

# MANATEE LIVESTOCKER

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**CALENDAR****July 8-11** Livestock Evaluation Camp**Aug 16** Maximizing the Educational Value of Florida's Youth Hog Shows—Tampa**Aug 23** Grazing Management 101—Okeechobee**Aug 23** Steer Weigh In**Sept 4-5** Grazing Management School**Sept 26** FCA Heifer Sale

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**The South Florida Beef Forage Program  
2008****Reproductive Management School  
October 21-23, 2008**

This school is sponsored by the Florida Cooperative Extension Service and is conducted with the assistance of area large animal veterinary practitioners. It is part of a continuing multi-county effort to help South Florida beef producers market more pounds of beef per cow profitably.

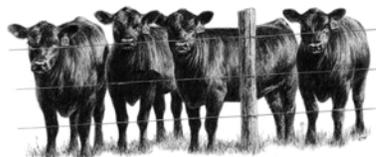
The purpose of the school is to strengthen managerial capabilities of owners and operators of beef cattle ranches. This is an intense school in reproductive management of the cow herd. Although the topic of pregnancy diagnosis is given extensive treatment in the program, participants should not expect this training to make them proficient in that skill. Rather it is hoped that an improved understanding of the broad subject of breeding herd management will be achieved. Individuals enrolled in the school will be better equipped to work

with their veterinarians in accomplishing breeding program objectives.

The school will be held October 21—23, 2008 at the Turner Agri-Civic Center in Arcadia. October 21 and 22nd the hours will be 8:00am—6:00pm and on October 31 the hours will be 8:00am-12:00 noon. The cost of the course is a total of \$350. A \$100 deposit is due by October 3rd and is not refundable. The balance, \$250 is due October 21st.

The agenda for the course can be found on page 4.

If you are interested in attending the class you can find the forms at <http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/agriculture/livestock/index.shtml> or by calling Christa, 941-722-4524.



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**Youth Livestock Evaluation Camp****July 8-11, 2008****9:30am—3:30pm****Manatee County Extension Office  
Rogers Auditorium**

## What is Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)?

*By: Christa L. Carlson-Kirby*

*Extension Agent II, Livestock*

*Manatee County Extension Service*

*Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources*

Many producers and consumers have heard about the Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) in regards to Beef, Pork and Lamb products. However, the law also includes fish, perishable agricultural commodities and peanuts. The first implementation of the COOL Law came into effect in January 2004. In this implementation the law required COOL for farm-raised fish and shellfish. The law also delayed implementation of the balance of the commodities until September 30, 2006. In another law on November 10, 2005, the balance of commodities requiring COOL was once again delayed until September 30, 2008.

The 2007 Farm Bill has language in it specifying that Beef, Pork and Lamb products from whole muscle and ground meats must have a Country of Origin Label by September 30, 2008. Since the Country of Origin Label has been passed into effect, any animal born on or after July 15, 2008, would have to have a signed affidavit from the suppliers, markets, ect. to verify its country of birth, production and processing. In other words when a producer sells an animal they would then provide production records or another affidavit to verify country of birth to the person or location of which they are selling their animal to. Sellers are responsible for providing information on the animal's locations of production to the buyer.

The COOL law applies to all beef, pork, lamb, fish, perishable agricultural commodities and peanut products which are to be sold in a retail setting, where the retailer is acquiring \$230,000 or more annually of that commodity regardless of their age

or gender. Any animal without country of origin verification can only be used in a restaurant, cafeteria, food stand, or other food-service venue. If an individual is selling less than \$230,000 annually on the commodity product or if the retailer is selling processed foods, they are not required to carry Country of Origin Labels.

For a product to be labeled "US Origin" the animal must be born, raised, and processed in the US. To be labeled "Product of the US and a Foreign Country of Origin" the animal has originated in another country and was raised and processed in the US. For a product to carry the "Foreign Origin" Label the animal and or product would be imported into the US from a foreign country. Ground meat products will require a label stating all countries of origin which are in that ground product.

Sources:

Agricultural Marketing Service. 2008.9 June 2008. <<http://www.ams.usda.gov>>

National Cattlemen's Beef Association. 2008. 9 June 2008. <<http://www.beefusa.org>>

"Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), July 2007". <http://www.aragriculture.org> 9 May 2008.

<[http://www.aragriculture.org/livestock/hot\\_topics/COOL\\_July2007.htm](http://www.aragriculture.org/livestock/hot_topics/COOL_July2007.htm)>



## Manatee County Fair Steer Weigh-In

### Saturday, August 23, 2008

### 8:00am—11:00am



**Grazing Management 101**  
**August 23, 2008**  
**Okeechobee County Extension Office**

This course is sponsored by The South Florida Beef-Forage Program of the University of Florida, Cooperative Extension Service. This course represents basic pasture management principles and concepts. It is part of a continuing multi-county education effort to help South-Central Florida producers raise and market high quality beef cattle, per cow, per acre, profitably.

Grazing management is the manipulation of livestock grazing to obtain defined outputs of livestock products. It involves careful management of both pasture and livestock resources to meet desired objectives. This course is offered in a two session format to offer basic pasture management principles along with hands-on activities and demonstrations. The theories of grazing management concepts and pasture establishment methods are discussed in a classroom setting during the first half of the day, and the concepts taught are supported by practical appli-

cations in the field during the afternoon session.

The "Grazing Management 101" is offered each summer and we encourage new farmers to attend. Registration fee for this school is **\$ 20.00 if returned by August 8, 2008, and \$ 30.00 if returned after August 8, 2008, or at the door.** Registrations should be returned to, and checks made payable to:

**South Florida Beef-Forage Program**  
**c/o Christa L. Carlson-Kirby, Treasurer**  
**1303 17th St W**  
**Palmetto, FL 34221**

Anyone wishing to have more information may contact, Christa L. Carlson-Kirby at the UF/UFAS Manatee County Extension Office, 941-722-4524.

**Grazing Management School**  
**September 4-5, 2008**  
**Hendry County Extension Office**  
**Labelle**

This school is sponsored by The South Florida Beef-Forage Program of the University of Florida, Cooperative Extension Service. It is conducted with the volunteer assistance of area livestock producers and Allied Industries. It represents separation of the original Forage and Pasture Management School into subject components that can be taught in a couple of days. It is part of a continuing multi-county education effort to help South-Central Florida producers raise and market high quality beef cattle, per cow, per acre, profitably.

Grazing management is the manipulation of livestock grazing to obtain defined outputs of livestock products. It involves careful management of both pasture and livestock resources to meet desired objectives. This new course is offered in a two day session. The theories of grazing management concepts and methods are discussed in a classroom setting during the first day, and concepts taught are supported by practi-

cal applications in the field during the second day touring selected ranches in the area.

This is the third annual "Grazing Management School" and we encourage you and your personnel to attend. Registration fee for this school is **\$ 60.00 if returned by August 8, 2008, and \$ 80.00 if returned after August 8, 2008.** Registration forms and further information can be obtained by contacting Christa, 941-722-4524 or by email, ccarlson@ufl.edu. Registrations should be returned to, and checks made payable to:

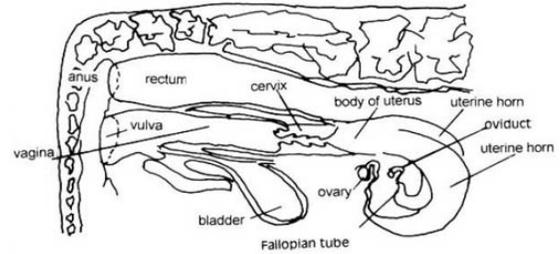
**South Florida Beef-Forage Program**  
**c/o Christa Carlson-Kirby, Treasurer**  
**1303 17<sup>th</sup> Street West**  
**Palmetto, FL 34221**



# Reproductive Management School Agenda

## Tuesday, October 21, 2008

- 8:00 Introductions
- 8:30 Pregnancy Testing
- 10:00 Break
- 10:10 Quiet Handling of Beef Cattle
- 11:00 Pregnancy Testing Video
- 11:30 Lunch (provided)
- 12:15 Intact Tracts Lab
- 1:00 Lab—Hands On Pregnancy Testing
- 3:30 Heifer Development and Management of Young Cows
- 4:15 Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation
- 5:30 Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation—Live Animal Demo

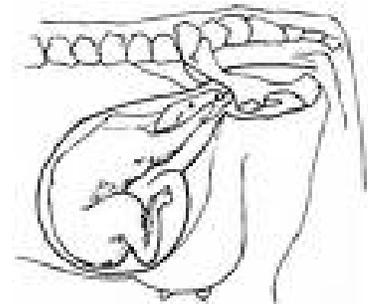


## Wednesday, October 22, 2008

- 8:00 Genetic Management for Efficient Reproduction
- 8:30 Coping with Calving Problems
- 9:15 Breeding Season Management
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 Health Management—Vaccination Program For Reproduction
- 10:30 Nutrition for Reproduction
- 11:15 Reproductive Implications of Body Condition and Nutritional Management
- 12:00 Lunch (Provided)
- 12:30 Lab—Hands on Pregnancy Testing
- 3:30 Utilizing Performance Records

## Thursday, October 23, 2008

- 8:00 The Role of Artificial Insemination in Beef Cattle
- 8:30 Herd Bull Selection
- 9:00 Estrus Synchronization and Heat Detection
- 9:30 Break
- 9:45 Nutrition for Reproduction—Forage Quality
- 10:15 The role of Ultra Sound in a Beef Cattle Herd
- 10:45 Program Summary and Evaluation
- 11:00 Hands On Lab—End of School



# Beef Management Calendar

## July

- Cut corn silage.
- Control weeds in summer pastures.
- Apply nitrogen to warm season pastures, if needed.
  - Check mineral feeder.
- Check for army worms and mole crickets, and treat if necessary.
  - Wean calves and cull cow herd.
  - Watch for evidence of footrot and treat.
- Consider preconditioning calves before sale including vaccination for shipping fever and IBR at least 3 weeks before sale.
  - Check dust bags.
  - Update market information and plans.
  - Revaccinate calves at weaning for blackleg.

## August

- Treat for liver flukes as close to August 15th as possible, if they are in your area.
  - Cut hay.
  - Apply lime for fall and winter crops.
    - Harvest Bahiagrass seed.
    - Check mineral feeder.
  - Update market information and marketing plans.
- Check for army worms, spittlebugs, and mole crickets, and treat if necessary.
  - Check dust bags.
  - Wean calves and cull cow herd.
  - Watch for evidence of abortions.
  - Observe animals regularly for signs of disease.
- If cattle grubs were found on cattle last winter or heel flies were observed in the pasture, treat for cattle grubs this month.
  - Pregnancy test and cull open heifers from replacement herd.

## September

- Cut hay.
- Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to cool season pastures.
  - Check mineral feeder.
- Check for mole crickets, spittlebugs, and grasshoopers, and treat if necessary.
  - Check dust bags.
- Wean calves and cull cow herd if not already done. Remove open, unsound, or poor producing cows.
  - Train cowboys to observe normal and abnormal behavior and signs of disease.
  - Be sure any replacement purchases are healthy and have been calfhooed vaccinated for brucellosis.
  - September or October is a good time to deworm the cow herd if internal parasites are a problem.
- When replacement heifers are weaned, give them required vaccinations and teach them to eat from a bunk – Then, put them on a good nutrition program.
- Determine bull replacement needs, develop selection criteria, and start checking availability of quality animals.
- Review winter feed supply and feeding plans so that needed adjustments can be made before supplies tighten and prices rise.

### **The South Florida Beef Forage Producer Survey**

Many beef cattle producers have received the South Florida Beef Forage Program Producer Survey. This survey is used to advise and guide programs provided by the South Florida Beef Forage Program. I will also use this survey to develop and guide the Manatee County Livestock Program. If you have received a survey please fill it out and return the completed survey by using the self addressed stamped envelope provided. I would like to thank you advance for your assistance with this survey. Results of the 2003 survey can be found online at <http://sfbfp.ifas.ufl.edu>.



Christa L. Carlson-Kirby  
Extension Agent II, Livestock