UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

IFAS EXTENSION

DeSoto County Beef Newsletter

2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, Fl 34266

June 2007 / Volume 29 Number 6

3rd Annual/Quail/Dove Short Course--October 19, 2007-Mark your Calendar for that date.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June	
18-19	FCA Cattlemen's College—Marco Island, Fl
19-21	Florida Cattlemen's Association Annual Convention & Allied Trade Show—Marco Island, Fl
August	
11	Basic Pasture Management School, 8:30 AM—4:30 PM, Hardee Extension Office
September	
5-6	Advanced Pasture Management School, Turner Center Exhibit Hall on the 5th and Ona Research Station on the 6th.

WHAT'S THE VALUE OF EXPORTS TO U.S. CATTLEMEN?

Even at a limited level, the value of beef exports is evident. "Korea's renewed interest in U.S. beef has already generated tremendous additional value," according to NCBA. And we're not talking chicken scratch, either. The recent sales to South Korea, limited though they are in volume, are calculated to be worth between $40 and $48 million to the beef industry. Wholesale prices on the three cuts exported to Korea -- chuck rolls, brisket and deboned short ribs -- have risen recently and analysts say the reopening of the Korean market has added about $31/head to the value of fed cattle sold the past 3-4 weeks. —Cow Calf Weekly, Burt Rutherford, May 25, 2007.

RESEARCH ON *E. COLI* O157 VACCINE IN CATTLE

Kansas State University researchers are conducting a series of studies to test a vaccine, which may reduce the presence of *E. coli* O157 in feedlot cattle. *E. coli* O157, a pathogen commonly found in the feces of beef cattle, can enter the food chain during harvest and not only cause foodborne illnesses in humans, but can also have economic implications for producers, said Nagaraja. The researchers, who are part of K-State Research and Extension, recently completed the third study in a series of experiments, which included 60 feedlot calves that all tested positive for *E. coli* O157. The calves were divided into one of three treatment groups that each received different doses of the vaccine (Escherichia coli O157 Siderophore Receptor Porin) on days zero and 21 of the eight-week experiment. Group one, which was the control group, received a placebo vaccine; group two was administered two cubic centimeters (cc) of the vaccine; and group three was given three cc. The study showed that the total prevalence of *E. coli* O157 in cattle that received three cc of the vaccine decreased by 15 percent when compared to cattle that received a placebo, said Nagaraja. The overall prevalence for each treatment group was: 33.7 percent for the placebo group; 29.1 percent for group two which received two cc of the vaccine; and 17.7 percent for group three which received three cc — the highest dose administered. This study was the third in a series of studies in which the first two also showed promising results. K-State will conduct another study this summer in a feedlot setting and may look at the effects of different doses. —Drovers Alert, Thursday, May 23, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 21.

MARKET INFORMATION
May 29, 2007

	5/26/07	Last Week	Last Year
5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE			
Live Steer	94.54	97.50	80.73
Live Heifer	94.63	97.63	80.87
Dressed Steer	150.53	154.44	126.46
Dressed Heifer	150.47	154.74	126.74

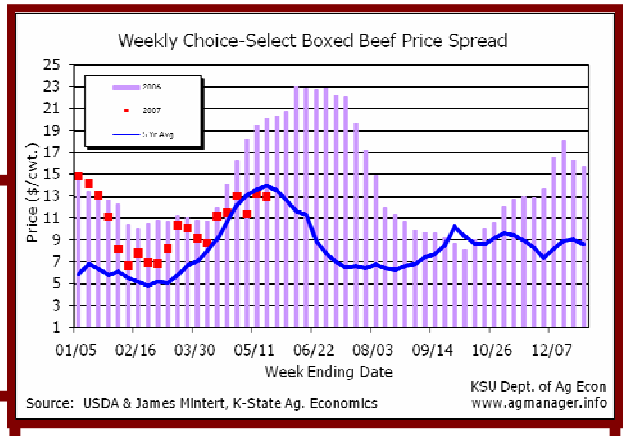
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm_ct150.txt

BEEF PRODUCTION	5/26/07 (Estimate)	Last Week (Estimate)	Last Year (Actual)
Slaughter	696,000	702,000	696,000
Live Weights	1229	1230	1249
Dressed Weights	747	747	765
Beef Production (M. of Pounds)	518.5	522.6	530.0

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

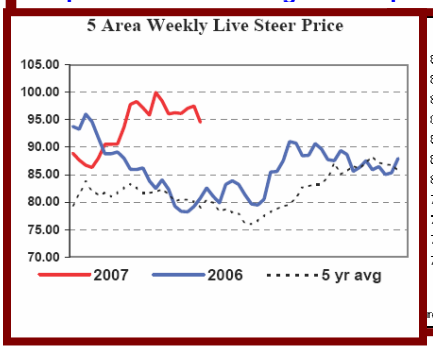
	5/12/07	Last Week	Last Year
National Grading Percent			
Prime	2.02%	2.09%	2.23%
Choice	50.06%	50.20%	48.82%
Select	37.74%	37.95%	41.30%

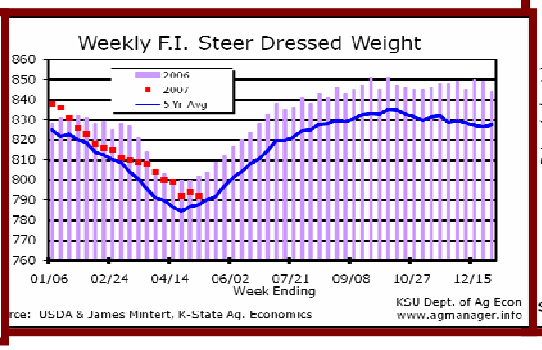
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/NW_LS196.txt

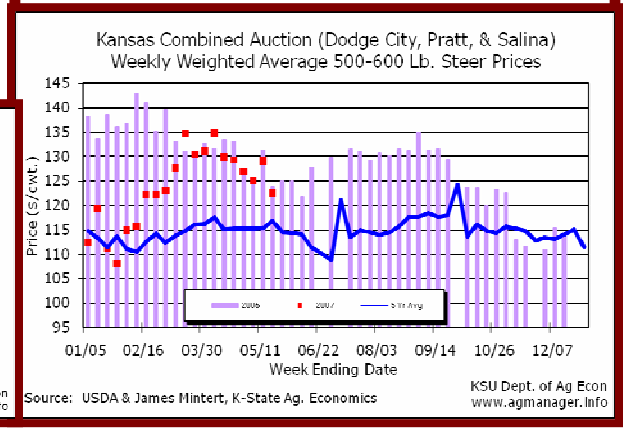


Choice/Select Spread
05/29/07
$9.16/cwt

http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM_XB403.TXT

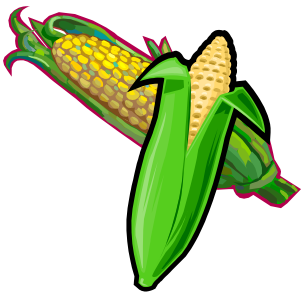






The summary below reflects the week ending May 18, 2007 for Medium and Large 1 -- 500- to 550-lb., 600- to 650-lb., and 700- to 750-lb. heifers and steers. Source: Beef Stocker Trends, May 22, 2007.

State	Volume	Steers			Heifers		
Calf Weight		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.
TX	17,600	$119.91	$114.16	$107.94	$113.89	$106.28	$104.13
AL	12,900	$116-121	$109-114	$104-108	$102-112	$98-107.50	$85-95
TN	9,300	$116.70	$107.35	$99.52	$104.18	$97.58	$92.19
FL	6,300	$101-115	$94-102	$90-93	$92-102	$90-96	$80-90
GA	9,500	$103-120	$96-112	$90-104	$95-109	$87-102	$80-94



CORN:

Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 1 to 2 cents lower from 4.77-4.85 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 9 to 11 cents higher at 3.62 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 10 to 11 cents higher at 3.63-3.64 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 3 ½ to 7 ½ cents higher from 3.56 ½-3.81 ½ per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 4 ½ to 6 ½ cents higher from 3.68 ½-3.71 ½ per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 6 ½ cents higher at 3.49 ½ per bushel. Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday May 25, 2007, http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt

FOOTROT IN CATTLE

As you can see in the annual rainfall chart below, we are quite below where we would like to be at this time of the year. Soon we hopefully will see the summer rains start and with that we approach a time when Footrot in cattle can become prevalent. Footrot is a highly contagious disease affecting the interdigital (between the toes) tissue of ruminants. It is one of the most common causes of lameness in cattle and sheep and can result in serious economic loss. It is caused by a combination of bacteria's, one of which inhabits the ruminant digestive system and can live in the soil for up to 10 months. The highest occurrence of Footrot will be during the wet season. Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, or severe abrasions of the foot will damage the skin in the interdigital space and predispose an animal to Footrot by allowing bacteria to invade and multiply within the tissue. The bacteria cannot by themselves, gain entry to the skin and cause foot rot.

CLINICAL SIGNS: **You will first see lameness in one or more feet of an affected animal. This is often followed by reddening of the interdigital tissue and swelling of the foot which will cause a spreading of the toes. The spreading of the dewclaws is considered a classical sign and is due to the swelling. There will be a distinctive lesion such as above and a foul odor.**

TREATMENT: **The affected foot should be cleaned and inspected for characteristic clinical signs and to rule out other causes for the swelling and lameness such as, foreign bodies, infectious arthritis, or wounds caused by trauma. Historically, an antiseptic and bandage were applied after cleaning and trimming the foot, but topical treatment and bandaging are considered less important than systemic therapy. Prompt diagnosis and initiation of antimicrobial therapy are essential to achieve a satisfactory response. The treatment of choice is parenteral (not in or through the digestive system) antibiotics administered for three to five days. In commercial beef cattle that are difficult to handle, feed additives such as chlortetracycline and oxytetracycline have been used for control and treatment of large numbers of cattle with the disease. Although this is convenient, there is no feed-grade antimicrobials labeled for control or treatment of foot rot. According to the Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification (AMDUCA), extralabel use of feed additives is prohibited in the United States. Readers are advised to seek advice from a veterinarian for specific recommendations. In some severe cases where the infection has extended into deeper tissues of the foot, surgical correction including amputation of the affected claw may be indicated. Recovered cattle can usually function well with one claw.**

FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL—2007 http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/.												
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
1.93"	2.09"	0.81"	2.80"	2.28"								9.91"
FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE—FIRST COLUMN IS THE HIGH & 2ND COLUMN IS THE LOW												
86.6°	86.5°	86.3°	90.5°	89.0°								
33.3°	32.6°	39.5°	43.9°	53.0°								
FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY CHILLING HOURS AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE												
18.8	33.2	28.5	1.2	0.0	Last Month to Report to Chilling Hours till the Fall							

Beef Management Calendar

June/July

Last Date to Plant Sorghum-Sudan Grass	Check dustbags, oilers, etc.
Check mineral feeder. Use at least 8% phosphorus in mineral and not over 2 ½ to 1 calcium to phosphorus.	Check pastures and hay fields for grubs, mole crickets, spittlebugs and armyworms.
Get heifers vaccinated for brucellosis if not already done.	Reimplant calves at 90 to 120 days with growth stimulant.
Watch for evidence of pinkeye and treat.	Pregnancy check cows.
Control weeds in summer pastures.	Plant warm season perennial pastures.
Make plans to attend the FCA Convention.	

INFORMATION FROM THE 56th ANNUAL BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE

Weed Control—Establishment and Maintenance: Dr. Brent Sellers of the Ona Range Cattle Research Center provided this information on the program. In the remaining space I will try to highlight some of his major points as it relates to Bahiagrass establishment.

Weeds in pastures and rangeland cost ranchers in excess of $180 million annually in Florida by reducing forage yield, lowering forage quality, and causing animal injury through toxicity or specialized plant organs (thorns and spines). Effective weed management begins with a healthy pasture. No pre-emergence herbicides are currently available for bahiagrass establishment. Therefore, post-emergence herbicides are the only option. However, no herbicides for pastures should be applied to bahiagrass until at least three tillers are present or plants are at least five inches tall. At that point in time, it can be assumed that all post-emergence herbicides labeled for bahiagrass are safe to apply.

The following herbicides can be safely applied to established bahiagrass:

2,4-D (2.0 to 4.0 pt/acre of 4 lb formulation) Annual broadleaf weeds should be treated soon after emergence for best control with lower rates. Perennial weeds should be allowed to obtain a leaf surface large enough to allow sufficient spray coverage (12-18 inches tall). Use amine formulations during warm weather and ester formulations during cool weather.

Banvel (0.5 to 2.0 qt/acre). Rate depends on weed species and size. More expensive than 2,4-D.

WeedMaster(2.0 to 4.0 pt/acre). WeedMaster is a mixture of 2,4-D and dicamba and often provides better control as a premix than either product alone.

Remedy Ultra (2.0 to 4.0 pt/acre). Provides good control of many broadleaf weeds, but is used primarily for brush control in pastures and rangeland. For best results, apply with at least 30 gal/acre of water. The addition of a non-ionic surfactant will increase weed control.

Milestone (5 to 7 fl oz/acre). Excellent control of TSA, horsenettle, and other members of the nightshade family. Controls pigweeds and other broadleaf weeds, but not blackberry or dogfennel. Can be safely applied under trees. Desirable forage legumes may be severely injured. A 0.11% v/v solution is recommended for spot-spray applications.

Forefront (2.0 to 2.6 pt/acre). Forefront is a premix of aminopyralid (Milestone) and 2,4-D. See comments for Milestone. Forefront provides better control of dogfennel than Milestone as long as plants are <18 inches tall at application. For dogfennel plants >18 inches tall, a tank-mix partner will be necessary.

Pasturegard (2.0 to 4.0 pt/acre). Provides excellent control of dogfennel, blackberry (4.0 pt/acre), teaweed, and other broadleaf weeds. Less effective on TSA than with Remedy alone.

If you would like a copy of the complete proceedings of this presentation, they will be available in the DeSoto County Extension Office.

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The Foundation for The Gator Nation

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