Plan To Attend

University of Florida/IFAS and Allied Industries presents

FLORIDA CATTLEMEN’S INSTITUTE AND ALLIED TRADE SHOW
21st ANNIVERSARY

Florida’s premier educational event for Beef Cattle Producers.

JANUARY 15, 2003
8:00 a.m.
Osceola County Agricultural Center
Highway 192 East of Kissimmee

Please RSVP to your county agent if you plan to attend or for more information
Lunch Provided. See enclosed flyer for detailed information.

Upcoming Opportunities

January
13 . . . 48th Annual Ocala Bull Sale ....................................................... Ocala
15 . . . 21st Annual FL Cattlemen’s Institute & Allied Trade Show ....Kissimmee
24 . . . Florida Bull Test Sale ................................................................. Mariana
28 . . . NCBA Annual Conference ...................................................... Nashville, TN

February
5-16 . . . Florida State Fair ................................................................. Tampa

March
Feb 26 - March 8 - Central Florida Fair ............................................. Orlando

FL Natural Resources Conservation Service
Announces Money Available to Ranchers

State Conservationist Niles Glasgow with USDA (NRCS) announces that Florida’s Environmental Quality Inventives Program (EQIP) continuous signup will have a cutoff date for 2004 on February 20, 2004. Equip offers financial and technical assistance to eligible participants to install or implement structural and management proactices on eligible agricultural land. EQUIP priorities for Central FL are: Tropical Soda Apple control, Brazilian Pepper clearing/control, erosion control, water quality, water quantity, animal/plant health. For additional details on the EQIP program contact your local NRCS Office or your County Extension Agent.
**Beef Cattle Management Calendar**

**JANUARY**
- Apply lime for summer crops.
- Check for lice and treat, if necessary.
- Control weeds in cool season pastures.
- Begin grazing winter clover pastures when approx. 6 inches high. Rye should be 12-18 inches high.
- Check mineral feeders.
- Put bulls out for October calving season.
- Make up breeding herd lists, if using single sire herds.
- Watch for calf scours.
- Give bulls extra feed and care so they will be in condition for breeding season.
- Make sure cow herd has access to adequate fresh water.
- Buy only performance tested bulls with superior records.
- Get taxes filed.
- Discuss herd health with your veterinarian and outline a program for the year.
- Review herd health program with your veterinarian regularly.
- Carry a pocket notebook to record heat, breeding abnormalities, discharges, abortions, retained placentas, difficult calvings and other data.
- Observe cow herd for calving difficulties.
- Watch for grass tetany on winter pastures.
- Increase magnesium levels in mineral mixes, if grass tetany has been previous problem (if you are not already using a high magnesium mineral).
- Examine bulls for breeding soundness and semen quality prior to breeding season.
- Vaccinate cows & heifers against vibriosis and leptospirosis before breeding season.

**FEBRUARY**
- Top dress winter forages, if needed.
- Check and fill mineral feeders.
- Put bulls out with breeding herd.
- Work calves (identify, implant with growth stimulant, vaccinate, etc.).
- Make sure lactating cows are receiving an adequate level of energy.
- Check calves for signs of respiratory diseases.
- Cull cows that failed to calve while prices are seasonally up.
- Check for lice and treat, if necessary.

**MARCH**
- Prepare land for summer crops.
- Begin grazing warm season permanent pastures.
- Check and fill mineral feeder.
- Observe bulls for condition and success. Rotate and rest, if needed.
- Deworm cows as needed.
- Make sure calves are healthy and making good weight gains.
- Hang forced-used dust bags by April 1st for external parasite control, or use insecticide impregnated ear tags.
- Identify, vaccinate, implant, and work late calves.
- Put bulls out on March 1st for calving season to start on December 9th.
- Remove bulls on March 22nd to end calving season on January 1st.

**Web Sites of Interest to Agriculturalists**

- Central Florida Livestock Agents Group [www.cflag.com](http://www.cflag.com)
- UF - Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences [www.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.ifas.ufl.edu)
- UF/IFAS Extension Service [www.ifas.ufl.edu/www/extension/htm/ces.htm](http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/www/extension/htm/ces.htm)

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**Orange County Government Extension**

This newsletter is available free in cooperation with the Orange County Cattlemen. Sign-ups receive this publication monthly.

Dennis Mudge, Agent/Editor

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE, HOME ECONOMICS, STATE OF FLORIDA, IFAS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COOPERATING.