

THE AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

A publication on Agriculture, Land Use, and Natural Resource Conservation

OVERTON – Stockpiled forages and winter annuals can reduce the need for and cost of hay and other supplemental feed for beef cattle producers in regions with adequate annual rainfall, said a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Dr. Jason Banta, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, Overton, said producers can reduce the need for hay and supplements by providing stockpiled forage mid-November through December and winter annuals October through May.

Stockpiled winter forages can provide four to six weeks of protein and energy for cows and calves and reduce the need for and cost of supplemental feed and hay. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo by Adam Russell)

“If they choose these options, we want them to know how to best utilize them,” Banta said.

For stockpiled Bermudagrass and bahiagrass, producers should bale the field for hay or graze the pasture 3-6 inches tall in the first part of September each year. Then fertilize and allow growth until the first frost, which is typically by mid-November in East Texas, Banta said. After the frost, the forage can be utilized until the first part of January.

“Utilizing stockpiled forage helps us avoid feeding hay for 4-6 weeks potentially,” he said.

Banta said producers should “strip graze” the pasture by using electric fencing to restrict cows’ access to the forage if possible.

“Provide access to what they could eat in two to four days,” he said. “Then every few days move the fence to allow more access. Restricting access will help prevent the cattle from wasting the available forage.”

The forages should be utilized by the first of January to mid-January in high rainfall areas because rain will begin to reduce quality and palatability for cattle, Banta said.

“If we fertilize and have good growing conditions, the stockpiled forage should meet all nutrient requirements for dry cows,” Banta said. “Additionally, it will meet the requirements for most lactating cows. However, in some situations small amounts of supplements may be needed depending on the forage quality, milk production and body condition score of the lactating cows.”

In those cases, Banta said lactating cows should generally receive 1-2 pounds of a high-protein supplement per cow per day.

Legumes and winter annual grasses such as ryegrass, small grain rye and wheat, can also be used to reduce the need and cost of hay.

“Those forages will be extremely high in both protein and energy,” he said.

However, utilizing winter annuals and legumes differs for replacement heifers, pregnant females in late gestation, and cow/calf pairs, Banta said.

“If abundant winter annual forage is available, pairs and replacement heifers can be grazed full time in lieu of feeding hay,” he said. “In contrast, pregnant females in late gestation should be limit grazed on winter annuals to avoid potential increases in calf birth weights and calving problems.”

Banta said late-gestation cows should be limited to two-hour grazing sessions daily.

“After a couple days, the cows should be used to the routine and become easier to remove from the winter annual pastures,” he said.

Grazing dry cows or pairs on winter annuals or legumes should also negate any need for protein or energy supplements, Banta said. Producers should, however, provide minerals with moderate-to-high, 5-13 percent, magnesium to reduce the chances of grass tetany in lactating cows.

“If utilized effectively, grazing stockpiled forages and winter annual forages can tremendously reduce winter feeding costs for producers,” he said. “Whatever is spent on seed and fertilizer can be more than made up in quality forage.”

November, 2017

Volume B, Issue 4

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Improving Agricultural Production in East Texas

For more information about articles in this newsletter please contact :

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East Texas Agriculture Expo CEU Recertification



For pesticide applicators licensed by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

November 08, 2017 **Registration: 8:00 am**
Course will be conducted: 9:00 am-3:05 pm
Cost: Preregistration-\$30.00 At the door-\$35.00
BBQ Lunch will be provided.
Please RSVP with payment by Nov 01, 2017

Speakers & Topics to be discussed:

“Herbicide Recommendations & Updates”
Daniel Mielke Dow Agro Sciences Rep.
Southwest District

“Effective Spray Application & Equipment Calibrate”
Barron S. Rector PhD.
Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

“Minimizing Drift with Spray Equipment”
Darren Rozzell
Rozell Sprayer Manufacturing Co. Tyler TX

“Pesticide Laws and Regulations Up-Date”
Don Renchie, PhD.
Associate Professor and Extension Program Leader
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

“Management and Weed control of Farm Ponds”
Aaron Sumrall, PhD.
Texas AgriLife Extension Agent Ag and NR

Five (5) CEU Credits

- 1—Drift Minimization
- 1—Laws & Regulations
- 3—General

Location

Nacogdoches Expo Center
3805 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, Texas 75964

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Return Registration Form and Fee to: **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Pesticide Recertification, Annex Bldg.
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East Texas Agriculture Expo

5 CEU Recertification

Nacogdoches, TX Nov 8th

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- *Texas Dept Agriculture*



TOUGH BAR FENCE

936-240-1217 Pollok, TX

**WORKING PENS—RORSE RUNS
CUSTOM GATES - ARENAS**



Dow AgroSciences

TEXAS Watershed Steward



Nacogdoches, TX

Workshop provided through Clean Water Act 319 nonpoint source grant funding from the TWSSWCB and U.S. EPA



The Texas Watershed Steward program is a free educational workshop designed to help watershed residents improve and protect their water resources by getting involved in local watershed protection and management activities.

**November 7, 2017:
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center
3805 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

The workshop will provide an overview of water quality and watershed management in Texas, including a discussion on the Attoyac Bayou watershed along with efforts by the Attoyac Bayou Watershed Partnership to improve and protect it. Light refreshments will be provided. Free continuing education credits are offered for a wide variety of professional disciplines ranging from licensed Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide applicators to select TCEQ occupational license holders. For a complete list of CEUs offered, or to register, visit our website or call the number below.

<http://tws.tamu.edu/>

Pre-register for the workshop by going to:
<http://tws.tamu.edu/workshops/registration/> or calling
979.862.4457

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

PURPLE PREMIUM SALE

Saturday, November 11, 2017 • 10 a.m.

Walter C. Todd Agricultural Research Center Beef Farm
442 CR 123
Nacogdoches, Texas

Selling 57 Purebred lots

**(Beefmaster, Hereford, Angus, Brangus, Charolais and Simbrah)
and 147 head of Commercial Females**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Friday, Nov. 10:

2 p.m. - Judging cattle, in the pens

2 - 6 p.m. - View cattle

6 p.m. - Dinner and health program, sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim

Saturday, Nov. 11:

8 a.m. - View cattle - coffee, juice and breakfast tacos, sponsored by Boles Feed

10 a.m. - Registered Sale

Noon (or immediately following purebred sale) - Commercial Females

Lunch sponsored by Fish & Still Equipment

SALE ACCOMMODATIONS:

Holiday Inn Express & Suites • 200 Holiday Lane, Nacogdoches, Texas • (936) 564-0100

Comfort Suites • 3429 South St., Nacogdoches, Texas • (936) 560-9900

**Anthony J.
MIHALSKI**

Auctioneer & Sale Manager

7320 Triple Elm North • San Antonio, TX 78263

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email: aj1mihalski@aol.com • www.anthonymihalski.com



**Boehringer
Ingelheim**

**FISH & STILL
EQUIPMENT**

BOLES FEED

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Richy Thompson

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<http://nacogdoches.agrilife.org>

Educational programs conducted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. Individuals that may need auxiliary aids, services or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension activities are encouraged to contact the County Extension office for assistance five working days prior to activity.