

**DeSoto County
Beef Newsletter**

2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

December 2008 / Volume 30 Number 12



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year**

December

12	Jorgensen Angus Bull Sale, 1:00 pm, Arcadia Stockyard
24-26	Extension Office will be closed for Christmas Holiday
29	Special Slaughter Cow & Bull Sale, 12:00 Noon, Arcadia Stockyard
January	
15	Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show, Kissimmee , FL
18	Steer Grooming Contest, 2:00 PM, DeSoto County Fairgrounds
19	Swine Show, 7:00 PM, DeSoto County Fairgrounds
20	Steer Show, 7:00 PM, DeSoto County Fairgrounds
22	Beef Breeding Show, 7:00 PM, DeSoto County Fairgrounds
23	Steer and Pig Sale, 7:00 PM, DeSoto County Fairgrounds

FLORIDA CATTLEMEN'S INSTITUTE AND ALLIED TRADE SHOW

This year's Institute and Allied Trade Show theme is: "Management Solutions for Economic Challenges". The event will occur in Kissimmee on January 15, 2009 at the Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee, FL. For hotel information, contact the Ramada Heritage Park, 2145 E Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee, FL 34744, (407) 846-4646. Be sure to mention the group code (Florida Cattlemen's Institute) to get the special rate of \$52.95/night plus tax. The program information will be included in a later section of this newsletter. **Please RSVP to the Extension Office (993-4846) if you plan to attend the Institute.**

BEEF PRODUCTION DOWN IN OCTOBER

Beef production for the month of October declined 4 percent compared with October 2007, according a report from USDA. The month's total was, however, up 3 percent from that during September. Overall commercial red meat production during October totaled 4,531 million pounds, down 2 percent from October 2007 but up 6 percent from the September total. For the January-through-October period this year, commercial red meat production ran 5 percent ahead of last year's total. Pork production, up 8 percent during that period, accounted for much of the increase. Beef and veal production were each up 2 percent over last year from January through October. **Source— Drovers Alert, November 26, 2008—Volume 10, Issue 49.**

MARKET INFORMATION

December 3, 2008

	11/29/08	Last Week	Last Year
5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE			
Live Steer	89.92	87.23	95.03
Live Heifer	89.80	87.28	95.20
Dressed Steer	141.06	139.08	150.04
Dressed Heifer	142.06	139.49	149.84

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm_ct150.txt



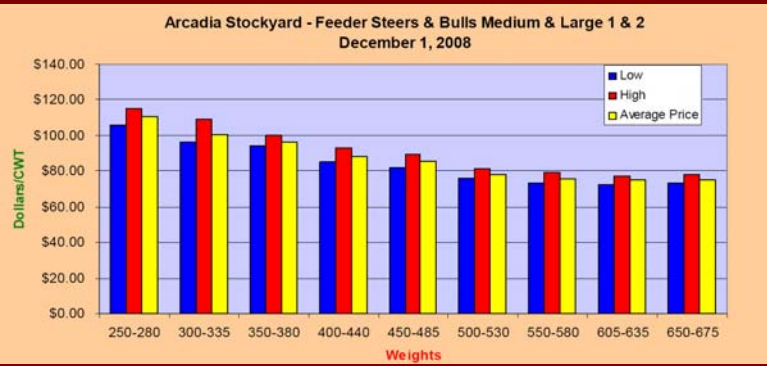
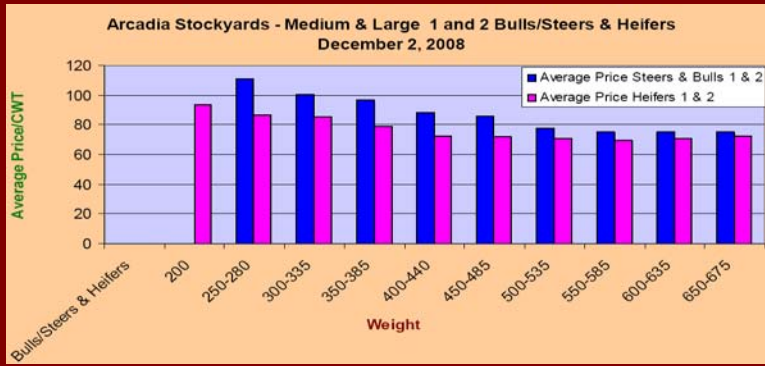
	11/29/08 (Estimate)	Last Week (Estimate)	Last Year (Actual)
BEEF PRODUCTION			
Slaughter	572,000	636,000	668,000
Live Weights	1304	1303	1309
Dressed Weights	783	784	794
Beef Production (M. of Pounds)	446.2	497.1	528.1

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

Choice/Select Spread
12/02/08
\$10.75/cwt
http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM_XB403.TXT

	11/15/08	Last Week	Last Year
National Grading Percent			
Prime	3.52%	3.21%	2.66%
Choice	54.61%	56.35%	51.55%
Select	31.74%	33.08%	34.21%

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



The summary below reflects the week ending November 28, 2008 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 2, 2008.**

State	Volume	Steers		Heifers		
		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.
Calf Weight						
TX	17,500	\$91.10	\$83.23	\$86.08	\$80.42	\$75.84
AL	No Report					
TN	2,100	\$82.06	\$78.52	\$76.27	\$71.17	\$68.22
FL	No Report					
GA	No Report					
KY	No Report					
OK	13,000	\$104.44	\$95.96	\$93.04	\$87.81	\$85.61
MO	27,400	\$103.49	\$93.37	\$93.92	\$87.13	\$84.60

CORN:

Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 28 to 35 cents lower from 3.66-3.82 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 10 cents lower at 3.49 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 6 to 8 cents lower from 3.50-3.66 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 9 ¾ cents lower from 3.09-3.39 per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 5 ¾ to 9 ¾ cents lower from 3.49-3.56 per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 10 ¾ cents lower at 3.15 per bushel. **Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday November 28, 2008**
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt

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GRAIN CROPS—PLANTING AND GROWTH STATUS

Corn – 89% was harvested, 10% behind last year and 8% in back of average.

Winter wheat – 92% has emerged, 10% behind last year, and 3% behind average.

Sorghum – 88% is harvested, 22% behind last year, 12% behind average.

FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL—2008 [HTTP://DESOTO.IFAS.UFL.EDU/](http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
2008	1.87"	1.51"	2.52"	3.33"	2.55"	7.09"	6.79"	8.42"	2.69"	2.12"	0.27"		39.16"
2007	1.93"	2.09"	0.81"	2.80"	2.28"	5.04"	5.42"	5.57"	4.56"	1.46"	0.05"	0.78"	32.79"
2006	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"
2005						9.71"	8.73"	5.86"	4.03"	8.78"	3.78"	0.11"	NA

FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES (2 METERS) AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE

HIGH	82.3°	84.9°	86.1°	88.1°	94.6°	94.9°	94.9°	95.2°	93.9°	91.5°	87.6°		NA
LOW	28.5°	35.6°	39.3°	41.6°	51.9°	65.0°	50.4°	70.8°	61.6°	38.7°	37.7°		NA

Rainfall for 2008 is currently 7.15 inches ahead of 2007

DEADLINE LOOMS FOR COMMENTS ON PROPOSED COW TAX

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued an advance notice of proposed rulemaking, seeking public comment on whether it is appropriate to regulate greenhouse-gas emissions from automobiles under the Clean Air Act.

This may sound like a good idea. But, in order to regulate automobile emissions, the EPA would first have to make a finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health and safety and should be classified as a “pollutant.”

Therein lays the problem for agriculture. Once the endangerment finding is made, other provisions of the Clean Air Act are automatically triggered, creating much broader regulation of other sectors of the economy, including agriculture.

One consequence would be a cow and pig tax.

That’s because if an endangerment finding is made, Title V of the Clean Air Act is triggered. Title V requires that any entity emitting more than 100 tons per year of a regulated pollutant must obtain a permit in order to continue to operate. EPA has no choice but to require these permits once an endangerment finding is made.

USDA has stated that any operation with more than 25 dairy cows, 50 beef cattle or 200 hogs emits more than 100 tons of carbon and would have to obtain permits under Title V in order to continue to operate if GHGs are regulated.

According to USDA statistics, this would cover about 99 percent of dairy production, over 90 percent of beef production and over 95 percent of all hog production in the United States.

The amounts of the tax can vary from state to state. The EPA has a “presumptive minimum rate” for Title V permits of \$43.75 for this year. If a state charged this rate, the cow tax for dairy would be \$175 per cow, for beef cattle \$87.50 per head and a little more than \$20 per pig. **Source—Drovers Alert, November 26, 2008—Volume 10, Issue 49.**

RUSSIA: THE SLEEPING BEAR AWAKES

Russia is the largest country in the world, covering 17,075,400 square kilometers, from the Bering Sea twenty kilometers from Alaska, to the Baltic Sea in Europe. This emerging economy has an insatiable appetite for western meat, as well as meat technology and equipment, says the Argentine Beefpackers Association, SA. Whilst little was known about the old Soviet Union, which included all countries east of Germany, even less is known about modern day Russia and its 142 million population. This is a nation that is debt free, oil rich and eager to do business, Moscow the capital is the most expensive city in the world. There are more billionaires residing in Moscow than in London or New York. The cattle herd in Russia today is 25 million head, whilst the nations total meat requirements are 7.5 million metric tons. Russians consume 50 kilos of meat per capita, a figure that is increasing at extraordinary rates. Projections are that by 2012, Russia will consume 10 million metric tons of meat per year. Domestic production of meat currently provides 4.7 million metric tons, leaving a shortfall of 2.8 million metric tons to be imported, making Russia the world’s largest meat importer. Traditionally, beef and pork are the most popular meats, along with many varieties of sausages, eaten cold in summer and hot in winter often in broth or stew. Poultry consumption has tripled in the last fifteen years, with imports now being double those of pork. The emergence of a wealthy middle class with high disposable income has seen a high restaurant culture and the demand for more delicacies, in primal cuts of imported beef. The majority of the European supermarket chains are now operating in Moscow, which has a population of 12 million and in the second city St. Petersburg, whose population is around 5 million. McDonalds, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut and Starbucks can be found on every corner, along side the showrooms for Rolls Royce, Bentley and Porsche, Russia is the world’s largest buyer of all three makes of car. **Source—Beef Daily, December 4, 2008.**

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Beef Management Calendar

November/December

Cut hay.	Check dustbags, oilers, etc.
Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to ryegrass.	Check pastures and hay fields for armyworms.
Check mineral feeder.	Observe cows daily to detect calving difficulty.
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.
Calve in well drained pastures.	Survey pastures for poisonous plants.
Implement bull conditioning program for the breeding season.	Get breeding soundness exams on bull battery so you have time to find replacements this fall.

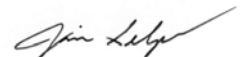
FDA REPORTS PROGRESS IN FOOD SAFETY

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration this week released a report on its implementation of the Food Protection Plan that was launched a year ago to protect both domestic and imported food from accidental and intentional contamination. The plan outlines strategies for prevention, intervention and response, and is designed to address food safety and food defense for both domestic and imported products. It covers the full lifecycle of food, according to an FDA release, by encouraging the building of safety into every step of the food supply chain. The Food Protection Plan complements the Action Plan on Import Safety, developed by the President's "Working Group On Import Safety", and administered by Department of Health and Human Services. **Source— Drovers Alert, November 26, 2008—Volume 10, Issue 49.**

2009 FLORIDA CATTLEMEN'S INSTITUTE AND ALLIED TRADE SHOW

Agenda

<u>AM</u>		Awards Presentation
8:00	Trade Show Opens--Visit the Booths	12:45 "Least Cost Production"
9:45	Welcome	Randy Blach Executive Director Cattle FAX
	"Cattle and Florida Sunshine"	1:30 "Marketing: Niche and Otherwise"
	Bo Hobby, FCA President /Rancher	Chad Carr, Ph.D. Extension Meat Specialist
	Chieffland, FL	1:45 Trade Show Break
10:00	"Growing Feeds, Not Weeds"	2:15 "Cattlemen Will Survive"
	Yoana Newman, Ph.D.	Moderated by <u>Matt Hersom</u> , Ph.D. Extension
	Extension Forage Specialist	Beef Cattle Specialist
	Jason Ferrell, Ph.D.	<u>Renee Strickland</u> , Strickland Ranch and
	Extension Weed Specialist	Exports, Inc.
11:00	"Herd Health and Reproductive	<u>Wayne Davis</u> , Davis Farms, Cattle
	Performance in Cows and Bulls"	Backgrounding
	Ed Richey, D.V.M.	<u>Gene Lollis</u> , Buck Island Ranch, Mgr.
11:45	Lunch	<u>Wes Williamson</u> , Williamson Cattle Company
<u>PM</u>		



James F. Selph

DeSoto County Extension Director, IV, Livestock & Forages

"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden". Thomas Jefferson