

Marion County Extension Service
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MARION COUNTY LIVESTOCK NEWS

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Outrider® herbicide use for weed control in improved bermudagrass hay and pasture fields

Jason Ferrell, UF/IFAS Extension Weed Specialist

After years of testing, we now have sulfosulfuron labeled for use in pastures. At one time it was going to be named Maverick, but for now they are going with the name Outrider.

This product is the best I have ever used for **control of nutsedges**. Of particular importance, it can be applied to bahiagrass and it does not cause injury to bermudagrass like Plateau or Impose. The use rate is 1.3 oz/acre and will cost approximately \$20.

Outrider herbicide offers an effective, simple to use solution for the control of johnsongrass and a wide range of sedges.

HOW TO CONTROL Johnsongrass or Yellow or Purple Nutsedge in Bermudagrass Hay and Pasture

- Use 1.33 ounces per acre of Outrider with 0.25% v/v of a non-ionic surfactant in 10 to 40 gallons per acre as a broadcast application.
- Apply to actively growing Johnsongrass that is at least 18-24 inches tall and up to the heading stage.
- Sedges should be actively growing with sufficient leaf area developed to intercept the herbicide.
- Weeds to be treated should not be mowed or grazed for two weeks before or after application.

Outrider Label:

<http://www.cdms.net/LDat/ld2ST000.pdf>

Supplemental Factsheet:

<http://www.monsantoag.com/ito/pdfs/outrider1.pdf>

Florida Equine Management Courses

Plan now to attend one of these upcoming Fall 2008 courses:

Florida Equine Management II is scheduled for Monday nights beginning September 22nd (6 – 9 pm) for 9 weeks at Central Florida Community College (\$75).

Topics include: Principles of Horseshoeing & Hoof Care; Demo & Hoof Care Lab; Equine Conformation and Selection; Equine Dental Care; Feeding Management; Veterinary Care and First-Aid; Equine Behavior; Farm Safety and Equipment Maintenance.

Advanced Equine Nutrition will meet Monday nights (6 – 8 pm); 4 weeks, September 22 through October 13, 2008 at the Marion County Agriculture Center (\$55).

Topics Include: Feeding to Prevent Digestive Upsets, Confusion About Carbs, Equine Supplements, Feed Tag Information and Determining Feed Value.

Managing Florida Horse Pastures is scheduled for Monday nights beginning October 20th (6 – 8 pm) for 4 weeks at Central Florida Community College (\$55).

Topics include: Soil Sampling, Fertilization, Horse Farm Weed Control, Toxic Weeds.

To register for courses to be held at CFCC, contact the Cont. Ed. Dept at: (352) 873-5804 or 854-2322 ext 1496.

To register for Advanced Equine Nutrition, contact the Ag Center at (352) 671-8400.

SEPTEMBER 2008

Fall Forage Worms – Early Show up

If drought conditions earlier in the year were not bad enough, the recent change to wetter conditions seems to be favoring build up of fall forage worms. These worms often are referred to as ‘armyworms’ but usually include both grass loopers and the fall armyworm. The worms making their debut earlier this season in pastures and hayfields are about 90% loopers (*Moscis* spp.). If scouting during the day, both loopers and army worms tend to fall off the plants to the ground. Each looper pupates (stage the insect undergoes in becoming a moth) by folding blades of grass to form a cocoon, whereas armyworms pupate in the soil. You can see the tips of the leaves turned over where the looper caterpillars pupate. The following is a refresher on the most common insecticide treatments for pasture and hayfield caterpillars:

Herbicide	Rate	Restrictions	Max. # of applications
Malathion 57% EC	2 pints per acre	None	No restrictions
Sevin XLR	1 to 1.5 quarts/acre	14 days for hay or grazing	2 or less per year
Lannate LV	¾ to 3 pints/acre	7 days for grazing 3 days for haying	No more than 4 applications/year
Dimilin 2L	2 fl oz per acre/cutting	No restrictions for grazing 1 day for hay	No more than 6 fl oz per year. Cannot apply more than 2 fl oz per acre/cutting
Tracer	1-3 fl oz/acre	3 days for hay or until it has dried if grazing	

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING (COOL)

This is to provide you with the latest information on the Country of Origin Labeling Law (COOL) and how it impacts livestock producers. COOL is administered by USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), not USDA, Veterinary Services or the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry. **COOL becomes effective on September 30, 2008.**

Livestock producers are not directly regulated by COOL because livestock are not considered covered commodities. However, since the meat products from the livestock will have to be labeled at retail, meat packers will require origin information all the way back to the animals’ birth owner. It is expected that producers, auction markets, backgrounders and dealers will be asked to verify the origin of animals being marketed. This can be done by signed affidavit or by NAIS participation.

The attached PDF file was published by USDA August 7, 2008 and should help to explain to producers what their role in COOL is. This was obtained from the USDA, AMS web-site:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMS> Producers can also access this information on the Web.

We have seen increased participation in the Premises Registration portion of the National Animal

Identification System as livestock markets and producers feel that NAIS can be a "safe harbor" for COOL compliance. Producers can use the Premises ID Number as "official" designation of the source location of their animals. This information can be added onto affidavits when appropriate. The presence of an official NAIS compliant (840) ear tag is sufficient for COOL and precludes the need for an affidavit.

Producers or producer groups who require more detailed information should contact:

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Animal Industry
Diane Kitchen, DVM; phone: 850-410-0940
or
Stephen Monroe – phone: 850-410-0944

USDA – Agricultural Marketing Service

Website: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cool>

Email: cool@usda.gov

NAIS Materials:

The NAIS Premises Registration Application and letter from Commissioner Bronson have been updated.

http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/ai/adc/adc_nais.shtml

Dateline: 08/07/08

From: USDA – Agricultural Marketing Service

LIVESTOCK PRODUCER COMPLIANCE WITH THE COOL INTERIM FINAL RULE

Livestock producers are not directly regulated by the COOL interim final rule as livestock are not considered covered commodities. However, only producers have first-hand knowledge concerning the origin of their animals. Definitive origin information must be provided to slaughter facilities so that meat covered commodities can be accurately labeled at retail. Presumption of origin by packers and other entities in the marketing chain is not permitted. For example, it is not acceptable to assume that if an animal has no ear tag and/or brands identifying that the animal was born and/or raised in Canada or Mexico, the animal is of U.S. origin.

The COOL law provides for the use of producer affidavits to provide origin information to packers. Thus, under the interim final rule, USDA will consider a producer affidavit as acceptable evidence on which a packer may rely upon to initiate an origin claim, as long as the affidavit is made by someone having first-hand knowledge of the origin of the animal(s) and identifies the animal(s) unique to the transaction. Evidence that identifies the animal(s) unique to a transaction can include a tag ID system along with other information such as the type and sex of the animals, number of head involved in the transaction, the date of the transaction, and the name of the buyer.

With regard to what is considered first-hand knowledge, a subsequent producer-buyer (e.g., backgrounder, feeder) that commingles animals from several sources is authorized to rely on previous producer affidavits as a basis for formulating their own affidavit for the origin of the new lot. Such affidavits must also identify the animals unique to the transaction. In contrast, first-hand knowledge would not include an affidavit made by someone such as a truck driver whose knowledge would be limited to where he picked up the load. The driver would not have sufficient information about the chain of custody and other information needed to provide the origin declaration. The responsible party (e.g., buyer) for commingling the animals would be the attester to the origin of the newly formed group of animals and would retain the original affidavits or other appropriate records, to substantiate claims made about the newly formed group.

Other records that may be used to assist in a COOL verification audit include birth records, receiving records, purchase records, animal health papers, sales receipts, animal inventory documents, feeding records, APHIS VS forms, segregation plans, State Brand

requirements, breeding stock information, and other similar documents. In addition, participation in USDA Quality System Verification Programs (QSVP), such as the USDA Process Verified Program (PVP) and the Quality Systems Assessment (QSA) Program that contain a source verification component is also considered as acceptable evidence to substantiate COOL claims. These examples are not inclusive of all documents and records that may be useful to verify compliance with COOL, but they should provide a strong basis to substantiate a claim during a supply chain audit.

Ultimately, the packer, as the first handler of the covered commodity (meat), may require from their suppliers records or access to records in order to substantiate COOL claims made by the packer. However, if the producer participates in the National Animal Identification System (NAIS), that is considered sufficient documentation of an animal's origin. Participation in the NAIS program is voluntary, but does provide a livestock producer "safe harbor" for COOL compliance. The rule specifies that packers that slaughter animals that are part of a NAIS compliant system or other recognized official identification system (e.g., Canadian official system, Mexico official system) may rely on the presence of an official ear tag and/or the presence of any accompanying animal markings (i.e., "Can", "M") on which to base their origin claims. This provision also applies to such animals officially identified as a group lot.



**John Mark Shuffitt
Livestock Agent III
Marion County Extension**

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“Beef Cattle Management Tips”

September

- Cut hay.
- Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to cool season pastures.
- Check mineral feeder.
- Check for mole crickets, spittlebugs, and grassloopers and treat if necessary.
- Check dust bags.
- Wean calves and cull cow herd.
- Remove open, unsound or poor producing cows.
- Train cowboys to observe normal and abnormal behavior and signs of disease.
- Be sure any replacement purchases are healthy and were calfhood vaccinated for brucellosis.
- September or October is a good time to deworm the cow herd if internal parasites are a problem.
- When replacement heifers are weaned, give them required vaccinations and teach them to eat – then put them on a good nutrition program.
- Determine bull replacement needs, develop selection criteria, and start checking availability of quality animals.
- Review winter feed supply and feeding plans so that needed adjustments can be made before supplies tighten and prices rise.

October

- Plant cool season legumes.
- Plant small grain pastures.
- Check mineral feeder.
- Check for external parasites, especially lice, and treat if needed.
- Check for spittlebugs and grassloopers and treat, if needed.
- Watch condition of cow herd; maintain adequate nutrition.
- Isolate any additions to the herd for 30 to 60 days and observe for signs of disease; retest for brucellosis and leptospirosis.
- Be sure you have adequate handling facilities, and they are in good working order.
- If you are raising bulls for the commercial market, October thru December is the main bull-buying season for cattlemen in south Florida and now is the time to have your promotion program fully activated.