

SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK STANDARD

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Inflation Reduction Act increases agricultural conservation program funds

Texas A&M Agricultural and Food Policy Center provides overview

By Blair Fannin, Texas AgriLife Today

The Inflation Reduction Act recently signed into law by President Biden not only extended the Affordable Care Act, but also infused funding to several agricultural conser-

vation programs familiar to producers. Economists with the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University in College Station have compiled a briefing paper evaluating the effects of the bill on agriculture.

“The bottom line is that there is an enormous infusion of funding for conservation programs,” said Bart Fischer, Ph.D., food policy center co-director in the Department of Agricultural Economics of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Bryan-College Station. “Much discretion about the distribution of that funding is left to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, so we will have to see how they implement the program before we know how everything will work.”

Fischer said it’s important to note that the funding is short-lived and will run out midway through the next Farm Bill, at the end of fiscal year 2026.

“Further, in this case the conservation priorities were set by Congress rather than at the grassroots level, so it’s not yet clear what the uptake will be,” he said.

What did the Inflation Reduction Act change?

For agriculture, additional funds were given to four existing conservation programs:

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program, EQIP.
- Conservation Stewardship Program, CSP.
- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, ACEP.
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program, RCPP.

The funding for these programs was extended through 2031. Additional funding was made available for rural development and forestry. According to

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PERIODICAL

Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas
ROUND-UP REVIEW
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Just Your **Standard Bull** 
By Michael Sturgess

TEXAS *Trails...*
By Clay Coppedge

It is sometimes difficult to put into words our appreciation for someone who has done a great job. But when it is someone who has been with us from the very beginning, there truly are no words.

Since our first issue on Aug. 18, 1989, the name you would find published next to the title editor on page 2 was Daren McCutchen. His last issue as editor was Aug. 19, 2022. After 33 years of faithful service, Daren is retiring from this position.

From the old typesetting machines to desktop publishing, Daren has pretty much seen it all in terms of where this industry was and what it has become. But what means more to me than his professional prowess was that Daren is the kind of person that if a job needed doing, if there was a deadline to be met, Daren was there to get it done.

I can't begin to tell you the long hours we would spend in the old days getting the newspaper out on time for each issue. Computers are much faster and efficient than they were in the old days. I can remember stock

show issues where we all came in on Monday, stayed until midnight, came back Tuesday morning and stayed until noon on Wednesday. Whatever we needed to do. And whatever it took. Daren was always there to get it done. Not one time over the past 33 years did he ever call in sick on deadlines. He fought through back issues and many other personal sacrifices to get you the next issue in a timely manner. There have been times when a press has broken down or got behind, the mail service missed a delivery schedule due to unforeseen circumstances, or even delays with our beloved US Postal System that may have caused a delay in the delivery of your newspaper.

I can promise you this. Not one time in these first 33 years of publishing can anyone point a finger at Daren and say he was the cause of the delay. It never happened. To those of you who have used his typesetting services for sale catalogs, you also know this to be true. If the material is there, if he isn't waiting on you for something, then he goes until the job is done!

For me personally, I have known and worked with Daren since I moved here in February of 1986, when I came to work for Texas Farm & Ranch News. Daren was doing typesetting and layout for them, and of course countless sale catalogs. We officed on Nakoma Street, which is just one block north of where we office today. His dad, Madison "Mac" McCutchen was with Pat McCarty since 1958 and served as editor of Texas Farm & Ranch News for many years.

Daren has always been one of those "handy" friends, meaning he could have been a mechanic, a cabinet maker, a home builder, a landscaper. He helped me build my first deck. When we finished you could have parked a semi-truck on it and it would have held up just fine.

Daren is not retiring all together—just slowing down a bit. If you need a sale catalog done and need it fast, he will still be around to help you. Daren—thank you for your 33 years of faithful service. And thank you for your 36 years of friendship!

So, in my next column, I'll go into further detail, but please help me welcome our new graphic artist, Crystal Devoll! We have known Crystal for some time, as she has built a great reputation out there for ad design and catalog work. She is also the former graphic designer/layout artist for the Ear Magazine. And as Daren was and is, Crystal is as dependable as they come. We look forward to working with Crystal and are excited to see what the future holds in store for all of us.

More details to come next month!

The gang that couldn't think straight

One otherwise unremarkable evening in 1892 a group of rowdy and possibly intoxicated young men tried to board a Missouri, Kansas and Pacific train in Troy without tickets. A bouncer came along and tossed them off the train, pleasing the delinquents not at all. They whipped out pistols and fired off a few rounds at the train as it left the station. They probably called the train bad names and vowed revenge.

The incident was still fresh in engineer J.W. Pepple's mind when about three miles north of Temple he spotted what appeared to be lanterns on the tracks. Pepple's common sense warned him there might trouble ahead, so he wasn't surprised to see six or seven men with masks and guns standing on the tracks, brandishing firearms and commanding the train to stop.

If they thought Pepple would comply, they were wrong. The engineer rammed the throttle forward, scattering bandits to either side of the tracks like tenpins. The men fired off several shots and probably yelled variations of "Stop or I'll yell stop again" as the train once sped away without stopping.

A week later, three men trying to sneak aboard an open baggage car on a Missouri, Kansas and Pacific train found two other men already occupying the car. One of the men had a mask, a pistol and an axe. The second man carried a pistol

in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other. Their cover blown, they stashed the mask and axe but kept the pistols (and whiskey) in order to once more shoot at the train as it pulled out of the station without them.

Why they would employ the same MO a few nights later isn't hard to figure out. Like the majority of criminals we never hear of and most of the ones we do, these guys weren't smart enough for work that didn't include incarceration and violent death

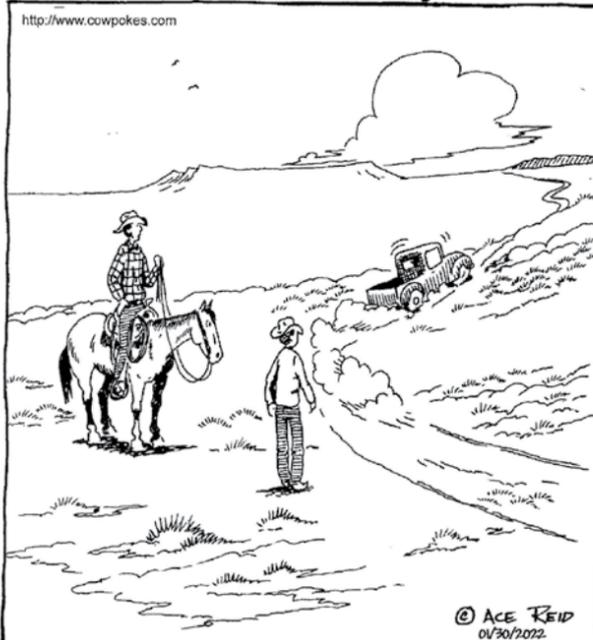
as occupational hazards. However, Pepple, the engineer, was plenty smart.

When his train pulled around a bend a few days later and he perceived two men with rifles set up in a sharpshooting position, he knew just what to do. He pushed the throttle down and ducked as bullets ricocheted off the train and rattled around the inside of a passenger car, causing great alarm but only two minor injuries. Pepple said it sounded like the bullets

(Continued on page 6)

USDA Livestock Export/Import Statistics For 8-25-22			
SPECIES:	8-20-22:	Wk.-Dt.:	Yr.-Dt.:
1) BEEF CATTLE			
a. Slaughter	1,156	1,403	56,367
b. Breeding Males	138	0	1,868
c. Breeding Females	28	20	850
Total	1,322	1,423	59,085
2) HOGS			
a. Slaughter	0	0	0
b. Breeding Males	52	0	1,167
c. Breeding Females	0	2,938	7,536
Total	52	2,938	8,703
3) SHEEP			
a. Slaughter			
1) lambs	0	0	0
2) ewes	0	0	0
b. Breeding Males	0	0	0
c. Breeding Females	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0
4) DAIRY CATTLE			
a. Breeding Males	0	0	2
b. Breeding Females	200	83	3,918
Total	200	83	3,920
5) GOATS			
a. Angora	0	0	0
b. Spanish	0	0	0
c. Other	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0
6) HORSES			
a. Slaughter	859	111	9,443
b. Breeding Males	15	61	731
c. Breeding Females	34	67	1,199
d. Geldings	16	15	531
e. Burro/Mule/Pony	2	0	13
Total	926	254	11,917
7) EXOTICS			
Total	0	0	102
MEXICO TO NEW MEXICO IMPORTS			
SPECIES:	8-30-22:	1-1-22 - Present	
FEEDER CATTLE	9,401	304,078	
MEXICO TO TEXAS IMPORTS			
FEEDER CATTLE	1,647	111,951	

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SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK STANDARD

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SUBSCRIPTION WILL START UPON RECEIPT OF PAYMENT

DC News...

USDA to mail additional pre-filled applications to producers impacted by 2020, 2021 disasters

Source: USDA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18, 2022 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced another installment (phase) in assistance to commodity and specialty crop producers impacted by natural disaster events in 2020 and 2021. More than 18,000 producers will soon receive new or updated pre-filled disaster applications to offset eligible crop losses. Approximately \$6.4 billion has already been distributed to 165,000 producers through USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Emergency Relief Program (ERP).

"We knew when we announced ERP in May that we would have additional applications to send toward the end of the summer as we received new information, and we came to know of producers who were inadvertently left out of the first data set we used," said USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Robert Bonnie. "I am proud of our team's continued effort to capture additional insurance records to enable over 18,000 producers to receive new or updated pre-filled disaster applications to provide much needed financial relief."

FSA will begin mailing pre-filled applications in late August to producers who have potentially eligible losses and:

- Received crop insurance indemnities for qualifying 2020 and 2021 disaster events after May 2, 2022.
- Received crop insurance indemnities associated with Nursery, Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO), Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX), Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO) and Margin Protection (MP) policies.
- New primary policyholders not included in the initial insured producer Phase 1 mailing from May 25, 2022, because their claim records had not been filled.
- Certain 2020 prevent plant losses related to qualifying

2020 disaster events that had only been recorded

in crop insurance records as related to 2019 adverse weather events and, as such, were not previously provided in applications sent earlier this year.

- New Substantial Beneficial Interest (SBI) records, including SBIs where tax identification numbers were corrected.

Producers are expected to receive assistance direct deposited into their bank account within three business days after they sign and return the pre-filled application to the FSA county office and the county office enters the

(Continued on page 18)

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USDA Major Livestock Reports:

Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, August 25, 2022: Total receipts: 867, last reported (8-18-22) 1,584, last year 1,032. Feeder cattle 581 (67.0%), last reported (8-18-22) 1,220 (77.0%), last year 805 (78.0%). Slaughter cattle 217 (25.0%), last reported (8-18-22) 269 (17.0%), last year 124 (12.0%). Replacement cattle 69 (8.0%), last reported (8-18-22) 95 (6.0%), last year 103 (10.0%). Compared to last week steer and heifer calves and yearlings firm. Slaughter cows and bulls 2.00-4.00 higher. Stock cows and pairs not well tested, Trading fairly active, demand good. The area has received very scattered showers this week. This report does not include light calves split off the cows and sold by the head. Supply included: 67% Feeder Cattle (46% Steers, 49% Heifers, 5% Bulls); 25% Slaughter Cattle (91% Cows, 9% Bulls); 8% Replacement Cattle (96% Stock Cows, 4% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 12%.

Oklahoma National Stockyards, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 29, 2022: Total receipts 7,954, last reported (8-22-22) 7,596, last year 7,187. Feeder cattle: 7,954 (100.0%), last reported (8-22-22) 7,596 (100.0%), last year 7,187 (100.0%). Compared to last week: Feeder steers unevenly steady. Feeder heifers and Heifer calves steady to 4.00 lower. Steer calves unevenly steady. Demand moderate to good despite the sharp declines in the feeder cattle futures Monday. Corn futures closing 15-18 higher on Monday pushing feeder futures well over 2.00 lower. Early corn yields are speculated to be lighter than what is estimated. Quality mostly average. Supply included: 100% Feeder Cattle (62% Steers, 36% Heifers, 2% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 53%.

SALE: Beeville Livestock Commission, Inc.
Beeville, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-26-2022
VOLUME: 100
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	152-230	140-178
300-400 lbs.	168-230	123-177
400-500 lbs.	150-181	138-161
500-600 lbs.	139-164	121-147
600-700 lbs.	137-162	117-146
700-800 lbs.	116-150	104-130
Slaughter cows	42-94	
Slaughter bulls	60-101	
Stocker cows	625-835	
Pairs	800-1310	

SALE: Brazos Valley Livestock Commission
Bryan, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-30-2022
VOLUME: 658
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	190-220	150-180
300-400 lbs.	180-215	160-195
400-500 lbs.	175-210	150-192.50
500-600 lbs.	160-197	140-164
600-700 lbs.	150-173	132-155
700-800 lbs.	150-155	130-138
Slaughter cows	55-98	
Slaughter bulls	85-102	
Stocker cows	850-1035	
Pairs	—	

SALE: Live Oak Auction, Inc.
Three Rivers, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-29-2022
VOLUME: 756
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	170-220	154-196
300-400 lbs.	162-216	148-188
400-500 lbs.	160-198	146-182
500-600 lbs.	148-190	140-168
600-700 lbs.	138-168	130-158
700-800 lbs.	126-160	112-144
Slaughter cows	40-94	
Slaughter bulls	86-110	
Stocker cows	575-925	
Pairs	675-950	

SALE: Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc.
Nixon, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-29-2022
VOLUME: 919
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	155-245	124-220
300-400 lbs.	166-240	141-210
400-500 lbs.	158-220	149-215
500-600 lbs.	153-193	142-255
600-700 lbs.	142-180	134-173
700-800 lbs.	126-153	141-144
Slaughter cows	25-93	
Slaughter bulls	86-106	
Stocker cows	450-960	
Pairs	710-800	

SALE: Gulf Coast Livestock Auction, LLC
Alice, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-23-2022
VOLUME: 525
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	155-185	145-170
300-400 lbs.	165-188	150-175
400-500 lbs.	155-190	152-177
500-600 lbs.	148-180	138-167
600-700 lbs.	133-160	125-156
700-800 lbs.	120-145	100-125
Slaughter cows	20-90	
Slaughter bulls	70-110	
Stocker cows	750-1000	
Pairs	800-1150	

SALE: Gillespie Livestock Company
Fredericksburg, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-24-2022
VOLUME: 544
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	170-232.50	160-188
300-400 lbs.	175-235	160-190
400-500 lbs.	170-225	155-180
500-600 lbs.	160-215	145-175
600-700 lbs.	150-188	135-160
700-800 lbs.	140-179	130-150
Slaughter cows	50-100	
Slaughter bulls	60-117	
Stocker cows	800-1100	
Pairs	1000-1550	

SALE: Groesbeck Auction/Livestock Co., LLC
Groesbeck, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-25-2022
VOLUME: 876
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	—	—
300-400 lbs.	165-225	145-195
400-500 lbs.	165-222.50	140-185
500-600 lbs.	150-192	130-178
600-700 lbs.	142-185	125-165
700-800 lbs.	113-162	110-152
Slaughter cows	35-80	
Slaughter bulls	80-118	
Stocker cows	350-1275	
Pairs	650-1475	

SALE: Jordan Cattle Auction
San Saba & Mason, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-25-2022
VOLUME: 2610
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	160-245	140-182.5
300-400 lbs.	150-230	145-190
400-500 lbs.	150-220	140-185
500-600 lbs.	140-209	135-171
600-700 lbs.	140-189	130-170
700-800 lbs.	120-178	125-149
Slaughter cows	35-100	
Slaughter bulls	70-116	
Stocker cows	750-1200	
Pairs	870-1425	

SALE: Giddings Livestock Commission
Giddings, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-22-2022
VOLUME: 1810
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	162-225	143-187.50
300-400 lbs.	166-220	156-175
400-500 lbs.	164-210	151-170
500-600 lbs.	160-180	149-160
600-700 lbs.	154-168	132-155
700-800 lbs.	123-156	120-153
Slaughter cows	15-100	
Slaughter bulls	85-110	
Stocker cows	600-1125	
Pairs	850-1325	

SALE: Lampasas Cattle Auction
Lampasas, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-24-2022
VOLUME: 312
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	160-200	157-170
300-400 lbs.	186-225	166-190
400-500 lbs.	177-216	160-190
500-600 lbs.	169-191	158-177
600-700 lbs.	151-168	145-165
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	30-92	
Slaughter bulls	60-112	
Stocker cows	700-1000	
Pairs	900-1450	

SALE: East Texas Livestock, Inc.
Crockett, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-30-2022
VOLUME: 2281
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	160-250	144-230
300-400 lbs.	145-236	139-222
400-500 lbs.	140-230	133-202
500-600 lbs.	135-190	123-167
600-700 lbs.	123-181	114-166
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	74-93	
Slaughter bulls	83-113	
Stocker cows	670-1450	
Pairs	890-1500	

SALE: Caldwell Livestock Commission Co., Inc.
Caldwell, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-24-2022
VOLUME: 569
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	175-222	152-175
300-400 lbs.	183-227	163-195
400-500 lbs.	176-215	160-187
500-600 lbs.	166-192	157-190
600-700 lbs.	158-183	145-163
700-800 lbs.	152-155	130-146
Slaughter cows	35-105	
Slaughter bulls	75-122	
Stocker cows	500-1100	
Pairs	—	

SALE: Buffalo Livestock Commission Co., Inc.
Buffalo, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-27-2022
VOLUME: 1794
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	135-222	115-190
300-400 lbs.	150-230	120-195
400-500 lbs.	130-215	120-172
500-600 lbs.	140-189	115-170
600-700 lbs.	135-170	110-166
700-800 lbs.	120-163	105-142
Slaughter cows	25-102	
Slaughter bulls	75-116	
Stocker cows	750-1310	
Pairs	550-1775	

SALE: Navasota Livestock Auction Co.
Navasota, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-27-2022
VOLUME: 1431
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	110-237.50	110-200
300-400 lbs.	110-230	105-200
400-500 lbs.	110-220	100-200
500-600 lbs.	110-197	100-169
600-700 lbs.	100-191	100-166
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	35-96	
Slaughter bulls	60-112	
Stocker cows	700-1200	
Pairs	1050-1275	

SALE: Cattleman's Brenham Livestock
Brenham, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-26-2022
VOLUME: 1259
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	150-230	140-212
300-400 lbs.	145-232	135-224
400-500 lbs.	135-230	130-194
500-600 lbs.	130-198	120-177
600-700 lbs.	125-189	110-165
700-800 lbs.	110-160	105-148
Slaughter cows	38-93	
Slaughter bulls	67-111	
Stocker cows	600-1300	
Pairs	850-1650	

SALE: Cuero-Victoria Livestock Markets
Cuero & Victoria, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-26-2022
VOLUME: 783
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	138-170	158-216
300-400 lbs.	164-232	159-190
400-500 lbs.	166-222	155-179
500-600 lbs.	162-186	149-182
600-700 lbs.	155-184	141-169
700-800 lbs.	150-164	119-150
Slaughter cows	30-87	
Slaughter bulls	80-119	
Stocker cows	83-116	
Pairs	900-1200	

SALE: Gonzales Livestock Market, Inc.
Gonzales, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-27-2022
VOLUME: 1262
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	235-240	190-195
300-400 lbs.	227-230	171-185
400-500 lbs.	190-200	165-165
500-600 lbs.	170-182	157-160
600-700 lbs.	165-168	136-152
700-800 lbs.	148-160	—
Slaughter cows	32-103	
Slaughter bulls	86-115	
Stocker cows	600-1100	
Pairs	750-1400	

SALE: Columbus Livestock Co.
Columbus, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-25-2022
VOLUME: 212
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	112-220	120-185
300-400 lbs.	125-225	135-218
400-500 lbs.	125-215	130-184
500-600 lbs.	110-180	120-180
600-700 lbs.	110-172	125-160
700-800 lbs.	110-158	110-145
Slaughter cows	20-90	
Slaughter bulls	65-110	
Stocker cows	550-1200	
Pairs	750-1300	

SALE: Four County Livestock Auction
Industry, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-23-2022
VOLUME: 728
TREND: Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	110-235	100-185
300-400 lbs.	110-235	100-185
400-500 lbs.	110-215	90-178
500-600 lbs.	100-185	90-168
600-700 lbs.	100-178	90-157
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	30-95	
Slaughter bulls	80-112	
Stocker cows	500-975	
Pairs	750-975	

SALE: El Campo Livestock Auction
El Campo, Texas
DATE OF SALE: 8-30-2022
VOLUME: 213
TREND: Steady/no change.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	175-213	150-190
300-400 lbs.	174-210	165-182
400-500 lbs.	182-210	164-178
500-600 lbs.	165-190	158-170
600-700 lbs.	164-182	157-163
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	20-86	
Slaughter bulls	90-108	
Stocker cows	—	
Pairs	—	

Sheep & Goat Auctions:

Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, August 30, 2022: Sheep and goats: Total receipts 5,800, last reported (8-23-22) 5,487, last year 5,425. Feeder sheep/lambs 290 (5.0%), last reported (8-23-22) 164 (3.0%), last year 54 (1.0%). Slaughter sheep/lambs 2,146 (37.0%), last reported (8-23-22) 2,850 (51.9%), last year 1,748 (32.2%). Replacement sheep/lambs 406 (7.0%), last reported (8-23-22) 222 (4.0%), last year 163 (3.0%). Feeder goats 1,102 (19.0%), last reported (8-23-22) 329 (6.0%), last year 74 (1.4%). Slaughter goats 1,856 (32.0%), last reported (8-23-22) 1,866 (34.0%), last year 3,201 (59.0%). Replacement goats 0 (0.0%), last reported (8-23-22) 56 (1.0%), last year 185 (3.4%). Compared to last week slaughter lambs 10.00-15.00 higher. Slaughter ewes firm to 5.00 higher. Feeder lambs not well tested. Nannies 10.00 higher; kids firm. Trading fairly active, demand good. Supply included: 5% Feeder Sheep/Lambs (49% Lambs, 51% Hair Lambs); 37% Slaughter Sheep/Lambs (19% Woolled & Shorn, 59% Hair Breeds, 20% Hair Ewes, 1% Bucks, 0% Hair Bucks); 7% Replacement Sheep/Lambs (100% Hair Ewes); 19% Feeder Goats (100% Kids); 32% Slaughter Goats (75% Kids, 10% Nannies/Does, 13% Bucks/Billies, 2% Wethers).

Gillespie Livestock Company, Fredericksburg, Texas, August 23, 2022: Sheep and goats: Light Lambs Steady. Heavy Lambs Steady. Kids Steady. Light Kids Steady. #1 Wool Lambs 40-60 Lb 170.00-239.00 Cwt. #1 Wool Lambs 60-80 Lb 170.00-235.00 Cwt. Bbd Lambs (40-60 Lb) 100.00-200.00 Cwt. Dorpx Lambs (40-60 Lb) 220.00-320.00 Cwt. Dorpx Lambs (60-80 Lb) 180.00-310.00 Cwt. Light. Slaughter Lambs (45-80 Lb) 180.00-320.00 Cwt. Slaughter Lambs (100-150 Lb) 140.00-200.00 Cwt. Packer Ewes 64.00-115.00 Cwt. Sheep Bucks/Rams 100.00-160.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (20-40 Lb) 170.00-360.00 Cwt. #1. Sp/Boex Kids (40-60 Lb) 170.00-350.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (60-80 Lb) 200.00-300.00 Cwt. Sp/Boex Muttons 200.00-400.00 Cwt. Angora Kids 160.00-300.00 Cwt. Lower Quality Kids 100.00-200.00 Cwt. Packer Sp/Boex Nannies 50.00-200.00 Cwt. Stocker. Sp/Boex Nannies 250.00-300.00 Cwt. Angora Nannies 30.00-80.00 Cwt



Texas vineyards report low yields, high quality grapes

By Adam Russell, Texas AgriLife TODAY

Texas wine-grape vineyards were seeing below-average yields and above-average quality following a challenging 2022 growing season, according to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

Drought and extreme heat impacted yields in every Texas region, but the arid conditions provided some positives, especially in areas that historically experience more fungal disease pressure due to rainfall and high humidity.

AgriLife Extension viticulturists Fran Pontasch, Bryan-College Station; Brianna Crowley, Fredericksburg; Michael Cook, Denton, and Daniel Hillin, Lubbock, provided a general snapshot of the season for their respective regions.

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

COASTAL BEND:

Pontasch said harvest was wrapping up along the Gulf Coast. Drought and heat led to below-average yields, but also contributed to exceptional quality for grapes.

Disease pressure was much lower than usual because humidity levels were low. Dry conditions also contributed to good sugar content in blanc du bois, the primary grape grown in the region.

“Blanc du bois is an early variety and luckily was ready for harvest about six weeks into drought conditions here,” she said. “So, the grapes benefitted from no disease and were very good quality with some irrigation.”

The 2022 season was also a year of expansion in the Coastal Bend, Pontasch said. Growers were adding capacity with new acres, new vines and new varieties to serve the incredible number of wineries

Growers along the Coastal Bend region of the state are very limited in the grape varieties they can grow due to hot, humid conditions. Most vineyards are small – 2-3 acres, Pontasch said. But they band together to contribute important yields of blanc du bois to serve in-

and out-of-state demand. New varieties emerging from California, Florida and Arkansas that could be

suitable for the region’s conditions could further expand opportunities for vineyards in the region, she said.

HILL COUNTRY: Crowley said vineyards began experiencing severe drought much earlier than many parts of the state. Rainfall totals since October were around 4-5 inches for many growers this season.

The result was a very low crop load despite irrigation, she said. Crowley estimated grape yields would be 30%-50% of the average growing season.

Fruit size, like for many fruit-bearing plants, on

grape vines were smaller than normal, she said. But quality was very good.

“It has been very dry, and the heat came early and has been relentless,” she said. “So, it has been a struggle to get vine root

systems the moisture they need to work efficiently.”

Disease pressure was very low this season, but the heat and drought stress compounded problems related to vine recovery from Winter

(Continued on page 10)



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Inflation...

(Continued from page 1)
the briefing paper, from the perspective of agricultural producers, the Inflation Reduction Act will provide a significant, short-term infusion of funding for these select conservation programs.

Highlights outlined in the food policy center briefing paper include:

— The IRA provided an additional \$8.45 billion for EQIP through fiscal year 2026 and extended the program through fiscal year 2031. It increased funding for conservation innovation trials from \$25

million to \$50 million. — In implementing the IRA, USDA is expected to prioritize proposals that “utilize diet and feed management to reduce enteric methane emissions from ruminants” and to provide funding for “one or more agricultural conservation practices or enhancements that the Secretary determines directly improve soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses, or reduce, capture, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated with agricultural production.” — A new program being

added is the Quantifying Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Emissions the IRA provided \$300 million “to carry out a program to quantify carbon sequestration and carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide emissions, through which [NRCS] shall collect field-based data to assess the carbon sequestration and reduction in carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide emissions outcomes associated with activities carried out pursuant to this section and use the data to monitor and track those carbon sequestration and emissions trends

through the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Assessment Program of the Department of Agriculture.” **Details will determine value** — “The extent to which the additional funding is perceived as helpful will largely depend on how the USDA implements the provisions,” Fischer said. Meanwhile, producers continue to face “enormous costs” as they approach fall harvest, and a growing number of concerns remain over the upcoming crop year, the briefing paper notes. “We are also getting asked

a lot of questions about how this will impact the next Farm Bill,” Fischer said. “My answer is that an infusion of this size is certainly a boost to these programs, but because the additional funding dries up at the end of fiscal year 2026, it undoubtedly will complicate the next Farm Bill deliberations. Conservation groups will want to see the elevated funding levels continued, but that will require coming up with new money. Generally speaking, most farm groups want to see big improvements to the farm safety net. Next year is going to be interesting.”

Texas Trails...

(Continued from page 2)

came from six or seven guns. But the law was closing in. Greatly annoyed by this motley group of trigger-happy goofballs, the railroad and local law enforcement conducted an investigation that resulted in the arrest of seven men: the Seven-Up Gang. The gang’s namesake was a gambler named Henry Russell, or Seven-Up Russell to a group of cohorts that included Charles Franklin (aka Deadeye Dick) Bud Miller, and three Ward brothers—Charles, Will and Ben.

When the lawmen charged Temple saloon-keeper O.P. “Jack” Buchanan with harboring the gang, he found the inspiration for a full recital of everything he knew about robberies that six of the men— he claimed Miller was innocent— had committed in Waco and Temple.

In jail, Seven-Up Russell and Deadeye Dick met two men named Griffin and Dillard who were charged with robbing a Chinese laborer named Wah Sing of \$40. Griffin and Dillard promised to bust Seven-Up and Deadeye Dick out of jail if they would kindly take the fall for robbing Wah Sing. Dead-Eye Dick apparently thought this was a brilliant idea so he went ahead and confessed to the robbery and got 10 years in prison.

Griffin and Dillard, of course, forgot all about busting Deadeye Dick or anybody else out of jail once they were released. But here’s a weird thing. They were arrested and charged a second time with Wah Sing’s robbery, but the courts never bothered to reverse Dead-Eye Dick’s conviction; he served the full ten years.

Seven-Up Russell and the other members of the gang went to prison for varying amounts of time. Seven-Up escaped once, but not for long. After his release he turned up in Bell County in 1897, charged with rape but acquitted when the alleged victim changed her story on the stand. Buchanan’s charges were dropped in exchange for his testimony. Will Ward’s trial resulted in a hung jury.

That ended the escapades of the Seven-Up Gang, hardly remembered now except as an Old West version of an early Texas version of *The Gang That Couldn’t Shoot Straight*. Like so many of their other their criminal counterparts, they didn’t think straight, either.

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Executive Director's Report...

By: Cooper Little

Thankful for the moisture we've been blessed with recently and let's continue to pray the good Lord keeps it up. Recently the state office has been working hard on making this ICA Central Texas All Breed Bull & Female Sale a great one and are anticipating deep quality consignments. The sale date is set for Oct. 21st at JB Wells Park in Gonzales. Sale rules and consignment forms are available on our website (icatexas.com). For those interested in participating as a sponsor give the state office a call (512/620-0162)

I regret to inform you we lost ICA member, Jordan Lee Cotton, son of Brad Cotton, our most recent past state president. Though the Cotton's will be holding a private service, ICA scholarship donations may be made in memoriam of Jordan Lee Cotton. The ICA state office is a resource to your operation and advocates for the interests of cattle producers. If you have any questions or would like to become a member, please call the state office at 512/620-0162. ICA



By Joe C. Paschal,
Livestock Specialist,
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Alternative hay and winter feeding options

Some of us have had some rain, but our rangelands and pastures are still under the influence of drought. With enough moisture and warm weather there will be regrowth for fall and maybe winter grazing. My colleague and Beef Cattle Extension Specialist at Overton, Dr. Jason Banta, evaluated some alternatives to consider.

Feeding corn (or grain sorghum) stalks. Stalk hay consists of husks, stalks and some ears or heads and vary widely in nutrient content. Total digestible nutrients (TDN, a measure of energy) averaged 46.5% (a dry cow requires about 48%, a wet cow 52%) while crude protein (CP) averaged 5.7% (dry cow about 7%, a wet cow 10%). There is generally more waste in sorghum stalks and they are lower in CP (but similar in TDN) than corn stalks. If the entire corn plant is harvested for hay TDN and CP can be higher, but nitrate and aflatoxins can be concerns.

Straw from small grain crops such as oats, rye, barley, or triticale will

have lower CP and TDN and is not very palatable. Cotton gin trash or cotton burrs are the result of cotton ginning (removing the seed from the lint or fiber). It contains leaves, stems, burrs, lint, and seed. It will range from 7-9% in CP and 38-42% in TDN but can vary greatly. It can be difficult to handle and is best when mixed with other feeds.

When feeding this fall and winter, determine how much hay cows will consume. A dry cow will consume 1.8-2.0% of her body weight, while a wet cow will eat 2.3-2.5%. If you don't have enough hay, there are ways to stretch your hay supplies. Selling calves early is one option to reduce demand. A second option is to reduce the amount of roughage fed while increasing other supplements. A minimum of 10 pounds of roughage is required to maintain a rumen function. It is important to gradually increase consumption of high energy or grain supplements slowly to allow the rumen microbes to adjust. Planting ryegrass or



President's Address...

By: Kerry Wiggins

Greetings. Hopefully, you all have received some (or more) moisture in the past few days than we've seen in the last few months. Finally! I can't wait for the grass to green up even though it may not be enough to get all the hay that we'll need for the winter, it's still better than it was.

Lots of cattle have been and are continuing to go to market because of the drought and high input costs provided by Mother Nature. Again, hopefully, we have held on to benefit from what market going forward. Although I was un-

able to attend, my understanding is the Texas A&M Beef Short Course was once again a great success. ICA was represented and signed up some new members and we're still looking to grow. Please tell your friends and neighbors about our mission and ask that they join us. Chapters are meeting and some new ones are being organized. There is room for everyone. Your ICA State Board of Directors will meet in September. Please contact us if there is an issue that you would like addressed. Meanwhile, try to stay cool and thank the Lord for the rain.

other small grains can stretch limited hay supplies or grazing. Even with the high cost of seed and fertilizer, they will provide high quality forage when we do catch some rain. Apply fertilizer after germina-

tion. Limit graze (restrict the amount of time cattle graze them) on these pastures to extend their usefulness and reduce forage losses due to trampling. For a copy of this article and other tips, visit your County Extension Agent.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

ICA State Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Wednesday
Sept. 14th at Smitty's BBQ Lockhart

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Chapter Happenings...

Around The Lone Star State

Gonzales ICA Chapter

Silveus Insurance Group agent, Jim Banner will discuss crop insurance products as guest speaker at the Gonzales ICA chapter meeting and meal, scheduled for 6 pm Thursday Sept. 29 at the Gonzales VFW Hall, 3302 Harwood Rd. The event is free. Banner, a native of

Llano County, is a member of the ICA, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and has been active in the Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course. Silveus Insurance Group is one of the nation's leading private crop insurance agencies, offering risk management products in pasture, range-

land, and forage categories.

The Gonzales ICA chapter allows cattlemen of all ages to learn about industry trends, be engaged in ICA's government relations efforts and network with fellow producers. Student memberships are \$50 per year; the base membership level is \$125 per year.

To join the Gonzales ICA chapter, please contact ICA Office Manager Dorothy Harper at 512/620-0162, online at icatexas.com, or contact Perry Winegeart, chapter president at 830/857-4397.

Submitted by

Perry Winegeart

East Texas ICA Chapter

Save the date! The East Texas chapter of ICA will meet Tuesday, Sept. 20 at the 1855 Steakhouse, located at 555 East Palestine Avenue, in Palestine. The meal will be served at 6 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Dr. John Hutchinson, a veterinarian with Merck. Dr. Hutchinson is slated to discuss emerging animal health issues in Texas.

Submitted by Lillian Read

South Central Texas ICA

Chapter

SCTICA looks forward to their next meeting which will be the annual SCTICA Windy Miller Memorial Benefit Team Roping to be held Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022 at Cowboy Fellowship in Jourdan, Texas. Cash prizes will be awarded for hi-point 13 and 8/10 ropings. Other prizes include buckles, knives, halters and oil changes.

Past State ICA President and current SCTICA Board Member Brad Cotton encourages everyone "to come to our roping produced by S Productions. We are so pleased they have agreed to work with us again as things have gone very smoothly

with them in the past."

Please watch for flyers announcing the roping and share the date with your friends and family. We hope to have a great event that will allow our SCTICA chapter to continue to spread the news and progress regarding cattle/ranching challenges. Happy Trails!

Submitted by Laurie Miller

Mid-Tex ICA Chapter

Howdy folks! I hope this letter finds all of you a lot better and wetter than the previous three months. We recently had our chapter meeting in Lockhart at Chisholm Trail BBQ, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022. We elected officers for the Mid-Tex chapter and they are: President-Tommy Jackson, Secretary-Madison Bexley and Treasurer-Karen Bell.

There is also a new fund-raising committee and I will share contact information on that in the next article. At our meeting we had Thomas Jackson and Austin Miles from Texas Farm Credit as guest speakers. They briefed us on the ag financing products available as well as drought insurance programs they have to offer, which is on all our minds at this time. Texas Farm Credit also sponsored our meal and we extend a big thank you for that!

I hope all of you had a good rain so we can grow some grass, plus a little cooler weather. We have endured a very hot, dry summer this year and need some relief.

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2022, 6:30 p.m. at Chisholm Trail BBQ in Lockhart in the back room. Hope to see more new and familiar faces. Pray for rain and for the USA!

Submitted by Karen Bell

Colorado Valley ICA

Chapter

The CVICA will be holding their "Annual Fundraiser BBQ & Trade Show" on Feb. 11, 2023. The event will have a social hour, dinner, silent & live auction, gun raffle and cash door prizes. Tickets will go on sale in late September.

Submitted by Steve Janda

Victoria-Crossroads ICA

Chapter

The Victoria - Crossroads Chapter is planning a spring fundraiser in April 2023 with more details to come. We are also putting together an exciting raffle in order to raise funds for the event. Our last meeting went great on July 28th. We'll be announcing our next local chapter meeting soon and we hope all members will attend.

Submitted by Kyle Motal



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Crops...

(Continued from page 5)

Storm Uri and isolated disease hot spots. Crowley said there were reports of botrytis, a fungus that damages fruit, that may have occurred following several dewy mornings.

HIGH PLAINS AND WEST TEXAS: Hillin said the 2022 season started a few weeks late in the High Plains but is set to finish a bit early. Growers in the High Plains are about midway through grape harvest.

A lack of early season rainfall and cool spring temperatures slowed bud break,

but high temperatures in May and June sped up the maturation and ripening process to harvest. Hillin said it was too early to speculate about yield numbers, but quality looked excellent so far.

“The story this season was the early bud break, severe drought and multiple days above 100 degrees,” he said. “Growers were irrigating heavily this year to keep everything going, but overall, in terms of quality, it is going to be good.”

Vineyards in the High Plains produce around 80%-85% of Texas wine grapes, he said. The drier climate

allows growers to produce around 30 different Vitis vinifera grape varieties. The unique terroir of the High Plains American Viticultural Area is conducive to growing these high-quality French, Italian and Spanish varieties.

Hillin said growers continued to install new acres in both the High Plains and West Texas regions while some experienced weather-related setbacks from either extreme heat or freezes.

Winter damage is always a concern in the High Plains and does occur every year, he said. However, the region did not see the extreme amount of

injury and crop loss that occurred in other regions from Winter Storm Uri because vines were still well into the dormancy period at the time.

“The winemakers will have a better idea about how the overall quality of the grapes translates into the 2022 vintage, but aside from the excess heat and water stress this year, the vines held up quite well,” he said. “The quality from this region is always good.”

NORTH TEXAS: Cook said North Texas growers experienced similar weather conditions, including the late start and early finish amid

drought and high temperatures. Fruit sets and sizes were slightly below normal, but he said high winds contributed to early losses.

The region experienced far more days with 40 mile per hour winds or greater during April and May than normal, Cook said.

“There was no loss to a late spring frost, but the high winds contributed to fruit sets that were 10%-30% below normal, depending on variety,” he said. “Quality has been nice, and we did get some critical rains earlier in the season that helped.”

Dry conditions also

helped fruit avoid disease, Cook said. But there were some issues with blanc du bois and tempranillo vines that were damaged by Winter Storm Uri, especially in vineyards where retraining the vines was an issue.

Blanc du bois vines were retrained from the ground while the grafted tempranillo vines were stubbed back to a foot and retrained from suckers this way, he said. The process of retraining can take multiple seasons for fruit yields to recover.

Drought exacerbated the stress on damaged plants, and it showed this summer, Cook said.

“There were challenges, but the quality has been phenomenal, and I think many of the producers and wineries seem to have bounced back from the pandemic-related issues and many are currently in the fermentation process,” he said. “So, 2022 should be a great vintage for North Texas.”

Crowley agreed that Texas vineyards are likely producing a good vintage despite recent challenges.

Demand for Texas wine grapes remains strong, and quality will drive prices for growers, Crowley said. Any price increases that consumers may see will likely be related to processing and logistical costs, including labor, bottles and shipping.

“Texas growers are tenacious because they grow in a very hostile environment,” she said. “Vines face constant stress in a normal year, but this year was particularly difficult because of compound stressors. But even after all the challenges, I think the 2022 season should produce a nice vintage.”

CENTRAL: Some counties were still in dire need of moisture, while others received multiple inches of rain. Cotton harvest started but may be delayed by wet field conditions. Pasture conditions were still declining in dry areas, but moisture should improve grazing in areas that received rain. Supplemental feeding continued, and the search for hay broadened. Producers continued to cull herds, and some sold out completely. Forecasts called for large amounts of rain across the district for the coming week.

ROLLING PLAINS: Weather was mostly hot and dry, but some areas did receive rain. Areas reported between 0.5-3 inches of rainfall. The rain will not help many dryland cotton acres, but grazing should improve on rangeland and pastures.

(Continued on page 18)

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Lighter cattle drive increased feedlot placements during July

By Josh Maples, Mississippi State University

The Aug. 1st Cattle on Feed report was released on Aug. 19 and showed feedlot inventories declined seasonally but remained above year-ago levels. Drought continues to play a key role in the movement of cattle into feedlots this summer. Placements again exceeded expectations driven by large placements of lighter-weight cattle.

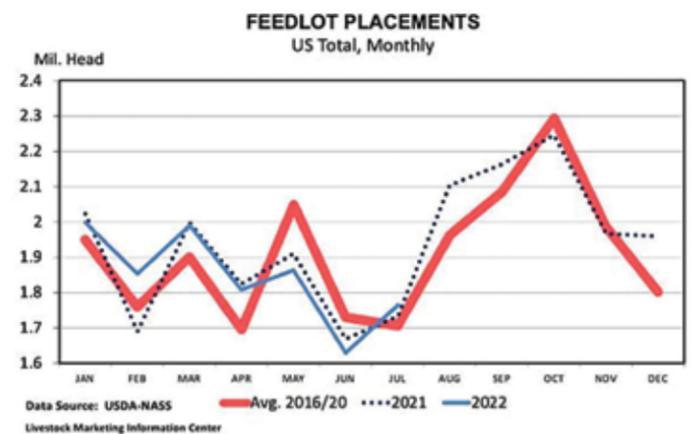
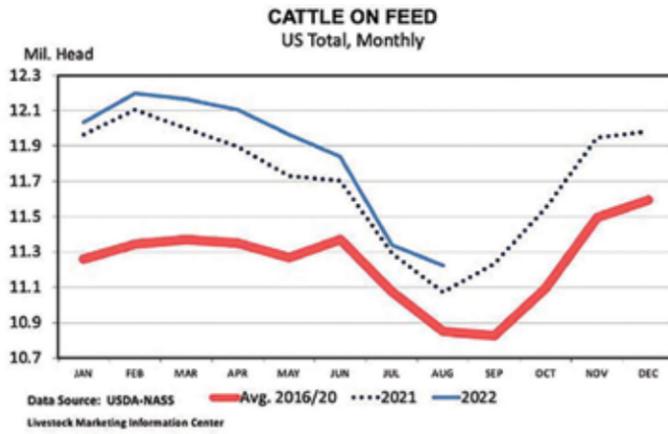
Placements of cattle into feedlots during July were up about two percent above July 2021. This was above pre-report expectations and was driven by placements of lighter cattle.

Placements of cattle weighing less than 700 pounds were about 10 percent above July 2021 levels, while placements of cattle weight less than 700 pounds were down 2.5 percent. This continues the trend that has occurred most of the year – feedlot inventories continue to be supported by stronger placements of lighter cattle.

Marketings were down four percent compared to a year ago. This was on the low end of expectations but within the range. Total cattle on feed was up about one percent above Aug. 1, 2021.

Drought and pasture conditions continue to push some cattle into feedlots sooner than normal which is contributing to the larger placements of lighter cattle. The obvious implication is those cattle will not be sold later this fall when we might normally expect them.

The broad implications for cattle markets are similar to those of past reports – smaller expected supplies and higher expected prices. Tighter feeder cattle supplies are almost certainly already upon us, despite placements and cattle on feed still being above 2021 levels. We are in a scenario where there are more cattle in feedlots than a year ago only because there are fewer feeder cattle “outside of feedlots” than would normally be expected. Feeder cattle futures prices are reflecting these expectations with late fall and early spring contracts trading near \$190 per cwt.



21ST ANNUAL

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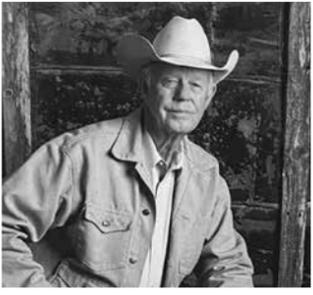
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You will be missed



Austin Brown II passes
Austin Edwin Brown II passed away, surrounded by his loving family at his ranch home in Bee County, Texas, on Aug. 23, 2022. He was 78. Brown was born Dec. 7, 1943, in Sinton, to Edwin

Sallee Brown and Penrose "Penney" (Wallace) Brown. He was a 1962 graduate of A.C. Jones High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Texas A&M College, class of 1966 and was part of the Corps of Cadets Company C-1 where he served as 1st Sergeant his junior year, and on 1st Battalion staff his senior year. He married his wife of 56 years, Nana Kelley, on June 11, 1966, in Beeville, Texas. He spent his entire life on the Brown Ranch in Bee

County, Texas. Established in 1924 by his grandfather, Austin Brown, Brown Ranch was his lifelong passion, occupation and way of life. He always considered it a great honor to be entrusted as steward of a portion of God's creation. This way of life molded a man who, at a very young age, became a fine horseman, herdsman, and talented agricultural conservationist. From cross-bred cattle in the early days to Angora goats during the 1950's drought to building a premier registered Hereford cow herd through the late 1990's and then transition-

ing to a branded beef program raising Akaushi cattle for consumer retail programs with Heartbrand Beef, he continually strived to do his part to leave the industry better than he found it. He used these same skills and determination to work alongside his father in building a successful ranch real estate business in San Antonio, Brown, Beasley & Associates, which was involved in the sale, management, appraisal and partition of large ranch estates across Texas. A lifelong Baptist, Austin's faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and

Savior was central to his family, business and friendships. He was a member of Beeville Baptist Church. He was a director of Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA), member of the South Texas Hereford Association and the American Akaushi Association. He served on the clientele advisory committee of the Center for Grazinglands and Ranch Management at Texas A&M University and has lectured in the ag economics Department. He was also on the clientele advisory committee of the Genome

Research Project there. He was preceded in death by his parents, Edwin and Penney Brown; and a sister, Anafair (Brown) Butts. Survivors include his wife, Nana (Kelley) Brown of Beeville; two sons, Austin Edwin (Jody) Brown III of Beeville and Case Edwin (Danaca) Brown of New Braunfels; a daughter, Kelley Fair Matheny of Pensacola, Florida; grandchildren, Austin Edwin Brown IV, Addie Ruth Brown, Riley Fair Matheny, Case Edwin Brown II, Gage Matheny, and Weston Anderson Brown; a sister, Susan Brown (Gary) Smith of Tyler; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was Saturday, Aug. 27, at Beeville Baptist Church with burial in Glenwood Cemetery. Pallbearers were Austin Brown IV, Pablo Garcia, Devin Butts, Reed Smith, Wade Sherman and Brennon Arnold.

Honorary pallbearers were Case Edwin Brown II, Gage Matheny, Weston Anderson Brown, Gary Smith, Drew Smith, Daniel Garcia, Dan Collette, Jerry Dunson, Allen Dunn, Randy Duncan, Melvin Scherer, Tom Beasley, James Blackburn, Joe Carter, Dr. Joseph Larakers, Mike Capron, Gordon Richardson, Ken Welch, Joe Leathers, Steve Sikes, Joe Maley, Kurt House, Johnny Porter Green and Don Keeling. In lieu of flowers, please make memorials to Beeville Baptist Church, Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Special Ranger's Foundation, The National Ranching Heritage Center Foundation, or a charity of your choice.

Sympathies extended to Hildebrand family
Boren Shiner Hildebrand passed away while vacationing in Montana on Aug. 18, 2022. He was born April 17, 1944, to Louise and Ira Hildebrand in Tyler, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Mike, and his brother-in-law David Turman.

Hildebrand is survived by his wife, Susan, of 54 years and children Boren Shiner II and Britta Hildebrand, Heather Winn and Jay Mac Davenport, Jon Christian and Candace Hildebrand and Lindsey Parker and Ryan Merrill. His greatest legacy was his grandchildren, Bailey Hildebrand, Morgan Hildebrand and Bella Hildebrand; Mary Louise Davenport, Emma

(Continued on page 13)



61st ANNUAL BULL SALE
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Sign up for free, three-part Brush Country Beef program

The Texas Beef Council and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension have teamed up to present the Brush Country Beef 706 program, starting in September. This three-part series of hands-on sessions, focusing on beef quality management and marketing opportunities, is available for all beef cattle producers. There is no charge for this series.

This checkoff-funded program is designed to help producers maximize profits and have a better understanding of the production process after their cattle enter the feed yard.

Session one will be held Thursday, Sept. 15, at 6 p.m. at the Live Oak Livestock Market Auction, 3795 U.S. 281, in Three Rivers; the program starts with dinner. Speakers will discuss factors affecting feeder calves and the value they receive at auction, based on their expected performance in the feed yard. Producers will then choose and bid on a calf for the feed yard and processing sectors.

Session two will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, at 9 a.m. at Texana Feeders Ltd., 3493 F.M. 539 near

Floresville. During this session, producers will get to review their cattle as nearly finished market steers and learn about factors that impacted feed yard performance

and impact finished steer value. The program will start with a feed yard tour at 9 a.m.

Session three will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, May 2-3, 2023, at Texas

A&M University Rosenthal Meat Science Center; Day 1 starts at 9 a.m.; Day 2 will start at 7:30 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. This 1.5-day session will allow producers to participate in a hands-on exercise that takes their cho-

sen feeder calves from session 1, now finished steers, through the harvest, grading, and fabrication process.

For questions or to register, call the Live Oak County Extension office at 361-449-1703.

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Missed...

(Continued from page 12)

Davenport, Mac Davenport, Annie Davenport and Ellie Davenport; Ainsley Hildebrand, Shiner Hildebrand, and Harper Hildebrand; Walker Merrill, Bo Merrill, Parker Merrill and Reece Merrill. Other survivors include his sister, Betty Turman, sister-in-law, Prun Hildebrand, and cousins Susan Weaver, Anne Dykowski and Gerry Robinson. Also surviving are his sisters and brothers-in-law, Debbie and Larry Grimes, Becky and AR Minkel and Candy and Dean Delleney, along with many nieces and nephews.

Hildebrand was active in Oak Hills Church in San Antonio. A graveside service was held Aug. 27, 2022, at the Shiner Ranch in Pearsall, Texas. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, at www.stjude.org.

Condolences to the Thomas Smith family

Thomas Smith, age 65 of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, Aug. 19, 2022. Funeral services were held Aug. 25 at First United Methodist Church of Gatesville, where he was a member.

Smith was born on Feb. 12, 1957 in Fairfield. He grew up in Buffalo, graduating from Buffalo High School in 1975. He attended Navarro Junior College. He married Karen Witt on June 2, 1990. After their marriage they made their home in Gatesville.

He was the ranch manager for Highland Resources in Fulshear and Lazy Dollar Ranch in Coryell County. He was also a sales associate for Stanley Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram in Gatesville for many years. He was currently a regional sales representative for Jupe

(Continued on page 16)

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3:30 p.m. - Grading & Futurity

6:00 p.m. - Dinner at Sale Site

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:30 a.m. - Donuts & Coffee

Noon - Lunch

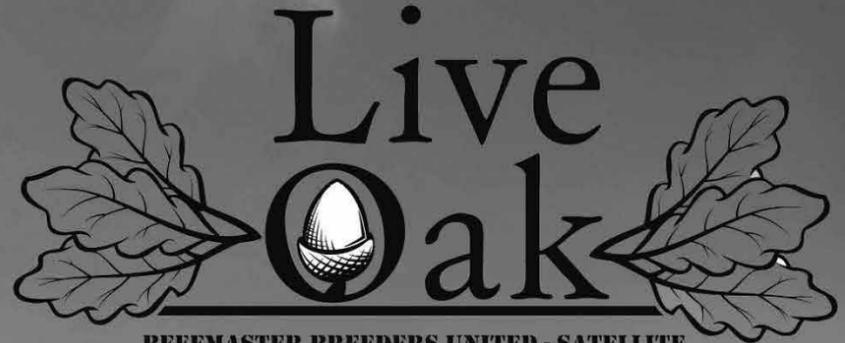
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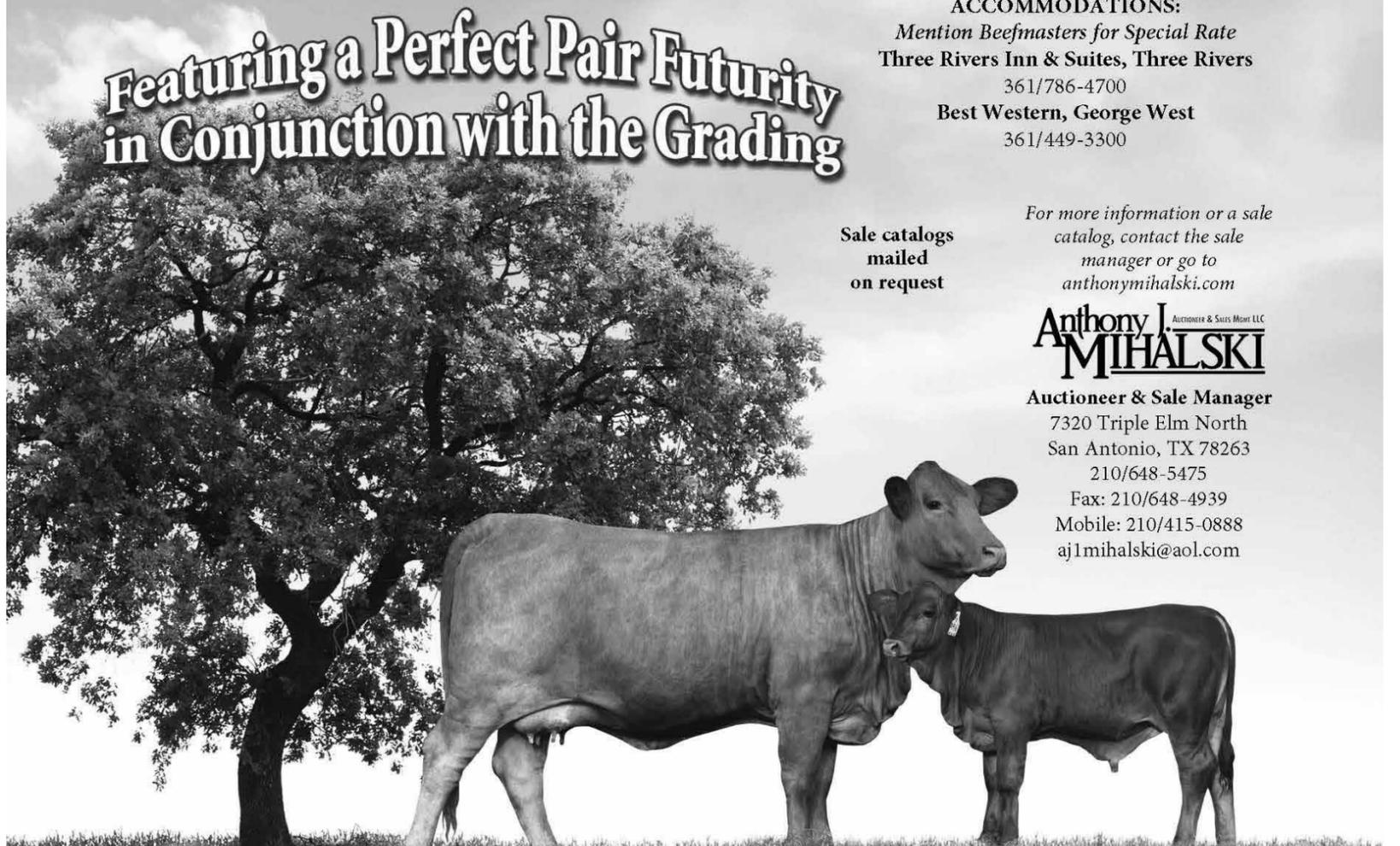
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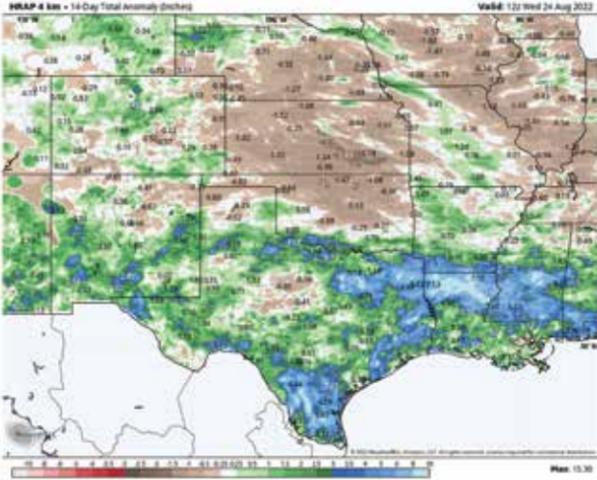
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WEATHER WISE

By Brian Bledsoe

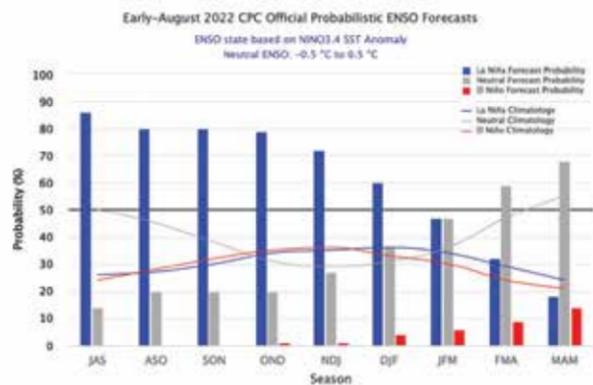
After suffering through such a nasty stretch of heat and dryness, some rain actually fell. In some cases, it was a lot of rain. The map below rainfall anomalies during the past two weeks...



You can see some areas have been anywhere from 2 to 10+ inches above average. Obviously, that's too much of a good thing at once, as a lot of it ran off. However, if you were trying to fill watering holes, then this was a good thing. Some areas of the region were not so fortunate. Note the dry spot in central Texas and across Oklahoma and Kansas. At any rate, it was nice to see some serious rain for a change, courtesy of deep tropical moisture.

Does this mean a pattern change? Is this the end of La Niña? While short term relief will likely continue to occur for some areas, this certainly isn't the end of La Niña.

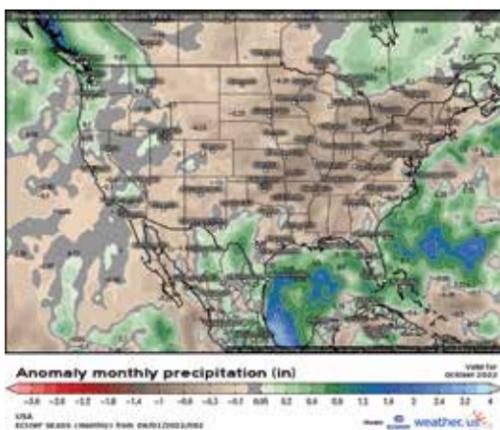
The graphic below shows a high likelihood La Niña will hang around until late winter.



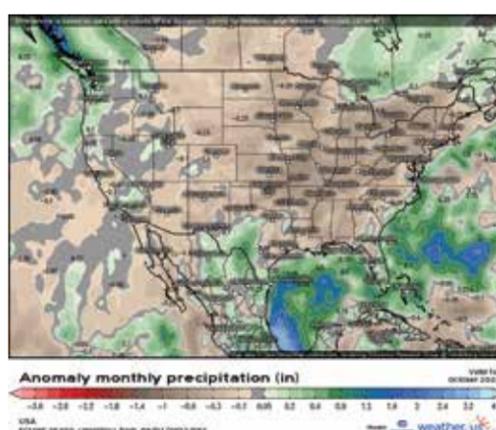
This takes into account several different computer models and most of them are fully on board with La Niña hanging around. The one silver lining to this? It could POSSIBLY weaken late this winter, which would allow for better precipitation potential in February through April. If this weakening trend occurs sooner, then it is possible our better precipitation chances will occur sooner. As of right now, I don't see much changing until at least January.

The images below reflect the current model forecast for the next several months...

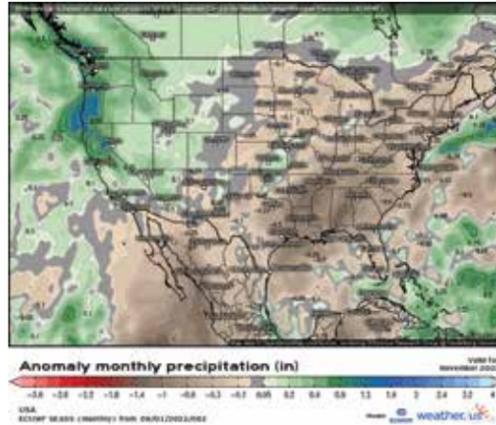
EURO Seasonal Model Precipitation Forecast October



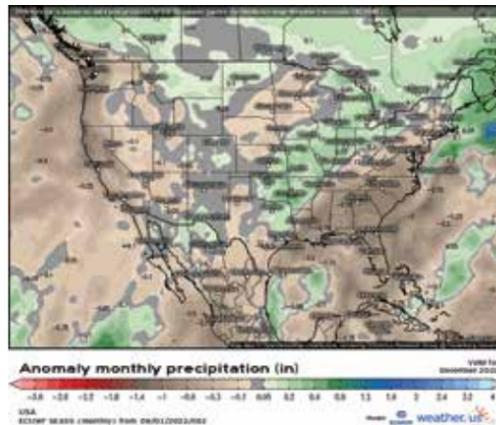
NMME Model Precipitation Forecast October



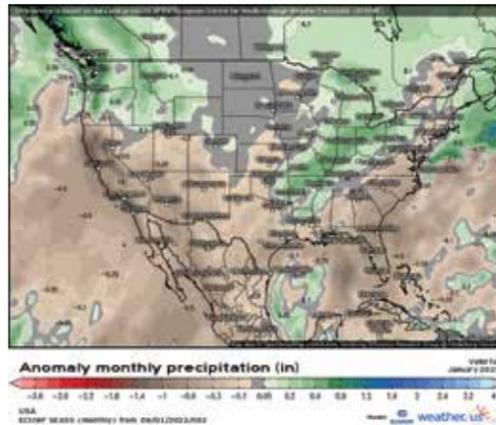
November



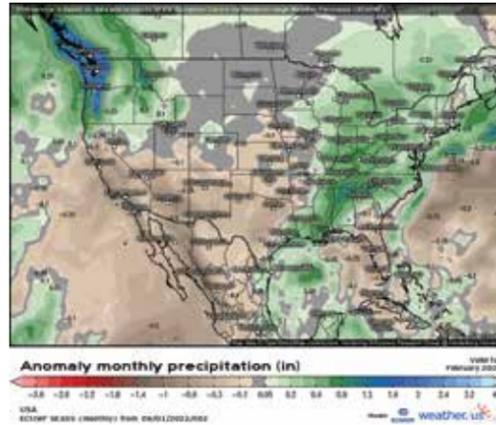
December



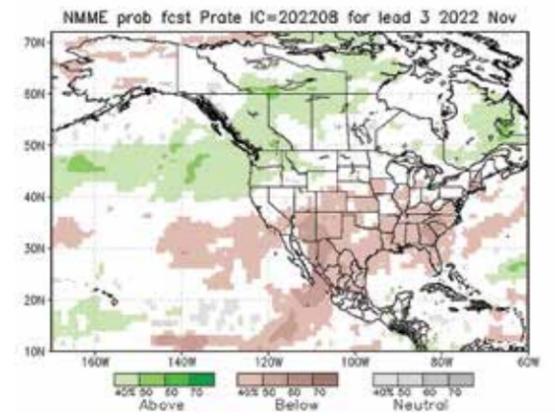
January



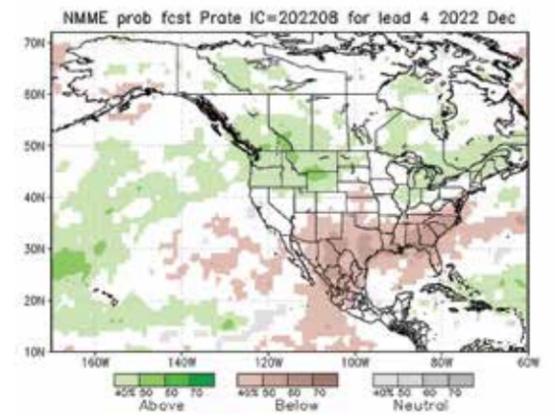
February



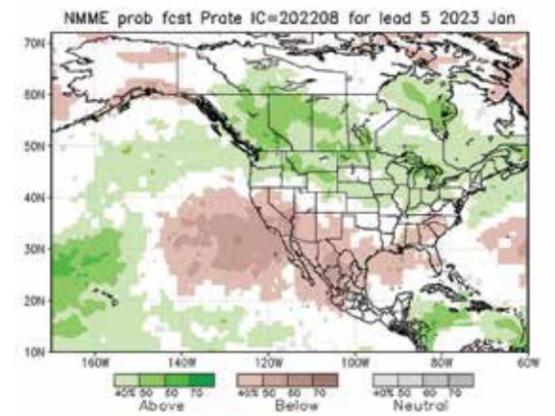
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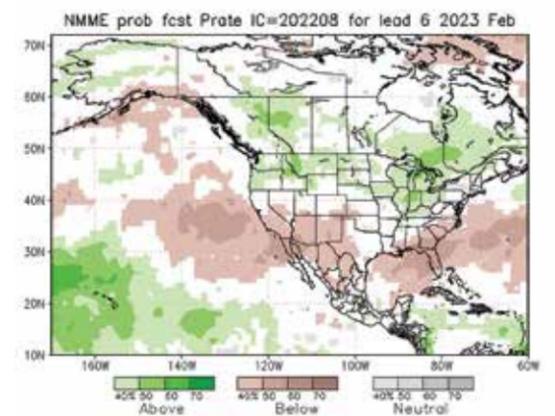
December



January



February



As you can see above, both models reflect a very La Niña look to the precipitation forecast. Drier than average southern tier of the country with wetter than average conditions across the northern tier of the country. This isn't surprising given that both models are forecasting La Niña to continue through most of the winter. Does this mean there won't be storms that we can capitalize on? No, not at all... It simply means that the frequency of those storms will likely be reduced, thus continuing to keep us drier than we would like. So, enjoy our moisture chances for the next month or so...

If you have any questions or comments, please drop me an email... Brian Bledsoe, brianbledsoewx@gmail.com

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Tyson Foods invests \$100 million in Amarillo beef plant

Facility upgrades to improve operational efficiencies and enhance team member experience

Amarillo, TX – August 18, 2022 – Tyson Foods announced the company will invest \$200 million at its Amarillo, Texas beef plant to expand and upgrade operations and build a new team member well-being area.

The project will begin this fall and involves construction of a 143,000 square foot addition to the existing beef complex to

house upgraded team member well-being areas including locker rooms, cafeteria and office space. The project will also expand and enhance the facility's existing operations floor. Expected to be completed by 2024, it will improve team member experience and overall operational efficiencies. While the project is not expected to add jobs to the plant, Tyson

Foods' Amarillo facility employs 4,000 team members and generates an annual payroll of \$180 million.

Kevin Carter, Executive Director, Amarillo Economic Development Corporation stated, "Thank you to Tyson Foods for its continued commitment to the Amarillo area. Today's announcement solidifies Tyson's position as a top economic driver in our

community for years to come and the \$200 million capital expenditure illustrates a significant investment in Tyson Foods' future in Amarillo."

The Amarillo plant is one of the largest of the company's six beef facilities. The complex produces commodity cuts of fresh beef and specialty products and includes a ground beef patty operation. These products

are packaged and boxed for sale to retail and foodservice customers throughout the U.S. and internationally.

"It's exciting to see the economic growth in Potter County," said Potter County Judge Nancy Tanner. "Amarillo continues to be a place where existing businesses are able to thrive and expand, and we are seeing that with Tyson Foods' commitment."

The expansion modernizes the facility and prioritizes team member safety, ergonomics and food safety, and incorporates enhanced automation

and new technologies. The new space also supports several of the company's sustainability efforts through energy and water conservation improvements. Specially designed water utility equipment, pumps, and piping will automate and allow for a reduction in water usage.

"We're committed to be the most sought-after place to work and while we've invested heavily in new benefits for our team, this project will improve the onsite work experience for our team members, while making our operations more efficient," said Shane Miller, Group President, Tyson Foods Fresh Meats.

In 2021, the company awarded nearly \$400,000 to the Wesley Community Center and Maverick Boys and Girls Club of Amarillo to refurbish their facilities to accommodate the children of Tyson team members employed at the company's Amarillo beef plant.

Tyson Foods' beef business currently operates beef plants in Texas, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois and Washington. The company receives cattle from close to 90 independent cattle suppliers in the state and it's estimated Tyson Foods' operations have a total economic impact of nearly \$3 billion in Texas.

CARR and OTHERS FALL PROGRAM and SALE OCTOBER 7 & 8, 2022

AGENDA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

12:00 Noon - 10:30 PM

Viewing of sale cattle and donation lots

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

TOPICS & SPEAKERS

- Tracy Tomascik** - Associate Director, Texas Farm Bureau, Government Affairs Department
Title: Minimizing Adverse Impacts from New Laws, Regulations, Taxes and Policies
Scope: Identification of the more important new laws, regulations, taxes and policies impacting cattle raisers and advise how they can minimize adverse impacts from them.
- Dr. Joe Paschal** - Livestock Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Title: Highlights of the 2021 National Beef Quality Audit
Scope: Essence of the 2021 National Beef Quality Audit and analysis of its trends and forecast of such trends' impacts on the industry and individual cattle raisers.
- Trace Blair** - Attorney at Law, Jourdan, Texas
Title: Current Legal Issues of Importance to Rural Land Owners and Operators
Scope: Discussion of the new Texas landowner liability protection statutes in reference to farm animal and agritourism activities and updates on other Texas laws pertaining to issues posing risks to rural land owners and operators.
- Dr. Jason Sawyer** - Chief Scientist, East Foundation
Title: Understanding Carbon Credits - Their Potential Benefits and Risks
Scope: A clear definition of Carbon Credits and how landowners get involved with them and the potential revenues and associated burdens and risks.
- Dr. Milt Thomas** - Professor of Animal Science (and new manager of the Beeville AgriLife Research Farm)
Title/Scope: New Research Activities at the Beeville AgriLife Research Farm
- Lance Bauer** - Beefmaster Breeders United Director of Breed Improvement
Title/Scope: Update on BBU's Research Projects
- Samantha Shannon** - Wilson County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent
Title/Scope: Laws and Regulations Update for Private Applicators - 1 CEU

5:45 PM - 6:30 PM

Mariachi music and refreshments

6:30 PM

Dinner

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Traditional Country music by Darrell McCall & Justin Trevino

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast tacos, milk, etc.

10:00 AM

Sale

Lunch following sale

ALL EVENTS TO BE HELD AT CARR CATTLE SALE FACILITY

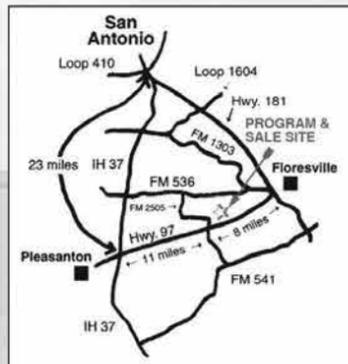
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- Pairs and 3-in-Ones
- Open Heifers
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Missed...

(Continued from page 13)

Feeds in Temple. Smith and his family raise registered Hereford cattle and ranch in Gatesville.

He is preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Robert Allen Smith. Smith is survived by his wife of 32 years, Karen Smith; son, Harrison Zane Smith; sisters, Connie Rice and husband, Joe; Helen Kay Hardy and husband, Carol; Mary Lou Millican and husband, Trevor; sisters-in-law, Jeannie Smith and Judy Chopelas and husband, Clarence; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is also survived by special family friends, Mark and Jade-Ann Kelley and their children, Kozy and Stone and Torrey and Shelly Boyd and their children, Josie and Cooper.

Memorials may be made to a scholarship fund, that will be established in his name with the Texas Hereford Association Foundation, 4609 Airport Freeway, Fort Worth, Texas 76117.

Managing earlier weaned calves

By Warren Rusche, Igrow

Weaning calves at an earlier-than-normal age (< 180 days of age) is a proven strategy to reduce grass demands by 25% or more during drought conditions. The challenge with implementing this strategy is that someone (either the origin ranch or a feeder/backgrounder) needs to take on the challenge of managing 4-to-6-month-old calves.

Two primary issues need to be managed during the transition process: calf behavior and rumen environment. Calves need to learn how they should eat during the starting phase and adapt to the feedlot environment. Secondly, the rumen needs to adapt to feedstuffs that may be quite different from what the calf was eating before weaning.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Pen design

Using starting pens designed with the calf in mind can help manage cattle behavior and minimize stress during receiving. Large pens with lots of room per head facilitate calves spending more time walking the fence and reduce opportunities to find feed and water. Dust problems during dry conditions become worse if there is a larger area churned up by a group of roaming calves, and the risk of spooking and breakouts increase.

Wide, shallow pen designs keep calves close to feed and water, increasing their opportunities to encounter feed and water. Temporary panels can be used to cut larger pens into smaller, more-manageable sizes. A 60-foot-deep pen with at least 12 inches of bunk space per head works well for the first 7 to 10 days; calves can be allowed more area after they have settled down.

Water access

Water is a critically important nutrient that is often overlooked. Water quality and quantity issues can lead to health problems and reduced dry matter intake. Calves might not recognize water fountains right away, especially those coming from extensive range areas. Some feeders have put small, solar-powered bird bath fountain bubblers in water tanks as a way to simulate the sound of running streams. Using additional water tanks so that calves can see open water can help make sure that

water intake is not limited.

Handling

Calves also need to become accustomed to people. Walking calves up to the bunk right after feeding encourages feeding behaviors and acclimates them to handling at the same time. It is much easier to find and treat sick calves without additional stress if they are used to being handled. Calves that are afraid of people are

surprisingly good at hiding signs of illness, at least until they become very sick. Investing time and effort to improve cattle handling skills pays dividends, especially considering the challenges in finding employees with livestock experience.

Feed and supplements

To encourage eating behaviors in the first few days, diets for starting calves need to be palatable and nutrient

dense. Long-stem prairie hay is the traditional roughage of choice, because calves recognize it as feed, and it stimulates saliva production. However, prairie hay alone does not have enough energy or nutrients to support immune function and weight gains. Combining roughage with concentrate feeds helps calves achieve a positive energy balance more quickly.

Avoid using high-moisture corn or supplements containing urea during the receiving phase. Contrary to conventional wisdom, silage can be introduced during this

stage as long as there is no spoilage. Including silage during the starting phase may improve mix integrity and minimize feed sorting compared to using dry hay.

Don't over-emphasize price when planning a starting diet. Cheap feed that cattle won't eat results in increased sickness and poorer performance over the entire feeding period.

OTHER TIPS

- Other management tips include:
- Feed two times a day to stimulate appetite and offer more opportunities for calves to eat fresh feed.

- Avoid using self-feeders, including hay rings. With these feeding methods there is no way to monitor actual intake and diet composition.
- Avoid over-feeding calves. Being too aggressive with feed deliveries in the starting phase can lead to intake swings and increased health problems. Reasonable daily dry matter intake targets for calves would be 0.75 to 1% of bodyweight the first two days, nearly 2% by day 7, and about 2.5% of bodyweight after 14 days on feed.

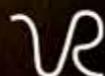
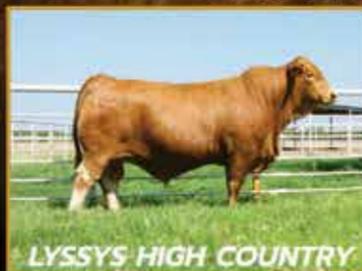
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Crops...

(Continued from page 10)

Tank water levels improved in areas that received rain. More rain was in the forecast. The moisture should also help as wheat planting nears. Producers will likely plow and prepare wheat and oat fields for planting as soon as fields dry enough. Cotton was blooming, and sorghum was turning color. Corn and sorghum harvests were complete in some areas, and yields were low. Rangeland and pasture conditions should improve in areas that received rainfall, and runoff should improve water levels in tanks, lakes and reservoirs. Cattle were being fed supplements or sold, but the rainfall should improve forage growth. Recovery in rangelands and pastures could take some time in some areas. Sudan grass

and hay grazer fields burned up under the arid conditions.

COASTAL BEND: Scattered showers continued to improve topsoil moisture in some areas. Cotton and rice harvests continued, but some were interrupted by scattered rain. Cotton yields were well below average. Rangeland and pastures were improving in areas that received rain. However, it will take some time before it is ready to graze. Ponds were still low, but some caught runoff water. Recent rains likely delayed baling of rice stubble hay for weeks. Producers could cut and bale a little hay before growing conditions decline this fall. Livestock were being fed. Cattle remained in good condition with very high prices being paid at auction. Livestock auctions were still reporting large runs of cattle.

EAST: Scattered rain-

fall was received in some areas, but not enough to help. More rain was in the forecast. Pasture and rangeland conditions were very poor to poor. Subsoil conditions were very short. Topsoil conditions were very short to short. Producers continued culling cattle. Hay supplies were very short. Producers reported wild pig and gopher problems.

SOUTH PLAINS: The district received 0.5-5 inches of rain with most areas receiving around 1-2 inches. Much of the rainfall was slow and soaked in, but some harder rain was good for stock tanks. Cooler temperatures and more rain were in the forecast. Pasture conditions were expected to improve rapidly. Subsoil and topsoil moisture levels fluctuated depending on location. Dryland and irrigated cotton bolls were opening, but most irrigated fields were behind dryland cotton. Recent rains should help reduce wind erosion. Sorghum aphids were still being found in fields with heavy canopies. Cattle were in good condition.

PANHANDLE: Light scattered showers helped late-season crop development. Soil moisture levels were short. Corn silage harvest was around the corner,

and irrigation continued. A lot of the corn experienced pollination problems due to high temperatures. Wheat pre-plant activities continued. Some haying of summer annuals occurred, but forage yields were low. Cattle were being supplemented or sold. Rangeland and pasture conditions were poor.

FAR WEST: The average daytime and nighttime temperatures were 90 degrees and 70 degrees, respectively. Rainfall reports were between trace amounts to 5.5 inches, with some flooding reported in western parts of the district. Storm systems were expected to continue moving through the district over the next week as well. Corn and sorghum harvests were completed, but yields were very disappointing. Cotton was starting to square, and the rain and cooler temperatures should help plants recover from heat and drought stress. Irrigated haygrazer progressed rapidly over recent weeks. Wheat plantings should emerge shortly to take advantage of any moisture. This may allow cattle to be kept a bit longer and hopefully avoid being shipped.

SOUTHWEST: Spotty rain fell across some areas with trace amounts up to

3.5 inches reported. Water-intensive trees and brush were still going into dormancy due to lack of moisture. Drought conditions persisted. Water restrictions were still in place in some areas. Corn and sorghum were harvested, and cotton harvest was starting. Pastures needed more rain, and cattle continued to be sold as hay supplies were running short. Livestock and wildlife were still being heavily supplemented. Surface and well water levels remained low.

SOUTH: Northern, southern and eastern parts of the district reported mostly adequate soil moisture and areas with short soil moisture while western areas reported very short to short conditions. Atascosa County conditions have improved slightly but have a long way to go. Heavy rains delivered up to 10 inches in some areas, and most areas across the district received

more than 1 inch of rainfall. Crop and irrigation wells received some relief, but rains came too late to impact most row crop outcomes. Corn harvest was complete. Cotton and peanut fields continued to develop. Some cotton and sesame fields were harvested. Continued rainfall could impact cotton quality. Fall crop preparation for wheat, oats and triticale is underway. Pastures and rangelands were greening up, but cattle still relied on supplemental feed and were being culled. Tank water levels were full or improved with runoff. Producers prepared cool-season forage fields or were expected to when conditions dry enough for equipment. Irrigation in sugarcane and citrus ended. Water and browse availability for wildlife improved dramatically. Creeks and rivers were full and running. Falcon Lake water levels were rising from rainfall in the watershed.

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DC News...

(Continued from page 3)

application into the system.

Before applying any program payment factors or eligibility criteria, it is estimated that this next installment (phase) may generate about \$756 million in assistance.

Emergency Relief

Payments to Date

This emergency relief under ERP complements ERP assistance recently provided to more than 165,000 producers who had received crop insurance indemnities and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) payments for qualifying losses. USDA has processed more than 255,000 applications for ERP, and to date, has made approximately \$6.4 billion in payments to commodity and specialty crop producers to help offset eligible losses from qualifying 2020 and 2021 natural disasters. Also, earlier this year, staff processed more than 100,000 payments through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) and paid eligible producers more than \$601.3 million for 2021 grazing losses within days of the program announcement.

Phase Two

The second phase of both ERP and ELRP will be aimed at filling gaps and provide assistance to producers who did not participate in or receive payments through the existing risk management programs that are being leveraged for phase one implementation. USDA will keep producers and stakeholders informed as program details are made available.

More Information

In addition, on Aug. 18, 2022, USDA published a technical correction to the Notice of Funds Availability for ERP and ELRP to clarify how income from the sale of farm equipment and the provision of production inputs and services to farmers, ranchers, foresters, and farm operations are to be considered in the calculation of average adjusted gross farm income. Producers whose average adjusted gross farm income is at least 75% of the producer's the average Adjusted Gross Income can gain access to a higher payment limitation.

ERP and the previously announced ELRP are authorized by the *Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act*, which President Biden signed into law in 2021. The law provided \$10 billion to help agricultural producers impacted by wildfires, droughts, hurricanes, winter storms and other eligible disasters experienced during calendar years 2020 and 2021.

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on farmers.gov, including the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet and Farm Loan Discovery Tool. For FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their crop insurance agent.

University of Arkansas at Monticello cattle breeding program enters new phase

Source: Beefmaster Breeders United

MONTICELLO, Arkansas — The cattle herd at the University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM) is getting an upgrade, receiving more than two dozen hand-picked Beefmaster cows and calves donated by James and Mary Ann Skelton of Springdale.

"I didn't want UAM to have any scrubs," said the 77-year-old James Skelton. "I'm selling down, so I donated the better end of my cows."

At one time, Skelton and his brother managed more than 300 head of Beefmaster cattle.

"My brother got out of the business, and now it's just my two sons," Skelton said. "We have about 60 cows. They, too, are now wanting out of the cattle business. So, it's a good time."

UAM has had cattle on its campus for a long time, beginning as a research and demonstration herd managed by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's Southeast Research and Extension Center. When the center closed, the herd was transferred to UAM.

"With the switch of ownership, so did the focus of the cattle operation. We were suddenly tasked with the need for our cattle to produce calves for revenue so that the farm could financially stand on its own," said Rocky Lindsey, veterinarian and associate professor animal science.

Genetic upgrades

UAM farm manager Greg Montgomery said the donated cattle, which arrived in May, have excellent traits that help elevate the quality of the UAM herd.

"We are getting some proven genetics," said Montgomery.

"There are three boxes we are trying to check. The first is visual assessment; we want them to look pretty as you go down the road. The next two boxes included pedigree: what ancestry do they have, and have they produced recognizable genetics?" he said.

"The third box is EPDs or expected progeny differences. All three things can get very complex, but it's pretty simple once you know the process. If we are checking all three boxes, we are upgrading our cattle," Montgomery said.

B e e f m a s t e r s

Breeders United helps track all the cows' data.

"They have the bloodline; they get a number, the animal's birth weight is recorded, weaning weight and yearling weight. By the time you're done, you have a huge database to help improve the quality of your herd," he said.

Beating the competition

UAM doesn't often enter competitions with its livestock. However, this past

year Montgomery and a student tested the waters at the Arkansas State Fair. The result was a measuring stick.

"The results couldn't have been better," Montgomery said. "We were at the state fair in 2021. We had a heifer and a bull. Our bull won Arkansas Champion and Grand Champion Beefmaster Bull.

"We walked out of there with a lot of purple ribbons.

For me, it was the first time I'd ever done that," he said. "Even as a kid, I had never won the state fair. It was cool to do that for the university and a cool thing for me."

Montgomery said UAM student Rayvin Callaway showed the cattle and "she did a wonderful job. Kudos to her for the work she has done. We hope to have more student interaction in the future in showing our cattle."

"The goals for the herd with University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture were teaching and research. Generating revenue through cattle sales was

not the focus," said Lindsey. "We're still going to use them as a teaching herd and perform quality research, but the focus has changed since UAM took ownership of the cattle. We now want to help the UAM farm grow and support itself."

"We can brand our UAM university name and become well-known. We are starting to become known as a quality Beefmaster breeder. This gives added value to our cattle," said Lindsey.

"Everything we do out here on this cow farm, there will be a student involved," said Montgomery.

"Ultimately everything we do to improve the college's herd; the student is involved 100% hands-on. As the herd gains more notoriety, the university also builds its name and reputation. Meaning more opportunities for the student."

Skelton became familiar with the UAM breeding program about five years ago. At that time, Bill Pendergrass, executive vice president of Beefmasters Breeders United, told Skelton that UAM needed a bull to breed their cows. Skelton called Montgomery and told them that the school could use
(Continued on page 25)

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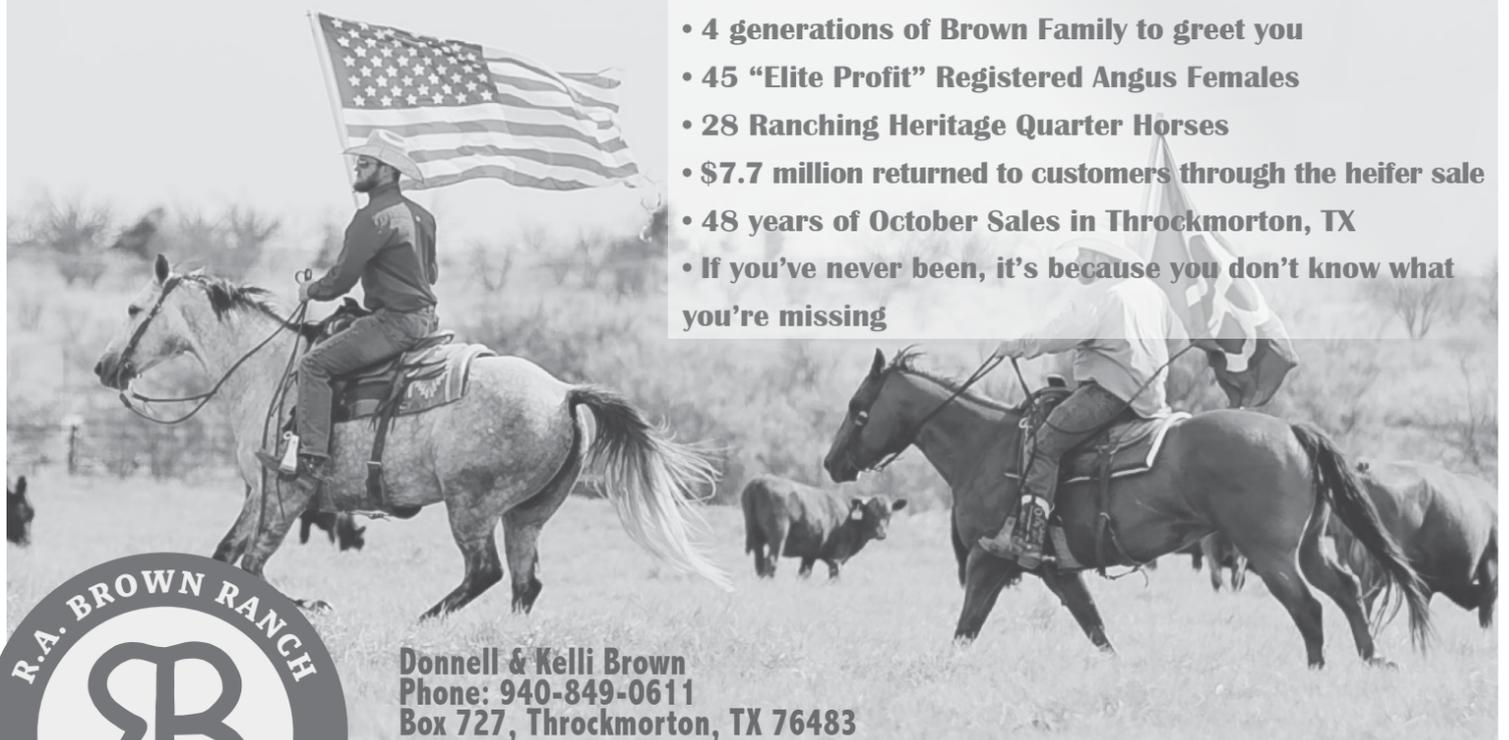
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Youth Ag Video Showcase Team edition launched by Texas Farm Credit

ROBSTOWN, Texas — Texas Farm Credit launched its 2022 annual virtual contest encouraging local youth ag teams to submit a video spotlighting their agricultural project for a chance to win a large cash prize for their FFA Chapter.

“Texas Farm Credit looks forward to continue supporting our local youth through this initiative,” said branch manager Dustin McClendon. “We’re excited that we have been able to

adapt and redesign the contest to meet current needs. The contest this year encourages a group effort, and the possibilities are endless when a collective group of young minds get together.”

The contest is open to all FFA chapters and 4-H clubs within the Texas Farm Credit service territory. Submitting clubs or chapters are encouraged to spotlight a past, present, or future ag-related group project in a 3-5 minute video.

Participants should explain their project in detail, describe the goals of the project and if those goals were met, what life lessons were learned from the experience, and how this prize money would be used.

Entries are not limited to specific categories and all videos will be judged using the same scorecard whether it be livestock, science research, equipment, food produc-

(Continued on page 25)

OSU research aims to save billions for the beef industry

Source: Oklahoma State University

Scientists in the Oklahoma State University Department of Animal and Food Sciences are working hard to stop the waste of billions of dollars of beef each year.

The U.S. beef industry loses \$3 billion annually to meat discoloration. When beef is brown on the surface, it is discounted in price, and extensive discoloration

leads to people throwing nutritious food in the trash.

Why does meat turn brown?

Most people associate the bright, cherry red color of meat with freshness, but brown discoloration doesn’t mean your beef is bad. The discoloration is simply beef reacting to long-term exposure to oxygen. When oxygen attaches

to the protein myoglobin in muscles, oxymyoglobin forms and gives meat a bright cherry red color. When oxymyoglobin continues to be exposed to oxygen, it turns into metmyoglobin. This process is called oxidation, which causes a chemical reaction similar to apples or potatoes turning brown when exposed to air.

What’s been done?

Gretchen Mafi, professor of meat science in the animal and food sciences department, conducted research using oxygen scavengers, small iron pouches that can be placed inside the bags used for beef retail transportation. The iron pouches remove oxygen, and therefore, lengthen the shelf life of the meat.

OSU scientists did not invent this method of packaging, said Mafi, but they have been testing the method for a private company to determine its effectiveness. In recently completed research, beef maintained its bright, red color for up to 23 days after being packaged with this process.

Along with the research, Morgan Pfeiffer, assistant professor of animal and food sciences, has been studying how long it takes meat to reach varying levels of discoloration and what people consider too much discoloration.

“We’re trying to get it down to the hour when consumers would say they would no longer purchase that meat,” Pfeiffer said.

Ranjith Ramanathan, an OSU meat quality associate professor, has focused his research on a condition called dark-cutters in which beef fails to have a bright red color.

Ramanathan and his research partners asked the question of why the meat of some cattle has a darker color when harvested by looking at protein and metabolite levels in dark cutting beef. They found these levels were different in darker red meat. Glycogen levels and mitochondria, which produces energy, are also different in darker beef compared to brighter red beef.

With this knowledge, producers can track whether specific cattle will exhibit dark meat or bright, red meat.

“Stress, heat extremes,

(Continued on page 25)

'Diesel nut' development brings about collaboration

By Kay Ledbetter, Texas AgriLife Today

Peanut oil powered the world's first diesel engine when it was premiered by Rudolf Diesel at the World Exposition in Paris in 1900. Now, a collaboration between Chevron and Texas A&M AgriLife is reviving the use of peanuts as a renewable feedstock for diesel fuel with a lower carbon intensity.

Carbon intensity is the energy expended to produce a product, including production inputs such as water, pesticide and fertilizer, and how much net carbon that process adds to the atmosphere. Lower carbon intensity is important in developing sustainable agricultural practices.

The five-year, multi-million-dollar project will be led by John Cason, Ph.D., a Texas A&M AgriLife Research peanut breeder at Stephenville. Development of the "diesel nut" will be multi-pronged and will include estimating economic feasibility, advancing existing high-oil peanut germplasm and developing new, low-input peanut lines for the

renewable diesel industry. Co-leaders on the project are Luis Ribera, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economist and director of Texas A&M's Center for North American Studies, Bryan-College Station; Bill McCutchen, Ph.D., center director for Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, Stephenville; and David Baltensperger, Ph.D., head of the Texas A&M Department of Soil and Crop Sciences.

Cliff Lamb, Ph.D., director of AgriLife Research, Bryan-College Station, said this collaboration with Chevron gives AgriLife Research scientists a chance to develop peanuts that have a greater oil content and are better adapted to dryer climates — ultimately creating a more resilient agricultural system.

"We hope these new peanut varieties will offer producers a profitable dryland or limited irrigation crop option," Lamb said. "What makes this project

truly exciting is that it takes the entire agricultural value chain into account, using cutting-edge research to create an abundant, affordable and high-quality product that works to protect natural resources, improve health and support economies in Texas and beyond. We appreciate the support of this work by Chevron."

Chevron is building the capacity to produce 100,000 barrels a day of renewable fuels in its manufacturing system by 2030. Securing a reliable source of lower lifecycle carbon intensity renewable feedstocks is a priority for the company.

"Chevron is thrilled to team with Texas A&M AgriLife to work to develop the next generation of renewable fuel feedstocks," said Michelle Young, renewables program manager for Chevron Downstream Technology and Services. "This collaboration has the potential to deliver high-quality oil to produce renewable fuels while providing peanut

farmers in the U.S. with another way to maximize the value of their operations."

"The Texas Peanut Producers Board is excited to support the 'diesel nut' project and views it as one more tool for farmers in Texas," said Shelly Nutt, Texas Peanut Producers Board executive director.

"Peanut farmers have long realized the value of using peanuts not only as a cash crop, but also as a crop that adds nutrients to the soil, creating a sustainable production system," Nutt said. "With the success of this project, farmers could add a low-input, high-yielding 'diesel nut' with the ability to grow on marginal land or with limited water availability, into their rotation program and would not be competing with the high-quality, edible peanut market the board has worked so hard to achieve."

Increasing oil content in 'diesel nut' peanut varieties

Currently, food-grade peanut varieties have an oil content of approximately 48%. However, several high-oil breeding lines have around 55-60% oil content. With those yields, "diesel nut" peanuts could yield as much as 350 gallons of oil per acre, com-

pared to soybeans' current oil yields of approximately 25 to 50 gallons per acre.

AgriLife Research peanut breeders, including Michael Baring, Bryan-College Station; Charles Simpson, Ph.D., Stephenville; and Mark Burow, Ph.D., Lubbock, began working on high-oil breeding lines 15 years ago. Cason said four of those most promising lines were selected to begin studying the agronomics and yields.

"We also are developing new crosses and screening Texas A&M AgriLife germplasm, including the wild germplasm collection maintained by Simpson," Cason said. "Our breeders are searching for germplasm with even higher oil content to develop the most elite cultivars that will also perform in dryland conditions and pro-

duce the highest oil content."

Producing 'diesel nut' varieties in non-irrigated areas

Cason and team see possibilities to bring peanut production back to non-irrigated, rain-fed areas utilizing this high-oil germplasm. They will breed into these lines the qualities of improved disease and drought tolerance as well as continuing to increase oil content.

He said major advances in disease resistance have already been made in food-grade peanut varieties, such as resistance to nematodes from wild species, Sclerotinia blight and tomato spotted wilt virus. These traits can now be incorporated into the "diesel nut" lines to create a robust renewable fuel feedstock.

"With our edible breeding lines, we've also been looking at drought tolerance, but not

(Continued on page 22)

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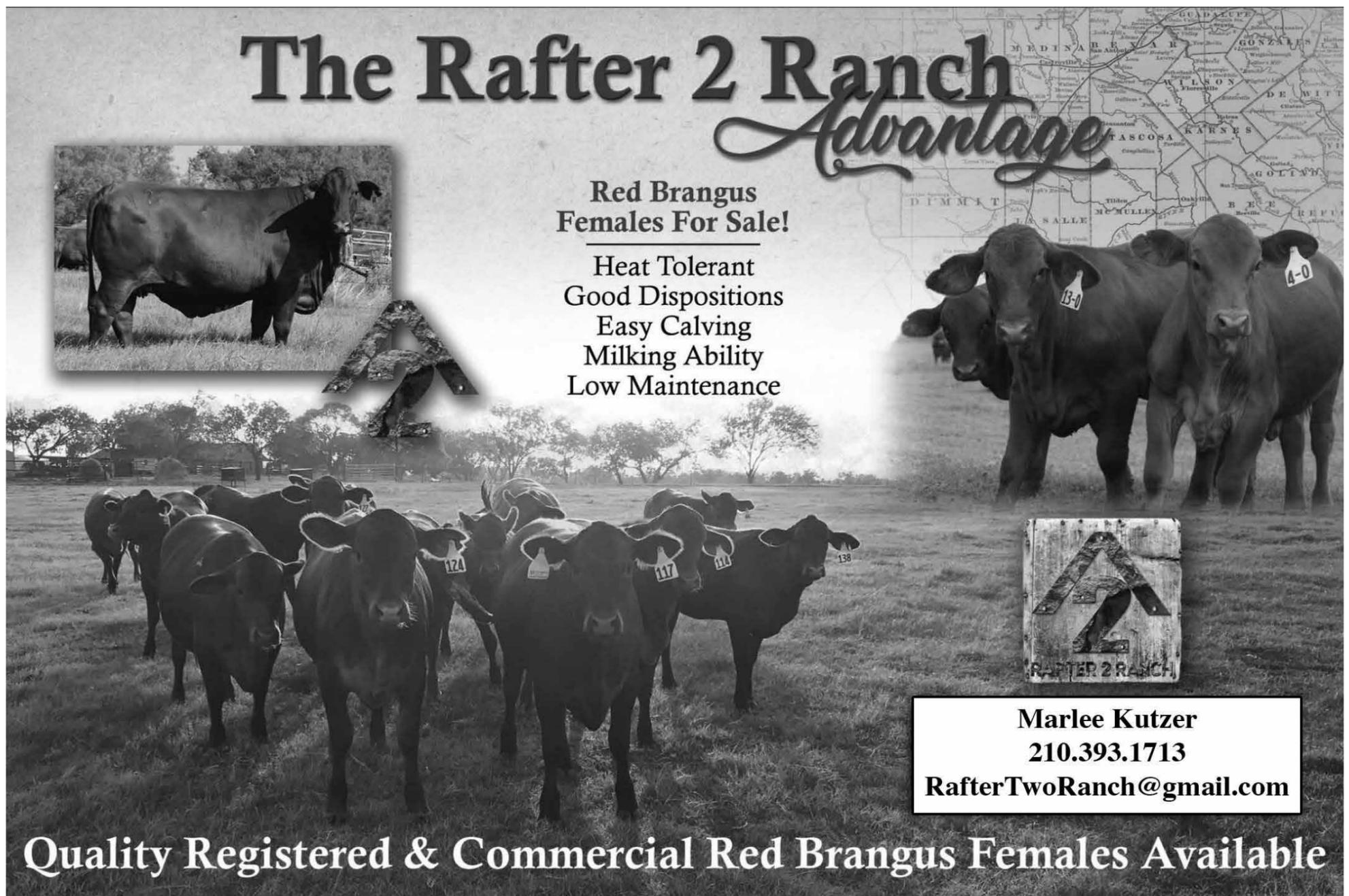
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Diesel Nut...

(Continued from page 21)

on any of the lines producing higher oil," Cason said. "Now we've pulled everything out and started planting in Vernon and Stephenville and will

grow some under dryland and irrigation. We are treating this year as kind of a pilot year."

West Texas begins the peanut-planting season in late April and early May, while in South Texas, peanuts are planted as late as June 25.

Harvest begins in October and is done by Thanksgiving.

A peanut crop usually needs 27 inches of moisture from irrigation and rain. This typically produces about 5,000 pounds per acre of high-quality peanuts. In contrast, the drought-tolerant research at Lubbock studying peanut production with only 7-12 inches of rain produced about 2,800 pounds of edible peanuts per acre in 2020.

"One thing that will help the 'diesel nut' succeed is that when you don't irrigate a peanut, you run the risk of aflatoxin, which can be devastating to food-grade peanuts,"

Cason said. "But that won't matter when the crop is being crushed for biofuel, so regardless of how much moisture, if the grower can grow something, they can market it."

The goal now is to adapt "diesel nut" lines to new growing regions across Texas and the U.S. where the crop can perform under limited irrigation and dryland production. This, coupled with the development of best management practices for crop production systems and the logistics of harvest, transport and storage will be necessary to rapidly advance the production of re-

newable diesel feedstocks.

Other 'diesel nut' project components

A large contingent of Texas A&M AgriLife personnel will be working on the project, including agronomists, breeders, plant microbiologists, crop physiologists, biochemists, soil scientists, economists and crop modelers in College Station and at multiple Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Centers in the peanut production areas of the Rolling Plains, South Plains and South Texas.

While Cason and the breeding team are develop-

ing breeding lines, Ribera will lead the development of risk-based, comprehensive enterprise budgets focused on the peanuts' oil yield, reliability and viability as a renewable diesel feedstock.

With that objective, Ribera's team will include modelers who will assess transportation, shelling and crushing infrastructure as well as regulatory constraints to come up with the baseline carbon intensity.

"When considering a renewable fuel source, every energy input into the production and processing of the peanuts until the fuel reaches the pumps will be important to determining the carbon intensity," said Baltensperger. "We look at energy in for energy out and which is most carbon considerate. We want the carbon intensity baseline to be as low as possible if we are to optimize peanuts where it still makes sense to produce oil for fuel."

McCutchen said this project could bring peanut production back to areas that previously grew the crop but ran out of water. The agronomic side of the project will concentrate on peanut lines that can be grown on marginal lands and still give high per-acre vegetable oil yields.

- The team of cropping system specialists will also develop cropping systems that optimize growth, harvest and yield for "diesel nuts." They will evaluate conservation tillage, as research in peanut-producing regions of Texas has shown that soil organic carbon increased by combining conservation tillage with cover crops.
- Rotational systems, cover crops, tillage and fertilizer practices will be evaluated under dryland and limited irrigation to create a cropping system with the lowest possible carbon footprint. High-throughput greenhouse assays will be used to find novel endophytes, which will be important for promoting drought tolerance and overall plant health.
- When enough information is available and advances are made, Emi Kimura, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension state peanut specialist, Vernon, will lead the outreach to inform producers about the research outcomes.

"The end goal of this project is the commercialization of elite high-oil varieties that producers can plant and oil that Chevron can use," said Carl Muntean, director of Texas A&M AgriLife Corporate Engagement and Research Support.

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Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses on sale Aug. 15

AUSTIN – The beginning of a new hunting season is quickly approaching and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) reminds hunters and anglers to purchase their new licenses for 2022-23. Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except the Year-from-Purchase All-Water Fishing Package) for the current year expire at the end of August. The new licenses for the 2022-23 season go on sale Aug. 15.

Annually, Texans purchase more than 2.7 million hunting and fishing licenses and directly fund a multitude of conservation efforts and recreational opportunities, helping make Texas one of the best places in the country to hunt and fish. Some of the many projects made possible by license sales include fish stocking, wildlife management, habitat restoration, public hunting leases, river fishing access and Texas Game Wardens.

Outdoorsmen and women can purchase a variety of licenses online through the official TPWD website, by phone at 1-800-895-4248 during regular business hours or in person at more than 1,800 retailers across the state. Anyone planning to buy their license from TPWD's Austin Headquarters is reminded to make an advance appointment. Appointments may be scheduled up to one week in advance. Call 1-800-262-8755 or 512-389-4828 to schedule.

Brand new for this year, Texas residents can purchase a digital Super Combo license (Items 111, 117 and 990) that will authorize digital tagging of harvested deer, turkey and oversized red drum. The digital license option is available through online purchase only when licenses go on sale Aug. 15. A digital license holder will not receive a printed license or tags but must keep their digital license available while in the field. The license can be viewed through the TPWD Outdoor Annual

and My Texas Hunt Harvest (MTHH) mobile apps.

TPWD encourages repeat license buyers to use the expedited checkout process, which speeds up re-purchasing the same license bought in recent years.

Customers can access their past and current licenses in several ways: (1) an electronic photo of your license, (2) an emailed receipt of your purchase; (3) your account in the online license sales system; (4) via License Lookup in the Outdoor Annual app or in the My Texas Hunt Harvest app.

Hunting and fishing regulations for the 2022-23 season are available online at outdoorannual.com, on the Outdoor Annual mobile app. The mobile app is free, and once downloaded, it works without internet connectivity which makes it easy for hunters and anglers to view regulations in even the most remote locations. Other features include license lookup, location-based functionality such as "Hunting Seasons and Regulations by Location," "Where to Fish," and more. Thanks to partners at Chevrolet, a limited supply of printed booklets will be available at select TPWD offices. Hunters and anglers are encouraged to call their local offices to check availability.

The My Texas Hunt Harvest app enables electronic submission of mandatory harvest reports, including alligator gar harvest reporting, and new this year, supports digital tagging of harvested deer, turkey, and oversized red drum for certain license holders. The app also allows hunters to complete their on-site registration for many TPWD public hunting lands. Hunters can hunt on more than one million acres of public land with the purchase of an Annual Public Hunting Permit.

When buying their license, resident hunters and anglers may wish to purchase an entry in the Lifetime License Drawing.

Three lucky winners will each win a Lifetime Super Combo License and never need to buy a Texas hunting or fishing license again. Entries are \$5 each and can be purchased online, by phone or at any license retailer. The first entry deadline is Sept. 30.

When making their purchase, license buyers can also add a donation of \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$20 to help support the Hunters for the Hungry program or the Fund for Veterans Assistance. Donations to the Hunters for the Hungry program provide hunters with a way to donate legally harvested deer to participating processors. The processed meat goes to local food banks to feed Texas families in need. Donations to the Fund for Veterans Assistance program provide grants to veteran service organizations and nonprofit charitable institutions, assisting veterans and their families at the community level throughout Texas.

For frequently asked questions about Texas hunting and fishing licenses, visit the TPWD website.

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Be prepared for more open cows

Dr. Les Anderson, University of Kentucky

Shew, it's been a rough summer. On top of high fuel costs, current inflation and high input costs, beef producers have had to deal with drought and extreme heat. Heat stress is normal for cattle in summer but it may cause some serious issues with pregnancy rates and calving rates.

Heat stress has profound impacts on many biological processes that can lead to poor reproductive rates. Prior to estrus, heat stress reduces

follicle growth, hormone production, and oocyte (the egg) competency. Combined, this reduces fertilization rates. Once fertilized, heat stress also reduces the growth of the newly formed embryo. This reduction in the growth of an embryo is likely the result of increased cell death and/or a smaller corpus luteum (CL) that produces less progesterone. This reduced growth rate and increased embryonic cell death leads to more embryos lost during the first week of

gestation. Unfortunately, heat stress continues to impact embryonic growth through the first 21 days which also increases the loss of these early pregnancies.

Issues with heat stress continue throughout gestation. Exposure of early pregnancies (day 24-45) to heat stress reduces fetal growth and can result in the loss of up to 20% of these pregnancies. Heat stress reduces placental efficiency meaning the placenta has a reduced abil-

ity to deliver nutrients to the developing fetus. Toward the end of pregnancy, extreme heat stress can impact placental hormone production which can lead not only to premature calving but also to drastically reduced development of the mammary glands impacting lactation. So, heat stress impacts beef females from the beginning to the end of pregnancy.

What does this mean for beef producers right now? First and foremost, have pregnancy diagnosed in your herd. Contact your herd veterinarian to set up a palpation or ultrasound. Pregnancy can

also be diagnosed by taking a blood sample and either mailing the samples to a diagnostic lab or by using the new chute-side blood test kit from IDEXX (test is called Alertys and they are available from most veterinary supply companies). The blood tests are accurate but consultation with your herd veterinarian is always recommended.

Pregnancy rate can dip to as low as 50-60% when prolonged heat stress occurs during the breeding season. What options does a producer have if a breeding disaster occurs? If you have a split calving season or calve

year-round, the decision to keep or cull open females is a little easier. Simply roll cows younger than 5-years-old over to the next breeding season. The decision is harder if you only have cows calving in the spring. Currently, cull cow prices are high and many market analysts suggest that cull cows prices may remain high this fall. If the cost of replacement breeding stock remains reasonable, then the optimum decision would be to cull and replace for this year.

Most years, the decision to cull open cows isn't easy. Some would argue to cull all females that cannot conceive in her environment because her genetics did not match her environment or level of management. But genetics for reproduction are lowly heritable, so genetics are a very small contributor to reproductive failure. Also, if you only have a drought and excessive heat stress once every 5-10 years, should you penalize a cow whose genetics match the environment most of the time? To make the decision even more challenging, often cows that are culled are replaced with bred two-year-olds, who are inherently reproductively inefficient, will require additional feed inputs, and may take two years to reach optimum productivity. In the long run, what really costs more? Interesting problem to think about and certainly not one answer for all producers.

The markets and where we are in the cattle marketing cycle, should impact the decision. Currently, cow numbers are extremely low in the U.S. which normally results in higher calf prices. I got some incredible advice from an experienced beef producer a few years ago. Pap had run over 1,000 cows for decades and his strategy was when prices are high, own as many cows as you can and sell as many calves as you can. Extend the calving season if you need to because every calf sold was profitable. Pap didn't care to keep open females at all. However, when prices were low, Pap controlled the calving season tightly and culled cows that didn't conceive. Pap's philosophy was when times were lean be efficient and when times were good, be productive. Good advice. It appears we are in an excellent position in the cow cycle with low number and impending higher feeder calf prices. Might be time to keep as many as you can afford to prepare you to take advantage of the higher cattle prices on the horizon.



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University...

(Continued from page 19)

one of his top bulls for a few months. The

bull was a top five ranked Beefmaster. The bull and cows did their job producing top calves. However, closure of the Southeast Research and Extension Center meant Montgomery had to start over.

The current "donation we received was very beneficial, no strings attached," Lindsey said. "Some of the cattle we were initially going to sell, the donation agreement allowed us to do that, but instead, the quality of the animals we received was incredibly good. Those cows and calves will now be incorporated into our existing breeding program."

OSU...

(Continued from page 20)

changes in weather and certain management practices can increase dark-cutting incidents, so if you can figure out which cattle are more prone to dark cutting at a genetic level, you can put management practices in place to help with that," Mafi said.

What's happening now?

Predicting which cattle are more prone to dark cutting meat with a high level of confidence is something Ramanathan and Mafi are still working toward.

Ramanathan said researchers are continuing to look at these protein and metabolic levels before applying their knowledge at the production level by studying the biological markers of cattle that relate to these differences.

In other research, Ramanathan and his colleagues are trying to determine if there are electrochemical factors that play into the discoloration of beef, pork and chicken by researching the properties in each of these meats that cause different oxygen levels, pH conditions and temperature. In collaboration with the OSU Department of Chemistry, they are also developing electrochemical sensors that can check antioxidant levels in beef extracts to determine if the beef will turn brown more quickly.

Meanwhile, Ramanathan, Mafi and Daqing Piao of the OSU College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology are attempting to develop a method to detect meat discoloration internally before it reaches the surface of the meat. The two scientists and their colleagues will also study the absorption and emission of light within beef products and its association with beef color change to develop storage strategies and other decision-making tools.

Youth Ag...

(Continued from page 20)

tion, welding, plant growth, stitchery, wildlife conservation, or any other type of rural related project or passion.

All video submissions are due by 11:59 pm on Oct. 31, 2022 and must be submitted electronically at www.texasfcs.com/news/showcase. Each group is limited to one entry. All winners will be announced by mid-December.

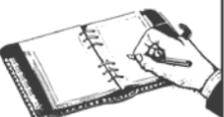
The entries will be judged by a selection committee using the contest scorecard located on the showcase webpage. The judging scorecard gives points for overall presentation, creativity, design, content, and organization.

The Youth Ag Video Showcase is part of Texas Farm Credit's Passion Forward program which has a goal of giving backing 2% of their annual net income to local communities each year.



Livestock Sales Calendar

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bold-faced listings have advertisements in this issue.



- SEP 3 South Texas Cattle Marketing Fall Replacement Female Sale, Nixon, TX
- SEP 7 Buffalo Livestock Marketing Pre-Conditioned Calf Sale, Buffalo, TX
- SEP 10 **Advantage Fall Beefmaster Sale, Giddings, TX**



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- SEP 10 ACE @ Wiley Ranch Brangus & Santa Gertrudis Female Sale, Effie, LA
- SEP 10 ~~CANCELLED~~ East Texas and Heart of Texas Simmental/Simbrah Sale, Henderson, TX
- SEP 16 **Nunley Brothers One Ranch Annual Female Sale, Sabinal, TX**
- SEP 17 Midsouth & Neal Family Annual Brangus Bull & Female Sale, St Francisville, LA
- SEP 17 **Beefmaster Network Sale, Raymond, MS**
- SEP 23-24 **Flint Hills Classic Beefmaster Female & Bull Sale, Paxico, KS**
- SEP 24 **Jordan Cattle Auction Fall Special Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX**



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- SEP 24 Club 1835 Online Sale, Hamilton, TX
- SEP 24 **LiveOak Beefmaster Breeders Association Perfect Pair Fall Sale, Three Rivers, TX**
- SEP 24-25 **Simbrah Synergy XV, Giddings, TX**
- SEP 30 Southern Jewel Cattle Company's Precious Gems Sale, Victoria, TX
- OCT 1 Peach Creek Ranch Online Heifer Sale, Granger, TX
- OCT 1 **Lyssy's Heart of the Herd Beefmaster Production Sale, Luling, TX**
- OCT 1 **Scamardo Brangus Production Sale, Bryan, TX**
- OCT 5 **Halfmann-Beckton Red Angus Bull Sale, Miles, TX**
- OCT 6 **Dudley Brothers 61st Annual Hereford Bull Sale, Comanche, TX**
- OCT 8 **Addison Brangus Performance Sale, Cullman, AL**
- OCT 8 **Cox Excalibur CX Advantage Red Brangus Sale, Weimer, TX**
- OCT 8 **Carr & Others Beefmaster Fall Sale, Floresville, TX**
- OCT 11-12 **RA Brown Ranch Sale, Throckmorton, TX**
- OCT 12 Buffalo Livestock Marketing Pre-Conditioned Calf Sale, Buffalo, TX
- OCT 13 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering featuring Martin-Bruni Brangus, Hidden Oaks Herefords & Simmons Charolais, San Saba, TX

UPCOMING EVENTS

• 2023 •

February 9-26 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, San Antonio, TX

February 28-March 19 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, Houston, TX

- OCT 15 **Strait-Hefte Tried & True Santa Gertrudis Production Sale, Streetman, TX**

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- OCT 15 MP at Diamond D Brangus Sale, Poteet, TX
- OCT 15 **Beef On Forage Beefmaster Bull and Female Sale, Brenham, TX**

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- OCT 19 **Thomas Charolais, Inc. Bull Sale, Raymondville, TX**
- OCT 19 Jordan Cattle Auction 9th Annual Hill Country Youth Heifer Sale, San Saba, TX
- OCT 21 **Central Texas ICA All Breed Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Gonzales, TX**
- OCT 21-22 L.G. Herndon, Jr. Farms Brangus & Charolais Bull & Female Sale, Lyons, GA
- OCT 21-22 **Briggs Ranches Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Bloomington, TX**
- OCT 22 Star G Brangus Production Sale, Ben Wheeler, TX
- OCT 25 Phillips Ranch – Fenco Brangus Bull Sale, Bunnell, FL
- OCT 29 7P Ranch Simmental Annual Fall Bull & Female Sale, Tyler, TX
- OCT 29 Jordan Cattle Auction Fall "Best of the Best" Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- NOV 3 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering featuring Hales Angus Farms & Cannon Charolais Ranch, San Saba, TX
- NOV 5 Tanner Farms Angus & Brangus Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Shuqualak, MS
- NOV 7 The Branch Ranch Brangus Bull & Female Sale, Mansfield, LA
- NOV 9 Buffalo Livestock Marketing Pre-Conditioned Calf Sale, Buffalo, TX
- NOV 9 Barber Ranch Herefords/Express Angus Bull Sale, San Saba, TX
- NOV 11-12 ACE @ Quail Valley Farms Brangus & Santa Gertrudis Bull & Female Sales, Oneonta, AL
- NOV 17 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering featuring Schaefer Farms Angus, San Saba, TX
- NOV 18-19 Cavender-Druggin' M Partners Brangus Bull, Female and Commercial Female Sales, Jacksonville, TX
- NOV 26 Pine Belt Alliance Brangus Bull & Female Sale, Purvis, MS
- DEC 2-4 Texas Simmental/Simbrah Association Southern Showcase, Brenham, TX
- DEC 3 Rancher's Choice Charolais Bull Sale, Nixon, TX
- DEC 3 Texas Drivers Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Weimar, TX
- DEC 3 Tom Brothers Opening Day of Private Treaty Sale, Campbellton, TX
- DEC 3 **2 Bar C 4th Annual Production Sale, Luling, TX**
- DEC 15 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, San Saba, TX

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Beef demand matters

By Dr. Glynn Tonsor, K State University

As society continues to transition from the pre-pandemic period and the many shocks that have occurred over the past couple years, it is easy to overlook a simple but critical fact – *strong demand for U.S. beef has been supporting cattle prices!* Published research points to cow-calf producers in particular accruing proportionally larger economic impacts from beef demand changes. [1] Accordingly, demand strength in recent years has supported feeder cattle prices and growing concerns in mid-2022 around beef demand strength are similarly worth monitoring, particularly for cow-calf producers. Given importance to producers, this short piece highlights recent beef demand patterns and resources of note. In a recent article with Jayson Lusk titled “U.S. Over the past two years

Perspective: Meat Demand Outdoes Meat Avoidance” USDA data is used to document long-term trends in domestic meat consumption while Meat Demand Monitor (MDM) data is used to support a more recent, deeper assessment of contemporary meat demand patterns. [2] The MDM project, jointly supported by beef and pork checkoff programs, is informed by continuously tracking domestic consumer protein preferences and demand using nationally representative surveys completed each month since February 2020. [3] Consistent with the above-noted article’s title, meat demand in the U.S. has been strong corresponding with about ¾ of the population self-declaring to be regular meat consumers. Over the past two years

MDM data has provided refined insights such as ground beef demand adjusting more than ribeye steak demand in its retail (grocery) sector growth and food service (restaurant) sector decline during key COVID-19 epidemiological periods. Collectively across both domestic sectors and that of foreign demand for U.S. beef, strong consumer demand has supported higher cattle prices than we otherwise would have seen. For a more recent assessment as consumers adapt to changing macro-economic conditions and society-wide inflation, consider the May 2022 MDM report. Domestic beef demand in May declined from April levels in both retail (grocery-store) and food service (restaurant) sectors. Over two-thirds of consumers indicate changing behav-

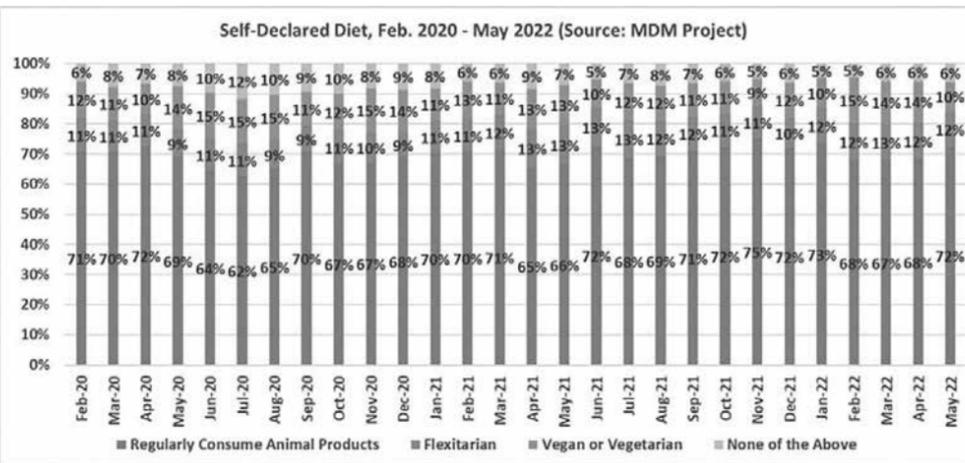


Beef demand continues to be strong and is a driving factor in cattle prices.

ior given higher retail meat prices. The most common adjustment is buying a lower volume of desired products rather than changing brand, package size, or product cut. Given the well-documented economic impact of consumer meat demand on the well-being of cattle producers, producers interested in updates to the domestic

demand situation are encouraged to regularly visit the AgManager.info website to utilize resources including the latest outputs from the Meat Demand Monitor. [1] See research by McKendree et al. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1093/ajae/aaz034> [2] This paper published in *Meat Science* is available

here: <https://www.science-direct.com/science/article/pii/S0309174022001115> [3] MDM reports, raw data, links to general media use and academic publications are available on K-State’s AgManager.info website: <https://www.agmanager.info/livestock-meat/meat-demand/monthly-meat-demand-monitor-survey-data>



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Lot 22-Two female sexed purebred Simbrah embryos sell out of Smith Nu Tiffany Diamond (pictured) and Smith Made Solid.



Lot 1-Half-interest and half-possession sells in this own daughter of Smith Bella Bella and Satisfies. A purebred Simbrah.



Lot 50-Half-interest and half-possession sells in this March 2021 Simmental donor prospect. Sired by Copacetic and out of a Twang daughter. Bred to WLE Smith Big Wig.



Lot 40-A bred purebred Simbrah heifer sired by Smith No Better Than This. Sells bred to Smith Follow My Lead.



Lot 37-Half-interest and half possession sells in this two-year-old purebred Simbrah daughter of Smith Practical. Bred to Smith WLTRS Crockett.



Lot 28-A combination of Practical on the top and the Splendid Cow Family maternally. Just a March purebred Simbrah baby that will show.



Lot 23-A Smith Practical out of Smith Diva's Dancing Queen. Half-interest and half-possession sell in this Simbrah herd sire prospect.



Lot 2-Your choice of three full sisters sell, Lots 2,3,4 and their full brother as Lot 5. This is Lot 2. Smith Have No Fear x Smith Bella Amelia 5268. Purebred Simbrah.



Lot 52-A CMFM Caught Lookin Simmental daughter with the R770 Cow Family on the bottom side. She is bred to WLE Smith Big Wig.



Lot 54-Polled Simmental Bull. Sired by W/C Executive Order and out of a Dream On daughter. A one-half semen interest and half possession sell in this up and coming sire.



Lot 113-A HR Mega Red daughter with RFI Red Raider breeding. She sells bred to PRR Revolution. Purebred Simbrah



Lot 27-Purebred Simbrah. A Practical daughter from the Splendid Cow Family. She is bred to Smith Easy Like 21J.



Lot 33-A three-quarter Simbrah daughter of Twang bred to Smith Follow My Lead.



Lot 19-Purebred Simbrah that sells open. Sired by Smith Made Solid and out of Smith SWFS Detonation.



Lot 55-Purebred Simmental daughter of Revolution. She sells open.



Lot 14-Half-interest and half-possession sell in this purebred Simbrah. She's a Smith Nu Wave II x Triple P Juliet. She's bred to Smith Follow My Lead.



Lot 29-A nice baldy purebred Simbrah heifer sells. She is sired by Smith Just Because and from the She Moves Cow Family. Sells open.



Lot 7-Two sexed female purebred Simbrah embryos from Crockett and Smith Sweet Bella Trudy 232J sell.



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