

# 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE

## RIDING THE HIGH TIDE

Decision Making in a Record Cattle Market

May 7-9, 2025 | Gainesville, FL

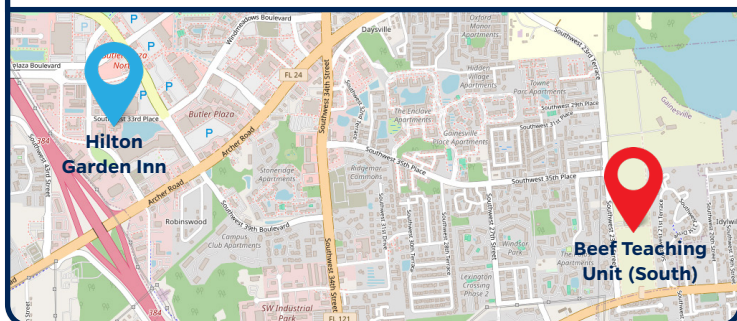
### Accommodations

Short Course attendees can take advantage of a special group rate at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Make your reservation by **April 22** to secure the discounted rate.

Use the link below to book online, or call (352) 338-1466 to book over the phone.

Group code: **BCS**  
<https://tinyurl.com/hilton-bcs>



A slate of nationally renowned speakers is scheduled to provide information on genetics, animal health, marketing, management, and bull selection at this year's Beef Cattle Short Course. Additionally, Friday morning highlights the careers of two of the Gulf Coast's most successful forage researchers. Drs. Sollenberger and Rouquette have 94 years of combined experience in grazing research. This will certainly be a short course you won't want to miss.

### REGISTER ONLINE:

### Questions?

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## AGENDA

### Wednesday, May 7

Location: Straughn Professional Development Center

- 12:00 Registration
- 1:00 Welcome & Opening Remarks
  - ▶ John Arthington, Professor & Chair, UF/IFAS Animal Sciences
- 1:15 President's Message & FCA Update
  - ▶ Dale Carlton, FCA President
- 1:30 Market Outlook
  - ▶ Randy Blach, CEO, CattleFax
- 2:30 Understanding the Carbon Cycle in Grazing Lands
  - ▶ Betsey Boughton, Director of Agroecology & Senior Research Biologist, Archbold Biological Station/ Buck Island Ranch
- 3:45 **Vigortone Refreshment Break**
- 4:00 What Does a Heifer Really Cost in this Market?
  - ▶ Curt Lacy, Professor & Head of the Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center, Mississippi State University
- 4:45 Seasoned Producer Panel: Lessons I Have Learned About "The Good Times"
  - ▶ Moderator Todd Thrift, Associate Professor, UF/IFAS Animal Sciences

Location: UF/IFAS Beef Teaching Unit South

- 5:30 **BBQ Dinner** & Tradeshow, Bull & Heifer Sale Preview

### Thursday, May 8

Location: Straughn Professional Development Center

- 8:00 Selection for What Matters Most: Don't Forget the Basics
  - ▶ Jason Cleere, Professor & Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, Texas A&M University
- 8:45 Development of a Maternal Behavior Scoring System: Impacts on Beef Cattle Productivity
  - ▶ Kelsey Harvey, Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University
- 9:30 **Refreshment Break**
- 9:45 How Long Does It Take for Genetics to Impact Carcass Characteristics?
  - ▶ Bailey Engle, Research Geneticist, US Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebraska
- 10:30 Bull Buying Using Selection Indexes — Are the Assumptions Correct?
  - ▶ Bob Weaber, Professor & Extension Beef Specialist, Kansas State University
- 11:15 Bull Management for Optimal Fertility
  - ▶ Bruce Carpenter, Professor & Extension Livestock Specialist, Texas A&M University

Location: UF/IFAS Beef Teaching Unit South

- 12:30 **Farm Credit Lunch**
- 1:30 Cow Culling Decisions, Calf Quality and Price, Early Weaning, Heifer Selection
- 4:00 Ask the Expert

Location: UF/IFAS Horse Teaching Unit

- 5:00 Cocktail Hour & Tradeshow
- 6:00 **Prime Rib Dinner**

### Friday, May 9

Location: Straughn Professional Development Center

- 8:30 Forty Years of Forage Research at the University of Florida
  - ▶ Lynn Sollenberger, Distinguished Professor & Distinguished Teaching Scholar, University of Florida
- 9:15 Fifty-Four Years of Forage Research at Texas A&M University
  - ▶ Monte Rouquette, Regents Fellow & Professor of Forage Physiology, Texas A&M University, Overton Center
- 10:00 **Refreshment Break**
- 10:15 Anaplasmosis Control in the Gulf Coast
  - ▶ Isaac Jumper, Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine
- 10:45 Major Gene Affecting Early Fertility in Brahman Cattle
  - ▶ Bailey Engle, Research Geneticist, US Meat Animal Research Center, Clay Center, Nebraska
- 11:30 Ranching in Argentina
  - ▶ Nicolas DiLorenzo, Professor, University of Florida, North Florida Research and Education Center
- 12:00 Adjourn

### UF Bull and Heifer Sale

The UF Bull and Heifer Sale is conducted annually by the UF Animal Sciences Seedstock class and all proceeds support the Beef Teaching Unit and UF Brahman Project. Follow the link below for more information:

<https://go.ufl.edu/bull-and-heifer-sale>

