

# Acadiana AgLine

A newsletter for farmers and cattle producers in Lafayette Parish & the Acadiana area.



Volume 9, Issue 2,  
SUMMER 2017

## **AGRONOMIC CROP FIELD DAYS**

Each year the LSU AgCenter schedules a number of crop field days across the state/area to provide producers with the latest researched based information on the commodity they produce. Summer time during the height of the growing season is “prime time” for most of these agronomic crop field days. A few of these have already been held thus far this summer but others are still upcoming during the next several weeks/months here in the Acadiana area and around the state. These have been scheduled as follows and all producers, dealers, agribusiness personnel, etc are invited to attend:



**\*JUNE 28 (Wednesday) - Rice Research Station Field Day** – Rice Research Station (Main Farm) near Crowley – Field tours begin at 7:15am and the program concludes with lunch (see flier).

**\*JULY 13 (Thursday) - Dean Lee Crop Production Field Day** – Dean Lee Research Station near Alexandria. Registration begins at 8:30am with the field day starting at 9:00.

**\*JULY 13 (Thursday) – Iberia/St. Mary/Vermilion Sugarcane Field Day** – Erath. Contact Iberia County Agent at 369-4441 for details.

**\*JULY 19 (Wednesday) - LSU Sugarcane Field Day** – Sugar Research Station near St. Gabriel - The program begins with the field tours at 9:00 a.m. and concludes with lunch.

**\*JULY 21 (Friday) - St. Martin/Lafayette/St. Landry Sugarcane Field Day** – Levert St. John Plantation near St. Martinville - Registration begins at 1:00pm with the field tour at 2:00. Following the field tour the indoor program and meal will be held indoors nearby at the LASUCA meeting room beginning at 4:00 p.m.

## **FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MTG – JUNE 29-JULY 2 – NEW ORLEANS**



The Louisiana Farm Bureau Annual Meeting will be held June 29 – July 2, 2017 at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans. All Farm Bureau members, and especially those also directly involved in agriculture, should consider attending. Commodity conferences will be held on Saturday, July 1, and provide an excellent opportunity for producers to keep themselves updated on their respective commodity/industry. Contact your local Farm Bureau office if you have questions or need further information.

## **FARM TIRE RECYCLING PROGRAM - TBA**



For a number of years in the past, Lafayette farmers and cattlemen had been invited to participate in the Farm Tire Recycling Program coordinated by the St. Marin Parish LSU AgCenter Office. This had been a highly successful program with thousands of used farm tires collected over the years, benefiting local farmers/cattlemen as well as the environment. Last year the program was not conducted due to permitting problems and changes to tire collection/re-cycling laws. However, disposal of used farm tires remains an ongoing problem on many south Louisiana farms, and county agents from several local parishes are working together to pursue ideas to re-start the program, if possible. Discussions are still ongoing, and the program remains suspended, but if you have used tires on your farm and would like to be contacted if a new program materializes please call our office here in Lafayette (291-7090) with your contact info and the number/size/type of tires you have for disposal. If a new program is indeed developed those who call in will be contacted directly and provided details.

## **MASTER CATTLEMAN PROGRAM – Coming in August 2017**

Vermilion Parish County Agent Andrew Granger and I will again offer the Master Cattleman series to interested cattle producers in the Acadiana Region this fall on Monday nights. **Current plans call for the class to begin on MONDAY, AUGUST 21** and conclude the last week in October. **If you are interested in participating in the class and have not contacted us previously you must call my office (291-7090) asap to get on the list.** We already have a number of folks who have expressed interest and will be sending out letters to everyone on the list on/around July 1. Normally the classes are rotated weekly between the Lafayette and Vermilion Parish LSU AgCenter/Extension Offices every Monday night (except for Labor Day) from 6-9pm with a meal served at the start of each session.



The MC program is a series of 10 classes covering Animal Handling, Health, Nutrition, Pasture Management, Breeding and Selection, Reproduction, End Product, Beef Quality Assurance, and Financial Management. The fee for the entire MCP program is **\$125 and covers teaching materials, meals and refreshments during each session, as well as certificates and a farm sign for each participant once the class is completed.** If you are interested in beef production and/or in learning more about cattle and the cattle business please call in to get on the list today. A flier is attached, and if you have questions or need further information please call me here at the Lafayette Office (291-7090) or contact Andrew Granger at the Vermilion Office (898-4335).

## **MASTER FARMER UPDATE**



The LSU AgCenter continues to promote the Master Farmer program as one of the most important voluntary programs that farmers can take part in. Environmental and governmental agencies, government programs, and others continue to look at participation in the Master Farmer program as an indicator of a farmer's dedication to environmental stewardship and willingness to follow BMPs (Best Management Practices). Farmers who have not yet chosen to enroll in the Master Farmer program are strongly encouraged to reconsider. We usually offer the Master Farmer Phase 1 Training as two extra sessions in conjunction with our Master Cattleman class, and will plan to do so again in the future. However, if you are interested in getting into the program sooner there will be several upcoming opportunities this summer to take Master Farmer Phase 1 including an upcoming session on June 27 in Crowley listed below. For further information or questions please call Dr. Ernest Girouard or Mr. Allen Hogan (Master Farmer program coordinators) at the number listed, or give me a call here at 291-7090.

**Upcoming MASTER FARMER PHASE 1 TRAINING – Wednesday, June 27, 2017 - Rice Research Station, Crowley, LA - 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Contact Allen Hogan or Ernest Girouard (337) 788-7547 for further information and/or to pre-register.**

## **PASTURE WEED WALK – JULY 19**

A Pasture Weed Walk has been scheduled for local cattlemen & hay producers on Wednesday, July 19, from at 5:30-6:45pm at a pasture field site near the corner of Doc Duhon Rd and Lagneaux Rd (829 Lagneaux Rd, Duson, LA). LSU AgCenter specialists will be on hand to discuss an ongoing “carpet grass control in hybrid bermuda grass” research project being conducted at the site, as well as a horse nettle control demonstration and other pasture weed topics. Please call if you have questions and make plans to attend. All are invited.

## **WPS REVISIONS**

As has been discussed in previous newsletters and at our Pesticide Recertification meetings this spring, the federal Worker Protection Standard (WPS) has been revised and all farmers/cattlemen/agribusiness dealers who have employees that work with or around pesticides will need to implement these changes. A quick summary of the new regulations include:

*Who is responsible for providing the protection?*

- Agricultural employers on crop-producing establishments
- Commercial pesticide handling establishment employers

*Who is protected?*

- Farmworkers, pesticide handlers
- Other persons during pesticide applications

*Background*

- Inform workers and handlers about potential exposure to pesticides
- Protect workers, handlers and other people from exposure to pesticides
- Mitigate any pesticide exposures that workers or handlers might incur

*Pesticide safety training for workers and handlers*

- Must be provided annually
- No grace period; training must be provided prior to employee beginning work
- Record keeping of trainings must be kept for 2 years

*Emergency assistance in case of exposure*

- Prompt transportation to emergency medical facility as well as appropriate Safety Data Sheet(s) for medical personnel to be provided by employer

*Minimum Age*

- Now requires a minimum age of 18 for pesticide handlers and early entry workers



LSU AgCenter offices continue to provide training upon request, but farmers/agribusinesses are being encouraged to have someone within their operation become certified as a “WPS Trainer” so that the operation will be able to train their own employees in the future. If you have a need for WPS training and/or have questions or need further information please contact me at 291-7090.

## **LSU AGCENTER AG LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SEEKING APPLICANTS**

The LSU AgCenter Agricultural Leadership Development Program and its’ coordinator, Dr. Bobby Solieau, are currently seeking candidates for the next Ag Leadership class, Class XVI (2018-2020), which will begin in January 2018.

The program aims to turn participants into effective leaders for agriculture. "We believe investing in people is the way to ensure a vibrant future for agriculture and for the state," said Bill Richardson, LSU vice president for agriculture. "Our alumni from this program have gone on to become state leaders."

According to Dr. Soileau the Ag Leadership Program, established in 1998, “provides potential agriculture and agribusiness leaders the tools they need to become a strong voice for agriculture. It is a great opportunity to learn about critical issues facing agriculture, and the leadership skills participants develop give them the confidence they need to become more effective communicators for agriculture.” Since its inception, nearly 400 people have graduated from the program.

The curriculum includes 10 sessions during two years: seven lecture-based seminars in locations throughout the state and three travel seminars. The travel seminars include visits to Washington, D.C., to meet with the country's leaders in agriculture policy, and to California to see how their agriculture operations deal with environmental regulatory issues. The final seminar is an international study tour during which the group visits another country to learn how other agriculture, economic and social systems work. "The international study tour is an eye-opening experience. Participants visit with farmers, government officials, agribusiness professionals and the citizens of other countries," Soileau said. "The class members will understand they have to be prepared to compete globally."



Participants pay a small portion of the costs for their study and travel. The bulk of the program funding is underwritten by endowments in the LSU Foundation, including the Chalkley Family Endowment, the H. Rouse Caffey Endowment, the Robert R. Soileau Scholarship Endowment and the Ag Leaders of Louisiana Endowment. In some cases in the past, local associations (Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's, etc) have also been solicited and agreed to assist with partial funding to help cover tuition costs for local producers. Regardless, past participants have referred to this program as possibly "the best AgCenter program they have ever been involved with".

Individuals may apply online at [www.lsuagcenter.com/agleadership](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/agleadership) and I would like to encourage your consideration. If you have questions or need further information please do not hesitate to contact me at 291-7090.

## **FALL CATTLE FIELD DAY – OCTOBER 21**

Here is early notice for our 2017 Fall Cattle Producers Field Day. This year's Fall Field Day will be held at the UL Lafayette Research Farm located near Cade, La. on Saturday, OCTOBER 21, beginning at 8:30am. The planning committee is currently working to finalize the program but there should be several topics of interest for both cattlemen and hay producers alike. Some of these will include bermuda grass planting methods, impacts of management on shrink in weanling calves, smutgrass and fence line weed control demonstrations, dealing with abnormalities in newborn calves, and others. A tentative flier is attached. As usual a sponsored meal will be served and all are invited. Further details will be sent out in upcoming newsletters but in the meantime please put this date on your calendar now and begin making plans to attend.



## **AG BURNING & BURN CERTIFICATION/RECERTIFICATION**



As the summer growing season progresses and we get closer to harvest season, ag/sugarcane burning becomes an important topic. A Prescribed Burn Manager training has been tentatively set in Port Allen, La. for a date in September to be determined later. If you are in need of burn certification or recertification please contact me or make contact with your local LSU AgCenter/Extension Office in your parish.

For further information on any of the above, or if you have a disability that would limit your participation in any of the above, please contact me 337-291-7090 or email me at [sdutile@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:sdutile@agcenter.lsu.edu).

Sincerely,  
*Stan Dutile*  
Stan Dutile  
County Agent







**H. Rouse Caffey  
Rice Research Station  
1373 Caffey Road  
Rayne, LA 70578**



*For more information,  
please contact  
Dr. Steve Linscombe,  
Regional Director /  
Senior Rice Breeder at  
(337) 788-7531 or  
[slinscombe@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:slinscombe@agcenter.lsu.edu)*

# **H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station Annual Field Day**

**Wednesday, June 28, 2017**

## **FIELD TOURS 7:15 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.**

Rice Weed Control Drs. Eric Webster and Ben McKnight  
Rice Breeding Drs. Steve Linscombe and Adam Famoso  
Rice Pathology Drs. Don Groth and Clayton Hollier  
Rice Entomology Drs. Michael Stout and Blake Wilson  
Rice Hybrid Breeding/Drone Demonstration Dr. James Oard and Mr. Brady Williams  
Rice Agronomy Drs. Dustin Harrell and Bobby Golden

*The last tour will depart no later than 9:00 A.M.*

## **POSTER SESSION 7:15 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.**

## **PROGRAM 10:45 A.M.**

Activities of the Louisiana Rice Research Board **Mr. Jackie Loewer**  
Chairman, Louisiana Rice Research Board

Rice Market Update **Dr. Michael Deliberto**  
Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics  
Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, LSU

USA Rice Update **Mrs. Betsy Ward**  
Chief Executive Officer, USA Rice Federation

Sustainability in USA Rice Production **Ms. Jennifer James**  
Arkansas Rice Producer  
Chairman, USA Rice Sustainability Committee

Remarks **Dr. William B. Richardson**  
Vice President for Agriculture, LSU AgCenter

**Dr. B. Rogers Leonard**  
Associate Vice President, LSU AgCenter

## **BENEDICTION**

## **LUNCHEON**



**Rice Research — From 1909 until Today — The Mainstay of the Louisiana Rice In-**

**Acadiana**  
**MASTER CATTLEMAN PROGRAM**  
*(formerly Master Cattle Producer)*

**Sponsored by the LSU AgCenter**

**Weekly on Monday nights this fall  
(except Labor Day)**

**6:00-9:00 PM**

**Starting on Monday, August 21, 2017**

**\*Open to all Acadiana area cattle producers.**

**\*Cost \$125 includes 10 meals, training materials,  
certificate & sign upon completion**

**\*10 Sessions. Topics to include:**

- Animal Handling**
- Herd Health**
- Nutrition**
- Reproduction**
- Breeding & Selection**
- Pasture Management I and II**
- Financial Management**
- Record Keeping & Marketing**
- End Product**
- Beef Quality Assurance**



**First session to be held at the Lafayette Parish LSU AgCenter Extension  
Office (1010 Lafayette Street in Lafayette). Remaining class sessions TBA  
based on class make up.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CONTACT  
Stan Dutile (337-291-7090) or Andrew Granger (337-898-4335)**

# ACADIANA CATTLE PRODUCERS FALL FIELD DAY

**DATE:** *Saturday, OCTOBER 21, 2017*

**TIME:** *8:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.*

**PLACE:** *UL LAFAYETTE CADE FARM*

*(1178 W J Bernard Rd, St. Martinville, LA 70582)*

**REGISTRATION STARTS AT 8:00 AM**

*Approved for Master Farmer Phase II credit*



## *“Tentative” Agenda*

### OUTDOOR PROGRAM

- ◆ **“Shrink” Demo - Understanding Impacts of Management on Shrink in Weanling Beef Calves**
- ◆ **Successful Bermuda Grass Planting Methods Demonstration**
- ◆ **Products for Extended Fence Line Weed Control**
- ◆ **Smutgrass Control Demonstration**

### INDOOR PROGRAM

- ◆ **Dealing with Abnormalities in Newborn Calves**
- ◆ **Hay Production – Quality Vs. Quantity, What You Need to Know**
- ◆ **Cattle Market Update**
- ◆ **Master Farmer Program Update**

***LUNCH PROVIDED— DOOR PRIZES—VENDOR EXHIBITS***



***CONTACTS:*** *LCA District VIII Vice President-James Leleux (337-893-8334) ◆ Iberia-Blair Hebert (337-369-4441) ◆ Iberia Research Station-Guillermo Scaglia (337-276-5527) ◆ St. Martin-Stuart Gauthier (337-332-2181) ◆ Lafayette, & West St. Mary-Stan Dutile (337-291-7090) ◆ Vermilion-Andrew Granger (337-898-4335) ◆ Louisiana Forage and Grassland Council-Ed Twidwell (225-578-4564)*

**Stan Dutile, County Agent—Lafayette Parish**  
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