

### Calendar of Events

Upcoming Events

- Jun 13-15 OGATA Summer Tractor Show, Fairview Homestead, 908 Hillman Hwy, Abingdon
- Jun 17 Grant Informational Meeting, 7:30 PM More detail on page 1.
- Jun 30 Deadline to register for VT Beef University
- July 1-5 Smyth County 4-H Camp, sign-ups and deposits being taken now!
- July 9 July VQA Sale, 7 pm Tri State Livestock Market
- July 12 Last day to consign calves to Aug 16th VQA Sale
- July 14-16 VT Beef University, campus
- July 29 Rich Valley Fair Goat and Lamb Show, 10 AM
- July 30 Rich Valley Beef and Dairy Feeder Show, 10 AM; Rich Valley Fair Toy Tractor Display Contest Set Up (All Day)
- Aug 1 Rich Valley Fair Toy Tractor Display Judging (Noon)
- Aug 16 Deadline to consign calves to the Sept 24 VQA Sale
- Aug 16 VQA Sale, 7 PM Tri-State Livestock Market
- Sept 20-21 Tractor and Toy Show, Rural Retreat Fairgrounds
- Sept 24 VQA Sale
- Sept 27 Deadline to consign calves for the Nov 5 VQA Sale
- Sept 27-29 Chilhowie Apple Festival



**Just Look at Everything That's Going On!**

A great way to stay current is to pick up a Saturday edition of the **Smyth County News**. In it, you will find an "Upcoming Events" section at the end of all of Andy's weekly articles!

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Andy Overbay or Pam Testerman at (276) 783-5175/TDD (800) 828-1120 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.

**Serving You by Reporting and Listening!**

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Smyth County Agriculture Extension Newsletter! My goal is to continue to provide you with a newsletter packed with information at least once each quarter. Let us know what you think. If you have ideas for articles or topics of interest, please contact us at (276) 783-5175.



**New Grant Coming July 1**

A new grant opportunity is coming to Smyth County aimed at helping livestock producers improve forage production and quality. You can learn all about the specifics of the program during a Zoom Meeting planned for Monday, June 17 at 7:30 PM. The link to the Zoom is <https://tinyurl.com/SWForage> or Phone: 1 (301) 715-8592 Meeting ID: 847 4372 5898 # .

The Forage Production Initiative for Southwest Virginia is a cost-share program administered by the Lee County Livestock Association and funded by the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission. Farmers who have operations in Lee, Scott, Wise, Dickenson, Buchanan, Russell, Tazewell, Washington, Smyth, Wythe, Grayson, Carroll, and Bland Counties who meet the basic qualifications and fulfill the educational hours required will be eligible for funding based on first come first serve. Offering the cost-share program gives Southwest Virginia's producers the ability to improve forage quality and storage capability.

Items such as hay storage, spreaders, soil and forage testing equipment, and fencing (except for border or replacement fencing) are eligible; however, you are urged to attend the Zoom to get all the details.

Applications for the grant will begin on July 1, 2024, at 7:30 AM at the Extension Office on a first come-first served basis. Cost sharing on eligible purchases will be 33% with a cap of \$5000 per operation. In preparation, please have your FSA farm and tract numbers as well as a W9 form on hand prior to applying.



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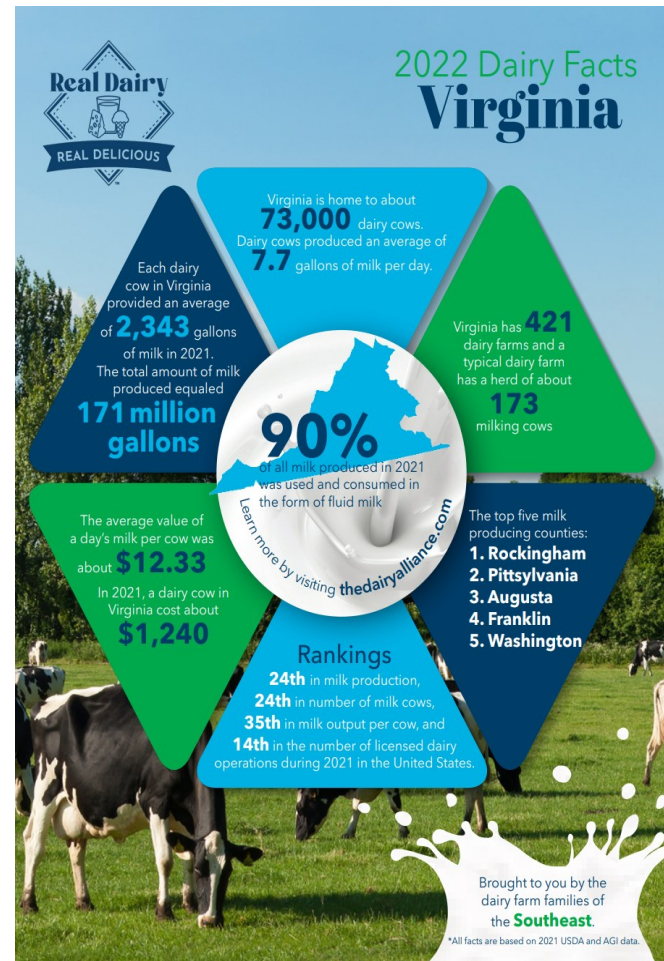
Join us on Facebook at:  
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Celebrate  
June  
Dairy  
Month!



### Forage Production Initiative for Southwest Virginia

- No-till Seed Drill
- Lime and/or Fertilizer Spreader
- Hay Wrapper
- Manure Spreader



- Harrow
- Aerator
- Forage & Soil Testing Equip
- Hay Storage
- Fencing to Aid Forage Production

Cost Share Opportunity

Funded by Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission



**Zoom Informational Meeting**  
**Monday, June 17, 2024 at 7:30 PM**  
<https://tinyurl.com/SWForage>  
 or Phone: 1 (301) 715-8592  
 Meeting ID: 847 4372 5898 #



Farmers who have operations in Lee, Scott, Wise, Dickenson, Buchanan, Russell, Tazewell, Washington, Smyth, Wythe, Grayson, Carroll, and Bland Counties who meet the basic qualifications and fulfill the educational hours required will be eligible for funding based on first come first serve at their Extension Office. Cost share will be 33% up to \$5,000 for approved participants that follow the required guidelines. Learn about the application process, timeline, guidelines, and other information. Contact your Extension Office or the Lee County Extension Office at (276) 546-2057

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in these activities, please contact Lee County Extension (276-546-2057) from 8 am to 5:00 pm to discuss accommodations at least 5 days prior to the event. TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

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### More details on the grant...

- You must attend a forage production program or have attended one since July 1, 2023
- You must own the land or have a long term (5-year) lease.
- You must harvest at least 10 acres of hay or have 20 head of sheep, goats, or cattle.



Deadline to Register is June 30

[www.vabeefcattleu.com](http://www.vabeefcattleu.com) @vabeefcattleu

## 2024 Virginia Beef Cattle University

The Virginia Beef Cattle University will be July 14-16, 2024. The conference will feature trade show vendors, entertainment, and a variety of educational topics for youth and adults! This event is an all-inclusive event for beef producers and the industry to connect with one another more personally.

### Experience You Don't Want to Miss

- Educational Breakout Sessions!**  
These educational breakout sessions are catered to all operations- small or large, youth to adult, and beef production system!
- Sunday Tours and Activities!**  
Optional tours on Sunday to explore the VA-MD College of Veterinary Sciences, Lane Stadium, or Kentland Farms!
- Prime Rib Dinner & Entertainment!**  
Enjoy a wonderful prime rib dinner, entertainment, and networking at the VT Farm! The perfect way to conclude the first day!
- Industry Happy Hour!**  
You will get to have one on one connections with Tradeshow Vendors at the Sponsored Happy Hour!

### Registration is all Inclusive

- Up to 45 break out sessions to choose from
- Topics include herd health, marketing, nutrition, forages, business management, reproduction, and meat sciences
- Topics that match your operation production system
- Educational proceedings included
- Tradeshow Exhibitors
- Hands-on Activities
- All meals included!
- Networking opportunities
- Special gift
- Youth activities

Register now!



<https://vabeefcattleu.com/registration/>



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