

**RUCKER'S RAMBLINGS  
ANIMAL AGRICULTURE INFORMATION  
OCTOBER 2013**

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

**ATTENTION!!!**

In this newsletter, there are several meeting announcements and program dates. PLEASE read the information and make any necessary reservations by the deadlines. With time constraints and other limitations, this might be the only notice you receive for these events, so please make note of events you want to attend, dates, times, locations and call-in deadlines. Beef Producer meetings are joint meetings and are open to both Davie and Yadkin producers.

**BEEF PRODUCERS MEETING**

There will be a Beef Producers Meeting Tuesday, October 29, 2013. The meeting will be held at the Center Community Building in Mocksville, beginning at 6:30 PM. Our topic of discussion will be: Cattle Nutrition and Winter Feed Supplementation. The summer rains were very welcome this year but the excess has compromised the quality of our hay crop and fall grazing. A lot of hay got wet or was very mature at harvest. The excess rains have leached nutrients out of the soil and even though grass is pretty tall, there is a chance the nutritive values could be less than in previous years. We all want to get as much out of our cattle as we can, but without quality forages, that is difficult to achieve. So come join us as we discuss different feed supplements to use for your cattle grazing on weak forages with questionable nutrient quality. Supplements will help your cattle produce better and be less destructive to your pasture forage.

There will be a sponsored meal and **RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED!!!** Please call the Extension Center (336/679-2061) NO LATER THAN 12:00 noon, Friday, October 25, to reserve your meal or for more information.

**MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND:** The NC Forage and Grassland Council will hold their Winter Conference on Wednesday, January 29 in Statesville. Or you can go January 28 to Kenansville or January 30 to Canton. 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.



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

*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 a week before the event. .*

## **NOVEMBER CATTLE PRODUCER MEETINGS**

Below are two more educational opportunities for cattle producers. Write down the dates and make plans to come. **THIS COULD BE YOUR ONLY NOTICE!!!** Remember these are joint meetings and open to both Davie and Yadkin Counties.

**#1. Tuesday, November 12**, beginning at 6:30 PM at Deep Creek Friends Church, in Yadkinville. Dr. Gary Hansen, from NC State will be on hand to discuss heifer development programs to help you produce the best replacement females to go back into your herd. This program will help you improve the genetic make-up of your herd to help you improve your calf crop and the bottom line of your operation.

We will have a meal and Reservations are **REQUIRED**, by Friday, November 8. Call the Extension Office at 679-2061 for reservations or more information.

**#2. Tuesday, November 19**, beginning at 6:30 PM at Sheffield-Calahaln VFD, northwest of Mocksville. Farm Credit will discuss some farm financial topics and Bryan Blinson, Exec. Director of the NC Cattlemen's Assoc. will tell us some major issues in the cattle industry and what is being done to resolve some of these issues. Bryan will also give us an insight into the future of the Beef Industry and some of the issues we might face in the future.

We will have a meal and Reservations are **REQUIRED!**, by Friday, November 13. Call the extension Office at 679-2061 for reservations or more information.

## **YADKIN VALLEY AGRICULTURAL FORUM**

The first Yadkin Valley Ag Forum will be held Wednesday, December 4 at Union Cross Friends Family Center in Yadkinville. We will be discussing several topics that affect many agricultural producers in the area. Some topics we will cover will be the rules and regulations when transporting agricultural products, weed control in pastures and some row crops (pesticide credits will be available), tax implications associated with the termination of the tobacco buyout, other tax issues and voluntary agricultural district benefits. Registration begins at 8:00am with the program set to begin at 8:30 am.

Come get first hand knowledge concerning issues that might affect you now as well as in the future. Agriculture is changing and we must keep up with the rules, regulations and updated management practices or get left behind. Without up to date information, you could miss out on some potential assistance or even worse, get hit with fines.

Reservations are requested and we ask that you contact the Extension Office, 679-2061 before Monday, December 2, for reservations or more information.

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES**

Make plans to attend any or all of these programs. There will be some presentations, hands-on demonstrations, hand-outs and plenty of time to ask questions and share information with others. All programs are open to both Davie and Yadkin County producers.

Basic Horse Management will be November 14, at 7:00 pm at the Davie Extension Center. Come learn about pasture management from grass selection to fertilizing to weed control. We will discuss hay quality as well as quantity (make sure you have enough). We will cover different types of fencing and ways to make your barn safe. We will also discuss different types of feeds and how to use them. Call by November 12 so we have enough room and handouts.

Getting the Most Out of Your Forages will be held Thursday, November 21, starting at 7:00 PM at the Center Community Building in Mocksville. Grass is the lifeblood of a livestock operation and proper management will help you provide well for your animals. Come learn some management practices to help you take your forage operation to the next level, providing more quality grass for your animals. We will discuss rotational grazing, different types of forage for different situations, precision fertilizing, harvesting practices to help you harvest more high quality forage, how to overseed/renovate pastures and the good/the bad/the ugly of some popular grasses. Call by November 19 so we have enough room and handouts.

Beginning With Livestock 101 will be held Saturday, December 7, starting at 9:00 AM. It will be at the Deep Creek Farms Cattle Facility on Helton Road, in Yadkinville. This program is open for folks just getting started with livestock or folks just needing to brush up on a few things. We will discuss pastures, fertilizing, soil testing, building fence, selecting animals, health programs, feed, marketing and where to go for supplies and information. We will cover cattle, horses, goats, chickens and other livestock. Lots of time for questions and answers. Call by December 4 so we have enough room and materials.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

October 29	Beef Producer Meeting, 6:30 PM, Center Community Building
November 12	Beef Producer Meeting, 6:30 PM, Deep Creek Friends Church
November 14	Basic Horse Management, 7:00 PM, Mocksville
November 16	SimAngus Solutions Sale, 11:00 AM, near Burlington
November 16	Performance Legends Angus Sale, NOON, Union Grove
November 19	Beef Producer Meeting, 6:30 PM, Sheffield-Calaha VFD
November 21	Getting the Most Out of Your Forage, 7:00 PM, Mocksville
November 30	Back Creek Angus Sale, Turnersburg
December 4	Yadkin Valley Ag Forum, 8:30 AM, Union Cross Friends Family Center
December 7	Beginning With Livestock 101, 9:00 AM, Yadkinville
December 7	Union County Bull Sale, Monroe
December 14	Red Angus Sale, Union Grove
December 20	Butner BCIP Bull Sale

## Local Volunteer Opportunities

### **Yadkin County Beautification Program**

Yadkin County Cooperative Extension is leading a beautification effort for the county and needs volunteers to help. At this point, we are looking for folks to serve on an advisory committee to develop a plan of action for the county. The beautification program will focus on litter prevention, recycling, and the importance of maintaining clean roadsides and a clean environment. Anyone that is interested in helping should contact Colleen Church at the Yadkin Extension Center at 336-679-2061. If you know someone that you think may be interested, please share this request with them.

### **Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program**

A Master Gardener Volunteer class will also start in January at the Extension Center. Classes will meet on Tuesday afternoons for 15 weeks, and the course fee is \$125. For an application, contact Colleen Church at the Yadkin Extension Center at 336-679-2061. Class size is limited.