Meetings to Address Drought Issues faced by Cattle Producers

(KTNC) - Cattle producers are facing serious challenges as the drought intensifies across the region. The University of Missouri Extension has scheduled a series of meetings in northwest Missouri to provide information to help cattle producers weather the drought.

Most producers are faced with pastures that are short or gone entirely, and many are already feeding hay or are looking for other ways to feed their animals. Amie Schleicher with the Atchison County Missouri Extension office says there are concerns with producers who are considering using their drought-stricken corn as a forage alternative. (play audio :32 "years past.")

That's one of the issues Schleicher says will be addressed during the meetings, along with others. (play audio :29 "trying to make.")

Schleicher says the meeting will also address long-term issues as cattle producers will continue to deal with the implications of the drought even should conditions improve. (play audio :37 "cattle herds.")

Three meetings are scheduled, with all beginning at 7:00 p.m. The first will be held Monday, August 6th at the Velma Houts Fair Building in Rock Port. The other meetings are scheduled Wednesday, August 8th at the Davies County Library in Gallatin and Monday, August 13th at the DeKalb County Courthouse meeting room in Maysville. There will be a \$10 charge to cover materials and other expenses.

Schleicher says good information is critical for producers to make good decisions. (play audio 'financially.'')

For more information about the Rock Port meeting, or to register, call Schleicher at 660-744-6231 or e-mail schleicher-a-at-missouri-dot-E-D-U. (schleichera@missouri.edu)

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