



CADDO COUNTY EXTENSION

December 2020

AGRICULTURAL NEWSLETTER

<https://extension.okstate.edu/county/caddo/caddo.html>

405-247-3376

Ranchers webinars to close year, begin 2021

By Brian Brus, Agricultural Communications Services / 405-744-6792

The Ranchers Thursday Lunchtime series of teleconferences for the cattle industry will continue through the year-end holidays, Oklahoma State University Extension officials said.

The free events continue at 12:30 p.m. Dec. 3 through the Zoom online portal. Burke Teichert, retired vice president and general manager of Deseret Ranches, is scheduled to discuss heifer selection for improved lifetime productivity. Questions and feedback are encouraged.

Other topics in following weeks will include cowherd reproductive tract scoring, tools for fertility genetics, sire selection to minimize dystocia, artificial insemination (AI) and synchronization technology, and managing first-calf heifers through their second breeding season.

[Registration for the Zoom webinars](#) is required between events, hosted by the OSU Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. For more information, contact [Dave Lalman](#), Extension beef cattle specialist, 405-744-6060.

The series will continue Dec. 10 and 17, then again – skipping the holidays – on Jan. 7, 14 and 21. All events are expected to begin at 12:30 p.m. and end at 1:30 p.m.

Other guest speakers will include Dr. Richard Prather of Ellis County Animal Hospital, Jared Decker of the University of Missouri, Mark Johnson of OSU, Jordan Thomas of the University of Missouri and Dr. Adam Bassett of the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine.

Upcoming Agricultural Events

Dec. 1	Winter Crop School—Virtual Class III / Advanced Wheat Management / 8:30 am to 10:30 am / Register at: https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/education-ceus/online-courses/OSU-winter-crops
Dec. 1	Caddo County Fair Board Meeting / Caddo County Fairgrounds, Baldwin Building / Ana-darko, OK / 7:00 pm
Dec. 3	Ranchers Webinar (Virtual) Series to Begin / 12:30 pm / Register at: https://dasnr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_19yRd78_Q5OwQiqw9tO3Q
Dec. 8	Winter Crop School—Virtual Class IV / Advanced Nutrient Management / 8:30 am to 10:30 am / Register at: https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/education-ceus/online-courses/OSU-winter-crops
Dec. 12	4-H West District Virtual Cupcake Wars / must register by Dec 4 to participate / contact the OSU Ext Office for information—405-247-3376
Dec. 15	Winter Crop School—Virtual Class V / Advanced Agronomy / 8:30 am to 10:30 am / Register at: https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/education-ceus/online-courses/OSU-winter-crops

Farm Management Resources Found on Your Smartphone

Dr. Rodney Jones, Ag Finance and Management Professor
Brent Ladd, Assistant Extension Specialist

Producers can access digital farm financial management, production, marketing, and risk management topics online by visiting the e-Farm Management website. This site catalogs videos, decision tools, and publications for farmers and ranchers to strengthen their farm management skills.

In the Tillage Series – Types of Tillage video, viewers learn about the two main types of tillage. The video discusses the main purposes of primary and secondary tillage. Lastly, they see examples of the various types of tillage.

To view this video and find additional information on grain production, visit: <http://agecon.okstate.edu/efarmmanagement/grain.asp>.

More information on this and other farm management topics may be found: 1) by contacting your nearest Extension Educator (<https://extension.okstate.edu/county/index.html>) 2) on the e-farm management website (<http://agecon.okstate.edu/efarmmanagement/index.asp>) or 3) on the OSU Agricultural Economics YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/OkStateAgEcon>).



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Avoiding Deer Vehicle Collisions

Dwayne Elmore, Ph.D., Extension Wildlife Specialist

During October-December, male deer (bucks) are actively searching for females (does) that are in estrus. This breeding season (called the rut) typically peaks in mid-November. The bucks often move with reckless abandon and chase does across roadways. While this can happen anytime during the day, it is especially likely from sunset through the early hours after sunrise. Deer vehicle collisions are common during this rut period.

A deer vehicle collision typically results in the death of the deer and damage to the vehicle. Unfortunately, it can also cause injury to the motorist. There are several things that motorists can do to reduce the likelihood of collision. First, minimize driving during the period from sunset to sunrise when deer are more active and when visibility is reduced. Also, slow down, especially during those lowlight periods. Be particularly vigilant in places where deer are likely to be such as where the road crosses a stream or where dense vegetation is near the road. At night, watch for eye shine along the road to alert you to deer presence. If you see deer on the side of the road, slow down and anticipate them crossing. If deer do enter the roadway, apply brakes steadily and try to reduce your speed in a controlled deceleration before impact. Do not swerve your vehicle as you are likely to lose control or hit another vehicle. If you hit a deer, pull over when it is safe to do so. When pulling over, get as far off the road as possible and put your hazard lights on. Ensure that your vehicle is safe to continue driving. If you see that the deer carcass is on the road, call law enforcement so that someone can come remove the obstacle so that other drivers do not hit it. Do not try to remove the carcass yourself unless it is safe to do so as you are likely to be hit by oncoming traffic (especially at night). If the deer is wounded, call law enforcement or the local wildlife officer who can euthanize the deer.

(<https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/law/game-warden-directory>).

Caring for Ice-Damaged Trees

Trying to decide whether to remove an ice-damaged tree can be a difficult decision and it is difficult to tell how well a tree will recover. OSU has a couple of Fact Sheets that might help; EPP-7323 Managing Storm Damaged Trees and Pruning Trees HLA-6409. Some things to think about.

1. Has the damage rendered the tree hazardous?
Could nearby property be damaged by more falling branches?
2. How difficult will it be to replace the tree?
3. Even if the tree can be salvaged will it ever look right again? Will it look symmetrical?
4. How much bark damage does the tree have?
Water and nutrients move directly under the bark and too much bark damage to the trunk of the tree may kill the tree over time.

Avoid topping or dehorning trees. Pruning back trees too severely ruins the structural integrity of the tree and many of these trees do not survive. Plus, it just makes the trees look unattractive.

Many trees are too large for property owners to remove or prune. In these cases a professional arborist, certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) should be consulted .



White-tailed deer dramatically increase movements as the rut approaches. The rut also increases distractions for deer. This increased movement and decreased vigilance means that motorists need to be aware of deer crossing

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