

Five Oaks Beef

Five Oaks Family Farm Monthly Newsletter

December/2016

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On The Farm...

First let me say that I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Ours was great and Linda and I spent the holiday with family in Raleigh, and of course, ate too much!

In last months issue we were about to begin weaning our calves. We talked a little about the importance of weaning and vaccinating calves and the health implications of not doing so.

Weaning is nearly complete and this year it seemed to go especially well and within a couple of days, the very vocal objections to the process (from both mamas and calves) had pretty much subsided.

Last month we vaccinated the entire herd and a once a year vaccination is adequate for adult cattle. Calves being vaccinated for the first time require a booster shot 3 to 4 weeks

after the initial one, so we are getting ready for a round of calf booster vaccinations.

Pasture grass is starting to thin out a little and we have begun to supplement with hay. The cattle seem to

enjoy the hay as much as the fresh grass and with hay they have a lot more free time on their hands (or hooves, I guess ☺).

A mature cow at about 1100

pounds requires about 150 pounds of fresh grass or about 30 pounds of hay per day! It takes a substantial part of the day for a cow to eat the necessary 150 pounds, or so, of fresh grass that she needs to satisfy her nutritional requirements but only a few hours to eat the 30 pounds, or so, of the hay she needs to reach that same nutritional level.

The reason for the different amounts of each type of forage is the relative



moisture content of hay and grass. Hay has had most of the grass's native moisture (about 85%) removed through drying so it is a more concentrated and efficient forage.

Customer Satisfaction Survey...

We want to thank those of you who participated in the customer satisfaction survey a few weeks ago. We have now finished tallying the results and we are very excited. For the full results [click here](#). I've included below a brief overview of the rough demographics and some of the more significant results.

Respondents were:

- 42.9% Male.
- 85.7% over 40 years of age.
- 57.1% eat beef about once per week (42.9% eat beef at least several times per week.
- 42.9% purchased based upon a referral from friend, family member or colleague.
- Of the 57.1% that have purchased locally raised beef before, 100% found Five Oaks Beef to be more tender and have better flavor than what they had previously purchased!
- 100% will buy again and will recommend Five Oaks Beef to a friend, family member and/or colleague!

There is still much we can do better but we are very encouraged with these results and thank you all for helping us grow.

Holiday Sale - 30% Off All Packages

Our holiday sale offering all beef packages and Gift Certificates at 30% OFF is being well received, to say the very least! Sales have been so good that we have nearly exhausted inventory and are now taking package orders for mid to late January delivery! We do have some less popular individual cuts still available for immediate delivery so please call us at (252) 257-5994 to discuss.

Gift certificates can, of course, be purchased now as a holiday gift but are still subject to the mid to late January delivery of the beef.

We are growing...

We at Five Oaks Beef are committed to having great tasting, healthy fresh beef available year around and are taking steps that will increase our capacity without compromising quality. We have recently entered into a lease for an additional 40 acres of prime pasture just outside of Warrenton to accommodate our expansion.

GFWC Warrenton Woman's Club Raffle...

Our farm is just north of Warrenton and we were pleased to be able to donate a custom beef package to the GFWC Warrenton Woman's Club to raffle during their fall Soup and Salad Luncheon held at the Warrenton Volunteer Fire Station in town.

We thank the lucky winners of the beef package, Ted and Margaret Echols for their support of the GFWC Warrenton Woman's Club and the great work they do!

Five Oaks Beef on Social Media...

Well, Five Oaks Beef (and Linda and I individually) are now on Facebook! We are still learning about Facebook and welcome any recommendations. We will be doing some low key advertising, of course, to bring in new customers but mostly we see Facebook as a tool with which we can let people know what's going on at the farm and to quickly reach existing customers to let them know about special offers and short run promotions. Please check us out on [Facebook](#)!



Beef you can trust!

Remember Your Gift Certificates...

As you do your Christmas shopping, we hope you will remember our Gift Certificates. They are a great choice, and a great value at 30% Off regular price, specially for those hard to buy for people on your list. You can call to purchase or purchase them on the [Five Oaks Beef](#) website. We will email you the certificate which you can print or deliver electronically to your lucky recipient!

Wreaths Across America

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, wreath-laying ceremonies are held at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,100 additional locations in all 50 states.

The mission of Wreaths Across America is to Remember, Honor, and Teach. On December 17th, wreaths will be placed at every grave, aiming to honor our nation's veterans and ensure they are remembered for their sacrifices.

If you are able, you can donate to purchase wreaths for \$15 each or volunteer your time to actually place wreaths on veterans' graves.

Five Oaks Family Farm is proud to participate in this movement to remember and honor our nation's fallen heroes. For more information, [click here](#).

We hope you will join us in supporting this worthy cause.

From our family to yours, we wish
you a very

Merry Christmas

We hope that you will find the content of this newsletter both interesting and informative and we always welcome suggestions for content or style. If you would like to unsubscribe, however, you may do so by clicking [here](#) and typing Unsubscribe in the subject line.

Beef you can trust!