

# Forsyth Livestock News

Forsyth County Center  
County Agricultural Building  
1450 Fairchild Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27105  
336.703.2850

April W. Bowman  
Extension Agent;  
Livestock, Forages and  
4-H Youth Development



## EGG GRADING CLASS

The upcoming NC Egg Grading Class at N.C. Cooperative Extension-Caldwell County Center is a training class for people who have small flocks and sell eggs on a regular basis to consumers.

During the class we will be covering topics such as safe handling practices, interior and exterior egg quality, as well as laws and regulations surrounding egg grading and sales in North Carolina.

There will be hands-on applications of techniques taught in the class so that participants can gain knowledge of how to grade eggs for sale in North Carolina.

If you are an egg producer who is producing more than 30 dozen eggs per week, are interested in expanding past this threshold, or are wanting to learn more about egg grading then this class is for you!

There is no fee for the class but prior registration is required to ensure an accurate headcount for lunch. Space is limited. Sign up today by calling 757.1290 or emailing [tina\\_lovejoy@ncsu.edu](mailto:tina_lovejoy@ncsu.edu).

Go to <http://go.ncsu.edu/egggradingclass> for agenda.



Many thanks to Carolina Farm  
Credit for sponsoring the meal.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER  
6<sup>TH</sup>  
9AM-3 PM,  
CALDWELL EXTENSION  
CENTER -120 HOSPITAL  
AVE NE, LENOIR NC;  
ROOM 2

LUNCH INCLUDED

SPACE IS LIMITED  
PLEASE REGISTER IN  
ADVANCE

REGISTER BY CALLING

828.757.1290

NC State University and N.C. A&T State University are collectively committed to positive action to secure equal opportunity and prohibit discrimination and harassment regardless of age, color, disability, family and marital status, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation and veteran status. NC State, N.C. A&T, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

For accommodations for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact our office at 828-757-1290 at least two weeks prior to the event.

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# HAY

## Hay Donations

Individuals interested in donating hay to the hurricane recovery effort can list their donation on the N.C. Cooperative Extension, Hay Donation form at <https://ncdisaster.ces.ncsu.edu/hay-donation/>. If you want to donate, but do not have access to the internet, please contact April Bowman, Livestock Extension Agent at 336-703-2855.

This page is intended to supplement NCDA&CS's Hay Alert website at <http://www.ncagr.gov/hayalert/> where you may list hay for sale (or donation). When you place an ad on Hay Alert there are options for "baled hay for sale", "baled hay needed", "standing hay for sale", or "standing hay needed". If you don't need a whole truckload of hay you can use the "share a load" ad to try to find other producers to split a load with.

## Hauling

There is some funding to help with hauling. If you know anyone with a road tractor that is willing to haul for cost, please let me know or denote that in the hay donation form. Typically 35-36 4 X 4 round bales will fill a trailer.

## Tax Deduction

Donations **may** also be claimed as a tax deductible donation if you donate through the above channels.

## Hay Testing

Everyone is encouraged to have their hay tested whether you are keeping it for your own personal use, or donating it to others. The best results are obtained when a core sampler is used to sample the hay. We have one available for you to borrow here at the office that attaches to a standard drill (1450 Fairchild Road Winston-Salem) and can be picked up Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (call first to make certain that it's here).

Regardless of the sampling technique, you will want to obtain a sample from each unique "lot" of hay. A lot is considered hay from the same field and the same cutting that was cured and stored under the same conditions. If a core sampler is used, take cores from 10-15 bales or enough cores to fill a quart-sized plastic bag. Always sample from the end of square bales or the sides of round bales. If a core sampler is unavailable grab samples can be tested. The best way to do this is to open several bales and grab portions from the center to tightly pack a gallon-sized plastic bag. This test will not be as accurate as one obtained with a core sampler, but it is still useful. After obtaining the sample you can mail, ship or deliver it to the forage lab along with \$10. The addresses are on the forage test form that must be completed and sent in with your sample. We have those forms available here in our office ([1450 Fairchild Road Winston-Salem, NC](http://1450FairchildRoadWinston-Salem,NC)), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you are donating an ENTIRE lot of hay, we can pay the \$10 fee for you. If you plan to keep most of it for yourself, then please try to pay the fee yourself.

Read more at: <https://harnett.ces.ncsu.edu/hay-evaluation-and-testing/>

## WINTER FEEDING PLAN

Do you KNOW how much hay YOU NEED to make it through the winter? Do you have a winter feeding plan? Or do you wing it, and hope you have enough?

### Body Condition Score Your Stock

Knowing if animals need to gain, maintain, or lose body condition is a key factor in planning your winter nutrition program. Body condition scoring is the most cost effective management tool you have. It can help you decide when to improve the nutritional plane to get better production and reproduction. When you face a short and/or low quality feed supply it is helpful to go through the animals and sort them into production groups, including body condition as one of the criteria.

# WINTER FEEDING PLAN CONTINUED

## **Inventory Your Forage Supply and Develop a Feed Budget**

You may already be able to predict when you will have to start feeding hay. Producers that have kept the gates closed and allowed grass to stockpile in some pastures will have a real advantage in available grazing compared to those that opened the gates and let the cows roam and work the whole farm during the late summer and early autumn. Strip grazing with temporary fencing will add even more grazing days.

However you do it, decide how many days you are likely to be feeding hay. Unfortunately, 100+ days will be a common answer. Once you have that number in mind, you can estimate your hay needs. Each lactating cow will need about 3% of body weight per day of hay (which includes waste). That means that small cows will need about 33 lbs of hay and large cows might need as much as 40 lbs of hay daily. Knowing how much your cows weigh is one factor you will need to know to calculate an accurate feed budget. Figure 4% of body weight for sheep or goats, and 2% of bodyweight for horses.

Once you know the projected hay need, you should inventory your hay including counting the number of bales and coming up with a good estimate of bale weight. Once you have experience you can do a pretty good job feeling hay and estimating the weight, but the only accurate way of doing it is to put some bales on a scale. Keep in mind that round bales of hay rarely weigh as much as you think they ought to. Also, if hay has been outside and is wet, that water adds a lot to the weight of the bale but has no feeding value, so take that into account.

## **Evaluate Nutritional Quality of Your Hay and Develop a Supplementation Strategy**

Usually grazed forages will meet the needs of a lactating beef cow with moderate milk production. However, it is very common for hay to be harvested late or under poor drying conditions, resulting in forage that is not up to the requirements of our typical beef cow. A mature cow will need about 60% TDN (energy) and 11% protein. Goats need 55-65 TDN (energy) depending on their stage of pregnancy/milking and 14% protein for high milking, 60 TDN for late pregnancy and average milk and only 55 TDN for early pregnancy. (<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/nutritional-feeding-management-of-meat-goats>). Horses needs depend on their work load and growing horses need more than mature horses. 8-12% protein is usually satisfactory for mature horses, while young horses will likely need 12-18%. (<http://go.ncsu.edu/horsenutrition>). **Much of the hay you test will be in the mid 50s on TDN and less than 10% protein**, but you won't know if you don't test!

## **Winter Feed Budget**

Once you have your animals body condition score, weight, your forage analysis and the number of bales in each lot and their weight, feel free to contact me and we can develop a winter feed budget for your farm, April Bowman, [awbowman@ncsu.edu](mailto:awbowman@ncsu.edu) or 336-703-2855.

## **Purchase Hay and/or Sell Stock to Balance Your Budget**

If you come up significantly short of hay, you need to do something to balance your budget. One strategy would be to sell off some stock.

The other option is to buy hay and because the supply is likely to be short (as a whole across the state), I strongly recommend you do that before cold weather arrives. I suggest testing hay before you buy a whole lot, and also weigh some bales so you know what you are paying for. If you can buy medium quality hay delivered to you for less than \$100/ton it is a very good deal.

**Written by:** Matt Poore, Animal Science Departmental Extension Leader. NCSU. October 10, 2018.

**Edited by:** April Bowman, Extension Agent, Livestock, Forages, and 4-H Youth Development, N.C. Cooperative Extension, Forsyth County Center. October 27, 2018.



FEED GREATNESS™

**YOU'RE INVITED**

## Davis Feed & Supply Fall Cattle Meeting

DINNER | PRESENTATION | DOOR PRIZES | DISCOUNTS

Monday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>

Dinner at 6:30 PM

At Davis Feed

6868 Davis Country Rd., Randleman, NC 27317



Please join us for an informative presentation by  
Dr. Tim Marshall, Purina Cattle Technical Specialist.

Topics will include:

Maximizing genetic potential through All Seasons Nutrition

Door prizes and special deals on Purina Wind and Rain Mineral, Hi-Fat Accuration tubs and other in store items such as fencing, gates, and apparel.

RSVP to Allie Roth at (336)813-2133 or to  
Davis Feed at (336)431-2311 to reserve your spot!

Join us for the:

# BUSINESS OF FARMING

**A four-part series to help new & beginning farmers to  
treat their farm as a business.**

### Schedule:

January 31	2-4 p.m.	Accounting
February 28	2-5 p.m.	Legal Issues
March 28	2-5 p.m.	Taxes
April 25	2-5 p.m.	Marketing

All sessions will be held at the Davidson County Extension Office, 301 E. Center St., Lexington.

This series is sponsored by Carolina Farm Credit. There is no registration fee.

You must PRE-REGISTER. Registration deadline is one week before each session.

Register online:

<http://go.ncsu.edu/businessoffarming>

Or by calling: 336-242-2082





**FARM CREDIT**  
AGCAROLINA | CAPE FEAR | CAROLINA

## 2019 Winter Conference Series

### *“Effective Weed Management in Pastures and Hay Fields”*

Featuring  
Neil Rhodes, Weed Specialist University of Tennessee and  
Kathy Voth, Livestock for Landscapes

Also local producer profiles, NCSU Extension Update,  
trade show and much more!

Registration begins at 9:30 AM and the program from 10:00 AM—4:00 PM

#### January 22, 2019

WNC Regional  
Livestock Center  
474 Stock Drive  
Canton, NC

#### January 23, 2019

Rowan County Center  
2727 Old Concord Rd  
Salisbury, NC

#### January 24, 2019

Granville Co. Expo and  
Convention Center  
4185 US-15, Oxford, NC

#### January 25, 2019

Mt. Olive University  
Raper Hall  
RB Butler Drive  
Mt. Olive, NC

Lunch will be  
provided!!

### Registration

Adults = \$25

Students = \$10

Join NCFGC  
at this meeting!!

Online registration at the following website:

<http://www.nccattle.com/nc-forage-grasslands-council/events/winter-conference/registration>

Or call 919-552-9111

For more information: [Teresa.Herman@ncagr.gov](mailto:Teresa.Herman@ncagr.gov)

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**USDA**



**CEFS**



NCSU | NCA&T | NCDARCS

Pesticide and  
Animal Waste  
Credits are  
available at this  
meeting

# Upcoming Events

- Nov 5 Farm City Bus Tour to NCSU, 7:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m. <http://go.ncsu.edu/fcfarmcity2018>
- Nov 5 Fall Cattle Meeting at Davis Feeds “Maximizing Genetic Potential through All Seasons Nutrition”, 6:30 PM
- Nov 6 Farm City Local Tours, 11:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m. <http://go.ncsu.edu/fcfarmcity2018>  
Farm City Banquet, 6 p.m. <http://go.ncsu.edu/fcfarmcity2018>
- Dec 8 NC Sheep Producer’s Annual Meeting, Chatham County, <http://ncsheep.com>
- Jan 22-25 Winter Forage Conference “Effective Weed Management in Pastures and Hay Fields”,  
<http://go.ncsu.edu/2019winterforageconference>  
January 22 Canton January 23 Salisbury  
January 24 Oxford January 25 Mount Olive
- Feb 21-23 NC Cattlemen’s Conference, Hickory Convention Center, <https://www.nccattle.com>
- Jan 31 Business of Farming “Accounting”, Davidson County Center, 2-4 PM; <http://go.ncsu.edu/businessoffarming>
- Feb 13 Big Dreams, Small Farms “Agritourism”, Davidson County Center;  
<https://ncfarmschool.ces.ncsu.edu/2019-big-dreams-small-farms/>
- Feb 28 Business of Farming “Legal Issues”, Davidson County Center, 2-5 PM
- March 7 Piedmont Regional Beef Conference, Guilford County
- March 9 NC 4-H Horsebowl and Hippology Contest
- March 13 Big Dreams, Small Farms “Small Ruminants”, Davidson County Center
- March 28 Business of Farming “Taxes”, Davidson County Center, 2-5 PM

**Save the Dates!**

**Big Dreams, Small Farms Series**

Agritourism—February 13

Small Ruminants—March 13

Pastured Pork—April 11

Pastured Poultry—May 9

Small Fruit—May 23

Market Garden—June 13

**NC STATE EXTENSION**

NC Farm School

## ABOUT N.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

North Carolina Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership comprising NC State Extension, The Cooperative Extension Program at N.C. A&T State University, USDA-NIFA, and 101 local governments statewide. Extension professional in all 100 counties and with the Eastern Band of Cherokee translate research-based education and technology from NC State and N.C. A&T into everyday solutions that enrich the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians. Extension specializes in agriculture, youth, communities, food, health and the environment.