



CADDO COUNTY EXTENSION

February 2021

AGRICULTURAL NEWSLETTER

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

405-247-3376

Beef Quality Assurance: What is it, and why should I care?

By Marty New OSU Area Livestock Specialist

The Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program is a producer-driven certification program in which cattle producers work toward a common goal to assure consumers that cattle from each segment of the industry (cow/calf, stocker, feedlot) are healthy, wholesome, quality products. The cattle are managed in a way that is appropriate to each individual operation, so that beef quality and safety are considered in all production practices. Many view BQA as a "consumer confidence" program, in which consumers can feel assured that the beef they purchase has been produced using the best production practice standards in the cattle industry. The cow/calf or stocker segments of the industry may often seem distant from the retail meat counter, but in reality, many early management decisions and tasks may have an effect on the quality of that beef product. When a beef producer becomes BQA certified it helps send a message to consumers that they are willing to do what is necessary in their management of cattle to assure they are producing a quality product.

The BQA program is voluntary. There is no requirement for cow/calf or stocker operations to be BQA certified unless they sell calves into a premium or branded program that may have BQA certification as a requirement. Most packers require fed cattle they purchase to be sourced from BQA certified operations, so nearly all feedlots are BQA certified. While certification is not a requirement for cow/calf and stocker producers, it may however, have some economic value to cattle buyers to know that the calves have been produced following BQA management principles.

The BQA program focuses on the following management areas: Care and management practices, Feedstuffs, Feed Additives and medications, Processing, treatment and record-keeping, and Injectable animal health products

How can I get BQA Certified or Re-certified?

There are two methods a producer can use to become BQA certified. One is accessible at <https://www.bqa.org/> where one can complete the certification entirely on-line. The on-line certification process consists of viewing several modules, followed by short quizzes. In-person certification is also an option. The in-person certification consists of a presentation and review of the BQA program followed by a short quiz. Due to COVID-19, the most available option currently is the on-line method. If you are interested in an in-person certification program, contact the OSU Extension office, to be notified when an in-person certification option is available in the area.

BQA certification is valid for three years from the date of completion. To maintain their status, producers must re-certify. The re-certification process is essentially the same as the initial certification. It can be accomplished through the on-line process or an in-person program.

Upcoming Agricultural Events

Feb. 2	Caddo County Fair Board Meeting / Caddo County Fairgrounds, Baldwin Building / Anadarko, OK / 7:00 pm
Feb. 8	Caddo County Cattlemen's Meeting / Hybrid ZOOM Meeting / 6:00 pm / Call for information 405-247-3376 or email david.nowlin@okstate.edu
Feb. 9 - Feb. 13	Southwest Oklahoma District Livestock Show / Grady County Fairgrounds / Chickasha, OK / info on FaceBook
Feb. 12	Oklahoma Pecan Update / Webinar / Registration on page 2 of this newsletter / 1:00 pm
Feb 18	TSET Caddo County Community Conversation / Zoom / 10 am / Register by contacting Julie Funkhouser julie@gpyfs.org
Feb. 22	Caddo County Junior Livestock Show / Caddo County Fairgrounds / Anadarko, OK / 9:00 am / Show Order Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Swine
Mar. 2	Caddo County Fair Board Meeting / Caddo County Fairgrounds, Baldwin Building / Anadarko, OK / 7:00 pm
Mar. 10- Mar. 20	Oklahoma Youth EXPO / Oklahoma Fairgrounds / Oklahoma City, OK



CADDO COUNTY EXTENSION

Caddo County Cooperative Extension Service
Oklahoma State University
1202 E. Central Blvd
Anadarko OK 73005



You are invited to a Zoom meeting – Pecan Topics for February

Topics include:

Scouting & treatment for scale insects;
Planting bareroot trees;
Update on ice storm damage cleanup;
Explanation of new USDA Pecan Research & Promotion Program;

When: Feb 12, 2021 01:00 PM Central Time

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://dasnr.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/tJwce-hrsuHNXHdXnf0LwVPb2EmJwpngCB>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting

Online Farm Management Resources for Oklahoma Producers

By Brent Ladd Ag Economics Ext. Assistant

The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service created farm management resources for a variety of financial, production, marketing, and risk management topics. These resources can help producers hone their farm financial management skills. Resources include a series of short videos, publications, software tools and webinars on agricultural financial management topics and selected production topics.

Another example of these resources is the Enterprise Budgets: Key Budget References for Producers video. This video shows producers where to find enterprise budgets on the OSU website. This video also shows sources for enterprise budgets for crops that are not available from OSU. To find this video and additional resources on enterprise budgets visit: <http://agecon.okstate.edu/efarmmanagement/budgets.asp>.

More information on this and other farm management resources may be accessed three ways: 1) contact your nearest Extension Educator 2) visit the e-farm management website (<http://agecon.okstate.edu/efarmmanagement/index.asp>) or 3) visit the OSU AgEcon YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/OkStateAgEcon>).

David L. Nowlin Ext. Educator: Agriculture david.nowlin@okstate.edu

Oklahoma State University, as an equal opportunity employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. Oklahoma State University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all individuals and does not discriminate based on race, religion, age, sex, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, expression, disability, or veteran status with regard to employment, educational programs and activities, and/or admissions. For more information, visit <https://eeo.okstate.edu>. This publication, issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President of the Division of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, was printed at no cost to the taxpayers of Oklahoma. This publication is printed and issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President of the Division of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources and has been prepared and distributed at a cost of \$32.60 for 250 copies.