

Angus Advisor

Beef Cow Herd Management Tips—Southern Region

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JULY

- Control weeds in summer pastures.
- Apply nitrogen to warm-season pastures if needed.
- Check mineral feeder.
- Check for army worms and mole crickets. Treat if necessary.
- Wean calves and cull the cow herd.
- Watch for evidence of foot rot, and treat.
- Consider preconditioning calves before sale. Include vaccination for shipping fever and IBR at least three weeks before sale.
- Check dust bags.
- Update market information and plans.
- Revaccinate calves at weaning for blackleg.

AUGUST

- Cut corn silage.
- Cut hay.
- Apply lime for fall and winter crops.
- Harvest Bahia grass seed.
- Check mineral feeders.

- Update market information and marketing plans.
- Check for army worms, spittlebugs and mole crickets. Treat if necessary.
- Check dust bags.
- Wean calves, and cull the cow herd.
- Watch for evidence of abortions.
- Observe animals for signs of disease.
- If cattle grubs (heel flies) were found on cattle last winter or were observed in the pasture, treat cattle for grubs this month.
- Pregnancy test and cull open heifers from the replacement herd.

SEPTEMBER

1. Cut hay.
2. Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to cool-season pastures.
3. Check mineral feeder.
4. Check for mole crickets and spittlebugs. Treat if necessary.
5. Check dust bags.
6. Wean calves and cull the cow herd if not

already done. Remove open, unsound, poor-producing or over-age cows.

7. Train herdsmen to observe normal and abnormal behavior in cattle and signs of disease.
8. Be sure any replacement purchases are healthy and are calfhood-vaccinated for brucellosis (Bang's disease).
9. September or October is a good time to deworm the cow herd if internal parasites are a problem.
10. When replacement heifers are weaned, give them required vaccinations and teach them to eat—then put them on a good nutrition program.
11. Determine bull-replacement needs, develop selection criteria, and start checking availability of quality animals.
12. Review winter feed supply and feeding plans so needed adjustments can be made before supplies tighten and prices rise.

