



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System

Faulkner County Agriculture News

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training

The Faulkner County Extension office will be teaming up with Conway and Van Buren County Extension offices to conduct a Beef Quality Assurance training on **Tuesday March 5, 2019**. The program will be held at the Community Center in Damascus located at 17349 Hwy 65 South beginning at 5:30 pm with a meal being served and training starting by 6 pm. BQA training is a required certification for producers to participate in the Arkansas Natural State Calf Preconditioning Program known as GoGreen. Even if a producer chooses not to participate in the GoGreen program, BQA certification is a great asset for your livestock operation. You will learn about proper injection methods and sites, handling vaccines and antibiotics, and methods to reduce stress and health risk on your farm. There will be a test following the training for you to be certified in the program and receive BQA Certification. This is a free program but we do ask that you contact your county extension office by March 1, 2019 to register for the meal. To register at the Faulkner County office please call (501) 329-8344.

Natural State Preconditioned Calf Program (GoGreen)

What is the NSPCP? The Natural State Preconditioned Calf Program improves the image and welfare of Arkansas calves by adopting Best Management Practices from calf hood through marketing. "Preconditioning involves vaccination, castration and calves who are weaned and understand how to find food and water in troughs," said Shane Gadberry, professor-ruminant nutrition for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. High-quality calves are important in Arkansas, which is ranked No. 11 in the nation for the number of beef cows. Most of the calves raised in Arkansas are not farm-to-plate, which means they will likely be spending part of their lives in another barn by the time they are six or seven months old. "When preconditioning is done right, everybody wins," he said. "Buyers spend less time and money treating sick cattle, sale barns provide healthier cattle and attract new business, and sellers often receive market incentives that cover vaccine costs and short-term retained ownership may advance market weights and total sale dollars." The program's nickname "GoGREEN," refers to the green ear tags placed on cattle meeting the program requirements, which include delaying marketing for at least 45 days after weaning. If you are interested in more information about the GoGREEN program, contact our office.

How To Enroll

To participate, the rancher must first be Beef Quality Assurance certified. Once enrolled in the GoGREEN program, ranchers should develop a calf management plan based on the criteria listed on the qualifying form and must have documentation of health products purchased and dates administered. After all the best management practices have been documented, tags can be picked up from the county extension office. To participate in the GoGREEN program, there is a ranch enrollment fee of \$10 for 3 years and a \$2 per calf qualifying fee.

GoGREEN for Sellers

1. Become BQA certified.
2. Adopt a few Best Management Practices like castrating bull calves, removing horns, vaccinating calves for respiratory diseases and blackleg, treating calves for internal parasites, and keeping calves at least 45 days after weaning before marketing.
3. Complete the qualifying form and contact our office to pick up your Natural State Preconditioned Calf Program GoGREEN TAGS.
4. Tag and provide all documentation at market.

GoGREEN for Buyers

1. Look for the Official Green Natural State Preconditioned Calf tag.
2. Ask sale barns for copies of the qualifying form.

GoGREEN for Sale Barns

1. This program is about what we're marketing, not where and when we're marketing.
2. Sale barns do not need to enroll in the program or have special sales to market calves enrolled in the program.
3. Sale barns are free to use the Natural State Preconditioned Calf Program to create special sales to attract sellers and buyers.
4. Ask sellers for copies of the qualifying form.
5. Provide buyers with copies of the qualifying form.

Sincerely,



Kevin Lawson
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Faulkner County
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VALUE - ADDED MANAGEMENT

ADDITIONS	Per Head
Castration	+\$18
Vaccine History	+\$30
ADDED WT	+\$53
TOTAL	+\$101

+\$334 / calf

Per Head	DEDUCTIONS
-\$2	Castration
-\$5	Respiratory vaccine (2 rounds)
-\$2	Clostridial vaccine (2 rounds)
-\$4	Dewormer
-\$16	Feed
-\$6	Mineral
-\$30	Hay (drylot weaning assumed)
-\$2	Market tag
-\$67	TOTAL

Castration values adjusted for 1/3 of calves marketed as female
 Vaccine history is \$6/cwt over no history
 Added weight based on 1.3 lb/d gain over 45 days with 0.11/lb price slide