

## Executive Summary

### Beef Cattle Production Certificate Program

Changes in the beef cattle industry are creating a significant demand for trained employees. These changes include significant increases in input and output costs, the increased use of technology, and public concerns over meat safety. The changes and the demand for employees exist in all segments of the industry from seedstock and cow-calf producers, through stocker/feeder and feedlot operations, and ultimately to the packing and retail segments.

These certificates, developed at the request of industry in conjunction with the Agriculture Advisory Board, respond to industry's need for entry-level employees who are trained to enter the workforce rapidly and continue training while employed.

Certificate holders will possess the knowledge and basic skills to optimize productivity and maximize profitability across all segments of the beef cattle industry. Employees understanding the decision making processes and options available to the industry increase their value to employers.

The Level I certificate prepares students for entry level employment, and easily leads to a more advanced certificate (Level II).

#### Coursework

Level 1	Level 2
Concepts for Agriculture (3 credits)	Agriculture Orientation (2 credits)
Principles of Animal Science (3 credits)	Concepts for Agriculture (3 credits)
Commercial Driver's License (3 credits)	Principles of Animal Science (3 credits)
Plant Science (5 credits)	Commercial Driver's License (3 credits)
Fundamentals of Animal Nutrition (3 credits)	Plant Science (5 credits)
Beef Cattle Production (3 credits)	Fundamentals of Animal Nutrition (3 credits)
Farm Machinery and Technology (3 credits)	Beef Cattle Production (3 credits)
	Principles of Agriculture Economics (3 credits)
	Farm Machinery and Technology (3 credits)
	Horse Production (3 credits)
	Range Management (3 credits)
	Beef Operations (3 credits)
<b>23 credit hours</b>	<b>37 credit hours</b>

#### Respectfully Submitted:

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