

Brought to you by your
livestock specialists.....

VOLUME X, ISSUE V

MAY, 2013



Shawn Deering, Gentry
(660)-726-5610
deerings@missouri.edu



Amie Schleicher, Atchison
(660)-744-6231
schleichera@missouri.edu



Jim Humphrey, Andrew
(816)-324-3147
humphreyjr@missouri.edu

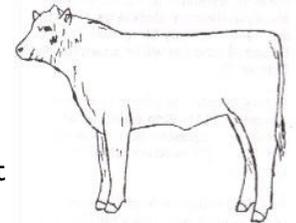
DATES TO

REMEMBER:

- **May is beef month**—make plans now with your local cattlemen's group to promote beef and educate consumers on the terrific product that you work so hard to produce!
- **May 10**—Missouri Steer Feedout entries due.
- **June 25-26**—Regional Grazing School, Savannah

2013 Missouri Steer Feedout (for fall born calves)

We continue to stress the importance of knowing how the calves you raise perform once they leave your farm. For many, retained ownership is difficult because of cowherd size and risk. One way to start collecting feedlot and carcass information on your calves is by participating in the Missouri Steer Feedout. It is designed to offer producers a relatively low-risk way to experience retained ownership and begin gathering information on calves raised.



The entry deadline for the feedout is May 10 and calves will be delivered to different collection points within the state on June 4. Eligible calves are those born after July 1, 2012. A minimum of five head are required with no maximum. Optimum entry weights are between 500 and 700 pounds. Calves must be weaned at least 30 days and they should be bunk broke, dehorned, castrated and healed. Steers must also receive these immunizations at least 28 days before delivery: IBR, PI₃, BVD, Pasteurella (pre-weaning only and both haemolytica and multocida), BRSV and 7 or 8-way clostridial. Two rounds of modified-live vaccines are required. For added protection, some of these immunizations should be boosted before delivery. If Haemophilus Somnus is given, do not use it with the first round of vaccinations, but delay it until the calves are weaned.

The Missouri Steer Feedout is sponsored by University of Missouri Extension, Missouri Cattlemen's Association, Iowa State University Extension and the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative. For an entry form or more information, contact your regional livestock specialist.

Management Intensive Grazing School

Producers interested in getting more out of their current pasture management program should consider attending one of grazing schools offered this year. The schools are taught by University of Missouri Extension specialists and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) technicians. The next one will be held on June 25-26 in Savannah. Cost to attend is \$100 per person and \$30 for a second person will a full paid registration. The fees cover the costs of meals, refreshments, demonstration materials and the following materials that each participant receives: Missouri Grazing Manual, Forages and Weeds of Pastures, grazing stick, Electric Fencing for Serious Grazers, Water Systems for Serious Grazers, Soil and Pasture Health Guide for MO and Extending Grazing and Reducing Stored Feed Needs. To register or if you have additional questions, contact Curtis Walker at (816)-232-6555, ext. 139.

Management Intensive Grazing Schools

2013

Savannah

Tuesday-Wednesday
June 25 and 26

Chillicothe

Friday-Saturday
September 13 and 14

Green Dirt Farm near Weston

Wednesday-Thursday
September 25 and 26



May is Beef Month...a great way to celebrate and help promote the product you work so hard to produce would be to join your local cattlemen's association. You may be thinking, what's in it for me? The associations that are active in north-west Missouri not only help promote beef, but they offer educational opportunities, provide scholarships for graduating seniors interested in pursuing agricultural careers, participate in community service projects, communicate with legislators on ag issues and offer fellowship with others involved in beef production. For more information on groups that are active in your area, contact your local University of Missouri Extension livestock specialist and they can help you with the appropriate contact information.



Pinkeye

More treatment is done in pasture cattle for pinkeye than any other diagnosis. While pinkeye rarely causes death, it causes cattle discomfort and has considerable economic consequences. Pinkeye caused by bacterium *Moraxella bovis* most often occurs during the summer, but can occur throughout the year.

A number of factors are involved in making animals susceptible to infection. Some of the factors that are associated with pinkeye infection are: age of the animal (usually young animals are more susceptible); face fly infestation; irritation from plants, dust and pollen; ultraviolet light; nutritional imbalances (especially deficiencies in vitamin A, copper and selenium); as well as the presence of the IBR virus and mycoplasma.

Anything that transports secretions from one animal to another can spread pinkeye. The face fly is considered the primary problem; the face fly feeds on the secretions around the eyes, which causes irritation to the cornea, and by moving from one animal to another spreads the disease throughout the herd. Once an animal is infected the disease last three weeks or more depending on timeliness of diagnosis and the treatment regimen. Treatment is often successful because the eye has a tremendous ability to heal, and because the organism is susceptible to many available antibiotics. Prevention is the best approach. Face fly control is a good start. Using multiple methods of control (which include: fly tags, insecticide pour-ons, back rubbers, dust bags and knock-down sprays) usually has the best results, additionally feed additives are available that target maggots that are laid in the manure. A moderate to heavy infestation of face flies is 10-20 flies per animal during the middle of the day. Managing pastures through proper grazing practices and clipping to minimize seed heads will help prevent eye irritation which can also help in controlling pinkeye. A good vaccination program including vaccinating against *Moraxella bovis* and feeding tetracycline antibiotics in a supplement or mineral mix will improve the overall condition of your cattle and can decrease the incidence of pinkeye in your herds.

??Question of the Week??

How do I register a brand in the state of Missouri?

We seem to be getting questions concerning branding and registering brands more often. Perhaps it has to do with increasing incidences of cattle theft, particularly in the southwestern part of the state. Whether a producer decides to use a freeze or fire brand, they are a permanent identification tool that stays with the animal for life. Brand registration is handled by the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA). The process to register one is fairly simple. The following link will take you to the MDA brand information page:

<http://mda.mo.gov/animals/livestockbranding.php>

Northwest Region Extension Agriculture and Natural Resource Contacts

Agronomy

Wayne Flanary
(660)-446-3724
flanaryw@missouri.edu

Heather Benedict
(660)-425-6434
benedicth@missouri.edu

Wyatt Miller
(816)-776-6961
millerww@missouri.edu

Natural Resources

Jim Crawford
(660)-744-6231
crawfordj@missouri.edu

Horticulture

Tom Fowler
(816)-279-1691
fowlert@missouri.edu

Tim Baker
(660)-663-3232
bakert@missouri.edu

Agriculture Business

Kevin Hansen
(660)-646-0811
hansenk@missouri.edu

Randa Doty
(660)-582-8101
dotyr@missouri.edu

Whitney Wiegel
(660)-584-3658
wiegelw@missouri.edu

Bob Kelly
(816)-279-1691
kellyr@missouri.edu

Parman Green
(660)-542-1792
greenp@missouri.edu