

Upcoming Events

- Jan 7 Understanding Radon, 4-6pm
Spalding County Extension Office
- Jan 8 RSVP BY NOON
mgcaonline.com
- Jan 9 MGCA Membership Meeting
UGA Griffin Campus
7:00 pm Stuckey Auditorium
- Jan 11 YCCA Tour in Mid-GA Area
- Jan 16 Beef Cattle 101 Educational Series
3-5:00 pm
Barnesville-Lamar Civic Center
- Jan 18 Beekeeping Short Course
8am-5pm
Spalding County Extension Office
- Jan 23 Work Day for Show
1:00 Upson-Lee AG Center
- Jan 23 Rid Your Home of Clutter and Pests
6:30pm
Monroe County Extension Office
- Jan 25 75th West Central GA Show
12:00 pm, Thomaston
Upson-Lee AG Center
- Jan 30 All About Peanuts
Monroe County Extension
- Feb 13 MGCA Directors' Meeting
Garden Patch 7:00 PM
- Feb 14 Happy Valentine's Day
Serve Your Sweetheart Beef!
- Feb. 20 Beef 101 - Herd Health

COW POKES

by Ace Reid



"Wasn't it just the other day you was complain' about the heat?"

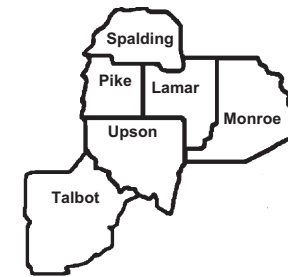
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Beef Cattle 101 Educational Series

The next Beef Cattle 101 Program will take place on January 16, 2020, at 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Barnesville-Lamar Civic Center Barnesville, Georgia 30204.

January Program Topics:
Structural Practices - Fencing Options, Watering Troughs for Small Cattle Farms, and Working Pens
Equipment Needs - Small Farm Equipment Options, tractors

There is still time to register!
\$15 per session or \$60 for the remainder of the series (through June 2020) includes program materials and a catered meal (please RSVP by January 9, 2020)
To register contact: (770) 358-0787 ex. 3 or email wesley.doyle@usda.gov



Mid-Georgia

MEMBER
GEORGIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Cattlemen's

Association

USPS 080-170

BULL SHEET

VOL. LV

JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 2020

No. 1

MGCA JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JANUARY 9, 2020 AT 7:00 PM

GRIFFIN UGA CAMPUS - STUCKEY AUDITORIUM
1109 EXPERIMENT ST, GRIFFIN, GA

*The speaker for the evening will be
Dr. William Hudson, Entomologist with the UGA-Athens.*

*His presentation will be "Insect Pests of Georgia Hayfields."
He will cover Bermuda stem maggot, armyworm, fire ants, and others insects that farmers encounter in their hayfields.*

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The Spalding directors invite you to come early and visit with these sponsors and learn what they have to offer you and your farming operation.

MEAL: \$5.00 per person - Waffle House Steak and Eggs Dinner

*Don't miss this opportunity to support the MGCA Scholarship Fund!
The drawing for the Henry Classic Lever Action 22 will be held at this meeting.
If you haven't gotten your ticket yet, there will be tickets available for a \$5.00 donation.
If you sold tickets, please bring or send the stubs and money to this meeting.*

Please RSVP at mgcaonline.com by noon on January 8th.

If you RSVP prior to the deadline, your name will be entered into a drawing for a gift card.

*It is not mandatory that you RSVP, but it helps Spalding County prepare the meal for us.
If you don't have access to a computer, ask your extension office, agent, or directors to assist in signing you up for the meeting.
Thanks for your help! The CattleWomen will have their meeting following dinner.
All ladies are invited to attend and learn more about your association.*

BULL SHEET

of the
Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association
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2000 Betty Copelan
2001 Jim Markham
2002 Edwin D. Foshee, Sr.
2004 Dr. Wilbur Neisler
2005 Wyatt Childs
2006 Harry Waller
2007 Joel Edwards
2008 Ben T. Smith, Sr.
2009 Edward Trice, Sr.
2010 Dr. James King
2011 Fred Greene
2012 Chuck & Norma Sword
2014 Cynthia Douglas
2017 Ed Trice, Jr.
2018 Dr. Jerry Walker

County Extension Agents:

Lamar: Hailey Robinson - 770-358-5163 E-mail: hrobinson@uga.edu
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Monroe: 478-994-7014 - Caitlin Jackson E-mail: crbenn@uga.edu
P. O. Box 70, Forsyth, GA 31029
Pike: Brooklyne Wassel - 770-567-2010 or 678-588-3153
E-mail: brooklyne.wassel@uga.edu
P. O. Box 190, Zebulon, GA 30295
Spalding: Philip Hensley 770-467-4225 E-mail: philip.hensley@uga.edu
P. O. Box 227, Griffin, GA 30224
Talbot: Bobby Solomon and Steve Morgan - 706-665-3230
P. O. Box 127, Talbotton, GA 31827
Upson: Hailey Robinson - 706-647-8989 E-mail: hrobinson@uga.edu
P. O. Box 86, Thomaston, GA 30286

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Membership meetings are held the 2nd Thursdays in
alternate months starting in January.

Directors' meetings are held the 2nd Thursdays in months
alternating with membership meetings.

Editor: Cynthia Douglas
1950 Delray Rd., Thomaston, GA 30286
douglasfarm@windstream.net - 770-550-1070

Annual membership dues is for subscription to Bull Sheet.
2020

Officers and Directors of the
Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association

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Bo HuddlestonVice President
Rodney HilleySecretary
Glen StudleTreasurer

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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GCA Dues

☐ State & Local Dues - 1 yr. \$ 50.00
Total. \$ _____

Georgia Cattlewomen's Dues

☐ State Dues - 1 yr. \$ 15.00
Total. \$ _____

Junior Cattlemen's Dues (Ages 21 and under)

☐ State Dues - 1 yr. \$ 15.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED

RECIPE CORNER



*Sweet Onion &
Pepper Beef*



Sandwiches with Au Jus

INGREDIENTS

3 to 3-1/2 pounds beef Stew Meat,
cut into 1 to 1-1/2 inch pieces
2 medium sweet onions, cut into 1/2-inch wedges
2 red bell pepper, cut lengthwise into 1-inch wide strips
1 cup reduced-sodium beef broth
1/3 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce
1/2 cup no-salt added tomato paste
2 tablespoons minced garlic
8 to 10 French bread rolls, split, warmed

Toppings:

Reduced-fat shredded Cheddar cheese, pepperoncini, pepper
rings, assorted olives (optional)

Cooking:

1. Place onions in 5-1/2 quart slow cooker; top with beef, then
pepper slices. Combine beef broth, tomato paste, soy sauce and garlic;
add to slow cooker. Cover and cook on HIGH 6 to 7 hours or LOW 8
to 9 hours or until beef is fork-tender. (No stirring is necessary during
cooking.) Skim fat from cooking liquid, if necessary.
2. Serve beef and vegetables in rolls with toppings, as desired.
Serve au jus for dipping, if desired.

Alternate Cooking Method:

This recipe can be made in a 6-quart electric pressure cooker. In
small bowl add 1/2 cup broth, soy sauce and tomato paste; mix well.
Place onions in pressure cooker; top with beef Stew Meat, onions,
peppers, broth mixture and garlic.
Close and lock pressure cooker lid.
Use beef, stew or high-pressure
setting on pressure cooker;
program 25 minutes on pressure
cooker timer. Use quick-release
feature to release pressure;
carefully remove lid. Continue as
directed in step 2. (This recipe
variation was tested in an electric
pressure cooker at high altitude. Cooking at an altitude of less than
3000 feet may require slightly less cooking time. Refer to the
manufacturer's instructions.)

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priorities when building a hay barn is choosing a location where water movement can be controlled. Choosing a location in a swampy area or at the bottom of a large hill will require more costly drainage systems and will likely still be at higher risk for flooding and hay loss on the bottom hay layers. Adding gutters or rocked ditches close to barn sidewalls should be included in planning costs. Allowing water to pool beside a barn can damage the structure as well as infiltrate into the barn and damage the hay. In addition to the outside drainage, build the barn floor at least 6 to 8 inches higher than ground level to further avoid any water entering the barn.

Accessibility is also a priority in the planning stages. You would ideally locate hay barns along an already established drive. This reduces extra infrastructure costs. If you are starting with no infrastructure, budget enough to develop a gravel access for tractors and other equipment to enter the barn area. These gravel areas should be a few feet wider than any doors or opening on the walls of the barn and 20 to 25 feet long. Access drives are critical because the goal is to reduce mud from entering the barn. Particularly for barns with gravel bases, mud can quickly reduce the drainage capacity of the flooring and reduce the stability of the floor as well. It would be ideal to also budget for driveways and parking or turning areas. Putting down filter fabric and gravel on drives not only improves access, but it also reduces mud tracking into barns on tires and gravel loss.

And finally, remember that air movement is crucial. A barn needs proper ventilation to expel the moisture from hay respiration. Since hay barns are typically dependent on natural ventilation to get air exchange, proper orientation can be critical. Typically, a barn should be oriented so that the sidewall, or length of the barn, is perpendicular to the predominant wind direction. For barns with enclosed sidewalls, like pole barns, eave openings and a capped ridge



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vent are critical design elements to allow for passive ventilation. Air enters through the eaves and exits through the ridge vent, along with any excess moisture from the hay. Orienting the barn so the end wall doesn't receive the majority of weather events can also protect hay bales closest to the end wall from heavy precipitation.

A hay barn's location is very situation specific and needs to match a farm's operational strategies and geography. Following these barn siting guidelines will reduce future problems and result in a faster return on your hay barn investment.

Reidsville Tour



Upson County Extension Service organized a tour of the Chatel Farms and the Reidsville Prison Farms for local producers.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WILL GODOWNS
MGCA PRESIDENT

I hope everyone enjoyed a Merry Christmas, and that your New Year is off to a great start!

The beginning of each year is a time of reflection, goal setting, and planning. Something that I am working on personally, is to be present. I find myself often times sitting in a meeting, or at dinner, or even driving down the road, and I'm physically there, but mentally, I'm thinking about the other hundreds of things that need to get done. All of these things are genuinely important, but it doesn't allow for me to be as engaged as I want and need to be.

This is also a busy time! We have just finished the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season, attending family events and functions, all while carrying out the normal duties on our operations. For myself, this Spring will be full of calving, feeding, equipment maintenance, and of course meetings. There are several organizations that myself and my wife Charlsy are a part of. We just finished our first year of a two-year term on the Ga Farm Bureau State Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee, and I will be chairing the committee in 2020. Together, we will travel all around the state, and make several out of state trips, which will require my attendance and my presence.

We are also heavily involved in this association. After serving as a director and the past two years as your vice president I now have the privilege to serve as your President of the Mid Ga Cattlemen's Association for the 2019-2020 term. This is a role and responsibility I take very seriously. I am excited for the opportunity to lead the chapter this next year, and my goal during my time as President is to get as many people involved, engaged, and present as possible. I have learned through my involvement in other organizations that even on the nights that I don't get home until late, the long weekends or week long trips that keep me away from my operation, and all of the work that comes along with being involved, that I do it all because I truly have a passion for agriculture and the people in our industry.

Mid Georgia Cattlemen's Association is a strong chapter of Georgia Cattlemen's Association. We are the largest multi-county chapter in the state, and there's no reason that we shouldn't have the most involvement as well! The cattle industry is a passion of mine. I want to share my passion with others and give back to an organization and industry that has afforded me so many opportunities along the way. There are always events and programs going on that can benefit you personally on the state and local level. I hope that you all will want to take advantage of these opportunities and become engaged in our chapter.

If you ever have any questions or want to know what you can do to make an impact in our industry and our chapter, please do not hesitate to reach out at any time!

Thank you so much for being a member of our chapter. Always remember to "EAT MORE BEEF"
Will Godowns
wgodowns@gmail.com

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**MID-GEORGIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
November 14, 2019
THOMASTON, GEORGIA**

President Cody Ham called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting.

Danny Bentley led the Invocation.

Mid-Georgia Queen, Karsen Sandefur led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Will Godowns introduced the special guests in attendance:

Brent Galloway, GCA President

Rodney Hilley, GCA Executive Committee Member

James Vaughn, GCA Executive Committee Member

Danny Bentley, GCA Region 8 Vice President

Marcus South, GCA Regional Young Cattlemen's Board

Austin Wiggins, GCA Junior Cattlemen's Vice Chair

Charlsy Godowns, GCA Director of Association Services

Cynthia Douglas, GA Cattlewomen's Parliamentarian

GA Cattlewomen's Board Members; Ruth Hice, Sharon Greer, Janet Greuel and Hailey Robinson.

Sponsors for the evening are AgSouth Farm Credit of Thomaston and Chase Hassey - Mix 30.

A special thanks to Freddy Butts, owner of the Yatesville Diner, for catering the dinner.

Thanks to Susan Allen and Amanda Boyt for providing the dinner music and the Upson Cattlewomen and men for decorating and organizing the meeting.

Cody Ham presented the Mid Georgia Cattlemen's Scholarship to Austin Wiggins from Monroe County.

Cynthia Douglas thanked the Mid-Georgia Queen for the past year, Karsen Sandefur and introduced the Queen for 2020, Trudy Peek from Upson County.

Hailey Robinson presented the Hay Contest Awards as

follows:

Cool Season, Perennial Grass Hay

1 Wes Smith

2. Whispering Rock Farm

3. Chris Callahan

Warm Season, Perennial Grass Hay

1 Rusty Blackston

2 Wes Smith

3 S & S Farm

Mixed, Annual Grass, or Other Hay

1 B and B Farm Services

2 Honeywood Farms

3 Wes Smith

Legume Baleage

1 Walters Farm, LLC

2 Benny Bostick

Grass Baleage

1 Walters Farms, LLC

2 SSS Farms

3 Caldwell Farms and Land

Cody Ham introduced the MGCA Producer of the Year, Luke Andrews from Lamar County.

Will Godowns presented the Dr. O. E. Sell Award to Glen Studdle from Lamar County.

Rodney Hilley introduced GCA President Brent Galloway and he gave an informative talk about his job, family and various GCA topics.

Cody thanked Brent for coming and introduced Tom Daniel who auctioneered the cake auction.

Cody asked for a motion to approve the minutes as printed in the Bull Sheet. Motion seconded and approved.

Glen Studdle, Treasurer discussed the Treasurer's report and reported that we made a profit of \$4684.19 at our Buggy Days booth. Cody asked for a motion to approve as presented. Motion was made, seconded and approved.



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If you do not have established farm records or a 2019 Acreage Report, late-file fees will apply. Please call the Lamar County FSA Office at 770-358-0787 Extension 2 to make an appointment to complete your application. The deadline to apply is January 30, 2020.

Acreage Reporting Reminder

The Lamar County FSA Office is now taking acreage reports for Fall Seeded Small Grains. This includes any over-seeding that has been planted this fall. We will accept these reports until January 15, 2020. Call the Lamar FSA Office at 770-358-0787 Extension 2 to make an appointment.

Lamar County FSA Staff

County Executive Director: Haley Vickery

haley.vickery@usda.gov

Program Technician: Rhonda Brown rhonda.brown@usda.gov

Program Technician: Abigail Gregg abigail.gregg@usda.gov

Siting a Hay Barn

By: Philip Hensley, Spalding County Extension Agent

Adapted from: Morgan Hayes, Associate Professor,
University of Kentucky

Choosing the correct location for a hay barn can be a challenge. You might choose different locations depending on where you bale hay, or how the farm is laid out, or whether you plan to sell the hay or feed it to your own animals. Other considerations with selecting a hay barn site can include accessibility, drainage, and vicinity to other hay barns or livestock. Also, the orientation of the barn will influence how

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DAVID WHITE - Owner

air flows through the barn, which can influence hay quality. Ultimately, choosing the right location will impact how well the barn functions.

A centralized location allows you to better sort for forage quality, and for customers to select the specific hay they wish to purchase. With larger cash hay operations, a centralized storage will typically reduce the amount of equipment needed, as one tractor can service multiple barns without hauling or driving the tractors between locations. Also, one location makes it more cost effective to put in the infrastructure (utilities, drives, gates, and parking areas) for large vehicle access, and it is easier to direct customers to the location. One challenge with a centralized storage setup is the risk of fire spreading throughout the entire hay supply. If the hay operation includes multiple barns, it might be good to have a source of water nearby, like a pond or hydrant. In addition, including a 75-foot buffer between barns will reduce the likelihood of fire jumping from one structure to another.

When the goal of the hay operation is feeding animals, focus on getting hay as close to the winter-feeding area as possible. Typically, winter hay movement is more challenging than hay movement during the summer months, particularly if there is no easy access where hay is baled and stored. Poor weather conditions, like ice storms or wet and muddy conditions, can make hauling hay in the wintertime even more challenging. The closer the hay barn is to the winter-feeding location, the better the chance that hay will be fed routinely. Moving all hay to winter-feeding areas typically provides better inventory control as well. If all the hay is stored near the feeding area, it can be much easier to identify shortages and make earlier adjustments in the feeding season. In addition, a farmer will have better control over hay deterioration since the hay does not need to be left outside and can be fed more regularly in smaller quantities, reducing waste.

The enemy of hay is moisture, and one of the biggest

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Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Memorial Scholarship

Attention High School Seniors and College Students:

It is time to apply for the MGCA Memorial Scholarship. The MGCA scholarship is now open to all post-secondary students from incoming freshmen to incoming seniors. Your association wants to help you further your education with this \$1000 scholarship. Check out the requirements that are listed below. If you have any questions, contact: Hailey Robinson, 706.647.8989, hrobinson@uga.edu.

Eligibility Requirements

*** Applicant's parents and/or grandparents must have been members of the Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association two years prior to applying for the scholarship.

*** The parents and/or grandparents of the scholarship recipient must remain as members of the Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association while receiving scholarship funds.

*** The scholarship is open to all majors at any post-secondary educational institution.

*** Recipient must enroll as a full-time student for the 2019-2020 academic calendar year as a successful high school graduate, or received a GED.

*** Scholarship recipient must maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 or above each semester. If GPA falls below 2.5, the recipient will not receive reimbursement for that semester. If the next semester GPA is restored to 2.5 or above, scholarship eligibility is restored. Disciplinary action can also stop funding.

*** Recipient will be required to defray first semester expenses. After presenting grades and statement of paid expenses, applicable expenses will be reimbursed.

*** The scholarship is \$1,000. Selection committee may divide sum as it deems necessary.

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*** Applications will be made available to officers and directors of Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association and to County Extension Agents in Lamar, Monroe, Pike, Spalding, Talbot and Upson counties. It is also available at mgcaonline.com.

*** The recipient must have graduated from high school or received a GED from one of the six Mid-Georgia counties.

Return finished application complete with three letters of recommendation.

Application MUST be postmarked or received by 5:00 pm on April 1, 2020.

RETURN Completed Application to:

Hailey Robinson

ATTN: MGCA

PO Box 86

Thomaston, GA 30286

Lamar-Henry County FSA Updates Livestock Forage Program

The Livestock Forage Program (LFP) has triggered for Butts, Clayton, Fayette, Henry, Lamar, Monroe, Pike, Spalding, and Upson County. This program provides payments to eligible livestock owners and contract growers that have suffered grazing losses due to a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period. All nine counties were in a D3 - Severe Drought stage, which qualifies assistance for a three-month, 60 percent, feed cost payment. This payment is based upon your livestock inventory, not to exceed the FSA State Committee's carrying capacity. In order to participate, you must have established farm records and have owned or purchased livestock within 60 days of the beginning date of the qualifying drought. To apply, please provide the following numbers:

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E-mail at uge2207@uga.edu type HERD in the subject line

Cody Ham presented the President's Report, recapping the 2019 activities, and discussed the MGCA activities for the year. Cody also discussed the raffle of the rifle for the scholarship fund, a Henry Lever Action .22 cal. to be auctioned off at the January meeting.

Josh Rabalais reported that the Steer and Heifer Show will be held in Upson County on January 25th. Advertising packets were given out to each county Director.

Cattlemen's Report - Cynthia Douglas

Cynthia Douglas discussed the activities for the past year and invited anyone who is not a member to please join.

The Region II National Cattlemen's conference will be held in Athens next year and encouraged anyone interested to attend.

New Business

Nominating Committee Chairman, Tracy Boyt gave the committee's report for election of next year's Officers and Directors:

President- Will Godowns

Vice President- Bo Huddleston

Secretary- Rodney Hilley

Treasurer- Glen Studdle

Cody asked for any nominations from the floor. There being none, the above list of officers was approved.

County Directors:

Lamar-Chair, Clay Allen, Russ Walters and Luke Andrews

Monroe- Chair, Ray Bowden, Wesley Ham and Charles Floyd

Pike-Chair, Charlsy Godowns, Chad Harless and Jonathan Brown

Spalding-Chair, Shane Eason, Jeffery Cosper and Scott Walraven

Talbot-Chair, Omar McCants

Upson-Chair, Steve Douglas, Ben Carson and Tracy Boyt

Cody asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, motion was made, seconded and approved to accept Directors as presented.

Cody gave out 3 door prizes from the list of people who registered for the meeting online.

Incoming President Will Godowns gave a GCA Tie to outgoing President, Cody Ham and made closing remarks and adjourned the meeting.

The next Directors' meeting will be December 12th in Barnesville.

The next Membership meeting will be January 9th in Spalding County.

Minutes taken and submitted by: Rodney Hilley

Approved as Amended 12/12/19

MID-GEORGIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS' MEETING December 12, 2019 BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA

President Will Godowns called the meeting to order.

Glen Studdle gave the Invocation.

The November minutes were approved as printed.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

GCA Report

Charlsy Godowns discussed the current GCA membership levels, and mentioned that the interviews for the Director of Communications had been held earlier that day.

Charlsy Godowns further discussed the upcoming YCC Cattlemen's Tour which will be held in West Central

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Georgia, as well as the new program, Use A Bull, with Callaway Cattle Company. This program is open to any YCC member.

Charlsy also discussed the GCA delinquent list for Mid Georgia and asked if Mid-Georgia would be willing to pay the dues for the Mid-Georgia members.

Charlsy discussed the Cattle History Project and the need for pictures, information and funds to complete the project.

Will discussed the awards program for Mid Georgia and GCA.

Cattlemen's Report – Cynthia Douglas

Cynthia asked if the MGCA was going to give the annual \$500 from the Buggy Days fund to the Cattlemen for Beef education projects. After discussion, motion was made, seconded and approved to do so.

Cynthia stated that the Upson Farm Day was held on November 22nd with about 900 kids and there were 10 exhibitors present.

Janet Greuel, Hailey Robinson and Cynthia conducted a beef cooking class for 16 Upson 4-H members on December 5th.

Cynthia and Hailey Robinson discussed the upcoming Region 2 NCBA Cattlemen's meeting to be held in Athens.

Discussion was held about the upcoming gun raffle to be held at the January meeting in Griffin. More tickets are available if anyone needs more.

Cynthia mentioned that scholarship applications are due April 1, 2020.

Discussion was held about the need to develop a budget. Will appointed a committee of Bo Huddleston, Cody Ham, Russ Walters and the officers to meet on January 23, 2020 at 5 p.m. to do so. The meeting will be held at the Upson Extension office.

Old Business

Will Godowns discussed the upcoming WCG Steer and

Heifer show. A work day will be held on Wednesday, January 23rd at the Upson-Lee Show Barn. Cynthia stated that donations will be needed for the concessions at the show.

Cynthia discussed inviting past show participants to come to the show since it will be the 75th and longest, continual cattle show in Georgia.

Will discussed the need to get the non-profit status updated. He has a lawyer that will take care of it.

New Business

Cynthia Douglas discussed the association's website and the need to pay the guy that developed it and maintains it. Funds will be disbursed after a budget is developed and approved.

The GCA leadership Conference was discussed and Jonathan Brown and Luke Andrews were nominated to attend.

County Agent Reports-

Phillip Hensley-Spalding County

A Radon course will be held in Griffin on January 7th at 4 p.m.

Beekeeping Course on January 18th.

Hailey Robinson-Upson and Lamar Counties

Hailey took a group to visit the UGA Soil, Water and Forage lab in Athens and will take another group if there is enough interest.

She also noted that Dennis Hancock is leaving UGA.

The next Membership meeting will be January 9th in Spalding County.

The next Directors' meeting will be February 13th, location to be determined.

Minutes taken and submitted by: Rodney Hilley

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Conservation Corner

By Carmen Westerfield,
NRCS District Conservationist

Not All Grazing Land Is the Same

We talk a lot about types of grazing, what grass, which produces the highest yield. But, have you really thought about what defines grazing land?

Our nation is comprised of many different types of people, and is often referred to as the Melting Pot. Same is true for our land. From east to west and from north to south, our great nation is a “quilt” of farms and cities, big and small, and each farm is unique in its management as well as its land type.

We often think of all grazing land as “the same.” But that is not true. Just as our children are all unique and must be treated slightly differently, the same is true for our grazable acres. Grazable land is broken down into five main types: range land, forest land, native and naturalized pasture, pastureland, and cropland/hayland. Each land type provides forage to livestock, and each must be managed according to its unique needs.

Most non-federal grazing land in our country are range lands. Range land is open land, predominantly in the Midwestern states. Not only are they breathtakingly beautiful, they provide forage for domestic livestock as well as wildlife. Due to range land being large, it is grazed continuously. Animals graze a while and then move onto “greener pastures.”

Forest land, counter to what might come to mind initially, can be a great source of vegetation for livestock. This forage comes in the form of native grasses, and we can define these areas as grazed forest or silvopasture. Like range land, forest land provides refuge to wildlife in addition to grazable grasses

for livestock. The tree density must be thin enough to allow sunlight. Grass doesn't grow in deep shade.

Native and naturalized pasture might be the most difficult to define types. It can involve some forest, but the trees would be whatever is on the land naturally. The same goes for the forage—it is whatever vegetative grasses grow under the trees or out in the open naturally. If used for grazing, it must be carefully managed so that native grasses aren't choked out by too many trees.

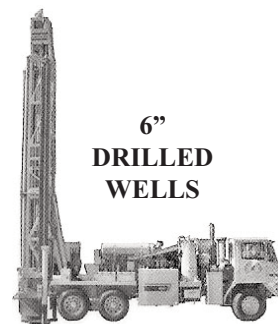
The most common type of grazing land in our area is pastureland. The way to distinguish this from other types is it is pasture that has been improved and involves domesticated forage species which need to be managed. It is mainly harvested by livestock who graze (preferably on a rotational grazing plan) but can be machine harvested. This type of grazable land should be viewed by the producer as an actual crop that must be managed. If not, the crop won't remain abundant and it won't flourish. These are the acres we fertilize and spray.

Finally, land can be categorized as cropland or hayland. Both types can be grazed, but most often grazing is a secondary use. What separates or defines these types of graze land?

1. It's the difference in plant communities (types of grass etc.)
2. Proportion of species
3. Total annual production – how many pounds of useable forage?
4. Total annual precipitation – rainfall
5. Soil factors difference which consider position in the landscape such as slope, depth of rock, wet, sandy, etc.

This is what is the basis in developing, managing and maintaining a productive grazing system that protects the farm's natural resources.

Source: National Range and Pasture Handbook, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2003



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Beef Up the Party

Upson County Junior and Senior 4-H'ers prepared 8 beef recipes that they could use during the holidays. Hailey Robinson discussed beef facts with them. Janet Greuel and Cynthia Douglas taught the class with the assistance of Trudy Peek and Courtney Nordan. This event was sponsored by the Mid-Georgia CattleWomen.



JUNIOR NEWS

Farm Day in Upson County

Mallory and Macey South exhibited their show heifers at Farm Day at Upson-Lee Ag Center. They discussed beef nutrition and beef by-products to 900 students and teachers. These young ladies will be showing at the West Central Georgia Show in January. Thanks SSS Farm for helping promote beef!



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CattleWomen's Report

By Cynthia Douglas, MGCW President

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020! Wow, 20 years ago we were wondering what was going to happen to our computers and other technology when 2000 started. Well, sometimes we wish we had less technology, but it is a lot easier to put the Bull Sheet together and communicate with you about our activities. In going through our house and my parents' history boxes, I have found numerous letters that my mom, Dr. Sell and other members typed for the cattlemen, cattlemen, and other organizations. I'm so thankful that I can correct, change, and copy with modern technology. It truly makes you appreciate all the long hours and hard work that our past volunteers put into making this association what it is today. Let's keep their legacy going!

We just closed a great 2019 chapter that was filled with promotion, education, donations, and fellowship. I hope you will take a look at the activities in the Bull Sheets and thank those that assist. As we look into 2020, there are so many opportunities for us to keep promoting our industry. Our first event will be the 75th West Central Georgia Steer and Heifer Show. We need food and monetary donations for the concession and also help cooking and serving. There will be a clean up day on January 23 at 1:00 pm at the Upson-Lee AG Center. Please invite past participants and families to attend this special celebration. The celebration will start at 11:15 am and the show starts at 12:00.

The Georgia CattleWomen will be hosting the American National CattleWomen's Region II Meeting in Athens in May. The program will consist of touring the UGA Meat Department, a Beef Cuts Class, Region Meeting and a Beef Quality Assurance Workshop. More information will be in the future issues. You don't have to be a member of the

National CattleWomen's Association to attend.

There will be a MGCW meeting in January at the MGCA Membership meeting. I hope to see you there.

Cynthia

75th West Central Georgia Show

Upson County's first Fat Cattle Show was held in February 1946 at the East Thomaston Tabernacle. The Upson Beef Cattle Association sponsored the show with the co-operation of the Thomaston Kiwanis Club. The show featured 4-H club calves and local herd bulls from prominent farms in Upson County were on exhibit. The judge was Dr Milton P Jarnagin, Head of Animal Husbandry at UGA. Harry Colquitt captured Grand Champion and Joe Hendricks won Reserved Champion. According to the quote in the March 1, 1946 Thomaston Times, "The success of Tuesday's exhibition, in the opinion on Association Member Frank Binford, will pave the way to making Thomaston the center of cattle shows for possibly fifteen counties in the future."

This vision of the Upson Cattlemen has continued for 75 years and is now open to all 4-H and FFA members in Georgia. The Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association invites everyone to join them on January 25, 2020 at the Upson-Lee Ag Center in Thomaston. The program will begin at 11:15 that will highlight the history and past participants. The show will begin at 12:00 pm.

Come celebrate the 75th show in Upson County and support the show participants. Lunch will be available. If you would like to donate to this show, please contact one of your officers, directors, Extension Agents, FFA Advisors, Josh Rabalais (478-954-7111) or Cynthia Douglas (770-550-1070) by January 9th.

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2019 MGCA Annual Ladies' Night

A great crowd attended the November Membership meeting in Thomaston and enjoyed a delicious steak meal prepared by Freddy Butts. GCA President, Brent Galloway, updated the members about the Georgia Cattlemen's Association and his background as a cattleman. Karsen Sandefur crowned our 2020 MGCA Queen, Trudy Peek. The recipients of Dr. O E Sell Award and Producer of the Year were announced. Tom Daniel auctioned off \$1578 worth of cakes and desserts that were graciously donated by many of our awesome bakers. A big "thank you" to those that purchased these treats and to our sponsors, AgSouth Farm Credit, ACA of Thomaston and Matt and Chase Hassey with Mix 30.



2019 Mid-Georgia Hay Contest Winners

The winners were announced at the November MGCA Meeting. Winners received cash prizes and a certificate.

Cool Season, Perennial Grass Hay – 1st Wes Smith, 2nd Whispering Rock Farm, 3rd Chris Callahan;

Warm Season, Perennial Grass Hay – 1st Rusty Blackston, 2nd Wes Smith, 3rd S & S Farm;

Mixed Annual Grass or Other Hay – 1st B & B Farm Services, 2nd Honeywood, 3rd Wes Smith;

Legume Baleage – 1st Walter Farm, LLC, 2nd Benny Bostick;

Grass Baleage – 1st Walters Farm, LLC, 2nd SSS Farm, 3rd Caldwell Farm and Land, LLC



Brent Galloway visits with members.



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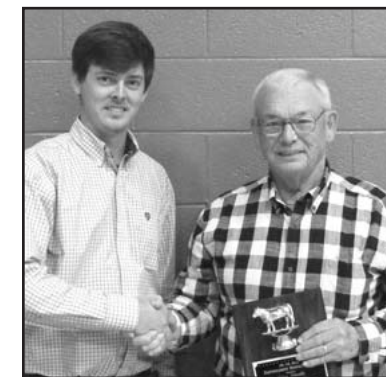
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Dr. O E Sell Service Award



Glen Studle was presented the Dr. O E Sell Service award for his support to the association. He has volunteered at numerous events since moving to Lamar County. Glen and his family own and operate Oak Haven Diagnostics and has assisted with several programs and trained local cattlemen in collecting blood samples for pregnancy testing. His wife, Sandy, and Glen are always willing to volunteer with our activities.

MGCA Producer of the Year



Luke Andrews and his family were recognized as the MGCA Producer of the Year. Luke and his wife Allie live in Lamar County and have 3 wonderful children. Rainbow Farms was established in the early 1900s and he is the 5th generation cattle rancher on their farm. Their kids are the 6th generation in their home. Over the past few years he has had the privilege to help manage his mom's cow/calf operation. They have grown from 30 cows to now 50. They have also acquired around 80 acres of lease land **wherethey** harvest hay. Luke and his wife have recently ventured into the poultry business and added 4 broiler houses to the farm.

2020 Queen



The MGCA Queen for 2020 is Trudy Peek from Thomaston. She is the daughter of Johnny and Karen Peek. She is a very active Senior 4-H'er and plans to attend ABAC in the fall and pursue a degree in AG Communications. She has volunteered at the Georgia National Fair

Birthing Barn for 2 years. She has volunteered with Farm Days and livestock events for many years.

Thank you Karsen Sandefur for representing us so well this past year. We wish you much success as you finish your senior year and head to ABAC this fall. Your love for agriculture truly shows and we appreciate your support.



MGCA Scholarship
Austin Wiggins from Monroe County received the 2019 Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Scholarship. He is currently attending Gordon State College and working on a cattle farm. He serves as the Georgia Junior Cattlemen's Vice Chairman.

Congratulations Austin!



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