Brucellosis is reproductive disease in cattle that is caused by a bacterial infection in the reproductive tract of cattle. Brucellosis can lead to abortion of fetus in infected cattle. After abortion, the bacterium is very prevalent in the aborted fetus, placental fluid and placental membrane. This can lead to spread of the disease to other cattle or susceptible cattle can become infected through direct contact with an infected animal. Once infected, a cow will likely carry the disease for life. Most cows only abort once but may have small or weak calves for the rest of their lives. This disease is particularly dangerous because it is transmissible to humans. It is referred to undulant fever and can cause flu-like symptoms in people. Arkansas is considered to be free of Brucellosis, but Arkansas law still requires that all replacement heifers receive the free vaccine when they are between four and twelve months of age.

**Bangs Vaccination Dates Set**

Logan County Extension offices, along with the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, will be offering free Bangs vaccinations on **Tuesday, May 19** or **Wednesday, May 20**. Heifers 4-12 months of age may be vaccinated. **Producers wishing to have cattle vaccinated must register with the Extension office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 15.**

**Pesticide Applicator Training Scheduled**

The Logan County Extension will team with the Franklin County Extension Service to offer one last Pesticide Applicator Training. You must complete this class in order to get a restricted-use pesticide license. You must have this license to use any 2,4-D products. The dates are as follows:

**Thursday May 14, 2015- 1:00 p.m.**

Ozark – Franklin County Extension office

*Cost is $10 payable at the door – no need to preregister. If you have any questions, give the Extension office a call.*
Believe it or not, it is time to order seed or sprigs for planting bermudagrass this summer, and establishment time is fast approaching. An essential part of success or failure of newly established bermudagrass hay meadows/pastures is variety selection. A small plot bermudagrass variety demonstration was established by the Ouachita District County Extension agents in Spring 2012. In the demonstration located at the University of Arkansas SWREC, we established 11 bermudagrass varieties that are fairly common to our area in four 5’ x 20’ plots per variety. The varieties established included five hybrids (Genesis, Vaughn’s #1, Ozark, Tifton 44, and Midland 99) and six seeded varieties (Mohawk, Cheyenne II, common, Sungrazer, Sungrazer Plus and Wrangler).

Summer 2012 was an establishment year, and no yield or quality data was collected. The first year of yield data collection was 2013, and the second year was 2014. The plots were fertilized with triple 17 fertilizer (300 lb/acre rate) in early May of each year. The first harvest was conducted in mid to late June, and plots were re-fertilized with ammonium nitrate (150lb/acre rate). The second harvest was conducted on August 12, 2013, and the second harvest in year 2 was on July 11, 2014.

Supplemental irrigation was provided throughout the establishment year and during the first year of data collection. Even though variety test plots are designed to be evaluated over several years, the first two years of data provides us with some very interesting results presented in the table below. In the first two years of data, there are several points that are fairly clear. With the management in place, the hybrid varieties were tops on the list in total production over the two years, even though in the first year the best of the seeded varieties performed fairly similarly to the best hybrid varieties. In the second year of production, the hybrids Midland 99 and Tifton 44 were the most productive with other hybrids lagging slightly behind, while the seeded varieties were substantially lower in production. These two points illustrate that for hybrid varieties to show their true benefit and potential, they must be managed intensively with high rates of fertility and frequent cutting interval, and establishment may not be as quick as with seeded varieties. The third point to consider is that the lowest performing variety is actually an excellent variety for where it was developed. Wrangler (a seeded variety) was developed by Oklahoma State University and is very productive and cold tolerant in Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri, yet does not seem to be a very good variety for our region in southern Arkansas!

This bermudagrass variety demonstration is managed and all the labor is supplied by the county Extension agriculture agents of the Ouachita District of southwest Arkansas. It is a huge undertaking with a tremendous amount of time and energy involved, but the lessons learned and information collected are valuable to our clients, the forage producers of southwest Arkansas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Season 1</th>
<th>DM yield Season 2</th>
<th>Season Total</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaughn’s #1</td>
<td>5,093</td>
<td>4,523</td>
<td>4,808</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genesis</td>
<td>5,729</td>
<td>3,872</td>
<td>4,801</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midland 99</td>
<td>4,668</td>
<td>4,836</td>
<td>4,752</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tifton 44</td>
<td>4,695</td>
<td>4,719</td>
<td>4,707</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ozark</td>
<td>4,771</td>
<td>4,454</td>
<td>4,613</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sungrazer Plus</td>
<td>4,563</td>
<td>4,147</td>
<td>4,355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mohawk</td>
<td>5,229</td>
<td>3,430</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common</td>
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<td>3,741</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheyenne II</td>
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<td>4,114</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sungrazer</td>
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<td>4,017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wrangler</td>
<td>3,607</td>
<td>3,794</td>
<td>3,701</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mark Your Calendars!!!
The 2015 Logan County Fairs are just around the corner. These dates are important to all hay producers in Logan County because, with the county fairs, comes the opportunity to participate in the Logan County Hay Shows. Participation in one of the annual hay shows provides many educational and cost-saving opportunities that producers shouldn’t overlook. It’s simple to enter and the reduced analysis cost of $8 saves $10 off the regular price.

Logan County Hay Show
5:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 11
Entry deadline: Friday, July 30
Sponsored by: Logan County Bank, Logan County Cattlemen’s Association, Ross Rogers Equipment, and Subiaco Farmers’ Cooperative

South Logan County Hay Show
5:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 8
Entry deadline: Friday, August 28
Sponsored by: First Western Bank
For complete rules and details, contact Bob Harper at 963-2360 or 675-2787.

Fire Ant Field Day
with
UA Extension Entomologist Dr. Kelly Loftin

Tuesday, April 28
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
South Logan County Fairgrounds - Booneville

Dr. Loftin will conduct a demonstration on an active mound and talk about the newest control methods as well as the life cycle and habits of this invasive pest.

Imported fire ants were introduced into the United States from South America over 70 years ago. The first documented infestation in Arkansas was found in El Dorado in 1958. Currently, they infest most of the southern half of Arkansas, and have been found in the northern reaches of the state. Fire ants are reddish brown and range from 1/8” to 1/4” in length. In addition to their physical characteristics and aggressive swarming behavior, they are identified by their painful sting, which produces a small pustule (white bump) on the victim within 8 to 24 hours.

Fire Ants have infested all parts of Logan County and can be found in most any area of the county. Fire ants are serious pests, but fortunately their impact on our lives can be minimized through patience and integrated pest management methods.