



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

IFAS EXTENSION

**DeSoto County
Beef Newsletter**
2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266



October 2005 / Volume 27 Number 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

6	DeSoto/Charlotte Farm Bureau Annual Meeting—DeSoto Middle School Cafeteria, 6:30 PM
7	Angus Bull Sale, 1:00 PM, Arcadia Stockyards, Arcadia
12	Florida Society for Range Management, 3:30-8:00 PM, Carlton 2x4 Ranch-- RSVP at 494-7302
13-14	1 st Annual Quail Management Shortcourse—Turner Center Exhibit Hall
18-20	Sunbelt Agriculture Exposition, Moultrie, Ga.
21	Arcadia Stockyards Grand Opening, 4:00 PM— RSVP at 494-3737
27	DeSoto County Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting—Turner Center Exhibit Hall, 7:00 PM

November

1-3	Inter Agency Basic Prescribed Fire Training Course 2005-2006, Turner Center Exhibit Hall
4	Cowboy "Chute" Out—4 Man Ranch Team Competition for Pride and Prizes—Location TBA
16	Beef Quality Assurance, the Florida Beef Quality Producer Program, Turner Center Exhibit Hall, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

USDA PREDICTS LARGER CROP

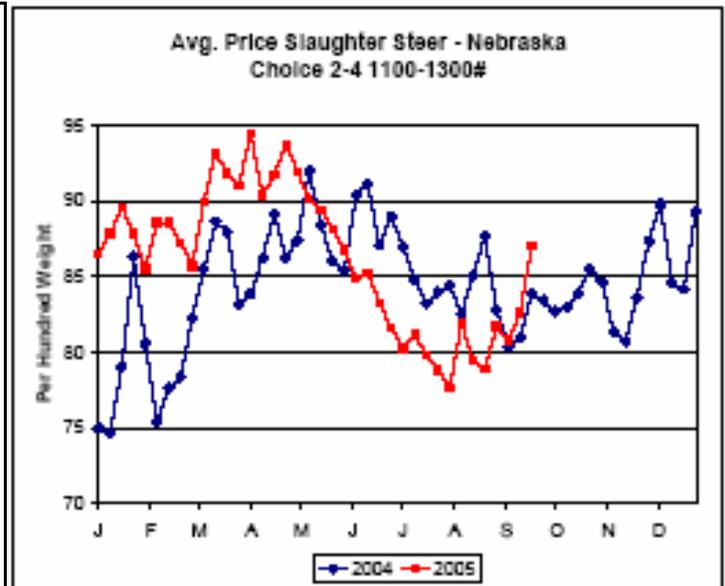
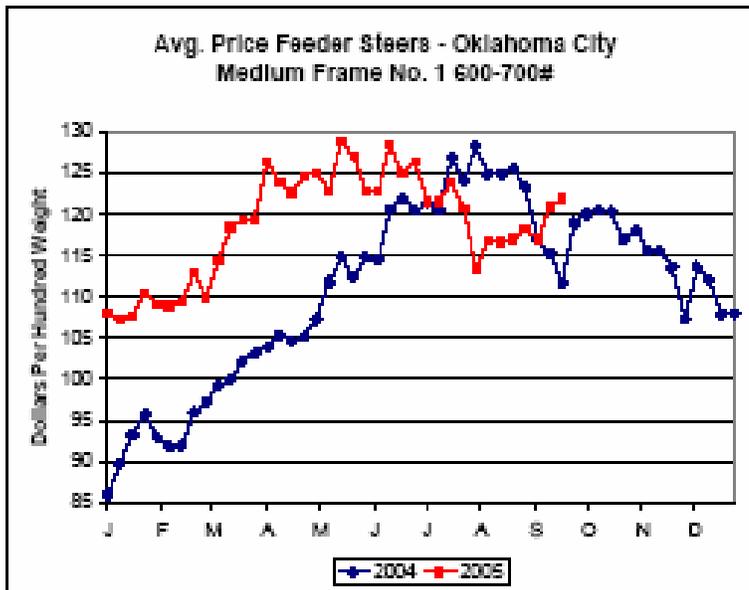
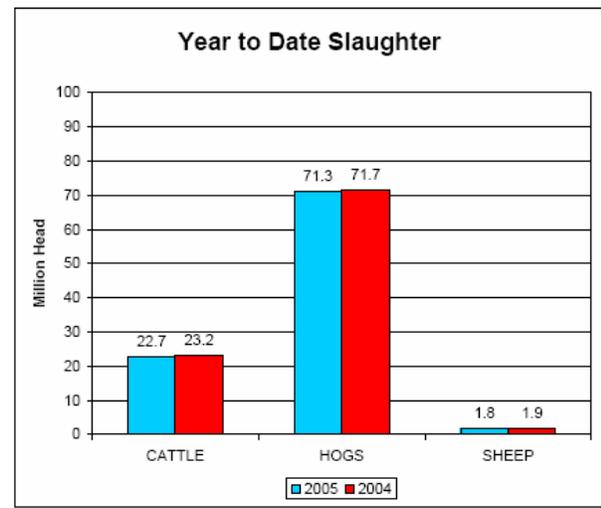
USDA earlier this week predicted a larger corn and soybean crop this year. The corn crop was estimated at 10.639 billion bushels compared to USDA's August estimate of 10.350 billion bushels. The soybean crop was estimated to be 2.856 billion bushels compared to the August estimate of 2.791 billion. **Source: — P. Scott Shearer, Washington, D.C.—Cow-Calf Weekly, September 16, 2005**

FARMING/RANCHING AMONG MOST DANGEROUS JOBS

Farmers and ranchers are involved in the sixth most dangerous job in the United States, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The agency says 37.5 deaths occurred per every 100,000 people employed in 2004. Non-highway vehicle accidents accounted for 40 percent of occupational fatalities for farmers and ranchers last year. **Source: — Greg Henderson, Drovers editor—Drovers Alert Thursday, September 22, 2005, Vol. 5, Issue 3**

Market Information

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS712.txt			
BEEF PRODUCTION	(Estimate)	(Estimate)	(Actual)
Slaughter	642,000	652,000	619,000
Live Weights	1274	1273	1266
Dressed Weights	784	783	775
Beef Production (mil lbs)	500.7	508.1	477.6
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm_ct150.txt			
5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE			
Live Steer	86.00	86.19	83.78
Live Heifer	86.15	86.39	83.99
Dressed Steer	135.29	136.47	131.77
Dressed Heifer	136.04	136.91	131.79



The summary below reflects the week ended September 16 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, September 19, 2005**

State	Volume	Steers			Heifers		
		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.
TX	36,500	\$122.80	\$114.28	\$114.05	\$117.27	\$109.21	\$108.37
AL	19,600	\$113-124	\$106-115	\$103-107	\$109-117	\$102-111	\$98-105
TN	15,400	\$116.03	\$111.27	\$105.30	\$108.64	\$101.98	\$96.12
FL	12,800	\$104-118	\$96-108	\$92-104	\$96-112	\$91-102	**
GA	11,700	\$106-124	\$100-123	\$97-108-	\$98-114	\$90-109	\$85-105

CORN:

Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 1 to 2 cents higher from 1.77-1.80 per bushel. US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 1 cent lower at 1.76 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was steady to 1 cent higher from 1.53-1.56 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 2 3/4 to 6 3/4 cents higher from 1.73 1/4-2.00 1/4 per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 1/4 cent lower from 1.65 1/4-1.70 1/4 per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 4 3/4 cents higher at 1.63 1/4 per bushel. **Source: USDA Livestock and Grain Website, Friday September 23, 2005:**

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TIGHTER RULES ON FEED

FDA commissioner Lester Crawford said the government will change feed regulations to mirror rules proposed for Canada in order to further defend against the spread of BSE. Canada has proposed regulations banning at-risk tissues, including brains, spinal cords and other parts that can carry the disease, from feed for all animals, including chickens, pigs and pets. Currently, Canada's rules are similar to U.S. rules. For example, it is legal to add cattle protein to chicken feed, and feed that spills from cages and mixes with chicken waste on the ground is swept up for use in cattle feed. In addition to the risk of transmission from uneaten feed, scientists believe chicken waste presents a risk because the BSE protein can survive the chicken's digestive system. Source: — Greg Henderson, *Drovers* editor—*Drovers Alert* Thursday, September 22, 2005, Vol. 5, Issue 38.



SENATE APPROVES BAN ON NON-AMBULATORY CATTLE

On a voice-vote Tuesday, the U.S. Senate approved an amendment barring non-ambulatory livestock from human consumption. The amendment, sponsored by Senator Akaka, D-Hawaii, adds language to the Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill to bar the use of federal funds for inspection or approval of non-ambulatory livestock for human consumption under the Federal Meat Inspection Act. The House Agriculture Appropriations bill does not include any similar restriction, so the issue will need to be resolved in conference. For more information from the American Meat Institute, go to: meatami.com Source: — Greg Henderson, *Drovers* editor—*Drovers Alert* Thursday, September 22, 2005, Vol. 5, Issue 38.

COW-CALF RETURNS DOWN SLIGHTLY

Cow-calf producers earned record returns during 2004 – averaging nearly \$150 per cow, according to the Livestock Marketing Information Center. Those numbers will decline somewhat this year, but 2005 returns are likely to be the second-highest ever. Calf prices are down slightly from last fall, and LMIC analysts expect cash receipts to decline by about \$10 per cow. In addition, production costs have increased, largely due to higher energy prices. With lower calf prices and higher production costs, the LMIC projects returns this year to average about \$120 per cow. Source: — Greg Henderson, *Drovers* editor—*Drovers Alert* Thursday, September 15, 2005, Vol. 5, Issue 37.

FEEDING CULL COWS IN FLORIDA

At the FCA Convention and Allied Trade Show in June, Dr. Jeff Cater reported to the Research and Education Committee on a research study done recently. Ninety cull cows were fed a concentrate diet for 90 days. The diet was calculated to provide 12.1% crude protein, 70% TDN and 18.1% crude fiber. During the final feeding phase, one-half of the cows received a dietary feed additive (OptaflexxTM), proven to increase carcass yield. Additionally, one-half of the cows were given a growth promoting implant at the beginning of the study. Preliminary analysis indicated a slight advantage in ADG for the cows fed Optaflexx (2.9lb/d vs. 2.5lb/d) and final weights of 1128 vs. 1096. Because of the increased weight, Optaflexx fed cows had heavier carcasses than controls and yielded more dollars per carcass by nearly \$33.00. Results are preliminary at this time, but they are encouraging that producers might be able to increase values of cull cows prior to marketing. A more detailed account of this can be found on page 96 of the September issue of [The Florida Cattleman and Livestock Journal Magazine](#).



E-MAIL OF EXTENSION NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER INFORMATION

I have asked this in the past, but have not done so recently. If you would like to have this newsletter and other Extension information sent to you by e-mail, please send me a reply to my e-mail address which is: jselph@ifas.ufl.edu. In the subject line, put "Newsletter".



After last years hurricanes, I would have liked to have had everyone's e-mail addresses in order to have gotten out timely information. After a disaster of course, not everyone will have the capacity to get e-mails immediately. However, many people now have generators that will in many cases allow for electronic mail to function. Even in non-emergency times there arises every so often a need to get out information as rapidly as possible. Having such a list will be a benefit to everyone including our county cattlemen's association. It will be used only for the newsletter and items such as I have stated above.

FLORIDA SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

The Florida Society for Range Management will have their fall meeting this year on October 12, 2005 at the Carlton 2x4 Ranch. Participants will discuss a variety of issues including, quail management on working ranches, surface water management, the short term effect of removal of livestock from tame pastures. Call 494-7302 for more information. Time is 3:30-8:00 PM and Cost is \$15.00.

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SHOW TIME APPROACHES FOR AGRICULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA—SUNBELT AG EXPO

Catch a glimpse of farming in the future this October at the South's biggest and best farm show. It's the Sunbelt Ag Exposition, North America's Premier Farm Show. The Expo is the world's largest farm show with on-site row crops and field demonstrations. During the show's three days, Oct. 18-20, the latest technology from the agricultural industry will be on full display near Moultrie, Ga., for all to see and evaluate. Each year, the Expo showcases forward-looking farming practices for visitors from throughout the Southeast, the U.S. and other parts of the world. Whether you are looking for agricultural equipment, services or information, you will find it here at the Expo. More than 1,100 exhibitors are expected this year, and many have come back year after year since the first Expo in 1978. The Expo is planning a new event this year, one that will give farmers valuable insight on what they can expect from changes in farm policy. Precision Ag. technology returns with another strong showing. Site-specific, precision farming takes the guesswork out of planting, spraying and a host of other farm chores. And Expo has helped nurture this technology from its early experimental stages until now when it has become a must-have for modern farmers.

Animal agriculture is also well represented. Cattlemen will see presentations on hay quality. Others will cover national animal identification, a crucial step in protecting individual herds and the nation's food supply from dangerous diseases. Also, new-to-Expo beef breeds, the Romagnola and Blonde d' Aquitaine, will be on display. Horse enthusiasts will thrill at the demonstrations in the equine arena, featuring cutting horses, barrel racing and reined cow horses. Goats and alpacas are other farm animals featured at Expo, along with some of the smartest and entertaining dogs to be found anywhere. Border collies will be rounding up sheep and cattle in an annual Expo tradition, the American Grand Finals stock dog competition.

SENATE VOTES TO BAN JAPAN BEEF IMPORTS

If they won't buy our beef, we won't buy theirs, the Senate has decided.

On a 72-26 vote, the Senate adopted an amendment prohibiting importation of Japanese beef until Japan lifts its ban on U.S. beef. Opponents of the amendment argued trade decisions about food safety should be based on science, not on restrictions in Japan or other countries. Japan was the biggest customer for American beef, importing more than \$1.5 billion worth of beef in 2003.

The Senate, apparently, agrees with the American Meat Institute on this issue. AMI president J. Patrick Boyle said "it is both ironic and exceptionally disappointing to the beef industry that APHIS is expeditiously moving forward to reopen the American market to these products from Japan while the Japanese government refuses to apply the OIE guidelines with respect to American beef products." Boyle also suggested it is intellectually inconsistent to permit Japanese beef into the U.S. while continuing to preclude the import of cattle 30 months of age and older and the beef products derived from those animals from other minimal risk regions such as Canada.

Source: — Greg Henderson, *Drovers* editor—Drovers Alert Thursday, September 22, 2005, Vol. 5, Issue 38.

MARTHA STEWART LENDS HER "GOOD" NAME TO PETA

Martha Stewart, the home-making guru and former fur-wearer, has completed a video on behalf of PETA, asking people not to wear fur. "I used to wear fur, but, like many others, I had a change of heart when I learned what actually happens to the animals. So much violence in the world seems beyond our control, but this is one cruelty we can stop by being informed consumers," she says in the video, which can be seen at peta.org.

Source: — Greg Henderson, *Drovers* editor—Drovers Alert Thursday, September 22, 2005, Vol. 5, Issue 38.

DESOTO COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

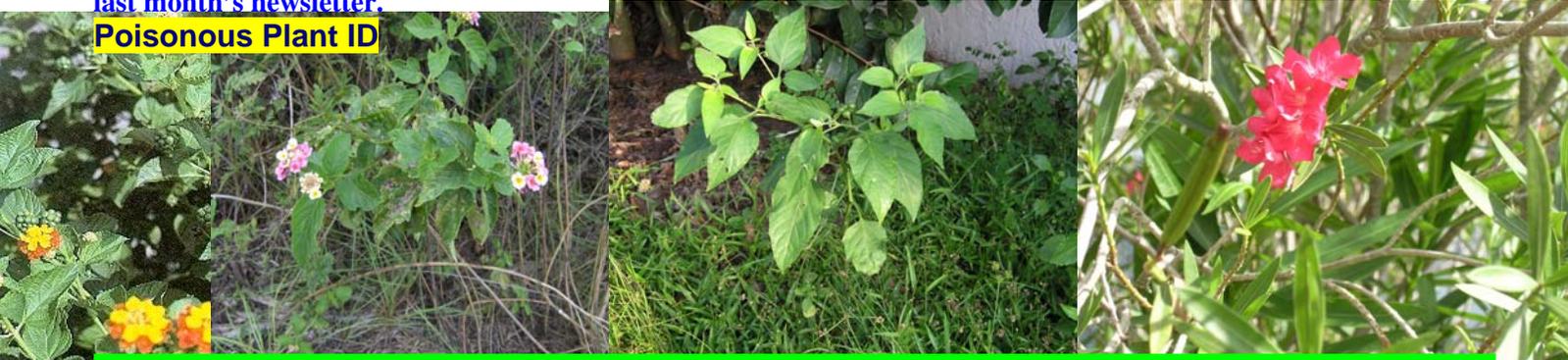
The 2005 DeSoto County Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 27th at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall. All members, along with their family are invited to attend. Members are asked to bring a covered dish. You may bring one guest to the steak dinner. Members bringing more than one guest will be asked to pay \$10.00 per each additional guest. Our guest speaker will be Joe Marlin Hilliard III, current President of the Florida Cattlemen's Association.

Prescribed Fire Training Course (Cattlemen's Version) 2005 November 1-3, 2005 there will be a Prescribed Fire Training Course held at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall. The course is designed to train cattlemen/private landowners in the use and application of prescribed fire. The course will begin at 12:00 Noon on

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the 1st and end on Friday the 3rd sometime after 3:30 PM after the conclusion of the Exam for Certification. The cost of this school is \$150.00. Currently, there are 16 individuals signed up for this activity. We are able to offer it to up to 25. If you have not signed up and wish to do so, either call our office or send in the registration form from last month's newsletter.

Poisonous Plant ID



Lantana

Black Nightshade

Oleander



Bracken Fern

1. **Lantana--**Sheep, cattle, horses, and humans are sensitive to the effects of the plant. Flower colors vary.
2. **Black Night shade--** All classes of livestock and humans have been poisoned.
3. **Oleander--**This extremely toxic plant can poison livestock and humans at any time of the year.
4. **Bracken Fern--**All portions of the plant are toxic whether green or dry.

Beef Management Calendar

October

Plant cool season legumes.	Plant ryegrass after October 15 th .
Check mineral feeder.	Check dust bags and back rubbers.
Check for external parasites, especially lice, and treat, if needed.	Check for army worms and grass loopers and treat if necessary.
Cut Hay in October if pastures are dry enough.	Survey pastures for poisonous plants.
Watch condition of cow herd; maintain adequate cow nutrition.	Determine bull replacement needs, develop selection criteria, and start checking availability of quality bulls.

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

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1st Annual Quail Management Shortcourse



Turner Center Exhibit Hall
Arcadia, FL

October 13-14, 2005
Registration \$50.00

Day 1

Quail Ecology, Management, & Issues

Presiding: Jim Selph

Presiding: Jim Selph

8:00 Registration & coffee

8:30 Welcome

8:40 Status, distribution, and thoughts on quail population declines in Florida)-Tommy Hines FWC

8:55 Quail population declines and the Northern Bobwhite Conservation Initiative in Florida and the Southeast—Don McKenzie, Wildlife Management Institute and Coordinator of NBCI

9:10 Quail facts—Bill Giuliano

9:30 Predation & predator control—Bill Palmer, Tall Timbers

9:55 Fire ant effects & control—Roberto Pereira, USDA-ARS

10:00 Break

Presiding: George Tanner

10:40 Habitat assessment: identifying good and bad sites—Roger Wells, QU National Habitat Coordinator

11:10 Mechanical treatments to improve rangelands for quail—George Tanner

11:30 The importance and use of fire in quail management—Mike Orlando, FWC

12:00 Lunch & Keynote Speaker: Rangeland Quail and Their Management--Experience and Successes—Dave Delaney, King Ranch

Presiding: Bill Giuliano

1:30 Rangeland grasses: identification and pros and cons for wildlife and livestock—James Martin, UGA

1:50 Cows & quail: can they co-exist?—Bill Giuliano

2:20 Supplemental feeding: does it really help?—Bill Palmer

2:40 Food plots & agricultural crops: use and benefit for quail—Nigel Morris, FL QU

3:00 Pen-raised quail: their use and problems for wild birds—Jim Selph

3:20 Break

Presiding: Bill Giuliano

3:40 Herbicides & quail—Any Pierce, Red River Specialties

4:00 Benefits of quail management practices to other species: turkey, deer, and others—Chuck McKelvy, FWC and Adam Butler, UGA

4:25 Quail hunting leases: how do they work?—Wayne Zahn, Lykes Bros.

4:45 Shooting preserves: how do they work?—Wayne Zahn, Lykes Bros.

5:05 Regulations regarding quail hunting, leases, and shooting preserves—Nick Wiley, FWC

5:25 Quality hunting issues: what makes a good hunt?—Dick Corbett, FWC and others

Facilitating: Will Sheftall

6:00 Dinner & Panel Discussion: What is the future of quail and quail hunting in Florida?— What does the future for quail and quail hunting in Florida look like? how dependent is quail habitat management on a future critical mass of industrial forestry and rangelands in different regions of the state? Who will be the quail habitat stewards and managers in Florida in the future? the hunters? the beneficiaries?

Day 2

Presiding: Jim Selph

7:30 Registration & coffee

8:00 Habitat management: range management, food plots, fire, etc. on local areas

12:00 Lunch

Bird Dogs: Information & Demonstrations

Presiding: Jim Selph

1:00 Working dog health & nutrition—Martin Kauffman, IAMS

1:20 Hunting dogs: what good are they?—Clay Sisson—Albany Quail Project

1:40 Dog breeds and training—Butch Beyer

2:00 Q&A with speakers

2:30 Field demonstration and Q&A with nationally recognized hunting dog person—proper use of training collars, other training methods, etc. —Butch Beyer

5:00 Depart

This program is designed to educate landowners, managers, hunters, and quail enthusiasts on the ecology and management Northern Bobwhite Quail in Florida. In addition, bird dogs and their importance to quail hunting will be examined. The science-based information will come from a variety of sources, including landowners, the hunting industry, academia, NGO's, and natural resource agencies, and be presented in layperson terms.

Cooperators:

South Florida Beef Forage Program

Tall Timbers

FWC

Quail Unlimited

LODGING AVAILABLE AT:

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

863/494-5900



**1st Annual
Quail Management Shortcourse
Registration Form.
October 13-14, 2005**

Complete the registration form, enclose registration fee and return to the registrar at the address below. If you have any questions, contact your County Extension Agent listed in the brochure.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Registration Fees: \$50.00 per person (non-refundable) for the Quail Management Shortcourse.

Checks Payable to: South Florida Beef-Forage Program.

Return to: South Florida Beef-Forage Program

**2150 NE Roan St.
Arcadia, FL 34266**



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

IFAS EXTENSION

South Florida Beef-Forage Program Participating Agents

Presents:

First Annual

Cowboy "Chute" Out

Four Man Ranch Team Competition

for

Pride and Prizes



November 4, 2005

DeSoto County - Jim Selph

(863) 993-4846

Glades County - Shelley Humphries

(863) 946-0244

Hardee County - Lockie Gary

(863) 773-2164

Hendry County - Sonja Crawford

(863) 674-4092

Highlands County - Gary Mikulecky

(863) 402-6540

Hillsborough County - Brent Broaddus

(813) 744-5519

Manatee County

(941) 722-4524

Okeechobee County - Pat Hogue & Pat Miller

(863) 763-6469

Polk County - Brantley Ivey

(863) 519-8677

Judging will be based on:

Quality assurance issues such as:

- proper product use and placement
- cleanliness and use of application equipment

Safety

Handling of cattle.

TIME will not be a factor!

Tentative Days Agenda (depending on number of entries):

9:00 AM "Chute Out Competition

11:30 AM Lunch

12:30 PM Beef Quality Assurance Issues Presentation - Dr. Todd Thrift

2:00 PM Presentation of Awards

Cowboy "Chute" Out

Four man ranch teams will work a group of four calves administering vaccinations, pour-on products, implants, ear tags, injectable de-wormers and dehorning if calves require it and complete a processing map for the calf group.

To register a ranch team, contact one of the South Florida Beef Forage Program Extension Agents listed to the left.

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