

BUFFALO PRESS WEEKLY REGIONAL FARM & RANCH NEWS



Chute 'n the Bull by Tommy Neyland



Tommy Neyland

Controlling Weeds in Lawns Weeds can be grassy, broadleaf, sedge-like or even iris-like as is this "Blue Eyed Grass." Herbicides can reduce weeds in your turf, but thick sod keeps weeds out. Apply herbicides either before or several weeks after first green-up but not during first greening up. Some herbicides should not be used on certain grass types (read labels thoroughly). Broadleaf weeds often can be controlled by using selective postemergence blends that contain two or more herbicides. Formulations of 2,4-D or blends with

2,4-D are available for most southern grasses, but be extra careful using it on St. Augustine lawns. Examples of these products are Bayer Advanced Southern Broadleaf, Ortho, Weed B Gon, Spectracide Weed Stop, Trimec or Fertilome Weedfree Zone. Manor or Blade herbicides easily control bahiagrass in Bermuda, centipede, St. Augustine or zoysia grasses. Most labels will stress use on younger weeds growing in the cooler midspring. A temporary discoloration of the lawn may occur. A second application two or three weeks later is usually needed (sometimes a third). Wet the foliage only; don't saturate the soil. Control weeds NOW, in spring! Mow herbicide-treated lawns several times without a bag before collecting clippings for compost or mulch. Read and follow label directions! Some products contain phenoxy (2,4-D) herbicides. Avoid drift and keep spray away from gardens. Clean these sprayers thoroughly with an ammonia solution if the sprayer is used with plant protectants on good plants. It is best to buy a sprayer only kept for weed killers.

For Bermuda or zoysia lawns only, weed killers with

MSMA or DSMA often provide good selective control for most grassy and some broadleaf weeds. Use these two arsenicals when weather is well warm as in June through August. Preemergence herbicides can be applied to thin lawns to protect them from weeds until they thicken and cover. These PreEs are not for newly seeded areas or areas with growing weeds because they work on seedlings only. Some home PreE are Greenlight Crabgrass Preventer, StaGreen Crabex, Hi Yield Dimension, Scott's Halts, Portrait, Atrazine and Crabgrass Preventer 2. It is often said that your weed control is only as good as your application, but you also must have an appropriate material for the time, turf and target species. You can find this and past articles on the web at www.mycountrytractor.com for your reference. Extension programs serve of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



Dylan Pistone calms his steer before entering the show ring at the Fort Worth Stock Show.

Leon County 4-H'ers show animals Kickin' It Up in Cowtown

What happens when bad weather hits in January? The Southwestern Livestock Exposition in Fort Worth of course! Leon County 4-H had great representation at the Fort Worth Stock Show. Leon

County 4-H members competed in the Junior Breeding Beef Heifer and Steer Shows.

The 4-H and FFA members this year worked very hard and prepared very well for the show.

Those exhibiting Junior Breeding Beef Heifers were McKinzie and Haley Hamilton and Andy, Tobe, and Gatlynn Johnson all of Centerville 4-H.

Other 4-H members who exhibited included Amy Terry, Casey Helfenbein, and CD Richardson.

Haley Hamilton's Maine-Anjou heifer won Reserve Senior Champion Heifer.

The only thing sweeter than the cinnamon rolls at the Fort Worth Livestock Show was the success of Leon County 4-H members who made the sale with their market steer projects. The five 4-H members from Leon County who tasted this sweet

success include Justin Pistone placing 3rd in class of Exotic heavy weight steers, Dylan Pistone placing 5th in class of heavy weight American steers, Mason Jonas placing 10th in the light weight class of Angus steers, Amy Terry placing 2nd in the light weight Angus class, and Tyler Johnson placing 2nd in the heavy weight American steer class and also being named Reserve Champion. Others exhibiting market steers were Haley Hamilton, C. D. Richardson, and Macey Jonas.

Several years ago with a few head of cattle Leon County 4-H began to exhibit at the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show. Leon County's participation has grown and the exhibitors have become major competitors in the show ring. These results have given plenty of reason for our members to Kick it up!

Local youth wins calf scramble at Fort Worth Stock Show Rodeo

FORT WORTH, TEXAS -- Jacob Rodell of Buffalo, Texas, a Buffalo FFA member, was among the winners in the Calf Scramble event during the February 4, 2009 evening performance of the Rodeo at the 113th edition of the legendary Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. Parents of the winner are John and Ruth Rodell. Sponsors for Jacob's effort are Jamie and Karen Morgan of Bedford, Texas.

The Calf Scramble, which allows 16 students to compete at each of the 30 Stock Show Rodeo performances, has eight performance winners. The young people are high school students out to catch and halter a calf with hopes of winning a \$500 purchase certificate that will help buy a registered beef or dairy heifer for a yearlong 4-H or FFA project.

Winners must care for

Private Applicator Training in Leon County

The Texas Agrilife Extension Service in Leon County will host a Private Applicator Training on March 6, 2009. Participants must pre-register in the Texas Agrilife Extension office on or before March 5, 2009. The training will begin with sign in from 8:00am to 8:30am in the Leon County Annex Great Room. Following the training Mr. Brad Tullis with The Texas Department of Agriculture will administer the test. Their will be a \$35.00 fee due upon registration of this training. Training will be from 8:30am to 12:00noon and the test will be given at 1:00pm. For more information please contact the Texas Agrilife Extension Service at 903.536.2531 or at leon-tx@tamu.edu We will seek to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for this meeting. We request that you contact Texas Agrilife Extension three days before the event to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that will be required. Extension programs serve of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

their animals throughout the year and return for the 2010 Stock Show to exhibit it in the Junior Heifer Show. Those who do the best job will be in line for scholarship funds when they enter college. Last year, scholarship grants were made to 61 young people.

All entries receive a special T-shirt with their contestant number. Participants who fail to catch a calf receive a certificate for a pair of Justin boots. Mrs Baird's Bakeries and Justin Boots have proudly sponsored this event for many years.

The nation's oldest livestock show is currently underway now through Febru-

ary 8 at the world-class Will Rogers Memorial Center. The Stock Show features 24 days of family fun and entertainment, and will host over 22,000 livestock entries throughout the run. In addition to the prestigious livestock competitions, the Stock Show offers many interactive educational exhibits, great shopping in the commercial exhibits area as well as an exciting carnival and midway and 30 thrilling performances of the World's Original Indoor Rodeo. For rodeo ticket information on any performance or Stock Show event, call 817.877.2420 or visit www.fwssr.com.



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