



Regional Beef Notes

Summer 2013

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Summer Grazing Workshop
Hardy Creek Farms
August 8, 2013
5:30 pm



Location – Hardy Creek Farms
4580 Plank Rd, Norwood, NC 28128

Registration Requested
Register by calling 704-983-3987
Or e-mail steve_lemons@ncsu.edu

The Carolinas are blessed with an excellent climate that can provide a year-round grazing system. However, we are also cursed with a forage base of endophyte infected fescue. Our current forage base does a good job of maintaining brood cows, but getting performance on calves after weaning often requires significant levels of supplementation, and the cost of supplemental feed has skyrocketed.

Producers desiring to add value to calves after weaning without significant supplementation need to seek out alternatives to the traditional forages and management techniques. The North Carolina Forage and Grassland Council and the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association have teamed with Amazing Grazing to present summer grazing demonstrations across the state using non-traditional forages. These forages include warm season native grasses, summer annual mixes, and perennial mixtures. The grazing demonstration is underway and a workshop is scheduled so local producers can come and actually see a different way of doing things. We will begin the workshop with a sponsored hamburger dinner at 5:30 pm, followed by a tour and discussion at 6:30 pm. There is no fee to attend, but reservations are requested.

Grazing Workshop Speakers
Dr. Matt Poore - NC State University

Sara Milteer - Dow Agro Sciences

Amy Porier - NCDA&CS
Regional Agronomist

Amazing Grazing
NC STATE UNIVERSITY'S
Livestock Pasture Educational Program

NC State University
A&T State University
**COOPERATIVE
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Empowering People • Providing Solutions

Combating Heavy Face Fly Populations

Steve Lemons, Extension Agent, Stanly County Center

With wet spring and summer conditions fly populations have been noticeably heavy on cattle and may continue to rise. We have noticed especially higher face fly numbers which can lead to problems such as pinkeye.

The face fly is not a bloodsucker but feeds on secretions around the animal's eyes, nostrils, and wounds, including those made by bloodsucking flies. Control options are different when considering the face fly rather than the horn fly. According to Ron Lemenager, Purdue University Extension beef specialist, "The face fly is a different critter. The feed-through insecticides don't work quite as well if you have neighbors who are not controlling their flies, because these flies will migrate from animal to animal. So you're probably stuck with using insecticide sprays, impregnated ear tags, dust bags, oilers or some combination of them. Producers should be careful which insecticides they use and how they use them." Lemenager said. "There are some resistance issues with some of these insecticides," he said. "Producers should visit with their local herd health provider or Extension educator about what's working in their area. We're probably going to have to

switch the insecticides we use from one year to the next, so that we don't develop a significant resistance problem."

Recent studies have shown insecticidal ear tags to be very effective combating face flies with Bayer Corathon® tags to be the most effective. Just remember that the label will call for applying 2 tags per animal and this practice will give the best control for face fly populations and hopefully prevent problems such as pinkeye.



**Remember to
Consign Your
Cattle**

**Call
704-983-3987**

2013 Feeder Cattle Sales Schedule

**Feeder Cattle Sale
August 15**

**Added Value BQA Feeder Cattle Sale
September 5**

**Feeder Cattle Sale
September 12**

NCDA&CS Agronomic Division
Peak-season Soil Testing Fee
July 1, 2013



The current House and Senate appropriations bills both contain a provision to implement a soil-testing fee. If passed, there will be \$4 fee for all soil samples processed by the NCDA&CS Agronomic Division during its busiest season: December through March. There will still be no fee from April through November.

Rationale:

- ❖ To improve lab efficiency by encouraging more growers to sample early, thereby fostering a more balanced sample load throughout the year
- ❖ To enhance sustainability of the soil-testing program by generating receipts that will be earmarked for lab improvements, such as automated equipment, additional peak-season personnel and computer-programming enhancements [The draft 2013 Appropriations Act ensures that receipts generated by the new fee will be appropriated to NCDA&CS for this purpose for FY 2014 and 2015.]

NOTE: This year, December 1st falls on a Sunday and is preceded by the Thanksgiving holidays. Wednesday, November 27th, will be the last business day of the month for the soil testing lab. Any soil **samples arriving after 6 p.m. on November 27th will be subject to the peak-season fee** because they will not be logged in and processed until December 2nd.

Sample drop offs must take place during business hours (6 a.m.–6 p.m., Mon.–Fri.). A locked gate will prevent access to the loading dock area after hours and on weekends. This change will help increase the security of samples and improve customers' access to Agronomic Division personnel.

Payment should not be placed inside shippers. By late Fall 2013, clients will have the convenience of entering sample and payment (credit card or escrow account) information online in the PALS website.

Cash and checks will be accepted for peak-season samples only if deposited in advance in an escrow account.

Facts:

- ❖ The Agronomic Division provides a quality soil-testing service that includes comprehensive chemical soil analyses, site-specific lime and fertilizer recommendations and access to the consulting services of NCDA&CS agronomists.
- ❖ It costs NCDA&CS approximately \$3.22 to analyze one sample (based on average expenses 2008–2012), of which about \$1 is covered by receipts from the state fertilizer inspection fee and lime tonnage tax.
- ❖ For a typical 8-acre field in eastern North Carolina, we estimate that the peak-season fee will cost between \$4 and \$16, depending upon the intensity of the sampling protocol.
- ❖ Most North Carolina growers submit fewer than 50 samples per year according to 2010 data.
- ❖ Of the approximately 350,000 samples typically received each year, nearly 60 percent are analyzed from December through March, with turnaround times of up to 9 weeks.
- ❖ The vast majority of soil samples analyzed during the winter months are from farms in preparation for spring planting. Most of these samples can be collected and submitted well before December 1st, thus avoiding the fee. Nearly all soil samples associated with home & garden and landscaping projects can be collected and submitted from April through November.
- ❖ Clients who desire expedited service during the peak season can purchase NCDA&CS expedited shippers to receive a guaranteed turnaround time of ten business days. A limited number of shippers are sold each year (usually in August or September). The anticipated 2013–14 price for a 36-sample shipper is \$200.

Anson County Ag Fair & Expo September 27th & 28th

Featuring:

Agricultural & Arts Exhibits
Lumberjack Competition
Vendor Booths
Scarecrow Contest
Educational Displays
Youth Scavenger Hunt



Anson County 4-H Youth Livestock Shows

Friday, September 27th

6 pm..... Goat Show

Saturday, September 28th

10 am..... Heifer Show

Immediately following Heifers.... Lamb Show

Part of the Farm Credit Show Circuit

Upcoming Events

<i>Stanly Co.-Summer Grazing Demonstration.....</i>	August 8
<i>Anson Co. Cattlemen's Assoc. Meeting-7p.m.</i>	August 13
<i>Regular Feeder Cattle Sale.....</i>	August 15
<i>Stanly Co.-Agri-Civic Day</i>	August 17
<i>BQA Cattle Sale</i>	September 5
<i>Regular Feeder Cattle Sale</i>	September 12
<i>Pesticide Recertification "V" Credits-Anson Co.</i>	September 17
<i>Anson Co. Farm City Week Banquet.....</i>	September 24
<i>Anson Ag Expo & Fair</i>	September 27&28

Persons with disability or persons with limited English proficiency can request accommodations by contacting Lori Ivey, County Extension Director, 704.983.3987, Fax 704.983.3303, or e-mail lori_ivey@ncsu.edu at least five days prior to any event listed in this newsletter.

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