

By Randall Saner

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Dry conditions make us step back and re-evaluate our operations. You've always turned out pairs on summer grass, but what if the summer grass didn't grow? You have made tough decisions and wonder now, with wetter conditions, how you should restock your herd. Weeds in your pasture have exploded—is this normal or noxious?

The annual West Central Cattlemen's Day series will be held in North Platte and Curtis. UNL extension educators, Kansas State extension agents and Colorado State Regional extension specialists will cover topics, with research to back it up. If your area is still experiencing drought, or if you wonder what to do in the next drought, this series will contain useful information.

Topics to be covered are:

- Managing your pasture closely
- Cow size—calf purpose
- Nutrition for profit
- Problem weeds in range and pasture
- Rebuilding the herd
- Buying replacement cattle what to look for
- Pasture inventory/assessment and checking for poisonous plants.

The West Central Cattlemen's Day series will be held at the Lincoln County fairgrounds, 5105 W. Highway 30 in North Platte. The program will be held Tuesday, Jan. 21, starting at 5:30 p.m. CT. Preregister by calling the Extension Office in North Platte at 1-800-200-1381 or 308-532-2683 or by email at rsaner2@unl.edu.

The cost to preregister is \$10 by Jan. 17, or \$15 at the door. Program is sponsored by Lincoln County Cattlemen, an affiliate of the Nebraska Cattlemen and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension.

The Curtis program will be held at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture—Ag Industry Education Center on Thursday, Jan. 23, starting at 5:30 p.m. CT.

Preregister by calling the Frontier County Extension Office at 1-888-367-4424 or 308-367-4424 or e-mail at BScharf1@unl.edu. The cost to preregister is \$10 by Jan. 17, or \$15 at the door.