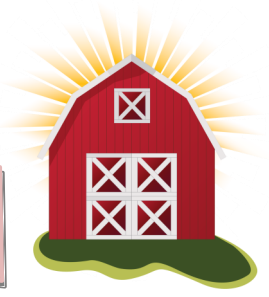


BARNYARD BULLETIN



Volume 2, Issue 2

UF/IFAS Duval County Extension

March/April 2018

2018 is already flying by! This issue of Barnyard Bulletin focuses on preparing for summer and repairing from 2017 damages. Also included are some interesting updates for college agriculture programs and updates for livestock haulers worried about the electronic logging device mandate. Summer programming is beginning to ramp up, make sure you follow our blog and Facebook page to stay on top of upcoming events!

Have suggestions on what you'd like to see on our social media or newsletters? Let us know! Our mission is to serve you, we want to teach you what you want to learn.

Hoping to see you all in a future class soon!

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Have a great picture of your farm or livestock? Send it to us in an email to be featured on our Facebook page and newsletter!

Photos: Alicia Halbritter



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Avoiding the Summer Slime

In Florida we are blessed with warm summers, but as a livestock owner the sun can cause us much heartache. Not only does the heat affect our livestock but also promotes algae, or “summer slime” growth in our water tanks. Here are some tips on keeping your livestock water tank clean:

First, you’ll need to empty out the water tank. If this is a small bucket or relatively small tank it may be easy to dump out the water. For larger tanks, simply turn off any automatic watering system and all the livestock to drink it down until you can dump out the remaining water.

Next you’ll need to make a simple 10% bleach solution to help kill any bacteria and deter growth of algae. Scrub down the sides and bottom of the tank using the bleach solution and then rinse twice with clean water. Fill back up with clean water and repeat cleaning again when needed.

It is possible to disinfect water in the tank which can help lengthen the time between cleanings. Use the following ratios of bleach per gallon of water to disinfect. Water should stand for 30 minutes-1 hour after mixing bleach before livestock have access.





Gals. of water to disinfect	Amount of bleach needed*
1	2 drops
5	11 drops
50	1 3/4 tsp.
100	3 1/2 tsp.
500	6 Tbs.

Goldfish are also an easy way to maintain a clean water tank. The fish do not need any supplemental food and are generally left alone by livestock. The goldfish eat bacteria and other particles that can cause summer slime.

Sources: <https://burke.ces.ncsu.edu/2016/05/controlling-algae-in-livestock-water-tanks/>
<https://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/horse/care/cleaning-water-and-tanks/>

Horse Vaccination Schedule

This schedule can help horses owners make management decisions. Always check with your veterinarian in case they recommend other vaccines or a different schedule is needed for your horse.

 <p><u>Spring</u> Tetanus West Nile Virus</p>	 <p><u>Summer</u> Encephalomyelitis Rabies</p>
 <p><u>Fall</u> Encephalomyelitis Influenza</p>	 <p><u>Winter</u> Encephalomyelitis</p>

Horses in Florida should receive the Encephalomyelitis vaccine at least twice a year but 3 times is recommended in most areas due to high mosquito populations.

Influenza is recommended but not required.



ELD Mandate Updates

Livestock transporters and haulers have received another 90 extension on the new Electronic Logging Device mandate (effective March 18, 2018 to June 18, 2018). The provisions for this mandate were not meant to affect the livestock industries and moves are being made to reduce the headache it caused. It is best to keep a copy of the waiver in your vehicle when transporting livestock so if you are pulled over you may have proof of exemption.

Find the waiver here: <http://www.horsecouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/90-day-Ag-extension.pdf>

Read more about the ELD; <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/hours-service/elds/faqs>

Source: <https://www.morningagclips.com/90-day-delay-in-electronic-logging-device-mandate/>

College Agriculture Program Support



Traditionally, majors focusing on agriculture were found at land-grant colleges, like The University of Florida. These schools were founded on the mission to pursue advancements in agriculture, but there are only 106 land grant universities out of over 5,000 colleges in the US. Those who would like to pursue a career in agriculture had to travel far and wide to find a university with the major of their choosing. But not any longer. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has announced the availability of funding for agriculture research and education for non-land grant colleges. Approximately \$4.8 million is available for the program. According to USDA NIFA "The goals of the NLGCA program are to strengthen the capacity of NLGCA institutions to develop infrastructure to carry out and expand their activities, enhance the ability of NLGCA faculty members to engage in agricultural professional development opportunities, and increase the number, quality, and diversity of qualified graduates entering the food and agriculture workforce. "

Learn more here:

<https://www.morningagclips.com/usda-nifa-to-support-college-ag-programs/>

Repairing Damaged Pastures



2017 was a rough year for agricultural producers in Florida. First we faced a very hot and dry summer which caused drought stress in many of our pastures and placed significant heat stress on our animals. Then we faced Hurricane Irma and received over 10 inches of rain in 2 days! 2017 wasn't necessarily our year, so how do we fix it in 2018?

Many pastures are going to be exhibiting heavy weed pressure starting now since our grasses weren't able to outcompete last year. Consider manually removing weeds by hand, mowing, or spraying herbicides in order to reduce the competition for our summer grasses which will be greening up now. It is important to remove weeds before they have a chance to flower or seed out. If a plant is allowed to seed out you will have double the weed problem next year.

If the heavy rains of 2018 caused patches of grass in your pasture to die off or significantly reduced the ground cover you may need to consider re-seeding. Re-seeding helps new grass fill in any barren spots as well as strengthens the existing grass stand. Make sure to choose a grass cultivar that suits your needs, whether that be hay production, grazing, quick establishment, longer grazing season, etc. Many of our local feed & seed stores have grass seed available, Mayo fertilizer also offers bulk seed for sale, or online companies like Hancock seed which is based in south Florida.

Soil samples are a great way to determine exactly what nutrients your soil needs in order to support a healthy grass stand. Your local extension agent often will help take soil samples and send them to your lab of choice, UF soils lab or Waters testing lab. Knowing exactly what your soils need help reduce lime & fertilizer costs and cater to the grass you have growing.

Learn More:

Fertilizing and Liming: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag179>

Bahia grass Overview: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag342>

Forage Planting: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag179>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Backyard Poultry Basics

*pre-registration required, \$5
April 11th 6-8 PM
April 16th 9-11 AM

Keep On the Calendar:

Chicken Treats and Toys Workshop
June 23rd
More Details to Come!

For individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact our office (904-255-7450) within a minimum of 5 working days of the program. For persons with hearing or speech impairments, when contacting our office please use the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

Extension programs are open to all regardless of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, religion, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no endorsement by the Extension Office is implied.