

Views from VanDeWalle

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Cow-Calf College on January 28th

Cow-Calf College is gearing up to be hosted January 28th at the Clay County Fairgrounds from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm in the Activities Building. Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. This year's program will be offered in a hybrid format through zoom & attendance in person. The focus of the 2021 Cow-Calf College is improving reproductive performance through the use of nutrition, estrus synchronization, and alternative breeding and forage systems. Speakers will include specialists from the University of Nebraska as well as the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center with disciplines in nutrition, reproduction, physiology, and cow-calf systems.

Allflex, a sponsor of the program will provide an update from Clayton Mead with "Beef Monitoring: Increase Estrus Detection. Ward Laboratories, another sponsor will have Carrie Putnam available with "Practical Use of Forage and Feed Analysis" updates. Other sponsors include Trans Ova and Boehringer Ingelheim and the Farmers & Ranchers College.

Dr. Travis Mullinkiks, Range Cow Production System Specialist from UNL will discuss "Nutritional Management for Successful Calving and Breeding Seasons, Managing Postpartum Interval and Accurately Evaluating BCS". Dr. Kacie McCarthy, UNL Beef Cow-Calf Specialist will explain "Economics Behind Estrus Synchronization; Executing Successful Estrus Synchronization Protocols." Dr. Mary Drewnoski, a popular Cow/Calf College presenter and UNL Beef Systems Specialist will present on "Getting the Most Out of Early Spring Forage; Selection and Management of Winter Hardy Small Cereals for Silage." Dr. Bob Cushman, a research physiologist with USDA, ARS will present "Dry-Lot Breeding Systems."

A boxed lunch will be provided under guidelines provided by the South Heartland District Health Department. The program will conclude with a coffee shop panel where participants can ask questions directly to specialists as well as the opportunity to win a variety of door prizes. Masks are highly encouraged and available at the door and 6-foot physical distancing will be required.

Pre-registration a week in advance is highly encouraged to allow for proper social distancing planning. Pre-registration can be made by calling the Fillmore County Extension Office at 402-759-3712 or Webster County Extension Office at 402-746-3417 or online at go.unl.edu/cowcalfcollege. To participate via zoom, register at go.unl.edu/onlinecowcalfcollege.