

POLK COUNTY LIVESTOCK REPORT

Polk County Extension • University of Florida • IFAS • 1702 Highway 17 South • Bartow, FL

<http://polk.ifas.ufl.edu>

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- *Due to state and county budget cuts, postage funds are limited. If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please email me at bccarlis@ufl.edu to let me know.*
- *If you know fellow producers that are not receiving this newsletter, please share my contact information with them so that they may be added to the list.*
- *If you have information that needs to be included in the newsletter, please let me know.*

July-September, 2014

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Greetings! I hope all of you are getting just enough , but not too much, summer rain! It has been an excellent spring and summer for our forage crops.

In this issue, you will find information about alternative herbicide recommendations, upcoming programs, safe handling and storage of health products, and more. I invite and encourage you to participate in these programs as they are planned with you in mind. If you have any topics that you would like to see addressed by the UF/IFAS Extension Livestock Program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please also thank our sponsors (on page 8) for making this newsletter possible.

I hope that the information provided and the programs offered in this newsletter will serve you well as you meet the challenges of today's beef industry. I would like to personally thank you for your role in the beef and agriculture industry.

As always, I look forward to serving your livestock and forage production needs. Please feel free to call me at (863) 519-1048 or email me at bccarlis@ufl.edu.

Bridget Carlisle, UF/IFAS Extension Livestock Agent

Note: The Extension Offices have integrated a new phone system.

My new direct office phone number is:

(863) 519-1048

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Weed Control in Limpogloss During Short Supplies of Dicamba

By Brent Sellers and Cody Lastinger, UF/IFAS RCREC

Limpogloss is a popular forage for hay production and grazing in south Florida. Since its release in the late 1970s, dicamba (Banvel, others) has become the standard herbicide utilized for weed control. However, with the recent 2,4-D and dicamba resistant crop varieties being developed, dicamba supplies have dwindled. Some chemical sales representatives have mentioned that they cannot get any additional dicamba. This is troubling, since growers and industry professionals rely so heavily on dicamba for weed control in limpogloss.

The effect of several herbicides on limpogloss tolerance was examined during the 2013 summer growing season. The experiment was initiated in July on an established limpogloss hayfield. The trial area was mowed to simulate haying at biweekly intervals and herbicides (Table 1) were applied to limpogloss regrowth measuring 6, 12, 24, and 36 inches; herbicides were applied to all regrowth heights on the same day. A non-ionic surfactant at 0.25% v/v was included with all herbicide treatments. Limpogloss injury was evaluated visually at 30 days after treatment and biomass was collected 90 days after treatment.

There was no influence of

regrowth height on visual limpogloss injury or biomass. Therefore data were averaged over all regrowth heights (Table 1). Velpar at both rates, Pasturegard HL and WeedMaster resulted in at least 19% visual injury 30 days after treatment, which was significantly greater than the dicamba-treated check. Chaparral resulted in the lowest amount of injury, but injury was not significantly different using WeedMaster, GrazonNext HL, or Metsulfuron.

WeedMaster resulted in a 25% reduction in biomass compared to dicamba-treated limpogloss. Velpar applied at 32 and 64 oz/A resulted in 43 and 73% less biomass, respectively, than when

Table 1. Effect of herbicides on limpogloss injury 30 days after treatment and biomass 90 days after treatment. Numbers followed by the same letter within each column are not significantly different at $P = 0.05$. **Herbicide**

	Rate (oz/acre)	Injury (%)	Biomass (lb/A)
Banvel (diacamba)	24	0 c	5,104 a
2,4-D amine	64	19 b	3,844 bc
WeedMaster	48	14 bc	4,795 ab
GrazonNext HL	24	16 bc	4,498 ab
Metsulfuron	0.3	11 bc	4,786 ab
Pasturegard HL	24	21 b	4,481 ab
Chaparral	3	8 c	5,280 a
Velpar	32	20 b	2,907 c
Velpar	64	55 a	1,394 d

Weed Control in Limpoglass (cont.).....

treated with dicamba. Although Pasturegard HL resulted in as much injury as 32 oz/A Velpar at 30 days after treatment, biomass was not significantly different from dicamba-treated limpoglass. The yield reduction observed from Velpar in this study is particularly troublesome, since it is the only herbicide option we have for smutgrass control.

Although there were numerical (non-significant) reductions in limpoglass biomass from GrazonNext HL, Pasturegard HL, and WeedMaster, it is likely that the forage quality benefits of removing problematic weeds such as dogfennel will outweigh the yield loss caused by the herbicide. Since dicamba supplies are limited, we may have to rely upon some herbicides that we know will cause low to moderate levels of limpoglass injury if weeds have become problematic. Keep in mind, also, that this is data only from one year of research. This research is being repeated in 2014.



The South Florida Beef-Forage Program

Alvin C. Warnick
Reproductive Management
School

October 6-9, 2014
Buck Island Ranch
Lake Placid, FL



Registration deadline September 19th

Please contact your local Extension Agent or Bridget Carlisle at (863) 588-2697
or bccarlis@ufl.edu

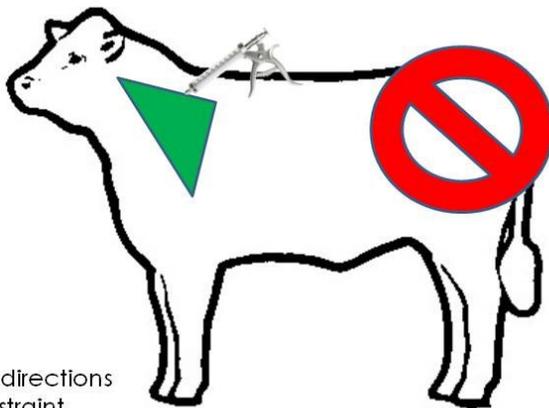
Health Product Storage and Handling to Maximize Benefits

Animal health care manufacturing companies and professionals take great care in ensuring the quality of health care products for the beef cattle industry before they are sold, companies have no control of how the product is cared for and used after purchase. It is the responsibility of the producer to properly handle and administer the product in a way to maximize potential benefits. Not only is it an important Beef Quality Assurance practice, but it is important that the health care dollar is not wasted as a result of mishandling. Products that are mishandled or administered improperly can be rendered completely ineffective if not have an adverse effect on your cattle. Here are some rules to follow to ensure the maximum potential of your health products:

1. Always READ and FOLLOW label and package insert instructions.
2. Use Beef Quality Assurance techniques and guidelines suggested by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.
3. Maintain proper temperature and keep out of sunlight
4. Do not pour injectable products from original packaging into another container.
5. Do not mix health care products in the bottle or syringe, unless indicated on the label instructions. Mixing may result in an obvious physical reaction, an unseen chemical reaction, or the modes of action may neutralize each other rendering the product ineffective.
6. Do not reconstitute (prepare) more MLV (modified live viral) vaccine than you will use in an hour. The shelf-life on reconstituted products is most effective if used within an hour. After an hour, the product loses its effectiveness.
7. Mark all syringes so that you know which product they contain while chuteside.
8. Use the proper needle diameter.
9. Use the proper needle length. Use $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1-inch long needles for subcutaneous injections (SC). Use $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch long needles for intramuscular (IM) injections in larger cattle and 1-inch long needles for IM injections in smaller cattle.
10. Use subcutaneous (SC) route of administration unless intramuscular (IM) route is specified on the label. Select a clean area or clean the area before injection.
11. Use the proper dosage.
12. Follow label instructions for maximum volume per injection site.
13. Space injection sites at least 4 inches apart.
14. Place injections side-by-side (horizontally) instead of one-over-another (vertically).
15. DO NOT inject products into the hip or round. Inject all products in the neck.
16. Disinfect needles between animals with a disinfectant-soaked sponge in a plastic paint tray. Stick the needle into the sponge to physically clean the needle. DO NOT use disinfectants with MLV vaccines, use sterile water only. For implant guns, wipe both sides of needle on the



Proper Injection Site in Beef Cattle



DO

- Follow label directions
- Use good restraint
- Use clean needles and syringes

DON'T

- Use outdated products

top of the sponge and apply a light coating of disinfectant. Replace disinfectant and switch to a clean sponge when visibly dirty.

17. Make sure you have adequate animal restraint to prevent needle breakage or injury to handlers.
18. Change needles at least every 10 head.
19. Never re-enter a bottle with a used needle
20. Keep vaccines thoroughly mixed until the bottle is completely empty. Do not shake the bottles, but gently swirl them to keep from damaging cellular particles and/or releasing endotoxins.
21. Observe expiration dates on products.
22. Keep records of administered products, lot numbers, dates of administration, route of administration and site of administration.
23. Be sure to observe withdrawal times.
24. Properly clean and disinfect syringes and equipment at the end of each day's use. Syringes and equipment used to administer products must be completely dry and free of residues, including disinfectant residues.
25. Always READ and FOLLOW label and package insert instructions.

Proper storage and handling of beef cattle health products can help ensure their effectiveness and prevent wasting precious health care dollars. For more information on the Beef Quality Assurance program visit www.bqa.org or contact your local County Extension Agent.

COGONGRASS WORKSHOP

Gulf Coast Research and Education Center
August 13, 2014

AGENDA

Registration.....	8:30 am
Cogongrass biology and ecology	9:00 am
Cogongrass research efforts	10:00 am
Break	
Biocontrol of cogongrass	11:15 am
Lunch (provided)	
Herbicide failures – causes and prevention	1:30 pm
Herbicide resistance – causes and prevention.....	2:30 pm
Break	
Sprayer calibration.....	2:45 pm

CEUs available!

Registration is limited. Please register at 2014cogongrassworkshop.eventbrite.com by August 6th 2013

Cost: \$15



Questions? Call 863-735-1314



Winter Supplementation Seminar

August 21, 2014

Seminole Cattle & Range Building
15465 Reservation Rd.
Brighton, FL

6:30pm

This seminar is sponsored by the South Florida Beef Forage Program of the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service. It is part of a continuing multi-county effort to help South Florida ranchers raise and market high quality beef cattle profitably.

From time to time, pastures in South Florida are negatively affected during winter months. It is important to budget for the costs associated with this time of year—feed, hay, stockpiled forage, etc. Before you spend the time and money to supplement your cattle, learn the nutrient requirements of your cows and bulls—Are you putting out enough? And it isn't always necessary to purchase supplement...manage your forages to last through the winter!

You and your personnel are encouraged to attend this seminar. The registration fee is only \$5.00 if submitted by August 8, 2014.



Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Registration includes steak supper.

If postmarked by August 8, 2014:

_____ \$5 Registration Fee

****Late registrants contact your county agent immediately.**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
South Florida Beef Forage Program
Mail to:
Okeechobee County Extension Office
Attn: Pat Hogue
458 Hwy 98 N
Okeechobee, FL 34972

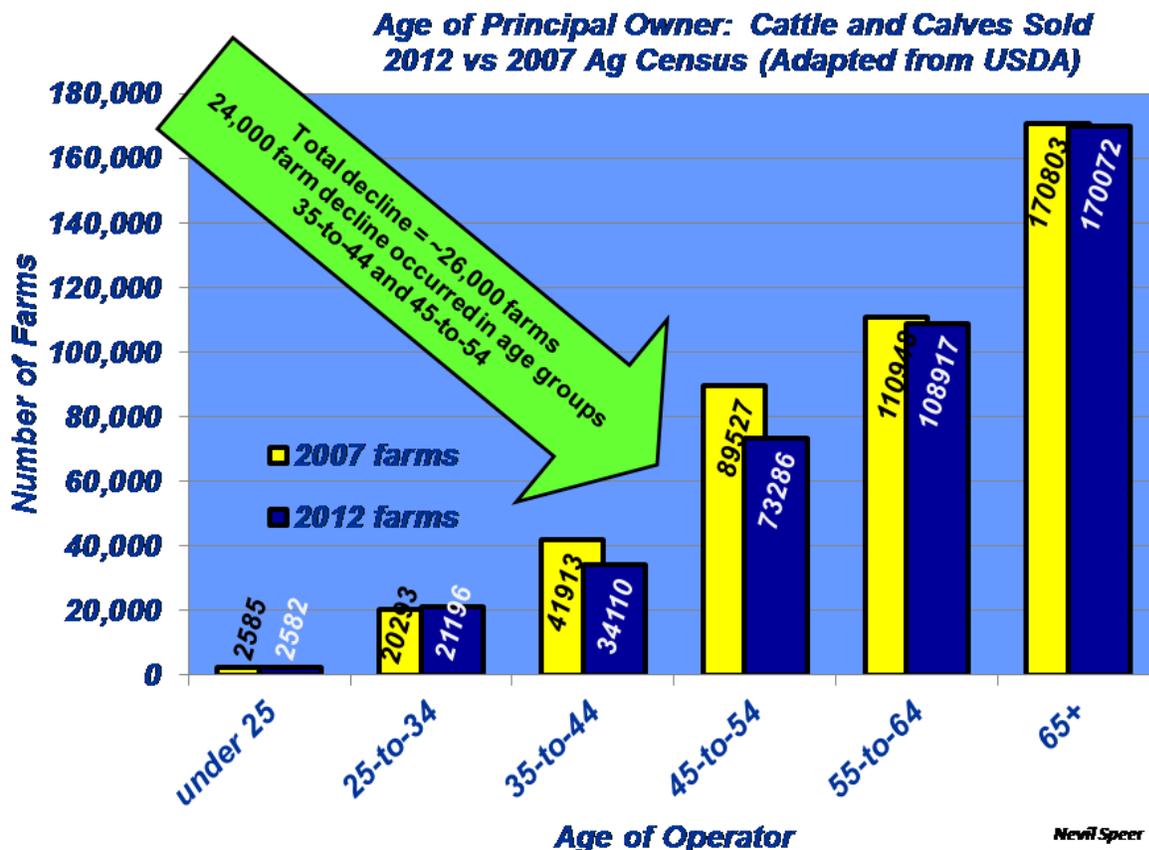
Older Cowmen Aren't the Ones Exiting the Business

By Neevil Speer, Beef Cow-Calf Weekly

The conventional wisdom has been that the ongoing cow liquidation in the U.S. has come at the upper end of the age distribution for producers. The thinking is that older producers, encouraged by higher prices and/or drought conditions, have taken the opportunity to retire from the business. However, the data indicate that's not really the case. Not surprisingly, there was a

decline in the number of farms maintaining cattle and calves. However, the number of farms operated by younger and older individuals didn't really change very much. Rather, the loss of cattle operations came in the heart of the age distribution. In fact, operators aged 35-44 and 45-54 comprised almost the entire reduction between 2007 and 2012. There's likely any number of reasons to explain this. Perhaps most significant are the ramifications surrounding

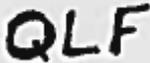
rebuilding the cowherd, which could probably go both ways. On one hand, those individuals still have plenty of active career left to enjoy restocking/rebuilding their cattle operations. On the other hand, perhaps they've turned their attention and committed resources to other enterprises. Either way, for now, it appears the U.S. beef industry remains solidly represented by individuals in the 65+ age group – comprising over 40% of all operations.



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Are you looking for ways to showcase your product or service to your clientele? The *Polk County Livestock Report* is looking for industry sponsors to support the production of our newsletter to offset the expense of producing and distributing the printed newsletter. Annual sponsors will be given a business card size (3.75" x 2.5") space to advertise in the quarterly newsletter (four issues). Annual sponsorship is \$100. If you would like to sponsor the newsletter, please contact Bridget at (863) 519-1048 or bccarlis@ufl.edu.

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**Your
 Business Here!**

Upcoming Events

August

- 13 Cogongrass Workshop, 8:30am, Balm
- 15 Herd Health Program, 6pm, LaBelle
- 19 Polk Jr. Cattlemen's Ranch Rodeo, Lakeland
- 21 Winter Supplementation Seminar, 6:30pm, Brighton

September

- 25-26 Grazing Management School, Ona

October

- 6-9 Reproductive Management School, Lake Placid
- 23 Managing Cattle Enterprises for Success, 6pm, Bartow

November

- 18 Horse Short Course and Trade Show, 4pm, West Palm Beach