



University of California
Cooperative Extension - Solano, Yolo & Napa Counties

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Local Fodder

March 2004

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HERD HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

On Thursday, March 18 from 8:30 to noon there will be a herd health program sponsored by the Yolo County Cattlemen and Woolgrowers' Association and Pfizer Animal Health. The event will be held at Cody's Market Place, 314 Railroad Ave, in Winters.

The topics that will be covered include:

- ◆ The economics of BSE in France
- ◆ Herd vaccinations
- ◆ Management of calf diarrhea
- ◆ Johne's Disease Control Program update
- ◆ Implementing the Trichomoniasis Program

Lunch will be provided.

Please call Berryessa Veterinary Services at 530-795-6090 to reserve a seat.

YOUR FUTURE'S AT STAKE TOUR

This is a tour planned for May 16 and 17 to visit and learn about various cattle enterprises and technologies in Yolo, Napa, Sonoma and Marin Counties. You can see all the details of the tour on the following page.

The tour quickly filled up to capacity, however there is still an opportunity to attend many of the planned stops along the tour without paying the tour price of \$200. If you choose to attend any of the stops, you must provide your own transportation between stops. Participants who have paid the \$200 will be provided bus transportation.

Below is a list of events that you can attend without paying the registration fee:

- ◆ UC Davis Feedlot Tour
- ◆ Yolo Cattle Company
- ◆ Oak Ridge Angus
- ◆ Marin Sun Farms

Also, the Stone family would like to welcome paying and non-paying participants alike to a BBQ lunch at the Yolo Cattle Company. If you plan to attend the BBQ lunch, please call the UC Cooperative Extension office at 707-435-2801 so that we can have a head count.

If you have any questions or need directions to any of the stops, please call Terry Jochim at 530-274-9543 or Morgan Doran at 707-435-2459.

*****This event is full. Please see previous page for details on how to attend selected events.*****

THE CALIFORNIA BEEF CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA RANGELAND TRUST, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS, ANIMAL SCIENCE & UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PRESENT...

Your Future's At Stake Tour

SUNDAY & MONDAY, MAY 16-17, 2004

Northern California Coach Tour

Don't miss this opportunity to see the agricultural diversity Napa, Sonoma and Marin counties have to offer!

CBCIA invites you to attend this two-day event leaving from the UC Davis Feedlot Sunday morning, May 16, and returning Monday afternoon, May 17.

TOUR STOPS - SUNDAY, MAY 16

UC Davis Feedlot Tour and Presentations by Faculty:

Presentations by Dr. Gary Anderson, UC Davis Animal Science Dept. Chair on embryo transfer, reproduction; Dr. Jim Oltjen on beef management systems; Dr. Allison Van Eenennaam on animal genomics, biotechnology; Dr. Frank Mitloehner on air quality, and Dan Sehnert on beef cattle operations.

Yolo Cattle Co., The Stone Family, Woodland:

Bus tour to view fire control program, forage range management using solar pumps in stock ponds, and presentations on Western Grasslands Beef, ranch by-product sales of honey, bay leaves, beef jerky and more. BBQ lunch sponsored by Merial and its igenity L program.



Oak Ridge Angus, The LaFranchi Family, Calistoga:

Tour registered Angus cattle operation; presentations by owner Cheryl LaFranchi-Mongini on estate tax and soil conservation and Tom Gamble of Napa Free Range Beef.

Culinary Institute of America (CIA) Greystone Campus, St. Helena

Tour this historic landmark, once home to Christian Brothers Winery, now one of the nation's most renowned cooking institutes, attend a reception sponsored by Five Star Land & Livestock of Wilton, and dine on grand wine country cuisine at the CIA's award-winning Wine Spectator Greystone Restaurant.



Overnight Accommodations in Downtown Napa at the River Terrace Inn, A Luxury Boutique Hotel

With views of the rich landscapes and the Napa River, this brand new luxury boutique hotel, located in Napa's revitalized downtown district, will be the last stop of the day.

TOUR STOPS - MONDAY, MAY 17

Clover Stornetta Farms, Petaluma

Tour this state-of-the-art milk processing facility built in 1991 with president Dan Benedetti and sample Clover brand dairy products.

Sun Marin Farms, Point Reyes Station

Tour this farming operation with presentations by owner David Evans on grass-fed beef and range chickens, and Marin County Ag. Commissioner Stacy Carlsen on the grass-fed certification program. Lunch will feature Marin Sun Farms grass-fed beef and locally produced oysters, blue cheese and wine with a presentation on land conservation by representatives of Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT) and California Rangeland Trust; also hear from Stephanie Larson, UC Cooperative Livestock and Range Management Advisor for Marin and Sonoma counties.

Sebastiani Winery, Sonoma

Tour the winery and its beautifully restored buildings erected around the turn of the 20th Century, only two blocks east of Sonoma's Historic Plaza with chairman of the board and Gelbvieh breeder Richard Cuneo; visit the Sebastiani Hospitality Center for wine tasting and gourmet food and specialty gifts in the Marketplace.

TOUR INFORMATION: TERRY JOCHIM, CBCIA VICE PRESIDENT

(530) 274-9543 • Cell (916) 709-2159 • Email dustytrl@cattlemen.net

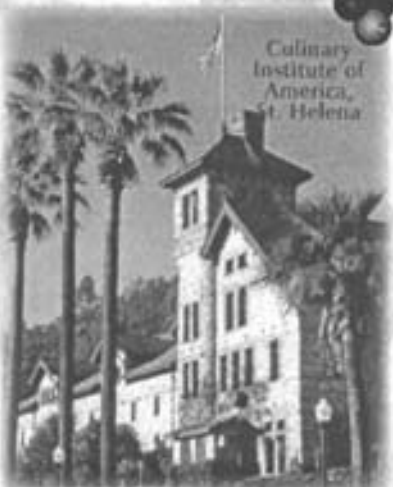
RESERVATIONS LIMITED TO AVAILABILITY, TAKEN NOW THROUGH FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2004.



Oak Ridge Angus, Calistoga



Culinary Institute of America, St. Helena



Sebastiani Winery, Sonoma

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE - RESERVATIONS TAKEN ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS

ALL INCLUSIVE TOUR: \$200/PERSON*
To reserve your seat, send a non-refundable deposit of \$100 per person** to CBCIA, 644 Coolidge Street, Davis, CA 95616.
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CBCIA SPRING TOUR.
*Wine at CIA Greystone dinner not included in package price.
**Only refundable if CBCIA cancels tour. Tour includes all meals and beverages, one-night lodging & taxes & transportation.

*****This event is full. Please see previous page for details on how to attend selected events.*****

NEW TOOLS TO PREVENT BVD LOSSES

*Reprinted from the January 2004 issue of
California Cattlemen's Association Magazine*

Recently, we have heard about new vaccines to help prevent losses due the viral disease we call Bovine Virus Diarrhea (BVD). These new vaccines include those that can be used safely in pregnant cows and those that contain both type I and type II BVD virus. This month we will review what is central to BVD prevention and what tools we have in our tool chest to combat this important cattle disease problem.

I forget—what does BVD virus cause?

This virus can cause a wide spectrum of disease problems. Disease can be fairly mild to very severe. In well cared for cattle it can cause diarrhea, with damage starting in the mouth and extending throughout the gastrointestinal tract. Hence, the name: *Bovine Virus Diarrhea*. BVD is also a major cause of respiratory disease in young cattle going into the feedlot. It can cause abortions in cows. One of the most important problems caused by BVD is the Persistently Infected (PI) animal. These PI cattle are actually infected with the BVD virus before they are born—at about 80-100 days of gestation in most cases. Many of these calves are born and cannot develop any immune protection against the BVD virus. They are sub-optimal performers (some obvious, some not). They shed billions of virus particles every day in their saliva, urine, and feces. They act as the “typhoid Mary” for the entire herd—infecting and re-infesting other cattle in the herd.

What do we need to remember to prevent BVD?

The most important points to control and prevention of BVD are (1) adequate vaccination of young cattle and replacement cattle, (2) annual vaccination (boosters) for the adult cow herd, (3) prevent the introduction of PI cattle, and (4) elimination of any PI cattle from the herd.

What are the current recommendations for vaccinating young cattle?

It is becoming clear that young cattle should be vaccinated twice with a modified live virus vaccine before leaving the herd of origin. This can be accomplished in a number of ways, for example: (1) vaccinate calves at branding and again at weaning, or (2) a pre-weaning vaccine and another at weaning, or (3) a pre-weaning vaccine and another post-weaning. It is important to vaccinate calves when they are not highly stressed and when it fits into your routine management scheme. Before spending the time and money to vaccinate the calves, check with your veterinarian regarding the best specific vaccine and the timing of vaccination for your herd. Also, have your veterinarian review the vaccine program used on replacement cattle you plan to purchase. Don't buy someone else's problem or poor vaccine program.

When should I booster the cowherd?

This is a difficult question to answer in a general way. There are new modified live BVD vaccines that are safe for pregnant cows. However, the cows must have been vaccinated with certain products previously for this to be a safe and effective procedure. You can vaccinate the open cows before breeding with a modified live BVD virus vaccine. You can safely use most killed vaccines in pregnant cows (however, you don't get the best immune response by this method). Be sure to check with your veterinarian about this part of your control program also.

How can I prevent the introduction of PI cattle into my herd?

The old saying, “Good fences make good neighbors” is an appropriate guideline to answer this question. Avoid having your pregnant cows (particularly cows less than 4 months pregnant) come into contact with cattle from outside your herd. The stocker calves that use winter range adjacent to a spring calving herd can be a very high-risk situation. Have all new bulls and replacement females tested for PI status.

How do I eliminate PI cattle from my herd?

This is an exciting part of BVD control. There are a number of new, cost-effective tests that can be used to identify PI cattle. Once they are identified they can be culled. This will help dramatically with BVD control in all cattle herds. We can use ear notches from cows or calves to test for PI status. The UC Diagnostic Laboratory (CAHFS) in Tulare does this testing as well the University of Nebraska's lab. Also, the CAHFS lab in Davis does a test on serum (blood sample) for PI status. For about \$3,300 you can test a herd of 1,000 cows for PI status using an ear notch sample. This is the

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same amount you pay for a top bull each year. This is very cost effective at about \$3.30 per sample. The serum test runs about \$5-6 per sample, but is a very good test also. Be sure and check with your veterinarian about which sample would be the best for you and your herd.

In next month's column, we will detail the BVD PI tests including costs, how to take the samples, where to submit the samples. I can't overemphasize the need to discuss your BVD prevention plans with your veterinarian. You can now prevent this costly disease with the new and improved tools.

John Maas, DVM, MS
Diplomate, ACVN & ACVIM
Extension Veterinarian
School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis

BVD: ELIMINATING PERSISTENTLY INFECTED BVD CATTLE FROM YOUR HERD

*Reprinted from the February 2004 issue of
California Cattlemen's Association Magazine*

Last month we discussed the problems that come with having cattle in your herd that are persistently infected (PI) with the BVD virus. These PI cattle spread the virus throughout your herd on a daily basis. If you or your veterinarian suspects you have any PI cattle there are now reliable, inexpensive tests to identify these cattle. The PI cattle can then be eliminated. This article will deal with some of the nuts and bolts of testing.

What samples are needed for these tests?

The two most common tests require either a skin sample or a serum sample. The skin sample is usually taken from the ear. The serum sample is derived from a blood sample that is allowed to clot, spun in a centrifuge and the clear serum is collected with a disposable pipette.

How are the samples taken from the animal and processed?

The skin samples are best taken from the edge of the ear (where there is an abundance of small blood vessels) with an ear-notching tool. These are the common ear notch instruments used for pigs. These ear-notching tools take a triangular notch. The triangular notch should be ¼ to ½ inches per side. Depending on the laboratory you plan on using, the ear notch sample is either put into a vial containing formalin or into an individual plastic bag. Both types of sample containers must be clearly labeled with the animal's identification number with indelible ink. The serum samples are derived from a blood sample that is allowed to clot and then spun down at high speed in a centrifuge. The clear, straw-colored fluid (serum) at the top of the clot is carefully collected and placed into a separate vial. Again, this vial must be labeled with the animal's ID number. In most cases, your veterinarian will take the blood for serum samples and process those in the laboratory. For the ear notch samples your veterinarian can easily show you how to take the samples and handle them. If you put the ear notches in formalin it is very important that you handle this material safely as it can be very danger

ous if inhaled or if it comes into contact with your eyes or skin. Also, the ear-notching instrument should be cleaned and disinfected between animals.

Are there other important things to remember when handling these samples?

All sample containers must be clearly labeled with an individual animal ID number. The sample ID's must match the paper work and the samples and paperwork must be written with ink that does not run. For refrigerated samples, ship on gel-type, frozen bags not on ice cubes. *Where do these samples go and what is the cost?*

The samples can go to any one of the three laboratories listed below. Some general costs and considerations are listed for each laboratory. Each lab wants a certain type of sample submitted for their specific test method. If you submit the wrong type of sample to the lab, all your work in collecting the sample may be wasted.

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1. Tulare branch of the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFS)

CAHFS-Tulare Phone (559) 688-7543
18830 Road 112 Fax (559) 686-4231
Tulare, CA 93274

Sample description: Ear notch (triangle notch ¼ to ½ inch per side) in zip lock bag (or whirl pack bag). Refrigerated—
not frozen. Ship overnight (not for Saturday arrival).

Technique: Immunohistochemistry.

Cost: \$16.50 per 1-5 samples, i.e. \$33.00 for ten (10) samples and \$33.00 for 6 samples.
Additional one time accession fee is also charged.

2. University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE

Veterinary Diagnostic Center Phone (402) 472-1434
University of Nebraska Fax (402) 472-3094
Fair Street and East Campus Loop
P. O. Box 82646
Lincoln, NE 68501-2646

Sample description: Ear notch (triangle notch ¼ to ½ inch per side) in neutral-buffered formalin. Leak proof tubes are
mandatory for containers. Do not hold skin samples in formalin for more than 7 days prior to submission.

Technique: Immunohistochemistry.

Cost: Accession fee: \$7.00 per each shipment (submission). First sample: \$12.00. Two (2) to 6 samples: \$20.00, multi-
ples of 6: \$20.00/six samples.

3. Davis branch of CAHFS.

CAHFS-Davis Phone (530) 752-7578
University of California, Davis Fax (530) 752-6253
West Health Sciences Drive
Davis, CA

Sample description: serum, freshly centrifuged and refrigerated (not frozen). Ship in leak proof containers on ice bags
(gel bags).

Technique: PCR.

Cost: \$22.70 for the first sample, \$5.65 per each sample after the first. Additional one time accession fee is also
charged.

What do I do with the results from the lab?

Talk the results over with your veterinarian. There can be false positive test results and a small number of animals may
need to be re-tested. Also, before making herd additions (bulls, cows, or heifers) it is a good idea to have your veterinar-
ian review the source herd's BVD prevention plan. It would also be good to have herd replacements tested for PI status,
prior to shipment. These new diagnostic tests are cost effective and quite reliable and if used properly can save your
herd from many future losses.

John Maas, DVM, MS
Diplomate, ACVN & ACVIM
Extension Veterinarian
School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis

2004 Niche Meat Marketing Conference II
Wednesday, March 31 st
Buehler Alumni Center – UC Davis
9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Cost: \$60 per person if Registration Postmarked by March 24th
After March 24th postmark, Registration is \$70
Registration includes: Parking, Lunch, and Handouts

This conference will build on last year very successful first meeting. The agenda is based on requests from producers at last year's session. It is designed to provide important information and contacts for producers that are thinking about or currently niche marketing meat products.

Agenda

9:00 AM – Noon

Introduction and Overview of Business and Marketing Options for Niche Meat Marketing –
Speaker: Glenn Nader, UC Farm Advisor

Health Claims Research and their Requirements for Use on Labels with Grass Finished Live-
stock – Speaker: Dr. Cindy Daley, CSU – Chico

Labeling – The Ins and Outs of Getting a Label Approved - Speaker: Tammie Myrick, USDA
Labeling and Consumer Protection Department and a Private Label Expeditor

Approaches to Determining What Your Market Wants – Speakers: Dan Macon, High Sierra Re-
source and Development Council and Roger Ingram, UC Farm Advisor

Noon – 1:00 PM Lunch provided as a part of the registration costs

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Meat Processing 101 – Everything You Wanted to Know About Processing, Dry Aging, and Value-
Added Products – Speaker: Tom Ringkob, University of Nevada, Reno

Chef and Retailer Panel: What, When, and Why We Want Niche Meat Products – Speakers:
Chez Panisse Restaurant, Trader Joe's, and Bruce Aidells

Alternative Feedstuffs Available to Supplement Grass-Based Diets– Speaker: Glenn Nader

Protocol Development – Speakers: Stephanie Larson, UC Farm Advisor, Western Grasslands Beef,
and Jeanne McCormack.

Grass-Fed Beef Cost Study – Speaker: Stephanie Larson

See the following page for registration information.

2004 Niche Markets for Meat Products Conference Pre-Registration Form

Please enclose a check for \$60 made out to
UC-Regents with the registration form.

Mail completed form and check to:

Roger Ingram, Niche Markets Conference, 11477 E Ave, Auburn, CA 95603

Note: Registration fee is \$70 if postmarked after March 24th .

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ email _____

What types of animals do you graze or manage? _____

How many head _____ On how many acres _____

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 16-17

Your Future's at Stake Tour

Location: Begins at the UC Davis Feedlot

For more information call Terry Jochim at 530-274-9543

March 31

Niche Meat Marketing Conference

Location: Buehler Alumni Center, UC Davis

Cost: \$60, send registration form found on page 8 of this newsletter

February 18

Herd Health Education Program

Location: Cody's Market Place, Winters 9 AM—12 PM

Free; reserve a space by calling Berryessa Vet. Services, 530-795-6090



**University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources
Cooperative Extension**
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Fairfield, CA 94533



**Local Fodder
March 2004**

Si desea folletos en Español, llámame a teléfono 707-435-2459 o 530-666-8739, informame de su nombre y dirección de correo.