Hello Folks,

Included is the October 2016 Shepherd's Announcements which is Extension's
Sheep & Goat related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties.

I would like to hear your comments about the Shepherd's Announcements or
the Extension Program in Rockingham or Guilford Counties! **If you have a question or ideas that you would like covered in this newsletter, please let me know and I will try to include.**

I NEED YOUR FEEDBACK & IDEAS!

Included in this Issue of Shepherd's Announcements

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1. Picking Up After the Storm On Pasture-Based Livestock Farms

Matt Poore, Extension Beef Specialist, NCSU Department of Animal Science

Pasture-based beef, dairy, horse, sheep and goat farmers need to be diligent in checking livestock, repairing damaged infrastructure, and looking for possible hazards in pastures caused by storm damage. Whether the storm was a severe thunderstorm, a hurricane, or a tornado, storm damage can cause acute injury and further damage to livestock if tending to animals and pastures is made a low priority in the recovery process. At a time when there often is damage to personal property including dwellings, outbuildings, and other non-livestock facilities, sometimes the livestock and the pastures take a lower priority. The health and well-being of livestock should be the second priority after the health and well being of farmers and their families.

Immediately after the storm subsides, producers should assess damage both to their infrastructure and their livestock. After they are sure friends and family are out of peril, they should check their pasture infrastructure to make sure that cattle or other livestock are in the pastures they were in before the storm, and that none of the animals are injured. If animals were injured by flying debris, the farmer should contact a veterinarian immediately if the injuries were severe. If conditions are so bad that livestock need to be evacuated, producers should contact their local extension agent, veterinarian, or emergency management officials.

Next, they should check to make sure waterers are operational and that fences are up and intact. If livestock are watered in a pressurized system and power is out, the producer should make haste to use a generator to restore power to the well system, or to provide another source of water (whether that be creating an emergency opening in the fence into a pond or stream, or by hauling water to the animals).

If hauling water, make sure the amount delivered to the animals is adequate. Adult lactating beef cows of average size need to be provided at least 25 gallons per day of fresh water, while dairy cattle would require more. Mature sheep and goats will need 1-3 gallons per day (depending on their size). Cattle in particular may be dangerous when very thirsty. If cattle have been deprived of water for 24 hours or more, producers should take great care when filling water tanks or restoring water flow to small tanks. Cows are likely to fight aggressively to get to the water source, and the cattle or even the farmer may be injured in the struggle.

If electric fencing is in use, producers need to check the power level to make sure the system is operational, and if the power is out, they should restore emergency power to the fence energizer. The perimeter fence should be checked to make sure fallen trees or branches have not downed the fence. If fence damage has occurred, farmers should make every effort to get trees or branches off the fence and should make temporary repairs to keep livestock from wandering out of the pasture. More permanent repairs can be made later in the recovery process. If the system is electric, putting up temporary polywire and temporary posts may be the quickest way to restore the perimeter.

After assessing damage to the livestock and infrastructure, producers should assess other potential hazards caused by storm damage. Debris blown into pastures such as insulation and other building materials (common following tornadoes) may be eaten by livestock, leading to digestive upset and possibly death.

As producers check pasture infrastructure and scout for debris, they should also look for downed wild cherry tree limbs (or fallen wild cherry trees) and immediately either fence them away from livestock or remove them from pastures before livestock consume them. PRUSSIC ACID POISONING FROM CONSUMING WILTED CHERRY LEAVES FOLLOWING STORM DAMAGE IS A VERY COMMON CAUSE OF DEATH IN CATTLE, SHEEP and GOATS. This is an especially great hazard if pastures are short and livestock are hungry, because they may rapidly consume a large amount of the toxic material.

Another potential poisoning that may result from late summer or fall storm damage is acorn poisoning. If there are oak trees in pastures and storms knock many of the green acorns down at one time, livestock may consume enough to be poisoned. As producers scout pastures for damage, they also should be aware of the potential for acorn poisoning. They should note which pastures have the highest levels of acorns, then take steps to keep animals away from them. As with cherry tree poisoning, the greatest risk is when livestock are hungry and pastures are grazed short.

Finally, farmers should make sure livestock have adequate forage or feed, and should check mineral feeders to ensure animals have access to dry mineral (and are consuming the targeted amount). When farmers are hit by storm damage, there is much to think about and sometimes farmers neglect to follow normal management practices once they see that livestock are not injured and that infrastructure is intact. It is very important for animals to continue to have access to adequate forage and mineral supplement. If there is extensive damage to infrastructure, it may be most convenient to confine livestock to one pasture and feed hay until repairs can be made.

After Hurricane Floyd hit the east coast in 1999, some livestock were undernourished because farmers had so many other problems to deal with. In many cases, the livestock had no access to a mineral supplement and were suffering from deficiencies. Many mineral feeders had been blown out of pastures, the mineral present was soaked and hardened so that livestock were not consuming it, or minerals had simply not been put out. Trace minerals (including zinc, copper and selenium) are deficient in many areas of the country & are important for the animal to be able to deal with stress & immune challenge. Storms are an inevitable part of life, and managing damage means more than just cutting trees off fences and making sure livestock are not injured. Immediately following the storm, the safety and health of you and your family comes first, but remember to continue to protect the safety and health of the animals you care for as part of your livelihood

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2. Flooded Forage Resources

RESOURCES

Livestock, Horses and Poultry

http://www.ncagr.gov/disaster/Livestock.htm

Horses and Rain

http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/asc/asc183/asc183.pdf

Horse Care and Management Tips for Flooded Areas
http://publications.tamu.edu/FORAGE/Horse-Care-Mgmt-Floods7.pdf

After the Flood: Submerged Pastures and Suspect Hay Add to Horse Owner Worries This Fall
http://equusmagazine.com/blog/flood-pasture-hay-horse-owner

Managing Flood-Damaged Crops in Vermont

http://pss.uvm.edu/vtcrops/articles/FloodedForages.html

Harvesting and Managing Flooded Forage
http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/harvesting-and-managing-flooded-forage/

Forages for Wet, Flooded Sites
http://www.montana.edu/cpa/news/wwwpb-archives/ag/flod_for.html

Managing Flood Damaged Crops and Forage from Tropical Storm Irene
https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/Flooded_Crops_Factsheet__Irene_2011_UVMExtension.pdf

Animal Health Risks from Feeding Flood-Damaged Forages
http://extension.psu.edu/animals/dairy/news/2011/animal-health-risks-from-feeding-flood-damaged-forages

Forage and livestock management post-flooding

http://ext.wvu.edu/disasters/flooding/forage-and-livestock-management-post-flooding

Flooded Forages are not Safe
http://ohio.ext.wvu.edu/ag-minute/2016/7/1/flooded-forages-are-not-safe

Cattle Checklist After a Flood: Issues to Consider
http://www.beefusa.org/CMDocs/BeefUSA/Producer%20Ed/Beef%20Cattle%20Information/flood%20management.pdf

Summer Flooding of Hay Fields and Pastures: Will Forage Survive?

http://www.thehorse.com/articles/19554/summer-flooding-of-hay-fields-and-pastures-will-forage-survive

Flood and your Horse

http://www.qldhorsecouncil.com/QldHorseCouncil/media/QHC-Portal/Horse%20Health%20%26%20Infectious%20Diseases/Flood-and-your-Horse.pdf

Horses and Flooded Fields

http://stablemanagement.com/article/horses-flooded-fields-53031

Can bleach be used to clean the interior of a horse stable that was flooded with river water?
http://articles.extension.org/pages/43880/can-bleach-be-used-to-clean-the-interior-of-a-horse-stable-that-was-flooded-with-river-water

Recovering a Flooded Landscape
http://articles.extension.org/pages/24197/recovering-a-flooded-landscape

What To Do When Returning To A Home That Has Flooded

http://articles.extension.org/pages/13243/what-to-do-when-returning-to-a-home-that-has-flooded

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3. Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD)

http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm071807.htm

https://cvhs.okstate.edu/sites/default/files/docs/pdf/New%20Veterinary%20Feed%20Directive%20for%20Food%20Animals%20July%202016.pdf

Now is the Time to Plan Ahead for Veterinary Feed Directive Changes

http://fyi.uwex.edu/wbic/2016/10/05/now-is-the-time-to-plan-ahead-for-veterinary-feed-directive-changes/

Don’t wait, be ready! New antibiotic rules for 2017

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/dont_wait_be_ready_new_antibiotic_rules_for_2017

Understanding the Veterinary Feed Directive

https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/publications/livestock/understanding-the-veterinary-feed-directive

Are you ready for the new Veterinary Feed Directive?

http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/dairy/health-and-comfort/new-veterinary-feed-directive/index.html

The Veterinary Feed Directive: What Producers Need to Know

http://agrilifecdn.tamu.edu/texasaglaw/files/2016/01/just-click-here..pdf

Guidance for Industry Small Entity Compliance Guide Veterinary Feed Directive Regulation Questions and Answers

http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/GuidanceforIndustry/UCM052660.pdf

The Veterinary Feed Directive-Changing the Way Producers Obtain Medicated Feeds

https://afs.ca.uky.edu/dairy/veterinary-feed-directive-changing-way-producers-obtain-medicated-feeds

Antibiotic Resistance and Animal Agriculture

http://articles.extension.org/pages/73630/antibiotic-resistance-and-animal-agriculture

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4. Hay Quality

Factors that Affect Hay Quality
- Species (Cool/ Warm Season, Legumes, Annuals)
- Curing process (baled at proper moisture, no rain, etc.)
- Soil fertility
- Stage of maturity at harvest
Generally more mature forage means lower quality

Condition
- Avoid musty, dusty or moldy hay
- Avoid hay with foreign materials-weeds, trash, etc.
Hay is an important part of the diet for horses and livestock so it only makes sense to choose a high quality hay to feed to your animals. There are two methods of hay evaluation: visual and chemical.

Visual Evaluation

A visual evaluation can give you a rough estimate of the overall quality of the hay. There are several traits to consider when visually evaluating hay:

Color

Just because a bale of hay has a pretty, green color does not mean that it is high quality hay. Color should be considered in your selection process but should not be the main factor in choosing hay. A green color usually means that the hay contains a high level of protein and vitamins but that same bale of hay could also be high in nitrates and low in digestibility. Hay that is a beige color is usually sun-bleached but could also be hay that was rained on prior to baling. Rain can leach nutrients from hay and decrease its quality. Dark brown hay (tobacco colored) is usually a sign that the hay has been heat damaged after being baled too moist or rained upon after baling. Hay quality is seriously affected in hay that has been heat damaged and mold may be present.

Evaluating hay based on color (when that's all you have)

Color: Green
Problem: None
Quality: Usually good

Color: Light yellow on outside of bale
Problem: Sun bleaching
Quality: Decreases palatability and carotene, but not serious

Color: Yellow throughout
Problem: Over-mature when cut
Quality: Decrease in palatability, horses may not eat it

Color: Dark brown or black
Problem: Rain, heavy dew or fog
Quality: Decreased nutrient content, leaf shattering, brittle

Color: Brown
Problem: Mold growth, baled too moist
Quality: Musty, moldy, loss of nutrients, clumps

Stage of Maturity at Harvest

As grass matures, the nutritional content of the grass begins to decrease. The stems become tougher and more fibrous and protein and energy levels can decrease. The presence of seedheads and course, thick stems can indicate that the grass was cut for hay at a mature stage of growth and is therefore a lower quality of hay. Because the leaves contain most of the energy and protein the plant has to offer, hay that is leafy with very few seedheads is usually of higher quality.

Texture

Choose hay that has soft and flexible stems. Tough, thick stems will not be as desirable to the animal and can also be an indication that the grass was overly mature when baled for hay.

Presence of Foreign Material

It is important to make sure that the hay is free from insects or trash. Blister beetles can be toxic to horses and certain types of weeds can be toxic to horses and livestock. It can be difficult to distinguish a toxic weed from a non-toxic weed once the plant has dried down and been baled with the hay. Also, weeds that were not completely dried prior to baling can cause moldy areas within the bale. It is best to just avoid hay that has weeds or trash in the bales.

Checking for Mold

Hay should not smell “old” or musty. It should have a fresh, clean smell. Hay that smells bad was probably baled too wet or was stored improperly and has molded. Hay should also not be dusty. Dusty hay can cause breathing problems in some animals. In many cases, the dust is actually mold spores. To distinguish between dusty hay and moldy hay, shake out a flake of hay from the bale. If the dust appears as a grayish-white color, it’s mold. Also, if the flakes are hard or stick together in clumps, the bale has molded.

Chemical Evaluation

A chemical evaluation is the only accurate impression of hay quality. It is recommended that all hay be tested prior to feeding to ensure that it is safe and that adequate nutrients are being provided to the animals being fed.

Horse Feeding Management – Feed Sampling & Analysis

https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/feed-sampling-and-analysis

Hay Analysis: Its Importance and Interpretation

http://www.extension.org/pages/Hay_Analysis:_Its_Importance_and_Interpretation

Deciphering Hay Quality

http://www.ker.com/library/Equinews/v9n2/v9n210.pdf

FORAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM

http://forages.oregonstate.edu/index.cfm

http://forages.oregonstate.edu/index.cfm/

A Quick Guide to Understanding Forage Test Results
http://www.uwex.edu/ces/crops/uwforage/QuickGuide-FOF.pdf

Reducing ash in hay and haylage
http://www.ars.usda.gov/sp2UserFiles/Place/36553000/pdf's/Undersander_2009_WDE.pdf

Forage Quality Tests and Interpretations
http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/livestocksystems/DI2637.html

Nitrates https://projects.ncsu.edu/cals/an_sci/extension/animal/nutr/nitrate%20management%20in%20beef.pdf

Common Terms Used in Animal Feeding and Nutrition

http://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.cfm?number=B1367

Understanding Feed Analysis Terminology

http://www.agtest.com/articles/feedterm.pdf

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5. Tips on Selling and Purchasing Hay

It is customary to price hay by the bale. Purchasing and selling hay by the ton is a more equitable method of buying hay. This way you can compare Apples to Apples. Purchasing hay by the ton allows buyers to know precisely how much hay they are getting for their money, provided the hay is cured properly and accurately weighed. The following can be used as a guide to convert from bale prices to ton prices

Useful Conversion Formulas to convert the price per ton to price per bale:

1) Determine average weight of bales you are purchasing in pounds.

2) Divide the price per ton by 2,000 and multiply the results by the average weight of the bales to determine the price per bale.

Example: You are considering purchasing hay at $180 per ton. You determine the average bale weighs 50 pounds. What is the price per bale? ($180/ton) divided by (2000lb/ton) multiplied by (50 lb/bale) = $4.50 per bale

To convert price per bale to price per ton:

1) Determine average weight per bale.

2) Divide 2,000 by the average weight per bale to get the number of bales per ton.

3) multiply the number of bales per ton by the price per bale to get the price per ton.

Example: You are considering purchasing hay for $5 per bale. What would you be paying for each ton of hay purchased? You determine the average bale weight to be **45** pounds. (2000 lb/ton) divided by (45 lb/bale) multiplied by ($5.00/bale) = $222.22 per ton

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6. Spiders

In the past couple of weeks, we have begun to see spiders making there way indoors. A tiny spider in the sink can compel the most self-assured person to scream for the designated spider killer in the family. Despite their reputation, spiders are beneficial. They eat all kinds of pesky bugs like flies and crickets. Actually they are opportunistic feeders and eat pretty much anything they can catch. I can relate to that lifestyle.

Spiders are predators that feed on insects and other arthropods. Most often they are quite beneficial to our environment, and are harmless. In the United States, about 6,000 species have been identified and only two groups occasionally are harmful to humans. Recluse and widow spiders have been associated with significant pathology and very rare reports of death. Most spiders are shy and will avoid humans. Spiders can bite if provoked but generally the venom is not particularly toxic and merely causes a reddened area of the skin. People can have an allergic reaction to a bite and would want to consult a physician especially if the bite is slow to heal. The dangerous spider bites from brown recluses and black widows.

As fall approaches, many spiders reach adulthood, mate, and lay eggs for next summer. Some of these spiders can get large and may cause unwarranted alarm.

Orb weavers are the most obvious large spiders since they spin large webs a foot or more in diameter during the night across sidewalks, doorways, between garden plants and in other areas where they are quite noticeable. That's why the first person down the hiking trail in the morning is the spider web collector. Most of the large, common orb weavers*(Araneus)* grow to a leg-span of 1-2 inches and have light and dark banded legs.

Another common orb weaver is the large yellow and black garden spider or argiope. It builds a two-foot diameter web with a zigzag vertical strip of white silk in the center. They respond to vibration in the web by quickly running over to the prey, and subduing it by rolling it into a straightjacket of silk. It's great fun to catch a fly and toss it into a garden spider's web. It's not much fun for the fly, but cheap entertainment for the family.

Wolf spiders (common here) also may have a two-inch leg span, but do not build an orb web in which to catch their prey. Like their namesake, they run down and overpower the crickets, earwigs, and other insect prey. Many of the wolf spiders are hairy, dark brown and have a stripe or pattern down their backs. After hatching, the young spiderlings will ride on their mother's back for a few days before venturing off on their own. Wolf spiders are nocturnal and live among fallen leaves in taller grass, ground covers, and in other protected areas. They may wander into homes through cracks and crevices in the foundation as the temperature drops in the fall.

Only two poisonous spiders are found in North Carolina: the black widow spider and the brown recluse spider. Both are found across most of the state. A bite from a black widow spider can cause severe neurological problems; a bite from the brown recluse spider can cause necrosis of the tissue surrounding the bite site. The bite of either spider can kill you in extreme cases. Young children are the most at risk from spider bites. In the case of a spider bite, contact a physician or your state Poison and Drug Information Center as soon as possible for advice and assistance. If possible, collect the spider to aid diagnosis and correct treatment procedures.

The Recluse Spider

The recluse spiders (Loxosceles spp.) are often mistakenly referred to as brown recluse spiders; the brown recluse actually refers only to one species. Adult recluse spiders are brown in color and the body is about a half an inch long. Their legs are long and delicately covered with short, dark hairs. The leg span is about 1 1/2 – 2 inches as adults.

Distinguishing characteristics include three pairs of eyes arranged in a semicircle on the top of the cephalothorax (combined head and abdomen) and a violin-shaped marking immediately behind the eyes in some species. This marking also gives them the name “fiddleback” or “violin spider” although the violin marking is faint or missing in some southwestern species.

Most recluse spiders are found living in large numbers in human structures. Males, females and even spiderlings are capable of venomous bites occasionally creating a disease state now known as necrotic arachnidism.

The bite itself is often unnoticed and the severity of the reaction varies greatly between individuals. In the rarely-exhibited case of necrotic arachnidism, the bitten area becomes painful, swollen and blistered within hours. This site will evolve into what has classically been described as a bulls-eye lesion with a dark center (dead skin) outlined by white and set on a red and inflamed background. It is several weeks before the blackened area falls away, leaving a pit of scar tissue. On rare occasions, the response involves a large amount of tissue destruction and a serious life-threatening systemic reaction. Medical care for most recluse bites is simply rest, cold compresses and neutral position of the patient. More extreme reactions may require surgery.

The Black Widow

The common “black widow” spider specifically refers to the eastern species Latrodectus mactans. Our widow species Latrodectus hesperus is however very similar in appearance to the true black widow. The female is toxic and males much less so due to their small size and weak jaw musculature. Females are shiny black and about 1.5 inches long. The famous characteristic mark is the reddish hourglass shape on the underside of her abdomen.

Like the recluse spider, the bite itself is not terribly painful, but local pain does follow very shortly after. The venom can cause abdominal pain similar to appendicitis as well as pain to muscles and the soles of the feet. Other symptoms include alternating salivation and dry-mouth, paralysis of the diaphragm, profuse sweating and swollen eyelids. Most healthy people recover rapidly in two to five days but the rare fatalities that occur are due to heart and lung failure.

If bitten, clean the site well with soap and water. Apply a cool compress over the bite location and keep the affected limb elevated to about heart level. Ibuprofen or acetaminophen may be taken to relieve minor symptoms.

Widespread destruction of spiders should be avoided and is not necessary. To keep spiders out of your home clean up woodpiles and leaves from around the foundation. Caulk cracks and crevices around the foundation, windows and doors. Use a hose with high-pressure water to remove spiders from outside walls. Use yellow or sodium vapor lights outside to reduce night flying insects around the home. Spraying the outside foundation and the soil next to it with diazinon insecticide may keep unwanted invaders out. Be sure to read and follow all label directions.

Once in the home most spiders can be scooped up and gently deposited outdoors by the designated spider remover. Or can be removed by vacuuming. Also move and dust often behind and under furniture, stored materials, wall hangings and ceiling corners to discourage spider establishment.

The most common spiders that are brought into the Extension office are the Wolf Spider and Fishing Spider, these can be large spiders but most often brought in mistakenly as a Recluse.

Tips to Help You Bug Proof Your Home from Spiders

- Do not collect wood from woodpiles out-of-doors without wearing gloves. Place wood from outside directly on fires. Do not store indoors.

- Monitor for outdoor spiders at night with a flashlight or head lamp. This is the time when they are most visible. When making your inspections, focus on areas that are dark and undisturbed during the day, but not necessarily close to the ground. Check small cracks and crevices from the foundation to the eaves of buildings, under outdoor furniture, piles of wood, bricks, stones, around burrows, water meter and irrigation boxes, sheds, etc. Indoor spiders often become trapped on sticky traps.

- Perform routine, thorough house cleaning, particularly storage areas (closets, basements, attics, etc.) and behind outside shutters.

- Regular dusting and clutter reduction removes hiding places. Pay particular attention to doors, windows, vents and along foundations.

- Reduce clutter in garages, attics, and basements.

- Reduce clutter in storage cupboards; do not place your hands where you cannot see what you are picking up.

- Trim weeds around the building foundation and remove firewood, building materials, and debris to discourage insects and spiders from living next to a structure. Reduction of heavy dense vegetation will help reduce spider populations.

- Install tight-fitting window screens and door screens.

- Consider installing yellow or sodium vapor light bulbs outside entrances because these lights are less attractive to insects and thus draw fewer spiders to the area.

- Practice general exclusion such as sealing cracks, fitting door sweeps and eliminating other possible entry points to prevent spiders from moving indoors.

- Use a vacuum to remove webs, unwanted spiders and egg sacs on a continuous basis. *(DISCARD vacuum bag, outside)*

- Clothing and footwear should be removed from floor areas around doors in locker rooms, and other storage spaces. Many bites are sustained when putting on shoes or clothing that has lain on the floor.

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- Learn to recognize recluse and widow spiders and instruct other members of the household.

Control

Vacuuming individual exposed spiders and egg sacs is far more effective than non-residual pesticides and many residual pesticides as well. A small amount of boric acid crystals can be vacuumed up prior to cleaning out spiders and webbing. To be extra careful, remove the vacuumed bag and discard in an outside garbage container immediately after vacuuming.

Pesticide applications are most often unnecessary and often ineffective in reducing spider complaints. Existing egg sacs are often unaffected by aerosols. Residual liquid sprays applied to the outside perimeter of buildings are not very effective for species that display web-sitting behavior. Pesticide space treatments often fail to contact spiders in protected daylight harborages. Several species are affected minimally even if fully exposed. Chemical control need only be considered if there are a number of bites reported in the area and occupants are at risk. The widow spider is resistant to many insecticides so check the label. However, recluse spiders and widow spiders can simply be vacuumed. Barrier applications of residual-active pesticides to exposed impervious surfaces including foundations, walkways and driveways are prone to runoff into surface water and should be avoided.

Non-repellent dust formulations applied to webs are often more effective. Residual dusts can be applied to voids and inaccessible areas where spiders hide. Wettable powders or microencapsulated formulations of residual pesticides are sometimes applied to corners, in storage areas, etc. to control active hunting spiders and reduce reestablishment of new spiders. Aerosol flushing agents such as pyrethrins, though ineffective by themselves in providing long-term control, can cause spiders to move about so that they can be removed with a vacuum.

Pesticide options for Insect (spider) control can be found in the NC Agricultural Chemicals Manual at: https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/north-carolina-agricultural-chemicals-manual/insect-control

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North Carolina Spiders

http://www.spiders.us/species/filter/north-carolina/

Common Spiders in the Landscape

https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/notes/Other/note137/note137.html

Poisonous Spiders In North Carolina

https://owlcation.com/stem/Poisonous-Spiders-In-North-Carolina

North Carolina Spider Photos

http://www.carolinanature.com/spiders/

Portions of this article taken from –

Sandra Mason, Illinois Extension - How to limit house spiders & Extensions - Bug Proof Your Home from Venomous Spiders

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7. October 20th Cooperative Extension's Cattleman's Tour of the Upper Piedmont Research Station

4pm

Starting Place: Upper Piedmont Research Station, Red Barn next to Chinqua Penn Plantation located at 1944 Wentworth Street, Reidsville NC 27320

On this tour, Dr. Joe French, Station Superintendent and other Station Staff will show us some of the current projects underway which include but are not limited to:

- Understanding Fescue Toxicosis in adult cattle.
- Feed efficiency evaluation in developing heifers and preconditioning heifers on Accuration vs. Commodity pellets.
- A small project underway to evaluate the appropriate amount of nitrogen to apply in the fall for stockpiling fescue.
- A discussion about the 30 acres of sorghum (brown mid rib) that has been chopped and stored in AG bags.

At the conclusion of the tour we will enjoy burgers & fellowship!

Reservations are **Required**. Please call or email Ben Chase, Extension Livestock Agent at 1800-666-3625or ben_chase@ncsu.edu by **Monday October 17th** to reserve your place. Reservations are required in order to secure transportation for tour and to ensure there is enough food!

(This Farm Tour on October 20th will be the Rockingham Co. Cattleman's meeting for October. There will NOT be a meeting October 13)

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8. Young Farmers & Ranchers

Rockingham & Stokes County

1st Annual

Farmer Appreciation Day

Sponsored by

Rockingham County Farm Bureau

Saturday October 22, 2016

Huntsville Community Building

From 5:00 – 8:00pm

Fun events include:

Free BBQ Dinner, Music from Hubert Lawson & the Bluegrass Boys, Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, and much more!

Come out and support the heritage of agriculture and those who work hard to provide and preserve.

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9. NICKELS FOR KNOW-HOW REFERENDUM

The Nickels for Know-How Referendum will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2016 in Rockingham & Guilford County Extension offices.

These polling places will be at the:

Rockingham County Agricultural Center

525 NC Highway 65 Suite 200

Reidsville NC 27320

Or

Guilford County Agricultural Center

3309 Burlington Road

Greensboro, NC 27405

This referendum is being held to let users and produces of feed or fertilizer decide if they wish to continue the self-assessment program. This program has been in place since 1948, and the law requires that a new referendum be held every six years.

A 2/3 favorable vote will mean that growers are willing to continue to assess themselves to support agricultural research and education. The assessment is fifteen cents per hundred pounds on feed and fertilizer produced in North Carolina.

The funds, about $1.4 million annually, are collected by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and then allocated by the NC Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc.'s 148 volunteer Board of Directors to support agricultural research and extension projects at NC State University benefitting agriculture in North Carolina.

For more information on the referendum please call the County Extension Office at:

Rockingham County 336-342- 8230 or Guilford County 336-641-0203.

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10. 2016 Hemp Farming Informational Meeting - Agricultural Lunch & Learn

Nov. 2, 2016

10am-2pm

North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Piedmont Research Station

8350 Sherrills Ford Road Salisbury, NC 28147

You are invited to a premier Hemp farming information luncheon for the state of North Carolina, hosted by Founder's Hemp. With topics like the NCDA's role in agricultural production research, NCSU's involvement in crop science and research, concerns for law enforcement and farming info from experienced hemp farmers, this is sure to be an informative event!

SPEAKERS

Sandy Stewart, Director of the NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Research Stations Division *Appointed to NC Hemp Commission

Angela Post, North Carolina State University, Small Grains Extension Specialist

Keith Edmisten, North Carolina State University Professor of Crop Science and Cotton Extension Specialist

Sam Page, Rockingham County Sheriff *Appointed to NC Hemp Commission

Bob Crumley, President of Founder's Hemp

Scott Shoulars, Agronomist

Tom Hutchens, President of Kentucky Hemp Seed Research and Development

Rick Trojan, Colorado Permitted Hemp Farmer (1,200 acres)

Garry Meier, Canadian Hemp Farmer and Processor

Please R.S.V.P. to Waylon Saunders, Director of Farming Operations at Founder's HempWaylon@foundershemp.com or 336-580-4950

Waylon Saunders - Director of Farming Operations - Founder's Hemp, 1157 S. Cox St., Asheboro, NC 27205 1-888-334-Hemp Cell: 336-580-4950

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11. FALL PASTURE MANAGEMENT TIPS

Fall is the time to stockpile fescue for late fall & early winter grazing for beef cattle, horses, sheep, & goats. Stockpile Fescue to graze later. If you have not grazed or mowed grass down to remove previous fescue growth that has accumulated over the summer consider doing so to get rid of rank growth. This allows for fresh growth to be stockpiled which is much more nutritious and palatable for the livestock. Its late but fertilize if have not already done so. Remove livestock from section to be stockpiled so that the growth can accumulate throughout the the remainder fall growing season. Graze other grasses in the pasture, particularly summer type grasses such as bermuda, crab grass, and dallis grass. The growth of these summer grasses slows considerably as the nights and days cool off from the summer high temperatures.

When all the other pasture grasses are grazed out, usually in mid-late November, move the livestock to the accumulated (stockpiled) fescue. For best results, grazing on stockpiled fescue should be controlled using temporary fencing. A recommended practice is to "strip graze" the fescue. To strip graze, the animals are given sections of grass each day. This effectively gives approximately 1/3 more grazing because ALL of the forage is eaten because none of it is trampled or defecated on. Stockpiled fescue has been tested to be as high as 16% protein in the early winter grazing season. As the fescue goes into the winter season, the quality deteriorates somewhat but tests have shown it to be 13% protein even in late December. As the fall season progresses, it is often asked in October if it is too late to fertilize for stockpiling fescue. Fescue will grow quite well through October and will grow some during November and December depending on how cold it gets. If fertilizing is delayed until October, cut the nitrogen rate back to 50 lbs/acre. This translates into 150 pounds per acre of 33-0-0 (ammonium nitrate). After Mid-October, it is too late to fertilize for the stockpiling process.

What if your pastures are worn out & consist mostly of bermuda grass, crab grass, & dallis grass?

First of all, the above mentioned grasses are excellent summer grasses! Livestock eat them quite readily & actually prefer these grasses over fescue during the summer. However, as the growth of these grasses slow during the fall & fescue starts growing again, livestock switch their grazing preferences back to fescue. If this describes your pasture, the following are some management tips: Soil test to be sure phosphorous, lime and other nutrients are not limiting the growth of your grass. Follow soil test recommendations. Since fall is a major planting time for pastures, getting soil test results back on time is often difficult. The window of opportunity for fall planting is only opened for a short period of time and consequently one may not have the time to wait on soil test results. In the absence of a soil test, apply 1-2 tons of lime per acre & 400-500 pounds of 10-20-20 per acre. Soil tests should still be taken & corrections made when the results are obtained. To avoid this problem in the future, soil tests should be taken in early August. In Mid-September, plant a rye/ryegrass combination. Rye is a winter annual & provides late fall, late winter, & late spring grazing. Being an annual, it dies out in Mid-June. Incidentally, this is when the bermuda, crabgrass, and dallis grass comes back in. * Always remember the potential problems with Nitrates, Prussic Acid and Acorns*

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12. HAY

Please let me know if you have hay to sell. A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or have hay to sell (or removed from this list) please call me at 1-800-666-3625 or 342-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.

I am in the process of updating the Directory. So Please let me hear from you if you have hay to sell!

MANAGE YOUR PASTURES!

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13. Swap Shop

- For Sale - Boar x Savannah billy. Born 2/13/2016. Good condition but needs to go. Mom present on farm. Good temperament. $150.

Call ASAP 336-906-6343 for info & pics. If interested. Located in High Point.

- Looking to purchase 2 small grain/feeding bins. Call or Email Ben if you have or know of someone looking to sell.

- Chicks - Chicks will be available from our 4-H school enrichment Embryology program. They are meat/broiler chickens and will be 3 days old when I pick them up. They will need to be picked up on Friday, October 21. Contact Morgan Maness, Rockingham County 4-H Agent atmorgan_maness@ncsu.edu or 336-342-8230 if you are interested.

- **Looking to purchase a farm for livestock production (pastures), if you or someone you know is looking to sell**

a farm, please call or email Ben to give him contact information.

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14. Take A Load Off

There was a young man named BUBBA who bought a donkey from old farmer Farouk for $100.00. The farmer agreed to deliver the donkey the next day. When Farouk drove up the next day he says, 'I am sorry but I have some bad news - the donkey is on my truck but he be dead.'

Bubba replies, 'Well then, just give me my money back.'
'Can't do that,' burrs the farmer, 'I went out and spent it already.'

Bubba sighs, 'OK just unload the donkey anyway.'

Farouk then asks, 'What are you gonna do with a dead donkey an' that?' I'll raffle him off,' laughs Bubba.

The farmer exclaimed, Bubba,you can't raffle off a dead donkey.'

But Bubba with a big smile on his face tells Farouk, 'Sure I can. Watch. Just don't tell anyone the donkey is dead.'

A month later the farmer Farouk met up with Bubba and asks, 'Whatever happened to that dead donkey?'

Bubba answers, 'I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at $2.00 each and made a huge profit.'

Totally amazed the farmer Farouk enquires, 'Didn't anyone complain that you had stolen their money because you lied about the donkey being dead?'

'The only one who found out about the donkey being dead was the raffle winner,' chuckled Bubba, 'so when he came to claim his prize I gave him his $2.00 back plus $200.00 extra, which is double the going value of a dead donkey, so he thought I was a great fellow.'

I always need more “Help” with Clean jokes!

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I always want to know what you think about this Newsletter, good or bad,

Especially if it has had ANY IMPACT on you.

PLEASE SEND TO ME YOUR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS!

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!!

Please remember our Troops who are serving our Country (and their families), those who have come home with wounds, and the families that paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Have A GREAT SAFE WEEK!

--

Ben Chase

Rockingham and Guilford County Extension Agent
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North Carolina State University
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http://rockingham.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=animalagriculture