



Beef Times

REPORTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

1. *New addition to the Beef Team*

The University of Minnesota Extension Service recently hired a new Beef Regional Extension Educator specializing in "Feedlot Nutrition and Management". Dr. Grant I. Crawford will join the Beef Team starting January 15, 2007. Dr. Crawford is a native of Minnesota and received his B.S. degree from SDSU, his M.S. degree from U of M and recently completed his Ph.D. in ruminant nutrition from the University of Nebraska. Dr. Crawford will be officed at the Extension Regional Center in Hutchinson. For contact information, call the Hutchinson office at: 1-888-241-3207.

2. *3rd Annual Beef/Forage Day*

Saturday, January 13 (9:00 - 3:00 pm) is the 3rd Annual Beef Forage Day at the VFW in Aitkin, MN. Registration begins at 9:00 am and is \$15/person (\$10/extra spouse) and includes educational materials and lunch. Topics include: *Calving Preparations, Soil Survey Usage, Grazing Sensitive Pastures, and Forage Testing/Basic Nutrition*. For more information, contact Brad Irwin at (218) 927-2538.

3. *2007 Winter Pasture Management Workshop*

A winter workshop will be held January 18 at the Community Center in Leader, MN (9:45 - 3pm) with Registration beginning at 9:00 am (\$15/person or \$20/family). Morning session topics include: *Grazing Management for Droughts, EQIP Programs, Soil Testing Analysis, and Continuous vs Rotational Grazing Demonstration Results*. The afternoon breakout session will include interactive discussions on *Dried Distiller's Grain (DDG), DDG availability and Cost, Getting Started with Organic Beef, Marketing of Grass Fed Beef, Understanding the Practice of Silvopasture, Dealing with Weather Affected Pastures, Weed Problems and Chemical Control, and Soil Fertility and pH Relations*. For more information, contact Mel Weins at (218) 894-2715.

2. *2007 MN Beef Cow/Calf Days*

Its that time of year for one of the largest extension programs of its kind in the U.S.. Cow/Calf Days is set for February 6 - Glenwood (9:30-3pm), 7 - Pipestone (9:30-3pm), 8 - Rochester (5:30-9:30pm), 9 - New Prague (9:30-3pm), 12 - Mora (5:30-9:30pm), 13 - Staples (9:30-3pm) and Bagley (5:30-9:30pm), 14 - Greenbush (5:30-9:30pm), and 16 - Grand Rapids (5:30-9:30pm). Registration for all locations is \$25/family or farm and includes a meal and proceedings. Topics include: *Current Updates on Industry Issues (Beef Team Research, Bovine TB, Animal ID), Targeting a Branded Beef Program, A New Look at Fall Grazing (windrow grazing), Feeding Distillers Grain to the Cow/Calf Herd, and Planning & Zoning for Animal Agriculture at the Local Level*. Detailed information for each location will be available in mid-January at www.extension.umn.edu/beef/, or call (218) 327-4490.

5. *Cattle Owners to Receive Tax Credits for Bovine TB Testing*

Minnesota has detected bovine TB in seven beef herds in Northwest MN. MN cattle owners paying for bovine TB testing on their herd can receive a new tax credit beginning this year. The credit is available to cattle owners testing any number of animals. Cattle owners can now claim a credit against their taxes for an amount equal to one half of the expenses incurred to test your herd. In the M1 Individual Income Tax Form, line 32 has been added for the Bovine TB tax credit. For assistance, contact James Zwilling at (651) 201-6830.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Denise Plonis at (218) 327-4490 or visit the beef team website at: www.extension.umn.edu/beef/. If you have any comments or would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please e-mail your request to Ryon Walker at: walke375@umn.edu

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