



Livestock News

Fall 2016

Forsyth County Extension
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336-703-2855

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N.C. Agriculture Cost Share Funds

The Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District has received an allocation from the state for non-point source pollution control resulting from agricultural activities. These funds are available to assist farmers with the installation of conservation practices that help decrease the amount of sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus, and other pollutants in the surface and ground water of the state. They also have a grain drill that is available for rent on a first-come basis. For additional information, contact Mike Bowman at 336-703-2840.

Email Updates

Please let me know if you would like to receive email updates from us. If we don't have your email address, you miss out on a few upcoming events that we just aren't able to get in the mail to you in a timely manner. You can subscribe to the beef newsletter on-line at <http://go.ncsu.edu/ForsythBeef> or the sheep/goat newsletter at <http://go.ncsu.edu/ForsythSheepGoatSubscribe> and then enter your information. This is the fastest (and most inexpensive way) to get timely information. Like always, it's free and easy to do. You can unsubscribe at any time. If you have any trouble, feel free to call or email me and I can add you to the list.

Contact me if you need me. Email is the best way to reach me: awbowman@ncsu.edu, but you can also call me at 336.703.2855.

Sincerely,

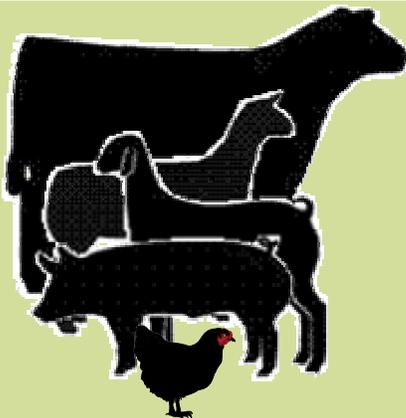
April W. Bowman

April Bowman
Extension Agent,
Livestock, Forages and
4-H Youth Development



NC State University
A&T State University
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**

Empowering People • Providing Solutions



Nickels for Know How Referendum

The Nickels for Know-How Referendum will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2016 at the Forsyth County Extension Center, 1450 Fairchild Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27105 from 8 AM until 5 PM.



This referendum is being held to let users and producers of feed or fertilizer decide if they wish to continue the self-assessment program. This program has been in place since 1948, and the law requires that a new referendum be held every six years.

A 2/3 favorable vote will mean that growers are willing to continue to assess themselves to support agricultural research and education. The assessment is fifteen cents per hundred pounds on feed and fertilizer produced in North Carolina.

The funds, about \$1.4 million annually, are collected by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and then allocated by the NC Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc.'s 148 volunteer Board of Directors to support agricultural research and extension projects at NC State University benefiting agriculture in North Carolina.

For more information on the referendum please call the County Extension Office at 336-703-2850.

Upper Piedmont Research Station Tour

On October 20th, 2016 beginning at 4 pm, area cattlemen will be getting together to tour the Upper Piedmont Research Farm Station, located at 1944 Wentworth Street in Reidsville, NC, and to enjoy dinner & fellowship. Dr. Joe French, Superintendent of the Upper Piedmont Research Station, will be our host for this tour. The Research Station is involved with cattle, as well as many other research projects. The farm consists of over 800 acres and is adjacent to the historic Chinqua-Penn Plantation and the Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp. The Research Station conducts research projects on beef cattle production and efficiency of growth, as well as reproductive studies using a historic herd of Black Angus cattle. These studies collect data that makes a impact to the beef cattle industry. The beef cattle research efforts may lead to discoveries concerning efficient feed conversion and reproductive protocol in beef cattle. Understanding the genetics could decrease the cost of beef production and revolutionize the beef cattle industry.

If you are planning to attend this Research Station Tour on October 20th, please call 800.666.3625 or email (ben_chase@ncsu.edu), Ben Chase, Extension Livestock Agent in Rockingham & Guilford Counties by Monday October 17th. This will help us better prepare for this catered event and ensure that there is enough food! If you reserve places to attend this event, you will be held responsible for the cost of ALL the meals that you have reserved if you don't attend.

Pasture Weed Management Class



September 29, 2016

Alamance County Cooperative Extension
209-C N. Graham-Hopedale Rd. Burlington, NC 27217

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Pesticide Credits Available for:

X, O, K, D

Agenda

- Pasture Weed Identification & Control Methods
- Using Goats to Control Brush
- Toxic Weeds to Livestock
- General Pasture Management & Grazing to Control Weeds



Online Registration

<http://go.ncsu.edu/pastureweedclass16>

Required by September 26th

Cost: Free!

Questions?

Contact our office at 336-570-6740

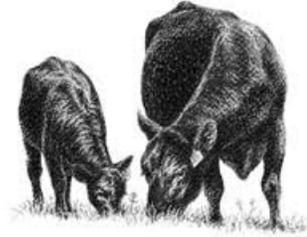


Persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency may request accommodations to participate by contacting Lauren Langley, Livestock Extension Agent, at 336-570-6740 or lauren_langley@ncsu.edu or fax # 336-570-6689, or in person at the County Extension Office at least 7 days prior to the event.

Piedmont Regional Beef Conference

March 2, 2017

The Piedmont Regional Beef Conference is typically held in late February. However, the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association has moved their conference date to late February, so we are moving the conference to March 2, to avoid scheduling conflicts. Please save the date, and we hope to see you there!



More information will be coming your way this winter.

Thank you,

Piedmont Regional Beef Conference Planning Committee

SAVE THE DATE



Brewer's Grain

We have been contacted by a local brewery that has spent grain that they would like to give away. You would need large ~275 gallon totes with clean bottoms that you could drop off at the brewery to be filled and then return to pick them up. The product is typically 1/2 grain and 1/2 soup liquid so you will need heavy equipment for unloading and a way to feed it. Each batch is a different mixture of fermented corn, barley, and/or rye.

Due to its high fiber content, we do not recommend feeding it to pigs, but it may be an option for finishing steers.

Please call 336-703-2855 or email awbowman@ncsu.edu if you would like to consider using it for feed.

Cattle Industry Convention and National Cattlemen's Beef Association Trade Show February 1-3, 2017 in Nashville, Tennessee

The Cattle Industry Convention is the oldest and largest convention for the cattle business. The convention and trade show create a unique, fun environment for cattle industry members to come together to network, create policy for the industry and to have some fun! If you're in the cattle business, then you need to be at the Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA Trade Show.

Attendee registration will be available on **October 3, 2016** at <http://www.beefusa.org/cattleindustryconvention.aspx>

TURNING GRASS INTO CASH: Opportunities in Grassland Agriculture

The American Forage and Grassland Council annual meeting will be held in Roanoke, Virginia January 22-25, 2017. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to attend a wonderful conference in our front yard!

Topics include:

- Marketing Grass-fed Livestock
- Soil Health and Biology
- Mob Grazing
- Regeneration
- Economics
- Annual Forages
- Restorative Grazing
- And more!



Visit http://www.afgc.org/annual_conference.php for registration information and a complete agenda. As always, we are happy to mail registration information to you upon your request.

Fall Forage Calendar

(from “Production and Utilization of Pastures and Forages in North Carolina” by Chamblee, D.S. and Green, J.T.)

September

- Fall is a good time to scout and identify weeds in order to kill biennials and newly sprouted winter annuals.
- Forage test hay and other feed to determine nutrient levels.
- Plant cool-season legumes such as ladino, sod clover, and alfalfa into tall fescue.
- Lime and fertilize cool season pastures and hayfields based on soil test results when moisture is expected.
- Closely monitor pastures and don't over graze. Grazing heights vary according to species, but 4” is a good rule of thumb for most.
- Consider feeding lower quality hay to your spring calving cows now and save your higher-quality stock-piled grasses for later when their nutritional needs are higher.
- Feed your September calving cows your higher quality stock-piled grasses now.

October

- Watch for frost on warm season sorghums & Johnsongrass. Wait 10 days after a killing frost before grazing.
- Wait ten days after a killing frost before grazing alfalfa and clovers too, in order to reduce bloat. Allow animals access to a roughage for dilution.
- Begin to strip-graze small grains and brassicas if they have grown well.
- Take soil samples NOW for spring lime applications.

November

- Finish grazing fields with lots of orchardgrass and legumes.
- Strip graze winter annuals.
- Don't allow animals to graze ONLY brassicas like turnips and radishes because of their high moisture content. Supplement with other forages.
- Ensure that all soil samples reach NCDA&CS prior to November 23 to avoid having to pay a fee for samples.

Hay Directory

We are creating an on-line hay directory of producers that have hay for sale. In order to add your name to the list please visit <http://go.ncsu.edu/forsythhaydirectory> or email April Bowman at awbowman@ncsu.edu or call 336-703-2855. Be prepared to share the following information:

- Your Name
- Variety/Varieties of Hay
- Size (weight) of bales
- Phone Number
- Email address (optional)
- Is delivery available?
- Has the hay been tested?
- Is the hay covered/under shelter?

In order to view the list of hay available for sale, visit:

<http://go.ncsu.edu/forsythhayforsale>.



Soil Testing

adapted from Chris Jeffcoat, former Forsyth County Livestock Extension Agent

Soil sampling is an important tool in maintaining the proper fertilization levels in your pasture and hayfields. Currently, soil tests are free and should be submitted to the Extension Office. However, during the peak soil testing season of December 1 to March 31 there will now be a \$4 charge for each soil sample tested. Soil test boxes, and forms can be obtained from the Extension Office. We also have soil probes that you can rent.

Soil samples can be taken any time throughout the year, but late summer and early fall are good times to sample because any lime applied has enough time to change the soil pH before spring. You will also be ready to use the soil test recommendation for your spring fertilizer applications.

Individual soil sample cores should be taken using a soil test probe, spade, or garden trowel. Sample cores should be taken 3 to 4 inches deep for pasture and hayfields and 15 to 20 cores should be randomly taken on a grid or in a zig-zag pattern throughout the field. Sample cores should be placed in a clean plastic bucket, crushed, mixed thoroughly, and then placed in the soil test box up to the “fill line.” Please do not use a galvanized or rubber bucket because zinc contamination of the soil sample will occur.

It is recommended to soil test your pasture and hayfields every 2 to 3 years for sandy-textured soils and every 3 to 4 years for clay-textured soils. However, for a higher value forage crop, such as alfalfa or red clover, I recommend you soil test every year to maintain the correct plant fertilization levels. Samples should have a uniform cropping history and be representative of the field, so avoid taking sample cores in wet spots, old building sites, fence rows, burn areas, and areas where lime or manure has been previously piled.

Get those samples submitted by November 23rd to avoid paying fees!

Youth Livestock Judging Results

(pictured below left)

Forsyth County was represented by 11 Individuals at the State 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest, Quiz Bowl and Judging competition at NC State University the end of July. The senior team of Hannah King, Madison Sifford, Kali Mabe, and Allison Hartman won the Senior 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest, placed fourth in the Quiz Bowl competition and third overall in livestock judging. Senior Hannah King was the high overall individual in Skillathon. The junior team of Lynae Bowman, Anna Hill, Michelle Hartman, and Amber Shutsky were third overall in Livestock Skillathon and fifth overall in Quiz Bowl. The junior team of Lynae Bowman, Anna Hill, Amber Shutsky and Erica Shutsky placed 5th overall in Livestock Judging. Lynae Bowman received the inaugural High Overall Junior Individual based on her combined scores for quiz bowl, Skillathon and judging. She placed second overall in judging and third overall in Skillathon. Sierra Sockwell and Lakota Sockwell of Guilford County participated as individuals in the contest. Sierra placed tenth overall in Senior Skillathon, and Kali Mabe placed third overall in Senior Livestock Judging.

All of the contest results and placings can be accessed at https://projects.ncsu.edu/cals/an_sci/extension/animal/4hyouth/Livestock%20Judging/4HContest2016.html.



Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships

(pictured above right)

Forsyth 4-H'ers received honors during the recent Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships. This year's Southern Regionals, held in Perry, GA on July 27-31, attracted more than 700 4-H'ers from 13 different states. These youth competed in a variety of equine-based educational contests as well as a multi-event horse show.

Sam Probst, 14, son of Beth and Bob Probst of King, and Kayla Ellis, 13, daughter of Robin and Scott Brown of Pfafftown, were selected to represent North Carolina at this event by qualifying at the State 4-H Horse Show. Probst and Ellis are members of the Saddles and Spurs 4-H Horse Club that meets at Ogburn Stables in Tobaccoville. This is their first year being active in the 4-H program.

Ellis and her horse "Lazy Lopin' Cowboy" (aka T-Bone), as well as Probst and his horse "Buddy" won ribbons in the ranch horse division of the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship Show. The four of them represented NC and Forsyth County very well at this highly competitive event.

Coming Events

Sept 30-Oct 9 Dixie Classic Fair

- Sept 30 Jr. Meat Goat Check-in (by 8 PM)
- Sept 30 Jr. Market Swine Check-in (by 7 PM)
- Oct 1 Jr. Market Lamb Check-in (by 11 AM)
- Oct 1 Youth Meat Goat Show, Noon (subject to change due to numbers!)
- Oct 1 Jr. Market Swine Show, 4 PM (subject to change due to goat numbers!)
- Oct 1 Shepherds Lead Competition, 7:30 PM
- Oct 2 Dairy Cattle Arrive
- Oct 2 Jr. Market Lamb Show, 2 PM
- Oct 3 Jr. Commercial Ewe Show, 6 PM
- Oct 3 School Day at the Fair 9 AM—12 PM
- Oct 3 Ayshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein Show, 3 PM
- Oct 4 Open/Jr. Registered Sheep Check-in (by 11 AM)
- Oct 4 Guernsey and Jersey Show, 10 AM
- Oct 5 Open Beef Cattle Check-in (by Noon)
- Oct 6 Open Sheep Show, 12 Noon
- Oct 6 Open Angus Show, 2 PM
- Oct 6 Open Charolais Show, 4 PM
- Oct 6 Open "All Other Breeds" Cattle Show, 6 PM
- Oct 7 Open Hereford Show, 12 Noon
- Oct 7 Open Simmental Show, 3 PM
- Oct 7 Open Red Angus Show, 4:30 PM
- Oct 8 Jr. Beef Cattle Check-in by 11 AM
- Oct 8 Jr. Beef Showmanship, 2 PM
- Oct 8 Dairy Goat Check-in by 11 AM
- Oct 8 Open Dairy Goat Show, 9 AM; Junior 2 PM
- Oct 9 Jr. Beef Cattle Show, 1 PM
- Oct 20 Upper Piedmont Research Station Tour and Dinner, 4 PM
- Oct 13-23 NC State Fair
- Nov 1 Nickels for Know-How Referendum Voting, 8 AM—5 PM, Extension Center
- Nov 2 Forsyth Farm City Banquet, Forsyth Extension, 6:30 PM
- Nov 23 Submit soil samples to NCDA by this date to avoid a charge
- Jan 22-25 American Forage and Grassland Council Meeting, Roanoke, VA
- Jan 26 Piedmont Regional Sheep/Goat Field Day
- Feb 6 Tax Preparation for Livestock Producers, NCSU Presenter, Forsyth or Davidson County Extension
- March 2 Piedmont Regional Beef Conference, Chatham County