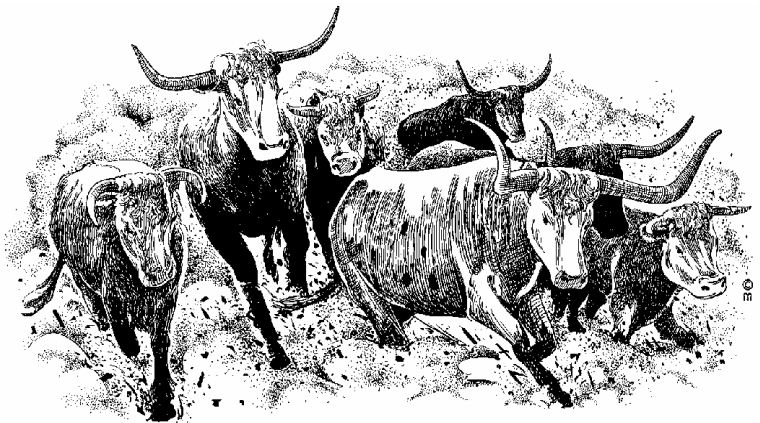


Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences

Marion County Extension Service
2232 NE Jacksonville Road
Ocala, Florida, 34470
(352) 620-3440



Vol. 9, No. 1

MARION COUNTY LIVESTOCK NEWS

DECEMBER 2002



20th Annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show


**January 16, 2003
Osceola County
Agricultural Center
Highway 192 East of
Kissimmee**

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

**"A GENERATION OF
EDUCATION"**

(See full agenda pg. 2)

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Thursday, December 19th, 2002
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Marion County Agriculture Center
2232 NE Jacksonville Road
Ocala, Florida

TOPICS:
BROODMARE MANAGEMENT
THE FOALING PROCESS
POSTPARTUM EVALUATION
AND
CARE OF NEW BORN FOALS

SPEAKERS:
Ken Breitenbecker, CloverLeaf Farms H
Saundra TenBroeck, UF Dept. Animal Sciences
Dana Zimmer (DVM), UF Extension Veterinarian
Mark Shuffitt, Marion County Extension

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For more information call (352) 620-3440.

20th Annual

Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show

8:00 am	Trade Show Opens Moderator: Dennis Mudge, Chairman 2003 FCI, Orange County
8:45	Welcome - Dr. Mike Martin, Vice President, Agriculture & Natural Resources, University of Florida - Mr. Wayne Godwin, President, Florida Cattlemen's Association
9:00	Where Are We Now Mr. Randy Blach, Executive VP, Cattle-Fax, Englewood, CO
10:00	Chute Side Issues (How to Maintain Production Quality) Dr. Todd Thrift, Assistant Professor, Animal Science, University of Florida
10:45	Trade Show Break
11:15	Environmental Assessment Ms. Lesa Call, OFAER Program Manager
11:45	Appreciation Award Commissioner of Agriculture, Charlie Bronson
12:00 pm	Lunch provided by trade show exhibitors (\$1 donation for iced tea to support the Cattlemen's Scholarship Fund)
12:45	Producer/Specialist Panel Bio-solids Application to Pastureland - Dr. Gerald Kidder, Soil & Water Science, retired, University of Florida - Dr. George O'Connor, Soil & Water Science, University of Florida - Mr. Hal Schmidt, consulting engineer, Hartman and Associates - Dr. Philip Kane, Residual Application Bio-solids, FDEP Central District - Mr. J. B. Starkey, Jr., Pasco County, Anclote River Ranch - Mr. Don LeFils, LeFils Ranch, Volusia County

1:45	Panel Wrap-up Dr. Gerald Kidder, Soil & Water Science, University of Florida
2:00	Trade Show Break
2:30	Risk Management Dr. Michael Fanning, Vice President, Agri-Logic, Inc.
2:45	Where Are We Headed Mr. Randy Blach, Executive Vice President, Cattle-Fax, Englewood, CO
3:30	Return evaluations & drawing for free registration to 2003 Florida Cattlemen's Convention Marco Island.

REGISTRATION

Please RSVP to your County Agent if you plan to attend!

Special thanks are extended to the Allied Trade Show Exhibitors. Without their support the Florida Cattlemen's Institute would not be possible!

Hotel information:

Holiday Inn Express

2145 E. Irlo Bronson Hwy

Kissimmee, Florida

Phone: (407) 846-4646

(800) 445-0799

Located 3/4 mile east of Ag Center

Participants requiring special accommodations should contact: Mary Beth Salisbury at (407) 846-4181, 48 hours before the event.

John Mark Shuffitt

Livestock Agent II

Marion County Extension Service

The Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences is an Equal Employment Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with out regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Extension Service one-week in advance of program for assistance.



47th Annual Ocala Graded Bull Sale January 14th, 2003

The Marion County Cattlemen's Association is proud to present "**The Nation's Oldest Continuous Graded Bull Sale**". The sale will begin at noon on Tuesday, January 14th, 2003. This sale will take place at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion located on NE Jacksonville road across from John Deere Tractor Company.

Each bull is a guaranteed breeder by the consignor. All bulls will have been semen tested by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days of the sale. A certificate of breeding soundness will accompany all bulls at the sale.

The bulls will be weighed, graded, and sifted on Monday, January 13th, beginning at 8:00 am. Buyers may preview bulls Monday during the day and Tuesday until sale time.

If you are in the market for one or more bulls, you don't want to miss this opportunity. The 47th Annual Bull Sale promises to offer one of the best selections of top quality bulls in the Southeast.

Equine Education Courses

Marion County Extension will offer 2 Equine Care and Technology courses, **Basic and Advanced**, beginning Monday, **January 27th, 2003**.

Basic topics include: anatomy and conformation, equine nutrition, herd/health and first aid, handling horses and restraint, breeding, foaling, as well as barn management and farm safety

Advanced Course This course is designed to expand the knowledge of equine industry professionals. Classes for this course change each year and have included such topics as advanced reproduction, animal welfare, horse farm economics, genetics, ethology-the study of equine behavior, performance horse lameness, advanced equine nutrition, and preventative medicine, etc.

Each course consists of nine sessions. Classes will meet at Central Florida Community College beginning Monday night January 27th, 2003, from 6-9 p.m. The Community College is located on SR 200 in Ocala. Cost for each class is \$55.00.

For more information contact Mark Shuffitt at (352) 620-3440, or the Continuing Education Department of Central Florida Community College at (352) 237-2111.

Beef Cattle Management Tips

DECEMBER

- ⇒ Check mineral feeder
- ⇒ Begin grazing small grain pastures, if ready
- ⇒ Check for external parasites and treat if necessary
- ⇒ Deworm cows and heifers prior to winter feeding season
- ⇒ Check cows regularly for calving difficulties
- ⇒ Rotate calving pasture to prevent diseases
- ⇒ Observe calves for signs of scours
- ⇒ Investigate health of bulls **before** you buy
- ⇒ Check replacement heifers to be sure they will be ready to breed 3-4 weeks prior to the main cow herd
- ⇒ Complete review of management plan and update for next year.

JANUARY

- ⇒ Buy only performance tested bulls with superior records.
- ⇒ **Attend Ocala Bull Sale January 14th, 2003.**
- ⇒ Apply lime for summer crops.
- ⇒ Check for lice/treat if necessary.
- ⇒ Control weeds in cool season pasture.
- ⇒ Begin grazing winter pastures when approx. 6" high. Rye should be 12"-18" high.
- ⇒ Check and fill mineral feeders.
- ⇒ Put bulls out for October breeding season.
- ⇒ Make breeding herd lists for single sire herds.
- ⇒ Observe cows: record heat, breeding abnormalities, discharges, abortions, retained placentas, difficult calvings, etc.
- ⇒ Observe cows for calving difficulties.
- ⇒ Observe calves for signs of scours.
- ⇒ Make sure bulls have adequate nutrition; so they will be in good condition for the breeding season.
- ⇒ Discuss herd health with your veterinarian and outline a program for the year.
- ⇒ Watch for grass tetany on winter pastures.
- ⇒ Increase magnesium levels in mineral mixes if grass tetany has been a previous problem.
- ⇒ Vaccinate cows and heifers against vibriosis and leptospirosis prior to the breeding season.

Marion County Extension Service
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2232 NE Jacksonville Road
Ocala, FL 34470-3615

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THE RUNAWAYS

Mark Shuffitt

It happened the night after Thanksgiving Day
Two of our dogs escaped, ran away.
From boredom or spite, No one really knows
Suppose they were thinking, "That's how it goes."

Ya love 'em and train 'em and make sure their fed
You even give extra, sometimes your own bed.
Then when you think you've 'bout got em tuned
They leave in the night, by the light of the moon.

They dug out, those knot-heads, right under the fence
And took off hard, like they'd lost all their sense.
Their newfound freedom brought feelings of rapture
As they caroused 'round the county's cow pastures.

"The dogs have run off!" was the children's refrain.
"Would they be back?", no one could explain.
We worried and stewed and looked all around
But the dogs were exploring, didn't want to be found.

We prayed for three days, and told all our neighbors.
We even informed the Waffle House waiters.
We posted the flyers everywhere we could think
We even put one on the ATM, at the bank.

Monday at five, we got the word.
A rancher'd seen 'em runnin' out with his herd.
He got our number from the Help Wanted sign
We had put up at the Kwik King, Lotto line.

This man's seen our dogs! was my wife's inflection,
As she sent me out and was screaming directions.
I flew out the driveway, to the end of our road
And freaked out our neighbors by the way that I drove.

When me and the kids had arrived, where he said
We couldn't see much, so we listened instead.
We whistled and hollered and called 'em by name
But after two hours, neither one came.

We prayed and prayed and we searched for their track.
They were still ours and we wanted them back.
The next day I went to the shelter to see,
if they had my dogs or knew where they'd be.

The pound didn't have 'em but knew right away,
to show me a message they'd received just that day.
"Found 2 male black labs" that like to roam,
There're at my house and they want to go home.