

Pasco County Beef Newsletter

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January 5, 1999

Dear Beef Producer:

I realize that this is a very busy time of year for us all. I just want to bring your attention to a couple of very important programs. I also want to wish you and your families happy holidays!! I hope that 1999 will be a very prosperous and profitable year for you all!

Florida Cattlemen's Institute & Allied Trade Show

Florida cattlemen are fortunate to have one of the premier industry trade shows right in their own backyard! The Florida Cattlemen's Institute & Allied Trade Show has been providing cattlemen cutting edge industry information and a comprehensive trade show for 15 years. Over the past several years, average attendance has risen to over 700. The 16th Annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute & Allied Trade Show is planned for January 21, 1999 at the Kissimmee Valley Agricultural Center on Hwy. 192 East in Kissimmee. This year's theme is "Controlling the Costs of Production Through Better Management."

The trade show will open at 8:00 a.m. followed by a welcome address by Dr. Mike Martin, the new Vice-President for Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Prior to coming to Florida, Dr. Martin was the Dean of the University of Minnesota's College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences. This will be followed by a presentation by Dr. Harlan Ritchie, Michigan State University, on *Emerging Trends in the Animal Industry*. Florida's IRM Coordinator, J. Willard LeMaster, will lead a discussion on *What are the costs of Production in a Forage-Based System* based on the Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA) national database. Another trade show break will follow Mr. LeMaster's discussion.

Our featured speaker, Mr. Allan Nation, editor of The Stockman Grass Farmer, Ridgeland, Mississippi, will talk on *Harvesting Sunshine to Lower Production Costs*. Mr. Nation's magazine focuses on grass-based farming and razing management systems. A producer panel of Mr. Chris Hardee, Hardee Farms, Chiefland, FL; Mr. Wes Williamson, Williamson Cattle Company, Okeechobee, FL; and Mrs. Pat Pfeil, Carlton 2 x 4 Ranch, Arcadia, FL will give a response to the previous speakers presentations and give their perspectives on managing costs of production.

A free barbeque lunch is provided by the trade show exhibitors for all who attend. After lunch, *Genetic Considerations to Lower Production Costs* will be presented by Dr. Sally Dolezal, Oklahoma State University. Other updates will be presented on the *Preliminary Results of the Trichomoniasis and Risk Factors Survey*, *Computer Programs for Improving the Bottom Line*, and *Timing for Liver Fluke Control*. A drawing for a free registration to the Florida Cattlemen's Association Annual Convention in Marco Island will follow the formal program of the Institute.

One unique feature of the trade show has been the addition of live animal exhibits by several of Florida's purebred cattle breeders. This year, we hope to expand our display of cattle to give the Florida cattleman greater opportunity to select the genetics needed to reach their production goals. Purebred producers who may be interested in displaying cattle at the Institute should call Doug Mayo, 941-533-0765, for more information. Potential trade show exhibitors should call Dr. Mike Fanning, 941-658-3413, or Terry Weaver, 941-465-5856, for registration information.

I hope that many of you will be able to attend this program. To reserve your free lunch, or for more information on the Florida Cattlemen's Institute & Allied Trade Show, please contact me at 352-521-4288.

Pasco/Hernando County Farm Service Agency Special Newsletter

Livestock Assistance Program (LAP) Authorization

Two hundred (\$200) million dollars was appropriated nationally to provide assistance to eligible livestock owners who suffered qualifying feed losses because of natural disaster.

Purpose of Livestock Assistance Program (LAP)

To compensate livestock producers with **GRAZING** losses due to natural disaster in year 1998. Payments are based on number of eligible livestock during the payment period and whether sufficient grazing land was available to support eligible livestock.

Grazing land losses and payment period have been approved for both Pasco and Hernando counties.

Producer Eligibility

A producer must have suffered a 40% or greater loss of normal grazing production for 90 or more consecutive days during the approved county established payment period.

To be eligible you must possess a beneficial interest in eligible livestock and have a financial risk in the eligible livestock. Eligible livestock must have been owned or leased for at least 3 months before the established payment period. All producer signatures must be on the application, joint ventures without a

permanent tax ID number, all members shall sign the application, this includes husband and wife that jointly own the livestock.

You will be required to certify the percent of loss of grazing for each type of pasture (improve or native), the number of eligible livestock by type and weight range and date of ownership and number of acres for each pasture.

Any "person" with a qualifying gross revenue in excess of \$2.5 million annually is not eligible for benefits.

Eligible Livestock

Please bring in your livestock numbers according to the following weight categories:

Beef & Dairy Cattle - less than 400 lbs; (calves under 400 lbs. will not be counted if still nursing); 400-799 lbs; 800-1099 lbs, beef cows (all weights); bulls 1000 lbs plus.

Swine - sows less than 45 lbs; 45-124 lbs; 125 lbs plus; sows and boars 235 lbs plus.

Equine used commercially for human food or kept for the production of food or fiber are eligible.

Sign Up

Sign up runs now through **February 5, 1999**. Please call the FSA Office before you come in to sign up if you have any questions.

Payments

Payments will be issued after sign up and after a factor has been determined beginning January 25, 1999.

Livestock Judging Contest

We will be hosting the First Annual Heart of Florida Livestock Judging contest here in Pasco County on January 16, 1999. We have invited 4-H and FFA members from around the state. The contest will include one market hog class and five various beef cattle classes with two (2) question classes. If you would like to help during the contest, please contact myself at 352-521-4288 or Mr. Ed Dillard at 352-524-5524.

Pasco County Cattlemen's Youth Beef Heifer Show

Just a reminder that the deadline for all heifer entries is January 1, 1999.

Sincerely,

James Stice,
Livestock Extension Agent I

Calendar Of Events

January

1	Pasco County Fair Heifer Entry Deadline
14-15	10 th Annual Florida Ruminant Nutrition Symposium
16	Pasco County Heart of Florida Livestock Judging contest
20-21	16th Annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute & Allied Trade Show

February

6	State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, State Fairgrounds, Tampa
10-13	National Cattlemen's Beef Association Annual Convention, Charlotte, N.C.
15-20	Pasco County Fair
15	Steer Entry - 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
16	Steer Showmanship Show - 7:00 p.m.
17	Steer Show - 7:00 p.m.
18	Hog weigh-in - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
18	Steer Sale - 7:30 p.m.
19	Heifer Entry - 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
19	Heifer Show - 7:00 p.m.
20	Hog Show - 8:00 a.m.
20	Hog Sale - 6:00 p.m.

March

10-11

Florida Cattlemen's Association Quarterly Meeting - Tallahassee



For more information on any of these events please feel free to call me at (352) 521-4288 or [James Stice](#).



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