



SDSU Extension To Host Forums During Dakotafest

BROOKINGS — SDSU Extension will host several forums to benefit South Dakota growers and their families during 2015 Dakotafest held Aug. 18-20 inside the SDSU Extension Pavilion located on the Schlaffman Farm, Mitchell.

The topics range from Precision Ag Technologies, Climate and Grain Outlooks and Top Ten Ways to Run More Cows on the Same Grass to Tax Savings for Farm Families and New Opportunities for Beginning Farmers & Ranchers.

Organized in a discussion format, these forums provide participants with the opportunity to have their questions answered by SDSU Extension and South Dakota State University staff as well as other industry experts.

"Dakotafest is a wonderful opportunity for our staff and faculty to interact directly with producers and discuss issues relevant to our state's agriculture industry," said Karla Trautman, SDSU Extension Associate Director.

Forums will be held in the SDSU Extension Pavilion in its new location in booth 600, located on the corner of 6th Street and the West Entrance (for Dakotafest regulars, its the road which leads past the ribeye sandwiches on the way to the northwest corner.)

Also inside the SDSU Pavilion, the iGrow kiosk will provide digital information to the public on the wide range of SDSU Extension resources and tools available online through the iGrow page.

The 2015 SDSU Extension Forum schedule includes:

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

Show Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
9:30 a.m. — Rainfall Simulator and Pasture and Cropland Soil Health, presented by Jeff Hemenway (NRCS), Stan Boltz (NRCS) and Pete Bauman, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist

10 a.m. — Daily Weather Briefing & Climate Outlook, presented by Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist

10:30 a.m. — Precision Ag Technologies, presented by Nic Uilk, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Instructor and Aaron Franzen, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Instructor

11 a.m. — New Opportunities for Beginning Farmers & Ranchers, presented by Merlin Neumiller, SDSU Extension Beginning Farmer & Rancher Program Manager and Robin Salverson, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist

11:30 a.m. — Top Ten Ways To Run More Cows on the Same Grass, presented by Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist

Noon — Free SDSU Ice Cream

1 p.m. — Grain Market Outlook, presented by Jack Davis, SDSU Extension Crops Business Management Field Specialist

1:30 p.m. — Current Topics in Agriculture, presented by Alvaro Garcia, SDSU Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Program Director

2 p.m. — Tax Savings for Farm Families, presented by TASC AgriPlan NOW

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19

Show Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
9:30 a.m. — Rainfall Simulator and Pasture and Cropland Soil Health, presented by Jeff Hemenway (NRCS), Stan Boltz (NRCS) and Pete Bauman, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist

10 a.m. — Daily Weather Briefing & Climate Outlook, presented by Dennis Today, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist and Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist

10:30 a.m. — Nozzle Selection for New Crop Technologies, presented by Amanda Bachmann, SDSU Extension Pesticide Education & Urban Entomology Field Specialist

11 a.m. — Precision Ag Technologies, presented by Nic Uilk, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Instructor and Aaron Franzen, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Instructor

11:30 a.m. — Top Ten Ways To Run More Cows on the Same Grass, presented by Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist

Noon — Free SDSU Ice Cream

1 p.m. — Avian Influenza Update, presented by Russ Daly, Professor, SDSU Extension Veterinarian, State Public Health Veterinarian

1:30 p.m. — Grain Market Outlook, presented by Jack Davis, SDSU Extension Crops Business Management Field Specialist

2 p.m. — Current Topics in Agriculture, presented by Alvaro Garcia, SDSU Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Program Director

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

Show Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
9:30 a.m. — Rainfall Simulator and Pasture and Cropland Soil Health, presented by Jeff Hemenway (NRCS), Stan Boltz (NRCS), Pete Bauman, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist

10 a.m. — Daily Weather Briefing & Climate Outlook, presented by Dennis Today, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist

10:30 a.m. — Nozzle Selection for New Crop Technologies, presented by Amanda Bachmann, SDSU Extension Pesticide Education & Urban Entomology Field Specialist

11 a.m. — Precision Ag Technologies, presented by Nic Uilk, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Instructor and Aaron Franzen, Ag & Biosystems Engineering Instructor

11:30 a.m. — Top Ten Ways To Run More Cows on the Same Grass, presented by Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist

Noon — Free SDSU Ice Cream

1 p.m. — Grain Market Outlook, presented by Jack Davis, SDSU Extension Crops Business Management Field Specialist

1:30 p.m. — Water Management for Agriculture in South Dakota, presented by Chris Hay, Assistant Professor & SDSU Extension Water Management Engineer

2 p.m. — Current Topics in Agriculture, presented by Alvaro Garcia, SDSU Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Program Director

To learn more, visit the iGrow events page.

Jake Geis

A Look At Pre-Conditioning Programs

BY JAKE GEIS, DVM

Tyndall

Every autumn, cattle producers are flooded with information about preconditioning fall weaned calves through a wide variety of media publications. These articles and radio ads tell cattlemen about the increased prices they will receive at the time of sale, how two rounds of shots are better than one, and a host of other information. Unfortunately, the main reason why preconditioning is important often gets lost in this advice. If we know why we precondition, then the rest of the questions like what shots to give, how long to background them, when to castrate, etc., will make more sense.

The reason to precondition calves for weaning is to keep them from getting sick. This may seem like a no-brainer, but cow/calf producers seem to forget the most important time to keep a calf healthy is when you still own the calf. Yes, cattle feeders will give you a premium price for preconditioned calves, but preventing sickness before they are sold means more to the ranchers' bottom line.

With the mindset that preconditioning is to keep your calves healthy for your benefit, we can structure your herd health program around the issues that will affect your calves. The three parts of preconditioning to consider are a well-timed vaccination program, surgical procedures such as castration and dehorning, and efficient bunk-breaking.

The stress of weaning is the primary reason calves break with respiratory disease. Therefore, if we want to prevent disease it is best to start the vaccination



Jake GEIS

process before they are weaned. Although there is some utility with vaccinating calves with their first shots at weaning, vaccines work better if they are given before weaning.

There are two reasons vaccines work better given prior to weaning. The first is vaccines need time to stimulate the calf's immune system before the calf has any protection from the vaccine. The calf needs to recognize the "bug" in the vaccine as bad and mount an immune response to it, which takes one to two weeks. This response allows the calf's immune system to remember the vaccine "bug", so when the calf encounters the real disease the immune system is ready to fight.

The second reason is again related to stress. Stress decreases the immune response. Therefore if calves are undergoing the stress of weaning while they are being vaccinated, their immune system does a worse job of remembering the "bug" we want to protect them against. Because of both these reasons, vaccinating the calf two weeks to a month before weaning will allow the vaccine to take full effect, leading to fewer sick calves after weaning.

In the same vein of thought, castrating and dehorning prior to weaning is advantageous. Both these procedures

most horses, but they are only effective when the horse is wearing the collar," she said.

HARD HABIT TO BREAK

Horses that are allowed to crib, after being prevented from cribbing for some time, will have an increase in cribbing rate compared to before they were prevented from cribbing.

"It's as if to make up for lost time," Mastellar said.

FEEDING MANAGEMENT

Feeding management is another way that the horse's manager can affect how often a horse cribs.

"Cribbing rates increase after a concentrate meal, so if possible, formulating diets that contain more forage and less grain can help to mitigate cribbing behavior," Mastellar said.

Although feeding horses little and often is recommended, Mastellar said cribbing horses fed many small concentrate meals may actually crib more because cribbing is associated with feeding time.

"They actually fixate on the feeders and spend more of their time cribbing," she said.

The energy and time spent cribbing may make them

harder keepers than other horses. Excessive tooth wear may also affect the ability of older cribbers to utilize their diet.

Cribbers should have access to turnout and the opportunity to socialize with other horses. Although, cribbing behavior is not eliminated by providing turnout and companion horses, Mastellar said research shows that cribbing rates are reduced.

"Some cribbers are isolated for fear of the behavior spreading to other horses. It is unlikely for one horse to learn cribbing from another and the cribber's welfare will benefit from having other horses with which to socialize," she said.

If there is a need to keep a cribber stabled, providing a toy has been shown to reduce cribbing rates slightly. Turnout, socialization, and prevention of boredom are all forms of stress reduction for these horses.

Other methods of preventing cribbing that are effective, but require intensive management include: elimination of cribbing surfaces, taste deterrents, electrification of cribbing surfaces, pharmaceuticals, oral antacids for foals, surgery, and increasing the time spent eating.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Cribbing in horses is likely a permanent behavior pattern once established. "The exact cause of cribbing in horses remains to be determined, but may be related to management, nutrition, and genetics. Therefore, consider not breeding to a horse that cribs, providing plenty of forage at weaning, and allow horses plenty of turnout and interaction with other horses to reduce the chances of a horse becoming a cribber," she said.

Cribbers are more prone to certain health issues, including colic. They may have differences in their learning and how they cope with stressful situations when compared to non-cribbing horses. Due to this, Mastellar said a horse owner's decision to inhibit a horse from cribbing should weigh the possibility of increasing stress against the possible health risks of cribbing.

"Besides inhibiting cribbing behavior, a manager can adjust feeding and turnout conditions to reduce cribbing rates," she said.

Learn how your business can boost productivity and reduce waste in this one-day, hands-on training!

LEAN 101 WORKSHOP

Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2015

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

at RTEC, 1200 W. 21st St., Yankton, SD

During this workshop, you will learn basic Lean Manufacturing terms, principles and tools through a combination of classroom instruction and four live simulations. By learning how to implement Lean concepts, you can make changes in your business (manufacturing or other) that will eliminate waste, maximize productivity and increase profits. Topics to be addressed include:

- Plant Layout
- 5S-Workplace Organization
- Standard Work
- Single Minute Exchange of Dies
- Batch Size Reduction
- Quality at the Source
- Pull System

- Kanban
- Cellular Manufacturing
- Visual Management
- Takt Time
- Teams
- Kaizen

Cost is \$200 + tax.

Lunch is included.

Please register by contacting RTEC at (605) 668-5700.

Call today! Workshop is limited to 20 participants.



This workshop is offered through a special partnership between South Dakota Manufacturing & Technology Solutions (SDMTS) and the Regional Technical Education Center, Inc. (RTEC).

Deadline Near For Recognition Program

PIERRE — The deadline is quickly approaching to apply for the South Dakota Farm & Ranch Recognition Program. The South Dakota Farm & Ranch Recognition Program recognizes families who have run operations for 100 or 125 consecutive years. The application deadline is Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015.

To receive recognition as a South Dakota Century Farm or Ranch, a family must have retained continuous ownership of at least 80 acres of original farmland

for a minimum of 100 years. Quasiqucentennial Farms and Ranches, those that have been continually owned for 125 years or more, will also be recognized. Families will be honored at a ceremony on Thursday, Sept. 3, at the South Dakota State Fair.

Application forms are available online at www.sdfbf.org by clicking "All About Ag" and then "Century-Quasiqucentennial Farm & Ranch Program." Applicants can also call South Dakota Farm Bureau at 605-353-8052.

Documentation of the original date of purchase for the land must be included with the application.

The South Dakota Farm & Ranch Recognition program was initiated in 1984 by the SDFB. Since then, the SDDA has joined in recognizing these South Dakota families. The program has recognized 2,770 century farms and ranches and 250 quasiqucentennial farms and ranches thus far.