With summer months drawing to an end and fall just around the corner, this week we want to remind you of some things that you should keep in mind for the next few months. For more on each point mentioned, please refer to the link that accompanies it. These links will refer you to a more detailed article on each topic. We have divided these points into two groups- cow management, and grazing herd/forage management.   
  
Cow management tips and other things to be aware of:   
 **\*** Check the body condition score of the cows. If they are in BCS 4.5 or lower, consider weaning   
 their calves now. If cows are in BCS 5 or higher, plan to wean October 1.   
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/BCS%2007.24.12.pdf>  
 **\*** If you plan to market your calves through special sales (i.e. NETBIO program), plan for   
 appropriate vaccination and weaning of those calves.  
 **\*** Analyze the stocking rate of your operation. How many heifers are you planning to keep? Are   
 you over or understocked?  
 **\*** Cull nonproductive cows from your herd. Experts predict that the killer cow may have its highest   
 value within the next six months.  
 - [http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-   
4669/documents/Management%20of%20Unproductive%20Cows%2006.12.13.pdf](http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%20%204669/documents/Management%20of%20Unproductive%20Cows%2006.12.13.pdf)   
 **\*** All newly acquired high-risk calves should be properly cared for upon arrival.  
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/High%20Risk%20Calves-%2008.13.15.pdf>   
Forage/grazing herd management:   
  **\*** Keep an eye out for fall armyworms in your pastures and take the necessary steps to eliminate   
 them.  
 **\*** Be aware of acorn toxicity and know the health problems it can cause.   
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/Acorn%20Toxicity%2010.23.12.pdf>  
 **\*** Be aware of the health risks of dallisgrass poisoning.  
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/Dallisgrass%20Poisoning%2008.16.13.pdf>  
 **\*** Analyze the long range weather forecast and prepare for it.  
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/Long%20Range%20Weather%2002.07.14.pdf>  
 **\*** It is important to test the soil fertility in any pasture that will be planted with a winter crop.   
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/Soil%20Samples%20030714.pdf>  
 **\*** Have your hay tested to determine the protein quality and develop a plan for winter protein   
 supplementation.  
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/Hay%20Testing%2008.03.12.pdf>  
 **\*** Begin planning for winter forage feeding.  
 - <http://hcvethospital.com/sites/site-4669/documents/Replacement%20Females-%20Winter%20Feeding%2009.05.14.pdf>

If you have any questions about these topics, please contact us. Prices for feeder steers medium and large 1 sold through the Oklahoma National Stockyards on Monday, August 24, 2015 are as follows: 478lb- $250.58, 573lb- $229.26, 687lb- $215.87, 775lb- $206.97. The price for October 2015 750lb feeder steers on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange was $196.45 on closing Wednesday, August 26, 2015.  
Thanks,   
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