

# RUCKER'S RAMBLINGS

## ANIMAL AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

### NOVEMBER 2014

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

#### Inside This Issue

- 2 Beef Producers Meetings
- Dates to Remember
- Davie Co. 4-H Chili Lunch Fundraiser
- EPA and the Clean Water Act
- Ag Secretary Explores New Beef Checkoff

#### 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.**  
Extension Agent



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>

### 2 BEEF PRODUCER MEETINGS

I'm sure it is no surprise to any of you that life has found a new gear and kicked into it. This busy schedule has made it difficult to plan events as well as for you to have time to attend. Hopefully things have slowed down some and we are going to try and fit in a few events before the holiday rush hits and then scheduling events becomes next to impossible.

We will be having 2 Cattlemen Meetings back to back. Hate to do this but too many conflicts caused most meetings to be put on the shelf. We need to get these meetings completed and we do not have many options. These are JOINT meetings so both Counties are invited to each meeting. We just ask that you PLEASE CALL - IN RESERVATIONS.

**November 18** - There will be a Cattlemen's meeting on Tuesday, November 18 in Yadkin County. It will be held at Mountain View Baptist Church in Hamptonville, starting at 6:30pm. At this meeting we will be discussing the new Ag Tax Exemption rules and the form to apply. We will cover some supplemental feeds to help your cattle make it through the winter. Everyone is enjoying the record high beef cattle prices and we will discuss some price predictions as well as some negative effects these high prices are causing. And we will discuss a few topics to help you capitalize on these high prices by getting more cows pregnant, more live calves on the ground and how to increase production resulting in a greater number of heavier calves to market. The Yadkin Association will also have elections for their 2015 slate of officers.

A meal will be served and RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED, to insure enough food is prepared, by 5:00 PM on Thursday, November 13. Call either Extension Office or email [phil\\_rucker@ncsu.edu](mailto:phil_rucker@ncsu.edu).

**November 20** - There will be a Cattlemen's meeting on Thursday, November 20 in Davie County. It will be held at the Sheffield Calahaln VFD in Mocksville, starting at 6:30pm. At this meeting Farm Credit will discuss some sound economic practices to help you make better decisions for your operation and improve your bottom line. Cattle prices are high but knowing how to invest that extra as well as how to be more cost effective in what you spend will pay major benefits down the road when things get a little tighter. The Davie Association will also be electing their officers for 2015.

A meal will be served and RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!! Contact either Extension Office or email [phil\\_rucker@ncsu.edu](mailto:phil_rucker@ncsu.edu) by NOON Friday, November 14 to make reservations or for more information.

Thank you and REMEMBER TO MAKE YOU RESERVATIONS BY THE DEADLINE!!

*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 753-6100 or 679-2061, one week before the event.*

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

Empowering People • Providing Solutions

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

November 15	SimAngus Solutions Sale, Burlington
November 15	Performance Legends Angus Sale, Union Grove
November 18	Beef Producers Meeting, 6:30 PM, Hamptonville
November 19	Davie County 4-H Chili Lunch Fundraiser, Mocksville
November 20	Davie County Beef Producers Meeting, Sheffield-Calaha
December 19	Butner BCIP Bull Test Sale



## **DAVIE COUNTY 4-H CHILI LUNCH FUNDRAISER**



Davie County 4-H will hold a Chili Lunch Fundraiser on Wednesday, November 19, from 11:30 – 2:00 pm. The lunch will be held at the Davie County Office Building, 180 S. Main St., Mocksville. The lunch will be by donation to support the Davie County 4-H Academic Scholarship program. Scholarships will be offered to graduating, senior 4-H members who plan to further their education. Come enjoy a bowl of chili, dessert and drink (dine in or carry out) and help local youth to reach their goals of going to college. Call the Davie Extension Center at 753-6100 for more information.

## **EPA and the CLEAN WATER ACT**



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers are proposing a rule that could allow them to expand their jurisdiction and enforcement authority under the federal Clean Water Act.

There are many thoughts, accusations and very differing opinions. This ruling could have effects on farm land and how it is managed. I am not going to tell you how to think but I strongly suggest you read up on the rules and make your own decisions. A good website for EPA's side is [www.2epa.gov/uswaters](http://www.2epa.gov/uswaters). Farm Bureau has other information that you need to read as well and two good sites are [www.ditchtherule.fb.org](http://www.ditchtherule.fb.org) and <http://bit.ly/15Ujnb>. This ruling could have a potential effect on farming as we know it. Please learn all you can and send your comments and questions to the EPA.

The public comment period on the proposed rule remains open until Nov. 14. Submit your comments to EPA and the Corps, after studying the information. You can email your comments to [ow-docket@epa.gov](mailto:ow-docket@epa.gov) with the subject title: Attention: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2011-0880.

## **AG SECRETARY EXPLORES NEW BEEF CHECKOFF**

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack has proposed a supplemental beef checkoff that could potentially replace the successful checkoff started in 1985. This is unfortunate as a recent study found that for every dollar invested into the checkoff, we see an \$11.20 return. And about 80% of the cattlemen surveyed approve of the current checkoff.

Last year the beef checkoff program underwent a lengthy audit which concluded that the checkoff dollars were being used properly and that the program was operating according to the law and USDA regulations.

Contact the NC Cattlemen's Assoc., the National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc. or Farm Bureau for more information. You can also search sites concerning the Beef Checkoff and USDA for information. Please read up on this and contact your Congress representative concerning your views and concerns. Don't allow others to keep you informed. Gather your own information so you can make good decisions.