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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Beef School Details

The OSU Extension Beef Team has announced the details for the 2015 Ohio Beef Cattle School. The dates for the school are Tuesday, January 27 and continue on February 10 and February 24, 2015 and will start each evening at 7:00 p.m. The programs will address some of the most important issues currently facing Ohio's beef industry. Rapidly changing forces are constantly shaping the beef industry's landscape and successful producers need to stay abreast of changes to remain competitive.

The school begins on January 27, 2015 by addressing a pair of topics in the thoughts of many beef producers today. John Grimes, OSU Extension Beef Coordinator, will present the topic "Capitalizing on the Historic Beef Economy." This presentation will discuss specific management decisions that a producer can make to take full advantage of the beef economic outlook in the present and for years to come. Troy A. Brick DVM, Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine will discuss a frequently debated topic in the popular press today, "The Future of Antibiotic Use in Beef Cattle."

The February 10, 2015 session will examine a pair of subjects that will impact the direction of beef production locally, nationally, and globally for years to come. Kim Stackhouse-Lawson, PhD, Director of Sustainability Research for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association will address "Sustainable Beef Production." She will highlight how beef industry has used funding from the Beef Checkoff Program to document the economic, environmental and social impacts from the beef industry and is identifying practical ways to improve the sustainability of beef and remain on the path of continuous improvement over time. In Ohio, water quality concerns have led to new legislation regarding nutrient management in agriculture. Kevin Elder, Chief of the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Division of Livestock Environmental Permitting, will cover "Manure Management and Fertilizer Application Issues for Beef Producers."

The final installment of the school will be held on February 24, 2015. Dr. Monique Pairis-Garcia, Assistant Professor, and Dr. Steve Boyles, Professor, both of the OSU Department of Animal Sciences, will discuss "Beef Animal Handling and Facility Design." Videos will be used to demonstrate the positive and negative aspects of animal behavior and they will discuss how facilities can improve animal handling concerns. Dr. Bill Weiss, Professor, OSU Department of Animal Sciences will also address "Forage Evaluation and Making Quality Dry Hay, Balage, and Silage."

Locally the Beef School will be offered in Georgetown and Hillsboro this year. The location in Georgetown is the Board Office of Southern Hills Career Center and in Hillsboro room 440 at the Central Campus of Southern State Community College.



Reminder SOACDF Scholarship

The application period is now for the SOACDF (Southern Ohio Ag and Community Development Foundation) Excellence in Education scholarships. Go to <http://soacdf.net> or call 937-393-2700 for more information.

Dealing with Scours

Scours can be a very costly problem for cow/calf operations. With some people starting their calving season already, and others maybe 3 or 4 months away, it is always good to review some of the things that we as producers can do to reduce the risk of sick or eventually dead calves.

This information is taken from an article that recently appeared in the Beef Blog. It is from Dr. Tom R. Troxel who explains some of the basics for prevention and treatment of scours.

Calf scours or diarrhea is a very costly problem for many producers. Calf scours is not the actual disease that plagues the calves; it is only the clinical sign. Calves suffering from scours can become critically ill in a short time. The pathogens that are the causative agents are not the actual causes of death in affected calves. Dehydration, electrolyte depletion and acid-base imbalances are the underlying causes of the animal's demise.

Prevention

It is important to remember that when dealing with calf scours the key is to prevent the disease from occurring in the first place. In order to decrease the incidence of disease in the herd, a good producer should (1) maximize colostrum transfer, (2) increase environmental sanitation, (3) reduce stressors such as overcrowding or poor nutrition and (4) vaccinate bred cows for *E. coli*, rotavirus, coronavirus and *C. perfringens* at 60 and 30 days before calving.

Treatment

Recommendations for diseased calves are:

1. Correct fluid deficits.
2. Treat electrolyte imbalances.
3. Provide nutritional support.
4. Administer a broad spectrum antibiotic.

Once dehydration status is estimated, oral or intravenous fluids may be used. Electrolyte powders can be added to oral solutions in order to correct imbalances. Since young animals have little energy reserve, these will be used up quickly during a diseased state. It is important to replace energy stores with oral or IV fluids containing glucose or dextrose supplements.

A broad spectrum antibiotic may be used in some types of infection. Antibiotics only work against bacteria, but if you have a viral infection, antibiotics will prevent a secondary bacterial infection from occurring. In the case of coccidiosis, a sulfa-antibiotic (sulfaquinoxaline, sulfamethazine) or Amprolium should be used because they are effective against these parasites. It is important to consult with your local veterinarian, since he/she will know what diseases may be prevalent in your particular area. That will allow you to be more effective at preventing or treating calf scours in your herd.

Dates to Remember

- Pesticide/Fertilizer** Pesticide Re-certification with Fertilizer Certification:
Jan. 21 at North Adams HS, begins at 4:00 p.m.
Feb. 5 at Southern Hills CTC Board Office, begins at 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 12 at Southern State Comm. College in Hillsboro, begins at 11:00
(Pre-Registration and payment **REQUIRED** 5 days prior to session. Call
Cindy at the Brown Co. office at 378-6716.) The Fertilizer Certification
is needed by September 30, 2017, so if your Pesticide is due in 2016 or
2017, come for both at that time so you are on the same schedule.
- Farm Bill Meetings** **REMEMBER** we need for you to Pre-Register for the Farm Bill Meetings,
listed below, by calling the OSU Extension office in the county you plan to
attend. Seating is limited at some locations. Call Barbie in Adams Co. at 544-
2339 or Cindy in Brown Co. at 378-6716. February 2 at Frisch's in West
Union on SR 41 South, at 1:00 p.m. and Southern Hills Career Center in
Georgetown at 6:30 p.m.