

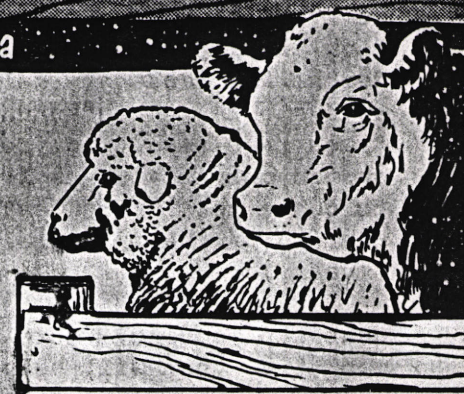
REDWOOD CORRAL

Agricultural Extension

University of California

Agriculture Center Building, 5630 S. Broadway at Spruce Point

Eureka, California 95501 Phone 443-0896



OCTOBER 1985

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GRAZING TOUR IN NEW ZEALAND

Walt Giacomini has organized an intensive grazing tour of New Zealand for January 18-31, 1986. The tour is designed to learn why the Kiwis (New Zealanders) are the top pasture managers of the world. Time will be spent with extension and university pasture experts, farmers, and with fencing industry representatives. There will be time allowed for sight-seeing, too. For more information on the tour, please contact Walt Giacomini (733-5692). Space is limited.

BUDGET CUTS

As a result of our last 10% reduction in our county budget, we will not be answering the telephones between the hours of 12 Noon and 3 p.m. starting October 7. This will allow our remaining two secretaries time to do newsletters and other typing. We regret any inconvenience this may cause to you.

POISONOUS PLANTS AROUND THE CORRAL

I've noticed some poisonous plants around the corrals along the coast. The main one is poisonous hemlock (*Conium maculatum*); it is poisonous to all classes of livestock and to humans. It can grow quite tall, has a hollow stem, and has a red-blotching up and down the stem. Poison hemlock also has small white flowers arranged in an umbrella-like cluster.

Some symptoms of poisoning are nervousness, trembling and weakness (especially of the hind limbs). Pulse becomes slow and irregular, and the animal may go into a coma (though this is not necessarily fatal). All parts of poison hemlock--leaves, stem, fruit, and root--are dangerous. Leaves are especially poisonous in the spring, up to the time the plant flowers. Fresh leaves have a nauseating taste, so livestock seldom eat hemlock when other feed is available.

There may not be any problem with leaving poison hemlock around the corral, but the threat of an animal eating it will always be there unless it is removed. You can manually remove the plants or spray with an herbicide early in the season.

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Co-operative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture,
University of California and Humboldt and Del Norte counties, co-operating

MORE CALVES AT WEANING

Six to ten percent of all calves born in beef herds in the United States die at or soon after birth. One half of these deaths are caused by calving difficulty or dystocia. This annual loss is three times that resulting from abortions and second only to losses from cows failing to conceive. These death losses are costing ranchers several million dollars a year.

What can be done? Here are some management tips that will help you save calves:

1. Observe the herd closely during calving season, especially first-calf heifers, because they require the most assistance. Using Jersey or Longhorn bulls can reduce calving problems in first-calf heifers.
2. Have proper equipment and facilities in working condition prior to calving.
3. Give assistance during delivery or call a veterinarian when needed.
4. Correct any abnormal fetal presentation in the early stages of delivery.
5. When pulling a calf, loop the chain or rope above the ankle joint and half hitch it below the ankle. Apply traction on one leg at a time to facilitate passage of the shoulders through the birth canal.
6. Remove mucus from the calf's nose and mouth immediately after birth. If the calf does not start to breathe normally, hold it up by the hind legs and shake it vigorously, or apply artificial respiration with a short piece of hose or by alternate pressure and release on the rib cage.
7. Disinfect the navel cord with iodine to prevent infection.
8. Keep birth weight and ease-of-calving records to identify those sires and dams responsible for calving problems. Cull those females with a history of calving problems and avoid selecting replacement heifers from those cows.

By following these suggestions, cattlemen can save more calves at calving time. With

the high costs of production, what cattleman can afford to lose calves?

COLOSTRUM IS IMPORTANT

Colostrum or first milk is important to baby lambs and baby calves. It contains higher levels of energy, protein, vitamins, and disease-resisting antibodies, particularly gamma globulin, than is contained in regular milk.

For best results colostrum should be fed to lambs and calves within an hour after birth and should continue for two or three days. Young are born with practically no antibodies to resist disease-causing organism. It is very important that they receive colostrum as soon after birth as possible because it supplies the needed antibodies until they are able to produce their own.

The timing is critical because the ability of the calf or lamb to absorb colostrum antibodies through its intestinal wall decreases rapidly after birth and is practically nil after 25 hours. Colostrum-deprivation causes young calves and lambs a high risk of thriftiness, increased susceptibility to disease and even higher mortality. Lambs tend to have a higher mortality than calves.

If the cow or ewe has little or no colostrum milk, colostrum milk from other ewes or cows can be used. Colostrum can be frozen and stored till it's needed. If you don't have a source for colostrum milk, you could contact a local dairyman and buy some colostrum milk from him. Keeping a supply of colostrum on hand is a good investment, as it can save you lambs and calves.

HORSE BREEDING CONFERENCE AT LAS VEGAS

The Nevada Cooperative Extension and the University of Nevada are sponsoring a conference on horse reproduction management November 16-17 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Some of the topics include: anatomy and physiology of the mare and stallion, hormonal control of the estrus cycle, use of ultrasound for pregnancy detection, embryo transfer, and artificial insemination. If you want more information on the conference, please let me know.

CONTROLLED GRAZING SEMINARS

There will be three controlled grazing seminars beginning on Thursday October 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Agriculture Center auditorium. The other two meetings will be on October 17 and 22.

The purpose of these seminars is to study the New Zealand method of intensive grazing. New Zealand is one of the leading nations of the world in pounds of meat produced per acre. The seminars will cover physiology of forage plants, principles of grazing, feed budgets, and a computer program on pasture inventory.

There will be a five dollar fee for the seminars which will cover materials and refreshments. If you have any questions, please call me at 443-0896.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 5	Humboldt County Wool Growers Meeting, Scotia Inn
October 10, 17 & 22	Controlled Grazing Seminar, Ag Center
October 12	Horse Day, University of California in Davis
October 15	UC Beef Day, Turf Room, Ferndale
Nov. 16 & 17	Horse Breeding Conference, Las Vegas
December 11-14	CCA Convention, Monterey

U.C. BEEF DAY HERE!

The Animal Science Department at UC Davis and Cooperative Extension are sponsoring a UC Beef Day at the Turf Room in Ferndale on Tuesday, October 15. The agenda is as follows:

8:00 a.m.	Registration -- Turf Room Humboldt County Fairgrounds
8:30 a.m.	Welcome: Dr. Robert Touchberry, Chairman Department of Animal Science, UC Davis Jim Timmons, 1st Vice President California Cattlemen's Association
9:00 a.m.	Problems Facing the California Beef Industry: Can We Survive -- Dr. James Cothorn Extension Marketing Economist

NOMINATIONS FOR BEEF COUNCIL

The State Department of Food and Agriculture is accepting nominations by mail for members and alternate members of the beef industry to serve on the California Beef Council.

The Council consists of 20 industry members and one public member and their alternates, all servings staggered three-year terms. It assists the department director in administering a program of advertising, promotion, and research for the state's beef industry.

Nominations will be accepted through October 31 for two cattle feeder members, two range cattle producer members--Harold Hunt's (from Arcata) term expires this year--, two dairy operator members, one slaughterer member and an alternate member for each. The geographic location of potential members and alternate members will be considered when making appointments for the three-year terms which begins January 1.

I have some nomination forms in my office, if anyone would like to make a nomination.



9:30 a.m. More Income Through Intensive Grazing
Gary Markegard, Farm Advisor

9:45 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

10:00 a.m. Why People Eat Less Beef -- Bob Kingsbery, President
Kingsbery Communications, San Antonio, Texas

10:30 a.m. Evaluation of Feeding Value & Costs of Cattle Supplements--
Dr. Jim Morris, Professor of Animal Science

11:00 a.m. QUESTION AND ANSWERS

11:15 a.m. California Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory--
Dr. Bernie Osburn, Associate Dean/Research
School of Veterinary Medicine

11:30 a.m. LUNCH - Served by Humboldt County Cow Belles

12:30 p.m. Genetic Engineering of Animal Vaccines and Interferon Use
in the Cow Herd--Dr. Bernie Osburn, Associate Dean/
Research School of Veterinary Medicine

1:00 p.m. Parasite Control--What Works--Dr. Ed Loomis
Extension Parasitologist

1:30 p.m. Selenium Update -- Walt Johnson, Farm Advisor, Shasta County

1:45 p.m. QUESTION AND ANSWERS ON ANIMAL HEALTH

2:00 p.m. Getting More From Your Growth Implants -- Audrey Jenkins,
Staff Research Associate, Animal Science Extension

2:15 p.m. Immunizing Heifers to Prevent Cycling -- Sarah Davis
Staff Research Associate, Endocrinology

2:30 p.m. Keys to Improved Fertility -- Dr. Steven Berry
Extension Reproductive Management Specialist

3:00 p.m. Benefits and Hazards of Crossbreeding -- Dr. Tom Famula,
Professor of Animal Science
Jim Sullins, Farm Advisor, San Bernardino County

4:00 p.m. QUESTION AND ANSWERS OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION SPEAKERS

4:15 p.m. ADJOURN

There is a \$10 registration fee for U.C. Beef Day. This covers the lunch and a copy of the proceedings. If you sign up before October 13, you only need to pay \$9. To pre-register please fill out the form and send it to: Gary Markegard, Farm Advisor, 5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA 95501.

U. C. BEEF DAY
REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address _____

No. of people _____ @ \$9.00* = _____

Check should be made payable to: Regents of the University of California

*Cost will be \$10 if you don't pre-register.

COMPUTER CLASS AT C/R

The Agriculture Department at College of the Redwoods is offering two computer classes this school year. They are:

- * AG44 Introduction to Computers in Agriculture--this class will begin October 29 and run through January 21, 1986. The course is designed for people with little or no prior computer experience. The class will meet on Tuesday evenings from 7-10 p.m. in Room 354 of the Vocational Technicology Building.
- * AG45 Intermediate Computers in Agriculture is a follow-up course that is designed to build on knowledge and skill acquired in AG44. The first class begins February 3, 1986.

Bruce Bergman is the instructor for both classes. For more information on the classes, please call 443-8411, extension 600 or 601.

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Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Mary Mashegari

Gary Markegard
Farm Advisor

GM/wc

300c

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