

Beef Producer Referendum Slated

BY W.C. BLEDSOE
County Extension Chairman

The Secretary of Agriculture approved a beef research and information order subject to beef producers' approval in a referendum. Before the order can take effect, 50 percent of producers registered and two-thirds of producers voting must approve it. Registration dates are June 6-17; voting dates are July 5-15, 1977.

REGISTRATION
To be eligible to vote, Yancey beef producers must register with our Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office between June 6 and 17. They can either register at the office in person or request

ASCS to mail them a registration card. No return postage will be provided to mail the completed card. Producers who do not register cannot vote.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any person, such as a rancher, feedlot operator, or dairy farmer, who was a beef producer during calendar 1976 can register and vote. Each production entity--such as a family, partnership, or corporation--is entitled to vote. A 4-H or FFA member may register and vote provided he or she is an eligible producer separate from his or her family operation.

VOTERS POSTED

From June 6 through June 17, ASCS will post daily a list of producers registered to

vote in a conspicuous place at our county ASCS office. A final list will be posted June 22. Any person may challenge the eligibility of any regis-

tered voter. County executive directors will resolve challenges, with appeals determined by the county ASC committee.

THE VOTE

Producers can vote in person or by mail. Mail ballots must be requested from the ASCS office. No

ballots will be mailed out before the voting period. No return postage will be provided for ballots. Voters must sign ballots; however, only county office personnel counting the vote will see ballots.

RESULTS

If 50 percent of registered producers vote, and two-thirds of those voting approve, the beef research and information order will become effective. If the order becomes effective 3/10 of 1% of the sales value on beef cattle sold for slaughter will be collected and sent to the National Livestock and Meat Board to be used for beef

research, consumer education, promotion and market development.

The Agricultural Extension Service neither endorses nor condemns the objectives

of the program. The Extension service does urge all eligible producers to register properly and vote their sentiments in the referendum.



Beef Cattle Meeting Set

Beef Cattle offer opportunity for additional income for many Yancey farmers. To better inform our producers about grading systems and advantages of cattlemen's associations, a beef cattle meeting is planned for the county June 7 [Tuesday] at 7:30 p.m. at the Courthouse. Mr. Chuck Miller, grader, with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Charles Messer, President of the N.C. Cattlemen's Association, are featured on the program. All interested farmers are urged to attend. Door prizes are being given too. Bring a friend!

SCS Inventories NC Soil Erosion

The Soil Conservation Service in Yancey County and across the entire state is making an inventory to determine the extent of soil erosion in North Carolina, SCS State Conservationist Jesse L. Hicks announced recently.

The inventory will supply basic data from which the SCS will estimate the quantity of sediment produced by erosion. It will also provide data on soil and water conservation needs, prime farmland, potential cropland, water quality and land use. The North Carolina survey is part of a national examination of the erosion problem being carried out by the U.S. Department of Agriculture agency.

Water and wind erosion--the two most common types in North Carolina will be included in this study Jesse Hicks added. During 1978 gully, streambank, roadside and construction site erosion will also be reviewed.

The inventory will cover nonfederal land--both rural and urban--in all 50 states,

plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Work has already begun in North Carolina, the state conservationist said. In Yancey County, Ray Dorsett, District Conservationist, will be personally visiting at least a dozen sample sites. These sites were random picked on a Yancey County road map. On these sites he will be evaluating 20 study factors including kind of soil, slope, climate, crop sequence and conservation measures in use. SCS field employees are visiting some 72,500 sample sites across the nation.

Field work for the first part of the inventory will be completed by November 1, 1977. State-by-state data will be available May 1, 1978. Sediment yield estimates will be completed in mid-1979.

Notice

The Burnsville Veterinary Clinic will be closed June 13-June 26.

Prevention Tips For 'Tick' Fever

[Cont'd from page 1]

treatment for Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

The best prevention is to avoid tick infested areas, such as woods, and heavy brush without wearing protective clothing. High boots, long sleeves, and hats are good protection. Dogs, rabbits, and cats which run at large may collect ticks and bring them into the house. They should be inspected for ticks and any found should be removed in the way described above. Children who play out-of-doors should be checked for ticks twice a day during the

warm months. Pay special attention to the head.

Since ticks like brushy places, weeds should be kept cut near houses. Pesticides, such as Sevin, applied at a rate of two pounds of actual pesticide per acre, may also be used to treat limited areas. A vaccine to prevent the disease is recommended each year for people who work in the woods or brush, such as forest rangers, telephone linemen and lumbermen.

So, after being out in brushy, grassy places, check your body carefully for ticks and avoid Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

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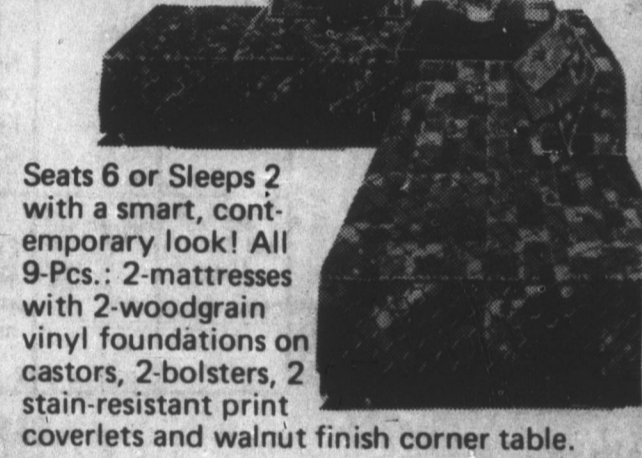
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