



JANUARY - DECEMBER

**MONTHLY**  
**BEEF CATTLE**  
**MANAGEMENT**  
**CALENDAR &**  
**WORKBOOK**



Louisiana State University

**Agricultural Center**

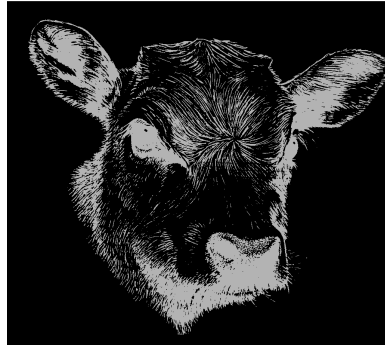
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service



# *Foreword*

**T**his publication is intended to be a reminder of management practices thought to be appropriate for each month of the year. If referred to frequently each month, it could also be considered a workbook. It was developed with herds of all sizes in mind, but can be easily customized to fit any needs by using the columns on the right side of the monthly pages and the space provided for notes of items that are specifically for a particular herd.

**W**hile it suggests management practices to be considered, it does not give any recommendations as to how they may be accomplished. Earlier publications and annually revised publications contain recommended procedures and are available at your parish extension office.



**A**lso, it is hoped that this publication might provide professional extension agents (county agents) with current topics for newsletters and other media needs.



## *Acknowledgment*

The suggestions and contributions of Richard Clay Chapman are gratefully acknowledged.

**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# JANUARY

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Monitor breeding activities in herds being exposed for fall calving.				
3. Purchase ear tags for spring calves.				
4. Check for lice. Treat if necessary.				
5. Assemble and clean obstetric equipment.				
6. Frequently check spring-bred heifers due to calve early.				
7. Identify new calves. Record birth date, sex, color, dam and sire (and birth weight if desired).				
9. Dehorn and castrate calves while tagging.				
10. Expect a few spring-bred cows to calve late this month.				
11. Provide shelter for newborn calves.				
12. Continue winter feeding (hay, protein supplement, hi-mag mineral for cows on ryegrass, minerals).				
13. Ensure adequate, sanitary water supply.				
14. Fertilize ryegrass.				
15. Repair corrals, fences.				
16. Update computer records.				
17. Service equipment.				
18. Gather records for tax purposes.				



**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# FEBRUARY

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Provide shelter for newborn calves during inclement weather.				
3. Evaluate activity and soundness of breeding bulls.				
4. Increase inspection of cows and heifers due to calve.				
5. Identify new calves. Record birth date, sex, color, dam and sire (and birth weight if desirable).				
6. Dehorn and castrate calves while tagging.				
7. Continue winter feeding (hay, protein supplements, minerals and hi-mag minerals).				
8. Ensure sanitary water supply.				
9. Evaluate bull battery for spring breeding needs.				
10. Check for lice, delouse if necessary.				
11. Work fall-born calves. Vaccinate, castrate, dehorn, implant, etc.				
12. Calculate and record death losses.				
13. Evaluate winter feed supply.				
14. Collect soil samples.				
15. Fertilize ryegrass.				
16. Gather records for tax purposes.				
17. Plan, order and purchase spring pharmaceuticals, implants, dewormers, spring and summer insect control needs.				
18. Update records.				
19. Service equipment.				

# February Notes

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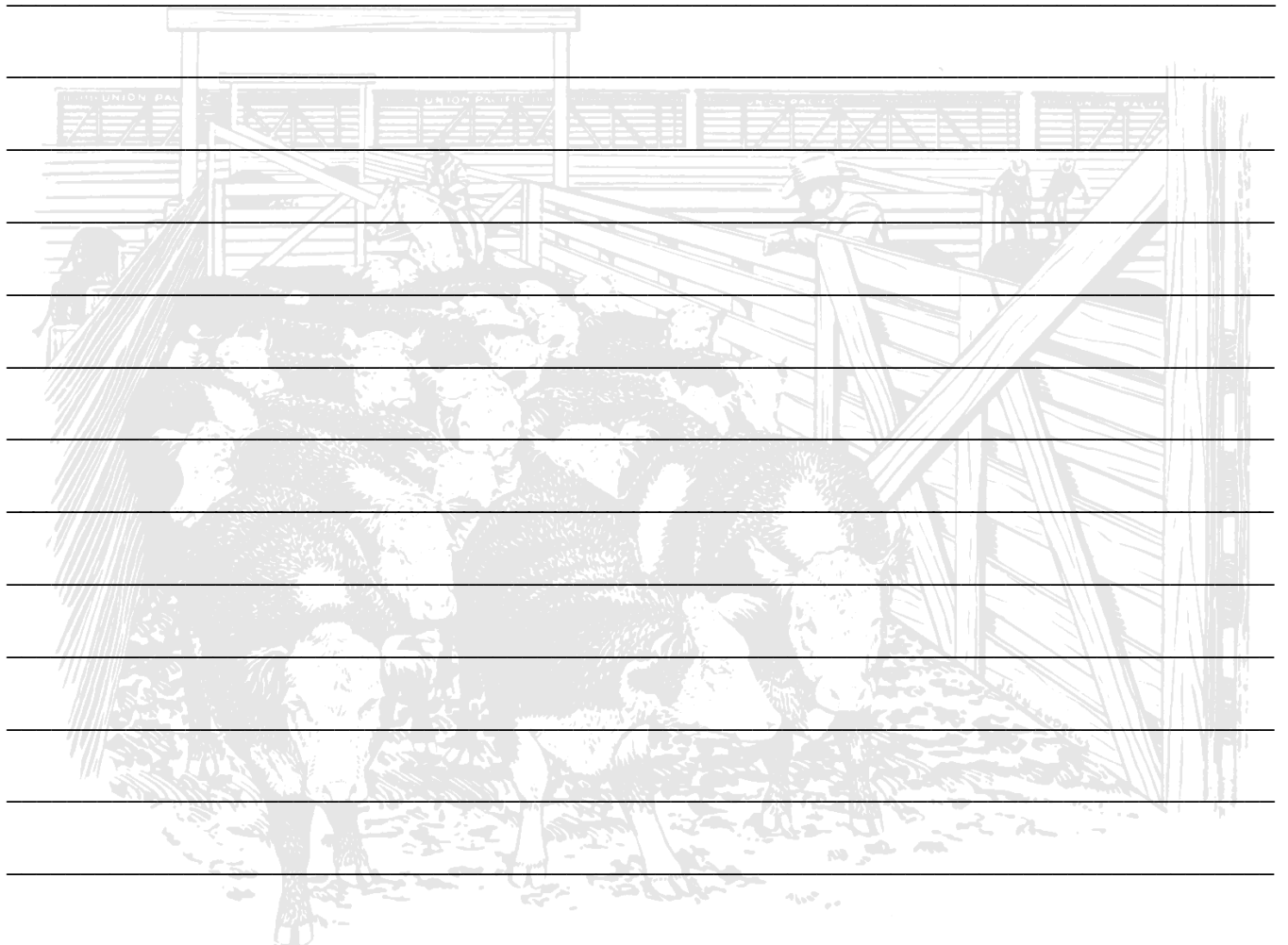
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**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# MARCH

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Continue winter feeding.				
3. Resupply mineral feeders.				
4. End fall-winter breeding, collect bulls.				
5. Feed to restore collected bulls to sound breeding conditions.				
6. Plan semen checking and breeding soundness exams for bulls needed in the spring.				
7. Identify newborn calves. Record date, sex, color, dam and sire (and birth weight if desired).				
8. Castrate and dehorn newborn calves while tagging.				
9. Select replacement heifers for spring breeding.				
10. Deworm, defluke and vaccinate breeding females.				
11. Start work on permanent pastures and hay fields. Renovate, clip, spray, fertilize, etc.				
12. Prepare tax forms.				
13. Update records.				
14. Inventory pharmaceuticals and parasite control products.				
15. Service equipment.				
16. Ensure adequate sanitary water supply.				
17. Burn pastures where possible and desirable.				



# March Notes



**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# APRIL

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Form spring breeding cow herds. Vaccinate cows for leptovibrio, anthrax.				
3. Semen check bulls and evaluate for soundness prior to turning out.				
4. Purchase additional bulls if needed.				
5. Vaccinate bulls (anthrax, vibriosis, leptospirosis, anaplasmosis).				
6. Deworm and defluke cows and bulls.				
7. Check breeding activity in replacement heifer groups.				
8. Identify late born spring calves. Record birth date, sex, color, sire and dam (and birth weight if desired).				
9. Start breeding cows. Monitor heat and bull activities.				
10. Check breeding bulls for physical injuries; replace if necessary.				
11. Check mineral troughs; add minerals if needed.				
12. Update records.				
13. File income tax.				
14. Service equipment.				
15. Monitor hay fields and pastures.				

# April Notes



**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# MAY

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Continue spring breeding; monitor activity.				
3. Evaluate fly control program. Take steps to improve if necessary.				
4. Plan fall calf marketing.				
5. Work spring calves (castrate, dehorn, implant, vaccinate, etc).				
6. Evaluate stocking rates. Make necessary changes.				
7. Plan cull cow marketing.				
8. Make first hay cutting.				
9. Fertilize freshly cut hay fields.				
10. Itemize chores previously overlooked and complete.				
11. Repair corrals, fences.				
12. Check mineral feeders, add minerals if needed.				
13. Update records.				
14. Service equipment.				
15. Monitor hay fields. Schedule cutting, fertilizing.				
16. Ensure adequate water supply.				
17. Calculate and record spring calving percentage.				



**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# JUNE

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Clip permanent pastures. Fertilize if needed.				
3. Provide shade for cattle.				
4. Ensure adequate water supply.				
5. Check minerals, add if necessary.				
6. Monitor fly control.				
7. Wean fall calves. Give booster vaccines if in health plan.				
8. Pregnancy check fall-winter exposed cows. Record results.				
9. Mouth, inspect udders and cull unsound cows.				
10. Market fall calves.				
11. If calves are to be retained, start preconditioning program.				
12. Monitor breeding activity of herds being exposed.				
13. Calculate weaning percentage of fall-calving herds. Record.				
14. Calculate pregnancy rates for next fall. Record.				
15. Calculate income per cow exposed. Record.				
16. Update records.				
17. Service equipment.				
18. Make hay; fertilize fields if needed.				
19. Collect and analyze hay samples.				



**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# JULY

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Discontinue spring breeding. Gather bulls.				
3. Check physical condition of bulls.				
4. Rotate lactating cows to best pasture.				
5. Evaluate feed supply for calves being preconditioned.				
6. Check mineral availability.				
7. Cut hay. Fertilize afterward.				
8. Provide shade.				
9. Provide adequate, sanitary water supply.				
10. Maintain fly control programs.				
11. Update records.				
12. Service equipment.				
13. Purchase fencing and fencing repair needs.				
14. Repair corrals.				
15. Check dallisgrass for ergot contamination, and clip if necessary.				
16. Review and evaluate insurance coverage.				
17. Analyze hay samples.				





**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# AUGUST

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Cut hay when possible.				
3. Plan winter feeding program (hay, ryegrass, protein supplement, hi-mag minerals).				
4. Purchase or contract ryegrass seed.				
5. Continue fly control.				
6. Note cancer eye, udder condition, feet condition, body condition of cows.				
7. Check mineral availability, add minerals if needed.				
8. Assemble and clean obstetric equipment.				
9. Purchase tags for fall calves.				
10. Estimate pharmaceutical, deworming and implant needs for fall workings.				
11. Move fall-calving cows and heifers close to handling facilities.				
12. Start monitoring bred heifers.				
13. Provide shade.				
14. Provide adequate and sanitary water supply.				
15. Update records.				
16. Service equipment.				

# August Notes

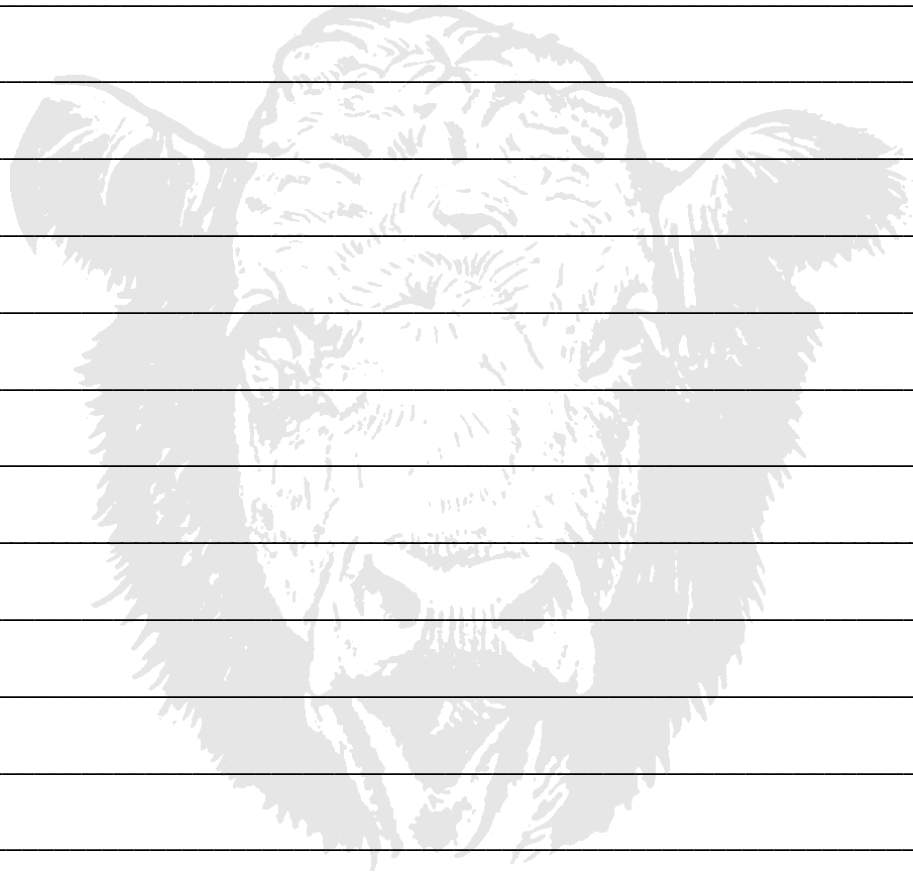


Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar

# SEPTEMBER

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Monitor fall-calving heifers and cows closely.				
3. Plan fall branding, weaning, pregnancy checking, marketing, etc.				
4. Continue mineral program.				
5. Evaluate fly control needs.				
6. Provide adequate, sanitary water supply.				
7. Lime pastures and ryegrass fields as indicated on soil test reports.				
8. Prepare for and plant ryegrass.				
9. Update records.				
10. Evaluate winter feeding plan.				
11. Purchase all or part of winter feeding supplies.				
12. Update records.				
13. Service equipment.				
14. Identify fall dropped calves; record birth date, sex, color, dam and sire (and birth weight, if desirable).				
15. Analyze hay samples.				

# *September* **Notes**

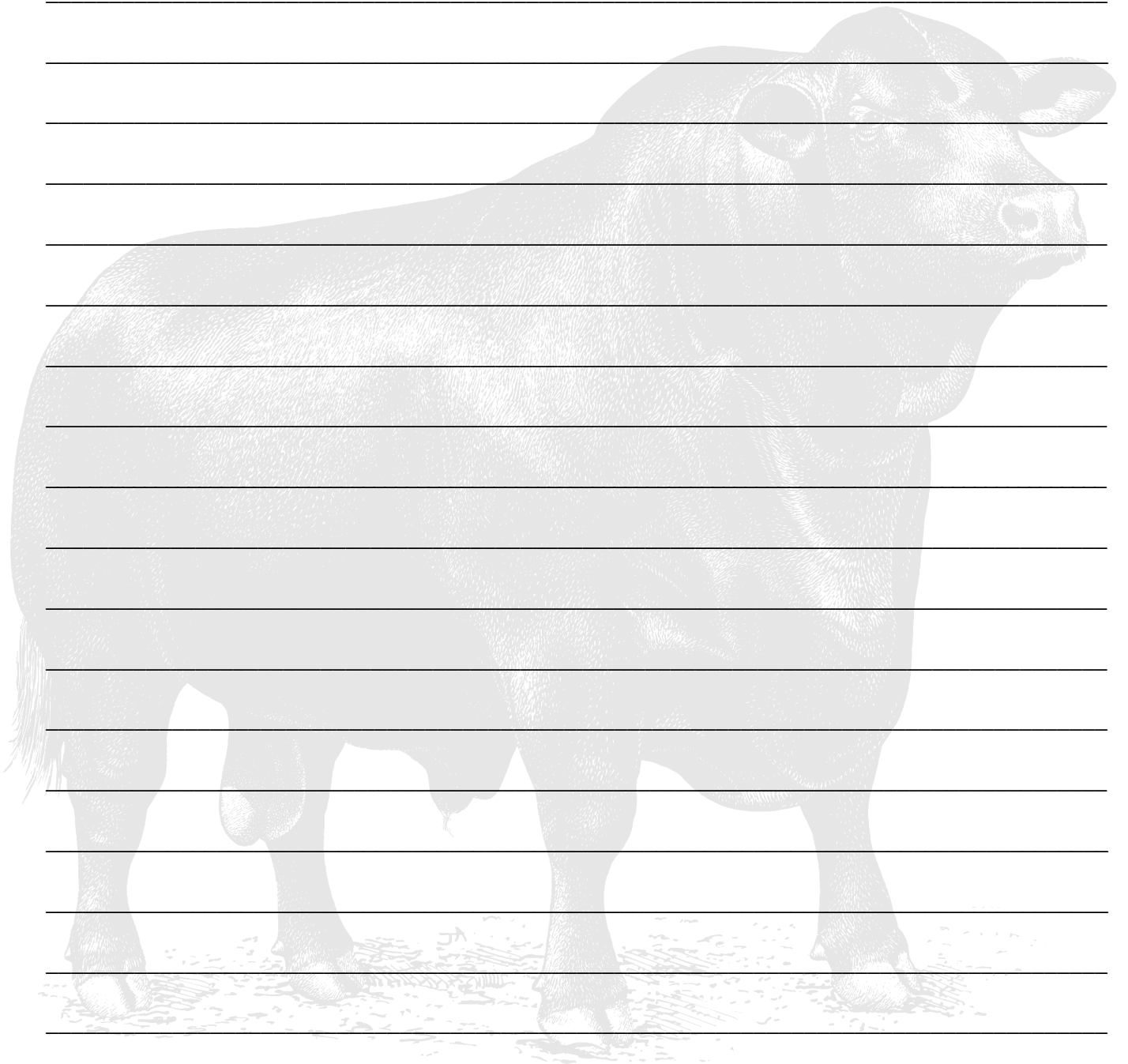


**Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar**

# OCTOBER

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Continue fall-calving (tagging, recording, watching bred heifers, etc.)				
3. <i>Work cattle:</i>				
a. Remove fly control tags and dispose of as recommended.				
b. Wean spring-born calves.				
c. Give booster vaccines.				
d. Dehorn and castrate calves missed earlier.				
e. Vaccinate heifers for brucellosis.				
f. Sort out heifers for replacements.				
g. Market or retain balance of spring calves.				
h. Start preconditioning program for calves retained.				
4. Pregnancy check, mouth, evaluate condition of spring-bred cows. Record pregnancy percentage.				
5. Deworm, defluke and vaccinate cow herd (respiratory complex, vibriosis, leptospirosis or according to plan recommended by herd veterinarian.)				
6. Cull and market old, open and unsound cows.				
7. Maintain mineral program.				
8. Evaluate ryegrass fields. Watch for fall worms.				
9. Use soybean and rice stubble if available.				

# *October* **Notes**



Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar

# NOVEMBER

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. Fall calving continues. Monitor cow herds. Tag, record birth date, sex, color, dam and sire (birth weight if desired).				
3. Evaluate need to start winter feeding.				
4. Select and semen check bulls for winter breeding (to produce fall calves).				
5. Brand and vaccinate replacement heifers.				
6. Vaccinate, implant (steers only) young cattle growing on ryegrass fields.				
7. Start hi-mag mineral supplementation for lactating cows going on ryegrass. Continue other mineral supplementation.				
8. Update records.				
9. Service equipment.				
10. Assure sanitary water supply.				
11. Make plans for severe weather conditions.				
12. Semen check bulls needed for fall-winter breeding.				



# *November* **Notes**



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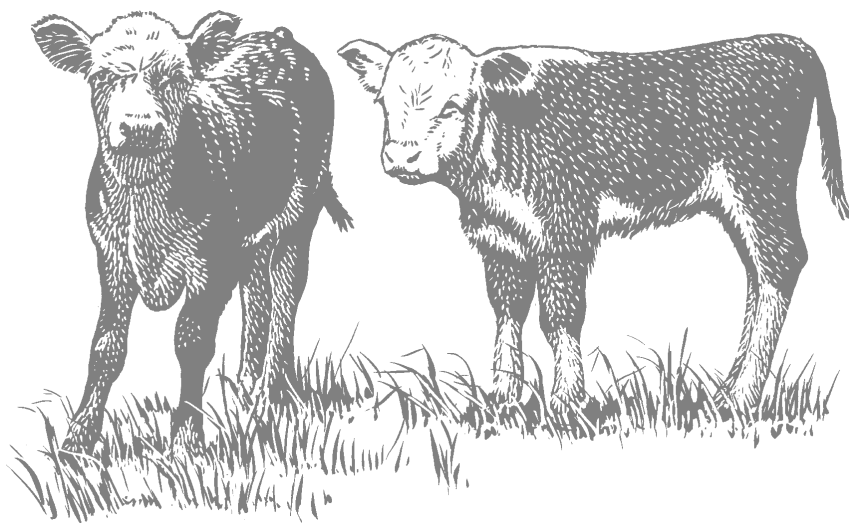
Monthly Beef Cattle  
Management Calendar

# DECEMBER

	Will do	Not applicable	Done	Deferred
1. See last month for deferred items.				
2. End fall calving. Tag and record birth date, sex, color, dam and sire (and birth weight if desirable).				
3. Turn out bulls for winter breeding.				
4. Continue or start winter feeding.				
5. Move stocker cattle, fall pairs and replacement heifers to ryegrass.				
6. Plan holiday labor schedule.				
7. Be prepared to handle severe weather conditions.				
8. Update records.				
9. Calculate and record fall calving percentage.				
10. Monitor cow herds.				
11. Check cattle on ryegrass for signs of tetany.				
12. Service equipment.				

# *December* **Notes**





**Visit our website: <http://www.agctr.lsu.edu/wwwac>**

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