

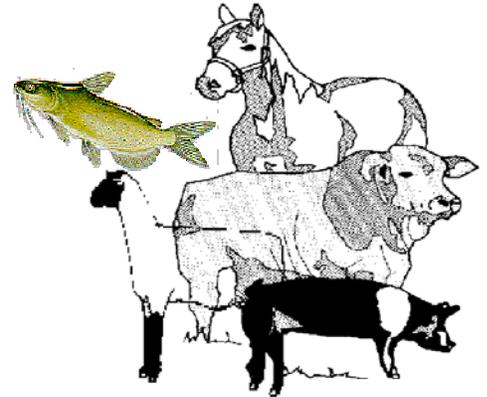
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Animal and Dairy Science Department  
 Rhodes Center for Animal & Dairy Science

# Livestock Newsletter

September/October 2002

<http://www.ces.uga.edu/Agriculture/asdsvm/beef-home.html>



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 Robert L. Stewart  
 Extension Coordinator  
 Animal and Dairy Science Department

## WEANING AND FEEDING MANAGEMENT FOR BEEF CALVES

Dan T. Brown  
Extension Animal Scientist

Weaning produces a great deal of stress on calves and often results in weight loss. A number of good management techniques reduce stress and the potential for sickness that accompanies stress.

The key to successful weaning is to plan. Processing should be done prior to weaning time. Calves should be vaccinated, dewormed, implanted, and treated for lice and grubs at least three to four weeks before weaning. Castration and dehorning should be done much earlier. A well built pen that has been inspected and repaired ahead of time is necessary. Plenty of clean water and shade should be available. The majority of southern calves have never seen a feed trough or water trough. It takes a few days for a calf that is accustomed to eating grass and drinking from non-container sources to adjust. Calves should be introduced to their new feed and watering system two to three weeks before weaning.

At weaning, place the calves in a well built pen. If calves have not been started on feed, they should be started slowly. One pound of feed per calf along with good quality hay should be offered on the first day. This can be increased by one-half pound per day until calves are eating six to eight pounds of feed plus free-choice hay. Watch closely to make sure that all calves are eating. There are some tricks to get calves started faster. Since calves tend to walk the fence, calves will find feed faster if troughs are placed perpendicular to the fence. Feeding small amounts several times a day will keep feed fresher. Set up a drip system to help calves find and learn to drink out of troughs faster. Several small troughs are better than one large one.

A good preconditioning feed is one which is highly palatable and contains about 14 percent crude protein and 65 to 70 percent TDN. The following lists a good example for mixing:

| <b>Ingredient</b>        | <b>Amount per Ton</b> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Corn                     | 820 lb                |
| Cottonseed meal          | 300 lb                |
| Oats (rolled or crimped) | 700 lb                |
| Molasses                 | 150 lb                |
| Limestone (feedgrade)    | 20 lb                 |
| Trace mineral salt       | 20 lb                 |
| Vitamin A                | 14 million units      |

If feed is bought, make sure that it is suitable for preconditioning and/or newly weaned calves. Unless the feed is fresh and palatable, the calves will not eat or perform as good.

Proper weaning of calves will minimize weight loss and sickness. Proper management is largely a matter of planning ahead to reduce stress on calves.

## MANAGING HORSES ON A FEW ACRES - PART III YEAR ROUND SCHEDULE

Gary Heusner  
Extension Equine Specialist

In the last two newsletters I discussed considerations of maintaining a horse on a one acre pasture with an additional drylot exercise paddock of approximately an 1/8 of an acre and some type of barn structure. In the discussions time lines were indicated for various activities to be done in managing pastures, etc. The following outline will provide an outline to follow for year round management.

- September-October: Overseed established Bermudagrass pasture with an annual ryegrass. Twenty-five to forty pounds of annual ryegrass should be overseeded per acre. Consider deworming to lower internal parasite load prior to October when cooler, wetter weather allows for faster recontamination of pastures. Consider vaccinating horse for EEE, WEE, WNV especially if located below Fall line in Georgia.
- November-December: Fertilize for ryegrass with 30-60 pounds of nitrogen during early growth.
- January-February: If fall and early winter weather was favorable for growth of ryegrass, apply second application of nitrogen of 60-80 pounds. Deworm horse and make sure to use a dewormer effective against bots.
- March-April: Do annual vaccinations of horse and renew EIA (Coggins) test. Consider third application of nitrogen (40-60 pounds/acre). Soil test to determine potential phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) needs for Bermudagrass. Deworm horses, do annual vaccinations.
- May-June: Buy entire year's supply of hay. Fertilize for Bermudagrass pasture with 75 to 100 pounds of nitrogen/acre and recommended levels of P and K based on soil test. Look at weed control and amount of ryegrass. If ryegrass not grazed down it will need to be mowed to allow Bermudagrass growth.
- July-August: Deworm horses making sure to use a boticide and dewormer effective against small strongyles. Consider another application of nitrogen for Bermudagrass pasture, provided weather conditions favorable.

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

|                     |                             |                     |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| October 15-17, 2002 | Sunbelt Expo                | Moultrie, GA        |
| October 26, 2002    | Southern Select Hog Sale    | Omega, GA (6:00 PM) |
| November 7, 2002    | Statesboro Beef Shortcourse | Statesboro, GA      |
| November 23, 2002   | Southern Select Hog Sale    | Omega, GA (6:00 PM) |
| December 7, 2002    | Calhoun Bull Sale           | Calhoun, GA         |

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# USING REPRODUCTIVE TRACT SCORING IN THE REPLACEMENT HEIFER SELECTION PROCESS

Timothy W. Wilson  
Extension Animal Science

There are many management practices used to prepare for the breeding season. As the fall calving season begins, final preparations are being made in heifer development programs. Many replacement heifers that have reached this point in the production process have been chosen based on size and visual appearance. Colorado State University has developed an additional method of selection that allows producers to choose heifers based on their physiological status.

Reproductive Tract Scoring (RTS) is a method of assigning a numerical score from 1 to 5 based on the maturity of the ovaries and uterine horns in developing heifers. Heifers that lack palpable structures on the ovaries and have immature uterine horns are assigned a RTS of 1 (Table 1). As the uterine horns develop and follicles become prominent on the ovary, the RTS increases. An RTS of 5 would be assigned to a heifer that has been in heat, and has a palpable corpus luteum (Table 1).

This system should be performed approximately four weeks prior to the breeding season, and can serve as a last minute culling tool to eliminate heifers that may fail to breed. If selection pressure is needed prior to this point, heifers should be scored after half have begun having estrous cycles (Andersen et al., 1991). Scoring during this time frame will identify heifers in different stages of pubertal development. Feeding programs can be adjusted to help these heifers grow appropriately to reach developmental goals prior to the onset of the breeding season. Reproductive tract scoring can be used as a predictor of maturity in growing heifers.

Research from Andersen et al. (1991) reports that RTS should respond favorably to selection and is moderately heritable at  $0.32 \pm 0.17$ . Using reproductive tract scoring may serve as a useful tool when developing replacement heifers.

This technology offers an exciting alternative for the innovative producer. Using this system in conjunction with other selection practices may prove to be beneficial in the long-term success of many operations. If you have any questions regarding this topic, feel free to contact your local County Extension Agent or call me at (912) 681-5639.

**Table 1. Description of Reproductive Tract Score\***

| Reproductive Tract Score | Uterine Horns             | Ovaries          |             |            | Ovarian Structures               |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|----------------------------------|
|                          |                           | Approximate Size |             |            |                                  |
|                          |                           | Length (mm)      | Height (mm) | Width (mm) |                                  |
| 1                        | Immature < 20 mm diameter | 15               | 10          | 8          | No palpable follicles            |
| 2                        | 20 - 25 mm diameter       | 18               | 12          | 10         | 8 mm follicles                   |
| 3                        | 25 - 30 mm diameter       | 22               | 15          | 10         | 8 - 10 mm follicles              |
| 4                        | 30 mm diameter            | 30               | 16          | 12         | > 10 mm follicles<br>CL possible |
| 5                        | > 30 mm diameter          | > 32             | 20          | 15         | > 10 mm follicles<br>CL present  |

\*Source: Andersen, K.J., D.G. LeFever, J.S. Brinks, K.G. Odde. 1991. The use of reproductive tract scoring in beef heifers. Agri-Practice (Vol. 12) 4:106-111.

## OFF-FLAVOR RELIEF WITH DIURON LABEL EXEMPTION APPROVED

Gary J. Burtle  
Extension Aquaculture Specialist

Catfish ponds can develop algal blooms that release chemical causing an earthy-musty odor or flavor in the catfish. Herbicides can be used to control these problematic algal populations. Copper sulfate is the only algicide approved by EPA for use in catfish ponds. However, research has shown that very small amounts of diuron can control certain off-flavor producing blue-green algae without causing environmental damage or becoming a significant residue in catfish flesh.

The granting of an emergency exemption for diuron by EPA allows diuron to be utilized for a specific purpose in commercial catfish ponds that are experiencing off-flavor problems related to blue-green algae. The term of the exemption is from September 10, 2002 to September 10, 2003 and is only for the Nautilus Aquatic Herbicide manufactured by Griffin LLC.

The following precautions should be observed when using Nautilus Aquatic Herbicide:

1. Nautilus Aquatic Herbicide may be applied in or on commercial levee-contained catfish ponds by pouring a pre-mixed slurry from a bucket directly into the pond on the outflow side of the operating aerator. Nautilus Aquatic Herbicide may be applied at a rate of 0.5 oz. product per acre foot (0.4 oz. a.i.), every seven (7) days but not to exceed nine (9) applications per year. Do not apply more than 0.225 lb. a.i. per acre foot per year.
2. A total of 700 acres of commercial catfish ponds may be treated under this exemption.
3. Residues of diuron and its metabolites convertible to 3,4-dichloroaniline are not expected to exceed the previously-established time-limited tolerance of 2.0 ppm in or on catfish fillets. This time-limited tolerance has been extended until June 30, 2004.
4. Mixers, loaders, and applicators of diuron are required to wear long-sleeved shirt, long pants, gloves, and shoes and socks.
5. Report any adverse effects of the use of Nautilus Aquatic Herbicide to the Georgia Department of Agriculture.
6. Please report your product use, acreage, and successes to Gary Burtle, Animal & Dairy Science, P. O. Box 748, Tifton, GA 31793-0748. The data will be utilized to prepare future exemption applications if they are necessary.

We appreciate the efforts of the Georgia Department of Agriculture to facilitate this emergency exemption.

## GEORGIA BEEF CHALLENGE

Robert L. Stewart  
Coordinator, Extension Programs  
Animal and Dairy Science Department  
The University of Georgia

The Georgia Beef Challenge was organized in 1991 to allow Georgia cattle producers to gain information on the health, performance, and carcass merit of their cattle. Over the years we have evaluated thousands of calves from Georgia cattle operations. During that time, we have learned volumes about the genetics of our genetics both from an individual herd standpoint and how Georgia cattle compare to the rest of the beef industry. Our partners at Tri County Steer Carcass Futurity in Southwest Iowa continue to do a super job with our cattle.

In 2001 - 2002, 2164 calves were consigned to the program. Shipments started in April and ended in December. As usual, factors beyond our control influenced the outcome of the Beef Challenge. Unlike last year, weather was relatively good for feeding cattle in Iowa. However, the events surrounding September 11, 2001, had a profound effect.

Table 1 summarizes the performance, carcass data and profitability for the 2001-2002 Beef Challenge. On average this was a very good year for most phases of the program. A few of the categories were below our targets.

Death loss at 1.29 % is well below industry averages, but exceeds our desired maximum of 1%. Of the 21 pens on feed, two had death losses over 4% and seven had no loss. The differences were not due to the attention paid by the feeders, rather they reflect differences in preparation of the cattle. We need to continue to pay attention to detail when developing the health history of our calves.

The overall average daily gain at 3.37 pounds per day was excellent and is the second highest performance in our history. Even the lowest pen average of 2.98 pounds per day was great!

Carcass traits were also good news for this year's consignors. Average fat cover at 0.48 inches is very close to the target of 0.4 inches. Average Yield Grade of 2.99 is acceptable but slightly above the target of 2.5 or less. Ribeye area at 12.3 square inches is excellent. Even the lowest pen at 11.5 square inches is well within industry targets.

Seventy one percent of the Georgia Beef Challenge carcasses had a Quality Grade of Low Choice or better. This percentage choice is a marked improvement over most years.

Defects were found in 15.3% of the animals. Table 2 gives a summary of the problems. Defects included trim, dark cutter, disposition, horns, lungs, rat tails and stags. This percentage is higher than in past Beef Challenge consignments. All defects represent a deduction straight off the profit of those animals. In order to address these problems, we must select for disposition in our cow herds; use polled bulls or proper de-horning technique; monitor respiratory problems (pneumonia in a calf can result in trim on a lung at harvest); and, use proper castration technique.

Profitability this year is hard to explain (back to Table 1). At first glance, the average profitability at \$69.56 was outstanding when compared to closeout sheets posted by pens of calves all over the industry during the same time period. The first three pens (out of 21 total pens) lost money. Although performance and carcass merit were outstanding, the market swing killed these groups. They were shipped before September 11 and harvested afterwards. The price differential between shipping and harvest could not be overcome. Those shipped after September 11 had a lower beginning value which helped net profitability. The primary factor which affected profitability in the majority of the pens was the action taken by the Georgia Beef Challenge Risk Management Committee. The committee consisted of Turner Callaway, Jim Collins, Mac Hall, Bobby Lovett, John McKissick, Bobby Miller, Clay Sims and Robert Stewart. They set a pricing strategy to protect the

beginning value of the calves and to take a profit if available. Special thanks is due to Jim Collins for his extraordinary work for our program. He organized the breakeven projections, watched the market and ordered the contracts. His singular effort netted over \$50,000 for the consignors.

Presently, there are 879 calves on the 2002-2003 Georgia Beef Challenge with over 1000 consigned to be shipped this fall. We repeatedly find that our genetics are as good as anywhere in the United States. We firmly believe that data and predictability will be important marketing factors in the years to come. Participants in the Georgia Beef Challenge will be in position to attract attention whatever might happen to the market.

If you have calves you wish to consign, then contact your local county Extension Agent. He can furnish you with the entry information and preconditioning protocol to get your calves ready. Information on the web can be found at: <http://www.cpes.peachnet.edu/webfiles/pc-web>.

**Table 1. 2001-2002 Beef Challenge Summary**

|                              | <u>Average</u> | <u>Range (by pen)</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Death Loss (%)               | 1.29           | 0 - 7.14              |
| Average Daily Gain (lbs/day) | 3.37           | 2.98 - 3.89           |
| Cost of Gain (\$/cwt)        | 45.35          | 39.60 - 55.12         |
| Dress (%)                    | 61.5           | 60.70 - 62.0          |
| Fat Cover (in.)              | 0.48           | 0.38 - 0.63           |
| Ribeye Area (sq. in.)        | 12.3           | 11.5 - 13.1           |
| Yield Grade                  | 2.99           | 2.41 - 3.33           |
| Quality Grade (% CH)         | 71             | 25 - 92               |
| Profit (\$/hd)               | 69.56          | (97.63) - 170.39      |

**Table 2. Summary of Defects in the 2001-2002 Georgia Beef Challenge**

| <b>Defect*</b> | <b>No.</b> | <b>Percentage of Total Defects</b> | <b>Percentage of Total Shipped</b> |
|----------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total Trim     | 40         | 12.0%                              | 1.8%                               |
| Dark Cutters   | 7          | 2.1%                               | 0.3%                               |
| Disposition    | 102        | 30.7%                              | 4.7%                               |
| Horns          | 58         | 17.5%                              | 2.7%                               |
| Lungs          | 97         | 29.2%                              | 4.5%                               |
| Rat Tail       | 26         | 7.8%                               | 1.2%                               |
| Stag           | 2          | 0.6%                               | 0.1%                               |
| Totals         | 332        | 100.0%                             | 15.3%                              |

\*If an animal had more than one defect listed, then it was included in the category of the first defect listed for that animal.

## WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE

National Update by Dr. Randy Crom with USDA, APHIS, VS:

- September 2001, the U. S. had 70 equine WNV cases. By the end of December 2001, the U. S. had approximately 700 cases.
- The number of equine WNV cases for 2002 is astronomical; as of 9-10-02, 32 states report 3,880 equine WNV cases with 1500 being reported in the last 10 days.
- States with most WNV: NE (647), SD, ND, MN top four then TX and LA
- Two states with the most cases per county (72 each) are NE and MO
- Why are upper great plains states encountering high infection rates? Could be related to common mosquito vector in those states, *Culex tarsalis*
- Any species of bird can be affected, although corvids still most common (crows, blue jays, ravens)

### VACCINE LICENSURE UPDATE BY DR. LARRY LUDEMANN WITH USDA, APHIS, VS, CVB:

- USDA is expecting to give Fort Dodge Animal Health full licensure for the WNV vaccine within the next month.
- Vaccine licensure may impact international equid movements, particularly exports to AUS

### EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA UPDATE FOUR HORSES IN CHATTOOGA COUNTY TEST POSITIVE

ATLANTA - Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Tommy Irvin announced today that four horses in Chattooga County tested positive for Equine Infectious Anemia and have been euthanized. So far, 94 other horses in the county have had to be quarantined due to possible exposure.

Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) is viral disease that affects the horse's immune system. There is no cure. EIA is usually transmitted by horseflies or mosquitoes.

"Although many infected horses show no symptoms, they remain infectious for life, endangering the health of other horses. For this reason, the Georgia Department of Agriculture requires euthanasia or lifelong quarantine for EIA-infected horses. We also require testing for all horse sales and transfers of ownership," said Commissioner Irvin.

This test, called a Coggins Test, also is required for all horse shows and before horse owners are allowed to board any of their animals at a stable

"Because there is no cure, the only protection is prevention," Commissioner Irvin continued.

"This is why testing is a necessity and why boarding facilities have to be licensed. Although Georgia has had only a few EIA-positive horses in the past year, these few horses can affect many others. I encourage all horse owners in Chattooga County and surrounding areas to have their horses tested even if not selling or moving their horses. This is important in areas where there has been an outbreak."

"Our prevention methods have kept Georgia from becoming a hotspot for this disease. EIA can cripple the horse industry in a state. Besides possibly causing death, EIA severely limits the enjoyment people can get from their horses such as competing in shows or riding on trails. For the good of everyone, we must work to keep EIA from becoming a common problem in Georgia," said Irvin.

With the exception of the four horses that tested positive, 93 of the other quarantined horses have tested negative. The remaining horse was a newborn colt that will be tested soon. Before any of them are released from quarantine, they will have to be tested again 45 days following their last exposure to an infected horse.

The EIA virus reproduces in blood cells and circulates throughout the body. The horse's immune system attacks and destroys the infected red blood cells. The reduced blood count causes anemia, and associated inflammation can damage vital organs. Because the horse's immune system is impaired, the horse may also become susceptible to other infections. EIA-infected horses can die from the virus or from secondary infections. A horse that tests positive for EIA will have to be kept permanently at least 200 yards from other horses or roadways.

## **GEORGIA HORSE COUNCIL, HORSE FAIR 2003 YOUTH VERSATILITY CHAMPION**

The annual Georgia Horse Council Fair to be held January 11 and 12, 2003 is once again holding a Youth Versatility Championship. Following are the regulations and rules:

- Competitors must be nominated from an Association or saddle club who is an Association member of the GHC for 2002. Each sponsor is responsible for stall fees for the weekend (\$40.00 for one stall). Nominated Youth must be between 10 and 18 years of age on January 1 of the current year.
- Each contestant will enter the ring with their horse, tack and clothing for all events and up to 4 team members. No contestant will be allowed to exit or enter the arena after competition has begun. All tack and clothing changes must take place inside the arena. One additional team member may assist with music but will not be allowed into the arena.
- Celebrity judges will score each event on a scale of 1 to 10. As in Olympic style competition, scores will be shown after each event. Interview scores will not be posted but used as a tie breaker if needed.
- First place in each event will receive the maximum number of points determined by the number of contestants. (Example: if there are 10 contestants, first place receives 10 points and 10<sup>th</sup> place receives 1 point). The competitor with the highest point total at the end of four events wins the over all competition.
- Each event will have required elements. Classes will be judged on a point basis with a perfect score being 10. Judges will award points on originality and additional elements as well as deducting one point for each required element not preformed.
- Contestants will compete in the following classes:
  - Showmanship at Halter (required elements: Back, Trot, 360, Setup)
  - Hunt Seat Equitation (required elements: Change of diagonal, Change of speed in trot or canter, Back, 360 on haunches or forehand, Stop)
  - Western Horsemanship (required elements: Change of speed in trot and lope, 360, Back, Stop)
  - Barrel Racing (AQHA rules)
- Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation and Horsemanship will be judged using AQHA rules for guidelines. Please remember that originality and a *sense of fun* is incorporated into judging!
- During the Showmanship contest, a formal interview will be conducted and scored.
- Showmanship, Equitation and Horsemanship will be judged as a freestyle competition. Costumes are encouraged. Judges will take creativity into consideration.
- Each contestant must supply his or her own music. Music will be supplied either on tape or CD. Each pattern will last 2 minutes and music must be timed accordingly. Music must be unique for each class. Bonus point consideration will be given if music and performance begin and end together.
- The Barrel pattern will be the AQHA Cloverleaf pattern and will be timed by electronic timers (or 2 independent timers). Points will be awarded based on fastest time.
- There will be a 5 minute break for tack and clothing changes between events.
- Work orders for each class will be announced at the beginning of each event.
- Contestants must remain mounted (or have the horse in hand for Showmanship) until time on that event is called.
- Champions from previous years will be ineligible to compete in future years
- Remember - this is first and foremost designed to be FUN

## BYPRODUCT FEEDS CAN BE SELF FED TO BACKGROUND CALVES

Background calves prior to them entering feedlots is a sound management practice. Extra pounds are put on the calves during an efficient stage of their life, they become adapted to feed, water, confinement conditions, and they overcome weaning and health challenges. Traditionally, cattle are managed to gain at moderate rates with diets having fairly high forage levels. Certain byproduct feeds are available which have had the starch removed, leaving behind a highly digestible material that consists mostly of fiber. These feeds, including soy hulls, corn gluten feed, and wheat middlings, were investigated in a couple of studies recently reported by the researchers.

A group of North Dakota scientists used crossbred heifers starting at 620 pounds in a backgrounding study. One ration consisted of a Total Mixed Ration (TMR) containing 48% grass hay, 48% wheat middlings, and 4% supplement. This was compared to a group offered self fed chopped hay in a fence line bunk and wheat middlings (consisting of 93.2% wheat midds and 6.8% supplement) available at all times in a portable creep feeder. Supplements were formulated such that the total diet had a Calcium:Phosphorous ratio of 1.5:1.

The TMR group consumed 9.25 pounds of hay and 9.44 pounds of wheat midds, with a total feed intake of 18.9 pounds. They gained 1.88 pounds per day. The self fed group ate 9.54 pounds of hay and 8.6 pounds of wheat midds, with total feed intake of 18.7 pounds. Their Average Daily Gain was 1.77 pounds.

The researchers reported no digestive upsets or other major health problems.

Dr. Matt Poore at North Carolina State University investigated 3 different byproduct feeds offered in self feeders to calves with a beginning weight of 510 pounds. A control group received free choice hay plus a high calcium mineral supplement. Other groups received increasing amounts of grain byproducts for one week, then all they would consume of self fed byproducts for the balance of the 84 day trial. Chopped hay was available to the calves in a feed bunk as well. Byproducts used were soy hulls, corn gluten feed, and wheat middlings. None of the byproducts were pelleted.

Results of the trial are in the table below.

|                  | <b>Hay Intake<br/>Lb</b> | <b>Total<br/>Intake<br/>Lb</b> | <b>Supplement<br/>Intake, Lb</b> | <b>ADG<br/>Lb</b> |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Hay Only         | 12.70                    | 12.81                          | 0.11                             | 1.39              |
| Soy Hull         | 4.08                     | 23.35                          | 19.27                            | 3.31              |
| Corn Gluten Feed | 6.68                     | 20.35                          | 13.67                            | 2.93              |
| Wheat Midds      | 4.32                     | 16.93                          | 12.61                            | 2.23              |

There were no health problems with the cattle for any reason. The self feeder was cleaned often and spoiled feed was discarded. Dr. Poore repeated this work last winter (Unpublished) and again saw extremely high intakes and gains by cattle that were self fed these 3 supplements.

I would recommend a few cautionary management practices for producers who wish to self feed cattle using one of these high fiber byproducts feeds. Because of the risk of bloat it would be wise to use a free-choice mineral that contains an ionophore, either Bovatec or Rumensin. Again, with bloat risk a real possibility, do not let hay run out. Make sure that cattle have access to pretty good quality hay all the time. The key point is to make sure cattle have adequate fiber intake, and hay or pasture can be used to provide this fiber. Although a producer may not experience the high intake and high rate of gain seen in this North Carolina trial, cattle will still gain fairly quickly, and get pretty freshy. Consequently, producers may want

to use this program for a shorter period of time (6 to 8 weeks) rather than the 12 weeks in this trial. However, this would appear to be an excellent feeding program to prepare cattle for the feedlot.

Self feeding of high fiber byproducts is a very labor-efficient way to background cattle. Dry hay or pasture of at least medium quality must be available to the calves at all times. Supplements must contain a high calcium level, and ionophores are recommended. Management of the self feeder to keep feed clean and dry to entice cattle to eat at high rates will generate fast and efficient gains.

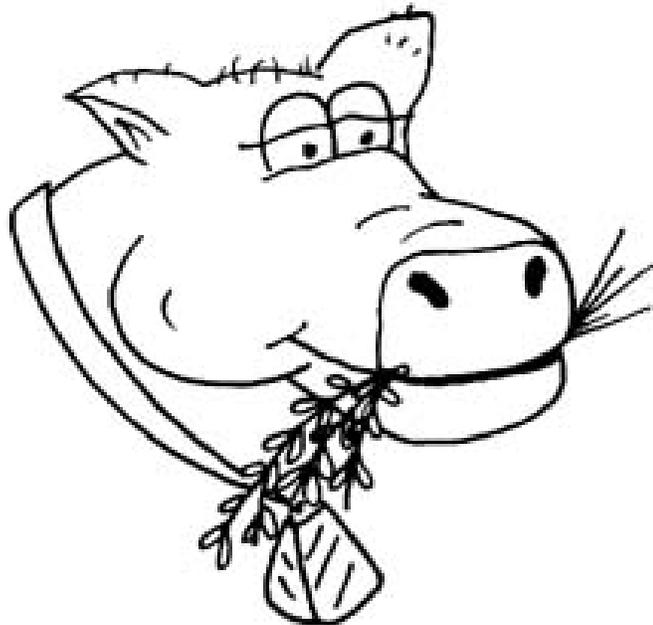
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Poore, MH. 2002. Self-feeding byproduct commodities to beef calves. J. Anim. Sci. Vol 80, Suppl 2, p 20.

Mark Wahlberg, Extension Animal Scientist, 4-H Livestock, VA Tech

***Reprinted from VPI Livestock Newsletter.***



**2002 Southeast Georgia Beef Cattle Short Course  
Thursday, November 7, 2002  
East District Extension Center**

**PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

Morning Session  
 Presiding..... Robert Stewart  
 9:00 Registration  
 9:30 CIDR'S..... Tim Wilson  
 10:00 Common and Alternative Winter Feeding Strategies.....Johnny Rossi  
 10:30 Break  
 11:00 Johne's Disease.....Ben Nessmith  
 11:30 Beef Cattle Market Outlook.....Curt Lacy  
 12:00 Lunch

Dr. Jerry Baker, Research Coordinator, Animal & Dairy Science Department. The University of Georgia, Tifton, GA.  
 Dr. Dan Brown, Extension Animal Scientist. The University of Georgia, Blairsville, GA.  
 Kevin Campbell, Brooks County Extension Agent. The University of Georgia, Quitman, GA.  
 Dr. Curt Lacy, Extension Livestock Economist. The University of Georgia, Athens, GA.  
 Dr. Ben Nessmith, Bulloch Veterinary Clinic, Statesboro, GA.  
 Dr. Johnny Rossi, Extension Animal Scientist. The University of Georgia, Tifton, GA.  
 Dr. Robert L. Stewart, Extension Coordinator, Animal & Dairy Science Department. The University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

**Afternoon Session**

Presiding.....Tim Wilson  
 1:30 Fencing Riparian Areas.....Dan Brown  
 2:00 Cattle Identification.....Jerry Baker  
 2:30 A Look at Managing Cattle in Pine Trees..... Kevin Campbell  
 3:00 Adjourn

Mr. Tim Wilson, Extension Animal Scientist. The University of Georgia, Statesboro, GA.

The University System of Georgia offers educational programs, assistance and materials to all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap status.  
**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

**REGISTRATION – 2002 SOUTHEAST GEORGIA BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE**

Pre-registration Fee (by October 24): \$ 8.00  
 Fee: No. of people \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Each  
 Late Registration Fee: \$ 10.00  
 Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to:** East District 4-H Fund (BCSC) **Mail to:** East Georgia Extension Service  
 Attn: Tim Wilson  
 P. O. Box 8112 - GSU  
 Statesboro, GA 30460-8112

## **PRAWN FARMING WORKSHOP TO BE OFFERED AT TIFTON**

Gary J. Burtle  
Extension Aquaculture Specialist

Prawn farming in Georgia has developed from an experiment to a cash crop for some producers over the past five years. Still, management problems have some producers wondering if they will ever make their first crop. In an effort to provide a detailed training program we are offering a three day program on freshwater prawn production. Each day will involve classroom and demonstration experiences. The first session will coincide with a prawn harvest at the Tifton aquaculture unit of the University of Georgia.

The three meetings will be held on October 10, Nov 16, and Dec 14, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Cost for the training is \$100.00 per day and you must attend a minimum of two sessions for the award of a certificate. County agents can inquire for a cost reduction.

**Session I.** Economics of prawn production, harvesting and marketing prawns at the pond.

**Session II.** Pond system design and water management, feeding, and substrates.

**Session III.** Prawn spawning and nursery management.

### **Course Philosophy:**

Practical management methods will be presented in a classroom setting for part of each session followed by demonstrations and laboratory experience with prawns, equipment or software. Some course objectives will be accomplished using student teams to develop solutions to management questions. Tests must be passed. Reference materials will be provided. Casual dress is recommended for activities outside of the classroom.

### **Expected Results:**

Students will gain proficiency in practical aspects of the prawn culture enterprise. Knowledge of equipment calibration, operation and maintenance will be gained in order to assure effective water quality management of prawn ponds. Prawn nutrition, spacial, spawning, and environmental requirements will be learned so that decision making is based on the biological limits of the species.

### **Enrollment:**

Enrollment is based on available space with a maximum of 25 students.

For additional information contact: Dr. Gary Burtle, 229-386-3364, [fish@tifton.cpes.peachnet.edu](mailto:fish@tifton.cpes.peachnet.edu).

## LARRY BENYSHEK TO RETIRE FROM UGA

Dr. Larry Benyshek has recently announced his intention to retire as Head of the Animal and Dairy Science Department at the University of Georgia. Since 1976, Dr. Benyshek has been a faculty member in the UGA Animal and Dairy Science Department with teaching and research responsibilities in Animal Breeding. In 1993, he was appointed Head of the Department. A native of Kansas, he has conducted research concerned with genetic improvement through both selection and crossbreeding. He received his B.S. Degree from Kansas State University in 1969 and completed his M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees at Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Benyshek's research career has been focused on the development of national genetic evaluation programs for the improvement of beef cattle. In 1985, under his leadership, the Animal Breeding Group at the University of Georgia became the first U.S. research group to apply the "animal model" to U.S. beef cattle field data, which provided for the first evaluation of an entire U.S. population (breed) of beef cattle. In 1994, his efforts led to the first joint Canadian-U.S. beef cattle genetic evaluations. During his tenure as leader of the UGA Animal Breeding Group, 16 beef cattle organization to include Angus, Hereford (American and Canadian), Limousin (American and Canadian), Brangus, Shorthorn, Brahman, Santa Gertrudis, Beefmaster, Chianina, Gelbvieh, Charolais (American and Canadian), Uruguayan Hereford and Argentine Hereford had their genetic evaluation programs based at the University of Georgia. The significance of Dr. Benyshek's contribution in research and education to the beef cattle industry is clearly identified through the widespread use of national beef cattle genetic evaluation results.

Dr. Benyshek has authored or co-authored over 200 scientific and trade publications on genetic improvement of beef cattle. Each year he gives numerous presentations concerning national genetic improvement programs to livestock groups, nationally and internationally. In 1994, he was the recipient of the American Society of Animal Science Rockefeller Prentice Memorial Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics; and, in 2001, he received the Beef Improvement Federation Pioneer Award for his work in the area of National Cattle Evaluation.

Plans are being made for a farewell reception and dinner in his honor for Friday evening, November 15<sup>th</sup>, commencing at 6:00 PM, at Flinchum's Phoenix in Athens. Dr. Benyshek is not desirous of receiving a retirement gift but has requested anyone wishing to participate in a recognition of his service to contribute to an award that is being established to recognize teaching excellence in the UGA Animal and Dairy Science Department. This recognition will be in the form of a cash award, presented in his honor on an annual basis, to the ADS faculty member selected by a panel of ADS undergraduate students as the outstanding teacher in this program.

If you would like to attend the reception and dinner or contribute to the teaching award, please complete and return the form below. For further information, contact Kathy Hoard at 706/542-6259 or [khoard@arches.uga.edu](mailto:khoard@arches.uga.edu).

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### FAREWELL FOR LARRY BENYSHEK FLINCHUM'S PHOENIX FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 6:00 PM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

The cost of the reception and dinner is \$5.00 per person.

No. In Party \_\_\_\_\_ Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Will Pay At Door \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to participate in the ADS Undergraduate Teaching Award Program in Dr. Benyshek's honor, please indicate the amount you wish to contribute:

Amount of Contribution \_\_\_\_\_ Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Will Give At Door \_\_\_\_\_

If you are attending the dinner and wish to contribute to the Award Program, you are welcome to do so with one check. Contributions are tax deductible and should be made payable to the "Georgia 4H Foundation".

Forms should be returned in care of Mrs. Kathy Hoard, Animal and Dairy Science Department, Rhodes Center, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602

## GEORGIA 4-H'ERS SHINE AT SOUTHERN REGIONAL 4-H HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships were held in Memphis, Tennessee, July 21 - August 4, hosted by The University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service and Tennessee 4-H Horse Project Members. The Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships is a Horse 4-H event with thirteen southeastern states sending qualifiers. The states which compete are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. The championships include Horse Bowl, Hippology, Horse Judging, Public Speaking, Team Demonstration and Individual Demonstration contests. Each state can send two teams or individuals to compete in these contests. The championships also include a Horse Show with five divisions; Hunter, Western, Saddle Seat- Trotting, Saddle Seat-Non Trotting and Speed Events. Each state can qualify and send up to forty-two riders and horses to compete.

Georgia had either the High Point or Reserve High Point Rider in four of the five divisions. The division high point riders from Georgia included:

### SADDLE SEAT - TROTTING DIVISION

High Point Rider -Hillary Anne Garbutt, Wayne County

Reserve High Point Rider - Evanne Leigh Floyd, Liberty County

4<sup>th</sup> - Kristina McFadden, Gwinnett County  
7<sup>th</sup> - Brittany Braswell, Gwinnett County

Class - Trail  
8<sup>th</sup> - Amanda Maslen, Spalding County

### WESTERN DIVISION

Reserve High Point Rider - Amanda Maslen, Spalding County

Class - Western Pleasure  
7<sup>th</sup> - Evan Seedorf, Cobb County  
8<sup>th</sup> - Amanda Maslen, Spalding County

### SPEED EVENTS DIVISION

Reserve High Point Rider - Molly Ricketson, Jeff Davis County

Class - Western Horsemanship  
7<sup>th</sup> - Amanda Maslen, Spalding County

### HUNTER DIVISION

Reserve High Point Rider - Lindsey Chestnut, Morgan County

Class - Western Riding  
1<sup>st</sup> - Amanda Maslen, Spalding County  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Kelly Hegarty, Gwinnett County

Class - Reining  
9<sup>th</sup> - Kim Pope, Bulloch County

Georgia 4-H'ers competing and placing in the educational contests were:

### INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATION

3<sup>rd</sup> Krystal Mincey, Elbert County  
4<sup>th</sup> Megan Sapp, Wayne County

### SADDLE SEAT DIVISION - TROTTING

Class - Saddle Type Mares  
1<sup>st</sup> - Lindsay Dasher, Liberty County  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Melody Byrans, Morgan

### HORSE BOWL CONTEST

9<sup>TH</sup> Alyssa Astin, Jeremy Chaney, Lauren McGirt, Sandy Smith, Meg Vinnacomb - Douglas County

Class - Saddle Type Geldings  
1<sup>st</sup> - Evanne Leigh Floyd, Liberty County  
4<sup>th</sup> - Hillary Anne Garbutt, Wayne County  
7<sup>th</sup> - Colleen Shumake, Morgan County

Following are the division and top ten placings of Georgia 4-H'ers in the Horse Show.

### WESTERN DIVISION

Class - Stock Type Geldings  
1<sup>st</sup> - Alyssa Astin, Douglas County  
6<sup>th</sup> - Evan Seedorf, Cobb County

Class - Saddle Seat Showmanship  
1<sup>st</sup> - Hillary Anne Garbutt, Wayne County  
4<sup>th</sup> - Colleen Shumake, Morgan County  
6<sup>th</sup> - Evanne Leigh Floyd, Liberty County  
9<sup>th</sup> - Lindsay Dasher, Liberty County  
10<sup>th</sup> - Melody Bryans, Morgan County

Class - Western Showmanship

Class - Saddle Seat English Pleasure  
1<sup>st</sup> - Evanne Leigh Floyd, Liberty County  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Hillary Anne Garbutt, Wayne County

4<sup>th</sup> - Lindsay Dasher, Liberty County  
10<sup>th</sup> - Melody Bryans, Morgan County

Class - Saddle Seat Equitation  
1<sup>st</sup> - Hillary Anne Garbutt, Wayne County  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Lindsay Dasher, Liberty County  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Evanne Leigh Floyd, Liberty County

#### HUNTER DIVISION

Class - Hunter Type Geldings  
6<sup>th</sup> - Merideth Bryans, Morgan County

Class - Hunt Seat Showmanship  
8<sup>th</sup> - Margaret Dixon, Gwinnett County

Class - Hunter Under Saddle  
1<sup>st</sup> - Lindsey Chestnut, Morgan County  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Sarah Brown, Bulloch County  
8<sup>th</sup> - Sarah Bryan, Bulloch County

Class - Hunt Seat Equitation  
6<sup>th</sup> - Merideth Bryans, Morgan County

Class - Pony Working Hunter  
1<sup>st</sup> - Emily Heidt, Bulloch County

8<sup>th</sup> - Sara Bryan, Bulloch County

Class - Working Hunter, Over 14.2  
6<sup>th</sup> - Lindsey Chestnut, Morgan County

Class - Equitation Over Fences  
1<sup>st</sup> - Emily Heidt, Bulloch County  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Lindsey Chestnut, Morgan County  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Sara Bryan, Bulloch County  
4<sup>th</sup> - Merideth Bryans, Morgan County

Class - Open Jumping  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Merideth Bryans, Morgan County

#### SPEED EVENTS DIVISION

Class - Pole Bending  
5<sup>th</sup> - Molly Ricketson, Jeff Davis County

Class - Barrel Racing  
6<sup>th</sup> - Leigh Anne Dodelin, Harris County

Class - Stake Race  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Molly Ricketson, Jeff Davis County  
6<sup>th</sup> - Leigh Anne Dodelin, Harris County

## **AGENDA FOR GEORGIA STATEWIDE FORAGE CONFERENCE**

- 8:30 am Registration - Main Foyer
- 9:30 am Welcome - Auditorium  
Rozier Wingate - Chairman, Georgia Grazing Lands Conservation Coalition
- 9:40 am Intensified Grazing Management  
Jim Gerrish - Research Assistant Professor, Forage Systems Research Center,  
University of Missouri
- 10:30 am Weed Control in Pastures and Hay Fields  
Tim Murphy - Extension Weed Scientist, University of Georgia
- 11:00 am Livestock Production Budgets  
Curt Lacy - Extension Economist - Livestock, University of Georgia
- 11:30 LUNCH
- 12:30 pm Breakout Session I (select A, B or C)  
(12:30-1:30)
- A. Nutrient Management & Alternative Water Supply  
Miguel Cabrera - Water Quality & Nutrient Management Specialist, University of Georgia
  - B. Premiums & Discounts in the Marketplace  
Terry Harris - USDA Federal State Livestock Market News Supervisor,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture
  - C. 'Ask the Experts' - UGA Extension Service Panel  
John Andrae (Forages), Dan Brown (Animal Science), Curt Lacy (Agricultural Economics), Robert Morgan (Forages), Tim Murphy (Weed Science)
- 1:30 pm BREAK
- 1:50 pm Breakout Session II  
(1:50-2:50)
- Session I Topics are repeated (select A, B, or C)

Conference concludes at end of Breakout Session II. Have a safe trip home.

**For more information contact: Holli Kuykendall, GGLCC Recording Secretary,  
(706) 546-2095**

Please return to: STATEWIDE FORAGE CONFERENCE

GGLCC c/o GCA
P. O. Box 24510
Macon, GA 31212
Phone: (478) 474-6560
FAX: (478) 474-5732

(name - print or type; include all names if registration is for more than 1 person; attach additional sheet if necessary)

(preferred mailing address)

(city) (state) (zip code)

(daytime phone including area code)

(organization/employer)

REGISTRATION FEE:

Fee paid before 11/27/02 ..... \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

(Prepayment required - check or credit card only)

Fee paid after 11/27/02 ..... \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

Total number registering \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF PAYMENT TO GUARANTEE REGISTRATION:

- Check (made payable to CCSC - GGLCC)
Mastercard VISA American Express

Card no. \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_



Market News Branch  
P O Box 86  
Thomasville, GA 31799  
Tel 912-226-1641



Agricultural Building  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

WEEK ENDING: The Cooperative Extension Service would like to thank Terry Harris for submitting this information.

GEORGIA CATTLE: RECEIPTS: 13,400 LAST WK 14,500 YEAR AGO 12,600

| <u>FEEDERS</u> | <u>STEERS</u> | <u>MED &amp; LARGE 1</u> | <u>HEIFERS</u> |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|                | 96.00-106.00  | 300/350 LBS              | 81.00-91.00    |
|                | 90.00-102.00  | 350/400                  | 77.00-87.00    |
|                | 81.00-92.00   | 400/450                  | 72.00-83.00    |
|                | 76.00-86.00   | 450/500                  | 70.00-80.00    |
|                | 73.00-84.00   | 500/550                  | 67.00-76.00    |
|                | 70.00-80.00   | 550/600                  | 66.00-75.00    |
|                | 69.00-78.00   | 600/650                  | 65.00-73.00    |
|                | 65.00-76.00   | 650/700                  | 62.00-69.00    |

| <u>SLAUGHTER COWS</u> % LEAN |  |             |
|------------------------------|--|-------------|
| 75-80% 850-1200 LBS          |  | 31.00-35.00 |
| 80-85% 850-1200 LBS          |  | 33.00-37.00 |
| 80-86% OVER 1200 LBS         |  | 33.00-37.00 |
| 85-90% 800-1200 LBS          |  | 32.00-35.00 |

5 Area Daily Wtd Average - Texas/Oklahoma; Kansas; Nebraska; Colorado; and Iowa/So Minnesota Feedlots:

Steers...Select/Choice 65-80% Weighted Average Price Range 63.00-65.00  
Heifers...Select/Choice 65-80% Weighted Average Price Range 63.50-65.00

By-Product Drop Value (Steer)...Hide and Offal Value \_\_\_\_\_/cwt.

Box Beef Cut-Out Value Choice 1-3 550/750 LBS. 114.89  
Select 1-3 550/700 LBS. 105.94

Georgia Hogs: GA-FL-AL Direct Area Receipts 4900 Trends 2.00 to 3.00 higher

US 1-2 220/260 LBS. 28.00-30.00 Sows 300/500 LBS. 11.00-13.60 500-UP 14.00-17.90

|                   | GEORGIA | TENNESSEE |       | GEORGIA | TENNESSEE |
|-------------------|---------|-----------|-------|---------|-----------|
| FEEDER PIGS       |         |           |       |         |           |
| US 1-2 35/40 LBS. |         |           | 55-60 |         |           |
| 40/45             |         |           | 60/65 |         |           |
| 45/50             |         |           | 65/70 |         |           |
| 50/55             |         |           | 70/80 |         |           |

IOWA-SOUTHERN MINNESOTA DIRECT HOGS: RECEIPTS \_\_\_\_\_ TRENDS 2.50-2.75 higher

BARROWS & GILTS 49-51% LEAN 185 LB CARCASSES RANGE 30.00-44.59 WTD AVG. 40.24

LAMB MARKET: MID-WEST CHOICE & PRIME 90/125 LBS. \_\_\_\_\_  
VIRGINIA \_\_\_\_\_

| LAMB CARCASSES | FOB OMAHA | CAF EAST COAST |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| 55 LBS & DOWN  |           |                |
| 55 - 65 LBS.   |           |                |