

**DeSoto County
Beef Newsletter**

2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

January 2007 / Volume 29 Number 1



**DeSoto County Fair
January 18-28, 2007**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

18	24 th Annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show, Osceola Heritage Park, Kissimmee, FL
20	DeSoto County Fair Goat Showmanship Show, 10:00 AM
21	DeSoto County Fair Grooming Contest, 2:00 PM
23	DeSoto County Fair Steer Show, 7:00 PM
24	DeSoto County Fair Swine Show, 7:00 PM
25	DeSoto County Fair Beef Breeding Show, 7:00 PM
26	DeSoto County Fair Steer and Swine Sale, 7:00 PM

24th ANNUAL FLORIDA CATTLEMEN'S INSTITUTE AND ALLIED TRADE SHOW

The Theme for this year's Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show will be "Get Em Bred Institute". This year's Institute and Allied Trade Show will be held on January 18, 2007, at the Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, off of Highway 192 East (Irlo Bronson Highway), Kissimmee. The host motel will be the Quality Inn located just east of Osceola Heritage Park on 2050 E Irlo Bronson Hwy. The Institute will begin with the Trade Show opening at 8:00 A.M., followed by the welcome at 8:45 AM given by Dr. Jimmy Cheek, Vice-President for Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS). One of the keynote speakers for this years Institute are Dr. W. E. (Bill) Beal. Dr. Beal is a Professor in the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences, College of Agriculture at Virginia Tech University located at Blacksburg, Va. His beef cattle reproductive physiology research is focused on controlling estrus and ovulation in heifers and postpartum cows.

BSE-IMMUNE COWS ENGINEERED

Twelve cows have been genetically engineered to be free from the proteins that cause BSE, which may give them immunity to the disease. A team of researchers from the United States and Japan reported that they had eliminated the gene responsible for making the proteins, called prions, in these cows, which are now being injected directly with BSE to further verify the results. **Source—Drovers Alert, Thursday, January 4, 2007, Vol. 9, Issue 1.**

CAB MAKES THE MOST OF LIMITED SUPPLIES

More than 544 million pounds of Certified Angus Beef was sold in 56 countries during the brand's fiscal year that ended Sept. 30. CAB identified a record 13.1 million Angus cattle last year, but an acceptance rate of 14 percent was the lowest in the program's 28 year history. Despite the low acceptance rate, CAB saw a seventh consecutive year of sales greater than half a billion pounds — made possible by marketing nearly 300 pounds of boneless beef equivalent per carcass. **Source—Drovers Alert, Thursday, January 4, 2007, Vol. 9, Issue 1.**

MARKET INFORMATION

November 28, 2006

	1/06/07	Last Week	Last Year
5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE			
Live Steer	88.88	87.94	93.79
Live Heifer	89.07	88.03	93.93
Dressed Steer	141.11	139.31	148.57
Dressed Heifer	141.33	139.64	148.54

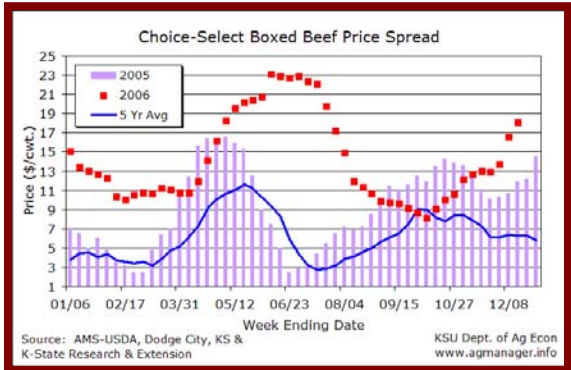
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	1/06/07	Last Week	Last Year
BEEF PRODUCTION	(Estimate)	(Estimate)	(Actual)
Slaughter	517,000	523,000	525,000
Live Weights	1300	1298	1279
Dressed Weights	788	787	776
Beef Production (M. of Pounds)	405.9	409.7	406.1

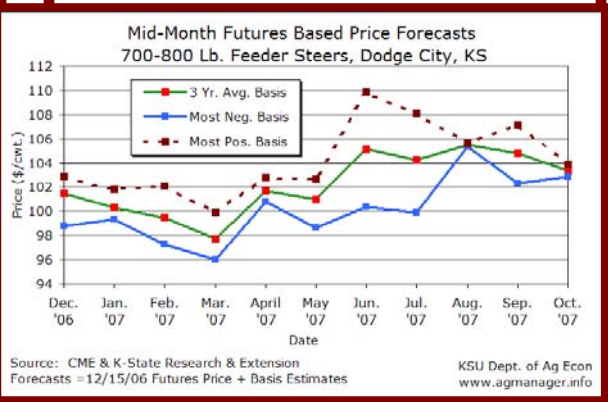
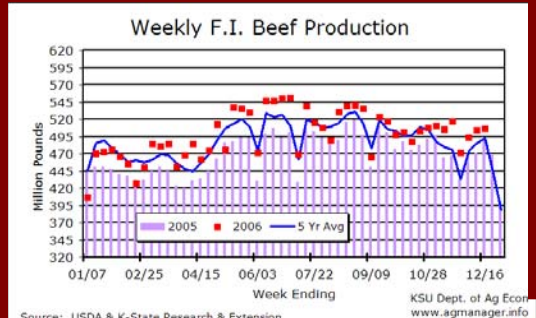
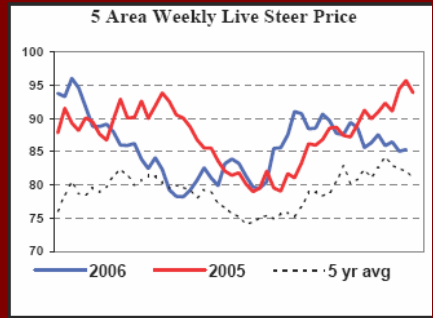
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS712.txt

	12/22/06	Last Week	Last Year
National Grading Percent			
Prime	2.69%	3.17%	2.86%
Choice	52.56%	53.51%	51.19%
Select	35.61%	35.61%	37.82%

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/NW_LS196.txt



Choice/Select Spread
01/05/07
\$14.11/cwt
http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM_XB403.TXT



The summary below reflects the week ended November 10, 2006 for Medium and Large 1 -- 500- to 550-lb., 600- to 650-lb., and 700- to 750-lb. heifers and steers. **Source: Beef Stocker Trends, December 19, 2006.**

State	Volume	Steers			Heifers		
		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.
TX	27,900	\$110.43	\$102.78	\$101.96	\$98.36	\$94.86	\$93.97
AL	11,100	\$100-108	\$94-101	\$90-96	\$90-100	\$83-90	\$79-86
TN	9,800	\$100.56	\$91.78	\$88.78	\$88.78	\$85.16	\$82.69
FL	7,300	\$86-105	\$80-95	\$76-85	\$83-104	\$76-87	\$70-75
GA	2,000	\$98.97	\$88.59	\$84.51	\$90.26	\$86.49	\$77.62



CORN:

CORN: Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 10 to 15 cents lower from 4.10-4.15 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 27 to 29 cents lower from 3.40-3.42 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was not available. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 22 1/4 to 25 1/4 cents lower from 3.34 1/4 -3.53 1/4 per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 24 1/4 to 26 1/4 cents lower from 3.40 1/4 -3.41 1/4 per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 27 1/4 cents lower at 3.12 1/4 per bushel. **Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday January 5, 2006, http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt**

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2007 COULD BE BETTER FOR CATTLE FEEDERS

Lower calf and feeder-cattle prices could help cattle feeders improve their balance sheets this year compared with 2006, according to the Livestock Marketing Information Center. Last year, returns for cattle in Southern Plains Feedlots, where losses averaged \$75 per head, were the worst in LMIC records dating to 1975. Feeders will need to carefully manage purchase prices for cattle this year, and rising feed costs will remain a challenge. In the cow-calf sector, returns were lower during 2006 but remained positive at an average of about \$48 per cow, according to LMIC. Higher cull-cow prices this year could help offset lower calf values, and cow-calf returns should be similar to last year, depending on weather and feed costs. **Source—Drovers Alert, Thursday, January 4, 2007, Vol. 9, Issue 1.**

FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL--<http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
0.32"	3.26"	0.97"	0.14"	2.07"	2.71"	5.84"	9.30"	4.15"	1.36"	0.81"	2.13"	33.06"

FAWN WEATHER INFORMATION

The FAWN (Florida Automated Weather Network) can be accessed at the following website: <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu/>. There is also a toll free number that can be called to get information when you are in the field away from a computer. That number is: 866-754-5732.

Beef Management Calendar

January/February

Check mineral feeder.	Check for external parasites and treat if needed.
Deworm cows and heifers prior to winter feeding season.	Observe regularly for calving difficulties.
Rotate calving pastures to prevent diseases.	Watch for scours in calves.
Give bulls extra feed and care so they will be in condition for breeding season.	Have dead animals posted by a veterinarian or diagnostic laboratory.
Watch condition of cow herd and supplement if necessary. Post calving cows have the highest nutritional requirements in the first 82 days.	Discuss herd health with you veterinarian and outline a program for the 2007 year.
Develop or review of management plan and update for next year.	Carry a pocket notebook to record heat, breeding abnormalities, discharges, abortions, retained placentas.
	January 1, put bulls out for October calving season.
Make sure lactating cows are receiving an adequate level of energy.	Work calves (identify, implant with growth stimulant, vaccinate, etc.).

SENATORS ASK FOR ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR AG

Senators Norm Coleman (R-MN) and Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) plan to send a letter to the President urging him to "refrain from proposing harmful cuts" to ag when preparing the Administration's fiscal year '08 budget. The letter states, "Instead, we urge you to propose a robust, new investment in renewable fuels that will add to the budget savings already realized or forecast under current farm policy and make room for the Administration to propose additional funding in order to meet new priorities and policy objectives, including many identified by the Administration, without making harmful cuts to existing priorities." The administration will present its budget to Congress the first week of February. **Source—Cow-Calf Weekly, Friday, January 5, 2007.**

DESPITE FDA ENDORSEMENT, CLONED FOOD STILL YEARS FROM STORE SHELVES

Despite a government endorsement, food from cloned animals could take years to reach supermarket shelves. But the backing does give hope to several struggling businesses that clone cows and pigs. The biotechnology companies believe ranchers, dairy producers and others now will be more willing to pay upward of \$16,000 per clone following last week's tentative approval by the Food and Drug Administration to use the technology to produce food. Although no law bars

cloned food, the companies and their customers have for the past three years voluntarily withheld sales of cloned-derived food pending the FDA review. An 800-page FDA report concluded Thursday there is no difference between cloned and conventionally produced food. The FDA won't formally adopt its findings until early 2007, keeping the voluntary ban in place. The initial milk, beef and pork products on the market likely won't come directly from cloned animals because of the technology's cost. Instead, ranchers are expected to pay to produce a "rock star" breeder that would produce valuable offspring for years to come. The idea is to create exact genetic duplicates of animals that consistently produce superior offspring. Breeding today is as much art as science, and ranchers have no way of knowing if a particular cow will produce steakhouse grade cuts or dog food. **Source—Food Systems Insider, Friday, January 5, 2007, Volume 6, Issue 1**

E. COLI VACCINE APPROVED IN CANADA

Canadian biopharmaceutical company, Bioniche Life Sciences Inc., received authorization to distribute its *E. coli* O157:H7 cattle vaccine to Canadian veterinarians. This is the first vaccine technology for control of the bacteria and is indicated for the reduction of shedding of *E. coli* O157:H7 in cattle. **Source—Food Systems Insider, Friday, January 5, 2007, Volume 6, Issue 1**

KNOW WHEN COWS NEED ASSISTANCE.

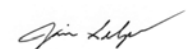
Intervention is justified when a cow continues to have active contractions but makes no progress in expulsion of her calf. Research has shown that timely, appropriate intervention (for mature cows, one hour; and for first-calf heifers, up to two hours after the onset of abnormal contractions) increases the cow's chances of getting rebred. In a normal delivery, the calf's forelegs and head, encased by membrane, are forced through the birth canal and emerge from the vulva. You should train yourself to recognize an abnormal delivery and know when professional help is required. Using a disposable glove, feel the various parts of the calf to determine its position in the birth canal. In normal position, the bottom of the calf's feet face downward and its head can be felt between its front legs. Some abnormalities--such as one or both forelegs back, or head turned back can be corrected by pushing the calf back and manually repositioning the extremities. Backward presentation with rear feet first is usually uncomplicated. Other abnormal positions would likely require veterinary assistance

Animal	Type of estrous cycle	Length of estrous cycle (days)	Duration of estrus	Time of ovulation	Gestation Length
Cattle	Polyestrous	19-23 Average: 21	6-30 hours Average 18 hrs.	12 hours after end of estrus	270-295 days 283 days*
Goat	Seasonal polyestrous in Fall	12-24 Average: 20	1-4 days Average: 39 hrs.	30-36 hours after start of estrus	144-155 days Average: 150 days
Sheep	Seasonal polyestrous in Fall	14-20 Average: 17	20-42 hours Average: 30 hrs.	At or near the end of estrus	144-151 days Average: 147 days
Horse	Seasonal polyestrous in Spring	10-37 Average: 21	2-6 days Average: 4 days	24-28 hours before the start of estrus to 24 hours after the end of estrus	320- 380 days Average: 338-345 days
Swine	Polyestrous	18-24 Average: 21	1-2 days Average: 36 hrs.	8-12 hours before the end of estrus or 37-40 hours after the start of estrus	113-116 days Average: 114 days

Estrus: A female animal's readiness to mate: heat

Polyestrus: Having multiple periods of estrus in a year, or during a breeding season. Multiple heat cycles during the fall or spring.

***Bos indicus (Brahman):** 293 day average.



James F. Selph
DeSoto County Extension Director, IV, Livestock



The Foundation for The Gator Nation

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And Allied Trade Show

January 18, 2007

Osceola Heritage Park

1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Highway 192 East

Sponsored by:

**UF/IFAS EXTENSION SERVICE AND THE FLORIDA
ALLIED INDUSTRIES**

**“Get'em Bred Institute”
Nutrition, Health and Management for Reproduction**

8:00 AM	Trade Show Opens Moderator: Gary Mikulecky, Chairman 2007 FCIATS, UF/IFAS, Highlands				Pregnancy”—Dr. Bill Beal, Professor – Animal and Poultry Science Dept., Virginia Tech
8:45 AM	“Welcome”: Dr. Jimmy Cheek, UF/IFAS—Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources		11:30 AM		“The State of the State”—Charlie Bronson, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture
	“Welcome”: Dr. Hal Phillips, DVM, Florida Cattlemen's Association, President		12:00 PM		<u>AWARDS</u>
9:00 AM	“Animal Health Needs for Today's Cow Herd”—Dr. Mark Spire, DVM, MS, DACT Manager, Technical Services, Schering-Plough Animal Health		12:15 PM		LUNCH
10:00 AM	Trade Show Break		1:00 PM		“Reproduction Requires Adequate Nutrition”—Dr. Matt Hersom, Ph.D, UF/IFAS, Animal Sciences Department
10:30 AM	“Understanding the Estrous Cycle and Maintenance of		1:45 PM		“Managing Pastures for Beef Cattle”—Dr. Joe Vendramini, Forage Agronomist, UF/IFAS, Range Cattle Research and Education Center, Ona
			2:30 PM		Trade Show Break
			3:00 PM		Wrap-Up, Dr. Bill Beal

Please RSVP to our office if you plan to attend: 863-993-4846, e-mail: jselph@ifas.ufl.edu
Hotel Information: Kissimmee Quality Inn, Heritage Park 2050 E. Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee, FL,
Telephone: 407-846-4545, Room Rate: \$59.00/ Night, plus tax. (Ask for Florida Cattlemen's Institute Rate)

**Participants Requiring Special Accommodations Should Contact Randy Bateman (321-697-3000)
48 Hours Before The Event.**

Gestation Table for Mammals—Merck Veterinarian Manual

Domestic Animals	Days	Wild animals	Days
Cat	63	Bear (black)	210
Cattle [†]	283	Bison	270
Angus	281	Camel	410
Ayrshire	279	Chimpanzee	236
Brahman	292	Coyote	63
Brown Swiss	290	Deer (Mule and White-tailed)	200
Charolais	289	Elephant	660
Guernsey	283	Elk, Wapiti	255
Hereford	285	Giraffe	425
Holstein	279	Gorilla	270
Jersey	279	Hare	36
Limousin	289	Hippopotamus	240
Shorthorn	282	Leopard	95
Simmental	289	Lion	108
Dog	58-72 [‡]	Marmoset	150
Donkey	365	Monkey (Macaque)	180
Goat	150	Moose	240
Horse	330	Muskox	255
Llama	350	Opossum	12
Pig	114	Panther	90
Sheep	150	Porcupine	210
Fur Animals	Days	Pronghorn	230
Chinchilla	111	Raccoon	63
Ferret	42	Reindeer	225
Fox	52	Rhinoceros (African)	480
Human	266	Seal	330
		Shrew	20
		Skunk	63
Muskrat	29	Squirrel (gray)	40
Nutria, Coypu	130	Tapir	390
Otter	270-300 [§]	Tiger	103
Rabbit	31	Walrus	450
Wolf	63	Whale (sperm)	450

This is a table that I found that I thought that many of you who receive this newsletter might find interesting as to the length of gestation (the length of time the offspring have spent developing in the uterus) of different animals. Jim Selph