
I look forward to assisting with your livestock production and forage crop needs in this Winter.

May you have a Happy New Year!

Upcoming Events

Please check this and upcoming editions of the newsletter for more information about coming events. Tentatively scheduled meetings and activities include:

- **Cattle, Coffee, & Conversation** Jan. 10
- **Women in Ag** Jan 15, 22, 29 Feb
- **Farmer’s Market Workshop** Feb. 01
- **Tamegrass Stocker Field Day** Feb 20
- **Winter Ranch Management** Feb 27
- **Beef Quality Assurance** TBD

Cattle, Coffee & Conversation
On farms large and small across the United States, the number of women making the decisions is growing. Against that backdrop, and especially in view of the current struggling
farm economy, Kansas State University will host a four-part series of workshops focused on helping women sharpen their farm financial management skills.

For more information, click here!

**Farmer's Market Workshop**

SAVE THE DATE

Feb 1: Iola
Feb. 8: Wichita
Feb. 21: Olathe
Feb. 22: Hiawatha
Feb. 28: Beloit
Feb. 29: Leoti

*Get your scales certified (cost included with registration)*

2020 REGIONAL FARMERS' MARKET WORKSHOPS

Find answers to questions about selling at farmers' markets, sales tax, and food safety for all types of food products.

**Stocker Field Day**
SAVE THE DATE

February 20, 2020
10:00 am educational session
9:30 am registration and tradeshow

TAMEGRASS STOCKER FIELD DAY

Speakers:

Dale Blasi, Kansas State University
Limit feeding stocker calves

John Richeson, West Texas A&M
Methods to early detect bovine respiratory disease in receiving cattle

Greg Hanzlicek, Kansas State University
Internal parasite control

Paul Beck, Oklahoma State University
Feeding stockers on fescue and endophyte management

Dale Helwig, Kansas State University
Bermudagrass and fescue pasture management

Location: Greenbush Education Center
947 W 47 Hwy  Girard, KS
Lunch provided with $10 registration
More information to come....

Hosted by Cherokee County Extension, Southwind District, Wildcat District, and Southeast Research and Extension Center
Feeding more protein than cattle need can get expensive. Alfalfa can be a less expensive protein source, especially if you feed just enough alfalfa to provide the protein your animals need.

Cattle often need extra protein when their winter diet is based on corn stalks, prairie hay, straw, or winter range. The protein supplement you chose is important, both in its effectiveness and its cost. Many cheap protein sources contain mostly urea and other forms of non-protein nitrogen. These supplements often are not used very effectively when cattle are eating mostly low energy winter forages.

Supplements containing mostly all-natural protein may be better. All-natural protein feeds the microbes in the rumen so they can digest more fiber from your forage. And many times the cheapest natural source of protein is alfalfa, especially when hay price is reasonable.

Keep costs down further by determining how much extra protein your cows actually need. Both a forage test for protein and a close estimate of how much your cows are actually eating are needed to be accurate. Then you can work with a local extension educator, a
nutritionist, or use your own skills to calculate how much more protein is needed. Many winter forage diets need between one-half and one pound of extra protein per day. Since the forage test of your alfalfa will tell you how much protein it contains, you can calculate how much alfalfa to feed each day, or every other day, to keep cows healthy and productive. This could come from as little 2 pounds of hay when feeding high protein alfalfa to cows needing just a little extra protein to as much as 8 to 10 pounds when using lower quality alfalfa to cows after calving.

It may not sound like a big difference, but when you feed just two or three pounds each day per cow, the savings add up fast.

Calving Management Video

Click on the following link for an informative video on Calving Management from a laptop computer. (Link may not work when viewing from smartphone).