



Regional Beef Notes

Winter 2015

Inside This Issue

- 2015 Norwood Area Feeder Calf Sales Schedule
- NC Southern Piedmont Area Beef Conference - 2/5/15
- Cattle Market Mobile

Contact Us

Steve Lemons

Extension Agent-Stanly
Agriculture
steve_lemons@ncsu.edu

Kelly Liddington

County Director-Union
Agriculture
richard_melton@ncsu.edu

Tiffanee Conrad

Extension Agent-Richmond
Agriculture
tiff_conrad@ncsu.edu

Jamie Warner

Extension Agent-Montgomery
Agriculture
jamie_warner@ncsu.edu

Jessica Morgan

Extension Agent-Anson
Agriculture
jessica_morgan@ncsu.edu

Distributed in furtherance of the acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

Recommendations for the use of chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. Mention or display of a trademark, proprietary product, or firm in text or figures does not constitute an endorsement or imply approval to the exclusion of other suitable products or firms by North Carolina State University, North Carolina A & T State University or North Carolina Cooperative Extension nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Individuals who use chemicals are responsible for ensuring that the intended use complies with current regulations and conforms to the product label. Be sure to obtain current information about usage regulations and examine a current product label before applying any chemical.

Anson County, 501 McLaurin St, Wadesboro, NC 28170
Montgomery County, 203 W Main St, Troy, NC 27371,
Richmond County, 123 Caroline St, Suite 100, Rockingham 28379
Stanly County, 26032-E Newt Road Albemarle 28001
Union County, 3230-D Presson Road Monroe 28112

704.694.2915 anson.ces.ncsu.edu
910.576.6011 montgomery.ces.ncsu.edu
910.997.8255 richmond.ces.ncsu.edu
704.983.3987 stanly.ces.ncsu.edu
704.283.3801 union.ces.ncsu.edu

Cold Weather Herd Management Tips

Jessica Morgan, Extension Agent, Anson County Center

Old man winter has settled in, and with that should come an increased concern about your cattle. The following pointers should help manage cold stress in cattle during this frigid time.

- Reduce wind speeds to increase animal comfort
We don't see the same time of below zero wind chills like out west, but we can get some pretty cold winds that can decrease the temperature dramatically. Any available protection, whether natural (think barn) or man-made (trees) can help tremendously in reducing wind chill.
- Cows' energy needs increase as the temperature drops
One of the ways cows respond to cold is by increasing their feed intake. The cows' metabolism increases in activity to keep itself warm. This increases processes such as roughage digesting in the rumen to increase through the rest of the digestive tract. This increased activity will correspondingly increase the cows' appetite.
- Make sure feed intake is maintained
The limiting factor for feed intake is water. Make sure that water is available, and not frozen, at all times. If there is no water, she won't eat, and if she doesn't eat, she's not producing heat.
Sort thin cows to be cared for separately
- Sort off thin cows or first time heifers into a separate area if space allows.
By providing them their own space, you are eliminating competition from other cows. This ensures that these animals get their nutritional needs met for lactation and fetal growth during the cold months.

Resources: BEEF Daily. Amanda Radke. "Tips for Managing Cold Stress in Cattle."



State University
A&T State University

**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**

Empowering People • Providing Solutions

Norwood Area Value Added BQA Feeder Cattle Program Update

At the annual feeder cattle program meeting held on December 4, 2014, area cattle producers met to discuss the feeder cattle program and decide on sale dates, value added health protocols, and any other relevant changes that will help the program continue to add value to our cattle and sustainability to our area cattle operations. The most significant change was a producer vote to a new health protocol for the Value Added BQA Feeder Cattle Program. The new protocol is called *Prime VAC 45* from Merck Animal Health. The main reason for change as stated by producers was the flexibility and the option to vaccinate calves for the first set of vaccinations while still on the cow earlier in the spring. These calves must be a minimum of three (3) months of age however to ensure that maternal antibodies do not interfere with the efficacy of the vaccine. The biggest advantage of this option is that cattle will not have to be worked twice in the summer months after weaning but only once therefore minimizing stress during the hotter summer weaning period. Lower stress during weaning should equate to cattle gaining more consistent weight and therefore heavier weights at marketing given they are receiving adequate nutrition and care. For those producers that are unable to vaccinate calves in the spring, they will still have the option as before to vaccinate twice at or after weaning. These varying vaccination options add to the flexibility of the herd health protocol and if you have specific questions contact Steve Lemons (704-983-3987).

On **February 5, 2015**, NC Cooperative Extension will host a workshop with the Stanly County Livestock Market. We will begin at 1 PM with a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training for anyone needing certification or those wanting to learn more about best management practices and the NC-BQA program. We will then have chute side demonstrations on various working practices such as but not limited to proper subcutaneous injections and vaccine handling. This will start at 4 PM and we will be joined by Merck Animal Health representatives, Matt Hannah, area sales representative, and Dr. Harold Newcomb, Technical Services Veterinarian with Merck Animal Science. We will then have a meal followed by a presentation from Merck Animal Health on the new Prime VAC 45 program and herd health for cow-calf producers in general.

We look forward to seeing you at this event – an excellent hands-on educational opportunity!

Please **call** the NC Cooperative Extension, Stanly County office at (704)983-3987 to pre-register to ensure we have enough food and supplies.

2015 Norwood Area Feeder Cattle Sales Schedule

March 19
Pre-conditioned
(45 days, 2 respiratory & 2 clostridial/blackleg)

July 9
Regular Feeder Cattle Sale

July 17
Value Added BQA Feeder Cattle Sale
(Prime VAC 45)

August 13
Regular Feeder Cattle Sale

September 3
Value Added BQA Feeder Cattle Sale
(Prime VAC 45)

September 10
Regular Feeder Cattle Sale





2015 NC Southern Piedmont Area Beef Cattle Conference

February 5, 2015
Stanly County Livestock Market

Schedule of Events

1 PM BQA Certification (*Pre-Registration requested*)

Cost for BQA Cert- \$15 for Members of NC Cattlemen's Association
\$40 for Non Members of NCCA

4 PM Chute side and Hands-on Demonstration with live cattle

Cattle Handling & Vaccine Handling

6 PM Sponsored Meal (*Pre-registration required*)

7 PM Presentation on Vaccine Programs and Herd Health Programs

Dr. Harold Newcomb

Technical Services Veterinarian with Merck Animal Health

Sponsors:

**Stanly County
Livestock Market**

Merck Animal Health

Persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency may request accommodations by contacting Lori S Ivey, County Extension Director, (704.983.3987) no later than five business days before events held in Stanly County.

To Register
Call 704-983-3987
Or

Contact your Local Cooperative
Extension office

Pre-Register For
Meal and BQA Certification

Stanly County Livestock Market Location
13215 Indian Mound Road
Norwood, NC

NC State University
A&T State University
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**

Empowering People • Providing Solutions

North Carolina State University and North Carolina A & T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A & T State University, US Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

Cattle Market Mobile – On Your Smartphone

Thomas Cobb

Extension Agent, Rowan County



With the many apps available in today's world it is hard to decide which ones are good and which ones is just a waste of time. Cattle market mobile is one that has many useful applications for beef producers. Cattle Market Mobile is an app that allows you to see current cattle prices for North Carolina and other states as well. Weekly reports are posted for most of the major stockyards in NC including, Norwood, Turnersburg, and Wilkesboro to name a few. Other states are included so producers can compare prices state to state. Also included in the app is the calf calculator. This takes in account location, sex of animal, weight, frame/muscle score, and any exceptions to determine an estimated price. This is useful for producers who want to get a rough estimate of what their calves are worth. To download the app simply click on the APP Store on your smartphone and search Cattle Market Mobile and download. This App is really useful when you are out in the field or traveling.

Cattlemen's Scholarship Available to Student

If you know a graduating senior or a high school graduate pursuing agriculture as a major field of study at an accredited college or university, they may be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship. The agriculture program can be either a two year or a four year program. The applicant is required to be a resident of Stanly County. High school and/or college transcripts are required with completed application. Letters of recommendation are required as well.

The application can be secured from the NC Cooperative Extension-Stanly County Center. [Application](#) is also available on-line on the NC Cooperative Extension site. Deadline to apply is April 6, 2015.

Upcoming Events

Pesticide Recertification Opportunity - V Credit - 10 AM-12 PM - Union Ag Center February 10
NC Cattlemen's Association Annual Conference - Hickory..... February 12-14
Pesticide Recertification Opportunity - V Credit - 5 PM - Anson Extension Center February 17
Pesticide Recertification Opportunity - V Credit - 1-3 PM - Stanly Ag Center February 25
Pesticide Recertification Opportunity - V Credit - 7-9 PM - Stanly Ag Center March 3
Pesticide Recertification Opportunity - V Credit - 6-8 PM - Union Ag Center March 24
Spring Pre-Conditioned Stocker Sale March 19
Bi-Monthly Educational Meeting - Pasture Walk - Farm Demonstration April 2
Bi-Monthly Educational Meeting - Beef Cattle Industry Updates June 4