

# *Pasco County Beef Newsletter*

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*September 1998*

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## *Dear Beef Producer:*

I wish I could have brought better market prices and perfect weather when I came to Pasco County a couple months ago, however that has not been the case so far! As we rapidly approach the end of 1998, its time to start making plans for 1999. Hopefully, it will be a prosperous year for us all. To help you prepare for the upcoming year there are a number of programs and events scheduled that are intended to help you get ready for the upcoming year. In this months newsletter you will find the registration information enclosed on many of these upcoming programs. Please notice the registration deadlines for those that you are interested in attending. I have also included the fall forage update that includes planting dates and seeding rates for these different forages.

## **Heifer Futurity and Sale**

The Pasco County Cattlemen are making available high quality heifers for 4-H and FFA members for the 1999 Pasco County Fair and Livestock Show. These heifers will be eligible to be shown for 2 to 3 years. They are still accepting gentle - high quality replacement heifers until September 25<sup>th</sup>, with the heifer donation proceeds going towards a futurity jackpot. For more information see enclosed brochure or call Mr. Ed Dillard at 588-2702.

## **South Florida Beef- Forage Group**

The South Florida Beef- Forage Group has two seminars scheduled for the month of October. The first seminar is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, its primary focus will be how to better incorporate Expected Progeny Difference in your bull selection process. Included will be utilizing the different Expected Progeny Differences in sire selection. You will have the opportunity to hear and discuss with panel of ranch managers who have successfully used EPDs to improve the quality of both their replacement females and the calves they sell. There also will be a bull selection and sire/ progeny demonstration incorporating EPDs and performance data. The seminar will be held at the Oak Knoll Ranch in Lake Wales from 3:00PM to 6:00PM with dinner immediately following. Please see the enclosed schedule for more details.

The second program will be The South Florida Grazing Systems Management Tour. It is scheduled for

October 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The tour will showcase a variety of different grazing and forage utilization management programs in Highlands and Okeechobee Counties. The tour will begin at the Buck Island Ranch which is located near Lake Placid in Highlands County at 9:00 AM. The Buck Island Ranch in conjunction with the MacArthur- Archbold Agro-ecology Research Center, Florida Cattlemen's Association, University of Florida and SWFWD is a working cattle ranch conducting research on different stocking densities and rotational grazing practices and its effects on nutrient content and water quality. We will provide lunch at Basinger. Our second stop, will be the Larson Dairy #1 where they have implemented a unique modified grazing feeding system. The third and final stop will be at the Deer Run Ranch in Okeechobee. This ranch is an excellent example of a very intensive rotational grazing management system where he can almost support a cow to the acre.

## Ona Research Center Field Day

The Range Cattle Research Center at Ona will be having there annual field day on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please see the enclosed field day schedule and registration form for more details. Or contact myself or the Ona REC at (941) 735-1314 for more information.

## 4-H Sponsored Dance

The Pasco County 4-H Department is holding a dance on October 3, 1998 immediately following their Awards Ceremony. It will begin at 8:00 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family. All 4-Hers and parents will be admitted free of charge. Refreshments will be provided. (NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES!!)

Sincerely,

James Stice  
Livestock Extension Agent I

# Calendar Of Events

## September

24	Pasco County Cattlemen's Steak Dinner, Sacred Heart Church Hall, St. Joe - 7:00 PM
25	Florida Cattlemen's Association Heifer Sale, Arcadia
29-30	F.A.C.T.S. Conference and Trade Show, Lakeland

## October

1	South Florida Beef-Forage Group Bull Selection & EPD Seminar Oak Knoll Ranch, Lake Wales 3:00-6:00 PM
3	Jr. Cattlemen's Annual Field Day, Baldwin Angus Ranch 11:00 AM
5	South Florida Brangus Bull Sale, Arcadia
8	Ona REC Field Day, Ona 8:30 AM
10	Florida Jr. Brahman Association Show Calf Sale, Pasco County Fair Grounds, 1:00 PM
13	Pasco County Heifer Futurity Sale, Fair Grounds 7:00PM
17	B&B Farms Show Pig Sale, Pasco County Fair Grounds 1:00 PM
20-22	Sunshine Agriculture Expo, Moultrie, GA
24	Small Farm Conference and Trade Show, Brooksville
29	South Florida Beef- Forage Group Grazing Systems Management Tour, Okeechobee and Highlands Counties
<b>November</b>	
5	Florida Hereford Pen Bull Sale, Bartow
5	Pasco County Cattlemen's Dinner, Cannon Hall 7:00 PM
12	Florida Angus Bull Sale, Bartow
19	Southern Source Charolias Bull Sale, Bartow
20	Florida Brangus Breeders Bull Sale, Webster
<b>December</b>	
3-4	Florida Cattlemen's Association Quarterly Meeting, Cocoa Beach
<b>January 1999</b>	
21	Florida Cattlemen's Institute & Allied Trade Show, Kissimmee

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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