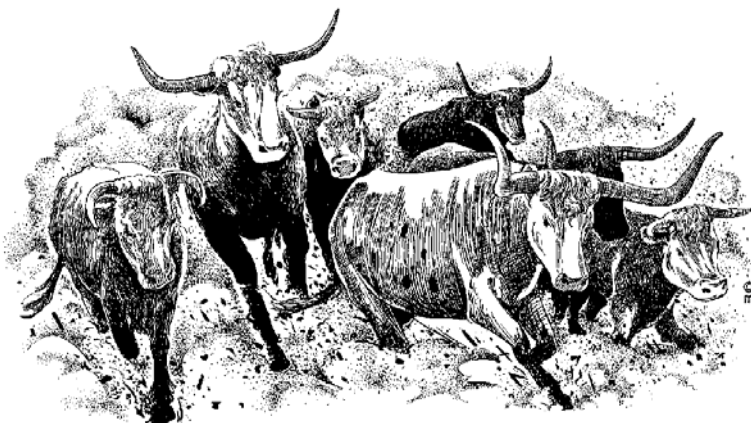


Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences

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



Vol. 10, No. 4

## MARION COUNTY LIVESTOCK NEWS

DECEMBER 2004



### 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show


**January 20, 2005  
Osceola County  
Agricultural Center  
Highway 192 East of  
Kissimmee**

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

**"Picking Up The Pieces /  
Preparing For The Lean Years"**

(See full agenda pg. 2)

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**Thur., December 16<sup>th</sup>  
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 II  
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.

# 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual

## Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show

8:00 am	<b>Trade Show Opens</b> Moderator: Lockie Gary, Chairman 2003 FCI, Hardee County
8:45	<b>Welcome</b> - Dr. Larry Arrington, Dean for Extension - UF/IFAS - Mr. Mike Milicevic, President, Florida Cattlemen's Association
9:00	<b>Where Are We Now</b> Mr. Randy Blach, Executive VP, Cattle-Fax, Englewood, CO
10:00	<b>Trade Show Break</b>
10:30	<b>Forage and Nutritional Management</b> Dr. Findaly Pate and Dr. John Arthington Ona, REC
11:30	<b>The State of The State</b> Charlie Bronson, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture
12:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b> provided by trade show exhibitors (\$1 donation for iced tea to support the Cattlemen's Scholarship Fund)
1:00	<b>National Animal Identification – Another Government Regulation or a Useful Management Tool?</b> Dr. Todd Thrift, Animal Sciences Department – UF/IFAS
2:00	<b>Trade Show Break</b>
2:30	<b>Where Are We Headed</b> Mr. Randy Blach, Executive Vice President, Cattle-Fax, Englewood, CO
3:15	<b>Return evaluations &amp; drawing for:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free registration to 2005 Florida Cattlemen's Convention Marco Island.</li> <li>• FCA Allied Industries Committee \$500 Gift Certificate to <i>Bass Pro Shop</i></li> </ul>

### REGISTRATION

Please RSVP to your County Agent at (352)-620-3440 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:**

#### ***"New Location"***

Quality Inn Conference Center

2050 E. Irlo Bronson Hwy.

Kissimmee, Florida 34744

Phone: (877) 586-8080

Located 1/4 mile east of Ag Center

Room rate: \$55.00 single/\$59.00 double. Please mention group code (Florida Cattle Institute). Cut off date for this rate is December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. This rate includes breakfast buffet.

Participants requiring  
special  
accommodations  
should contact:  
Randy Bateman  
(321) 697-3000,  
48 hours before the  
event.

John Mark Shuffitt  
Livestock Agent II  
Marion County Extension Service

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## Equine Education Courses

Marion County Extension will offer 2 Equine Care and Technology courses, **Basic and Advanced**, beginning Monday, **January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005**.

**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 three hour (6-9 pm) sessions. Classes will meet at Central Florida Community College beginning Monday night January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The Community College is located on SR 200 in Ocala. Cost for each course 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.

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## 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Ocala Graded Bull Sale January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005

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 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005. This sale will take place at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion located on NE Jacksonville directly 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 and a certificate of breeding soundness will accompany each bull at the sale.

The bulls will be weighed and graded on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:00 am. Buyers may preview bulls Monday (all 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 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Ocala Bull Sale promises to offer one of the best selections of top quality bulls in the Southeast.

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## 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 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005.**
- ⇒ Apply lime for summer crops.
- ⇒ Check for lice/treat if necessary.

### JANUARY (cont.)

- ⇒ 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  
University of Florida  
2232 NE Jacksonville Road  
Ocala, FL 34470-3615

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## ***THE RUNAWAYS***

Mark Shuffitt

It happened the night after Thanksgiving Day  
Our two dogs escaped, they just 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, down at the bank.

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

A 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 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.