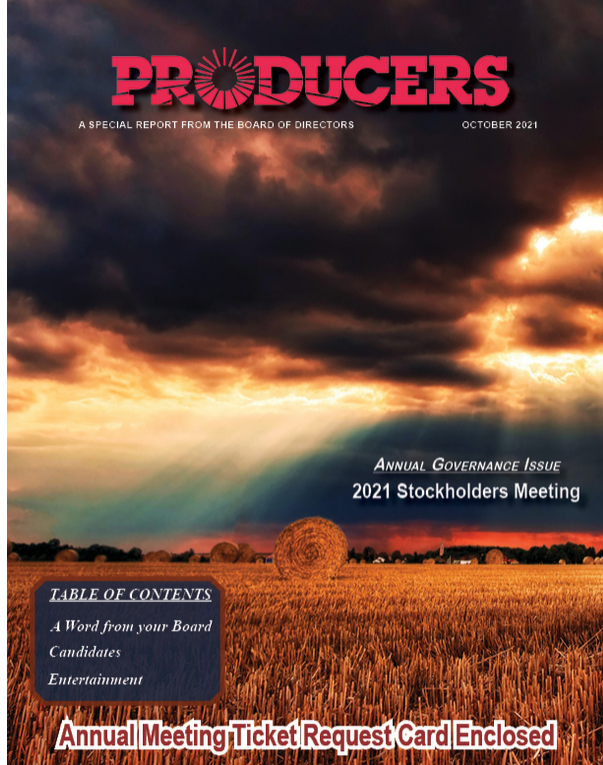


PRODUCERS

COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Proudly owned by the farmers and ranchers of the Brazos Valley since 1943.



ATTENTION Members of Producers Cooperative Association

Your 2021 Annual Governance Newsletter was mailed on Friday, September 3rd. The Annual Meeting official notice, agenda, candidate biographies, ticket request and additional meeting details were enclosed.

Please be on the lookout for your governance newsletter in order to request tickets for the 2021 Annual Meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Producers Cooperative Association.

979-778-6000
producers@producerscooperative.com



Fall Lawn Weed Control

Cooler weather is fast approaching, bringing soil temperatures down and providing the perfect environmental conditions for fall weeds to germinate. Improve your lawn by nipping your weed problem in the bud and apply a pre-emergent. Unwanted weeds compete with your desired turfgrass, depleting the soil of moisture and nutrients. It is recommended to apply a pre-emergent when soil temperatures reach 70°F, rather than relying on a calendar date. Environmental conditions can vary from year to year, leaving germination dates uncertain. Some common fall and winter weeds are annual bluegrass, lawn burweed, henbit and dandelions. Pre-emergent options are available in liquid or granular form. After application, pre-emergent products should be watered into the soil. Follow all product labels to be most effective.

Producers offers premium quality fertilizers, specifically formulated to offer the ultimate nutrients to keep your entire landscape healthy and looking its best. Producers Brazos Best Turf Care Program is a year-round program with varying blends with each season in mind. Our Brazos Best Winterizer + Pre-Emerge is a 22-2-7-3Mg-13S, 90% slow-release product, infused with Dithiopyr to suppress seeds of unwanted weeds from germinating.

Call Producers today for fall weed & preemergent guidance!

979-778-6000



Body Condition Scoring

By Robert Barrett, PAS

Livestock Nutritionist, Producers Cooperative Association

Body Condition Scoring (BCS) is a cheap and easy tool to determine how much fat your cattle are carrying and to evaluate your feeding program. No equipment is needed nor do you need to gather your cattle. Observations can easily be made horseback or from the cab of your pickup. BCS is measured on a scale of 1 to 9. One would be very thin or emaciated and a nine is obese. Ones and twos are usually the result of disease and are fairly rare in a commercial setting. Nines are equally rare in a commercial herd because these will typically be barren and are not kept around for long. Used on a regular basis, BCS provides information needed to improve management and make feeding decisions.

Excess nutrients are stored as fat. Because cattle prioritize nutrient requirements as 1-maintenance, 2-fetal development, 3-lactation, 4-growth and 5-breeding, excess nutrients are required for a lactating cow to breed successfully or a heifer to grow properly while carrying a calf. Having your cows in a BCS of 5 or better at calving will decrease the number of days to estrus, improve milk production and maximize her chance of re-breeding and calving in 365 days. Heifers need to be in a BCS of at least 6 at calving because they still have the requirement for growth.

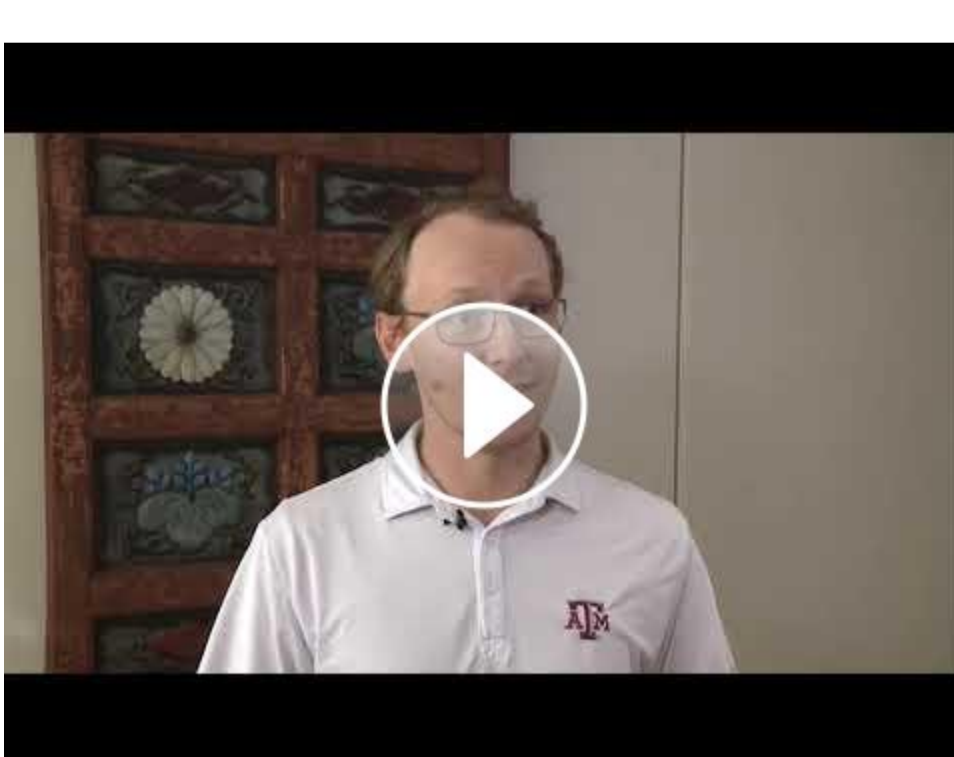
When we evaluate animals for body condition we focus on the areas of the back, tail head, hooks & pin bones, ribs and brisket. For instance, if we can see any rib she is in a BCS of 4 or less. If she is sharp in her topline she is probably a 4 or less. When a cow is in a BCS of 5, her ribs are not visible, she is relatively smooth across her back and each side of her tail head is filled but not mounded. When in a 6, we can see no ribs. Muscling in the hindquarters is plump and full and there is fat around her tail head. BCS of 5 – 6 is where we want our cows at calving and we want to be closer to 6 on our heifers.

Cows in BCS of 5-6 tell us that she is being fed or supplemented adequately. If she is greater than a 6, we need to feed her less. If she is less than 5 then we need to increase supplement or feed. As we move into a season of dormant forages and hays, protein supplementation comes to the front of our mind. This is because we can encourage improved consumption and utilization of poorer quality forages by feeding small amounts of high protein supplements. Producers 38% HP Range Cube is a good choice when cows are grazing dormant forage or consuming medium to low quality hay and quantity is not limiting. As forage becomes limiting it would probably be better to feed a little more of a 20% protein product. Our Range Breeder or Pasture Cube would be good choices in this scenario.

For more information and guidance on Body Condition Scoring and effective supplementation, contact Livestock Nutritionist, Robert Barrett.

Phone: 979-778-2864

Email: feed@producerscooperative.com



From The Ground Up

From The Ground Up educates our friends and neighbors in the Brazos Valley about agriculture and its impact on their everyday lives. Be sure to watch our weekly televised segment at approximately 6:15 am on Thursdays or during the Saturday 6 o'clock evening news on KBTX-TV 3, Bryan-College Station's CBS affiliate.

This weeks From The Ground Up segment covers the need for higher genetic merit in calves with Texas A&M Department of Animal Science, Physiology of Reproduction Associate Professor, Dr. Ky Pohler.

Bryan-Heidenheimer-Hillsboro



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