Program Focuses on Genetic Benefits and Improved Pregnancy Rates

◆ The choice of breeding livestock is one of the most important decisions a cow-calf producer makes in producing quality calves.

◆ Proper pregnancy determination and artificial insemination methods allow producers to implement several important reproductive management options in their herds.

◆ These options include culling less-productive cows, calving season management, planning for a uniform calf crop, and herd management during drought. In addition, artificial insemination allows producers to access high quality genetics for improving herd productivity.

Extension’s Response

◆ The mission of the Beef Cattle Reproduction Management Schools is to properly train individuals on selected beef cattle reproduction management practices, as well as pregnancy determination and artificial insemination techniques.

◆ Participants receive education and hands-on training to learn about anatomy and physiology of reproduction, estrus detection and synchronization, reproductive management and herd health, sire evaluation and selection, diagnostic palpation, and other core practices.

◆ Since 2007, the schools have trained 1,278 cow-calf producers and other industry personnel who collectively manage more than 86,000 head of cattle.

Economic Impact

◆ The economic benefit of the schools was measured in terms of the potential increase in net returns resulting from the adoption and implementation of best-management practices.

◆ Survey respondents indicate potential increase in net returns of $67 per head of cattle resulting from adoption of these management practices.