# DeSoto County Beef Newsletter

2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, Fl 34266

**October 2007 / Volume 29 Number 10**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pasture Weed Field Day, Ona Range Cattle Research Center, 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pine Ridge Angus Bull Sale, Arcadia Stockyards, 1:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-18</td>
<td>Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition, Moultrie, GA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>3rd Annual Florida Quail/Dove Short Course, Turner Center, Arcadia, FL, 7:30AM—5:00PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>DeSoto County Cattlemen’s Association Annual Fall Meeting, Turner Center Exhibit Hall, 7:00 PM, Arcadia, FL.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Florida Society for Range Management Fall Field Day, Escape Ranch, Kenansville, FL</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jorgensen Land and Cattle Angus Bull Sale, Arcadia Stockyards, 1:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>All Breed Bull Sale (Angus, Braford, Brangus, Charolais, &amp; Polled Hereford, Arcadia Stockyards, 1:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Florida Brangus Breeders Association Bull Sale, Arcadia Stockyards, 1:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FEEDYARD PLACEMENTS, INVENTORIES DOWN

USDA’s September Cattle on Feed report, released last Friday, shows that high feed prices continue to discourage placements of cattle into feedyards. As of Sept. 1, feedyard inventories were 6 percent below those of one year earlier. Placements into feedyards during August, at 2.12 million head, were 7 percent below those during August 2006. Following the trend of recent months, the biggest decline in placements was in the lightest weight categories. Placements of cattle weighing less than 600 pounds declined 28 percent compared with August 2006, while placements in heavier weight categories were close to those of one year ago. Feedyards marketed 2.07 million finished cattle during August, virtually the same as last year. Livestock analysts expect the supply of both feeder cattle and fed cattle to become tighter this winter and into next spring. Such tighter supplies would support higher fed-cattle prices during that time frame. Inventories are down in all the major feeding states from a year ago. Corn prices will continue to influence cattle feeders, as evidenced by the significant decline (190,000 head) in placements of cattle weighing less than 600 pounds. Both packer margins and feedyard margins finished September in negative territory. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, September 27, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 39.
MARKET INFORMATION
October 1, 2007

The summary below reflects the week ending September 28, 2007 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, October 2, 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Steers</th>
<th>Heifers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500-550 lbs.</td>
<td>600-650 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>$112.15</td>
<td>$111.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AL</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>$111-118</td>
<td>$104-110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN</td>
<td>12,400</td>
<td>$113.41</td>
<td>$108.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>12,300</td>
<td>$97-103</td>
<td>$96-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>$95-117</td>
<td>$94-111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CORN:
Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 51 to 54 cents lower from 3.67-3.74 per bushel.  Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 45 cents lower at 3.19 per bushel.  Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 45 cents lower from 2.97-2.99 per bushel.  Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 44 1/2 to 51 1/2 cents lower from 2.97 1/4-3.30 1/4 per bushel.  Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 54 1/2 to 60 1/2 cents lower from 3.10 1/4-3.22 1/4 per bushel.  Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 44 1/2 cents lower at 2.92 1/4 per bushel.


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**FAWN—DESOТО COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL—2007**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUN</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>SEPT</th>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>DEC</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.93”</td>
<td>2.09”</td>
<td>0.81”</td>
<td>2.80”</td>
<td>2.28”</td>
<td>5.04”</td>
<td>5.42”</td>
<td>5.57”</td>
<td>4.56”</td>
<td>30.50”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.32”</td>
<td>3.26”</td>
<td>0.97”</td>
<td>0.14”</td>
<td>2.07”</td>
<td>2.71”</td>
<td>5.84”</td>
<td>9.30”</td>
<td>1.36”</td>
<td>0.81”</td>
<td>2.13”</td>
<td>33.06”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently we are 1.33” ahead of last year.

**FAWN—DESOТО COUNTY HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE—FIRST COLUMN IS THE HIGH & 2ND COLUMN IS THE LOW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUN</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>SEPT</th>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>DEC</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>86.6°</td>
<td>86.5°</td>
<td>86.3°</td>
<td>90.5°</td>
<td>89.0°</td>
<td>97.5°</td>
<td>95.4°</td>
<td>97.1°</td>
<td>94.2°</td>
<td>°</td>
<td>°</td>
<td>°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.3°</td>
<td>32.6°</td>
<td>39.5°</td>
<td>43.9°</td>
<td>53.0°</td>
<td>63.0°</td>
<td>69.3°</td>
<td>69.8°</td>
<td>67.8°</td>
<td>°</td>
<td>°</td>
<td>°</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOT STRESS? DRINK THIS**

A Japanese company has launched a milk beverage that claims to reduce stress. Nakazawa Foods claims the milk is taken from cows once a week at the break of dawn as they discharge a high level of melatonin, a stress-reducing hormone. The milk is bottled within six hours of milking at a farm north of Tokyo. We're not sure if it's "adult milk" due to the melatonin, or the price – a whopping $43 per quart! That's nearly 30 times as expensive as ordinary milk – outrageous even for Tokyo, which has the highest cost of living on the planet.—Drovers Alert, Thursday, October 4, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 40.

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**Beef Management Calendar**

**October/November**

- Cut Hay.
- Check dustbags, oilers, etc.
- Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to ryegrass.
- Check pastures and hay fields for armyworms.
- Check mineral feeder.
- Survey pastures for poisonous weeds.
- Wean calves and cull Cow Herd.
- Check for external parasites, especially lice & treat.
- Watch condition of cow herd and supplement if necessary. Post calving cows have the highest nutritional requirements in the first 82 days.
- Determine bull replacement needs, develop selection criteria, and start checking availability of quality animals.
- Plant cool season Ryegrass and small grains.
- Plant cool season legumes.

**BEEF RECALL FIFTH LARGEST**

The USDA is urging consumers to avoid any of the 21.7 million pounds of frozen ground beef that has been recalled by Topps Meat Company due to potential infection with *E. coli* bacteria. The USDA says this recall is the fifth largest in the history of the United States. According to an agency release, the frozen ground beef products were produced on various dates between Sept. 25, 2006, and Sept. 25, 2007, and distributed to food service institutions in the New York metropolitan area and to retail establishments nationwide. The latest *E. coli* recall prompted Consumers Union to call for a single food agency that would focus on food safety. "The system is broken," says Jean Halloran, Consumers Union’s director of food policy initiatives. "Recalls and inspections have failed miserably. Clearly we need a single food agency with the tools, resources and leadership to focus on one clear mission – food safety." Ms. Halloran believes both the FDA and USDA need "mandatory recall authority."— Greg Henderson, *Drovers* editor—Drovers Alert, Thursday, October 4, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 40.

**CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON DISTILLERS’ GRAINS**

U.S. Grains Council and BBI International will host the 2007 International Distillers Grains Conference and Trade Show at the Renaissance in Schaumburg, Ill., on Oct. 21-23. The conference will focus on industry issues related to distillers' grains for domestic and international end users and provide opportunities for buyers and sellers, animal
health professionals, producers, researchers and service providers to network and learn more about one of the world’s fastest growing feed ingredient businesses. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, October 4, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 40.

DESOTO COUNTY CATTLEMEN’S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FALL MEETING
Let’s have the biggest turnout ever!! The 2007 DeSoto County Cattlemen’s Association Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 25, 2007 at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall. All members, along with their family, are invited to attend. Members are asked to bring a covered dish. You may bring one guest to the steak dinner. Members bringing more than one guest will be asked to pay $10.00 per each additional guest. Not only will you be able to enjoy an excellent steak dinner by attending, you will also hear excellent information concerning beef cattle production and most of all, you will have a great time socializing with your friends.

FLORIDA SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT FALL FIELD DAY
The Florida Society for Range Management will have their annual Fall Field Day on October 26, 2007. The Escape Ranch, located in Kenansville, FL will be the host for this event. Topics included will be prescribed fire, roller chopping, supplemental feeding, predation management, a bird dog demonstration and more. The entire Field Day will be geared toward quail management and be presented in a context of proper management of flatwoods and dry prairie habitats.

REPORT ON ARGENTINE AND URUGUAYAN BEEF INDUSTRIES
Argentina and Uruguay are significant beef exporters and, on a per-capita basis, among the world’s greatest beef consumers, according to a new report from the USDA's Economic Research Service. The two countries also account for between 13 and 20 percent of U.S. beef imports on a tonnage basis. Most of that is grass-fed beef, as only 10 to 20 percent of their beef production involves grain finishing. Both countries have recently implemented national animal identification systems, and their export slaughter facilities are up to the World Trade Organization's sanitary standards. Both countries are considered free from bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) by virtue of their pasture-based production technologies, but wrestle with foot-and-mouth disease (FMD). Argentine cattle/beef markets and trade are clearly and significantly affected by Government interventions in the domestic market. In contrast, Uruguay focuses on exporting beef. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, September 27, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 39.

EVALUATING BULLS FOR REPRODUCTION
With the time of year upon us that we are considering buying bulls, some quick thoughts on what criteria we should use to make our purchasing decisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structural Correctness</th>
<th>Muscle</th>
<th>Testicular Size and Masculinity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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</table>

Balance, Capacity and Condition are 3 other physical attributes that should be considered in selecting the live animal. Of the 3, I believe that selecting bulls with adequate capacity (not pencil gutted) is by far the better consideration in our sub-tropical humid environment with lower quality forages. The use of EPD’s (Expected Progeny Differences) is the paper tool that we have for making cattle selection, especially bulls in crossbred cow-calf operations. I will address EPD’s in depth in next month’s newsletter. If you would like to know more about EPD’s in the meantime, contact me at the office (863-993-4846 or jimselph@ufl.edu) and we can sit down and discuss their use in detail.

James F. Selph
DeSoto County Extension Director, IV, Livestock & Forages
**Directions**

**From SR64:** Travel South on CR663 approximately 5 miles and turn right onto Goosepond road. Travel approximately 1.5 miles and turn left onto Experiment Station Road. Follow this road past the main office and follow the signs for parking.

**From SR70:** Travel North on CR661 approximately 10 miles and turn left onto Goosepond road. Travel approximately 1.5 miles and turn left onto Experiment Station Road. Follow this road past the main office and follow the signs for parking.

**PLEASE RSVP**

We will need to know how many people we will be serving for lunch. Please contact Toni Wood at (863) 735-1314 or email her at fistroll@ufl.edu. A $10 per person registration fee, made payable to The South Florida Beef Forage Program, may be sent directly to Toni Wood, 3401 Experiment Station, Ona, FL 33865. As long as you are preregistered, you may bring your payment with you to the field day. If you are not preregistered, on-site registration is $30.

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**Pasture Weed Day 2007**

**Thursday, October 11**

8:30 AM

$10 Pre-Registration by Sept. 28

$30 On-site registration

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Hard to Control Weeds

Are you battling tropical soda apple or climbing fern? Do you have questions concerning forage tolerance to herbicides? How do you remove vaseygrass and bahiagrass from bermudagrass or stargrass pastures? Is there anything new for smutgrass? What herbicides are available for pasture weed control? What is that weed?

These are all questions we ask. Every year we are challenged with new questions, problems, and sometimes, new weeds. It is our goal to help you find an economical approach to weed control in your pastures.

Controlling weeds can be a problem, and optimum weed control will depend on the particular weed species, the environment, weed age and size, as well as time of year. We hope to share some information concerning pasture weed control at this field day.

Who Should Attend?
- Ranchers
- Herbicide Applicators
- Extension Educators
- Anyone who wants to learn more about weed control in pastures

Program

8:30
Arrive at Ona (See Map)

9:00
Opening Welcome & Address

9:10
Tour
- TSA virus
- TSA beetle
- Climbing fern
- Forage grass tolerance to herbicides
- Weed Identification
- Vaseygrass and bahiagrass control in stargrass pastures
- Smutgrass control
- Cleanwave herbicide

12:00 – 1:30
Lunch at Range Cattle REC

1:30
Adjourn

Tour Speakers

Dr. Brent Sellers, Extension Weed Specialist and Asst. Professor, University of Florida-IFAS Range Cattle REC and Dept. of Agronomy

Dr. Greg MacDonald, Weed Scientist and Assoc. Professor, University of Florida-IFAS Department of Agronomy

Dr. Ken Langeland, Weed Scientist and Professor, University of Florida-IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants and Department of Agronomy

Dr. Raghaven Charudattan, Plant Pathologist and Department Chair, University of Florida-IFAS Department of Plant Pathology.

Dr. Julio Medal, Entomologist, University of Florida-IFAS Department of Nematology and Entomology.

Mr. Ed Jennings, Regional Specialized Livestock Agent, Pasco County Extension.

CEU and CCA Credits

We are currently applying for CEU and CCA credits. Those needing such credits will be asked to sign in when arriving at the pasture and sign out at the end of the program.
**Agenda**

*Presiding: Jim Selph*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Trade Show Opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introductions: Jim Selph &amp; Bill Giuliano</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bobwhite Quail Ecology, Management, & Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:05</td>
<td>Bobwhite Basics: Dr. Bill Giuliano-Professor and Extension Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Identifying Important Native Quail Plants: Kristen Candelora-Natural Resources Extension Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:55</td>
<td>Food Plots and Supplemental Feeding for Quail: Robert Hoffman &amp; Brandon Schad, UF/IFAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>BMPs for Pen-raised Birds: Fred Fanizi, Quail Creek Plantation, Okeechobee, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>Break (Trade Show)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Dove Facts: Kurt Hodges, FL Fish &amp; Wildlife Conservation Commission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mourning Dove Ecology, Management, & Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:25</td>
<td>Dove Fields: Jim Selph-DeSoto County Extension Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>Dove Harvest and Hunting: Nick Wiley-Director of Hunting and Game Management, FWC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Q&amp;A with Speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Lunch (Trade Show Open)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1:00  | Field/Site Visit and Meeting with Managers and Speakers at Longino Ranch:  
  - The interaction of cows and quail on native forage/habitat: Cliff Coddington  
  - Identifying important plants for quail & dove: Kristi Candelora & George Tanner  
  - Landscapes for Quail: Bill Giuliano & Jim Selph  
  - Food plots and feeding programs for quail: Brandon Schad, Jim Selph, & Cliff Coddington  
  - Predator management: Bill Giuliano  
  - Dove fields: Jim Selph, Cliff Coddington, Nick Wiley, and Kurt Hodges |

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*Each Paid Participant is eligible for Door Prizes with the Grand Door Prize being a Mossberg Over & Under Silver Reserve Shotgun donated by Wal-mart and the South Florida Beef/Forage Program*

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This program is designed to educate landowners, managers, and hunters on the ecology and management of Quail and Dove in Florida. The science-based information will be presented in layperson terms and will come from a variety of sources including landowners, the hunting industry, academia, NGOs, and natural resource agencies.

**Participating Agents and Specialists**

Jim Selph/Kristen Candelora  
DeSoto County: 863-993-4846  
Dr. Bill Giuliano  
Wildlife Ecology and Conservation  
Department: 352-846-0575  
Robert Halman  
Collier County: 239-353-4244  
Lockie Gary  
Hardee County: 863-773-2164  
Sonja Crawford/Glenna Schaibly  
Hendry County: 863-674-4092  
Lindsey Fielder  
Highlands County: 863-402-6540  
Brent Broaddus  
Hillsborough County: 813-744-5519  
Christine Kelly-Begazo  
Indian River County: 772-770-5031  
Christa Carlson  
Manatee County: 941-722-4524  
Pat Hogue/Pat Miller  
Okeechobee County: 863-763-6469  
Bridgett Carlisle  
Polk County: 863-519-8677

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