DeSoto County
Beef Newsletter
2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, Fl 34266

November 2007 / Volume 29 Number 11

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November
30  All Breed Bull Sale (Angus, Braford, Brangus, Charolais, & Polled Hereford, Arcadia Stockyards, 1:00 PM

December
7  Florida Brangus Breeders Association Bull Sale, Arcadia Stockyards, 1:00 PM

January
2  Special Slaughter Cow & Bull Sale, Arcadia Stockyards, 12:00 PM

BEEF EXPORTS SHOW INCREASE
Exports of U.S. beef showed an increase in both value and volume through August, according to the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). The value of U.S. beef exports increased 28% to $1.67 million, compared with the same period last year. U.S. beef and variety meat exports were up 16% in volume to 495,829 metric tons (mt) or 1.09 billion lbs.

According to USMEF, notable gains were made in Central and South America as export volume increased 68% to 5,986 mt or 13.2 million lbs. and value increased 64% to $10.9 million. This growth was driven by liver exports to Peru and frozen beef exports to Guatemala. Larger markets such as Canada also showed gains with a 31% increase in volume to 81,380 mt or 179.4 million lbs. and a 34% jump in value to $372.1 million. Mexico remained the No. 1 market for U.S. beef and beef variety meat exports with a volume of 235,471 mt or 519 million lbs., valued at $781.5 million. USMEF expects beef prices to remain strong domestically through the rest of the year due to relatively tight cattle supplies. However, U.S. beef will remain a good value internationally due to weakness in the U.S. dollar. —Cow-Calf Weekly, Friday, October 19, 2007.

BEEFCAST BRINGS EXPERTS TO YOU
You can receive timely industry analysis, news and commentary through BeefCast, a new podcast that can be accessed easily on the Internet or via an iPod. Each week, three 10- to 15-minute programs, which feature experts' comments on beef production, industry issues and other wide-ranging topics, are produced. BeefCast podcasts are sponsored exclusively by Elanco Animal Health, hosted by Ned Arthur of Truffle Media Networks and made available free to listeners. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, October 25, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 43.

THANKSGIVING
We at the DeSoto County Extension Office wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving. We have much to be thankful for in this country. For me, I have been very thankful to have been your County Ag Agent for 28 plus years.
MARKET INFORMATION
October 29, 2007


| State | Volume | Calf Weight | | Steers | | | Heifers | |
|-------|--------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|       |        | 500-550 lbs. | 600-650 lbs. | 700-750 lbs. | 500-550 lbs. | 600-650 lbs. | 700-750 lbs. |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| TX    | 28,600 | $112.67      | $102.82       | $97.89        | $102.55       | $103.62       | $104.15       |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| AL    | 14,500 | $111-121     | $100-110      | $96-101       | $98-106       | $90-100       | $86.30        |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| TN    | 11,400 | $107.26      | $100.54       | $97.28        | $93.51        | $90.82        | $86.30        |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| FL    | 11,400 | $96-111      | $87-103       | $87-92        | $87-104       | $84-102       | $78-90        |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| GA    | 8,400  | $97-115      | $92-111       | $90-98        | $85-101       | $84-96        | $80-90.50     |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |

CORN:
Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 11 to 12 cents higher from 4.13-4.20 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 16 to 19 cents higher at 3.75 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 24 to 27 cents higher from 3.68-3.70 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 20 ¼ to 29 ¾ cents higher from 3.54 ½ 3.86 ½ per bushel. Toledo US No 2 Yellow corn was 20 ¼ to 21 ¾ cents higher from 3.69 ½-3.73 ½ per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 30 ¾ cents higher at 3.59 ½ per bushel. Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday October 26, 2007, http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt

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FAWN—DESGOTO COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL—2007  http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/


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Currently we are 1.84” ahead of last year.

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

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BOILED PEANUTS WHIP OTHER PEANUTS

Oct. 26, 2007 — Study: Boiled Peanuts Are Richer in Antioxidants Than Raw or Roasted Peanuts—Boiled peanuts may be the cream of the crop, besting raw peanuts or roasted peanuts in terms of nutrition. That news comes from food scientists in Alabama, who ought to know about boiled peanuts, which are a Southern snack. The researchers -- who included graduate student Yvonne Chukwumah and Lloyd Walker, PhD, of Alabama A&M University -- bought peanuts at a grocery store. Their shopping list included raw Virginia peanuts in the shell, raw peanut kernels, and commercially boiled peanuts. The scientists boiled the raw peanuts for four hours while the peanuts were still in their shell. They also dry-roasted raw peanut kernels and roasted other raw peanut kernels in oil. Next, the scientists made an extract from each batch of peanuts. Lab tests on the peanut extracts show that boiled peanuts had higher levels of antioxidants than the raw and roasted peanuts. Antioxidants, which come in many forms and are found in plants, may help prevent cancer, heart disease, and other chronic conditions, note the researchers. The commercially boiled peanuts were a bit higher in a certain antioxidant than the boiled peanuts brewed by the scientists. When peanuts are boiled in their shell, the peanut kernel absorbs antioxidants that are in the peanut shells and skins. That can't happen with shelled, skinned peanut kernels, the researchers note. Their findings appear in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.—Web MD, Tuesday, October 30, 2007. —By Miranda Hitti WebMD Medical News—Reviewed by Louise Chang, MD—Note: This is an article that has nothing to do with cattle but I thought you would find interesting. Jim

**Beef Management Calendar**

**November/December**

- **Cut Hay.**
- **Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to ryegrass.**
- **Check mineral feeder.**
- **Wean calves and cull Cow Herd.**
- **Watch condition of cow herd and supplement if necessary. Post calving cows have the highest nutritional requirements in the first 82 days.**
- **Plant cool season Ryegrass and small grains.**
- **Calve in well drained pastures.**
- **Implement bull conditioning program for the breeding season.**

**SENATE AG COMMITTEE INCLUDED PACKER OWNERSHIP BAN IN FARM BILL**

Last week, the Senate Agriculture Committee included language that would place a ban on packer ownership of livestock in the farm bill. The amendment would prohibit packers from owning or feeding livestock directly, except for 14 days before slaughter. The National Cattlemen’s Beef Association opposes this and other measures that were included

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in the Senate version of the farm bill. All livestock producers should be greatly concerned about the potential damage a ban on packer ownership will do to our industries. NCBA says it has opposed legislation that would "alter the competitive structure of the cattle industry or limit cattlemen’s marketing options." This legislation would certainly do that. At this point, cattle industry lobbyists don’t believe they have the votes to stop the ban on packer ownership when the bill hits the floor of the Senate. But they haven’t given up hope, and it’s not too late for you to voice your opinion. Whether or not the ban remains in the farm bill will be determined when the House and Senate conference on the bill.

— Greg Henderson, Drovers editor—Drovers Alert, Thursday, November 1, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 44.

**BEEF INDUSTRY RESPONDS TO CANCER REPORT**

The beef industry has spent months preparing for the release of a report by the American Institute for Cancer Research that links eating red meat to cancer. While most of the report focuses on the roles that obesity and a sedentary lifestyle play in causing cancer, it also makes a recommendation that people reduce the amount of red meat, especially processed meats, in the diet to less than 18 ounces a week. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, November 1, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 44.

**FSIS ISSUES UPDATE ON E. COLI INVESTIGATION**

A defunct Canadian meatpacker is "a likely source" of beef that caused an outbreak of foodborne illnesses in the United States and Canada, according to USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service. Nearly 100 illnesses have been reported due to the E. coli O157:H7 bacteria in the two nations. FSIS said a comparison of "DNA fingerprints" of beef samples pointed to Ranchers Beef Ltd., of Balzac, Alberta. The Food Safety and Inspection Service directed U.S. food makers not to use boneless beef "trim" from Ranchers Beef and to hold all raw products made from it until both nations complete the investigation. FSIS delisted Ranchers Beef as an importer on Oct. 20. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, November 1, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 44.

"**VERY WARM**" WINTER FORECAST FOR MUCH OF U.S.

Expect a very warm winter across much of the U.S., with only the Northwest receiving average or above average cold and snow. That lack of precipitation could be problematic for the drought-stricken South, however. That's the 2007-08 winter forecast from Joe Bastardi, www.AccuWeather.com chief long-range forecaster. "November into December and March and April will be closest to what we consider winter weather, with the chance of cold and snowy conditions. But once we're into the heart of winter, from mid and late December into February, we may see one of the top-10 warmest winters ever recorded for the southeastern U.S.," Bastardi says, adding that the core of the warm weather will be centered over the Tennessee Valley and the Carolinas. In fact, the 2007-08 winter may be as warm as the winters of 1998-99 and 2001-02, both warmer-than-average seasons. "More than 75% of the days this winter may have temperatures above normal in most of the nation, southeast of a line that runs from the Great Lakes to the Southwest. Only the Pacific Northwest should experience cooler-than-normal temperatures," Bastardi says. AccuWeather.com believes that the combination of what may be a top-five La Niña event combined with a cycle of warming water temperatures in the Atlantic are the key signals to the coming winter season.—Cow-Calf Weekly, October 26, 2007.

**FALL RYEGRASS VARIETIES**

Ryegrass is a valuable winter and spring grazing crop for use on flatwood soils or the heavier sandy loam soils in Florida. Ryegrass may be seeded alone or with a small grain on a prepared seedbed or over-seeded onto permanent grass pastures. After broadcasting or drilling the seed, be sure to use a roller or culti-packer. The use of a roller will help seal in the moisture and help insure a good stand.

Recommended varieties (by maturity) are:

**Mid to late:** Florlina, Surrey II, Jackson and TAM 90

**Late:** Jumbo, Prine, Big Daddy and Passeral Plus

Plant 20-30 pounds per acre at a depth of 0-½ inch. Prior to planting, either graze or burn bahiagrass pastures and then either chop or lightly disc the Bahia. Target about November 15th as the planting date for the ryegrass. If we plant too early, we will have too much competition from the Bahia and can also have disease problems.

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