

MEADOWLARK EXTENT DISTRICT WEEKLY NEWS FROM AGENTS

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Tis the season, for holiday preparation. As usual, I'm doing the majority of the shopping, cooking, decorating and what not. After 30 some years of marriage, we still don't have all the bugs worked out. For instance, after Keith had some more pipe fence installed, he thought "we" should paint it. By "we" he meant, "me". I guess he ended up helping one afternoon. The best part, he announced that we were having a "painting party" to the family, and they went MIA pretty fast. The party was to begin at 2 pm, to try and get it done before dark and before the weather got colder. Funny thing was, Keith didn't show until after 4 pm, when the paint was gone and the painting done. So much for the party, but I can remind him of that when the house needs vacuumed.

With all this busyness, I still stop and make supper. But that has been easier these days, I went to one of Chef Ali's freezer meal sessions. It was part of a training for linking consumers to food, sponsored by the Farm Bureau. It was great to see all of the teachers there, so they can teach their students about Agriculture. In less than an hour, I had four meals made up to freeze for later use. Gosh are they good, we might get use to this!

Get used to the changes coming for the Veterinary Feed Directive. As I was sitting at the last meeting we had in Seneca. I was mistakenly thinking, "won't affect me until I can't buy CTC in the mineral". Then it dawns on me, that medicated milk replacer is one of the VFD changes. I will have to have a written directive from the veterinarian in order to purchase this. If we happen to have an orphaned calf, or one that needs a bit more to supplement them, I'm going to need milk replacer. If you are in this situation, get on the phone and get your written directive, now. With my luck, we'd need the replacer on a weekend, after the clinic closes! Which brings to mind, my gift ideas for the beef producer. I've always thought of making up a calving kit for Keith for Christmas. I would include the calving ob straps, the nylon kind that don't hurt the calf as bad. Those were a big demand item after our last calving school. Since Dr Dave Rethorst is presenting this school on December 15th, I should probably get some more on hand. If you'd like to attend the calving school at 6:30 pm at the Jackson county fair building, give me a call. Space is limited.

The kit could also have in it, besides the ear tags and tagger, the bander, with lots of new bands, ob lube if you need to help a bit, towels, latex gloves, a flashlight, iodine for the navel and whatever else I can think of.

Of course, flashlights are going to be obsolete at our house. Keith and the electrician have gone crazy, with the new LED space lights. We can now "light up to the tree line", like that is a good thing. NASA has probably seen our place show up in the last few weeks.