

# *South Carolina Ag Council*



## **Livestock in South Carolina and Foreign Diseases**

(Columbia, SC)---Livestock producers and the general public are urged to attend a very important meeting concerning livestock and foreign diseases. These diseases, if introduced into South Carolina, could have a significant impact on the state. The South Carolina Ag Council has invited guest speakers who will address these issues at their meeting on Thursday, August 23, 2001, at the Sandhill Research and Education Center Lakehouse, 705 Clemson Road in Columbia.

The program will feature Bob Graham, State Statistician, who will talk about livestock numbers in South Carolina followed by Jim Rathwell, Clemson Extension Agriculture Economist, who will discuss the "Economics of South Carolina Livestock."

Foremost in the minds of livestock owners and the public are "Foreign Diseases and Emergency Preparedness." Dr. Jones Bryan, State Veterinarian, will provide an introduction about livestock diseases and reportable diseases. Other veterinarians from Livestock and Poultry Health who will provide information include: Dr. Venaye Reece who will discuss West Nile Virus; Dr. Daniel LaFontaine who will talk about Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE or Mad Cow Disease); and Dr. Rice Macfie who will inform the group about Foot and Mouth Disease. Dr. Reece will follow with information about animal emergency preparedness.

Registration will begin at 9:30 AM followed by the program at 10:00 AM. Lunch will follow the meeting at 12 noon.

For more information about the meeting, call John Oxner, SC Ag Council President, at 803-929-6030. To register for this special meeting which includes lunch, send \$7 per person to: Stephen Pavlasek, % SC Ag Statistics Service, 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1008, PO Box 1911, Columbia, SC, 29202, or call 803-765-5333.

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