

UF/IFAS

# Range Cattle Research & Education Center NEWS

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winter 2016

## Range Cattle REC Welcomes New Animal Scientist



Dr. Philippe Moriel was recently hired to fill the vacant Beef Specialist position at the Center. His program here is set to start on June 1 and in preparation, he has been meeting with faculty and staff. He looks forward to meeting and working with you and beginning his research and extension programs here at Ona.

Philippe received his bachelor degree in Animal Science from Sao Paulo State University, Brazil, in 2008. After which he moved to the United States where he completed his master's degree at the University of Wyoming, in 2010.

In July 2010, Philippe moved to Ona, where he started his PhD program advised by Dr. John

Arthington. At Ona, Philippe worked primarily with nutritional strategies to enhance growth and reproductive performance of early-weaned calves. He obtained his doctorate degree in August 2013 and moved to North Carolina, where he is currently employed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Science at NC State University (NCSU).

His appointment at NCSU is 75% extension and 25% research. There his responsibilities have included the development of extension programs designed to enhance livestock production including practices that improve production efficiency while adding value to cattle and to develop an education focus at the Western NC Regional Livestock Center. Philippe has also developed an innovative applied research program at the Mountain and Upper Mountain Research stations that impact livestock production in the region.



In January, Dr. Raoul Boughton accepted a position on the steering committee for indicator development for the U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (USRSB). In July of 2015, Raoul spoke at the USRSB national meeting in Colorado. It "is a multi-stakeholder initiative developed to advance, support and communicate continuous improvement in sustainability of the U.S. beef value chain. The USRSB achieves this through leadership, innovation, multi-stakeholder engagement, and collaboration and aims for the U.S. beef value chain to be the

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Check us out on



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trusted global leader in environmentally sound, socially responsible and economically viable beef” (<https://www.usrsb.org/>). Raoul’s speech is mentioned in the Sept./Oct issue of Working Ranch magazine in an article that provides an overview of the meeting, “The New Era of Sustainability” <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/cc43c72e#/cc43c72e/121>.

On Feb. 19 Dr. Raoul Boughton served as a panelist with discussion on ‘Florida Cattlemen’s Role as Environmental

Stewards’ which was part of MoTA/ Highlands Art League’s 2nd annual Winter Speaker Series. Discussion centered around topics such as urban encroachment, water quality and quantity, habitat and wildlife management, as well as sustainability in beef production practices.

To learn more about this event, visit the Highlands Art League website: <http://www.highlandsartleague.org/>



Panel: (L-R) Gene Lollis, Dr. Paul Gray, Dr. Raoul Boughton, and Jimmy Wohl. (Photo by Caroline Maxcy)

**Staff News**



(L-R) Clay Newman and Dr. John Arthington

In January, Clay was notified that he was one of 20 selected in IFAS to receive the UF/IFAS Superior Accomplishment Award, in the Support Services category. He will be honored at a reception in Gainesville in March.

Clay is from Wauchula and now resides in Zolfo Springs with his wife Sheena. They have a daughter and are expecting a son in March. He has been with the Center 9 years and has served as the assistant herdsman the last few. About his work here, Clay says, “There is never a dull moment. Everyday I’m doing something different and I enjoy the people I work with.” When not at work Clay enjoys spending time with his family and doing woodworking.

As an Agricultural Assistant, he works

on the farm crew assisting the herdsman and research coordinator with the cattle and land work. Those nominating Clay for the award recognized the extra effort he put forth to handle his regular duties plus ensure that cattle operations continued smoothly during our herdsman’s 2 month medical leave last spring. With roughly 700 head of cattle to manage and various research projects going on that required cattle work and pregnancy checking to be done, this was a very important role to fill.

Clay will now be considered for the UF campus-wide Superior Accomplishment Award, in the support services category. Those winners will be announced in April. We are thankful to have Clay on staff and wish him the best of luck with the campus-wide award!

**The following staff & friends of the Center were recognized at the annual Christmas lunch**



Those receiving service pins: Joe Aldana (10 yr.), Joseph Noel (5 yr.), Jeff Steele (15 yr.), and Austin Bateman (10 yr.); with Dr. John Arthington.



Bill Black with UF/IFAS IT was recognized for his outstanding technical support to the Center.



Jim and Jan Beckley are local retirees who volunteer their time to help our international students with their English. They also engage them in our American culture by involving them in various activities and events throughout the year. We are very thankful for all they do!

## The 2015 Climatological Report is now available



Rainfall at the Center was above the 74-yr average in Feb., April, June, July, Aug., and Dec., in 2015.

can help producers determine optimum times to prepare and plant seedbeds, fertilize pastures, apply herbicides, control water, and supplement cattle on pasture or range. Weather conditions also influence forage seed germination, growth and development, palatability, and nutritive value.

To view this report visit our website: <http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/publications/wrcrc15.pdf> or give us a call to receive a copy by mail.

## Plan to Attend the Monthly Ona Report Webinar!

Each month the Center contributes an Ona Report (article) to the Florida Cattleman and Livestock Journal. In addition to their publication in the Journal, they are now being offered through webinar so that the speaker and their PowerPoint presentation are viewable in real time. If you have a computer you can register and attend this presentation for free anywhere as long as you have a good internet connection. There is no special software required. After you register you will be sent a link that you will use to join the webinar on the day of the event. When you connect, it is best to do so a few minutes before the start of the webinar and make sure the sound is turned up on your computer. At the end of the presentation you may ask questions by typing your question in the 'questions' box of the GoToWebinar user panel.

If you missed our first two webinars, those videos and the PDF of the PowerPoints are available on our website. Go to our website: <http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/> and look in the navigation panel on the left side of the page and click on "Virtual Classroom" under Extension. Then to view the slides, go to the slides option. For the video, go to that option and click on "Webinars" in the navigational bar.

Save the date! Then next Ona Report webinar will be held at noon, on March 16, with Dr. Maria Silveira presenting, "Jiggs Bermudagrass and Limpograss Responses to Potassium and Phosphorus Fertilization". To participate this webinar you simply need to register online: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3794313844769589761>.

This report includes weather data collected at the Center from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) station. Knowledge of past weather conditions can be a valuable tool as weather conditions strongly influence agricultural operations from planting through harvesting. Knowledge of annual rainfall and temperature cycles, along with their extremes,

## Upcoming Events

### **Herd Health Seminar**

- March 8, 2016

US Sugar Dunwoody Lodge, Clewiston, FL

### **65th Florida Beef Cattle Short Course**

- May 4-6, 2016

Alto and Patricia Straughn IFAS Extension Professional Development Center, located at 2142 Shealy Drive, Gainesville

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/65th-florida-beef-cattle-short-course-tickets-20021491821?aff=es2>

### **9th Annual Youth Field Day**

- June 23, 2016

Range Cattle REC, Ona

Registration information will be available in May.

### **Range Cattle REC's 75th Anniversary Field Day**

- October 27, 2016

Range Cattle REC, Ona



## College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS)

### News

The University of Florida, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is seeking 10th and 11th grade students for their new Florida Youth Institute summer program. Only 25 students will be chosen and applications must be submitted by March 15. See the flyer attached to this newsletter for more details.

To view the application for this summer program and see more summer programs offered by UF, visit their website at: <http://www.cpet.ufl.edu/students/2016-program-application-information/>

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### Recent Publications

Adewopo, J.B., M. L. Silveira, S. Xu, S. Gerber, L. E. Sollenberger, T. Martin. 2015. Management intensification impacts on particle-size soil carbon fractions in subtropical grasslands: evidence from <sup>13</sup>C natural abundance. *Soil Science Society of America Journal* 79:1198-1205

Adewopo, J.B., Silveira, M.L., Xu, S., Gerber, S., Sollenberger, L.E., and Martin, T.A. 2015. Management intensification effects on autotrophic and heterotrophic soil respiration in subtropical grasslands. *Ecological Indicators* 56:6-14

Bankovich, B., E. Boughton, R. Boughton, M.L. Avery. 2016. Plant community shifts caused by feral swine rooting devalue Florida rangeland. *Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Environment* 220:45-54

Hersom, M., A. Imler, T. Thrift, J. Yelich, and J.D. Arthington. 2015. Comparison of feed additive technologies for preconditioning of weaned beef calves. *Journal of Animal Science*. 93:3169-3178.

Mullenix, M.K., Sollenberger, L.E., Wallau, M.O., Blount, A.R., Vendramini, J.M.B., and Silveira, M.L. 2016. Herbage accumulation, nutritive value, and persistence responses of rhizoma peanut cultivars and germplasm to grazing management. *Crop Science*. 56:907-915

Mullenix, M.K., Sollenberger, L.E., Wallau, M.O., Rowland, D.L., Blount, A.R., Vendramini, J.M.B., and Silveira, M.L. 2016. Sward structure, light interception, and rhizome-root responses of rhizoma peanut cultivars and germplasm to grazing management. *Crop Science*. 56:899-906

Silveira, M.L., Vendramini, J.M.B., Seller, B.A., Monteiro, F.A., Artur, A.G., and Dupas, E. 2015. Bahiagrass response and N loss from selected N fertilizer sources. *Grass and Forage Science* 70:154-160.

Xu, S., M.L. Silveira, K.S. Inglett, L.E. Sollenberger, and S. Gerber. 2016. Effect of land-use conversion on ecosystem C stock and distribution in subtropical grazing lands. *Plant Soil*. 399:233-245

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### ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a publication of the UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center (RCREC) located in South Central Florida in the heart of Florida's cattle country. Our goal is to keep you up to date on RCREC happenings, publications, research, faculty & student news, upcoming events and bring you beneficial information you can use in your beef cattle or forage operation.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Florida Youth Institute

University of Florida College of Agricultural and Life Sciences  
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

## **New Florida Youth Institute Summer Program Seeking Applicants for 2016**

The *Florida Youth Institute (FYI)* is a one-week residential summer program being offered July 10-15, 2016 for up to 25 selected students entering their junior or senior year of high school. FYI will expose students to issues in agriculture, life science, and natural resources to stimulate interest in and an appreciation for the range of college majors and career opportunities available in these areas. The program cost is \$350 for each participant, and funding assistance may be available. This program is sponsored by the [College of Agricultural and Life Sciences](#) at the University of Florida, in partnership with the [Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#).

### **FYI participants will:**

- Participate in a variety of engaging lessons and demonstrations.
- Experience indoor and outdoor laboratories and campus facilities.
- Engage with faculty, staff and current CALS students.
- Meet with UF College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Dean Dr. Elaine Turner and Florida Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services Adam Putnam.
- Examine issues in agriculture, life science, and natural resources.
- Reflect on worldwide challenges such as food security.
- Experience one week in a campus residence hall.

Applicants should be motivated, mature students who are interested in issues that affect Florida's future. Applicants should complete an application and teacher endorsement forms by the deadline of **Tuesday, March 15**. For questions or more information, please contact us at [cals-dean@ufl.edu](mailto:cals-dean@ufl.edu).