

Marion County Extension Service
2232 NE Jacksonville Road
Ocala, Florida, 34470
(352) 671-8400



Vol. 11, No. 9

MARION COUNTY LIVESTOCK NEWS

NOV. 2005

The MARION COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Proudly Presents the

**50TH Annual
Ocala Graded Bull Sale
January 10th, 2006**

**"THE NATIONS OLDEST
CONTINUOUS
GRADED BULL SALE"**

The Ocala Bull Sale is held each year on the second Tuesday of January at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion in Ocala. Grading takes place beginning at 8:00 am on the day before the sale. Buyers are welcome to preview the bulls on Monday (all day) and Tuesday (until noon).

All bulls are evaluated on weight, condition, conformation, scrotal circumference and EPD's then assigned a grade from A+ to C. Bulls that do not score a C grade or higher are sifted from the sale.

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.

If you are in the market for one or more bulls, you don't want to miss this opportunity. The 50th Annual Ocala Bull Sale promises to offer one of the best selections of top quality bulls in the Southeast.

Equine Forum

**Thursday
November 10th, 2005
7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Marion County Agriculture Center
2232 NE Jacksonville Road
Ocala, Florida**

Getting Ready for Breeding

"Obtaining Early Season Pregnancy"

"Broodmare Nutrition"

SPEAKERS:

**Dan Sharp III, PhD: UF Dept. of Animal Sciences
Lori Warren, PhD: UF Equine Nutritionist**

Idaho Added to the List of States with Active Vesicular Stomatitis

On September 26th, the National Veterinary Laboratory in Ames, Iowa confirmed the finding of Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) on premises in Bear Lake County, Idaho. The premises where the two horses were confirmed with the disease is in the southeastern corner of the state and 75 miles from any previously known positive premises.

This is the first case of VS in Idaho this year bringing the number of states, with active VS, to six. The six states that currently have premises under USDA quarantine for VS include: **Wyoming, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Montana and Idaho.**

Vesicular Stomatitis is a viral disease which primarily affects horses, cattle, and swine. The agent that causes Vesicular Stomatitis, VSV, has a wide host range and can occasionally infect sheep and goats. In affected livestock, VSV causes blister-like lesions to form in the mouth and on the dental pad, tongue, lips, nostrils, hooves, and teats. These blisters swell and break, leaving raw tissue that is so painful that infected animals generally refuse to eat and drink and show signs of lameness. Severe weight loss usually follows, and in dairy cows, a severe drop in milk production commonly occurs. Affected dairy cattle can appear to be normal and will continue to eat about half of their feed intake.

Any livestock entering Florida originating from a VS affected state has additional importation requirements. Please review the Florida importation rule (5C-3) at <http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/ai/pdf/5C3.pdf> or call 850-410-0959 for detailed requirements necessary to enter Florida.

APHIS Veterinary Services, the New Mexico, Wyoming, and Montana Livestock Boards and the Utah, Colorado and Idaho Departments of Agriculture will continue to monitor the situation and conduct response activities in an effort to minimize trade restrictions. For additional information on Vesicular Stomatitis, please refer to the following APHIS Web page: www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/vs/vs.html.

(Excerpt)

CHAPTER 5C-3 IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS

5C-3.002 General Requirements and Limitations.

(5) Vesicular Stomatitis.

(a) Certification for Vesicular Stomatitis (VS). All hoofed animals, including horses, ruminants, swine, exotic and wild hoofed animals, originating from a VS affected state must be accompanied by an OCVI which

includes the following statement: "All animals susceptible to Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) identified and included in this OCVI for shipment have been examined and found to be free from clinical signs and vectors of VS and have not been exposed to VS virus and have not been within 10 miles of a VS-infected premises within the last 30 days." Documentation must also accompany the animals to show that the animals have been tested and found negative to an approved test for VS within the previous 10 days. (b) Prior permission. Animals originating from a VS-affected state will require prior permission.

The Florida Beef Quality Producer Program - Why is it Important to My Beef Cattle Operation? and How Can I Get Involved?

A series of upcoming meetings will be held to address these questions and many others. The Florida Beef Quality Producer Program is a cooperative program that has been developed by the University of Florida Beef Cattle Extension Group, the Florida Department of Agriculture and the Florida Cattlemen's Association. The educational program is designed to update producers on Beef Quality Assurance (BQA). Florida has had an informal BQA program for 15 years and most producers are aware of the beef quality issues facing our industry like injection site blemishes and bruises. With the current market situation, it is becoming increasingly important to not only be aware of what can be done to improve beef quality but it is also critical to DOCUMENT your beef quality practices and procedures. The demand for source verified, age verified, and process verified cattle is increasing and market access is certainly greater for cattle with a known and documented history. The Florida Beef Quality Producer Program will focus on these topics and many others including:

- Injection site management
- Avoiding residues from antibiotics, medicated feeds, chemicals, feed contaminants, feed toxins, ruminant by-products
- Foreign object avoidance
- Breeding and genetic selection
- Utilization of animal health products
- Cattle handling/processing
- Cull cow management

Most importantly, the training will focus on the Record Keeping that will help you DOCUMENT the beef quality practices on your operation. Producers who attend the meeting will receive the 140 page Florida Beef Quality Producer manual that outlines how a producer can implement a Beef Quality

Assurance Plan on his/her operation. I would encourage all beef cattle producers to attend this meeting and I also recommend that all producers bring their cow crew. Beef Quality Assurance is everyone's job and it takes everyone to implement it properly

Meeting Dates for Florida Beef Quality Producer Program:

Arcadia

November 16th - 10am-3:00 pm
Desoto Co. Extension Office
Contact: Jim Selph (863) 993-4846

Okeechobee

November 30th - 10am-3:00 pm
Okeechobee Co. Extension Office
Contact: Pat Hogue (863) 763-6469

Marianna

February 2nd - 10am-3:00 pm
Jackson Co. Extension Office
Contact Doug Mayo (850) 482-9620

Kissimmee

March 9th - 10am-3:00 pm
Osceola Co. Extension Office
Contact Randy Bateman (321) 697-3000

Source:

[Todd A. Thrift](#)

University of Florida
Department of Animal Science

**23rd Annual
Florida
Cattlemen's Institute
and
Allied Trade Show**

***January 19th 2006
Osceola Heritage Park
1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane off
HWY 192 East of Kissimmee***

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

“BASICS FOR THE FUTURE”

Stolen Horse International

The mission of Stolen Horse International is to provide a theft awareness program for horse industry people. Horse theft is on the increase. Family riding horses are a frequent target. Included on their site is a place for posting information about lost or found horses from the recent hurricanes. Find it at: <www.netposse.com>.

Examples of how a horse can be stolen include the obvious of someone cutting the fence or just leading the horse away. A horse can be stolen in a less obvious way when it is boarded far away. Then you may get a call that the horse has died and the body has already been disposed. Another scheme is for a stranger to offer a high price at a horse show or fair. The time it takes for the check to bounce gives the thieves plenty of time to get away.

The following tips can help prevent your horse from being stolen or help law enforcement to identify them at sale points:

- Use permanent identification -- common methods include freeze branding, lip tattoos, or microchips.
- Keep current photos -- take pictures of both sides and head and tail end with no saddle, blanket, or rider. Take close-ups of unique markings or brands.
- Maintain a proof-of-ownership file - including registration, bill of sale, brand descriptions, a photo of you with your animal, and any other significant documentation.
- Make it harder for someone to get to your horse - build barns and corrals away from the road; use sturdy fences and keep perimeter gates locked.
- Make it harder to steal pastured horses. Don't leave halters hanging nearby; don't feed the horses close to the gates or to the road as this makes them easily accessible by someone who offers them food. Check your horses at varying times, and don't make it obvious when you are gone for a period of time.
- Prevent theft of trailers and tack by keeping them locked up if possible. Keep VIN or serial numbers on file.

Beef Cattle Management Tips

NOVEMBER

- ⇒ Observe cows daily to detect calving difficulty
- ⇒ Use high magnesium mineral if grass tetany has been a problem in the past
- ⇒ Check for external parasites and treat if needed
- ⇒ Maintain adequate nutrient level for cow herd
- ⇒ Calve in well-drained pastures
- ⇒ Survey pastures for poisonous plants
- ⇒ Start summarizing your annual records, both production and financial - then you will have time to make adjustments for tax purposes
- ⇒ Re-evaluate winter feeding program

The Institute of Food and Agricultural 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 without regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations should contact the Extension Service one-week in advance of program for assistance

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.

John Mark Shuffitt
Livestock Agent III
Marion County Extension