

## April 2023 Edition

### In this issue:

- From the Agent's Desk
- VCPR
- Worm Composting Workshop
- DPCA Quarterly Meeting
- 2023 NW Region Beef/Forage Field

### From the Agent's Desk

Spring has sprung and everything is finally greening up. That is definitely a welcomed sight to all of the livestock producers around after the short hay supplies that we encountered. I have seen some really good stands of ryegrass around the parish. I would imagine some of you will be cutting ryegrass hay this month and I hope the weather gets right to do so. Backyard gardens are being planted now that the pecan trees have bloomed. I'm sure we will have one more Easter snap but hopefully we have seen our last frost. On April 11, there will be two events being held here at the extension office. That morning we will be hosting a worm compost workshop and that evening will be the DeSoto Parish Cattleman's meeting. We will be discussing farm ponds and anyone is welcome to attend. We just ask for your RSVP.

Until next month, Josh

## April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

May every sunrise hold more promise  
and every sunset hold more peace



# Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship

We all know that relationships are important. You have strong relationships with your family members, friends, and co-workers, but what about your veterinarian? If you are a livestock or companion animal owner, it is extremely important now more than ever to build a relationship with your local veterinarian. The technical term for this is a veterinarian-client-patient relationship, or VCPR.

So why is a VCPR important? It's always a good idea to have a good relationship with your vet because you never know when that weird emergency is going to happen on the farm or when Fido gets ran over in your driveway in the middle of the night. Having that relationship already established will make it much easier to get your vet to open their clinic up for you in the wee hours of the morning. Your patient will be in their system from past exams and if your pet has prior medical history their doctor will already be aware of their conditions.

The big reason that livestock owners should form a VCPR now is that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has released new antibiotic guidance pertaining to animal drugs containing medically important antimicrobials for use in companion and food production animals that are currently approved for over the counter (OTC) marketing. Several antibiotics such as LA-300, Tylan, and Penicillin G Procaine familiar to ranchers and other livestock owners will no longer be available OTC. Instead, these antibiotics will require a prescription from a licensed veterinarian. This is to ensure animal drugs that contain antimicrobials important for humans are not being overused or used incorrectly according to officials. OTC antibiotics used in animal feed and drinking water moved to Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) or prescription status in 2017, when the FDA first enacted VFDs for closer veterinarian oversight of antimicrobial use in food animals, but a few antibiotics remained available OTC in the form of injectables, intramammary tubes and boluses.

By June 11, 2023, labels of those remaining OTC antibiotics will be required to read: "Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian." This means that in order for a livestock producer to obtain antibiotics to treat their livestock, they will have to contact their veterinarian and obtain a prescription from them. The antibiotics will not necessarily have to be purchased from their veterinarian, but they will need a prescription from the veterinarian to purchase them. With a valid VCPR, veterinarians may make medical judgements and prescribe medications, including antimicrobials or antibiotics, for livestock if the veterinarian believes the owner will follow their instructions. It's better to be prepared by having an established relationship and not need to access a veterinarian than to need a veterinarian and not be able to get in touch with one in a timely manner.



## **Worm Composting Workshop**

**Date: April 11, 2023**

**Time: 10:30 AM**

**Location: DeSoto Parish Extension Office (4-H Building)**

**Guest Speakers: Mr. Dwain Spillman (Dwain's Worm Farm)**

**(Please RSVP via phone or email by 4/7/23)**

**Call 318-872-0533 or email [jsalley@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:jsalley@agcenter.lsu.edu)**

**Come learn about worm composting and gardening! Worm compost and Red Wigglers will be available for purchase also.**



# DeSoto Parish Cattlemen's Association

## Quarterly Meeting

**Date: April 11, 2023**

**Time: 6:00 pm**

**Location: DeSoto Parish Extension Office (4-H Building)**

**Guest Speakers:**

- ♦ **Dr. Greg Lutz, LSU AgCenter Aquaculture Research Station, "Farm Pond Maintenance"**
- ♦ **Mr. Clint Byas, HerbServ LLC**

**(Please RSVP via phone or email by 4/7/23)**

**Call 318-872-0533 or email [jsalley@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:jsalley@agcenter.lsu.edu)**

**Meal sponsored  
by:**



Should you need an ADA accommodation, please contact our office at (318) 872-0533 at least 2 weeks prior to the event. The LSU AgCenter and LSU provide equal opportunities in programs and employment.



# Northwest Beef & Forage Day

Hill Farm  
Research  
Station

**April 27, 2023**

**Program 8:30 - 2:00 pm**

*Location: Hill Farm Research Station  
11959 Hwy. 9 Homer, LA 71040*

*\*\*\*We ask that you pre-register (for the meal count) at  
KMoore@agcenter.lsu.edu by April 20th\*\*\*  
Questions? Call 318.927.2578 Ext.201*

## TOPICS AND SPEAKERS

**8:30 am - Registration**

**9:00 am - Program begins**

### **Cattle Market Update and Outlook**

- Mr. Corbitt Wall, DV Auctions and Feeder Flash producer

### **Clover Limitations**

- Dr. Wink Alison, LSU AgCenter

### **Opportunities for Native Grasses**

- Dr. Buddy Pitman, LSU AgCenter

### **Weed Control Options and Updates**

- Dr. Ron Strahan, LSU AgCenter

### **New Antibiotic Rules and Herd Health Updates**

- Dr. Ashley Edwards and Lee Faulk, LSU AgCenter

**12:00 pm - Lunch– Sponsored by Southern Ag Credit**

**1:00 pm - Demonstration Using Drones for Pasture Weed Control**

- Mr. Kyle Foret, Ag Air L.L.C.



**Corbitt Wall**

of "The Feeder Flash"

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