

Jan/Feb 2008

Mark Nelson

# Ag Advice



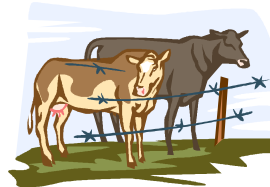
**H**i Everyone, first I would like to introduce myself. My name is Mark Nelson; I am the USU Extension Agent in Beaver County. I have been asked to cover the Fillmore side of Millard County until a new Agricultural Agent can be hired in Millard County. Jeff Banks, the agent in Juab County will cover the Delta side of the county. If either of us can help you in any way please contact the Millard County Extension Office and they can put you in contact with us.

## HIGH FEED COST



As I am sure all of you are aware the cost to feed your livestock or dairy animals is way up this winter. Because of this it is important to look at alternatives in your feeding programs. First you need to look at your total operation and see if there are some older or less productive animals that you should cull. If you haven't preg checked your animals you should ASAP. Especially this year you can't afford to carry an animal through the winter who is not pregnant. Look for some lower quality roughages that you might feed. Straw and corn stalks are not abundant in Southern Utah but are an alternative. Additional protein and energy are required to balance these diets but alfalfa hay could be used to accomplish that at a relatively low price. Another important thing to do is to figure out how much it is costing you to feed your animals. This may be a year to sell your young animals at a lower weight. It is important to make sure that you are feeding your animals a balanced diet. If you would like help balancing rations please contact us and we would be glad to work with you.

## UTAH BEEF CATTLE FIELD DAY



The date for the Annual Beef Field day has been moved up this year to *Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008*. This is a great opportunity to learn the latest on what is going on in the beef industry. The theme for the field day is "*Managing the Outlook*". The keynote address will focus on the 2008 cattle outlook and will be given by Brett Stuart of CattleFax. It will be held at the BYU Harmon Conference, 900 E. University Parkway, Provo, UT.

## FARM BUREAU AND USU EXTENSION RANGE CONFERENCE SET FOR JANUARY 30-31

Public land permittees and others are invited to attend this conference held at the St. George *Holiday Inn Resort Hotel*. The biennial conference is sponsored by the Utah Farm Bureau and USU Extension. Conference topics include: best land management practices, wildfire restoration efforts, water politics and grazing practices. Conference attendees will be privileged to hear from Kathleen Clarke (invited), as she addresses the collaborative responses to Utah's rangeland fires of 2007. Commissioner Leonard Blackham, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, will also speak to Utah's Grazing Improvement Program (GIP). Additionally, speakers will address issues such as livestock theft, forest health challenges, GPS on farm and ranch land, Safe harbor agreements, and the ongoing issue of cheat grass and range fires. Contact Peggy Estrada at 801-233-3011 by January 18, 2008 to register and reserve your hotel needs.