

HREC Advisory Board Meeting Report
July 9, 2019
Janna Block, NDSU Extension Livestock Systems Specialist

Activities/Events

- Presentation about herd management during drought at Drought Planning Workshop (joint program between NDSU Extension and the National Drought Mitigation Center [NDMC]) – Feb. 21, Minot, ND
- Presentation about post-calving nutrition at Dunn County Beef Day – March 7, Killdeer, ND
- Planned, organized, facilitated, and presented “Cold Weather Cattle Management” webinar in conjunction with other NDSU Extension Specialists – March 12, recording available online at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/livestockextension/cattle-management-in-cold-weather>
- Served on SBARE interview/selection committee – March 25
- Trained new agents to conduct Nitrate QuikTest – April 23
- Presentation about pre-breeding nutrition at Badlands Genetics AI School – April 25, Dickinson
- Planned and facilitated multi-state “Minerals for Livestock Producers” Meetings – May 14-15, Bismarck, ND, and June 3, Hot Springs, SD. This year we added a separate one-day training specifically for Extension Agents that focused on how to work with producers to address mineral issues.
- Served on planning committee and gave presentation about fetal programming at multi-state “Cattle Reproduction Management Workshop” – May 23, Oronoco, MN
- Cow/calf fetal programming manuscript submitted to ANIMAL journal – June 5
- Presentation about basic livestock nutrition at 4-H/FFA Livestock Showmanship and Nutrition Workshops – May 30, Minot, ND and June 18, Hettinger, ND
- Radio interview with American Ag. Network on mineral nutrition for grazing cattle – June 27

Updates

- 2018-2019 fetal programming research trial – All calves were fed to finish at SDSU and harvested at Tyson in Lexington, NE. Individual carcass traits were evaluated, and meat quality analysis is ongoing.
- Beef Industry Tour - Tour being planned for Extension Agents this fall in SD and NE. Stops will include several feedlots, the UNL Gudmundson Sandhills Lab, a packing plant, and a major meat retailer. The goal is to facilitate creative programming ideas between Agriculture and Family Consumer Wellness Extension Agents around topics of beef production and consumer issues.
- Beef Cattle Nutrition & Feeding Management program – I am working closely with Specialists and Agriculture Agents to develop focused, hands-on nutrition programs to be conducted in various counties this fall/winter. Agents will be trained on various topics and then work with small groups of producers to facilitate forage/feed analysis, feed inventory, body condition scoring, ration balancing, etc.