

# RUCKER'S RAMBLINGS

## ANIMAL AGRICULTURE INFORMATION

### NOVEMBER 2012

Our New Website: <http://yadkin.ces.ncsu.edu>

#### Inside This Issue

- \*Beef Producer Meeting
- \*Management Tips
- \*Know What Your Animals Are Eating
- \*Need A New Bull?
- \*Calendar of Events

#### Contact Us

North Carolina  
Cooperative Extension  
Yadkin County Center  
PO Box 97  
Yadkinville NC 27055  
336.679.2061 (ph)  
336.679.3088 (fax)



Distributed in furtherance of the acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

*Phillip Rucker, Jr.*

**Phillip Rucker, Jr.**  
Extension Agent  
Agriculture-Livestock



North Carolina Cooperative Extension  
Yadkin County Center  
PO Box 97  
209 E. Elm St.  
Yadkinville, North Carolina 27055  
336-679-2061  
[phil\\_rucker@ncsu.edu](mailto:phil_rucker@ncsu.edu)  
<http://yadkin.ces.ncsu.edu>

#### BEEF PRODUCER MEETING

There will be a Beef Producers Meeting for Yadkin County, Thursday, December 6, beginning at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at Deep Creek Friends Church, just off Rockford Road, northeast of Yadkinville. Our educational speaker will discuss Financial Planning to help you make better use of your financial resources. We will offer some material on Basic Cattle Management Practices for Cold Weather as well as Transportation Regulations (necessary license, weights and other regulations) when transporting agricultural products. A financial plan is a useful tool to help you plan your goals and needs from an economic standpoint. Instead of trying to find ways to financially cover management practices, a well-developed financial plan allows you to plan your spending when resources are more available. Last winter was easy on us but preparing for a more severe winter will benefit not only your cows but you as well. And we all have questions about being legal when hauling livestock and other agricultural products.

There will be a sponsored meal and **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUESTED!!!** Please call the Extension Office: 336/679-2061 BEFORE 12:00 NOON, Tuesday, December 4, to reserve your meal, get directions or for more information.

**MAKE PLANS TO** attend two educational conferences in 2013. The Statesville Regional Beef Conference will be Thursday, January 3, 2013, at the Ag Center in Statesville. The NC Forage and Grassland Council will hold their annual conferences the end of January and the closest site will be Wednesday, January 30, 2013 in Wilkes County. These programs are still being organized but have always been worth the time to attend. The topics are something that every cattle producer can use. These conferences will provide information to help producers make wise decisions concerning their operations. More information will be coming your way shortly.

#### MANAGEMENT TIPS

1. Map out monthly forage demands for specific classes of livestock. Each animal unit (1 ave. cow or horse, 10-15 ave. sheep/goats) requires 25-30 lbs. of hay equivalent per day.
2. Cull non-essential animals. Don't waste expensive feed on non-productive animals.
3. Test forages for nutrient content, so that ALL livestock receive what they need.
4. Check females close to calving, lambing, foaling, kidding, etc. several times daily to catch potential problems early. Provide plenty of clean water, enough feed and adequate shelter.
5. Use bad weather days to work on herd records and make plans for the upcoming year.
6. Grazing is the cheapest feed source around. Stretch it as far as possible before feeding hay.
7. Beef producers need to keep their eye on cheap sources of feed that might become available (whole cottonseed, corn gluten, brewers grain, ensiled broiler litter and others).
8. Castrate (males) and implant calves you plan to consign to next year's feeder calf sales.
9. Think about weeds that were a problem and make plans to control them in 2013.

NC State University  
A&T State University  
**COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION**

Empowering People • Providing Solutions

## **KNOW WHAT YOUR ANIMALS ARE EATING**

Lots of hay was made this year but the inconsistent weather has compromised forage quality. This has resulted in a large quantity of hay that may not pack the nutritive punch it normally does. To make sure you are meeting your cattle's nutritional needs, sample your hay to see what your cattle are actually consuming. If cattle are lacking vital nutrients, production will suffer. If you feed more than needed, you will be wasting valuable feed resources. This is the year to be cost effective and feed what the animal needs: nothing more, nothing less. Contact the Extension Office to see how to get your hay tested. It only costs ten dollars (\$10), but the information you receive can save you resources you can use to meet other needs.

## **NEED A NEW BULL?**

If you are looking for a new herdsire, there are a few bull sales scheduled in the near future. Contact the Extension Center at 679-2061 and I'll provide you information on upcoming sales, as well as put you in touch with producers who have bulls for sale.

Back Creek Angus Sale at Turnersburg	Saturday, November 24, 2012
Union County Tested Bull Sale in Monroe	Saturday, December 1, 2012
BCIP Bull Test Sale at Butner	Friday, December 21, 2012
BCIP Bull Test Sale at Waynesville	Saturday, January 5, 2013

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

November 24	Back Creek Angus Sale, Turnersburg
December 1	Union County Bull Sale, Monroe
December 4	<u>Deadline to make reservations for Beef Producer Meeting</u>
December 6	Beef Producer Meeting, 6:30 PM, Deep Creek Friends Church
December 21	Butner BCIP Bull Sale
January 3, 2013	Statesville Regional Beef Conference
January 5, 2013	Waynesville BCIP Bull Sale
January 30, 2013	NC Forage and Grassland Council Meeting, Wilkes County

*Special accommodations will be made for the physically disabled, vision or hearing impaired person upon request. If special accommodations are required, please call Phil Rucker 679-2061, at least one week before the scheduled event.*