With drought in the southern United States, many cattle have headed north to greener pastures. These extra cattle, coupled with pastures being converted to cropland because of high grain prices have made pasture hard to find.

Now, many parts of Nebraska are experiencing below average precipitation and drought conditions. Grass is becoming scarce; what is a cattleman to do?

The “Ranching for Profitability” meetings are focused on pasture production, cattle gains on pasture, and what to do during dry spells. UNL Extension is hosting a series of meetings across Nebraska, with two locations per day. The morning session will run from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., while the afternoon sessions run from 4:30-9 p.m. local times.

Locations will have a variety of topics. Several locations will stop at a local ranch for hands-on range monitoring. UNL beef specialists Rick Rasby and Rick Funston will discuss alternatives to summer pasture, drought management and reproductive beef management.

At some locations Dennis Bauer, Extension educator who coordinates the management of the Barta Brothers Ranch, will talk about the research at the ranch focusing on enhancing yearling gains in the pasture.

David Boxler will discuss fly control on beef cattle at North Platte. The Beef Mobile Lab will also be available for viewing the rumen fisculated steer and view the microbes under a microscope at Broken Bow and Kearney.

Meeting dates, locations and times (local time):

June 25, 9:30 a.m.: O’Neill, Courthouse Annex Meeting Room.

June 25, 4:30 p.m.: Rose, Barta Brother Ranch.

June 26, 9:30 a.m.: Broken Bow, Broken Bow 4-H Building.

June 26, 4:30 p.m.: Kearney, Buffalo County Extension Building.

June 27, 9:30 a.m.: Brewster, Milleson Ranch/Uncle Bucks.

June 27, 4:30 p.m.: Valentine, Peppermill.

June 28: 9:30 a.m.: North Platte, West Central Research and Extension Center.

June 28, 4:30 p.m.: Sidney, Cheyenne County 4-H Building.

To register, call the local UNL Extension Office. Pre-registration is encouraged one week prior for a meal count. Contacts include: O'Neill 402-336-2760, Rose 402-387-221, Broken Bow 308-872-6831, Kearney 308-324-5501, Brewster 308-645-2267, Valentine 402-376-1850, North Platte 308-532-2683, and Cheyenne 308-235-3122.

Registration is $15.