

Livestock News

Cumberland County Center

September 2014

Inside This Issue

- 1 Important Information
- 2 Animal Waste Mgmt.
- 2 Forage Management Tips
- 3 Late Summer Bermuda Management
- 4 Beef Cattle Reproduction Series Overview
- 5 Reproductive Management in Goats and Sheep
- 6 Yes, Our Horses are FAT!
- 7 Packing for a Livestock Show
- 8 Litter Application Setbacks
- 8 Small Scale Field Day

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For any meeting in this newsletter, persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency may request accommodations to participate by contacting the Extension Office where the meeting will be held by phone, email, or in person at least 7 days prior to the event.

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Cumberland County Fair Update

This year's Youth Livestock Shows were a big success. The youth exhibitors were able to show off their hard work. Cumberland County Farm Bureau and the Cumberland County Livestock Association donated money for rubber mats to be put in the ring to prevent animals from slipping.

Buck Collection Day

Johnston County Cooperative Extension and the Johnston County Goat Producers Association will host a buck collection on **Monday, November 10, 2014.**

The collection will be performed by Biogenics (biogenicsltd.com). The minimum is 30 straws per buck, rates are \$200 for the 30 straw minimum, with additional straws (straws 31 and up) at a discounted rate of \$4.50 each. Frozen semen will be ready for pickup by 10 AM on Tuesday November 11. Bucks must be pre-registered for this collection; do not simply show up the day of the collection! Call 919-989-5380 or email Dan Wells (dgwells@ncsu.edu) to register your buck(s) for the collection and to receive pre-collection instructions.

Beef Cattle Reproduction Series

There will be a reproduction series held in Robeson County this fall. The series will consist of 3 night classes and 1 field day. The classes will be held on November 6, 13, and 20 from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Robeson Extension Office or the Duplin Extension Office. There will be a field day/hands-on demonstrations on Saturday, December 6th at the Sampson County Livestock Arena from 9:30 am - 2 pm to see practices discussed in class. The cost is \$25 for the series and \$10 extra for each additional person from the same farm. Call your Extension Agent to register for the class. The class is limited to 30 people so register early. See page 4 for an in-depth list of topics.

Eastern Carolina Cattlemen's Conference

The conference will be held on Tuesday, December 2 at the Sampson County Agri-Exposition Center located at 414 Warsaw Road in Clinton. Preregistration is \$20 and on site is \$25. This year the conference will start at 12:30 pm with registration and the trade show. Speakers and topics include Leon Warren, NCSU, discussing Weed Control in Forages; Dr. Mark Alley, Zoetis, discussing Cull Cow Issues; and Dr. Tom Troxel and Dr. Shane Gadberry, University of Arkansas, will talk on 300 Days of Grazing. Look for more information in the November Newsletter.

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Empowering People • Providing Solutions

Animal Waste Management News

By: Amanda Hatcher, Livestock Extension Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension in Duplin County

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES

Date	Location	Time	Contact
September 24th	Duplin County	1 pm (3 hrs)	910-296-2143
October 30th	Duplin County	9 am (6 hrs)	910-296-2143
December 9th	Bladen County	9 am (6 hrs)	910-862-4591

Upcoming initial training classes:

- ◆ 10-hour Animal Waste Operator Class in Kenansville on October 21 & 22. Contact Amanda Hatcher or Wanda Hargrove at 910-296-2143 to sign up.
- ◆ 10-hour Animal Waste Operator Class in Elizabethtown on January 22 and 23, 2015. Contact Becky Spearman at 910-862-4591 to sign up.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Peak-season Soil Testing Fee - \$4

NCDA will be charging a \$4 fee for all soil samples processed by the lab during December through March. There will be no fee from April through November. So take your samples now.

Waste Analysis Fees are \$8 per sample.

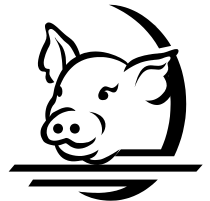
Change in Soil Sampling Frequency for Swine Farms

A change in legislation in 2013 states that the **soil testing frequency has been changed from annually to every three years**. Farms that soil tested in 2012 are good until 2015 and farms tested in 2013 are good until 2016.

Storm Warning Permit Information

On October 1, 2009, your general permit changed and some of the permit conditions changed too. Below is the new land application rule in regards to a Hurricane Warning, Tropical Storm Warning or a Flood Watch. If you have any questions, call your Livestock Agent.

Section II 22. Land application of waste is prohibited during precipitation events. The Permittee shall consider pending weather conditions in making the decision to land apply waste and shall document the weather conditions at the time of land application on forms supplied or approved by the Division. Land application of waste shall cease within four (4) hours of the time that the National Weather Service (NWS) issues a Hurricane Warning, Tropical Storm Warning, or a Flood Watch associated with a tropical system including a hurricane, tropical storm or tropical depression for the county in which the facility is located. Watches and warnings are posted at www.weather.gov or by calling your area NWS office.



Hay Directory

North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Hay Alert is at <http://www.agr.state.nc.us/hayaalert/>. Producers can call the Hay Alert at 1-866-506-6222. It lists people selling hay or looking for hay to buy. It is free to list your hay for sale on-line.

Forage Management Tips

From Production and Utilization of Pastures and Forages in North Carolina

SEPTEMBER

- Fertilize and lime cool-season grasses.
- Keep pressure on summer grasses and completely use them before grazing cool-season forages.
- Watch for fall insects (armyworms, grasshoppers, crickets).
- Overseed or no-till winter annuals into summer perennial grass.

OCTOBER

- Finish using summer grasses before grazing the cool-season ones.
- Watch for prussic acid poisoning when grazing sudan and sorghum-sudans after the first frost.
- Overseed warm-season grasses with winter annuals.

Late Summer Bermuda Management

By: Randy Wood, Livestock Extension Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension in Scotland County

This time of year (early September) is often one of the most difficult times to manage Bermuda during the summer growing season. How late in the fall can I mow hay? When should I stop fertilizing? When can I expect my Bermuda to stop growing? Are all questions that get discussed this time of year.

How late in the fall will Bermuda grow?

Bermuda will technically “grow” all the way until the first killing frost of the year. Normally this occurs late October/early November. While it will still be green, Bermuda growth will start to slow significantly by late September. The reason is partially because of lower night-time temperatures as well as declining soil Nitrogen (N) rates. Mainly however, Bermuda slows down because of decreasing day length. While every farmer hopes for a really warm September with plenty of rain, once day length starts to noticeably decrease Bermuda growth will follow suite.

How late in the year can I/should I fertilize?

It depends of two factors.

- 1) what type of fertilizer will you be using?
- 2) will your Bermuda field be overseeded with some type of small grain?

For the first item, what type of fertilizer will you be using?

By the end of the growing season, most Bermuda fields will benefit from a late application (30-60 pounds/acre) of Potassium (Potash). Potash helps Bermuda root systems stay vibrant during the winter and overcome cold soil temperatures. This is especially true for newly planted Bermuda that has a shallower root system. If your fields go into the fall and winter with depleted Potash levels, the root systems will have that much more of a difficult time coming through the cold weather unscathed.

Conversely, Nitrogen has the opposite effect if applied too late in the season. The more Nitrogen your fields have applied to them, the more your grass is going to

try to grow. The problem is that once we get late into the summer/fall (late September and October) forcing your grass to keep growing through late Nitrogen fertilization will not do it any favors. Ideally Bermuda will be well fertilized through the majority of the growing season (May-August) then will start to slow down in September once day length and temperatures tell it that it's time to go to sleep for the winter. This helps the grass stay healthy and avoids winter-kill situations. Late season applications of Nitrogen, and late season can be very loosely defined as anything after the middle of September, will force your Bermuda to try growing and utilize the soil Nitrogen as long as it's present. Every little 2-3 day warm-up we get in the late fall will see the Bermuda struggling to turn back green and start growing. This keeps the grass from going naturally dormant, which is its way to protect itself through the winter. Excessive N late in the year prevents this from happening.

In summary, if you are using a fertilizer with significant N (poultry litter, lagoon effluent, 34% liquid N, etc ...) than the old rule of thumb is no later than Labor Day. While there are years and individual circumstances where this could be extended a week or two, more often than not fertilizing past mid-September does not pay for itself and does not help your Bermuda stay healthy the winter.

The other part of this question was are you going to overseed your Bermuda fields? If you are, than the late application of Nitrogen will not hurt your bermuda nearly as much as discussed above. In fact it will probably help your small grain crop get established more quickly. Your small grain crop will step in and utilize the residual soil N that your bermuda was not able to take up in the late summer. So while small grains will hurt your bermuda in the spring, they will actually help it out in the fall. This is why most swine nutrient management plans allow for “bermuda” fertilization to take place into October. While this practice is not especially good for your bermuda, the small grains that have been or soon will be drilled in to these fields help overcome this overlap in soil Nitrogen.

Beef Cattle Reproduction Series Preview

By: Justin Whitley, Livestock Extension Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension in Duplin County

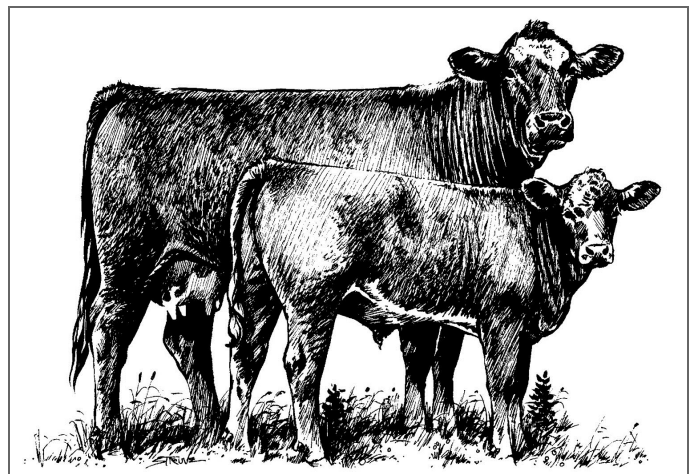
This November, NC Cooperative Extension in Scotland, Hoke, Cumberland, Robeson, Bladen, Sampson, Wayne, Duplin, Pender, and Onslow counties will be offering a Beef Cattle Reproduction Series to local cattle producers. There will be two teaching locations (Robeson County Extension Center and Duplin County Center), and the classes will be taught on Thursdays, November 6th, 13th, and 20th from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at both locations. There will also be a follow up field day held at the Sampson County Livestock Arena Saturday, December 6th from 9:30 am-2:00 pm to see first hand some of the management practices discussed previously. Whether you're just getting into the cattle business or you've had cattle all your life, we hope there will be something for everyone in this series.

Everything from basic anatomy to advanced reproductive technologies will be on the agenda. We will discuss the basics of male and female reproduction, including basic anatomy, age at puberty, hormones, general repro terms, and mating behaviors. All of these components play a part in how successful your reproductive program on your farm will be. For instance, there are ways you can manage your heifers differently to have a higher percentage cycling at breeding time and ways to have them start cycling at a younger age. We will have a presentation as well as a hands-on demonstration about Artificial Insemination and estrus synchronization. If you've thought about doing some AI on your farm, but aren't sure about what all it entails or the pro's and con's, hopefully we help you better understand these more advanced reproductive technologies.

Many people often wonder what they should really be looking for both physically and genetically in their bulls and heifers when making selections on the farm and purchases off the farm. There are so many different opinions about what the "ideal" heifer or bull look like that it can be hard to decipher what works best on your farm, and EPDs can be confusing. What are the most important characteristics to focus on and what do all those numbers actually mean for you and your cattle? Heifer selection and bull selection will be a topic of discussion to hopefully help you make those important decisions about the future of your herd.

Reproductive management is perhaps the most important aspect of your cattle operation, but it is often taken for granted. Too often people just put the bull out and assume that he's ready to do his job and that the cows and heifers are cycling and ready to be bred. It's great and easy when it works out that way, but it can be tremendously expensive and quite the disaster when it doesn't and you have a bunch of cows show up open at pregnancy check time or worse, when they're supposed to calve. Spending \$50 on a Breeding Soundness Exam for your bull seems like a pretty cheap insurance plan when calves are selling for record high prices. Conducting breeding soundness exams on your heifers and bulls can significantly improve your conception rates as well as number of calves born alive without any assistance. Throughout this class we will discuss how to make sure that your bulls, cows, and heifers are prepared for breeding and how to avoid those problems. We will discuss breeding seasons and why they're important to have, how to set reproductive goals or benchmarks, pregnancy checking, pelvic measurements, and repro tract scores just to name a few!

There should really be something for everyone during this series and you should seriously consider taking advantage of this opportunity! You should be receiving more information about the class and how to register in the mail soon. As always, contact your local livestock agent if you have any questions.



Reproductive Management in Goats and Sheep

By: Becky Spearman, Livestock Extension Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension in Bladen County
from *Reproductive Management in Sheep and Goats* from Alabama Cooperative Extension

This is the time of year that most goat and sheep producers are gearing up or have already started their breeding season. This article will focus on some basics of goat and sheep reproduction and preparing for the breeding season.

Puberty is the time when an animal reaches sexual maturity for the first time. The ages range from 5-12 months in ewe lambs, 5-7 months in ram lambs, 7-10 months in doe kids and 4-8 months in buck kids. Puberty is influenced by age, body weight, nutrition, breed, and season of birth. For example, spring born ewe lambs usually exhibit puberty earlier than fall born ewe lambs. Lambs and kids born early in the season reach puberty earlier than those born late in the season because of increased age and body weight. General recommendations are that young does or ewes reach 60-75% of their estimated mature weight before being bred.

Estrus or heat is the time when the female is sexually receptive to the ram or buck. Goats and sheep are seasonal breeders and most breeding seasons are August to January. Lambs and kids will be born January to June. Some breeds can breed year round. The estrous cycle is the length of time from one heat period to the next and there is a difference in the length for does and ewes. The average cycle for a doe is 21 days with a range of 18 to 22 days. The average cycle for a ewe is 17 days with ranges of 14 to 20 days. Estrus will last from 24 to 48 hours in does and 24 to 36 hours in ewes. Ovulation normally occurs towards the end of estrus. Ovulation times for does are 24 to 36 hours from the beginning of estrus and for ewes it is 24 to 27 hours from the beginning of estrus.

There are signs of estrus that you can look for in your breeding herd or flock. A doe is restless, bleats, urinates frequently, wags her tail, may not eat, rubs against other goats, stands to be mounted, and may have a red, swollen vulva with a mucous discharge. Signs of estrus in the ewe are less noticeable than does. Ewes will seek out the ram and stand still for him to mount. Ewes may wag their tails, nuzzle the ram around the belly or scrotum and even try to mount the ram. Young ewes rarely exhibit these behaviors.

The gestation length or time that the ewe or doe is pregnant is an average of 150 days with ranges being 142-155 days. Maternal recognition of pregnancy in sheep occurs by day 13 following conception and by day 15 in goats. There is a difference in implantation of the embryo in goats and sheep. Implantation occurs by day 21 after conception in

sheep and by day 52 in goats. Implantation allows nutrient exchange and hormonal communication between the developing embryo and the uterus.

Timing of breeding depends on several things including the weather and how you market lambs and kids as the biggest two factors in our area. Weather can be a two fold concern. Heat stress from high temperatures and high humidity can affect fertility, embryo survival and fetal development. The first 30-45 days after fertilization is the most critical time due to implantation and this is the time when most embryonic mortality occurs. It is not just the female that suffers from heat stress, but rams and bucks are susceptible too. The fertility of males can be affected within days of exposure to extreme heat and may take 6-10 weeks before sperm quality returns to normal. Also there is a concern for the kidding and lambing season. Offspring born in January and February have a greater chance for freezing and getting frostbite. If you kid or lamb in colder months, make sure you have good facilities to house the newborns.

Some producers will plan their breeding season around when they want to sell or market their animals. Selling kids and lambs for specific ethnic holidays requires you to plan your breeding season in advance and knowing what your customer wants. For example, Easter is two weeks earlier in 2015 than it was in 2014 and it was three weeks later in 2014 than it was in 2013. So planning is critical to meet your target weights.

Male to female ration will vary with the age of the ram or buck. Yearling or two year old males are still growing and we generally recommend a lower ratio of 1 buck or ram to 15-30 does or ewes. Mature animals can service more animals and recommendations are 1 male to 35-50 females.

The body condition score (BCS) is important in both females and males. BCS is a term that describes if the animal has enough fat cover and is in good condition. The ideal BCS just before breeding is a 5 to 6 on the 9 point scale. Thin animals can fail to reproduce, have low twinning rates, and low weaning rates. Fat animals can suffer from pregnancy toxemia or problems birthing. Pay special attention to younger animals because they are still growing.

Contact your Livestock Extension Agent for more information on any of these recommendations.

Yes, Our Horses are FAT!!!

By: Tyrone Fisher, County Extension Director and Livestock Extension Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension in Harnett County. From the article *Easy Keepers: Managing Horses Prone to Obesity* from Virginia Cooperative Extension

“Easy Keepers” are horses that will maintain or even gain weight under conditions where other horses will lose weight. They are often considered a pleasure to own because they need less feed to maintain an appropriate body condition; however, these horses can easily become obese, which leads to other potentially life-threatening conditions.

Summary Tips on Managing the Easy Keeper

1. Start or increase the level of exercise. Begin slowly and work up to longer or more intensive activities.
2. Get rid of high calorie concentrates. Easy keepers do not need the extra energy.
3. Get rid of high fat supplements. Again, easy keepers do not need the extra calories.
4. Feed grass forages and hay rather than legumes. This will decrease the caloric intake.
5. Limit access to pasture to less than 4 hours a day. Use a grazing muzzle if a drylot is not available.
6. Limit the amount of hay fed to 1-1.5% of the target body weight. Divide this amount into several feedings a day in order to extend the amount of time the horse spends eating.
7. Make sure the horse has access to salt (straight salt or a trace-mineral salt) and clean water.

Causes of Obesity

Horses evolved grazing forages like those in our pastures today, right? Wrong. Forages in our pastures today are much higher in calorie content than the types of grasses that horses evolved on. They grazed on moderate to poor quality forages, often covering several miles a day to find feed in sparsely vegetated areas. Modern management practices have placed horses in unnatural confinement situations that restrict grazing activity within the limits of pasture fences while providing easy to find, high quality forages. The ultimate confinement with limited access to forage is represented by horses that are stall-kept with limited turnout. These horses do not have to travel at all to find forage, and thus do not expend any calories looking for food. Despite this, many people still believe that horses need concentrates as part of the diet. Combined with decreased exercise, this creates an equine lifestyle that results in weight gain and obesity. Interestingly, a recent survey done in Virginia found that many obese horses are getting very little or no concentrate and still battle weight issues, adding emphasis to the lack of exercise as a contributor to obesity.

Effects of Obesity

Sometimes owners think that “a little extra weight” on a horse isn’t a bad thing. What one person considers obese another might call a little plump. The difficulty lies in defining what “a little” means and whether or not that’s actually healthy for the animal. While some body fat is essential, excess reduces a horse’s capacity for exercise. The extra weight requires more exertion to move and added fat layers insulate the body, reducing the horse’s ability to dissipate heat which can lead to heat stress. The extra weight may also predispose an animal to musculoskeletal injuries or exacerbate arthritis, resulting in decreased performance.

Monitoring for Obesity

Weight gain usually occurs slowly, and without an appropriate monitoring system your horse may become obese before you realize there is a problem. While most people don’t have access to a livestock scale, there are other ways to assess your horse’s level of obesity. Weight tapes, available at most feed and tack stores, are useful for generating an approximate bodyweight and are very good at helping you monitor changes. Using the tape accurately and consistently will allow you to track increases or decreases in your horse’s weight and give you time to adjust feed intake and exercise accordingly.

Reducing Obesity

Obese horses will only lose weight if their energy expenditure is greater than their intake. This can happen by increasing exercise and/or decreasing calorie intake. However, caution must be used. An unfit, obese horse can be easily and quickly overstressed by too much exercise and proper nutrition must be maintained to prevent nutritional deficiencies.

Maintaining the Easy Keeper

The diet utilized for losing weight will not be the same as the one used for maintaining weight. Once the horse has lost the appropriate amount of weight, slowly increase the amount of grass hay fed or increase access to pasture until the horse can maintain the target weight. Grazing muzzles or limited turnout may still be required, particularly during times when pasture forages are lush (spring and fall). Keep up the exercise and monitor the horse’s weight regularly to maintain a trimmer, healthier animal.



Packing for a Livestock Show

By: Dan Wells, Livestock Extension Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension in Johnston County

Show season is in full swing, with circuit shows and county fairs landing on our calendars, leading up to the NC State Fair. The animals have been purchased, fed, trained, groomed, clipped, washed, etc. for weeks, and now is the time to hit the road and the show ring to see how all that hard work and investment will pay off. One of the worst things that can happen is to get to a show and realize you've left some important piece of equipment or a convenience item at home or at the barn. Adding that kind of stress to the show ring jitters can really create an unpleasant experience, so here are some thoughts on packing for the show and some things to consider bringing (you may want to create a checklist, it can really help in the days leading up to a show!)

First of all, make sure the animals are prepared. Washing and clipping before a show can be a big help, and really reduce the amount of work involved on show day. This isn't to say there won't be some touch-up needed on show day, but you definitely can't pull an animal off pasture the morning of the show and expect it to look good in the showmanship drive. Have your clippers, clipper oil, towels, blower, and extension cords ready to go into the trailer. Also, if you have a generator, you might consider bringing it to the show, also. A lot of show barns have limited electrical outlets, and circuits can quickly become overloaded with fans and blowers. Having your own hose and nozzle is a good idea, too, as these are usually not made available at show barns.

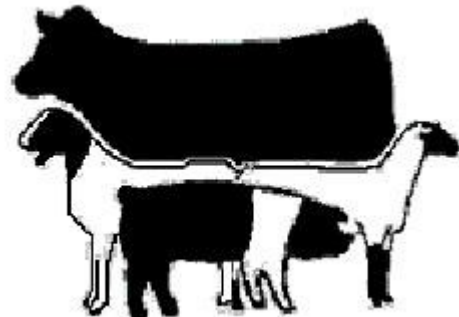
Make sure you are washed and clipped, too! Have your show clothes washed and ready. Remember your show boots, belt, jeans, extra socks and a nice shirt. Having a holder for your exhibitor number is nice, too. Ladies might want to pack some extra hair ties.

It's wise to check your show ring equipment before heading out. Make sure you have all your halters, collars, show sticks, combs and brushes. And your animals still have to eat, so be prepared with extra feed and water buckets, and a supply of feed. You may want to have two sets of buckets; one for the barn, and one for the show box. Bringing your fly spray is a good idea, also, along with some supplies for treating wounds or scratches that might occur on the road or in the barn. Remember that water is the most important part of an animal's diet, and the show barn water might be distasteful to your animal. So bringing along some electrolyte or sports drink mix to flavor the water might help your stock keep up their water intake.

That takes care of the animals, now what about the people? A cooler is a great idea, with plenty of water, drinks and snacks. These are available at many shows, but can be more expensive and less convenient than bringing your own. You probably want to bring some camp chairs, bug repellent, sunscreen, and medicine for a headache or indigestion (think fair food!) It's important to have some tools, such as screwdrivers, pliers, scissors, a knife, flashlight, hole punch and a hammer and nails. Be prepared for the weather, which could mean packing raincoats, sweaters and jackets, or shorts and sunglasses. Towels, gloves, and a first aid kit can also be quite handy.

Since you've worked so hard for this experience, be prepared to remember it. Bring along your camera or video recorder, and make sure you have extra batteries, charger, memory cards, etc. Also remember your health papers, if required. There's nothing worse than traveling to a show and being turned away. It's also wise to bring a copy of the rules and schedule for the show, so you don't have to keep running to the show desk or asking someone about a particular aspect of the show.

But the most important thing anyone can bring to the show, by far, is a positive attitude and good showmanship. This is supposed to be fun, and having the wrong attitude can really make that impossible. Be prepared to help someone who is less experienced; remember you were in their place at one time, too. Remember that many of the folks working at a show are volunteering their time and labor to make the event happen, so a word of encouragement or thanks really means a lot! Be sure to thank the judge, too, even if you didn't do well in the show. Keep in mind that the winning animal or exhibitor is one person's opinion on one day, and not everyone can be in the winner's circle. The judge knows this, and odds are he or she was in your place not too long ago. Try to learn from every show ring experience, and you will find that you will get better and better!



POULTRY LITTER APPLICATION SETBACKS

By: James Parsons, Area Poultry Agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension

I continue to get complaints from citizens about land application of poultry litter to crop and pasture land. A few of the complaints appear to be justified, and include spreading litter across property lines, close to homes, and the over application of litter on a field. I want to take this opportunity to review regulations pertaining to spreading litter for crop production. Please make sure you apply litter according to regulations. If you use a third party applicator (commercial clean out crew), be sure that the owner and truck drivers are familiar with the regulations.

Animal waste (poultry litter) shall not be applied more than 30 days prior to planting of the crop or 30 days prior to forages breaking dormancy. Animal waste can be applied to actively growing crops in such a manner that the crop is not covered with waste to a depth that would inhibit crop growth.

Setback regulations MUST be followed when applying poultry litter. Waste Utilization Plan – (Required Specifications) state that animal waste shall not be applied closer than 25 feet to perennial waters, animal waste shall not be applied closer than 100 feet to wells and animal waste shall not be applied closer than 200 feet of dwellings other than those owned by the landowner. One of the more confusing setback regulations relate to property lines. The required specifications state that animal waste shall not be applied in a manner to reach other property and public right-of-ways.

This is also a good time to remind poultry farmers that animal waste (litter) must be sampled within 60 days of application. The cost of litter analysis has increased to \$8.00 per sample. This information will tell the farmer utilizing the waste precisely what the nutrient content is in the litter and will enable the farmer to correctly land apply the litter. If a third party applicator is used, the poultry farmer should present a copy of the waste analysis to the applicator. It is ultimately the responsibility of the poultry farmer to have the waste analyzed. Normally, waste analysis results are available in about a week from the time it is received at the NCDA&CS lab or commercial lab.

Soil samples shall be tested at least every three (3) years at crop sites where waste products (litter) are applied. The NCDA&CS Agronomic Division now charges \$4.00 per sample for samples received between December 1st and April 31st. Soil samples received between May 1st and November 30th are still analyzed at no cost. The length of time to receive soil sample results varies much more than waste samples.

Please remember that neither waste nor soil sample results are mailed to farmers anymore. You need to go the NCDA&CS website (www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/) to get these results.

If you have any questions about the above information feel free to call me, James Parsons at 910.296.2143. I will do my best to answer your questions.

2014 Small-Scale Egg Production in a Range Setting Field Day

A field day is planned for Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014 at the Cherry Research Farm located at 201 Stevens Mill Road in Goldsboro, NC. Registration starts at 8am with the program going from 8:45 am until 3 pm. Topics include Paddock Stocking Density and Egg Safety Impacts; Integrated: From Meat to Eggs and Back Again; Nutrition: What Can I Feed the Chickens That I Can Raise Myself?; Processing: Home Processing and Regulations; Biosecurity: Why Is It Important to Small Producers?; Small Flocks: Fencing and Predator Prevention, and a Tour of Small Farm Organic Unit. Registration Fee is \$35 – checks only and the pre-registration deadline is Sept. 10th. The program can be found at <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Small-Egg-Prod-Field-Day-VERSION1.pdf> and the registration form is at <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/2014-Small-Registration-form1.pdf>