



NEWS LINE

AFAC News Line # 10 – Warm Winter Conditions and Lack of Snow Cause for Concern - Livestock Owners May Need “Second Plan of Attack” – Barry Yaremció – January 10, 2012 – Audio Clip Transcriptions

Audio 1 (19 seconds)

“The warm weather lack of snow fall has made it a lot easier for cows to make it through the winter on some of the lower quality forages we have this year but one of things we are concerned about are producers that are feeding cows on swathe grazing or having them grazing out on the native pastures this time of year with the lack of snow.”

Audio 2 (19 seconds)

“Cattle can survive on snow as long as the snow is loose and an abundant supply. With the warm temperatures we’ve had a lot of the snow has either packed down or crusted over and it may appear as if there is a lot of moisture available for these cows but they can’t access the water from the snow because of the hard crust.”

Audio 3 (21 seconds)

“Once that water is removed below that ice level the ice will tend to sag and basically form something that looks like a soup bowl. At a point in time if the ice gets soft enough and there’s enough animals on that ice there could be a crack, water will come up through the ice and you could have a situation where animals will drown. So it’s not being recommended right now for animals to be watered directly out of dug outs.”