

Investing in Pasture Productivity

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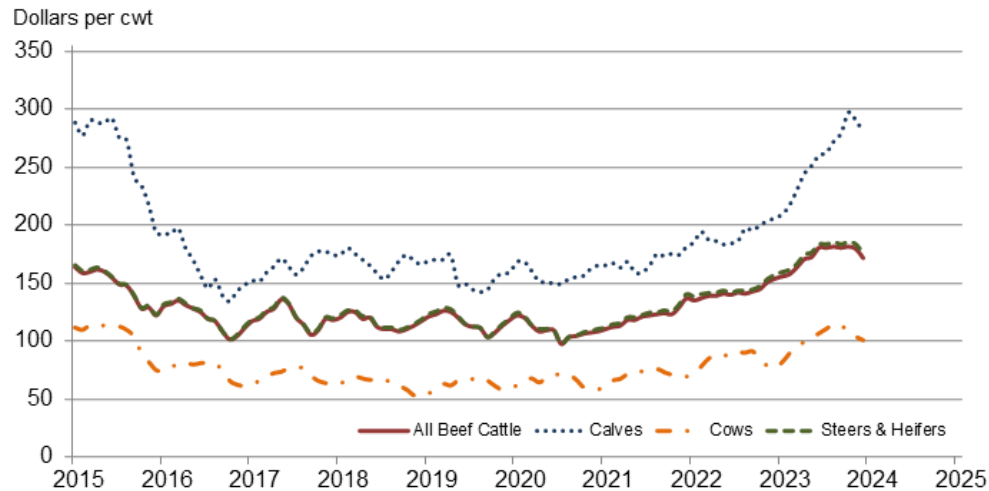


Where We've Been – Where We're Going

Calf prices are up.
Input prices are down.

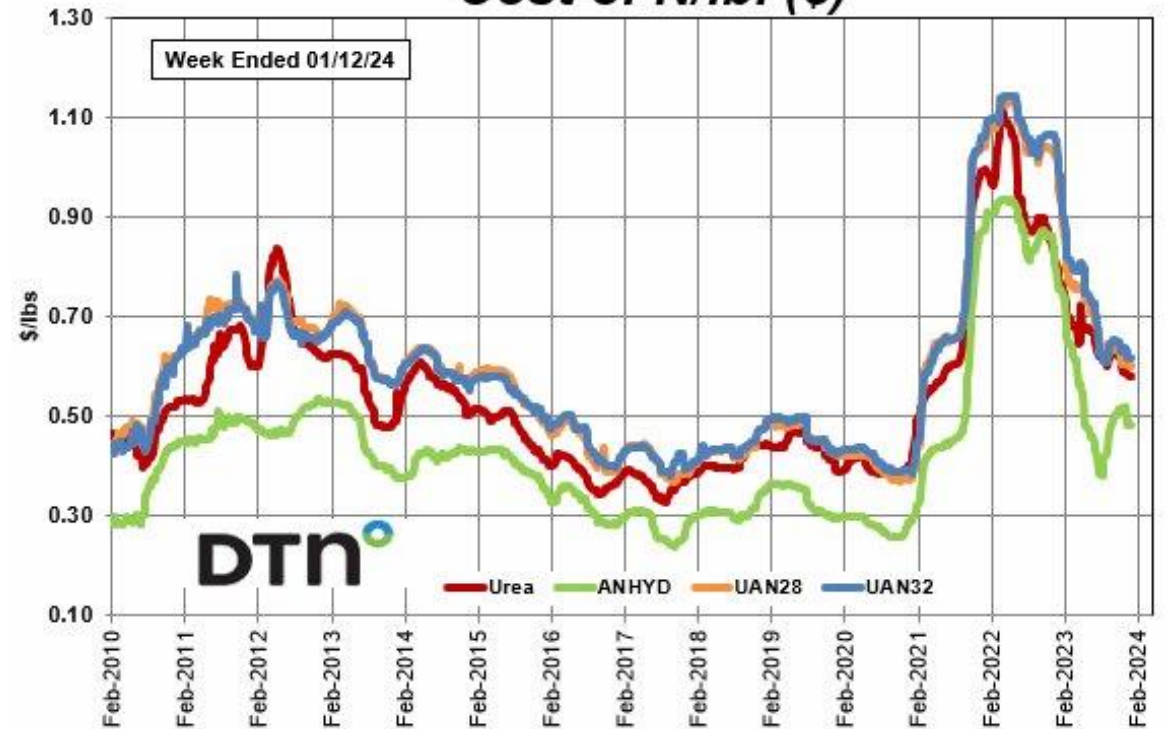
Now is the time to invest in the long-term sustainability of your operation.

Prices Received for Cattle by Month – United States



USDA – NASS
1/31/2024

Cost of N/lb. (\$)

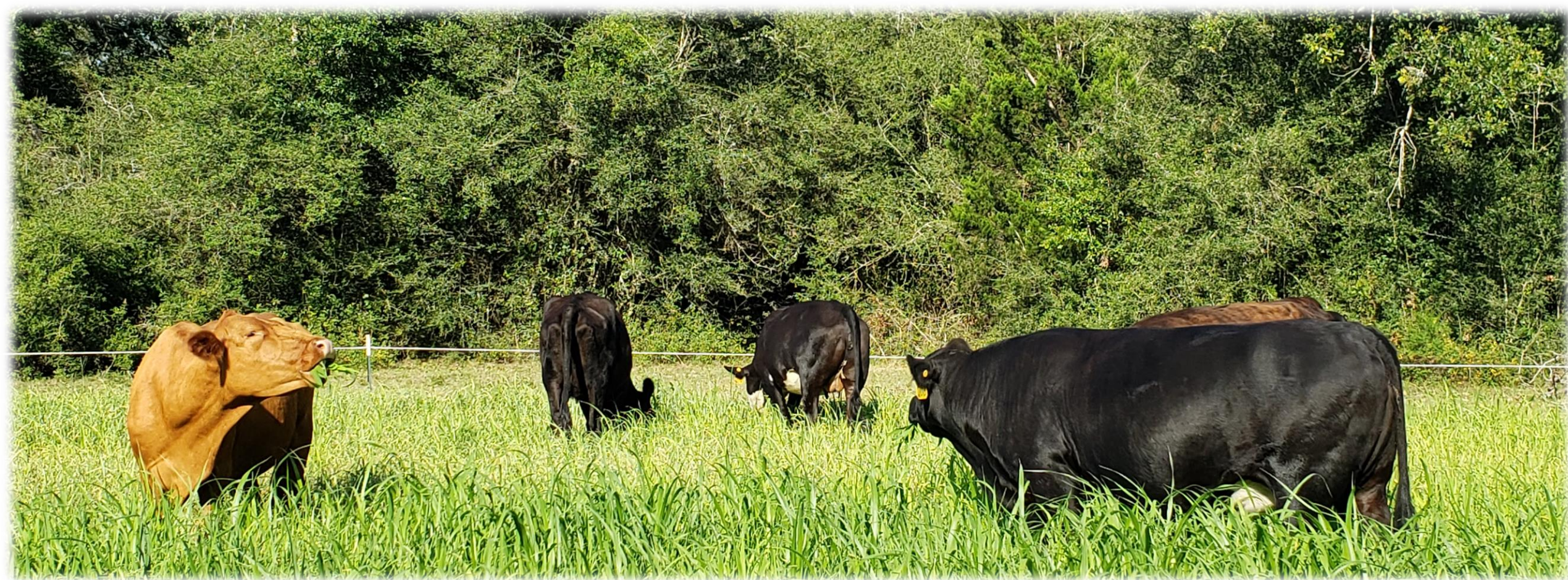


- Our perennial pastures grasses are **tough** – they can really take a beating...

...but you can't mistreat them indefinitely without consequences.

You Can't Afford to Ignore the Foundation of Your Operation





Getting Our Pastures Back in Shape – Areas of Investment

- Soil Fertility
- Grazing Management
- Weed Management

Soil Fertility

- Get a soil test(s).
- Fix your pH.
- N-P-K
 - Nitrogen \$0.70/lbs. down from \$1.10/lbs.
 - Phosphorus \$0.65/lbs. down from \$0.80/lbs.
 - **Potassium** \$0.50/lbs. down from \$0.75/lbs.
- Hay fields are not the same as grazed pastures.

Legume Integration

Grazing Management

- Invest in infrastructure necessary to facilitate rotational grazing.
 - Fence
 - Water
 - Shade
- There's nothing better for a pasture than a rest.
- It gets easier with time and practice.
- Cost share opportunities.

Stocking Rate

Weed Management

- Only makes sense if done in concert with proper grazing & fertility management.
- Pay particular attention to weedy grasses.
 - Cogon, Smut, Broomsedge, Centipede, etc.
- Do it “right” or don’t waste your time/money.
 - Correctly ID weeds
 - Get (and follow) a well-informed herbicide rec.
 - product, rate, adjuvants, timing, delivery
 - Mowing is seldom the best answer.

Pasture Renovation

Make the investment,
take care of your
pastures now, while
times are good, so they
will be able to take care
of you when times get
tight.



Questions???

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