

74th Annual Florida BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE

May 7–9, 2025 | Gainesville, FL

RIDING THE HIGH TIDE

Decision Making in a Record Cattle Market

A slate of nationally renowned speakers is scheduled to provide information on genetics, animal health, marketing, management, and bull selection at this year's Beef Cattle Short Course. Additionally, Friday morning highlights the careers of two of the Gulf Coast's most successful forage researchers. Drs. Sollenberger and Rouquette have 94 years of combined experience in grazing research. This will certainly be a short course you won't want to miss.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/BCSC2025>

Wednesday, May 7

Location: Straughn Professional Development Center

- 12:00 Registration
1:00 Welcome & Opening Remarks
▶ John Arthington, Professor & Chair, UF/IFAS Animal Sciences
1:15 President's Message & FCA Update
▶ Dale Carlton, FCA President
1:30 Market Outlook
▶ Randy Blach, CEO, CattleFax
2:30 Understanding the Carbon Cycle in Grazing Lands
▶ Betsey Boughton, Director of Agroecology & Senior Research Biologist, Archbold Biological Station/Buck Island Ranch
3:45 **Refreshment Break**
4:00 What Does a Heifer Really Cost in this Market?
▶ Curt Lacy, Professor & Head of the Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center, Mississippi State University
4:45 Seasoned Producer Panel: Lessons I Have Learned About "The Good Times"
▶ Moderator Todd Thrift, Associate Professor, UF/IFAS Animal Sciences

Location: UF/IFAS Beef Teaching Unit South

- 5:30 **BBQ Dinner** & Tradeshow, Bull & Heifer Sale Preview

Thursday, May 8

Location: Straughn Professional Development Center

- 8:00 Selection for What Matters Most: Don't Forget the Basics
▶ Jason Cleere, Professor & Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, Texas A&M University
8:45 Development of a Maternal Behavior Scoring System: Impacts on Beef Cattle Productivity
▶ Kelsey Harvey, Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University
9:30 **Refreshment Break**
9:45 How Long Does It Take for Genetics to Impact Carcass Characteristics?
▶ Bailey Engle, Research Geneticist, US Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebraska
10:30 Bull Buying Using Selection Indexes — Are the Assumptions Correct?
▶ Bob Weaver, Professor & Extension Beef Specialist, Kansas State University
11:15 Bull Management for Optimal Fertility
▶ Bruce Carpenter, Professor & Extension Livestock Specialist, Texas A&M University

Location: UF/IFAS Beef Teaching Unit South

- 12:30 **Lunch**
1:30 Cow Culling Decisions, Calf Quality and Price, Early Weaning, Heifer Selection
4:00 Ask the Expert

Location: UF/IFAS Horse Teaching Unit

- 5:00 Cocktail Hour & Tradeshow
6:00 **Prime Rib Dinner**

Friday, May 9

Location: Straughn Professional Development Center

- 8:30 Forty Years of Forage Research at the University of Florida
▶ Lynn Sollenberger, Distinguished Professor & Distinguished Teaching Scholar, University of Florida
9:15 Fifty-Four Years of Forage Research at Texas A&M University
▶ Monte Rouquette, Regents Fellow and Professor of Forage Physiology, Texas A&M University, Overton Center
10:00 **Refreshment Break**
10:15 Anaplasmosis Control in the Gulf Coast
▶ Isaac Jumper, Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine
11:00 Major Gene Affecting Early Fertility in Brahman Cattle
▶ Bailey Engle, Research Geneticist, US Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebraska
11:30 Ranching in Argentina
▶ Nicolas DiLorenzo, Professor, University of Florida, North Florida Research and Education Center
12:00 Adjourn

Questions?

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