

Range Cattle Research & Education Center NEWS

3401 Experiment Station • Ona, FL 33865
863.735.1314 • rrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu

spring 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

The Use of Drones in Pasture Weed Management

by Dr. Brent Sellers and Dr. Tenzy Mncube

Aerial pesticide applications are not new to the agriculture industry, but this type of application has increased in popularity due to improved technology of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, drones, etc.; Figure 1). As with any new technology, many of us have questions regarding the application and effectiveness of herbicides using drones. Considering that most of us are used to sprayer outputs of at least 20 gallons per acre (GPA), it makes many of us uneasy about herbicide effectiveness when many drone applications are going out at less than 5 GPA.

First, we must look at the herbicide label to make sure that aerial applications are even allowable for a



Figure 1. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), commonly known as drones, are increasingly being utilized for pesticide applications in agriculture.

particular herbicide. A quick search of pasture herbicide labels reveals that almost all herbicides utilized for pasture weed control can be applied aerially (Table 1), with the only exception being hexazinone (Tide Hexazinone, Velossa, Velpar) in pastures. The applicator must follow the label restrictions, and most of them indicate that applications should not occur more than 10 ft above the crop canopy and mitigate spray drift as much as possible (each label has specific requirements).

Rather than go into further legalities and regulations surrounding the use of drones for pesticide applications (for regulatory requirements regarding pesticide applications with drones, please visit <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/AE608>), we want to ensure that this technology will work for herbicides that we commonly use in pastures.

In July 2024, we set up an experiment to compare ground applications of DuraCor + Pasturegard HL (16 oz/A + 16 oz/A) or GrazonNext HL + Pasturegard HL (24 oz/A + 16 oz/A) at sprayer outputs of 10, 20, or 30 GPA with drone applications of these same herbicides and rates at an output of 2.5 GPA. The primary weed in the pasture was dogfennel at an average height of 36 inches.

Analyzing the data from this trial was easy. We saw no visible differences

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Click on the images below to check us out on:



between the ground and the aerial application at 1 and 2 months after treatment (Figure 2). We also put the drone application to the test on an abandoned citrus grove with dogfenel exceeding 7 ft in height, and they were controlled using these herbicide mixes.

Our preliminary research indicates that drones could be utilized for pasture weed control and are just as effective as ground applications. However, we will hold back on recommendations until we have at least

another year of data. Further, we may start looking at reduced herbicide rates, allowing for reduced weed management costs. Currently, drone applications cost at least \$5 more per acre than a traditional ground application. However, drones can also be utilized to spray areas where ground equipment can't always go due to terrain and can also save wear and tear on ground equipment when driving through the never-ending hog rooting and smutgrass.

Acknowledgement: We would like

to thank [Hugh MacDonald](#) and Chase Haley of Precision Agricultural Services for their assistance with the drone applications in our studies.

Questions? Contact:
[Dr. Brent Sellers](#)
professor and center director
sellersb@ufl.edu or 863-374-7048

[Dr. Tenzy Mncube](#)
postdoctoral associate
tmncube@ufl.edu or 863-374-7068

Table 1. Common pasture herbicides with label-specified sprayer output volumes for aerial applications in pastures.

Trade name ¹	Active ingredient(s)	Aerial application allowed?	Sprayer output ²
DuraCor	aminopyralid + florpurauxifen benzyl	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
GrazonNext HL	aminopyralid + 2,4-D	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
Pasturegard HL	fluroxypyr + triclopyr	Yes	≥3 GPA
Weedmaster	dicamba + 2,4-D	Yes	3 to 10 GPA
Remedy Ultra	triclopyr	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
MSM60	metsulfuron	Yes	2 to 5 GPA
NovaGraz	florpurauxifen-benzyl + 2,4-D	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
Outrider	sulfosulfuron	Yes	5 to 15 GPA
Hexazinone	hexazinone	No	N/A
Chaparral	aminopyralid + metsulfuron	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
Panoramic	imazapic	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
Milestone	aminopyralid	Yes	≥ 2 GPA
Rezilon	indaziflam	Yes	≥ 5 GPA
Telar	chlorsulfuron	Yes	≥3 GPA
Pastora	metsulfuron + nicosulfuron	Yes	≥ 2 GPA

¹Although there are various trade names for the same active ingredient(s), it is best practice to consult the label for the specific trade name to ensure that label directions are followed.

²GPA = gallons per acre

Figure 2. Comparison of DuraCor + Pasturegard HL (16 oz/A + 16 oz/A) applied with a ground sprayer at 20 gallons per acre (A) or a drone at 2.5 gallons per acre (B).



Center News

April 17th Field Day - Highlights

Presentations:

[Welcome & Updates](#) - Dr. Brent Sellers, Jerry Fankhauser, Marcello Wallau, and Dale Carlton

[An Overview of the 2025 Cattle Market](#) - Hannah Baker

[Artificial Intelligence in Agricultural Water Resources Management](#) - Dr. Golmar Golmohammadi

[Coyotes: Current knowledge and an update on research in Florida](#) - Dr. Hance Ellington

[Benefits of Probiotic Supplementation in Cow-Calf Herds](#) - Dr. Philippe Moriel

[Pasture Management Strategies to Increase Soil Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation](#) - Dr. Maria Silveira

[Smutgrass Management in Pastures](#) - Dr. Brent Sellers

[Stockpiled Forage and Hay](#) - Dr. Joao Vendramini

In total, 168 participated in this event.

Video recordings of each talk can be found on our YouTube channel or in the [virtual classroom on our website](#).

Photos were taken by Tyler Jones with UF/IFAS Communications. Below are a few, to view them all, [click here](#) or see them on our [Facebook page](#).

We are super grateful for our 2025 field day sponsors!

Platinum Sponsors (\$500)

Alligare – Range & Pasture
Arcadia Stockyard
Deseret Cattle and Citrus
Corteva Agriscience
Farm Credit of Florida
Precision Agricultural Services LLC
Westway Feed Products

Gold Sponsors (\$300)

AgAmerica
Carden & Associates, Inc.
FERA Diagnostics and Biologicals
Lee County Farm Bureau
Nutrien Ag Solutions
Roman III Ranch
Zoetis

Silver Sponsors (\$150)

Furst-McNess Company
Pure Seed
Tide International USA Inc.
Wedgworth's Inc.

Others who kindly joined us with informational booths:

Florida Department of Ag Office of Ag Water Policy, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: Landowner Assistance Program, Fresh From Florida, Sarasota Ag Recovery Group, South Florida Beef Forage Program, UF Block and Bridle Club, UF/IFAS Analytical Services Labs, UF/IFAS Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN), and USDA – FSA.



Sponsor and informational booths.



Morning presentations.



Jerry Fankhauser



Dr. Marcello Wallau



Dale Carlton



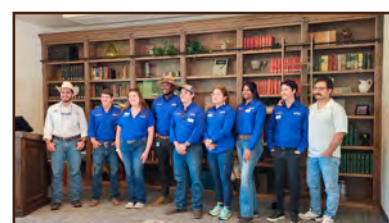
Afternoon talks in the field.



Graduate Student Poster Competition



At left: SFBFP members attending the field day.



Above: UF IFAS RCREC faculty.



At right: poster competition winners, 2nd place Conner Crawford, 1st place Joao Lazarin, and 3rd place Vinicius Izquierdo.

Center News (continued)

Visitors

Hardee Sr. High School students and teachers - March 5th

Around 90 students, broke into 5 groups and rotated through 5 class stations. From the Rangeland Wildlife Ecology Lab, they learned about their blue bird nest box project, invasive species in Florida, and their use of game cameras in research. At the Weed Science class they learned about ground vs aerial pesticide application. In the LTAR class they learned about our Eddy Covariance towers. In animal science, Conner Crawford shared his MS project with them 'Evaluating the effects of supplementation of a Bacillus-based directfed microbial on the development of *Bos indicus*-influenced beef heifers.' Lastly, they learned about the Center's establishment, it's early work and challenges, and about the current faculty and their programs.



Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Agronomy Club - March 8



Members toured the Range Cattle REC in Ona, as part of their annual

Spring Farm Tour. The tour aims to expose students to different sectors of the agricultural industry as well as different production systems and management styles. While at the Ona station, students toured the lab, saw cattle trials, and learned about the ongoing forage and beef research that helps support beef and forage producers across Florida.

Mississippi Farm Bureau - May 13

This group took a short field tour to learn about our Center's work in pasture weed management, beef cattle nutrition, and our long-term agroecosystem research (LTAR).



Community Engagement

Science Fair Judges - March 26



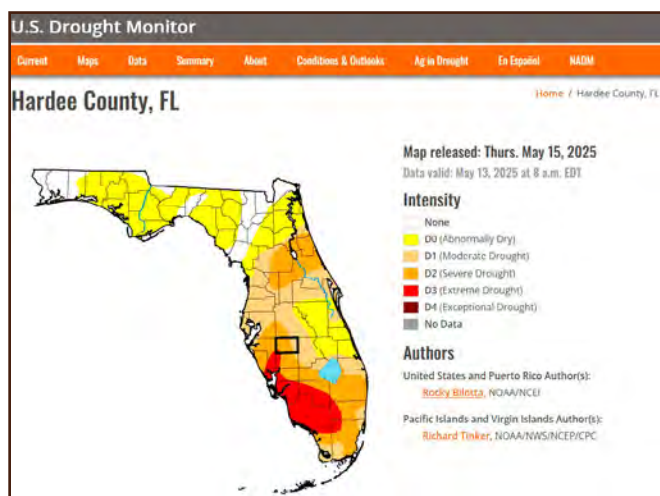
Dr. Tenzy Mncube, Andrea Dunlap, Christian Kammerer, Mike Trevino, and Namrata

Ghimire were honored to serve as judges at the 2025 State Science and Engineering Fair, in Lakeland, FL.

Participants in Local 5K - May 2

Four persons from the UF/IFAS RCREC took part in the Send Me Missions (SMM) 5K. In total, 589 participated in this annual event.

Left to right: Kauani Borges Cardoso (10th in age group and 191 overall), Dr. Luciana Melo Sousa (4th in age group and 106 overall), Namrata Ghimire, and Dr. Tenzy Mncube.



Notable Weather - Jan. 1 - May 22, 2025

- One freeze – January 25, from 3:15 a.m. – 6:45 a.m. the temperature (at 2') was at or below 32 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Total rainfall for the 5 months: 5.53"
- Greatest amount of rainfall in a given day: 1.64" on Feb. 24
- Most recent rainfall: May 12, 1.05"
- Max temperature (at 2'): 97 degrees Fahrenheit, on May 16, 19, and 20
- According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) we are currently in severe drought (see map)

Center News (continued)

Professional Development Field Trip - April 25

A small group of staff and students had the opportunity to tour the vast 27,000 acre [DeLuca Preserve](#) near Yeehaw Junction. They enjoyed seeing the diverse landscapes, learning about the property's history, and the research being done there. They also met the crew that manages this extraordinary place - pristine Florida.

This land was gifted to the University of Florida in 2020 by Elisabeth DeLuca. Her intent - to protect one of the last natural areas of its kind. It now serves as a living classroom/laboratory for students and faculty throughout the university. Her contribution is among the largest gifts of real estate ever to any university in the nation.



Chadwade Anderson, Yamiana Sala & Jorge Poll and their sons (caretakers of the property), Dr. Tenzy Mncube, Andrea Dunlap, Blake Tinsley, Dr. Brent Sellers, Clay Newman, Mike Trevino, Julian Bernal, Gurbajan Tiwana, and Nikitha Reddy Kovvuri.

Faculty News



Large Grant Leadership Award Presented - March 12

Dr. Rob Gilbert, Dean for Research and Executive Director for Academic Affairs

Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, presented Dr. Hance Ellington with a 'Large Grant Leadership Award' for his 2024 proj-

ect award of \$1,405,947 for 'Working rangelands resiliency in the Avon Park Air Force Range sentinel landscape (FL),' sponsored by the U. S. Department of Defense.

Dr. Ellington leads the Rangeland Wildlife Ecology Lab at the UF/IFAS Range Cattle REC in Ona.

Site Visit

In April, Dr. Brent Sellers visited Animal Kingdom to do a toxic plant consult for their grazing areas around one of their lodges. Pictured here are Dr. Sellers with the Animal Kingdom team he met with. While there were toxic plants present, none were of serious concern or appeared to be grazed.



Going Away Party Held - April 15

Faculty, staff, and students gathered to say goodbye and best wishes to Dr. Joao Vendramini and Dr. Maria Lucia Silveira. There were many kind remarks and we enjoyed a fun game with them. They will be greatly missed. Joao's last day is 4/25 and Maria's is 6/6. We wish them all the best.



UF Research Foundation Professors Announced - April 22

Dr. Philippe Moriel was announced as 1 of the 35 UF faculty selected as a UF Research Foundation Professor for 2025.



"Since the professorships were created in 1997, over 900 faculty have been named UFRF Professors," said David Norton, UF's vice president

for research. "These are our most innovative and productive faculty, with a proven record of research and scholarship and the potential for even more success in the future."

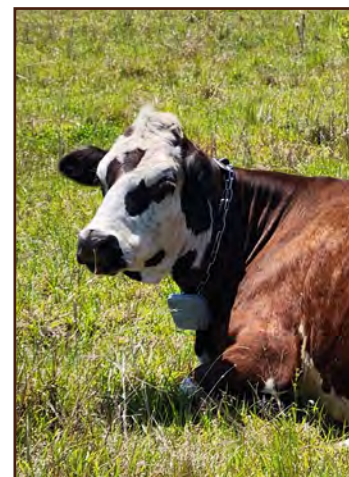
Learn more about this award by viewing the full article by Joseph Kays online at <https://news.ufl.edu/2025/04/ufrf-professors/>

Conference Presentation - May 1



At the 2025 Forage Legume Conference held May 1 in Marianna,

Dr. Brent Sellers presented on weed management options in pastures with forage legumes.



DeLuca Preserve, cow with Vence collar.

Student News

Travel Award Recipient



Seyed Mostafa Biazar was awarded the University of Florida Water Institute 2025 Spring Travel Award. He will use the funds to attend the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) Annual International Meeting in Toronto, Canada, July 13-16, 2025.

Seyed is a PhD student advised by Dr. Golmar Golmohammadi.

Travels and Activities

Paulo Gomes Filho, Vinicius Izquierdo, Conner Crawford, Joao Lazzarin, Dr. Philipe Moriel, and Dr. Joao Vendramini participated in the 2025 Southern Section/Western Section Joint Meeting of the American Society of Animal Sciences, held in Arlington, TX, from April 5 to 8th. There, Dr. Vendramini was the chair of Extension symposium.



Top, right - Vinicius Izquierdo presented "Access to shade in heat stressed beef cows alters the plasma metabolome of both cows and their offspring."

Bottom, right - Conner Crawford presented "Supplementation of Bacillus-based direct-fed microbials for grazing *Bos indicus*-influenced beef heifers."

Some of our students were able to attend the UF Graduate Student Research Day at the Reitz Union on April 8. At top right are Seyed Seighealani and Julian Bernal and below them are Gurjoban Tiwana and Saba Shaghghi.

Julian is advised by Dr. Maria Silveira and Seyed, Saba, and Gurjoban are advised by Dr. Golmar Golmohammadi.



Upcoming Events

View our online calendar for more info on events and links to register:

<http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar-of-events/>

16th Annual Youth Field Day - UF/IFAS RCREC

- June 5, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

This year, students ages 8 - 18 will receive Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification for completing our field day classes, which will include: Biosecurity - Lowering the Exposure, Nutrition and Body Condition Scoring, Newborn Calf Health Management, Low-Stress Cattle Handling, and Best Practices using Injectables.

<https://rcrec-2025-yfd.eventbrite.com>

General registration ends Jun. 3 - \$25

Questions, contact us at 863-735-1001 or ona@ifas.ufl.edu

Ona Highlight 'Fall Fertilization of Warm-Season Perennial Grasses'

with guest speaker Dr. Joao Vendramini

- June 10, 11:00 - 11:45 AM

Ona Highlight - 'Cowboys and Scientists: Translating science into conservation action'

with guest speaker Dr. Betsey Boughton, program director, Agroecology/ Sr. Research Biologist, Archbold Biological Station

- July 8, 11:00 - 11:45 AM

Ona Highlight - 'A Florida Cattlemen's Association Update'

with guest speaker Rick Moyer, President

- August 12, 11:00 - 11:45 AM

Ona Highlight - 'Probiotic Supplementation for Beef Heifers'

with Dr. Philipe Moriel

- September 9, 11:00 - 11:45 AM



DeLuca Preserve, flower and insect

Student News (continued)

In May, a group of UF/IFAS RCREC students and exchange visitors were able to attend the 74th Annual Florida Beef Cattle Short Course in Gainesville: Kauani Cardoso, Julio Berwanger, Dr. Luciana Melo Sousa, Olivia Centanni, Chadwade Anderson, and Joao Marques da Silva.

University of Florida (UF) Alumni – Where Are They Now?
**Dr. Jaime Garzon**

UF graduate Fall 2022

Ph.D. Agronomy

Dissertation: Ecosystems services provided by two warm-season forage legumes in South Florida
Advisor, Dr. Joao Vendramini

During his time as a UF student, Jaime received several awards including: the Grinter Award in 2018 and 2019; CSSA Society-Wide Student Competition, finalist at the 2020 ASA-CSSA-SSSA International Annual Meeting; 1st place recipient of the Robert F. Barnes Ph.D. oral competition during the (virtual) 2020 ASA-CSSA-SSSA International Annual Meeting; he received a Graduate Student Travel Scholarship to attend the

ASA-CSSA-SSSA meeting in Salt Lake City in 2021; and he received the UF CALS The Finish Line Award, in 2022.

After graduation, Jaime moved to Maine where he had accepted a position with the University of Maine as an assistant extension professor and forage educator in Cooperative Extension. Although his primary workplace is at the main campus in Orono, ME, he serves farmers and agricultural stakeholders state-wide. About his main responsibilities, Jaime said, “My extension program seeks to develop and conduct educational outreach and applied research with emphasis on forage production, regenerative pasture management, and climate-smart practices in Maine livestock industry.”

Learn more about Jaime at <https://extension.umaine.edu/about/staff-directory/jaime-garzon/>. You can follow his work on <https://www.facebook.com/jgarzonforages/> and <https://www.instagram.com/jgarzonforages/>.

Jaime’s accomplishments include the Crop Science Society of America, Gerald O. Mott Award, in 2023 and their Outstanding Paper Award in Forage & Grazinglands, in 2024. He also received the Marquis Who’s Who in America, Top Scientist recognition in 2024. Jaime has been very busy creating meaningful resources for those he assists including fact sheets and bulletins (16), providing free consultation (online & by phone), podcasts (3), and videos (3). He has published 7 articles as the primary author in national and international scientific journals. Additionally, he is the creator and principal organizer of the Maine Hay Contest (<https://extension.umaine.edu/livestock/hay/contest/>) and the Maine Forage Conference (<https://extension.umaine.edu/livestock/maine-forage-conference/>).

Dr. Leandro Otavio Vieira-Filho

UF graduate Summer 2023

Ph.D. Soil and Water Science, minor in Agronomy

Dissertation: Soil phosphorus management in subtropical grazing land ecosystems: agronomic and environmental implications

Advisor, Dr. Maria Silveira



Regarding his accomplishments while a UF student, Leandro said, “While at the UF/IFAS Range Cattle REC, I

developed meaningful research on phosphorus fertilization and bio-solids management for pastures. Because of the importance of that research and academic performance, I won 12 awards (likely my biggest accomplishment) and attended the World Congress of Soil Science in Scotland.”

Just to name a few of the awards and honors Leandro received during his time at UF. During 2023, Leandro received the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Encompass Scholars Award and placed 2nd in the UF/IFAS RCREC graduate student poster competition. In 2022 he received the UF Soil, Water, and Ecosystems Sciences Department Victor W. Carlisle Fellowship Award, the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Bridge Scholars Award, the UF CALS International Student Outstanding Achievement Award, the British Society of Soil Science Early Career Interdisciplinary Grant and Award, and the UF CALS Doris and Earl Lowe and Verna Lowe Scholarship Award.

After graduation, Leandro moved to South Carolina where he accepted a position with Clemson University as a Postdoctoral Fellow working with Dr. Liliame Silva at the Edisto Research and Education Center, in Blackville, SC. His main responsibilities includ-

University of Florida (UF) Alumni – Where Are They Now? (continued)

ed: managing and coordinating measurements to determine greenhouse gas emissions and soil nutrient accumulation in beef cattle, leafy greens, and peanut farms in response to implemented climate-smart practices and the development of extension material about climate-smart practices.

In September of 2024 Leandro began a new position as an assistant professor and soil fertility specialist with Louisiana State University, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences, in Baton Rouge, LA. His appointment is 100% extension. He is responsible for developing soil fertility management practices and recommendations for multiple crops (specialty and field crops) statewide. His extension efforts are focused on improving the delivery of soil fertility and soil health information and crop production best management practices (BMP's) to stakeholders in Louisiana. Learn more about Leandro and his work at: <https://www.lsuag-center.com/profiles/LVieira>

In January 2025 Leandro married his longtime sweetheart, Ester Ricken, who also has ties to the Center, having participated in an exchange visitor program with Dr. Silveira in 2021-2022. Ester is now an M.S. student at UF in Gainesville.

Dr. Juliana Ranches

UF graduate, M.S. 2016 and Ph.D. 2019, Animal Science
Dissertation: Genetic differences between copper and selenium metab-

olism among *Bos taurus* (Angus) and *Bos indicus* (Brahman) cattle
Advisor, Dr. John Arthington

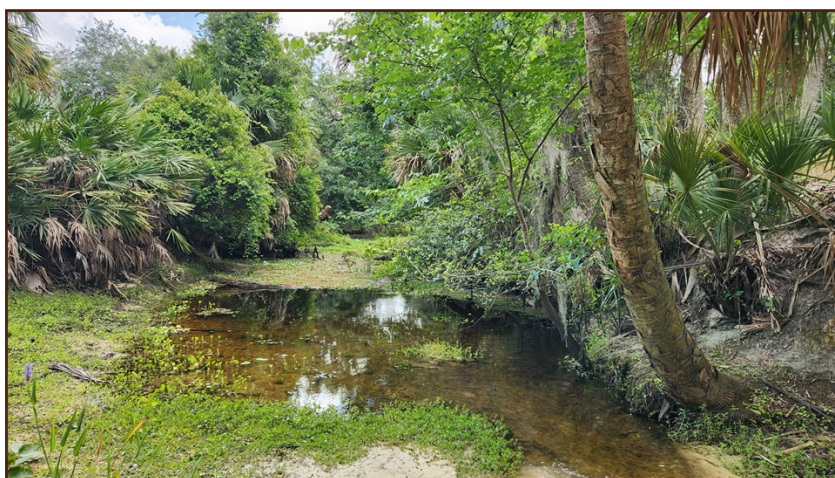
During her time as a UF student, Juliana received the UF Department of Animal Science's Top 5 Ph.D. Students of the Year award in 2018 and the Top-Up Award in 2019.

After graduation, Juliana moved to Oregon where she accepted a position with Oregon State University as an assistant professor and beef extension specialist at the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center (EOARC), in Burns, OR. Regarding her responsibilities, Juliana said, "My position is split between research (20%), extension (75%) and service (5%), which means there is a lot of variety in my day. My research and Extension programs focus on diverse topics important to cattle producers, with the primary goal of improving production efficiency and sustainability. The pillars of my research program include cattle nutrition, health and welfare, production management, and precision technology. My Extension efforts are dedicated to educational programming for cattle producers, primarily through RanchER, a webinar series that highlights the work of women in agriculture and livestock production, and the Ranching Academy, a year-long program that combines lectures and hands-on activities for producers on important production topics. Another area of

work which I truly enjoy is student mentoring. Currently I am the mentor of three master's students and one post-doc. On the service side of my position, I serve as a scientist for the Oregon State University IACUC committee, which means I am responsible for reviewing multiple animal research protocols before research trials take place. Finally, I also serve as the Associate Editor for the Translational Animal Science (TAS) journal coordinating the review process of manuscripts."

You can learn more about Juliana and her work at: <https://anrs.oregon-state.edu/users/juliana-ranches> or on Instagram at: <https://www.instagram.com/thecatcorner/>.

In her 5 years with EOARC, Juliana has had many accomplishments. This only scratches the surface. In 2024 she was awarded \$1M from USDA-NIFA to conduct research and Extension projects related to methane emissions of grazing cattle and evaluate mitigation strategies. Earlier this year Juliana received the prestigious 2025 Extension Award from the Western Section of the American Society of Animal Sciences. While with EOARC she has received more than \$2M in grants and contract support. Juliana is working on her MBA in agribusiness with ESALQ-USP and expects to graduate this summer.

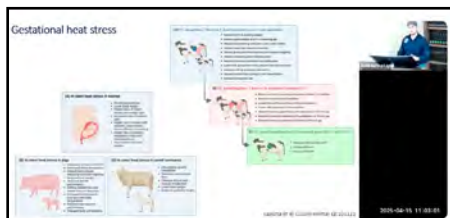


DeLuca Preserve canal.

CONNECT WITH US

Ona Highlight Recordings

Save the date and join us for an upcoming Ona Highlight Zoom broadcast. These informative presentations are held each month. They begin at 11:00 a.m. and last about 45 minutes. See our online calendar for upcoming webinars, [here](#).



Recordings of recent webinars:

March 2025

'Controlling Australian Beardgrass in Florida Pastures'
- Dr. Brent Sellers and Dr. Tenzy Mncube

April 2025

'Heat Stress in Pregnant Beef Cows'
- Dr. Philippe Moriel

May 2025

'AI Application in Water Resources Management'
- Dr. Golmar Golmohammadi

Ona Reports - published in the Florida Cattleman & Livestock Journal:

View these on our website at:
<https://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/news-and-publications/>



March 2025

'Breed Impacts the Preferential Intake of Hydroxychloride and Sulfate Sources of Trace Minerals in Growing Beef Heifers'
- Dr. Philippe Moriel

April 2025

'What is the feed value of fall fertilized forage in Florida'
- Dr. Joao Vendramini

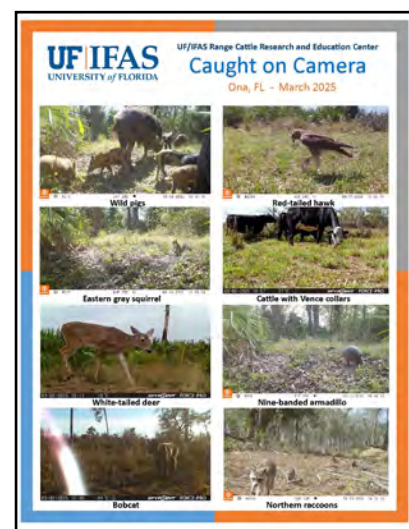
May 2025

'AI-based assessment of Groundwater Vulnerability in Florida'
- Dr. Golmar Golmohammadi

Caught on Camera:

This feature is assembled by the UF/IFAS RCREC Rangeland Wildlife Ecology Program with images collected from RCREC game cameras mounted throughout the property near Ona, FL.

View this and all previous editions on our website: [click here](#).



Florida Cattle Market Update

- published in the Florida Cattleman & Livestock Journal:

View these on Hannah's webpage:
<https://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/about/directory/staff/hannah-baker/>

This is a new monthly feature provided by Hannah Baker, state specialized extension agent II in beef and forage economics. At the link above see 'Florida Cattle Market Update' dropdown menu. Questions? Contact Hannah at h.baker@ufl.edu or 863-374-7051.

February 2025

'Replacement Heifer Inventory: The Past and the Present'

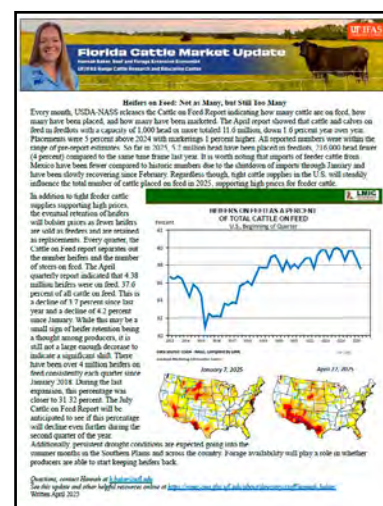
March 2025

'The Importance of Record-Keeping in a Good Year'

April 2025

'Heifers on Feed: Not as Many, but Still Too Many'

Visit Hannah's page to see a new factsheet and a new estimation tool she recently added!



University of Florida News

Recent UF news you may find interesting. Click the title to view the full article or visit <https://news.ufl.edu/> to learn about all the latest happenings.

[Dr. Santa J. Ono unanimously recommended as sole finalist for University of Florida's 14th president](#) – May 4, 2025



"The University of Florida Presidential Search Committee has unanimously and enthusiastically recommended Santa J. Ono, Ph.D., to be considered by its Board of Trustees as the sole finalist to become the University's 14th president.

Dr. Ono currently serves as president of the University of Michigan and brings a distinguished record of leadership in academia and public health across the United States and Canada."

Click the title to continue reading this announcement or visit <https://news.ufl.edu/> for updates on this and other UF News.

Obituary - Dr. William 'Bill' Brown - 1955 - 2025

Dr. Brown, 70, passed away on March 9. No public services were held.

In 1984 Dr. Brown began his career in Ona working in animal science



Dr. Brown, Dr. Roger West, Ralph Palaez, Sid Sumner, Dr. Bill Kunkle, and Dr. Findlay Pate at our 1987 field day.

research and extension, specializing in ruminant nutrition and production. He was in charge of the forage extension lab at the Center and responsible for the creation of the Center's website.

In 1999 Dr. Brown relocated to Gainesville where he served as assistant dean and assistant director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station until 2008. He would later work in Tennessee and Texas.

To learn more about his career and life, visit: <https://www.shannon-funeralhomes.com/obituaries/william-bill-brown>

UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center Faculty -

Dr. Brent Sellers, sellersb@ufl.edu - Pasture and Rangeland Weed Management

Dr. Maria Silveira, mlas@ufl.edu - Soil and Water Science

Dr. Philipe Moriel, pmoriel@ufl.edu - Beef Cattle Nutrition & Management

Dr. Hance Ellington, e.ellington@ufl.edu - Grazinglands Wildlife Specialist

Dr. Golmar Golmohammadi, g.golmohammadi@ufl.edu - Hydrology and Water Quality

Hannah Baker, h.baker@ufl.edu - Beef Cattle and Forage Economics

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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

UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center
3401 Experiment Station, Ona, FL 33865
Phone: 863-735-1314
Fax: 863-735-1930
E-Mail: ona@ifas.ufl.edu
Website: <http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu>
Newsletter Contact: Andrea Dunlap

