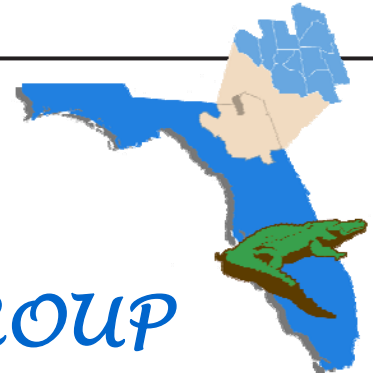


NORTHEAST FLORIDA BEEF & FORAGE GROUP



October 11, 2010

Inside This Issue:

Pasture Burning	Page 1
Fall Forages	Page 3
Winter Supplement For Cattle	Page 5
MarketMaker	Page 6
NFBFG Website	Page 6

Northeast Florida Beef & Forage Group Agents**Alachua County**
Cindy Sanders,
Barton Wilder**Baker County**
Mike Davis**Bradford County**
Tim Wilson**Clay County**
David Nistler**Columbia County**
Derek Barber**Duval County**
Brad Burbough
Mike Sweat**Madison County**
Dan Fenneman**Nassau County**
Steven Gaul**Suwannee County**
Elena Toro**Union County**
Basil Bactawar

Dear Producers,

Fall is in the air and now is the time of year cattlemen start thinking about their fall and winter feeding program.

With that in mind, our newsletter this month, focuses on supplemental feeding topics. As extension agents we try to provide timely topics of interest. We hope that this newsletter, along with our UF extension programs are useful to you and your operation. If you have any questions about any of the following articles or topics, please feel free to contact your local agent.

Sincerely,
Steve Gaul

North Florida Beef & Forage Group, Chair

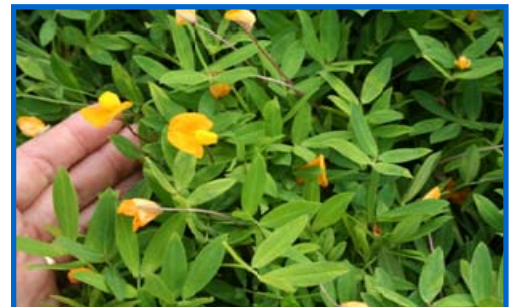


Pasture Burning

Pasture burning is typically conducted during mid to late winter. Prescribed burning is an excellent tool to manage certain insects and for general pasture management.

In the bermudagrass pastures of North Florida, spittlebug can be a troublesome insect. It also af-

fects Limpograss and St. Augustinegrass in central and south Florida. None of the insecticides labeled for pastures use provide effective long-term control for spittle-



(Continued from page 1)

bug. To make matters worse there are no known natural enemies of spittlebug. The carbamate insecticide Sevin (carbaryl) when used to control other insects can suppress adult spittlebug populations. However, it has little to no effect on spittlebug nymphs (juveniles). Control burning the infested pasture in late February to early March is the most effective method to manage spittlebugs. Burning destroys the spittlebug eggs, preventing the pests from becoming established. Control burning is useful for improving native



range by removing dead, accumulated plant growth and increasing the population of decreaser plants. Decreasers are high quality, native grasses that decline in population due to over grazing. These forages respond well to periodic control burns. Examples of these forages include: maidencane, lopsided indiagrass, creeping bluestem, chalky bluestem, and little blue maidencane.

Controlled Burning Rules and Recommendations

Before conducting any type of controlled burn, a burn permit **MUST** be obtained from the Florida Division of Forestry. For more information on burn permits contact your local Division of Forestry Office at <http://www.fl-dof.com/>

[field_operations/county_foresters/index.html](http://www.fl-dof.com/field_operations/county_foresters/index.html).

The following rules must be followed when conducting a control burn:

- Be authorized or permitted by the local DOF office, or its designated agent, before the fire is ignited. The permit must be in writing if the burn area is within an area of severe drought emergency (FS 590.081).
- Have adequate fire breaks around the planned burn area, and sufficient personnel and firefighting equipment for controlling the fire must be on site.
- Remain within the boundary of the authorized area.
- Have someone present at the burn site until the fire is extinguished (which is defined as no spreading flame).
- Have the specific consent of the landowner or his or her designee. To lessen the risk of a control burn turning into a wildfire, the Florida Division of Forestry recommends to burn on a cold day with a relative humidity of 30% - 50%, light winds of 5 - 10 miles per hour, and ½ to 1 inches of rain one to three days prior.

Sources:

Management of Spittlebugs in Pasture. Joao Vendramini, Yoana Newman, Eileen Buss, and Jim Selph. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag242>

The Ecology and Economics of Florida's Ranches. Martin B. Main, M.E. Swisher, Jeff Mullahey, William DeBusk, Avrum J. Shriar, George W. Tanner, James Selph, Patrick Hogue, Patrick Bohlen and Ginger M. Allen. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw202>

Prescribed Burning Regulations in Florida. Alan J. Long. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fr055>

Barton Wilder, Alachua County Extension

Fall Forages

As warm season pastures become dormant in the fall, many livestock producers plant supplemental cool season forages. Winter legumes and small grains can make excellent forage to supplement livestock. They are frost tolerant and they provide higher TDN and protein than summer forages. They provide forage during the winter and early spring months when livestock most need it. In addition, if legumes are inoculated properly, they can supply their own nitrogen and reduce the amounts of nitrogen fertilizers needed.

Although production costs have increased, winter annual forages continue to be an excellent resource for livestock. Rye is probably the most popular of the small grains for forage. It will produce earlier than ryegrass. However, it requires a well prepared seedbed. There is no set planting date for winter forages, rather it is best to wait until cooler weather arrives to lessen the chance of disease fungi attacking the young seedlings. These fungi are more active when soil

temperatures are warm and sometimes entire stands can be lost. Oats are less susceptible to the fungi and can be planted a little earlier to provide early forage.

Producers should seriously consider incorporating legumes such as clover into their winter pasture. Clover and other legumes require a higher target pH (6.0) and liming should be done well in advance of planting. Planting winter forages on a clean, well prepared seedbed has been shown to result in earlier and more total production as compared to overseeding on dormant pastures. If overseeding is the only option, mow or graze as close as possible and disk the Bahiagrass sod to expose the seed to the soil.

For bermudagrass, a pasture drill or no-till drill may be used without disking with good results. Rainfall in the first few weeks after overseeding is important to success. The most efficient use of cool season forages would be as a protein and energy supplement through the use of limit grazing (allowing the animals to graze for only a limited amount of time at each event).

Another option would be to increase the access by younger animals that need higher quality forage by “creep grazing” (only allowing those animals access to the forage). For specific recommendations, planting rates and dates, please refer to the table on the next page, call your local Extension Office, or visit the Northeast Florida Beef and Forage web site at: <http://nfbfg.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

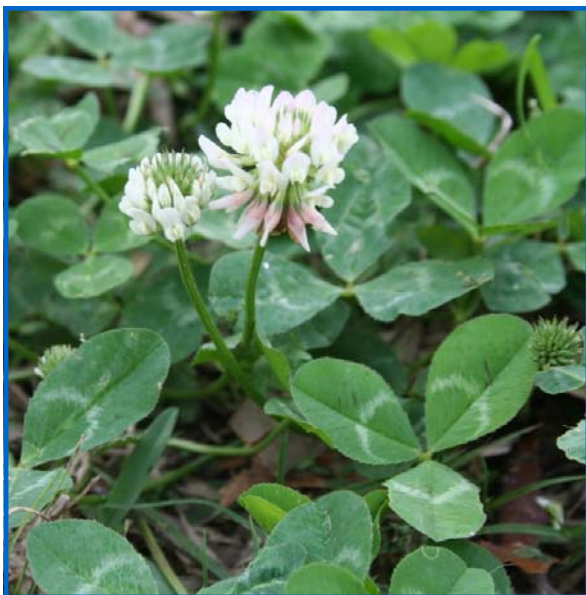


Table 1. Fall forage varieties, seeding rates, seeding depths, grazing heights, and rest periods.

(Source: 2010 Cool-Season Forage Variety Recommendations for Florida. Blount, A. et.al.)

Crop	Recommended Varieties	Seeding rates (lb/ac)	Seeding depth(in)	Grazing height end (in.)	at	Rest period Days
Alfalfa	Bulldog 805 and Amerigraze 702	15 - 20	1/4 - 1/2	3-4		Hay 35-40 Grazing 15-30
Clover, Arrowleaf	Apache	8 - 12	0 - 1/2	3-5		10-20
Clover, Ball	Segrest and common	2 - 3	0 - 1/4	1-3		7-15
Clover, Berseem	Bigbee	15-20	1/4 - 1/2	3-5		10-20
Clover, Crimson	Dixie and AU-Robin	20 - 25	1/4 - 1/2	3-5		10-20
Clover, Red	Barduro (mid-dormant) Southern Belle (non-dormant)	10-15	1/4 - 1/2	3-5		10-20
Clover, Subterranean	Common	15 - 20	1/4 -1/2	1-3		7-15
Clover, White	Common	3 - 4	0 - 1/4	1-3		7-15
Fescue, Tall	Max Q	20-25	1/4 -1/2	2-3		15-30
Oats for forage	Horizon 201, Horizon 474, RAM LA99016	100-120	1 - 2	3-5		7-15
Pea, Austrian Winter	Common	40 - 60	1/2 - 1			
Rye for forage	FL 401, AGS 104, Wrens 96, Wrens Abruzzi, Bates, Oklon, Wintergrazer 70, Early Graze	90 - 120	1 - 2	3-4		7-15
Ryegrass, Italian (annual)	Attain, Big Boss, Bulldog/Grazer, Ed, Jumbo, Maximus, Prine, Rio, TAMTBO, Verdure	20 - 30	0 - 1/2	3-4		7-15
Sweetclover	NA	10 - 15	1/4 -1/2	3-5		10-20
Vetch, hairy	Hairy, Americus, AU-Early Cover, Cahaba White, and Nova II	20 - 30	1 - 2	3-4		varies
Wheat for forage	SS8641, USG 3592, and Pioneer 26R61	90 - 120	1 - 2	3-5		7-15
Triticale for silage	Trical 2700 and Trical 342	90 - 120	1 - 2	NA		NA

Winter Supplement for Cattle

With the start of fall on September 22nd, cattle producers in North-Central Florida need to start planning their winter feeding program and the use of any supplements. It is important to have adequate nutrition during the winter months for your herd. Remember that the cost associated with feeding during the winter month's account for 40 to 50 percent of the total cost of producing weaned calves.

What Supplement do I provide?

During the winter months, hay is primarily used to provide energy (total digestible nutrients) to the herd. Since hay represents a large portion of the diet and hay quality varies, it is recommended that you get your hay analyzed for crude protein (CP) and total digestible nutrients (TDN). With a hay test you will know the exact nutritional content and will be able to decide on nutritional supplements. Contact your county Extension agent for more information on testing hay.

Protein Supplement and Cost

When forage is 8 to 10 percent CP and 55 percent TDN, a 20 percent CP supplement can be fed daily. Typically cubes, blocks, and tub supplements may have a high cost per unit of nutrient supplied however they can be easier to feed and require less management. A meal or pellet form may require bunk feeders.

Supplement	\$ per Ton
Ground Corn	235
Soybean Meal	430
Soybean Hull	150
Hominy	220
Corn Gluten	160
Distillers Grains	185
Rice Mill	125
Wheat Midds	100

Source:

Columbia Grain, Lake City (August 2010)

[Derek Barber, Columbia County Extension](#)

Photos from the 12th Annual Regional Hay Field Day 2010



MarketMaker Connecting Florida Producers to Buyers

Florida MarketMaker is an interactive mapping system that locates businesses and markets of agricultural products in Florida, providing an important link between producers and consumers. Growers in Florida and other businesses involved in the food system are encouraged to sign up.

The goal of the free online marketing tool is to build an easily use electronic infrastructure to connect food producing farmers with economically viable markets.

Florida is one of 14 other states in launching this free effort. IFAS Extension and UF's Office of Sustainability currently funds this program. Visit <http://fl.foodmarketmaker.com> to see how MarketMaker works.

Contact your local Extension office to get more information and learn how to use MarketMaker to expand your farm or business opportunities.

David Nistler, Clay County Extension



Visit the Updated Beef Forage Website

The Northeast Florida Beef and Forage Group of Extension Agents have created a website specifically for beef and forage producers in Northeast Florida. The site is <http://nfbfg.ifas.ufl.edu>

The webpage offers timely information on production topics and upcoming programs of interest to beef and forage producers. In addition, there is information on past programs, links to county websites, current UF publications, and current market data.

UF IFAS for sale publications such as the Cow-Calf Handbook and the Florida Forage Handbook are available as well as direct links to the FAWN weather network, IFAS research programs, and the Area Products & Services Listing.

If you have suggestions for topics, please contact your local agent.

Mike Sweat, Duval County Extension

The screenshot shows the website interface with the following elements:

- Header:** UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA IFAS Extension logo, 'SOLUTIONS for your LIFE' title, and Northeast Florida Beef & Forage Group logo with a cow image.
- Navigation:** Home, About Us, Contact Us, NE Florida Beef Forage Counties, Links, and a search bar.
- Left Sidebar:**
 - NFBFG Newsletters
 - County Newsletters
 - Current Beef Forage Issues
 - Beef & Forage Publications
 - Market Reports
 - Past Beef Forage Programs
- Main Content Area:**
 - A photo of people on a tractor with a dog.
 - 2010 New EDIS Publications:** Links to 'AN249 Dairy Business Analysis Project 2008 Financial Summary' and 'Circular 1242 Handbook of Florida Fence and Property Law'.
 - 2010 Southeastern Hay Contest:** Information and entry form for the Sunbelt Agriculture Exposition in Moultrie, Georgia (October 19-21, 2010).
 - 12th Regional Hay Field Day:** Pictures from the event held at RDK Farm in Lake City, Florida.
 - July Edition - Southeast Cattle Advisory Newsletter:** A product of the Southeastern Beef Cattle Risk.
- Right Sidebar:**
 - Upcoming Events:** NFBFG Upcoming Events, IFAS Calendar of Events.
 - Past Programs:** See past programs presented by NFBFG.
 - Area Products & Services Directory:** Listings for hay, beef producers and fruit & vegetable growers who sell directly to consumers.
 - Weather Information**
 - EDIS: Publications**
 - IFAS Research**
 - IFAS For Sale Publications**

NFBFG
1010 N. McDuff Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32254

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1482
Jacksonville, FL 32063

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information, and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions, or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A&M University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating.

We're on the web:
<http://nfbfg.ifas.ufl.edu>

NORTHEAST FLORIDA BEEF & FORAGE GROUP



UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

Extension programs are open to all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in any activity, should contact the DuvalCounty Cooperative Extension Service at 1010 N McDuff Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32254 or telephone 904) 387-8850 no later than seven (7) days prior to the event. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).