundation Tour  
405 East Marshall Ave. Suite 101  
Longview, TX. 75601

# Tri-County Beef & Forage Workshop



Friday, April 15, 2016  
Tri-County Livestock Market, Inc.  
23733 US HWY 79 North, New Summerfield, TX 75780

3 CEU Hours for Texas Dept. of Agriculture (1 General, 1 L&R and 1 IPM)  
Please RSVP by Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, for meal planning, to 903-683-5416  
Registration fee of \$10.00 with checks/money orders made payable to:  
Cherokee Beef and Forage



8:00 **Registration**

8:30 **Feral Hog Control (1 L&R)**  
Dr. Billy Higginbotham, *Professor & Extension Wildlife & Fisheries Specialist*

9:30 **Cattle Market Outlook**  
Dr. David Anderson, *Professor & Extension Economist - Livestock & Food Products Marketing, College Station, Texas*

11:00 **Herbicide Update (1 Gen)**  
Jack LeClaire, *Range & Pasture Specialist-Sales at Bayer Crop Sciences*

12:00 **Lunch**

12:30 **Veterinary Feed Directive/Animal Health**  
Dr. Tom Hairgrove, *Livestock & Food Animal Systems Coordinator*

1:30 **Predator Control (1IPM)**  
Tyler Sibley, *Wildlife Damage Management Specialist, Wildlife Services Program*

2:30 **Adjourn**

**PROGRAM SPONSORS:**



Cherokee, Rusk, and Smith Counties Cooperating

Anyone needing special assistance at an Extension Program should contact the Texas AgriLife Extension Office of Cherokee County at (903)683-5416 at least one week prior to the program or event.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

## Knowing What to Look for Minimizes Calving Difficulty

Anyone who has been through even one calving season has most likely dealt with calving difficulty. Dystocia (calving difficulty) is the biggest cause of calf death loss at birth. It can be minimized by managing factors like genetics and nutrition; but once the calving season is upon us, those things are in the past. Now the focus becomes observation and possible intervention. Being prepared to provide assistance is critical. It's been estimated that timely and appropriate intervention can save up to 70 percent of calves that otherwise would die due to dystocia. It's also just as important to know when not to intervene and just let the calving processes continue uninterrupted. The key is experience and knowing the normal sequence of events up to and through calving, which will vary tremendously between individual cows. It's also important to know the limits of our abilities and when to call professional help. Preparation should include developing a plan of action with your veterinarian. The following signs are extremely variable and may go completely unnoticed.

### As calving approaches

*Two weeks or more out:*

- The cow's/heifer's udder fills out; this is often referred to as "making a bag." It can be even more gradual in first-calf heifers.
- The vulva will noticeably relax and enlarge, "springing," in more common terms. The cervical (mucous) plug may dislodge and be excreted.

*12 to 24 hours out:*

The pelvic ligaments will relax, resulting in "lank" appearance around tail and pins.

*12 hours out:*

The cow/heifer may exhibit behavioral changes, such as trying to isolate herself or not coming to feed, etc.

### At calving

The calving process itself is divided into three stages.

- Stage one starts when the cervix begins to dilate in preparation for delivery. The cow/heifer may begin to have minor contractions, but these often go unnoticed. She may isolate herself and show signs of discomfort like tail switching, licking her side, stomping her feet or elevating her tail. You may see an increased mucous discharge. **Although stage one can precede the birth of the calf by four to 24 hours, it's common to check things out when the cow/heifer has been in stage one for more than eight hours without progressing to stage two.**
- Stage two begins when the membranes and fetus move into the birth canal and ends after the calf is born. Contractions provide the force necessary to deliver the calf. In a normal birth, the first water bag appears and/or ruptures, then comes the amnion (fetal sac) or, if the amnion ruptures internally, the front feet with hooves facing down followed quickly by the calf's muzzle and head. **Any other presentation of the calf is not normal and should be investigated.**
- As contractions grow in intensity and frequency, the rest of the calf is pushed through the pelvic canal and delivery is complete. A generally accepted length for stage two is two to four hours from when the first water bag appears or breaks; for cows, this process usually lasts less than two hours and for heifers, less than four hours. Work at Oklahoma State University and the USDA station in Miles City, Montana, indicates these times should be shortened to 60 to 90 minutes for heifers and 30 to 60 minutes for cows. It follows then, that intervention should be considered if the calf is not born within two hours after the first water bag appears. **After intervening, if you are not able to progress the birth within 30 minutes, consider calling the veterinarian.**
- Stage three is expulsion of the afterbirth, usually naturally within eight hours. If not completely expelled 24 hours after calving, call your veterinarian.

Given the time frame of a normal birth, the most logical frequency to check the herd during calving to catch most of the potential problems would be at least every three hours. Remember, no cow is going to follow this series of events to the letter. One may "make a bag" six weeks before calving; another may simply come to feed one morning with a newborn calf. The key is being prepared, knowing what is normal and abnormal, and providing appropriate assistance when necessary.

One final note: Time of calving can be influenced by when the cows are fed during the day. A study done by Oklahoma State University with 1,331 cows from 15 farms showed that 85 percent of the calves were born between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. when fed once daily at dusk.



## Effects of Stocking Rate, Forage Management, and Grazing Management on Performance and Economics of Beef Cows

Mature, spring-calving cows averaging 1203 lb were divided into three study groups:

- continuous grazing bermudagrass pasture at 2 ac/cow (CG);
- grazing bermudagrass pasture at 2 ac/cow plus limited grazing on stockpiled forage and winter pasture, (moderate intensity, MI);
- grazing bermudagrass pasture at 1 ac/cow plus limited grazing on stockpiled forage and winter pasture, (high intensity, HI).

Stockpiling was accomplished by fertilizing bermudagrass with 75 lb/ac ammonium nitrate in early August and deferred grazing until November, to provide 0.5 ac/

cow. Production of winter pasture involved interseeding wheat and annual ryegrass by no-till drill in the fall, to provide 0.5 ac/cow.

Primary results were:

- days of hay feeding significantly decreased from CG (106 days) to MI (37 days) to HI (15 days);
- percent pregnant tended to be significantly higher for HI (88%) over MI (80%) and CG (78%);
- weaning weight was significantly heavier for CG (524 lb) over HI (484 lb) and tended to be significantly heavier for CG over MI (502 lb);
- excess forage harvested for hay returned \$21.42/ac for HI and \$6.28/ac for MI;

net return/ac was significantly higher for HI (\$494/ac) over MI (\$260/ac) and CG (\$217/ac). The authors concluded “using rotational grazing, stockpiled bermudagrass, and complementary cool-season annual grasses can drastically reduce winter feed requirements and simultaneously increase carrying capacity and net return”.

(2016 So. Sec. Am. Soc. Anim. Sci. Meeting, Abst. 052: Univ. of Arkansas)



Restricted Use <sup>1</sup> or State-Limited Use <sup>2</sup> Herbicides	Non-Restricted Use Herbicides
Grazon P+D	Milestone
Tordon 22K	Chaparral
Surmount	PastureGard
2,4-D	Redeem R&P
Weedmaster	Spike 20P
Banvel (Dicamba)	Spike 80DF
GrazonNext	Vista XLT
Weedar 64	Cimarron Extra
Weedone LV6	Remedy Ultra
Crossbow	Cimarron Plus
Cimarron Max	Reclaim
2,4-DB	VelPar L
GrazonNext HL	Amber
PasturAll HL	Pastora
PastureGard HL	

<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.