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FROM UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS SERVICE
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Drought Survival Program in Taney County Sept. 18

FORSYTH, Mo. -- The drought this summer has created havoc for livestock producers who are preparing to feed cattle this winter with little forage and hay on hand according to Tim Schnakenberg, an agronomy specialist with University of Missouri Extension.

The Taney County Extension Center and Branson Bank are partnering to offer a program starting at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at Rick Turner's farm near Taneyville, Mo. for farmers who want to gain tips for surviving the drought.

The program will focus on how to deal with high nitrate levels in feeds, precautions for nitrates and prussic acid, how to stretch hay supplies, renovation of pastures, fall forage alternatives, supplementing pasture and hay and ammoniation of low quality hay.

A focus on the tour will be the ammoniation technique used on wheat straw to improve palatability and the use of cereal rye in warm-season grass pastures for winter grazing.

"The drought has taken a major toll on beef and dairy farms in the area," said Schnakenberg. "High nitrates and short hay supplies will continue to plague these farms as we go into winter. Farmers need to know the precautions to take and take extra steps to stretch their feed supplies."

Tim Schnakenberg and Eldon Cole, a livestock specialist with University of Missouri Extension, will be on hand for the discussion. The Rick Turner is located on Hwy. 76, east of Forsyth 3.5 miles on the left, or 2 miles west of Taneyville on Hwy. 76 on the right.

The dinner will begin after the tour (at about 6:30 p.m.) and is hosted by Branson Bank. Participants should pre-register by calling Halley Fleming at Branson Bank (417) 334-9696 or email hffleming@bransonbank.com by Wednesday, Sept. 14. Contact the Taney County Extension Center at (417) 546-4431 for more information regarding content of the program.

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