I. **TITLE:**

Beef Cattle Management Systems

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

A study of beef production, forage management, and marketing systems. Lecture – one hour, laboratory – four hours.

Prerequisites: AGR 100 and 311.

*To receive graduate credit for this course, a student must be admitted to graduate studies prior to registering for the course.*

III. **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to different management systems for beef productions, improved forage systems, and alternate marketing option for beef cattle.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Provide students with a general understanding of the different forage and production systems. Special emphasis will be placed on planning production goals, estimating production cost, and marketing beef cattle.

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**

A. Planning a stocker program  
B. Herd health programs  
C. Forage systems for stocker productions  
D. Fencing and corral design  
E. Marketing systems for stocker calves  
F. Selection of stocker calves  
G. Grass fed beef  
H. Beef production systems  
I. Beef cattle computerized record systems
VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

A. Lectures  
B. Class discussions  
C. Homework  
D. Visiting lectures  
E. Field trips  
F. Demonstrations

VII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**

A. Field trips to area beef operations  
B. Field trip to livestock marketing facilities  
C. Attend Stockman Farmer’s Grazing Conference  
D. Visit veterinary clinics  
E. Livestock handling experience at area beef operations  
F. Visit beef cattle research stations

VIII. **RESOURCES:**

A. Area beef cattle producers  
B. Beef cattle research bulletin  
C. Beef research specialists  
D. Beef marketing specialists  
E. Forage system specialists

IX. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

A. Letter grades:  
   90 – 100 = A  
   80 – 89 = B  
   70 – 79 = C  
   60 – 69 = D  
   Below 60 = E

B. Exams  
   2 exams 200 points  
   3 reports 300 points  
   5 homework 500 points  
   **Total 1000 points**

C. Graduate students will be required to submit two research papers on assigned topics in beef production.

D. Make-up exams and homework will be permitted with a reasonable excuse for the absence.
X. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.*

XI. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.*

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current *Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.* The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. **TEXT AND REFERENCES:**

A. Beef research material
B. Prepared handouts

XIII. **PREREQUISITES:**

AGR 100 and AGR 311

XIV. **STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

XV. **MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY**
The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.