



OSU EXTENSION SERVICE



Regional Livestock & Forages Newsletter



For the Counties of
Benton, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, and Linn

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<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf>

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Check out the
Website



VOL. 5 NO. 2

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Inside This Edition . . .

- Greeting
- Kudos: Dick & Mo Nichols
- Announcements
- Forage: Grass is King, Protect the Crown
- Beef: Oregon Joins Battle Against BVD
- Sheep: Sheep Seminar a Success
- Important: Country of Origin Labeling
- Other Programs

Greetings!

Hey, where did the year go? We are nearing the end of the calendar and I have lots to share with you. Hopefully, the late arrival of rains did not spoil your fall plantings. If you did get set back, it is not too late for you to take a soil sample from your fields and work on fertilizer plans for next year's forage production. This issue of the Livestock and Forages Newsletter has several articles with key information for you to consider. So, let's get to it!



Shelby

Shelby Filley,
Regional Livestock & Forage Specialist
Oregon State University Extension Service

Electronic Agent...

Website and E-mail are very useful tools. They have really helped me to communicate with producers that either are at some distance from my office or are not available during my office hours. I can provide technical information that otherwise would be difficult. Another useful thing about these electronic resources is that I can post on-line editions or send publications or links through the E-mail, saving time and postage expense. So, if you like, contact me by e-mail or visit my website...anytime (see above for addresses).

Kudos



Dick and Mo Nichols at the Douglas County Livestock Association 2008 Banquet. Dick was chosen for this year's *DCLA Pioneer Award*.

Oregon State University is the organizer of another program called the "Diamond Pioneer Agricultural Achievement Registry", which honors individuals for their contributions to Oregon agriculture and communities, and cooperation with OSU. This year, several producers from our region were added to the Registry including Robert Lowry, grass seed and grain dealer, Albany; James D. Hall, OSU researcher and teacher, Corvallis; Juanita Manley, Master Gardener, Eugene; Donald W. Fisher, farmer, and Bernard Gamble, broiler producer, Junction City; Roger Collis, sheep producer, and Bob Hall, rancher, Roseburg; and Donald Brewer, OSU's seed certification program.

Congratulations all!



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Extension Service

Agriculture, 4-H Youth, Family & Community Development, Forestry, and Extension Sea Grant Programs. Oregon State University, United States Department of Agriculture, and Douglas county cooperating. The Extension Service offers its programs and materials equally to all people.

Announcements . . .

Lane County OSU Extension Service Funding

Loss of county funding has caused the temporary suspension of the OSU Livestock and Forages programs I provide in Lane Co. I really enjoy working with the producers in Lane County, so a fund drive is being organized (details TBA) in hopes of finding a way to maintain this Livestock and Forages program. For now, you can visit the county's Web site (<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane>) for making individual contributions. Make sure you specify Livestock and Forages under "Other Designation."

Linn County 4-H and Extension District Formation vote on November 4th was successful. Thank-you for your support! Stay tuned to see how the results affect our programs.

BVD-PI/Biosecurity Educational and Action Program

December 10, 2008, Luncheon. Western Oregon – Roseburg. (See article on page 4 and program announcement enclosed)

Weed Day

February 4th, 2009, 8 am – 5 pm
Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg.

Artificial Insemination of Cattle

March 2009 (TBA). Roseburg and Lebanon locations.

Benton & Linn Counties

Linn/Benton Livestock and Forages
Breakfast/Board Meeting/OSU Edu. Program
Second Tuesday of each month (Sept. – May, except Dec)
6:30 – 8:00 AM Pioneer Villa Restaurant, Brownsville exit I-5. *Joel Pynch 541-466-5344*

Douglas County

Douglas County Farm Bureau
First Monday each month at 6:00 PM, except Dec & July
Location varies. *Rich Holcomb 541-459-2621*

Douglas County Livestock Association
DCLA Board Meetings

1st Tues. each month at 7:00 PM
Douglas Co. OSU Extension Office, Roseburg.
Troy Michaels 541-825-3760

DCLA Stockman's Breakfast Meetings

Third Tuesday, 7:00 AM
Karen's Coffee Cup. *Woody Lane, 541-440-1926*

Umpqua Valley Livestock Producers Feed pool
Joe Alvernaz, 541-496-3950

Jackson & Josephine Counties

Jackson County Stockman's Association
Business and Educational Meetings
2nd Wed., 6:00 PM,
Elmer's Restaurant, Medford.
Mike Dauenhauer 541-482-8593

Southern Oregon Sheep Producers
Alternates between:
2nd Tues., 7:00 PM at Jackson SWCD
or 6:00 PM at a local restaurant
Charlie Boyer 541-826-9873

FARRM - Farm & Ranch Resource Management
3rd Thursday, alternating between:
8:00 am, Black Bear Diner in Medford
and 6 pm potluck meeting at Jackson SWCD,
Parsons Rd., Medford
Randy White 541-734-3143

Jackson County Farm Bureau
3rd Tues, 6:00 PM, location varies
Ron Bjork 541-821-4249

Josephine County Farm Bureau
*Lynne Vanderlinden, 541-592-3444 or
van@cavenet.com*

Lane County

Lane County Livestock Association Board Meetings
2nd or 3rd Tues., location varies
Mark Meyers 541-520-4591

Lane County/OSU Livestock & Forages
Educational Breakfast
Program temporarily suspended due to funding losses to
Lane County OSU Extension Service
Info - Larry Schrenk 541-746-1007

Join a group, be involved!

Please seriously consider joining your local, state, and national Farm Bureau and Livestock Associations, as these groups serve different functions. They help producers support agriculture by providing a way to ban together to help themselves and each other. I was able to attend annual summer picnics and fall banquets for a few Ag groups over the last few months. I am always moved by the camaraderie. Much is accomplished among the members and each association has its own unique flavor.

Continued on next page. . .

Announcements . . .

I attended the Douglas County Farm Bureau annual banquet last night and we had an excellent discussion on governmental policy and leadership and how this affects farming interests. The main speaker was Barry Bushue, President of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF). Dave Dillon, Executive Vice President OFBF, also gave us a lot to contemplate and Tracey Liskey, OFBF Vice President, was present to say a few words too. Other visitors from OFBF were Dan Heibel, Regional Coordinator; Katie Fast, Director of Governmental Affairs, and Don Schellenburg, Associate Director of Governmental Affairs. When we applauded the speakers, President Bushue reminded the group that we were the important ones in the organization.

Sorry if you could not attend the meetings, they were really good. Please don't miss out on opportunities to voice your opinion or to just listen, learn, and let your vote do the talking.

FORAGE...

Grass is King: Protect the Crown



The largest agricultural commodity in Oregon is grass. We grow grass for lawns, turf, pastures, hay, straw, and seed for home use and export. Forages (grasses and legumes) are an important source of livestock feed, and because our area has a high production capacity, we have a competitive advantage over other parts of the world that depend heavily on imported hay and grains to raise livestock. Our forage is a renewable resource – but only if we manage it correctly.

I hope you can see what I mean when I write “Grass is king.” But, where does the “Protect the Crown” part come into play, you might ask? The root crown is a term used to describe an area of above-ground plant matter that has several important functions. For most of our cool-season, perennial grasses, the crown area is approximately 3 inches above the soil level. We must protect that crown from over-use and damage by leaving a good stubble height on our forages so that overall yield is optimized.

Dr. Steve Fransen, Washington State University Extension Forage Specialist, visited our area a few years ago and lectured, “The root crown does not belong to us. It does not belong to the livestock. It belongs to the plant.” There are many excellent pasture managers that protect the root crowns by leaving appropriate stubble height, and they have seen increased forage production compared to overgrazing. But many producers have not fully adopted this practice.

The primary function of the root crown is storage of energy reserves for the plant. Most people mistakenly think that the underground roots have this function, but research has shown this is the job of the root crown. These energy reserves sustain the plant throughout the winter months so that it remains healthy and ready to grow when warm, spring rains and longer days return.

The fall season is the most important time to protect the root crown as this is when its energy is used to support new underground root growth essential for absorbing water and nutrients from the soil for spring re-growth. Dig some plants up and check out the new, white root growth. The more above-ground growth there is the more below-ground roots you will see. It is like a mirror.

The root crown also contains plant leaf area for capture and storage of the sun's energy (photosynthesis), and growing points for new leaves. If these are removed, new ones have to form, which takes time and energy, can weaken the plant, and delay spring re-growth, which means more feeding of hay before livestock turn-out.

Pasture managers are tempted to use the grass to the point of over grazing because they do not want to feed so much hay. But actually, forage yield is greater if the grass is not grazed too hard. Protect the crowns of your forage and you will be pleasantly surprised. Keep track of your forage production and hay feeding and see for yourself.

Now that I have pounded the idea of leaving root crown area on your plants, I will tell you that there are times when grazing down hard can be beneficial. The maintenance of annual clovers (for example, subterranean clover) and the establishment of new grasses (over-seeding or no-till drilling) are cases where the removal of competing forage or residual top growth is warranted. Also, pasture burning for the control of woody vegetation (for example, poison oak and blackberry bushes) can be a helpful pasture management tool. What we need to remember is that these practices are hard on our perennial plants. Evaluate the need for maintaining the improved, cool season forages that are currently in your field and the need for establishing new ones. A balance should be struck in order to attain management goals for existing perennials, new forage establishment, and weed control.

Finally, there is the need for a sacrifice pasture. That is, a pasture that we know will get pounded by livestock, eaten down, and end up pretty muddy in the wet months. The livestock need to be placed somewhere in the winter, but they should not be on the good, productive pasture sites. Choose an area of low productivity that you can house the animals comfortably and easily bring them hay for winter feeding. It is a perfect use for this type of land and helps to protect our good farm ground. **S.F.**

Announcements . . .

BEEF CORNER...

Oregon Joins the Battle Against BVD

Barbi Riggs, Central Oregon Livestock Agent

Oregon Biosecurity/BVD PI Screening Program is up and running! The project is designed to improve the overall health of Oregon's cow herd and add value to the state's calf crop. Through 2011 the project will provide technical assistance and limited financial support to all Oregon ranchers who want to screen their cattle for persistent infection (PI) with bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) virus. This program is also designed to provide ranchers with the tools and expertise to create a written biosecurity plan to prevent the transmission of this disease and many other diseases of concern.

"The focus of this project is to assist ranchers in improving their bottom dollar by improving herd health," said Barbi Riggs. Riggs is the Central Oregon Livestock Agent for Oregon State University and the OR Biosecurity/BVD-PI Screening Project Manager. The project is supported by the OSU Department of Animal Science and College of Veterinary Medicine and is funded through the Oregon Beef Council and Agriculture Research Foundation of Oregon.

"We want to help producers reduce the risk of spreading financially devastating diseases through their cow herd by assisting them in creating a written biosecurity plan," Riggs said. "We are focusing our efforts on preventing transmission of the BVD virus from PI animals to breeding stock as a means of demonstrating biosecurity management." She also said that by joining the battle against BVD will keep Oregon cattle competitive in the markets as other states such as Montana, Colorado and Washington have already initiated a BVD control program.

Economic Losses due to BVD Infection

It is difficult to establish the economic impact BVD PI animals have on the cattle industry. Impacts including performance loss, reproductive efficiency loss, and carcass effects that BVD induced secondary diseases may have. Studies indicate that in herds with at least one PI animal present, the cost of BVD was reported to be \$14.85-\$24.84 per cow/year. The feedlot segment reports the cost of BVDV per head is around \$30-\$47.00. Studies show that prevalence of BVD in the U.S. beef cattle population is between 0.13%- 2.0%. The prevalence of herds that have at least one PI is around 4%. While most herds are BVD PI free; of the herds that have BVD PI animals, it is likely that there will be more than one PI animal in the herd. Although we do not know the prevalence of BVD in the state of Oregon, we estimate that BVD PI animals can be costing Oregon cow/calf producers anywhere from around \$258,000 to around \$620,000.00 a year. The feedlot segment within the state may be experiencing around \$1.9 million dollar loss due to BVD.

The BVD-PI/Biosecurity educational program for western Oregon is Wednesday, December 10, 2008 (see enclosed program announcement).

Screening cattle for BVD PI animals can not only save the U.S. beef cattle industry billions of dollars year, but can put money back into the pocket of the rancher when he/she markets the calves as BVD PI free. Returns to cattle marketed as BVD PI Free may be \$4.00/cwt as reported by Montana State University after two years of a BVD control program in their state.

Diagnosis and Control

Bovine Viral Diarrhea virus is a complex disease that causes beef cattle to have a range of symptoms from completely sub-clinical manifestations to death; including acute infections with respiratory tract disease, digestive tract disease, and conditions associated with the immunosuppressive effects which favor secondary infections. The PI animal is the most important animal in regards to transmission of BVD to susceptible cattle as the PI animal has a very high persistent viremia and BVD is shed throughout its life.

Fetal infection with BVD virus can lead to fetal death, the birth of a normal calf, or the birth of a PI calf. Testing for PI status is a once-in-a-lifetime event. If an animal is PI-negative at birth, it will be always be negative, and if an animal is PI-positive at birth, it will always be positive. Dr. Charles Estill, Extension Veterinarian for Oregon State University is a great resource for further information on the disease of BVD. He is also one of the team members for the Oregon Biosecurity/BVD PI Screening project and will be available to deal with disease or control related questions from producers.

Using this knowledge and a relatively inexpensive "pooled" diagnostic approach (costing \$1.95 per head), ranchers can identify PI animals and separate them from the herd before they have a chance to infect other animals.

Participation in this program will allow producers to test for BVD by running a diagnostic test using an ear notch of the cattle. Animal Profiling International of Portland is a commercial laboratory working with OSU to initiate statewide testing for BVD. A producer will be asked to test calves, open cows, untested bulls and any open cows prior to the breeding season. The sample will be sent API for testing and results sent to the producer usually within 24 hours. Dr. Bruce Hoffman, DVM, said that with a sound vaccination and cattle management program – coupled with strategic PI testing – the BVD virus can be eliminated from a cow herds across the country.

"It is our intention to recruit and enroll 5% of the Oregon cattle population in BVD PI testing including written biosecurity plans for each herd the first year of funding," Riggs said, "and continue to grow by 5% for each subsequent year the program is funded."

“The disease of BVD has no human health implications and meat from infected cattle holds no threat to the beef consumer,” Riggs said. “However, implementation of sound biosecurity practices on Oregon ranches will decrease the risk of exposure and spread of not only BVD but other economically detrimental diseases such as Trichostrongylus axei. Furthermore, written biosecurity plans will not only improve herd health on the ranch and in the feedlot, they will also increase consumer confidence that Oregon produced beef is reared to ensure a wholesome product and animal well being.”

The most exciting thing about the project according to Riggs “is the opportunity to work one-on-one with producers on a biosecurity plan. Creating these plans will bring together a team made up of an extension specialist, a veterinarian, the rancher and any other person the rancher feels is important. It will give all of us an opportunity to improve overall ranch management and improve the bottom dollar without a great deal of financial investment.”

Terms and Conditions of Participation

1. Complete OSU Biosecurity Questionnaire regarding demographics, management and performance factors. Prevalence of BVD PI can be analyzed according to these factors. All ranches will be identified by assigning an arbitrary number, owner/operator identification will be held confidential.

2. Participating ranches will be encouraged to create a written biosecurity plan. These plans will enhance this project by not only reducing the risk of BVD, but will also bring awareness to transmission and perpetuation of other infectious diseases. Plans will be developed using a template and personalized according to the needs of the ranch as identified by a designated resource team.

3. BVD PI screening should be accompanied by a sound biosecurity plan with basic requirements:

Test all new entries into the herd

Calves at birth or branding preferred but weaning may be acceptable

Cows, if calf was positive PI

Open cows or cows that lost a calf, prior to breeding if not culled

Still born calves

4. Participants agree positive PI animals will not be marketed. These PI animals need to be eliminated from the herd including segregation immediately upon notification of PI status.

For more information on this project, contact Barbi Riggs, 541-447-6228; Randy Mills, 541-278-5403, Shelby Filley 541-672-4461 or visit the website: <http://ans.oregonstate.edu/bvd>

* See blue insert for Dec. 10th [program announcement](#) *

SHEEP NOTES...

Sheep Seminar a Success

The Sheep Production Basics seminar in Roseburg this fall had 50 people in attendance to learn and teach about the health and feeding of sheep. The educational program was facilitated by Oregon State University Extension Service and funded by a USDA Scrapie Eradication grant, which was secured by the Oregon Sheep Growers Association. Watch for more of these programs popping up in central and eastern Oregon.

Chuck Estill, OSU Extension Veterinarian, presented information on sheep reproductive diseases and dystocia, plus other important diseases and strategic parasite control. He also provided some good advice on working around and decreasing anthelmintic resistance. He provided a handout with some good reading material and emphasized fecal testing and strategic deworming; which includes only worming selected individuals, allowing sheep that are capable of controlling a low-level parasite load to go untreated, and creative use of deworming products (types, combinations, and when and when not to rotate products). Ask me for a copy of his materials.

Robert Dyk, USDA AHPIS, Veterinary Services, reviewed the mandatory Scrapie program and the importance of recognizing and using official Scrapie tags. He also covered information on the voluntary National Animal ID System (NAIS) and voluntary

Scrapie eradication programs. **Dr. Terry Hensley**, also of USDA AHPIS-VS, was on hand to help answer questions about the disease. Although these programs have been running for some time now, there were still a lot of questions and a good discussion.

Shelby Filley, OSU Extension Service Regional Livestock and Forages Specialist, presented information on efficient forage production. She stressed the importance of soil testing and fertilizing by prescription, matching field characteristics with correct forage species, and grazing management so that the plants flourish. Shelby emphasized protecting growing points and energy reserves in the plant's root crown (~3 inches above-ground growth), especially in the fall of the year.

Jim Thompson, OSU Extension Sheep Specialist, did a pretty good impersonation of David Letterman with his “Top 10 Ways to Cope with High Feed Costs.” Actually, he gave us 11 - Funny and to-the-point job. Thanks, Jim! #11 – Cull unproductive animals, #10 – Feed a Balanced Ration, 9 – Limit feed (rather than self feed), 8 – Feed Whole grain instead of processed, 7 – Compare feeds on the cost per pound of nutrient needed, not on the total cost per ton, 6 – Feed a least-cost ration, 5 – Weigh feed, 4 – Consider alternative feeds, 3 – Store feed properly, invest in feed storage units, 2 – Minimize waste, invest in feeders, and Thompson's #1 tip for lowering feed costs... Maximize your pasture resources! **S.F.**

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) requires retailers to notify their customers of the country of origin of beef (including veal), lamb, pork, chicken, goat, wild and farm raised fish and shellfish, perishable agricultural commodities, peanuts, pecans, ginseng, and macadamia nuts. This mandatory program of the United States Department of Agriculture took effect September 30, 2008 and agricultural producers must be able to verify origin of their products should audit take place and retailers request verification.

A covered commodity may bear a declaration that identifies the United States as the sole country of origin at retail only if it meets the definition of United States country of origin.

Under the interim final rule, beef, pork, lamb, chicken, and goat must be derived from animals exclusively born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States; from animals born and raised in Alaska or Hawaii and transported for a period of not more than 60 days through Canada to the United States and slaughtered in the United States; or from animals present in the United States on or before July 15, 2008, and once present in the United States, remained continuously in the United States. If not exclusively of US origin, other origins must be disclosed.

The making of this rule has actually been taking place for many years. The pros and cons have been hashed and re-hashed with input from livestock producers, producer organizations, consumer groups, meat packers, wholesalers, retailers, university personnel, government agencies, and more. Hopefully the best scenario possible for all involved has surfaced. If you missed the legal process in the formation of and public comment on this ruling you can catch up on what transpired by visiting the various websites listed below.

The purpose of this article is to provide resources for livestock producers to understand and comply with the new rule. Basically, you may need to give or receive *Affidavits* and keep *Records* for verification (see below for examples). I will limit the information here to beef cattle and sheep production commonly practiced in western Oregon, as this is the focus of my job assignment. No information for goat producers could be found on the few producer organization websites that I searched, but the USDA site has information on all covered commodities. Poultry producers are urged to call the OSU Extension Poultry Specialist, Jim Hermes (541-737-2254), and pork producers are urged to call the OSU Extension Swine Specialist, Gene Pirelli (503-683-8395), or the see the Pork Check Off website (<http://www.pork.org/>) or National Pork Board website (<http://www.porkboard.org/>) as they will have updated information on those species/products.

My **Regional Livestock and Forages Website** (<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf>) has web-links to the different organizations that might have even more information on COOL at a later date ~ see Item D. (Important News and Notices), H. (Producer Organizations), and I. (Government Agencies).

The **USDA Agricultural Marketing Service** hosts the official government website on COOL (<http://www.ams.usda.gov/cool/>) and should be the primary source of your information. This site includes the history and the official ruling for COOL. Scroll down that page and check out the information on *Frequently Asked Questions* and *Examples of Records for COOL Verification* under the "Resources" section.

The **National Cattlemen' Beef Association** website (<http://www.beefusa.org/>) also has resources to help producers. Click on "Government Affairs" then "Cattle Marketing" then COOL. The association's statement on COOL and an affidavit that can be down-loaded and used to provide buyers and sellers with a document that states the origin of livestock. The affidavit supplied there has been adopted by the major livestock groups in the United States.

The **Iowa Beef Center** (<http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/content/COOL.htm>) has also put information together for beef producers including record keeping suggestions to provide evidence to prove statements on the affidavit should an audit occur. Here are some of those suggestions:

Cow-Calf Producers: To begin building a good foundation for verification, producers can begin with ear tags, calving books, herd inventories, purchase receipts of herd animals, sale bills from sold animals.

Feedlots: Cattle feeders will also need to document cattle were "raised" in the U. S.

Appropriate documentation can include a declaration of origin from the seller, scale tickets with in- and out-weight, and closeout records. Feedlots will need documentation on where the cattle were before the feedlot, place of birth and stocker operation. Feedlot owners need to begin thinking about what type of documentation they will require from sellers and how that information will be transferred through the marketing channel (auction market, order buyer, trucker). Cattle

Important News and Notices . . . (cont'd)

feeders should also discuss COOL with their buyers to determine what information must be forwarded with the cattle when sold.

COOL will require retailers to develop and maintain an audit trail on the products they sell to verify the label indicating the country of origin. Members of the supply chain will have to keep sufficient records to support their claim of origin.

Note: Use the affidavit off the NCBA website, rather than the one on the Iowa Beef website, as it has been widely adopted across the different livestock species groups.

The **Oregon State University Extension Animal Sciences** website (<http://ans.oregonstate.edu/extension/cattle/index.htm>) has health record forms for beef cattle which include opportunity for record keeping and also contain affidavits on the backside of those forms. Scroll down to the bottom of the page.

The **American Sheep Industry Association** (ASIA) website at <http://sheepusa.org/> has some helpful information on COOL for sheep producers. Look for the orange writing on the right side of the page. There, you can find a statement by ASIA on COOL, an explanation of the program, and an affidavit (Recommended Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration Statements) that producers may use. Some excerpts from ASIA website are inserted here.

For more than 10 years, the American Sheep Industry Association has pushed for the implementation of a national system that would allow consumers to recognize the origin of the lamb on the shelves of American supermarkets. And with good reason: Labeling of domestic and imported product will allow American lamb to capture a larger share of the higher retail price versus the product blending or nebulous labeling practices that exist in many situations today.

The COOL law provides for the use of producer affidavits to provide origin information to packers. Thus, under the interim final rule, USDA will consider a producer affidavit as acceptable evidence on which a packer may rely upon to initiate an origin claim, as long as the affidavit is made by someone having first-hand knowledge of the origin of the animal(s) and identifies the animal(s) unique to the transaction. Evidence that identifies the animal(s) unique to a transaction can include a tag ID system along with other information such as the type and sex of the cattle, number of head involved in the transaction, the date of the transaction, and the name of the buyer.

With regard to what is considered first-hand knowledge, a subsequent producer-buyer (e.g., backgrounder, feed lot) that commingles cattle from several sources is authorized to rely on previous producer affidavits as a basis for formulating their own affidavit for the origin of the new lot. Such affidavits must also identify the animals unique to the transaction. In contrast, first-hand knowledge would not include an affidavit made by someone such as a truck driver whose knowledge would be limited to where he picked up the load. The driver would not have first-hand knowledge as to whether the animals were necessarily born at that location.

Other records that may be used to assist in a COOL verification audit include birth records, receiving records, purchase records, animal health papers, sales receipts, animal inventory documents, feeding records, APHIS VS forms, segregation plans, State Brand requirements, breeding stock information, Beef Quality Program papers, and other similar documents. In addition, participation in USDA Quality System Verification Programs, such as the USDA Process Verified Program and the Quality Systems Assessment Program that contain a source verification component is also considered as acceptable evidence to substantiate COOL claims. These examples are not inclusive of all documents and records that may be useful to verify compliance with COOL, but they should provide a strong basis to substantiate a claim during a supply chain audit.

Evidence of country of origin for meat animals could be supplied from other programs in which you are enrolled. These include the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) "840 tags", or ID Tags from the USDA Scrapie Eradication program, or documentation from Age and Source Verified programs.

Please study these materials on your own so that you are familiar with what the mandatory program is and what you might need to do to help retailers comply. If you need copies of the documents I mentioned and do not have Internet access, please contact me and I will get them to you. As always, I welcome calls and e-mails from you for discussions on livestock and forage topics of all kinds. **S.F.**

More "**Important News and Notices**" on other topics are available on my website at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf/importantn>

Other Programs . . .

PESTICIDE USE REPORTING (PURS) HELP CLASSES

through the Oregon Department of Agriculture

See also http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/purs_index.shtml

- Nov 12 - **Grants Pass**, 8:00-10:00 am, Rogue C.C. Small Biz Center Computer lab, 214 SW 4th Street, 541.956.7494
- Nov 12 - **Medford**, 1:00-3:00 pm, RCC/SOU Higher Ed. Center, RM 108C, 101 S. Bartlett ST, 541.772.3478
- Nov 13 - **Klamath Falls**, 6:00-8:00 pm, OIT Learning Resource Center (Library) RM 113, 541.885.1760
- Nov 17 - **Gold Beach**, 6:00-8:00 pm, Southern Oregon C.C. Gold Beach campus, 29392 Ellensburg Ave. 541.247.2741
- Nov 18 - **Myrtle Point**, 6:00-8:00 pm, Coos County Extension Office, 631 Alder St, 541.572.5263
- Nov 19, **Roseburg**, 6:00-8:00 pm, Umpqua C.C. Small Biz Center, RM 13, 2555 NE Diamond Lake Blvd, 541.440.4669
- Nov 20, **Eugene**, 3:00-5:00 pm, Lane C.C. Small Biz Center, Main campus Bldg Rm 103, 1445 Wilamette St (Wildish Building), 541.463.5255
- Nov 25, **Salem**, 9:00-11:00 am, ODOT Training Center, Suite B and Suite H, 2775 19th ST SE, off of McGilchrist, 503.986.6472

OTHER CLASSES AND PROGRAMS:

November 17, 2008 - Community Supported Agriculture Program

Jackson Co./OSU Extension Auditorium - Central Point; 5 - 7 PM; \$10 fee.

Contact Melissa Matthewson at melissa.matthewson@oregonstate.edu or 541-776-7371

See program announcement at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/farms/classes>

November 17 or 18 - OSU Beef Quality Assurance Program

Polk County Livestock Association & OSU Extension Service

Nov 17th in Dallas, OR (6-9 pm) or

Nov 18th in Aurora, OR (9 am - noon)

Pre-register - Polk County OSU Extension Service

Phone: @ 503-623-8395 or

E-mail: gene.pirelli@oregonstate.edu

See program website, Western Regional BQA - www.bqa.wsu.edu

Printable announcement at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/lf/workshops>

December 4 - Weed Educational Program/Pesticide Recertification Class

Lane County/OSU Extension Service, 950 W 13th Ave, Eugene

Mark Mellbye 541-967-3871x2394

A CORE and private applicator pesticide class, 8:00 am to 12:15 pm.

4 hours of credit are approved.

Pre-registration and fee required.

Enclosures

Enclosed is copy of the program flyer for the Oregon Biosecurity/BVD-PI Screening Program.



Quotable

The other night Dorothy Austin had a good question on rock for roadways and feeding areas verses rocks in pastures/hayfields - "Why does rock you want to stay above ground sink, and rock you want to stay down rise? Anyone who can give a good answer deserves a prize of some kind!?!"

OSU EXTENSION SERVICE

Regional Livestock & Forages Newsletter

For the Counties of
Benton, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, and Linn

Inside This Edition

Articles	Page
Greeting	1
Kudos: Dick & Mo Nichols	1
Announcements	2
Forage: Grass is King, Protect the Crown	3
Beef: Oregon Joins Battle Against BVD	4
Sheep: Sheep Seminar a Success	5
Important: Country of Origin Labeling	6
Other Programs	8

Regional Livestock and Forage
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