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**Multi-Species Grazing**

*Excerpt from the research paper “The Advantages and Challenges of Multi-Species Grazing”*

*Written by Margaret B. Ross- Livestock Agent, Craven and Jones Counties*

Margaret B. Ross, Extension Livestock Agent- Craven and Jones Counties

Submitted by: Margaret A. Bell, Livestock Agent – Craven and Jones Counties

**Livestock Newsletter of the Southeast Extension District**

Looking for a better way to manage parasites on your farm? Have you ever considered multi-species grazing? Below you will find an excerpt from a research paper I wrote on the topic. But, first, what is multi-species grazing? Multi-species grazing is just that – allowing more than one species (for example beef cattle with goats or sheep) to graze together. There are many benefits to this type of grazing. One main advantage is reduced parasite loads. For example, cattle and goats (if grazed together) will both eat parasites that affect the other species. This helps reduce parasite loads in pasture because some of the parasites that affect cattle do not affect goats and vice versa. On the other hand, there are disadvantages, or challenges, when grazing multiple species together. One major challenge is fencing. Usually fencing is somewhat put up based on which species will be in the pasture. When you put more than one species together, you must consider if your fencing is adequate (do you have enough strands? is it hot enough if it’s an electric fence? is it sturdy enough?) Read on to learn more about multi-species grazing.

Multi-species grazing has numerous benefits environmentally and economically. By incorporating multi-species grazing into your pasture management routine, you can achieve a better pasture management routine. Although there are many advantages, there are challenges such as fencing and providing trace minerals. In this paper, we will discuss both the many advantages as well as disadvantages to this type of intensive grazing management. Multi-species grazing has many benefits including parasite control, increased carrying capacity of land, and increased manure distribution in pastures.

One point to consider when discussing reducing parasite loads is the height of the plant the animal will be grazing. Once parasite eggs are deposited in the manure, larvae travel only a short distance up the grass blade. Animals that graze well above ground level are not ingesting these parasite larvae; however, animals that do graze lower to the ground will be ingesting a much greater amount of these larvae. This is why it is so important to graze the correct species together as well as provide a sufficient amount of browse for goats and grass for cattle.

In summary, it has been noted time and time again that there are many benefits to multi-species grazing. Individual animal performance will increase as well as the carrying capacity of the land. Furthermore, the parasite load of the species grazing will decrease, making for a healthier herd. This is not to say there are not challenges with multi-species grazing. Those challenges include increased fencing and predator control, as well as a common lack of husbandry knowledge. Many of these challenges can be overcome to ensure you are utilizing your pastures and your livestock efficiently. By preparing, planning, and doing your research, you can successfully multi-species graze your land.

**2014 News for Swine Farms**

*Submitted by: Eve Honeycutt, Livestock Extension Agent - Greene & Lenoir Counties*

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There has been some activity in the area of waste management that you should not overlook as you head into a new year.

**Permit Renewal**- 2014 marks the 5th year of your current permit, and also the year that all permits are up for renewal. There are very few changes to the new permit, with the biggest change being the frequency you are required to take soil samples. Soil samples are now required every three years, instead of annually. This change occurred because of legislation by the General Assembly. Permits will be mailed to your address on file and will require your immediate attention. You will have to fill out the permit renewal application and send in a copy of your current Waste Utilization Plan. Farms will start receiving the renewal packets by mail in February 2014 and all paperwork is due April 1, 2014. Permits will take effect October 1, 2014.

**Sample Fee Changes-** Soil samples submitted during the peak sampling season will now be charged a $4 per sample fee. The peak season is defined as December 1 through March 30, every year. To avoid having to pay a fee for samples, plan to submit your samples outside of this window. The reason for establishing a fee was to try to even the load at the soil lab to avoid the backlog of samples they receive during these winter months.

Money for soil samples should not be placed inside a box or shipper containing soil samples. Money should be sent as check or money order and mailed separately. If you would rather pay by credit card, you can create an account on the NCDA& CS website and submit sample information online and use their online payment system. If you would like to set up an escrow account, you can send a check to NCDA &CS and they will establish an account in your farm name and debit the account as you submit samples.

Waste sample fees have now been increased to $8 beginning December 1, 2013. Please make note of all these changes as you send in your samples.

**PAN rate update-** For the past several years, research has been finishing up regarding the nitrogen generation rate of pigs in confinement. The old PAN rates that were being used were over 40 years old. According to the research, wastewater contains about 30% less PAN than was originally recorded. This can make a big difference on farms with regards to cropping systems on sprayfields. It could mean that you could switch from hay to row crops, or from hayfields to pasture. It is important to note that if you use the updated PAN generation rate, you must also update the plan to reflect all other updated values, such as yields and nitrogen rates for crops. If you would like to see how these rates can benefit you, contact a technical specialist.

If you have any questions about how the above changes will affect your farm, please contact your local Extension office.

**Don't Ignore Hybrid Vigor**

*Submitted by: Paul Gonzalez, Livestock Extension Agent- Sampson County*

Since I am new to this newsletter group, a short introduction was recommended so that those of you reading would be able to put a person with the article. My name is Paul Gonzalez and I am one of the livestock agents for Sampson County. My responsibilities include cattle, small ruminants, horses, and forage crops. My passion is cattle. I didn’t grow up on a farm per se, but worked on my friend’s father’s farm from about the age of 15 on.

Like a lot of us, I was going to be a veterinarian. I enrolled at North Carolina State University and majored in Animal Science. I soon discovered that vet school was not in my future so I decided to become a hog farmer. However, upon my graduation from NCSU a permanent position opened at the university’s swine research unit where I worked as a student so I applied and was hired there. I worked there for seven years starting in the nursery and working my way to the breeding barn. When the manager retired, there was some talk of restructuring so I decided it would be in my best interest to move on. I applied to be an extension agent for Lenoir and Green Counties. I was hired and worked there for 13 months at which point I transferred to Sampson County because of a larger cattle presence in the county. I have been here for 11 years now.

Sampson has proven to be a great fit for me. I very much enjoy the people here, although I do catch a lot of grief over my breed of cattle, and what I do to help the producers. In the beginning it was predominantly hands on work but is now transitioning to a more balanced approach. I still do a fair amount of hands on but also offer increased programming efforts such as the upcoming cattlemen’s classroom series, our equine series, and the Eastern Carolina Cattlemen’s Conference. If you are curious about my breed of cattle, give me a call or send me an email. I’m always happy to share the benefits of the breed!

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 Some of you may have seen the advertisement from the Angus Association in which the Angus breed is saying that you don’t need to crossbreed; all you need is Angus. While they may like for you to believe that, research has proven time after time that crossbreeding pays. In fact, at our recent Eastern Carolina Cattlemen’s Conference, Dan Dorn of Decatur County Feed Yards stated that they see a definite advantage in crossbred cattle performance versus straight bred cattle.

Many producers have gotten away from planned crossbreeding systems. I see this as an increasing issue everywhere I go, not just in Sampson County. It is due partly to the ready availability and ease with which an Angus bull can be purchased and partly to the ease of management when using only one sire breed; but, is mainly due to the market demand for black cattle. I know some people will not like what I have to say and I will come across looking like I am Angus-bashing! While that is not my intent and I am not anti-Angus, it will be the main focus of this article due to the fact that Angus is at the center of this dilemma. Keep in mind; however, that what is said here applies to any breed of cattle, not just Angus.

 I'll start by saying that more and more producers are, whether knowingly or unknowingly, moving toward cow herds that are basically purebred Angus. Year after year,

Angus bulls are turned in with the cows; and, heifers from those bulls are kept for replacements. If replacements aren’t retained, Angus sired heifers or cows are usually purchased to enter the herd. These females are then bred to an Angus bull and the pattern is repeated. Assuming I started with a different breed initially, after using Angus bulls and keeping heifers for four years, I have some heifers now that are 93.75% Angus. This percentage is considered to be purebred by breed associations that allow breeding up. As you can see, in a few more years as you cull older cows and replace them with heifers, you have a herd that is considered purebred Angus. Again, keep in mind the same will be true if you use any breed in the manner described above.

 I stated in the opening paragraph that the main reason for this is the market demand for black cattle. The easiest way to assure yourself of getting black cattle is to use an Angus bull. There is very little chance that a black Angus bull carries the red gene anymore so you don't have that concern like you would using a black bull of another breed. However, I would also like to point out that there are more homozygous black bulls available in other breeds these days. Another reason is the ease of management. You only have to have one breeding pasture. You don't need more than one bull. And you don't have to keep up with parentage on heifers or how long you have been using a bull if you never switch breeds. A simple rotation of bull breeds every four years will make a big difference in your herd while still keeping management fairly simple.

By the continued use of the same sire breed, you are losing the effects of heterosis and giving up what are essentially free pounds. Heterosis, or hybrid vigor, is the improvement shown by crossbred animals over straight-bred animals. How much improvement varies depending on the breeds used but for weaning weight will average about 4% for crossbred calves over straight bred calves that are both nursing straight bred cows. This means you would get another 20 pounds on each 500 lb calf just for switching bulls. If you have twenty-five cows, it is like selling another calf. Not only do the calves weigh more but you also get added survivability in the crossbred calves so you get another 3% heterosis advantage in weaning percent. Let's look at an example.

 Say breed A calves average 480 lbs. at weaning and breed B calves average 520 lbs. Calves sired by breed A out of breed B cows have weaning weights of 540 1bs and calves by breed B sires out of breed A cows average 520 lbs. The amount of heterosis from the crossbreeding would be figured by subtracting the straight bred average (480+520)/2=500) from the crossbred average (540+520)/ 2=20) and dividing that amount, 20 in this example, by the straight bred average and multiplying by 100 [(20/500)\*100=4] which yields a 4% heterosis value.

 The advantages become even greater if you use a third breed on crossbred cows. You get the added pounds from the calf heterosis in the example above. You also get greater weaning percentage from the crossbred cows, due to higher conception rates, and even greater weaning weights due to increased milk production. In a study conducted at the Fort Robinson Research Station (Cundiff and Gregory, 1977; Gregory and Cundiff, 1980), crossbred cows raising crossbred calves weaned 23.3 percent more calf weight per cow exposed than straight-bred cows raising straight-bred calves.

Two thirds of the advantage was attributed to the maternal heterosis of the cow and one third to the individual heterosis of the calf. Other studies have show increases of up to 28%. Experiments using Brahman/European crosses have demonstrated even greater total increases over the straight-bred parents.

 It has been proven through research that hybrid vigor will add pounds to your calf crop. In high market price times such as we are in now it may not seem as significant but when prices are low it is extremely important. This additional weight should not be dismissed to simply chase black hides. Again, let me emphasize that I am not in any way bashing, degrading, or opposing the use of Angus cattle. Angus cattle have made great contributions to the beef industry and absolutely have their place in a well-planned and implemented crossbreeding system. It seems though that some producers see them as a silver bullet and have fallen into a straight breeding rut.

As I stated earlier, more homozygous black cattle are becoming available in all breeds. There are breeders developing black Herefords with a few bulls already on the market. And, I have even seen one registered black Charolais! So you can still meet the demand for black calves using a second breed of bull. As for ease of management, switching bull breeds every four years really isn't that much trouble. Most folks buy a new bull every few years anyway. Pick two breeds and buy whichever one you don't currently have. Having more than one breeding pasture can make things a bit more difficult but opens up other options as well. One thing I should mention here is to choose breeds that are similar and complement each other. I won't make breed recommendations here but if you would like to discuss, or debate, breed choices and breeding systems, feel free to give me a call.

**Lambing Time Management**

*Written by: Scott Greiner, Extension Animal Scientist, Sheep, Animal and Poultry Sciences, Virginia Tech*

*Submitted by: Abby Dilley, Livestock Agent - Pender and Onslow Counties*

**Frequent visits to the lambing barn** - Dystocia has been shown to be a significant cause of lamb mortality. Losses due to stillbirths and dystocia can be reduced by frequent visits to the lambing barn and timely assistance of ewes. Pregnant ewes should be checked every 3-4 hours. If ewes are checked at 11 p.m. or midnight it is not necessary to check again before 5 or 6 a.m. Ewes that will lamb between these times usually show signs at the late night observation. The lambing area should be dry and well bedded, and sources of cold drafts that will chill newborn lambs should be eliminated. It is not necessary to have a heated lambing barn- a dry, draft-free area is most important. The lambing process can vary considerably between ewes. Ewes in labor should be left undisturbed. However, once the ewe begins forceful straining and the water bags are passed, delivery should normally take place within 45-60 minutes. Once the front legs are visible, lambs should be born within 30-45 minutes. After the first lamb is born, subsequent lambs are normally delivered within 30 minutes. Prolonged delivery beyond these times may indicate lambing difficulty, and the ewe should be examined and assisted if necessary. When assistance is required to deliver one lamb, the uterus should be examined for additional lambs. For lambs that are pulled, a piece of straw may be inserted into the nostril to stimulate breathing. Lambs that are delivered rear legs first should be gently shaken upside-down by holding the rear legs to allow fluid to drain from the lungs.

**Move ewes to a jug after lambing** - When possible, ewes should be allowed to give birth where they initially bed down. Moving ewes to individual pens when they start lambing may prolong the birthing process and cause other complications. Additionally, allowing ewes to complete the lambing process before moving them to jugs will keep the jugs drier and help prevent injury to lambs in multiple birth situations. Lambing jugs should measure at least 4 ft. x 4 ft. Large breeds and multiple births may require larger jugs. The environment of the jug is critical to newborn lamb health and survival. The jugs should be kept well bedded, dry, and free of drafts. For facilities with cement floors, a base of lime or sawdust/shavings is recommended under straw. Cement floors can be cold and damp, and therefore a source of chilling and pneumonia in newborn lambs. When feasible, lambing jugs should be cleaned between ewes. Upon moving the ewe into the jug, the lambs' navels should be clipped and immersed in iodine. Many navels (less than 2 in.) will not need to be clipped. Iodine helps prevent infection and promotes drying of the navel.

**Insure lambs receive adequate colostrum intake** - Colostrum is the milk produced by the ewe up to 18 hours after birth. It has important nutritional value for the newborn lamb. Colostrum contains essential antibodies that provide protection for the newborn lamb, and provides energy to keep the lamb warm. Newborn lambs are susceptible to hypothermia due to their large body surface area in relation to body weight, and relatively low energy reserves.

Lamb should receive adequate intakes of colostrum within 30-60 minutes after birth. To help insure this, the ewe's teats should be stripped to remove the wax plugs that frequently obstruct the teat. In some cases, these plugs will prevent lambs from getting milk that appear to be nursing. Stripping the teats will also confirm the ewe has milk. Lambs should be monitored closely to make sure they nurse. Lambs that have nursed will have a full stomach upon palpation. Lambs that have not nursed should be assisted. Most lambs have a strong suckling reflex shortly after birth, and will nurse when presented a teat. It may be necessary to close the lamb's mouth on the teat and/or squirt milk in the lamb's mouth to initiate suckling. An effort should be made to help the lamb nurse the ewe before other methods are used to get colostrum into the lamb.

In some cases, the lamb is unable to nurse the ewe even with assistance. These lambs may be small, weak, chilled, rejected by the ewe, or injured. In these cases, tube feeding is necessary to get colostrum into the lamb. Lamb tubes that attach to syringes are available commercially, and should be on hand for all shepherds. Lambs should receive 20 cc colostrum per pound of body weight. As a reference, 30 cc equals approximately 1 oz. Therefore, a 10 lb. lamb should receive 200 cc or about 7 oz. of colostrum in the first 30 minutes after birth. After the initial tube feeding, many lambs will respond and begin to nurse on their own. If not, the lamb may need to be tube fed 2-3 hr. after the initial feeding.

Source of colostrum for these cases is another important consideration. The first choice would be from the lamb's mother. If colostrum is not available from the ewe, another ewe that has just lambed may be a source. It is a good idea to freeze colostrum for future use from ewes that lose their lambs or ewes with singles that are heavy milkers. Colostrum should be pre-measured and frozen using ice cube trays or freezer bags. Frozen colostrum should be thawed with indirect heat (water bath), and not a microwave or direct heat as antibodies will be destroyed. In an emergency, goat or cow colostrum may be used. There are also artificial colostrum substitutes available commercially.

**Post-Lambing Management:**

The ewe and her lambs need to be monitored closely the first few days after birth. Healthy lambs are content, and will stretch when getting up and wag their tails when nursing. A gant and weak appearance may be indicative of starvation. Check the ewe to be sure she has milk. In the case of multiple births, the smallest lamb may not be able to compete for the milk supply. Time spent in the jug will depend largely on the number of jugs available and rate at which ewes are lambing. Strong, healthy singles may be removed from the jugs in 24-36 hr. after birth, and twins 48 hr. Triplets and ewes with weak lambs may need to stay in the jug for 3 days or more. Ewes and lambs should be removed from the jug as quickly as possible, as chances of pneumonia and diarrhea are greater the longer they are kept confined to the jugs. Labor requirements are also much greater when ewes are confined to the jugs.

Upon removal from the jugs, ewes and lambs should be put into a mixing pen with 3-4 other ewes and their lambs. This will help acclimate them, and they should be closely observed to identify abandoned and rejected lambs. After a day or two, the ewes can then be put into larger groups.

Before turning out of jugs, pertinent information on the ewes and lambs should be recorded. Appropriate identification of the lambs (ear tags, paint brands, ear notches, etc.) should also be done at this time. The ability to match a ewe with her lambs can be very beneficial as a management tool. Thin, poor-doing lambs may indicate a health problem in the ewe (mastitis) or inferior milking ability.

Virginia is largely a Selenium deficient state. Deficiency of Selenium and/or Vitamin E causes white muscle disease in lambs. For prevention of white muscle disease, lambs should receive .25 mg Selenium per 10 pounds of body weight in the first few days after birth.

For ewes that have not been dewormed prior to lambing, deworming should be performed upon leaving the jug. Ewes shed an increased number of worm eggs during the last weeks of gestation and continue through just after lambing.

Docking and castration is best when performed at the same time, usually 2-5 days after birth. At a young age, there will be less stress on the lambs. Additionally, these practices are faster and simpler to perform for the producer when the lambs are young.

Vaccination of ewes with Clostridium perfringens type C and D with tetanus prior to lambing will provide protection for lambs for tetanus (via colostrum), provided docking and castration is done a few days after birth. If ewes have not been vaccinated with tetanus prior to lambing, lambs should receive 300 IU of tetanus antitoxin as well as tetanus toxoid. Do not mix the antitoxin and toxoid in the same syringe or give in the same location (use opposite sides of neck).

**Forage Management Tips**

**January**

* If winter pasture is limited, feed hay in the pasture or allow cows to graze every other day. The priority for limiting pasture is (1) calves by creep grazing, (2) stockers, (3) nursing cows, and (4) dry cows.
* Keep animals off newly planted winter annuals during wet periods to prevent damage. Allow calves first priority to graze.
* Sample hay bales, which are stored outside, that will be fed during the next four to eight weeks.
* Decide which fields will be re-seeded or overseeded during late winter and early spring; obtain soil test and supplies for planting.
* Lime may be applied during this off season.
* Keep a record of winter weed problems so that control measures can be taken next fall. This is the latest month that some herbicides may be used on legumes.
* Determine animal feed requirements for the year (about 6 tons of hay equivalent/cow-calf pair) and outline a 12 month forage production and use plan to meet the needs.

**February**

* Apply nitrogen to cool-season grasses to stimulate early spring growth.
* Overseed legumes, such as ladino clover, into well-grazed (2 inches or less) grass pastures.
* Lime fields for spring plantings.
* Divide pastures to improve the quality and persistence of pasture plants.
* Locate sources of hybrid bermudagrass sprigs for planting.
* Burn warm-season grass residues in late February.
* Get herbicide sprayers ready to control weeds in dormant bermudagrass fields.

**March**

* Apply nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium to cool-season grasses to increase spring production.
* Begin grazing of fall-planted fescue and clovers when growth reaches 6 inches.
* Overseeding ladino clover into grass pastures should be completed early.
* Spread manure accumulated in pastures where hay was fed or where cattle congregated during the winter.
* Dig weed-free bermudagrass springs and plant them before growth begins; consider using a herbicide.
* Consider controlling winter weeds (ex: henbit, hairy buttercup, etc) with herbicides.
* Grass tetany may be a problem as rapid grass growth and cool, wet weather prevails.

**Calendar of Events**

\*\*RSVP FOR ALL EVENTS BELOW TO THE CRAVEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE AT

(252) 633.1477 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED\*\*

Saturday, January 11, 2014: Trenton Auction, Old Fairgrounds, Trenton, NC.

Thursday, January 23, 2014: AWO / PESTICIDE CLASS, Craven County Cooperative Extension Office, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Lunch on your own. No cost. Contact Craven County Cooperative Extension secretary Lisa to sign up at (252) 633.1477.

Thursday, January 23, 2014: Craven / Jones Livestock Association Meeting, 6:30 PM, Core Creek FWB Church. POT LUCK. All are welcome!

Saturday, January 25, 2014: Livestock Judging Event.

Tuesday, January 28, 2014: Forage and Grassland Council Winter Conference Series, Duplin County Cooperative Extension Office, Registration at 12:30 PM, Program from 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Contact Forage and Grassland Council for more information.

Skill-A-Thon, Livestock Judging, and Stockmen's Bowl Practices start back January 2014. All dates are Thursdays from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Jones County Cooperative Extension Office. NOTE: WE MAY HAVE MOVED TO THE OLD SECU BUILDING BY THEN. Contact Margaret for more information before you drop your child off!!

Dates are as follows: Thursday, January 9, 2014, Thursday, January 16, 2014, NO PRACTICE JANUARY 23 - Craven / Jones Livestock Association Meeting, and back to regular practice on Thursday, January 30, 2014.

Sampson County Cattlemen's Classroom - Dates are as follows: Tuesday, January 21, 2014; Tuesday, January 28, 2014; Tuesday, February 4, 2014; Tuesday, February 11, 2014; Tuesday, February 18, 2014. Contact Paul Gonzalez for more information at Paul\_Gonzalez@ncsu.edu.

Saturday, February 1, 2014: District Horse Bowl at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC.

Saturday, February 8, 2014: Tri-Livestock Competition, Pitt County.

Saturday, February 8, 2014: Nance Family Meat Goat Leadership Institute.

Friday, February 14, 2014: Paperwork due for 2014 Coastal Plains Jr. Livestock Show & Sale.

Friday - Sunday, February 14 - 16, 2014: Perry and Doris Teeter Beef Leadership Institute.

Saturday, March 1, 2014: State Horse Bowl / Part 1 of Hippology at NCSU

Saturday, March 1, 2014: Chick Chain registration due today.

Tuesday, March 18, 2014: Eve Honeycutt's PQA Class - YOUTH.

Tuesday, March 25, 2014: Eve Honeycutt's PQA Class - ADULT.

Saturday, March 29, 2014: District Activity Day at James Sprunt Community College in Kenansville.

Thursday, April 3, 2014: Margaret Ross' PQA Class - YOUTH. Jones County Cooperative Extension Office.

Tuesday, April 8, 2014: Margaret Ross' PQA Class - ADULT. Jones County Cooperative Extension Office.

Saturday, April 12, 2014: Tentative date for State Horse Judging / Part 2 of Hippology at St. Andrews.

Monday & Tuesday, April 21 & 22, 2014: Coastal Plains Jr. Livestock Show & Sale, Lenoir County Livestock Arena, Kinston, NC.

Contact Margaret Ross at Margaret\_Ross@ncsu.edu for more information about any of the events below unless otherwise noted.



**Certified Farm Safe Program**

 Craven County has been selected to participate in the Certified Safe Farm Program from 2014-2016 with funding from the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission. This program is a joint effort between NC Agromedicine Institute, AgriSafe of North Carolina and NC Cooperative Extension to provide occupational wellness reviews, personal protective equipment selections/fit tests, on-farm safety reviews and educational outreach to farmers and their employees. Participating farming operations that complete a Farm Safety Review with a score of 85 or higher are awarded certification and signage as a “Certified Safe Farm”. Participating farming operations that also include wellness tests receive certification as “Certified Gold Star Safe Farm”. An early participation incentive is available as matching funds (up to $500) for the first 10 participants making recommended safety improvements. Past participants of this program report lower health insurance claim costs, healthier families/employees and lower insurance costs. Contact the Craven County Extension office at (252) 633-1477 for more details or request information by email to : Margaret\_Ross @ncsu.edu.

We’re on the web!

http://craven.ces.ncsu.edu/

http://jones.ces.ncsu.edu/

http://cravenjoneslivestock.blogspot.com/

http://nchorse.blogspot.com/



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**Fencelines** is a quarterly newsletter written by a team of Southeast District Agricultural Agents for livestock producers of Southeastern North Carolina. For more information on material and events presented in this newsletter, contact your local agent and Cooperative Extension office at:

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