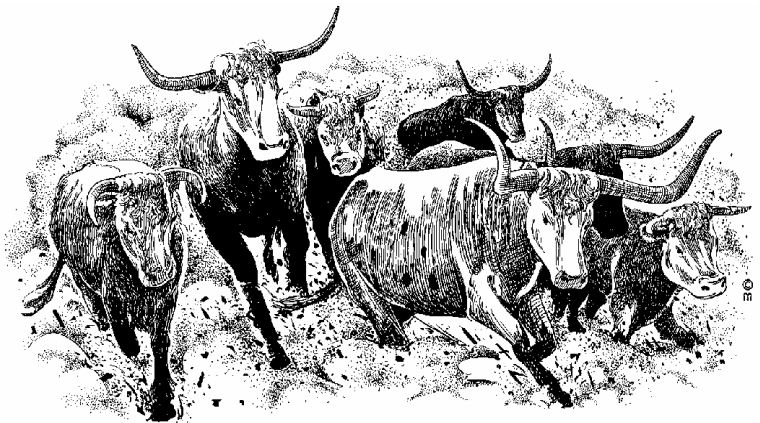


Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences

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



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MARION COUNTY LIVESTOCK NEWS

JUNE 2002

BRONSON REPORTS FIRST EEE CASE IN MARION COUNTY; URGES HORSE OWNERS TO GET THEIR ANIMALS VACCINATED

TALLAHASSEE – May 24, 2002

Florida Agriculture Commissioner Charles H. Bronson today confirmed the first positive case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in a horse in the hub of the state's Thoroughbred industry, Marion County.

The 4-year-old female Thoroughbred displayed symptoms of the disease on May 13, and the attending veterinarian euthanized the animal shortly thereafter. Lab tests received by Bronson's office today confirmed that the mare had EEE.

It underscores the necessity of having horses vaccinated against EEE, as well as West Nile Virus (WNV), Bronson said. All horse owners in Florida are encouraged to check with their veterinarians to make sure that their animals have been vaccinated against the diseases and to determine whether the vaccinations are up to date.

The Marion County mare had been vaccinated against EEE in the past, but the animal apparently did not receive booster shots to protect it from the disease.

Today's case is Marion County's first horse this season to have contracted EEE and the eighth horse statewide to have come down with the disease in 2002. Seven other horses in Florida, including four in Marion County, have been afflicted with WNV this year.

Both EEE and WNV are mosquito-borne illnesses, and Bronson said that the cases being detected now, before the onset of Florida's traditionally rainy season

when mosquito populations increase, suggest that the state may be in for a tough year in terms of mosquito-borne illnesses.

Residents of and visitors to Florida are encouraged to take precautions against mosquitoes, Bronson said, including avoiding outdoor activities after dark, wearing long sleeves and long pants when it is necessary to be outside during non-daylight hours, and wearing insect repellent while outside. Certain types of mosquitoes are active biters during the day, so precautions should always be taken to prevent bites. Bronson also suggested removing standing water from yards and property, as stagnant water is an excellent breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Authorities are asking members of the public to report dead birds through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's website at wld.fwc.state.fl.us/bird or by calling the Florida Department of Health at 1-800-871-9703.

Although not the first horse in Florida infected with EEE this year, it is important as Marion County is the center of thoroughbred horse breeding in Florida, and the horse contracted EEE after being previously vaccinated for EEE. Also of importance is that Florida does not yet have a large mosquito population due to the lateness of our traditional rainy season. This suggests that Florida may be in for a bad year with arboviruses.

Details are in a PDF file on the Florida Pest alert site, along with some suggested precautions for people to take.

The Florida Pest Alert WWW site is available at <http://extlab7.entnem.ufl.edu/PestAlert/>

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Saturday, July 27, 2002

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Heldon Ranch

Morrison, Florida – 352-489-6313

Trade Show

Lunch

(Provided by vendors)

Cattle Management Seminars

EPD's & Bull Selection – Todd Thrift

University of Florida - Department of Animal Sciences

Marketing Alliances – Tim Marshall

University of Florida - Department of Animal Sciences

Florida Forages – Carrol Chambliss

University of Florida – Agronomy Department

By-Product Supplements – Findlay Pate

University of Florida – Range Cattle Research & Education Center

Ranch/Forage Tours

Heifer Raffle

Proceeds to benefit Jr. Brangus Breeders & Jr. Marion County Cattlemen

Fifth Annual Equine Health Conference

June 15 & 16, 2002

University of Florida; College of Vet Medicine

Saturday, June 15, 2002

- 7:30 a.m. Registration-Trade show
8:15 Welcome: Dr. Eleanor Green; Peg Edmondson-FQHA
8:30 Equine Drugs: Indications, Effects and Side-effects -
Dr. Michael Porter
9:15 West Nile Virus Encephalitis- *Dr. Maureen Long*
10:00 Break: coffee-refreshments-Trade show
10:30 Equine Muscular Diseases- *Dr. Chris Sanchez*
11:15 Equine First Aid: what is an emergency and how to
respond to it- *Dr. Anne Schwartz*
Noon Lunch and Trade show
1 – 5 p.m. Demonstrations
Pain management in horses- *Dr. Alexander Valverde*
Live lameness examination and examples of lamenesses
and their cause- *Dr. Greg Haines*
Ultrasound of equine legs- *Dr. Greg Roberts*
5:00 Barbecue at the Livestock Pavilion

Sunday, June 16, 2002

- 7:30 a.m. Coffee-breakfast
8:30 Equine disease outbreaks: are we ready?
Dr. Eleanor Green
9:15 Laminitis: the old and the new-*Dr. Gen Fontaine*
10:00 Break: coffee-refreshments-Trade show
10:30 Prepurchase examination-*Dr. Pat Colahan*
11:00 Panel discussion on prepurchase examination with
prominent members of the industry
Noon Lunch and Trade show
1 – 4 p.m. Demonstrations
Biosecurity, isolation, and quarantine-
Drs. Jorge Hernandez & Nicolas Ernst
Equine Quiz Room: equine health questions and
answers- *Dr. Gen Fontaine*
The Glass Horse: 3D visit of the horse's abdomen-
Dr. Dawn Loesch

Registration Fee: \$100

Please include Name, Address and Phone number

Deadline: June 10th, 2002

Make checks payable to:

Florida Quarter Horse Association

Mail to:

F.Q.H.A.

P.O. Box 325

Laurel, FL 34272

Directions to Large Animal Clinic College of Vet. Medicine

From I-75 Take State Road 24 (SW Archer Rd.), exit 75. Proceed East approximately 3 miles to junction 226 (SW 16th Ave.). Turn right at fork. Go approximately 1/4 mile on SW 16th Ave. and turn right at first road (Shealy Drive), next to the livestock pavilion. Signs will direct you to the Large Animal Clinic.

Beef Cattle Management Tips

JUNE

- Check and fill mineral feeder, use at least 8% phosphorus in mineral and not over 2 ½ to 1 calcium to phosphorus ratio.
- Check pastures for spittlebugs, mole crickets, and armyworms. Treat if necessary; best month for mole cricket control.
- Check dust bags.
- Observe cattle for evidence of pinkeye and treat.
- Utilize available veterinary services and diagnostic laboratories.
- Get heifers vaccinated for brucellosis if not already done.
- Pregnancy check cows.
- Update market information and plans.
- Make first cutting of hay.
- Put bulls out June 1st for calves starting March 11th.

JULY

- Control weeds in summer pasture.
- Apply nitrogen to warm season pastures, if needed
- Check and fill mineral feeder.
- Inspect pastures for armyworms and mole crickets, and treat if necessary.
- Wean calves and cull cow herd.
- Observe cows for evidence of footrot and treat.
- Consider preconditioning calves before sale including vaccination for shipping fever and IBR at least 3 weeks before sale.
- Check dust bags.
- Update market information and plans.
- Revaccinate calves at weaning for blackleg.

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John Mark Shuffitt
Livestock Agent II
Marion County Extension Service

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

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“The Last Word”

“A horse is dangerous at both ends and uncomfortable in the middle.”

Ian Fleming (1908–1964), British author.

“As distance shows a horse’s strength, so time reveals a person’s heart.”

Chinese proverb

“Don’t squat with your spurs on.”

Cowboy proverb

“If the world made sense men would ride.....Sidesaddle.”

Another Cowboy proverb

"It is not enough for a man to learn how to ride; he must learn how to fall."

Mexican Proverb

“It doesn't matter how big a Ranch ya own...or how many cows ya brand...or how much money ya make...the size of yer Funeral is still gonna depend on the weather.”

Anonymous

“A horse gallops with his lungs, Perseveres with his heart, And wins with his character.”

Tesio

“There is just as much horse sense as ever, but the horses have most of it.”

Anonymous

“All you need for happiness is a good gun, a good horse, and a good wife.”

Daniel Boone

"In buying a horse or taking a wife, shut your eyes tight and commend yourself to God."

Tuscan Proverb

“There are three things a man never forgets- the girl of his early youth, a devoted teacher, and a great horse.”

C.J.J.Mullen

“A woman marries a man thinking she can change him, but she can’t. A man marries a woman thinking she will never change, but she does.”

Cowboy Truth