

# Rebuilding The Beef Herd

*Planning... to capture opportunities*

The January 2012 Texas beef cow inventory is 660,000 cows smaller than it was just a year before, due largely to the drought ... and market prices are charting record highs! There seems to be a sense of urgency among cattlemen to make plans and move forward, albeit in a different environment. The smaller cow inventory combined with high input costs, competing uses for land, prices of competing meats and radical changes (both domestic and export) in grain use are reshaping the beef business. Those with serious intent to enter, rebuild or expand their beef operation can't wait till rains come and pastures are completely healed to develop a plan. A plan must be in place when opportunity presents itself.

## January 31, 2014

### General Session

8:30 Beef - Better (*and Different*) Times Ahead  
Forage Recovery & Pasture Restocking  
Evaluating Replacement Options

### *Lunch*

1:00 Can a \$2500 Cow Breakeven?  
Flexibility in Resource Use  
Leased Grazing—What, Why and How

5:00 Adjourn

*(see opposite side for details)*

Myers Park and Event Center  
7117 CR 166  
McKinney, TX 75071

For more information call:  
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Registration fee- \$40 per person Register by Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.  
Please make checks payable to ***Collin Ag Support Fund***.

Checks should be mailed to:  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
Collin County  
825 N. McDonald, Suite 150  
McKinney, TX 75069

For registration questions please call 972-548-4233

## **General Session**

### 8:30 *Beef– Better (and Different) Times Ahead*

Demand vs. supply is shedding bright light on beef's future, but most agree the future will be significantly different than even the recent past. Relatively recent changes in grain and land use, ever-increasing input costs and marginal profits could shape demographics in the beef industry for the next two decades. Here's a review that puts them all in perspective.

### 9:30 *Forage Recovery & Pasture Restocking*

When it rains, drought-stricken warm-season forages must be allowed to rebound either from root reserves or seed while resource managers begin to restock with cattle. Flexibility has been and will continue to be an essential element. This discussion will focus on the art and science of balancing grazing pressure and forage supply.

### 10:30 *Evaluating Replacement Options*

What type of cow best fits the new production paradigm(s)? In this review of critical considerations like mature size, environmental adaptability and market acceptance, cattlemen may find answers to questions such as: "What might I buy?", "Can I find them?" and "How concerned should I be about health issues?".

## **Lunch**

### 1:00 *Can a \$2500 Cow Breakeven?*

Sure, relative to drought-forced liquidation prices, replacement females will be more expensive. "How high is too high?" you ask. This session will build from the morning's opening presentation and lead participants through an in-depth look at determining a reasonable price and the financial requirements for purchasing breeding females.

### 2:30

#### *Flexibility in Resource Use*

Natural resource stewards realize production conditions change, forage supply is not constant and animal inventory needs some 'flex' built in. Continuing on from the morning's last discussion, here's a detailed look at resource inventory and replacement female options and how to strategically build flexibility into your operation.

### 3:30

#### *Leased Grazing—What, Why and How*

Every longstanding grazing lease involves a content lessor and successful lessee; that relationship has several key elements- resource inventory, lease expectations, structure, arrangement, tenure and documentation. Looking for country *or* cattle to graze grass you own? Then you'll want to sit in on this session.

### 5:00 Adjourn