Celebrating the 57th Annual

**Beef Cattle Short Course**

Hilton University of Florida Conference Center
April 30 – May 2, 2008
Gainesville, Florida

“Positioning Cattle Producers to Access Markets, Choose Bulls, and Fine Tune Management”

Topics for this year’s program include:

- Economic and Market Outlook for 2008
- Implementation of Instrument Grading for Beef Carcasses
- Market Definitions of Alternative Production Systems
- Economic Comparison of Alternative Production Systems
- Allied Industry Trade Show and Reception
- Understanding and Utilizing EPDs to Select Bulls
- "No Bull" Discussion on Genetic Markers
- Adapting Bulls to Florida
- Bull Management for Commercial Producers
- How Much Can I Pay for a Bull?
- Phenotypic Evaluation of Bulls
- Ultrasound Evaluation of Bulls
- Fertility and Breeding Evaluation of Bulls
- Matching Bulls to Different Cow Types
- Backgrounding Calves on Co-Products Forage-Based Replacement Heifer Management
- Factors Affecting Calf Value
- Utilization of Biosolids for Pasture Fertilization

(see Beef Cattle Short Course pg 2)
Healthy Horses: An Educational Conference on Successful Equine Health Care
May 10, 2008; 8:30 am – 5:00pm
Gainesville, FL

Healthy Horses is an educational day with a focus on equine health care for horse owners and enthusiasts. The day will include lectures, lunch, tours of the hospital, and live equine treadmill demonstrations. The topics will include vaccination, deworming, nutrition, lameness, and gastric ulcers – just to name a few. The presenters will predominately be the board certified faculty of UF’s Large Animal Hospital, and a brief summary book of the lectures will be provided to all attendees. Purina and Fort Dodge will be present as our sponsors and to answer any questions you may have about their products. We sincerely appreciate their sponsorship, which makes it possible for the low registration fees for all attendees (one of the lowest for an event of this type in the state!) Thank you for your interest and support. We are dedicated to improving owner education and hope you will make this an annual event. Registration is limited, so please register soon!

Topics include: Vaccination, Deworming, Foal Care, Lameness, MRI for Horses, Gastric Ulcers, Nutrition, Live Treadmill Demonstration, Hospital Tour and More!

Refreshments and Lunch provided!

The conference will be held at the University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine in Gainesville, Florida from 8:30am-5:00pm. A map will be mailed upon receipt of your registration form and $30.00 fee.

Register On Line:
http://www.conferences.dce.ufl.edu/equine

OR

Mail or Fax Completed Registration To:
UF Department of Conferences
2209 NW 13th Street, Suite E
Gainesville, FL 32609
Fax: (352) 392-5437

Include: Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Phone # If paying by credit card, include name of card, card number, CVV (security) Code and expiration date.

For more information, call 352-392-1701.
In Florida, bahiagrass is a warm-season perennial planted more than any other improved grass. Two thirds of improved pastures are planted with bahiagrass and some of its attractions for producers include its excellent adaptation, ease of management, persistence under low fertilization and close grazing, as well as its relatively simple planting.

However, prospective growers need to be willing to compromise in quality and production because this grass has some limitations in quality and quantity compared with other options like hybrid bermudagrasses.

**Origin**
Native to South America, to equivalent latitude to that of northern Florida

**Use**
Most of the acreage is used for grazing, with some hay and sod production, and production of seed harvested from pastures.

**Adaptation**
- pH: 5.5 to 6.5. High pH (approximately > 6.5) will start negatively affecting production.
- Soil: Low to high fertility; sand to clay, dry to wet.
- Rainfall: > 35 inches.
- Climate: Subtropical and humid regions; coastal plains.

**Management Practices**
- Planting date: March (if irrigated) or during summer (June-August; rainy season).
- Planting rate: 15 lb/acre or 25-30 lb/acre (low rates will have more initial competition with weeds).
- Planting depth: 1/4 - 1/2 inch maximum. A common mistake is to plant too deep.

**Fertilization**
- Planting: As soon as plants have emerged, apply 30 lb Nitrogen (N)/acre, all phosphorus (P₂O₅) and 50% of potassium (K₂O) recommended in soil test. 30-40 days later, apply rest of the potassium plus 70 lb N/acre.
- Grazing:
  - Low input system: 50 lb N/acre/yr only; P₂O₅ as per recommendation based on soil and tissue tests; no phosphorus (P₂O₅), and no potassium (K₂O).
  - Medium input system: 100 lb N/acre/year; P₂O₅ as per recommendation based on soil and tissue tests; or tissue P is less than 0.15%, and 50 lb K₂O/acre/year.
  - High input system: 160 lb N/acre/year (80 lb N/acre in spring + 80 lb N/acre in fall), P₂O₅, and K₂O as per soil and tissue test recommendation.

**Weed Control**
Seedlings are susceptible to phenoxy type herbicides (2,4-D or Banvel), can only spray when plants are 8 inches tall.

**Pests and control**
Mole crickets. Control with nematode biological control traps.

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**Beef Cattle Management Tips**

**APRIL**
- Plant warm season and perennial pastures.
- Plant corn for silage.
- Check and fill mineral feeder.
- Check dust bags or apply treated ear tags.
- Check for external parasites and treat if necessary.
- Observe cows for repeat breeders.
- Deworm cows as needed if not done in March.
- Vaccinate against blackleg and brucellosis after 3 months of age and prior to 12 months of age.
- Market cull cows and bulls.
- Update market information and refine market strategy for calves.

**MAY**
- Remove bulls.
- Harvest hay from cool season crops.
- Plant warm season perennial pastures.
- Check and fill mineral feeders.
- Check for spittlebugs and treat if necessary.
- Apply spot-on agents for grub and louse control.
- Check dust bags.
- Vaccinate and implant with growth stimulant any later calves.
- Re-implant calves with growth stimulant at 90-120 days, when you have the herd penned.
- Update calves with growth stimulant at 90-120 days, when you have the herd penned.
- Update market info. and refine marketing plans.
- Remove bulls by May 21st to end calving season March 1st.

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The following horses are available for your consideration. Sealed Bids will be opened at 1:00 pm Friday, May 2, 2008.

UF Magic Ville Bay QH Gelding,  
Foaled 01/21/2006
UF Did I Do It Sorrel Overo PH Gelding,  
Foaled 03/01/2006
UF A Justifiable Hit Sorrel Overo PH Gelding,  
Foaled 03/03/2006
UF A Jokers Revenge Bay QH Gelding,  
Foaled 01/17/2006
UF A Colorful Gator Bay QH Gelding,  
Foaled 02/08/2006
UF Its Quit N Time Bay QH Mare,  
Foaled 03/14/2006
UF Spanish Love Chestnut XQH Mare,  
Foaled 02/11/2006
UF San Bar Gray QH Gelding,  
Foaled 02/17/2006
UF Shallow Hal Chestnut XQH Gelding,  
Foaled 02/21/2006
UF Princess Dancer Grey XQH Mare,  
Foaled 03/26/2006
UF Investinthisbar Chestnut QH Gelding,  
Foaled 01/28/2006
Paseo De Holiday Sorrel QH Gelding,  
Foaled 04/04/2006

To view these horses on-line, go to the following website:  
http://www.animal.ifas.ufl.edu/htu/sale/horses/index.htm

John Mark Shuffitt  
Livestock Agent III  
Marion County Extension Service