



Nuttin' but News

Caddo County OSU Extension Center



AGRICULTURAL NEWSLETTER

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service • Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University

201 W. Okla., Anadarko, OK 73005 405/247-3376

<http://countyext.okstate.edu/caddo> January 2007

Upcoming Agricultural Events

- Jan. 5 - Keeping the Family Farming Workshop /
Jan. 6 Comfort Inn / **Enid, OK** / For registration
call 405-744-9813 / Cost \$200
- Jan. 16 Hydro Vegetable Meeting / Hydro Senior
Citizens Center / **Hydro, OK** /
9:30 AM Registration
- Jan. 22 Caddo County Cattlemen's Association /
Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center / **Fort
Cobb, OK** / 6:30 PM / Topic; Controlling
Wildlife / Speaker; Dewayne Elmore, OSU
Wildlife Specialist
- Jan. 25 Stocker Receiving Management Confer-
ence / Chisholm Trail Pavilion Garfield
County Fairgrounds / **Enid, OK** / 8:30 AM /
To Register Call 580-237-7677
- Jan. 27 District Volunteer Leaders Conference /
Great Plains Technology Center / **Lawton,
OK** / 9:00 AM
- Feb. 8 Ag Technology and No Till Workshop /
Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center / **Fort
Cobb, OK** / 8:00 Registration
- Feb. 9 - Oklahoma Crop Improvement Conference /
Feb. 10 Embassy Suites / **Oklahoma City, OK** /
8:00 AM Registration
- Feb. 26 - Caddo County Junior Livestock Show /
Feb. 27 Caddo County Fairgrounds / **Anadarko,
OK** / 8:00 AM
- Feb. 28 Annual Caddo County Peanut Meeting /
Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center / **Fort
Cobb, OK** / 6:30 PM

Hydro Vegetable Meeting - January 16th

We are running a little behind schedule, but speakers and sponsors are getting ready for the Hydro Vegetable Meeting, set for Tuesday, January 16th at the Hydro Senior Citizens Center in Hydro, OK.

Some of the topics we will be discussing are; The Oklahoma School to Farm Program, Cold Storage, Weed Control, Dry Bean Production, Vascular Diseases in Watermelon, and Controlling Vegetable Diseases. There is no need to pre-register, no cost to attend. Registration begins at 9:00 AM, and the program starts at 9:30 AM. The Hydro COOP and Estes Chemical are making arrangements for the meal, and several other sponsors will be on hand to discuss new products and services available this year.

Ag Technology and No-Till Workshop

Local Conservation Districts, the NRCS, Great Plains RC&D, the Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center, and the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service have all gotten together to organize the upcoming Ag Technology and No-Till Workshop. The workshop will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2007 at the Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center in Fort Cobb. Registration is from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM, with the program beginning at 9:00 AM. Equipment and sponsor displays will be viewable throughout the day.

With the increasing spiral in fuel, fertilizers, and other inputs, many producers are interested in new technology such as; guidance systems, assisted steering, mapping, boom control, and herbicide selection. Some of the new technologies are closely related to no-till production, precision agriculture, or just reducing farm inputs.

There is no cost to attend, look for more information in the February newsletter.



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Oklahoma State University
201 W Oklahoma
Anadarko OK 73005

SEVERITY OF WINTER AND IMPACT ON CALF BIRTH WEIGHTS

By Glenn Selk, OSU Extension Cattle Reproduction Spec.

Does the severity (coldness or mildness) of the winter have an impact on spring-born calf birth weights? Ranchers have asked that question during many springs and veterinarians have speculated for years. The debate rages on! This is obviously a difficult subject to research because you cannot have a "control" group of cows to compare to a "treatment" group that is exposed to a cold winter while still running on the same pasture. Therefore research data on this subject is limited. University of Nebraska researchers have done the next best thing. They have monitored the birth weights of genetically similar calves across three different winters and have related average winter temperatures to birth weights. This research is summarized in more detail in the [University of Nebraska Beef Research Report for 1996; available on line at http://animalscience.unl.edu/beef/beefrpt/COLBURN.htm](http://animalscience.unl.edu/beef/beefrpt/COLBURN.htm)

Other data that may shed some light on this subject, comes from Oklahoma State University in 1990. Birth weights of 172 fall born calves and 242 spring born calves were compared. These calves were the result of AI matings using the same bulls and bred to similar crossbred cows. The fall born calves averaged 4.5 pounds lighter at birth than their spring-born counterparts (77.7 versus 82.2). One possible explanation for this phenomenon, the changing of blood flow patterns of cows gestating in hot weather

versus cold weather. During hot weather blood is Of course, ranchers cannot control the weather. shunted away from internal organs toward outer extremities to dissipate heat, while the opposite is the case in very cold weather with blood flow directed toward internal organs in an effort to conserve heat and maintain body temperature. This change in maternal blood flow may impact fetal growth in a small way, but result in a measurable difference.

David L. Nowlin
Ext. Educator: Agriculture, 4-H, & C.E.D.
david.nowlin@okstate.edu

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