

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



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DATES TO

REMEMBER:

- **June 25-26—**
Regional Grazing
School, Savannah
- **August 8-18—**
Missouri State
Fair, Sedalia
- **August 27—MU**
Graves-Chapple
Research Center
Field Day, Corn-
ing
- **August 28—MU**
Hundley-Whaley
Research Center
Field Day, Albany

Management Intensive Grazing School

Producers interested in getting more out of their current pasture management program should consider attending one of the 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.

Don't Delay Making Hay

It might not seem like haymaking time, or haymaking weather, but early harvest results in more quality forage through the season says Rob Kallenbach, MU state extension forage specialist. Hay should be harvested before seeds set. When seed heads emerge, the grass transfers proteins and sugars from leaves into seeds. This causes lower nutrient content in hay harvested after seed heads form. Once grass matures and seed heads fill, it stops growing. On the other hand if hay is cut before seed heads set, the grass keeps adding leaves. By making an early first cutting, more grass will regrow for the second cutting. Once the weather gets hot, cool-season grass growth slumps. Ideally, May is a better hay month than June and June is far better than July. With lack of warm weather and sunshine, hay has developed slowly this spring. The plants grew tall, but the grass didn't thicken, putting out fewer tillers and causing a reduction in undergrowth. Kallenbach estimates yields this spring fall 25 to 30 percent below normal.

Remember Fly Control

There is no clear information on the number of face flies per head that lead to economic loss. These flies are very annoying, but even heavy infestations do not seem to reduce rate of weight gain. Face flies can spread pinkeye, however and control measures should be increased if incidence of pinkeye is high. Horn fly control can mean an additional 12 to 20 pounds of weight per calf at weaning and reduces weight loss for nursing cows. Horn flies can be kept below the target level of less than 100 per side (200 per head) by a variety of methods (dust bags, back rubbers, sprays, insecticidal ear tags, etc.). Insecticides have been placed into groups based on how they work against insects. Continued use of products from a single group can lead to reduced control.

Management Intensive Grazing Schools

2013





KSU Focus on Feedlots Report

Kansas State University Extension recently released their April 2013 closeout information in their latest Focus on Feedlots report which includes data from ten different Kansas feedlots. The 13,175 steers averaged 1322 pounds, 157 days on feed, 3.28 average daily gain, 6.25 feed/gain dry basis, 1.99% death loss and \$131.74 average cost of gain. The 17,323 heifers averaged 1206 pounds, 150 days on feed, 3.07 average daily gain, 6.48 feed/gain dry basis, 2.01% death loss, and \$133.69 average cost of gain.

Changes Unveiled for University of Missouri Regional Extension Specialist Coverage Areas

In an effort to make programs and services more accessible to Missouri residents, University of Missouri Extension has changed coverage areas for some of the regional extension specialists. The livestock specialist coverage has changed considerably. Amie Schleicher will remain headquartered in Atchison County, but she will have assignment for Atchison, Nodaway, Holt, Andrew (west of interstate 29), Buchanan, Platte and Clay counties. Jim Humphrey will remain headquartered in Andrew but will only have assignment for the part of the county that is east of interstate 29. In addition he will cover DeKalb, Clinton, Caldwell, Ray and Livingston counties. Shawn Deering will remain headquartered in Gentry County and will also cover Worth, Harrison, Mercer, Grundy and Daviess counties. Wendy Flatt will service Carroll and Saline counties, even though her home office is in the northeast extension region. David Hoffman will cover Lafayette County even though he is headquartered in the west central region.

The other agricultural specialists will also be working with new coverage assignments. The new assignments will go into effect on July 1. Of course, there will be a transitional period as we begin to work through the new plan. The main thing for producers to understand is that they will receive the same services that they always have with our full intention to provide even better access to specialists.

??Question of the Week??

I am looking at ways to cut costs and improve cash flow in my cow-calf operation. Can anyone in extension help me with that?

Yes. Our agriculture business specialists have the tools to sit down with you and go through your records and help you with farm finances. They can look at income and expense records and try to help you to come up with ways to improve returns. Our agronomists and livestock specialists can help with pasture management, feeding programs, marketing, health, etc. If you need assistance, contact your local MU extension office and they can refer you to the specialist(s) assigned to your area.

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