

October 2018 FF BCH - General Meeting
10/25/1018 - Angelotti's

Meeting called to order at 6:42 by Sally McDavid

June minutes: Motion to approve by Trina Romero, 2nd by Karen Rossman and group approved.

Treasurer's report by Gary Reynolds. Motion to approve by Jean Damron, 2nd by and group approved.

We placed a picnic table at Perriman's with a high line. We are going to place another one at the South end. The original picnic tables that we placed are all in place and looking good.

November 18 is our picnic at Tillis Hill. Food will be served at noon. Tableware and meat items will be furnished by FF BCH. Bring a dish to share.

For our Christmas meeting, we had a suggestion of going to the Seafood Seller. Sally discussed the pros and cons of Stumpknockers and the Seafood Seller. A show of hands for each place revealed that most people prefer Stumpknockers. For our white elephant gift exchange we have had gag gifts and white elephants. Some people put very nice items in the exchange. To, this year just bring what you are comfortable with.

With money from Irma, Forestry has done a lot of work on the forest roads. FRs 10 and 13 have been rocked. So, improvements are occurring. They are going to get new lights in the barns at Tillis and are taking out a lot of trees in the camp ground. A tree did fall on someone's vehicle. They are elevating and redoing the road around Holder.

If anyone has suggestions as to where to put more picnic tables, please e-mail Sally. Fred and Gary opened all trails in and out of Tillis. Forestry was very appreciative since all their equipment and some personnel are in the Panhandle right now helping with hurricane recovery and clean up. Sally reported that there was a tree or two down on Turkey Oak and one on Middle Earth. There are severe ruts on Eagle Ridge. So be careful. The grass is real high everywhere out there.

Guest speaker: Clay Cooper Ag and Natural Resource Agent for Citrus County (UF/IFAS Extension Citrus Co.) Clay helps people with pasture management, weed control, hog control, soil sampling, analytical hay sampling and help with ration balancing. Clay brought posters on weeds and poisonous plants for those that would like to have them.

The best form of weed management – good pasture soil and grazing management. It is very difficult to get pasture started in sandy soil. Weeds compete with forage for horses and livestock.

Poisonous weeds:

Jimsonweed: Nightshade family – white flower with a purple center trumpet shape - spiny seed pod – all parts are poisonous. Control with Milestone, GrazonNext HI, 2,4,D and 2,4,D plus dicamba

Milkweed: looks like lantana. If you break off a leaf, it has a milky sap. It's an irritant to livestock. Control with Banvel, 2,4 D, Grazon, Milestone, PastureGard or Weedmaster

Castor Bean: Found in fence rows and forest edge. Spurge family. Has milky sap. Control with Glyphosate or PastureGard

Chinese Tallow Tree (Popcorn tree) It's a perennial tree: Belongs in the spurge family and has a milky sap. Commonly found in fence lines. It is toxic and invasive. Control with Arsenal (also lethal to hardwoods), Glyphosate, Remedy (Basal application)

Showy Crotalaria: Bean/Pea family all parts are poisonous to all livestock and dogs. It's a cumulative toxin (liver toxin) Yellow flowers. Control with PastureGard, Remedy 2,4 D with dicamba, Glyphosate.

Creeping Indigo: Pink flowers, downward growing seed pods in clusters. All livestock are affected especially horses. Control with Grazon, Chaparral, Milestone, Cimarron Plus, Metsulfuron

Sickle Pod: Yellow flowers and oval leaf structure. Control with 2,4,D, Glyphosate, Grazon, Remedy

Chinaberry: Poisonous to all livestock, especially horses. Mahogany family. Control with Arsenal, Glyphosate, PastureGard, Remedy

Common Pokeweed: Purple stem and purple/black berries Control with Remedy, Arsenal, 2,4,D, Grazon, PastureGard

Black Nightshade: Green berries Control with Grazon, Milestone, Remedy, PastureGard, 2,4,D

Tropical Soda Apple (TSA) just pull it up or use Grazon, Arsenal, Milestone, Chaparral, Remedy

Cherry Trees; The wilting leaves are poisonous, So if any branches come down in your pasture or paddock, get them out.

If you have questions or need assistance with plant ID or pasture management, contact:

Clay Cooper

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Discussion: Field ID – take pictures and e-mail – if you bring a plant in, try to keep it fresh by putting in a zip lock bag with a damp paper towel if you can bring it in the same day. If longer, refrigerate or put in a cooler with ice.

Sand spurs belong to the grass family and are hard to control. Spot spray before they go to seed. Sand spurs adapt to pH changes in the soil so altering the pH does not always work. Most of us have small acreage so it might be possible to dig up unwanted plants and burn them.

Is PasturePro the same as PastureGard? No. PasturePro is 2,4D and PastureGard is 2,4D plus Remedy 2,4D is best for broad leaf plants. Remedy and GrazonNext is next step for more woody stems. Best time to spray is Springtime before plants go to seed. Sometime in March of mid-late April. Next best time to spray is Fall. Herbicide is carried to the roots. 95% of the herbicides have no grazing restrictions. Just be aware if you are using Grazon, it will be in the manure of the animals and if you use this manure as compost, it will kill your vegetables in the garden. Sulfur will bring your soil pH down but does not last long.

50/50 drawing \$39.50 won by Cheryl Ramey.

Meeting adjourned.