

Fall 2002

LIVESTOCK & PASTURE NEWS

Get your Hay Tested – FREE!

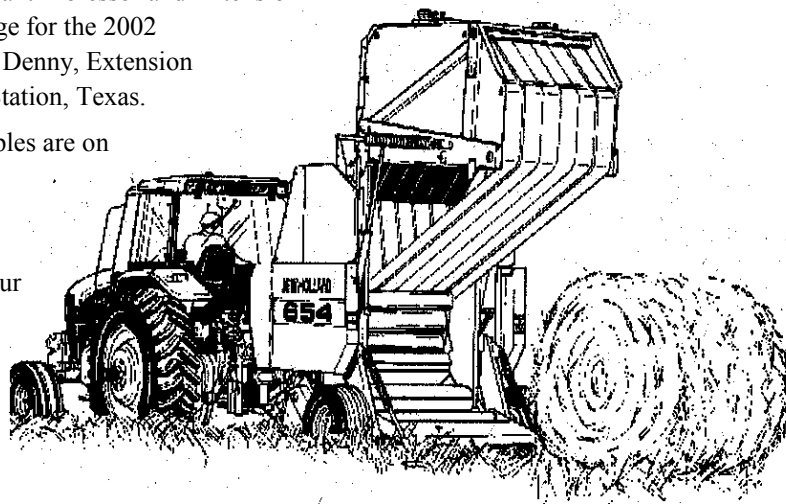
It's Hay Testing Time:

Fall Hay Evaluation: October 22nd, 2002

It is time to start collecting your hay samples for the Walker County Fall Hay Evaluation. The Fall Hay Evaluation is scheduled for October 22nd, 2002 at the Sam Houston State University-Ag Center (Indoor Arena). Entries for the Walker County Fall Hay Evaluation are due in the Extension Office, NRCS Office, or a participating feed store in Huntsville or New Waverly before October 4th. Your first entry in each class is FREE! Additional entries per class are \$5.00 each. This is an excellent (and economical) way to evaluate the quality of your stored forage. Knowing what you are feeding is extremely important when deciding when and how to utilize your hay with different classes of livestock. Our 2002 hay testing and program awards are being sponsored by the Walker County Farm Bureau and American Plant Food Corporation. The county hay evaluation is a great method for economically evaluating your forage.

We once again have a slightly modified program planned for this years' event, which should allow more flexibility with everyone's schedule. We will start at 6:15 PM with the meal (Fish Fry), the program will begin by 7:00 PM and conclude at 8:00 PM. Our 2002 program will include a program on Understanding Reproduction and Management Practices in the Cow Herd by Dr. Jodi Sterle, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist. The Hay Judge for the 2002 Evaluation will be Doug Denny, Extension Assistant from College Station, Texas.

Entry forms for hay samples are on page 8 of this newsletter. Contact the Walker County Extension Office for more information. Our phone number is (936) 435 – 2426.



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Special points of interest:

- Cow Country Congress
- Calving Assistance Workshop
- Fall Hay Evaluation
- Timber Growers Forestry Tour
- Texas State Hay Show

Reproductive Performance in Replacement Heifers Has Long-Term Consequences on the Cow Herd



Written By: L.R. Sprott, Professor, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist and Research Scientist, Texas Cooperative Extension

Introduction

Everyone wants good cows! These are females that wean a calf annually throughout their lifetime. A cow's ability to do this depends heavily on her performance as a heifer. Thus, good heifers, make for good cows. There is no question that selecting the right heifers, rearing them properly, and getting them bred early in their first breeding season has long-term positive impacts on herd production and profitability.

A Fertile Heifer Will Be A Fertile Cow

Fertile heifers are defined as those that get pregnant, but more importantly that they do so early in their first breeding season. Heifers with the best chance of doing this are those that are born in the first 60 days of the calving season. These heifers are excellent prospects for replacement females because they are the oldest and have more time to grow and reach puberty compared to their younger herd mates.

In order to reach puberty and breed at 15 months of age (and calve at two years of age), a heifer must achieve a target weight that is 65-70% of her expected mature weight before the start of first breeding. It is especially important that she reach this weight and start cycling before the start of breeding because the first puberal estrus (heat) is less fertile than subsequent heat periods that she will have during breeding. Certainly, those more fertile heat periods are critical to achieving good pregnancy rates. Providing adequate nutrition will allow the heifers a better chance to reach their target weight which will vary among breeds and between different herds. Such management will

increase pregnancy rates in replacement heifers.

Heifers that fail to become pregnant should be culled. Research shows that such an approach has positive long-term impacts on herd production and profitability. Other research in 8 herds of open heifers (totaling 778 head) that were held over for six months after first breeding for a second exposure to the bulls shows average pregnancy rates of only 58%. Among the eight herds, only one had pregnancy rates above 90%. That translates to a 12.5% chance of achieving pregnancy rates above 90% in open heifers held over for a second chance. The remaining seven herds had pregnancy rates ranging from 32% to 63%. Furthermore, in open heifers held over for a second chance, the cost per pregnancy achieved was twice the cost per pregnancy in those that conceived during the first attempt at breeding.

Early Conceivers Will Be More Productive and Profitable Throughout Life

The importance of early conception (first 21 days of breeding) for heifers and how it affects long-term production and profitability is shown in tables 1 through 4. These data were taken from a central Texas herd and compare the lifetime level of production, cost

(Continued on page 3)

**Tackle fire ants in the fall
for fewer ants
in the spring.**

Contact your county Extension agent for the full game plan.



<http://fireant.tamu.edu>

Texas Imported
Fire Ant Research
& Management Plan

Table 1. Lifetime Average Calf Weight per Female As Affected by Date of Calving As a Two-Year-Old

	Date of first calving as a two-year-old			
	First 21 days	Second 21 days	Third 21 days	Fourth 21 days
4 year old	539 lbs	503 lbs	506 lbs	511 lbs
5 year old	528 lbs	520 lbs	440 lbs	477 lbs
6+ years old	602 lbs	582 lbs	536 lbs	583 lbs
Average	556 lbs	535 lbs	494 lbs	523 lbs

Table 2. Lifetime Production Loss per Female Whose First Calving Date Was After the First 21 Days of Calving

	Date of first calving as a two-year-old		
	Second 21 days	Third 21 days	Fourth 21 days
4 year old	324 lbs	297 lbs	252 lbs
5 year old	72 lbs	797 lbs	459 lbs
6+ year old	180 lbs	594 lbs	360 lbs
Average	192 lbs	562 lbs	357 lbs

Assumes that 9 calves are produced from each female throughout life

Table 3. Lifetime Breakeven Cost per Pound of Calf Produced as Affected by Calving Date As a Two-Year-Old

	Date of first calving as a two-year-old			
	First 21 days	Second 21 days	Third 21 days	Fourth 21 days
4 year old	\$0.50	\$0.54	\$0.53	\$0.53
5 year old	\$0.51	\$0.52	\$0.61	\$0.57
6+ year old	\$0.45	\$0.46	\$0.50	\$0.46
Average	\$0.47	\$0.51	\$0.55	\$0.52

Assumes a \$270 annual cost per cow

Table 4. Lifetime Return On Investment As Affected by Calving Date As a Two-Year-Old

days	Date of first calving as a two-year-old			
	First 21 days	Second 21 days	Third 21 days	Fourth 21 days
4 year old	14.3 %	6.7 %	7.3%	8.4%
5 year old	12 %	10.3 %	(6.7 %)	1.2 %
6+ year old	27.7 %	23.4 %	13.7 %	23.7 %
Average	18 %	13.5 %		4.7 %

(Continued from page 2)

of production, and profitability in females that, as heifers, conceived and subsequently calved by various time intervals during their first calving season. In the tables, cows are divided by age: 4-years old (had 2 calves); 5-years old (had 3 calves); 6-years old and older (had 4 or more calves). All cows in the study were classed based on the date of their first calving as a two-year-old heifer. Table 1 shows that average lifetime calf weight is highest in females whose first calving date as a heifer occurred during the first 21 days of calving. Table 2 shows that females whose first calving date as a heifer occurred after the first 21 days of calving produced from 192 to 562 less pounds of calf in their life compared to the earliest calving females. This was true regardless of cow age. Table 3 shows that the earliest calving females produced a pound of calf at the lowest lifetime break even cost. Because of lowest cost and highest production, the females that calved early as a two-year-old created the highest lifetime return on investment (table 4).

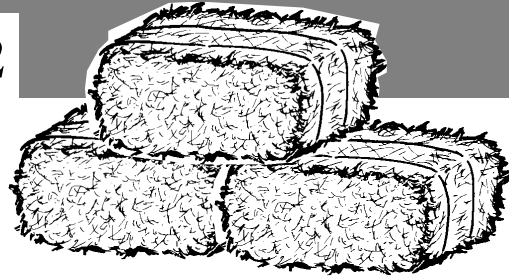
It should be remembered that early calving females were managed as heifers to cycle and breed early in their first breeding season. It is interesting to note in this herd of cows, that 99% of them did not switch from one time of calving to another

11.1%

(Continued on page 5)

FALL HAY

October 22, 2002



Program Topics:

- *Understanding
Reproduction and
Management Practices in the Cow Herd*
- *Forage Quality Determination*

This program is an annual educational activity sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension and the Walker County Extension Livestock & Pasture Committee. For more information contact the Walker Co. Texas Cooperative Extension Office at (936) 435-2426. (Hay Samples must be submitted prior to October 4th)

6:15 PM Tuesday
OCTOBER 22, 2002
SAM HOUSTON STATE
UNIVERSITY
INDOOR ARENA

R.S.V.P. BY OCTOBER 18th, FOR
MEAL PLANNING PURPOSES.

Hay Testing Sponsored by:

Walker County Farm Bureau

Awards Sponsored by:

American Plant Food Corporation

Guest Speakers:

Dr. Jodi Sterle, College Station, Texas

and

Doug Denny – College Station, Texas

Public School Students
eat FREE!
with their parents
in attendance.

\$5.00 "DUTCH TREAT" FISH FRY - 6:15 PM
PROGRAM AT 7:00 PM.
Program will conclude by 8:30 PM!

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

(Continued from page 3)

during their entire life, but instead calved within 15-20 days either side of their very first calving date as a heifer. Thus, the old saying, "If they start early, they stay early, and if they start late, they stay late", is true.

Manage Them to Conceive and Calve Early the First Time

The keys to achieving early conception and calving in heifers include at least these things.

1. When selecting replacement heifers, choose among those born in the first 60 days of calving. They are the oldest and easiest to manage for proper weight which dictates the onset of puberty.
2. Provide adequate nutrition from weaning to first breeding (15 months of age) to ensure that they reach at least 65-70% of their expected mature weight before breeding starts.
3. Give appropriate vaccines which protect against reproductive diseases and use internal parasite control (see your veterinarian).
4. Use estrous synchronization at first breeding to force heifers to cycle at least twice in the first 21 days of breeding (once at the time of synchrony, and again 21 days later for those not conceiving at synchrony).

Be sure to cull any heifer that does not conceive. The problems associated with failure to conceive as a heifer will have long-term negative effects on future production and profitability.

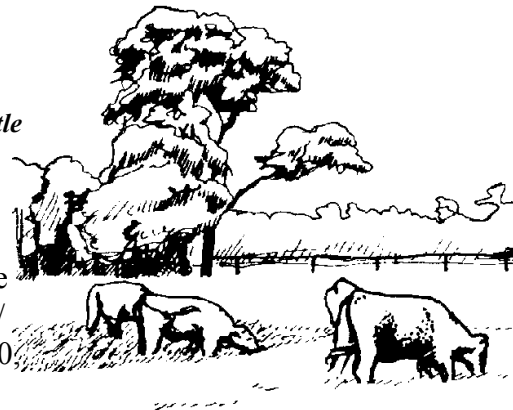
Following these steps in heifer management on an annual basis will result in a set of mature cows that anybody would be proud to own. These steps place a lot of pressure on heifers to perform. Those that can perform are, without question, very fertile, more productive and more profitable. Those that can not perform under these conditions are less fertile (maybe sterile), less productive, and less profitable.



REPLACEMENT HEIFER PRICING

Reported by Dr. Stephan Hammack, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist in *Beef Cattle Browsing*, August 23, 2002

Yearly market fluctuations can make it hard to figure what to pay for replacements. A Wyoming producer has developed a formula he thinks might be fair over time to both buyer and seller. For bred, ready-to-calve two-year-olds he uses the October Feeder Cattle Futures price, plus \$10/cwt. If the futures price is \$80 the replacement heifer price would be \$90 or \$855 for a 950 lb. heifer. For coming second-calf three-year-olds, he uses the same formula, plus \$150.



VISIT US ONLINE!

Check out the Walker County EXTENSION WEB SITE

<http://walker-tx.tamu.edu>

Explore the possibilities and endless amounts of electronic information available to you...
at your convenience!

Madison County – 2002 Host for

Cow Country Congress

Santerland Ranch

Madisonville Texas

October 10th, 2002

8:30 AM – Registration

Registration Fee: \$10.00 per person

R.S.V.P. is required for Meal Planning prior to October 8th.

Contact Your Local County Extension Office.

8:30 am	Registration
9:00 am	Welcome and Introduction of host, Mr. Gustavo Toro with Santerland Ranch
9:25 am	Production Economics, Dr. Steve Wiksey and Dr. James McGrann
10:05 am	Break and Visit Sponsor Exhibits
10:20 am	Cattle Market Trends, Industry Representative
10:50 am	12 Month Grazing Programs, Dr. Larry Redmon
11:20 am	<i>Break and Visit Sponsor Exhibits</i>
Noon	Meal: <i>Ribeye Steak Lunch</i> – Catered by Bobby Sam Harkins, Crockett, Texas
1:00 pm	Alternative Livestock Enterprises: Mr. Tommy Oates and Dr. Frank Pinkerton
1:45 pm	<i>Visit Commercial Exhibits</i>
Adjourn	

TDA
C.E.U. CREDIT

Additional program information is available from the Texas Cooperative Extension Office, Walker County (936) 435-2426.

*Visit With
Commercial Vendors from a
Variety of Ag Support Industries*

This program is supported by the Extension Beef & Forage Committees from Walker, Madison, Houston, Trinity, Leon, Freestone and Anderson Counties.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

AVOID PRICE DISCOUNTS - AT ALL COSTS?

Reported by Dr. Stephan Hammack, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist in *Beef Cattle Browsing*, July 31, 2002

We are often cautioned to avoid price discounts, but nothing may be said of the total picture. As an example, Texas A&M researchers studied a Central Texas backgrounded, commingled sale and found that Brahman-influenced (1/4-1/2 Brahman) steers were discounted \$3.54/cwt. compared to steers with no Brahman influence, averaged over 9 sales. For 500 lb. steers that's almost \$18/hd. At current prices, that amounts to about 20 lb. But, if climatic conditions are such that calves out of Brahman-type cows weigh 20 lb. more, it's a wash. More than 20 lb. and you're ahead. As another example, Yield Grade 4 carcasses are discounted heavily. But what if longer feeding gets more cattle into higher-valued quality grades of Choice and Select, and out of heavily-discounted Standard? That might more than offset a few YG4s. Consider all factors, not just

UTILIZATION OF FORAGE LEGUMES

by Gerald W. Evers, from *Principles of Cool-Season Forage Legume Management*

Nutritive Value

The greatest benefit forage legumes provide for livestock producers in the southeastern U.S. is their high nutritive value. Warm-season perennial grasses form the basis of pasture systems in the Lower South. As a forage class, they have the lowest digestibility (**Fig. 1**) that results in only modest animal performance in comparison to cool-season forages. Legumes have some of the highest digestibility and protein levels of all forages. Protein is a major component of an animal's body. It is needed for growth and repair of tissues. Carbohydrates and the energy derived from them are, quantitatively, the most important item in an animal's diet. All the animal functions, such as growth and milk production and biological processes such as feed digestion, require energy.

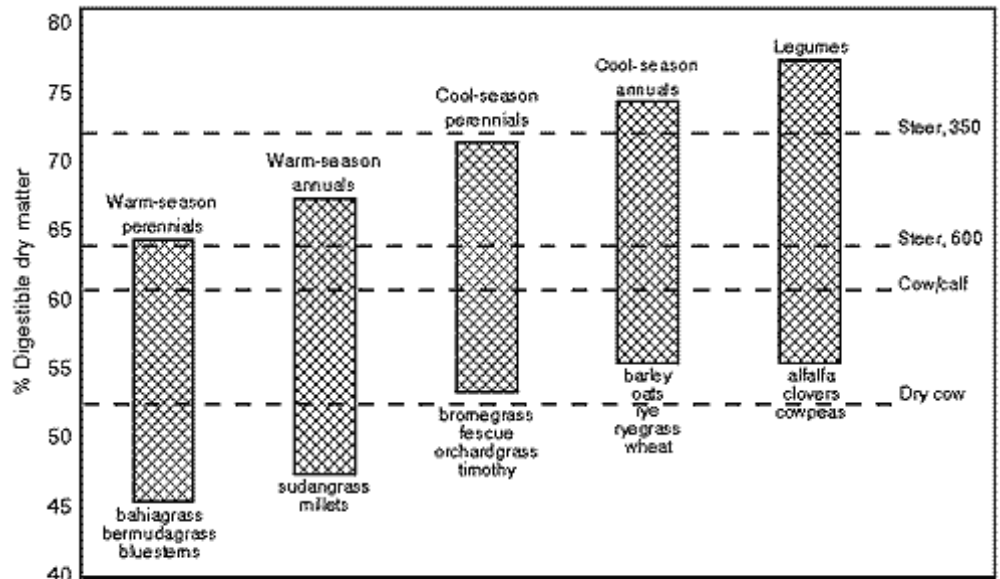
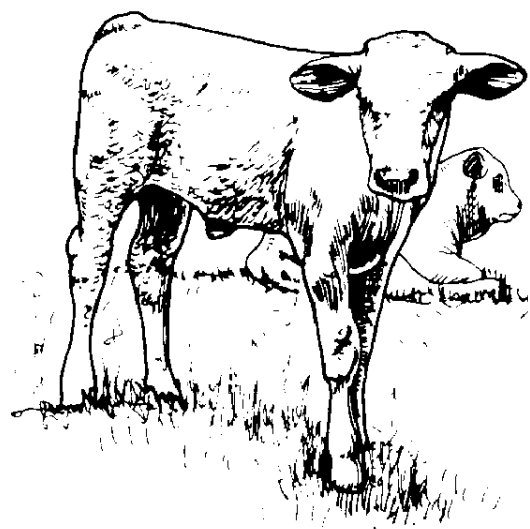


Figure 1. Digestibility percent ranges for several forage groups (H. Lippke, M. E. Riewe)

The most commonly used forage legume for hay production is alfalfa. Although alfalfa is a perennial, stands usually persist for only three to five years. As with other forage legumes, alfalfa is soil specific and cannot be grown on all soils. In the southeastern U.S., alfalfa grows from late February through November with the first hay cutting sometime in April. Because of poor hay drying conditions in April, alternative uses in early spring are grazing, silage, or greenchop. With normal rainfall, about six hay cuttings per year are possible. Alfalfa should be cut at the 10% bloom stage. Later maturing, upright-growing legumes such as arrowleaf, red clover, and sweetclover can also be harvested as hay in late spring.

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Grazing

Forage legumes make their greatest contribution towards reducing input costs of livestock production systems when they are grazed. As discussed earlier, legumes have a higher nutritive value than grasses that result in better animal performance. Grazing livestock enhance the transfer of nitrogen from the legume to the soil. Letting the animal harvest most of the forage is less costly than mechanical harvesting as hay, silage, or greenchop. The rapid growth period of cool-season annual legumes is relatively short, from about March 1 to plant maturity that ranges from mid-April until June depending on species. However, this growing period fills a gap in most grazing systems. When legumes are overseeded on warm-season perennial grasses, grazing can begin 6 to 8 weeks earlier than the warm-season grass alone. When mixed with small grains, the legume extends the grazing season 6 to 8 weeks.

The legume-summer grass system is the most efficient at using fixed nitrogen. The grass-growing period follows the legume-growing period so that the grass can utilize the nitrogen provided by the legume the first year. In the small grain/ryegrass-legume system on prepared seedbed, the grass-growing period precedes the peak legume-growing period. In this scenario, nitrogen from the legume would not be available to the cool-season grass until the following year. This would be contingent on any summer grass or weeds being disked back into the soil before planting the next fall.

Cows make the most efficient use of the cool-season legume and warm-season perennial grass mixtures when they calve in the winter. Production of the high nutritive value legume forage in the spring coincides with the highest nutrient requirements of the cow when she is producing milk and trying to rebreed. The cool-season legume and small grain and/or ryegrass mixture is best utilized by replacement heifers or fall calving cows. Fall and winter grass production will be limited because only modest rates of nitrogen fertilizer can be used so the legume stand is not reduced by shading. Average daily gains (ADG) of replacement heifers during the winter would only be 1 to 1.5 lb./

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HAY EVALUATION
Application Form

– COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION & SECURELY ATTACH TO YOUR HAY SAMPLE:

(Sample DEADLINE: October 4th, 2002)

Please attach the following information securely to your hay sample. The 1st sample entry per class is FREE, sponsored by the Walker County Farm Bureau, additional samples per class are \$5.00 each.

Samples may be turned in at the Walker County Extension Office on TAM Road, Natural Resource Conservation Service Office at the West Hill Mall or a participating feed store in Huntsville or New Waverly. Hay sample must be producer grown to qualify for entry to the State Hay Show. Questions about your entry? Call: 435-2426

CLASS OF HAY ENTERED:

PRODUCER GROWN _____
PURCHASED _____

IMPROVED BERMUDA _____
COMMON BERMUDA _____
BAHIA _____
SORGHUM _____
LEGUME _____
LEGUME GRASS MIX _____
RYEGRASS _____
MIXED GRASSES _____

NAME _____
PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____

ONLY ONE SAMPLE PER FORM

Samples Must Consist Of:
TWO BLOCKS From Square Bales OR
ONE FULL CLEAN FEED SACK from
Round Bales.

Calving Assistance Workshop

Program Speaker:
Dr. Buddy Faries, D.V.M.,
Extension Professor and
Veterinary Specialist

October 29th, 2002

7:00 PM

At the Walker County Extension Office
102 Tam Road
Huntsville, Texas

- ◆ **LEARN TO RECOGNIZE CALVING PROBLEMS**
- ◆ **LEARN TO DETERMINE WHEN YOUR ANIMAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE**
- ◆ **DISCUSSION & DEMONSTRATION ON PROPER METHODS AND TECHNIQUES**

Additional topics:

- Selection of calving assistance tools
- Management of the cow & calf afterward

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



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day because of limited forage. With increased forage production in the spring, their ADG should increase to 2.5 to 3.0 lb/day and result in excellent conception rates for winter calving. Fall calving cows should be limit-grazed (2 hr/day, 4 hr every other day) during the winter when pasture growth is slow and allowed to graze full time during the rapid growing period in the spring.

Bloat

Bloat in ruminants such as cattle, sheep, and goats is not completely understood although bloat was reported by an ancient Roman author as early as 60 A.D. Bloat occurs when the rumen (paunch) swells as gases (methane, carbon dioxide), that are formed during normal fermentation of feedstuffs that produce a stable foam that cannot escape. Swelling occurs first and is most noticeable in the left flank. Free gas is normally removed through belching by the animal but the foam inhibits the belching response. Drylot or feedlot bloat is experienced mainly in beef cattle raised on high grain diets and is chronic in nature. Legume, or frothy bloat, occurs when susceptible livestock graze lush, rapid growing, cool-season forages that are high in soluble proteins. Cattle can bloat on ryegrass and small grains as well as legumes. A common misconception is that animal death from bloat is caused by an increase in gas production. The problem is the result of the formation of stable foam on top of the rumen fluid which covers the esophagus opening and prevents gas expulsion. The rumen expands as the gas increases causing pressure against the lungs and certain blood vessels. This causes the animal to suffocate.

The mechanism of legume bloat is complex because of the interaction of plants, animals, and microbes in the rumen. There is no specific set of conditions (legume species, time of the year, animal type) where bloat always does or does not occur. Since bloat is not predictable, we can only discuss situations which increase or decrease the chance for bloat. The following discussion will be limited to legume bloat.

Plant Aspects of Bloat

The compound in legumes which causes the foam build up is not known for certain. Many feel it is some type of soluble leaf protein but differ on which protein fraction is responsible. Other plant compounds which have been reported to influence bloat are saponins and pectins. Legume species vary in their ability to cause bloat. Alfalfa, ball clover, annual medics, white clover, and Persian clover are considered to have high bloat potential; red, crimson, and subterranean clovers have medium potential; and berseem clover and arrowleaf clover have low bloat incidence. A high tannin level in arrowleaf clover is thought to be responsible for its low

incidence of low bloat. However, all can cause bloat and should be managed properly. Birdsfoot trefoil, sainfoin, crownvetch, and most tropical legumes are non-bloating legume species.

Livestock are most likely to bloat on clover pastures in the early spring. One theory is that the warmer day temperatures increase photosynthesis or the synthesis of carbohydrates and proteins. However, the night temperatures at that time are still cold which slows the breakdown process of some of the carbohydrates and proteins which occurs at night. The net result is the build up of carbohydrates and proteins, one of which is the soluble leaf protein which is believed to cause bloat.

Animal Aspects of Bloat

Cattle may bloat after grazing clovers for only 2 hours or for as long as 2 weeks. Within a given herd, some animals will bloat and some will not. Selecting against bloat susceptibility is possible because of 'bloat prone' families of dairy and beef cattle, differences in the bloating potential of cattle breeds, and transmittal of bloating tendencies to offspring. Many producers feel that Brahman cross cattle are less likely to bloat than non-Brahman cattle. Some individuals are chronic bloaters and should be culled. Possible reasons cited are differences in (1) salivary flow and composition, (2) grazing behavior, (3) feed intake, (4) lower rates of gas production in the rumen, (5) conditions in the rumen unfavorable to persistent foaming, (6) physiological responses to tactile stimulation or stretch of the reticulorumen walls, and (7) anatomy. Grazing studies in Louisiana have shown wide variations in bloat severity for the same animals from morning to afternoon grazing periods of the same day, as well as variations in bloat severity of the same animals after corresponding grazing periods from day to day. This further demonstrates that the cause of legume bloat is quite complex.

Bloat Prevention

Care must be taken when first turning cattle on to lush legume pastures in the early spring. The drastic change in diet from a dry hay with 6 to 10% protein to young clover with over 25% protein (dry weight basis) and a moisture content of about 85% is a shock to the microflora and protozoa in the rumen. A transition period of 1 to 2 weeks where livestock have access to both hay and legume is helpful. This can be accomplished by allowing the animals to graze clover for an hour or two a day while receiving hay or providing hay on the clover pastures. In any case, animals should never be placed on lush legume pasture with an empty rumen. Pasture management practices for reducing the incidence of bloat center on not allowing young succulent legumes

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to constitute the total diet of livestock. Utilization of grass-legume mixtures instead of pure legume pastures is the most desirable option in terms of cost and labor to reduce frothy bloat. Bloat is very rare on grass-legume pastures when legumes constitute 50% or less of the available forage. The most economical grass-legume mixtures are seeding from 15 to 20 pounds of ryegrass per acre with the legume in the late fall. Cost will be from \$5 to \$7 per acre for seed plus planting expenses. Besides preventing bloat, adding a grass will provide earlier grazing that will further reduce overwintering costs of the cow herd.

If clover constitutes the major portion of the available forage in a pasture, hay can be fed. An alternative is to limit graze the pasture several hours a day or use a portable electric fence to strip graze a small portion of the pasture each day. Here again, hay should be fed free choice. This is also an excellent way to get maximum return from winter pasture for a cow-calf operation.

Another approach to preventing bloat is the feeding of antifoaming agents. The most effective one is poloxolene which is available in a molasses block, in granular form that can be mixed with a mineral or grain supplement, and in a liquid molasses supplement. Directions must be followed carefully for poloxolene to be effective. Allow livestock access to poloxolene blocks 2 to 5 days before turning in on legume pastures so they become accustomed to them. One block should be provided for every five head. Never allow livestock to run out of poloxolene since it must be consumed daily to prevent bloat.

Legume pastures should always be managed to reduce the incidence of bloat since its occurrence is unpredictable. Check livestock frequently for two weeks when they begin grazing lush legume pastures to identify chronic bloaters and to be sure bloat prevention methods are working. Slight swelling or puffiness of the left side of the animal is not uncommon. Even though precautions are followed, an animal may still be lost to bloat. Consensus of most livestock grazers is that the benefits of grazing legumes outweigh the risks of bloat.

October 19, 2002 Forestry Tour



Tour the Indian Mound Tree Farm and see the production of pine seedlings for reforestation.

***\$10.00 registration fee (nonmembers) provides association membership.*

Walker Co. Timber Growers & Landowners Association

Call the Texas Forest Service at (936) 295 - 5688 for additional information.



Ranch to Rail cattle Nominations Due September 15th, 2002

- **Ranch to Rail North**
Double A Feeders, Inc.,
Clayton, NM
Delivery Dates:
November 14, 2002
- **Ranch to Rail South**
Hondo Creek Cattle
Company, Edroy, TX
Delivery Dates:
October 1-2, 2002

Online Information: **Log-**
on to <http://animalscience-extension.tamu.edu> then
choose the *Ranch to Rail* Section.

2002 Texas State Hay Show

The state hay show in conjunction with the Texas Forage and Grassland Council's annual meeting will be held in Fredericksburg, Texas on Dec. 5 and 6, 2002. The 4H and FFA hay judging contest will be held on Dec. 5.

Basic Alfalfa Production

McGregor Experiment Station, McGregor, Texas

Monday, October 7, 2002

- Why Alfalfa?
- Using Alfalfa for Hay/Grazing
- Bloat Prevention
- Nitrogen Fixation and Inoculation
- Successful Establishment of Alfalfa
- Soil Requirements, Soil Testing, Fertilizing on
- Sand and Texas Blacklands
- Weed Control in Alfalfa

LUNCH

- Variety Selection, Disease/Insect Resistance
- Harvesting and Managing Alfalfa
- View Alfalfa Plots on Station
- Discussion with Group

Registration Fee: \$75/person (includes extensive course materials, lunch and all breaks) Please send your payment

to: **TFGC**

P.O. Box 891

Georgetown, Texas 78627

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY

SEPTEMBER 20. SPACE IS LIMITED! If you have questions, please call 512/868-9842.

Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Educational program and need specialized services. Notification of at least two weeks in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

We hope you enjoy this issue of Walker County Livestock & Pasture News. If you have questions or would like more information call us at (936) 435-2426.

Walker County Extension Office:

102 Tam Road Suite B, Huntsville Texas 77320

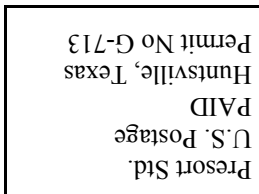
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Sincerely,

Reggie Lepley

County Extension Agent – Agriculture



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