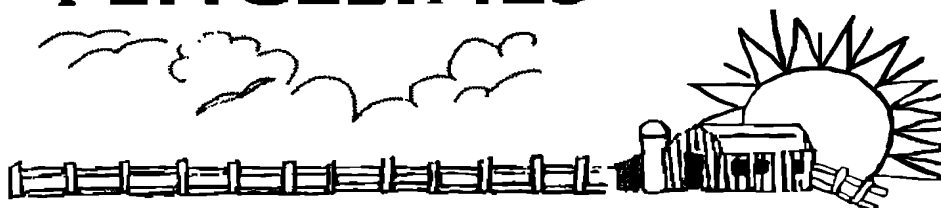


FENCELINES



Livestock Newsletter of the Southeast Extension District

Wayne County Center
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Spring 2015

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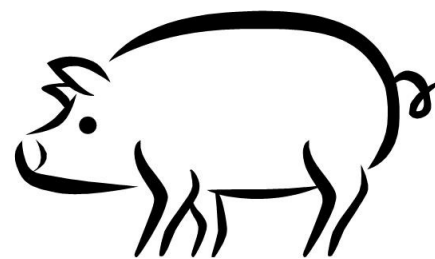
Regulatory Updates for Swine Producers

By Stefani Garbacik, Wayne County

A 6 hour CEC class was recently held in Jones County. One of the speakers was Christine Lawson, with DWR, who gave a regulatory update for swine producers, particularly some changes with the state general permit and the farm bill. I figured it would be a good idea to point some of these out for those of you who couldn't attend the class!

State General Permit Updates:

- Soil sampling frequency has been reduced. Your permit used to require annual soil sampling; this has been reduced to at least once every 3 years. Of course, you are more than welcome to sample every year, in order to get a better idea of the land and what you're working with, but it is no longer REQUIRED.
- A notification must be sent to the Regional Office, along with a 5-day Plan of Action, if waste levels get up into your structural area. This has always been required but now it is included in the permit itself.
- Annual limit of 10 cubic yards of waste for personal use has been added. The former permit allowed for up to 4 cubic yards per visit to be given for personal use... this is still the visit limit, but an annual number has been added.



2014 Farm Bill

- One of the biggest impacts this may have on swine farmers, especially as it pertains to the media, is that

Regulatory Updates for Swine Producers Continued

complaints for “agricultural operations” must be kept confidential unless a violation is determined. This means all records, samples, photos, etc. must be kept in confidence until (or unless) an actual violation is determined to have occurred.

Waste Generation Values

- This is not necessarily a regulatory update but it is worth noting! The division has examined, and taken samples, to determine if new waste generation values or nutrient content needed to be reevaluated. The take home of this project was that lower N values have been

accepted. This means, for example, if your old PAN for a wean-to-finish operation was 2.0 lb/1000 gal, it would now be 1.8 lb/1000 gal. You can use your old values in your current waste plan but if you make any changes, you would have to use the new numbers. This also means you would be required to update all fields to current RYE values when using the new, lower N numbers. These tables can be found at: <http://nutrients.soil.ncsu.edu/manures>

Freeze Branding Cattle

By Margaret B. Ross, Craven & Jones Counties

Adapted from an article by Adam Ross, Gallagher Animal Management

One of the most important things you can do for recordkeeping purposes and tracking your herd is to easily be able to identify them. There are lots of methods for identification in the livestock industry. In the cattle industry, ear tags may work great for some, but for others, ear tags can be a nuisance to try to read from far away and you'll always have a cow who tears her tag out- every time. Tattoos are used occasionally, but it's hard to see them without a head gate and a halter. Here is where we start looking at another method for identifying our herds easily and reliably – branding.

Branding is an age-old tool used to identify different livestock. One option that many people are using is freeze branding. The science behind this method is killing the pigment-producing cells in the hair follicles and replacing the natural hair color with white hair- making

the brand easily visible.

Freeze branding setup is fairly simple and straightforward. You will need a set of irons, typically at least a 3 1/2 inch-tall brand for visibility and your ingredients:

- Dry ice
- Denatured alcohol
- Pair of clippers
- Cooler

There are more ingredients to a freeze brand than a simple fire and a branding iron. However, this method is less stressful to the animal and the producer.

Steps to freeze branding:

1. Place dry ice in a cooler and pour denatured alcohol on top of it – look for a slightly soupy mixture that the irons can rest in.
2. Place irons in the dry ice/alcohol soup.
3. After about 15-20 minutes you should be able to see a frost ring coming up about



Photo Credit:
www.jauerangus.com

Freeze Branding Cattle continued

- halfway on the branding iron stem.
4. The animal needs to be in a head gate. Use the clippers to shear off a square patch on the area of the animal where you want to place the brand.
 5. Spray the clipped area with alcohol -this allows for dirt/dust particles to be rinsed off and will transfer the coldness from the iron more easily.
 6. Apply the brand. Time for branding is around 45-50 seconds for dark hide animals and 60 seconds for white animals (the longer time is to kill the hair follicles and actually have the brand end up being bare skin).

After the brand is applied, you will see a frozen indentation for about 5 minutes of what the brand will look like. It will then swell up

to about twice the size of what the finished brand will look like. It usually takes about 20-30 days for the scab and hair to fall off of the brand site, and then you will notice fine, white hairs (like peach fuzz) growing back in place of the brand.

This method of branding cattle stands out well and makes it easy to identify cattle from farther distances than trying to read ear tags. It is also less stressful and less painful for the cattle. After applying the brand for just a few seconds, the coldness actually numbs the site, unlike the hot brand where the burn will last for a while.

If you have any questions about freeze branding your cattle, feel free to call your local Cooperative Extension Office and speak to your Livestock Extension Agent.

Foot Scald

Jean-Marie Luginbuhl, Extension Meat Goat Specialist
Submitted by Paul Gonzalez, Sampson County

What is foot scald?

Foot scald, or interdigital dermatitis, is an inflammation between the toes caused by the microorganism *Fusobacterium necrophorum* which is normally present in ruminant feces and is always present on grazed pastures. Foot scald affects both goats and sheep.

When does foot scald usually occur?

Foot scald occurs most often during persistent rainy weather or heavy dew such as spring with temperatures above 50° F. Persistent moisture on the skin softens the skin and damages the tissues between the toes, thus allowing the invasion by *F. necrophorum*. The combina-

tion of wet pastures with temperatures above 50° F allows the bacteria to persist away from the goats or sheep for longer periods of time. Trimming the long hair that covers the hoof may help the area dry out faster, and thus may help in the prevention of foot scald. At the NCSU Meat Goat Research and Educational Unit, cases of foot scald are mostly observed in spring while nursing does and their suckling kids are control-grazed on pastures. Young kids are very susceptible, but does will also be affected. Under wet conditions, cases of foot scald have also been observed in summer and fall.

Foot Scald Continued

What are the symptoms of foot scald?

The first signs of foot scald are limping and (or) holding limbs off the ground. Foot scald is characterized by inflammation of the skin between the toes. The skin appears pink to white in color, moist, raw, and very sensitive to the touch. In advanced cases, the affected areas may also have a characteristic bad odor. Affected animals need to be treated, because foot scald often can be followed by foot rot.

How to treat animals which have foot scald?

Individual cases of foot scald can be treated topically using solutions of copper sulfate or zinc sulfate (see products below) by squirting the solution between the affected toes. If the animals are on pasture, treating them after the dew is gone on clear days will allow the solution to dry on the hooves and feet, thus improving its effectiveness. During periods of persistent rainy weather, affected animals should be treated once or twice a day, depending on the severity of the case. Hooves heal rapidly after 1 or 2 days of twice a day treatment, but can recur easily if wet conditions persist.

What products are available to treat foot scald?

Dr. Naylor Hoof 'n Heel from Register's Sheep & Goat Supply

<http://goatsupplies.netfirms.com/>

- 1 gallon costs ~ \$23.00
- * 11.2% zinc sulfate solution already prepared
- * squirt solution on affected areas

Liquid Zinc Sulfate (Premier Foot Care) from Premier1

<http://www.premier1supplies.com/>

- 1qt costs \$23.00, 1 gal costs ~ \$41.00
- * mix 1 part Premier Foot Care with 3 parts water
- * squirt solution on affected areas

15% copper sulfate crystals (CuSO₄) from Tractor Supply

<http://www.tractorsupply.com>

- 15 lb container costs ~ \$69.99
- * used to get rid of algae in ponds
- * 6 ounces (170 g) CuSO₄ crystals + 1 quart of water
- * let sit overnight for crystals to dissolve
- * squirt solution on affected areas

CAUTION: copper sulfate is not recommended for sheep due to toxicity issues because the treated animals may lick the sprayed areas following treatment



May 2nd - 4-H Cape Fear Farm Credit Heifer Showdown for more information call Paul Gonzalez (910) 592-7161 at the Sampson County office.

Forages - Pre-Emergence Application for Spring Weeds

By Eve H. Honeycutt, Extension Livestock Agent, Lenoir and Greene Counties

Think back to your pastures last year. Did you have lots of pigweed and dogfennel in the summer? How about grass weeds like crabgrass and goosegrass? If you had them last year, they will be back this year. Spraying the right chemical for the right weeds is very important. If you are unsure of your weed situation, call your Extension office and we can help you identify the weeds and the proper chemical to use. This month's forage article will highlight methods to control warm season weeds.

Spring Weeds

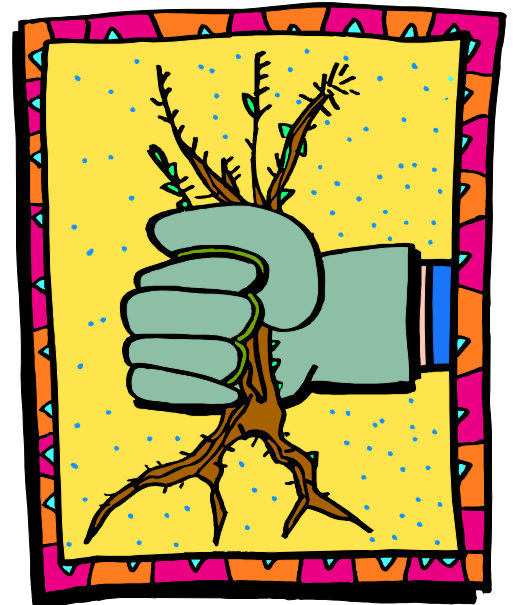
The old standby for warm season weed control is 2,4-D. This product is safe on most pastures and will take care of several broadleaf weeds including dogfennel, horsenettle, and even pigweed in its earliest stages. There is 3 day withdrawal for meat animals and a 30 day hay restriction. For an added boost use a tank mix of dicamba (Banvel) according to the label directions, and you will see greater control of broadleaf weeds. Lactating animals should not graze this for 37 days, but other livestock have no grazing restrictions. Meat animals should be removed 30 days before slaughter.

- Metsulfuron Methyl (Pastora) is an excellent herbicide for suppressing crabgrass and goosegrass in bermudagrass pastures and hayfields. It also does a good job at controlling signalgrass, johnsongrass, sandbur, bahiagrass, curly dock, horseweed, pigweed, and many more. You may see

a slight yellowing of the bermudagrass after application, but it will bounce back nicely. Be careful not to over apply this product. There are no hay or grazing restrictions

- Nutsedges and Johnsongrass are particularly problematic in wet areas such as low lying areas and sprayfields. Sulfosulfuron (Outrider) is a product that works well on these species. It can be applied to established bermudagrass pastures with no grazing restrictions and a 14 day hay restriction.

These are just a few of the many products available for weed control. For a weed control method specific to your situation, call the Extension office to discuss your needs. If you have a particularly stubborn weed, make sure you can identify it properly (Extension can help) and we will help you find the right herbicide. Late March and early April is the best time to spray for warm season weeds. Don't wait until it's too late!



For this and more equine articles, dates and information, visit <http://nchorse.blogspot.com>.

Horse Care 101

By Stefani Garbacik, Wayne County

Here are some basics that may come in handy for the new horse owners out there! Contact your live-stock agent with any questions.

Daily Care

- Provide horse with adequate feed and clean water
- Provide adequate shelter and blanketing - depending on the weather and the horse
- Check for injuries and signs of illness
- Muck out stalls

Weekly

- Check amount of feed, hay and bedding on hand...try to have at least 2 weeks worth of supplies on hand in case of emergency
- Clean manure from small paddocks
- Check fences for broken nails, loose wires, loose gates, etc.
- Scrub out feed and water buckets
Every 6-8 weeks
- Farrier visit to check hooves - trim and re-set shoes if necessary

Every 2-3 months

- Deworming - the exact schedule, timing and products will vary...**consult a veterinarian for suggestions specific to your area and the possible threat**

Once a year

- Have teeth checked and floated
- Vaccinations - again, this will vary...**consult a veterinarian with any questions.**

Horse Behavior Management Tips

By Taylor Chavis, Robeson County

Horses love to spend their time grazing, socializing and moving around. Modern horse management systems don't always allow horses to experience their normal behavior. Problem behaviors can develop that pose a risk to the horse and to the owner. Problem behaviors can, include cribbing, weaving, bucking, aggression, wood chewing, and rearing. Below are a few management tips to prevent unwanted behaviors:

- Allow horses to spend time outside the stall. Giving horses plenty of turnout and exercise will reduce unwanted behaviors, resulting from boredom.
- Keeping horses in herds and not alone is a good practice to reduce the cause of problem behaviors. If horses cannot be kept in a herd, introducing them to other animals, such as sheep, goats, or donkeys can be an option. Horses are social animals.
- Design horse housing so that horses can see each other.
- Feeding horses a high forage diet and meeting their nutritional needs will deter some of the problem behaviors mentioned above. Limiting forage intake or feeding a high amount of grain can cause colic.

Providing horses a stress free environment will make for a happy horse and a happy owner.



Forage Management Tips

April

- Fertilize cool-season grasses if you have not already done so.
- Watch for symptoms of grass tetany.
- Winter annual pastures should be completely used before grazing pastures which may be harvested as hay.
- To maintain clover in grass pastures and to maintain quality, develop a rotational grazing system in which cattle can graze forage to a 2 inch height before moving to another pasture.
- Fertilize warm-season grasses as soon as dormancy breaks.

May

- Plant warm-season perennial grasses such as common or seeded bermudagrass.
- Plant summer annuals such as pearl millet by May 15.
- Fertilize warm-season grasses with nitrogen after each cutting or every four to six weeks on pastures.
- If irrigation is available, hybrid bermudagrass sprigs may be planted, but weed control will be essential.
- Spray pasture weeds while they are small (3 inches or smaller) for most effective control.

June

- Take soil samples from fields which will be overseeded or planted during the fall.
- Apply lime as far in advance of planting as possible.
- A late planting of summer annuals may be made to extend forage supply.
- To stimulate yield of warm-season grass such as bermuda, apply nitrogen after each cutting or every four to six weeks.
- Graze bermudagrass close (1 to 2 inch stubble) and harvest any growth that has not been grazed every four to six weeks.
- Control summer pasture weeds before they get too tall and mature.



Save the Date for the 67th Annual Jr. Livestock Show and Sale

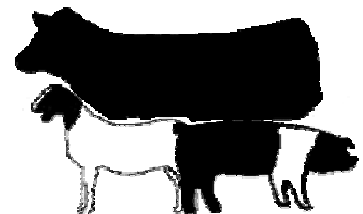
Wednesday, April 8th, 2015

8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (no exceptions)	Weigh In Animals
6:00 p.m.	Junior Meat Goat Show
8:00 p.m.	Junior Feeder Calf & Heifer Shows

Thursday, April 9th, 2015

9:00 a.m.	Junior Market Hog Show
5:30 p.m.	Costume Contest
6:00 p.m.	City Slicker Contest
7:00 p.m.	Awards Presentation
7:30 p.m.	Sale

Objective: *Provide the opportunity for learning experiences in livestock production by developing basic skills in selection, management, exhibition and marketing.*



Best Management Practice Opportunities Available Through Wayne Soil & Water

FIELD BORDER

DEFINITION

A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field.

PURPOSE

- Reduce erosion from wind and water.
- Soil and water quality protection.
- Management of harmful insect populations.
- Provide wildlife food and cover.

CRITERIA

General Criteria Applicable to All Purposes. The field borders will be established to adapted species of permanent grass, legumes, and/or shrubs. Species selected must be compatible with planned purposes. Minimum field border widths shall be 10 feet. Field borders will be established around the field edges of cropland or where agronomic crops are grown to the extent needed to meet the resource needs and producer objectives. Ephemeral gullies and rills present in the planned border area will be smoothed as part of seedbed preparation.



LONG TERM NO TILL

DEFINITION

A Long-Term No-Till Practice means planting all crops for five consecutive years with at least eighty percent (80%) of the at-plant soil surface covered by plant residue from preceding crops to improve water quality.

PURPOSE

- Benefits may include reduced soil erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved and sediment-attached substances.

CRITERIA

- A heavy residue must be maintained throughout the crop rotation, with 80% residue required at planting for all crops.



(919) 734-5281 Ext 3
Monday - Friday
7:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Additional Cost Share may also be available from USDA-NRCS. If you would like to learn more about the BMPs highlighted or any of our BMPs please give us a call or stop by our office. Monday - Friday 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM (919) 734-5281 Ext 3

Calendar of Events

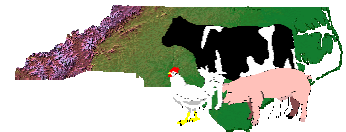
Animal Waste Continuing Education and Certification Classes

Date and Time	Location	Contact to Register
April 22nd & 23rd 10 hours	Wayne County Center Goldsboro (see information below)	Kim Davis (919) 731-1525
May 7th - 2 to 5 pm 3 hours	Wayne County Center Goldsboro	Kim Davis (919) 731-1525
May 19th - 2 to 5 pm 3 hours	Duplin County Office Kenansville	Wanda Hargrove (910) 296-2143
May 21st - 2 - 5 pm 3 hours	Pender County Office Burgaw	Valerie Futrell (910) 259-1235

Type A Animal Waste Management System Operator Certification Training

When: Wednesday, April 22—9:30 am to 4:00 pm
and Thursday, April 23—9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Where: CEFS building, Goldsboro, NC
GPS coordinates: 35.38743, -78.03442



Cost: \$35 for class and manual, check made out to “County of Wayne” and a separate \$25 check for the exam, made out to “WPCSOCC”

To register call the office at (919) 731-1525 by **April 2**

Stefani Garbacik, Wayne County & Margaret Ross, Craven & Jones Counties

Fencelines is a quarterly newsletter written by a team of Southeast District Agricultural Agents for livestock producers of Southeastern North Carolina. For more information on material and events presented in this newsletter, contact your local agent and Cooperative Extension office at:

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