

NFREC Beef & Forage Research Update

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Faculty

- **Dr. Nicolas DiLorenzo - Nutrition**
 - 2 Masters and 2 PhD students
- **Dr. Jose Dubeux – Forage/grazing**
 - 2 Masters and 1 PhD student
- **Dr. Cliff Lamb - Reproduction**
 - 2 Masters and 1 PhD student
- **Dr. Ann Blount – Forage breeder**
- **Beef and Forages**
 - 3 biological scientists and 5 ag research personnel

Improving available forages

- **Calcium Oxide**

- Soften the fiber of poor quality forages
- May have potential benefits for baleage or dry-rolled hay
- CaO may increase digestibility of low-quality forages by **10 - 15%**



Protein sources

- **Brassica Carinata**
 - Biofuel crop with the potential of being used as a protein supplement - 37% CP
- **Nitrate**
 - Non-protein nitrogen source
 - Potential to reduce methane



Protein sources

- **Fermenten**

- Supply non-protein N (amino acids and peptides)
- Slow release of non-protein N (N bound to a complex organic matrix)
- Expectations
 - ↑ Metabolizable protein content of the diet (↑ Microbial CP)



Variety trials



Red Clover variety trial



Alfalfa variety trial



White Clover variety trial



2,4 D Red Clover trial

Warm- and cool-season grass-legume mixtures

Legume Variety trials, Marianna, Jan 2014



**Annual ryegrass +
legumes**



Rye/ryegrass + legumes

Integrating perennial peanut into bahiagrass pastures



On-farm trials – Perennial peanut

- Two establishment methods x two PP varieties
- Four locations in Florida



Synchronization

- **Re-synchronization**
 - Synchronization of estrus or ovulation in females that have been previously exposed to natural service or AI
 - To develop a resynchronization strategy that would allow for AI of heifers of unknown pregnancy status, and that would increase the percentage of heifers conceiving to AI



Embryo growth

- **bST**
 - Effects of bST on follicular dynamic and hormone concentrations
 - Evaluating the effects of bST on beef cattle fertility





Florida Bull Test



2014/15 Florida Bull Test

- 102 Bulls consigned to the Test
- 31 consignors from AL, FL, GA, and MS
- Number of bulls offered for sale 56
- Mean sale price per bull = \$4,338

2015/16 Florida Bull Test

- 136 Bulls consigned to the Test
- 41 consignors from AL, FL, GA, and MS
- Number of bulls offered for sale was 86
- Mean sale price per bull = \$4,079



Year	No. of consignors	No. of bulls	Sale average, \$ ^b
2015/2016	41	136	4,078.82
2014/15	31	102	4,338.46
20013/14	40	126	3,058.23
20012/13	32	93	3,273.87
20011/12	22	63	2,839.80
20010/11	20	49	2,251.67
2009/10	18	67	1,477.00
2008/09	22	65	1,887.00
2007/08	14	45	1,763.51



Florida Bull Test



Since inception of the Florida Bull Test, 955 bulls have been purchased in the Florida Bull Test with an overall \$3.75 million increase in value to the cattle industry!



2016 NFREC Beef/Forage Day

Friday, April 15, 2016

UF/IFAS NFREC Beef Research Unit
(One mile west of Greenwood, FL on Hwy 162)

Schedule of events:

8:30 AM	Registration
9:00 AM	Start morning program
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Start afternoon program
2:30 PM	Adjourn



Thank you

