Good Morning Gator Nation!!!

This week’s newsletter is running a little early as I will be out tomorrow through late Sunday. Reminder that there is an **FFA Chapter Meeting tonight**. It is also our Christmas Party and last opportunity to drop off toys for the **Toys for Tots Drive**. We will be in the Vintage Gym at 6:00 pm.

Here are our updates for the week:

* **Main Barn Roof Leak**
* **Wash Rack Etiquette**
* **Re-Tagging Major Steers**
* **Lamb & Goat Scale**

**Activity Calendar**

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**FFA Meeting / Specie Clinic / Stock Show Calendar**

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**Weather**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  | **12/07**  61° / 70° | **12/08**  66° / 74° | **12/09**  47° / 75° |
| **12/10**  45° / 57° | **12/11**  51° / 61° | **12/12**  52° / 63° | **12/13**  51° / 61° | **12/14**  52° / 62° | **12/15**  53° / 62° | **12/16**  56° / 66° |

This week has stayed consistently moderate, but as you can see there is a front moving in. We need everyone’s help in keeping the swine barn doors closed. Our heaters are only effective when they are given the ability to stay consistent. One open door can make them play a never-ending game of catch up.

**Main Barn Roof Leak**

Thank you to those of you that brought the roof leak to our attention. Maintenance has been notified and it should be looked at as quickly as possible.

**Barn Etiquette**

Things are cramped in the barn. No one is enjoying the condition that we are having to endure, but we assure you that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. In the interim, we need EVERYONE to be cognizant and courteous to others. Regardless of specie, regardless of circumstance,

if you have your animal out of its pen:

1. Clean up behind it. People are leaving messes that are blatant and irresponsible.
2. Do not tie your animal up in an outside area for excessive time (this causes bottlenecks at wash racks and the blower area, etc.).

Our facilities are just that, they are Ours. We need to share with everyone. Do not take up time in spaces when other people can use them if you are not on task.

No one wants to have to hold a mandatory barn clean-up before the one that we are doing immediately after fair, but if these circumstances continue, we will have to mandate one for everyone to participate in to get everything back in order.

**Re-Tagging Major Steers**

Ms. Stiles (Our Country Extension Agent) will be at the barn on Monday 12/11 at 3:00 pm to re-tag major steers that have ripped out their ear tags. Exhibitors and one parent must be there to fill out the paperwork.

**Lamb & Goat Scale**

We have a new Lamb & Goat scale and it is installed and ready to go. Be vigilant. Unlike our other scales, this one is entirely open. Keep objects other than lambs & goats off of it. Also, remember to power down the weigh box whenever you finish using it.

**Cattle Hoof Trimming**

We had a successful hoof trimming last night. If you and your cattle participated, collectively, you all are responsible to get that area near the squeeze chute cleaned up today. We went late last night, but do your part in cleaning up after this.

Going forward, we will look at the weeks of (29 Jan – 2 Feb) & (5 – 9 Feb) for our next trimming. This will be just after Fort Worth Steers and right before San Antonio.

Thank you for your time and attention. Let one of us know if you need help or have questions. Have a great weekend, and as always,

**GO GATORS!**

A cartoon of a crocodile

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**Very Respectfully,**

**Mitch Robinson**

**Ag Science Teacher / Barn Manager**

**Dickinson High School - Dickinson ISD**

P.O. Drawer Z

Dickinson, TX  77539

281-229-7858

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