

# SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK STANDARD

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20 PAGES

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## Report looks at potential impact of inheritance legislation on family farms

*Agricultural and Food Policy Center report analyzes five possible scenarios*

**By Paul Schattenberg,  
Texas A&M AgriLife Today**

A new report by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University, AFPC, in the Department of Agricultural Economics in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences analyzes how some legislative proposals about how inheritance and estate taxes are treated may impact agricultural producers.

The report, "Economic Impacts of the Sensible Taxation and Equity Promotion Act and the for the 99.5 Percent Act on AFPC's Representative Farms and Ranches," includes an analysis of five scenarios of proposed leg-

islative policy changes and how each might impact farms and ranches across the country.

### **Background on inheritance legislative proposals**

Earlier this year, a number of proposals surfaced that would significantly change how inheritance is treated and, by extension, the disposition of estate taxes. The Sensible Taxation and Equity Promotion or STEP Act proposes eliminating a "stepped-up basis" that allows an heir to use fair market values as a basis of property valuation upon the owner's death. And among other changes, the 99.5 Percent Act or 99.5% Act, would decrease overall estate tax exemption to \$3.5 million per individual or \$7 million per couple.

"Senator John Boozman, ranking member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and Representative G.T. Thompson, ranking member of the House Committee on Agriculture, asked the Agricultural and Food Policy Center to examine what impact these proposals would have on farmers and ranchers," said Bart Fischer, Ph.D., co-director of AFPC.

Fischer said the report is the result of the center's analysis of different proposals.

"Results are presented relative to a status-quo baseline that maintains the current estate tax exemption and stepped-up basis provisions through 2026," he said.

Under current law, when a farm or ranch owner dies, an estate is subjected to federal estate

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PERIODICAL

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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

At the time of this writing, I am sitting in our booth at the annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course. The date is August 3, 2021. It's been great to get to see producers and vendors in person. As many of you know, last year's event had to be held online only due to Covid. Attendance has been good, but not at all time highs by any means, perhaps due in part to the Delta variant. In spite of the lower numbers, it has been good to see everyone face-to-face. We have been a sponsor of this event for many years now, and it is always a great place to see and meet new folks.

Earlier today, I was having a conversation with a good friend and we were discussing the trend of many going to online sales, instead of having production sales or participating in consignment sales. It is my opinion and that of this particular friend that many are losing the value of their product by having these online only events. I'll come back to this thought a little later.

If you have ever been to the short course, then you know it is a great place where a large variety of educational topics are discussed. In addition, there is a large trade show included with vendors from many walks of life pertaining to beef cattle production. However, if I was asked to point out the most memo-

orable feature of this event, it would have to be the Monday night prime rib dinner. Each year, the Texas A&M Meat Science department supplies, cooks and feeds 12-1800 prime rib dinners that are not only delicious but served in under 30 minutes! It's simply amazing how well organized they are. And the consistency and quality of the product is second to none. As a sponsor, we are here at this event every year and have been so for many years. It is always good. But equally important, it is always memorable.

Now back to my thoughts on online sales. Everyone seems to have gravitated towards them of their ease of use and reduced costs. These facts are undeniable. But what do you lose?

Good performance, pedigrees, top tier EPDs, superior confirmation and structure are no doubt keys to success. But what about relationships? All things being equal, would you rather buy from someone you know, trust and have a personal relationship, or would you rather it be the nameless, faceless "amazon" type purchase? Do you desire a one-time sale or to develop a long-term customer?

We are losing relationships and the opportunity to create memorable events. Now, if you are thinking about a produc-

tion sale, ask yourself these questions. 1) Will I have the opportunity to develop relationships that will result in purchases now or in the future; and 2) what am I doing at my sale to make it a memorable event. Obviously, not everyone that attends a sale actually buys an animal. Perhaps they buy in a later sale, or perhaps they will talk about your sale with other friends or colleagues. Will they talk about your sale? Will your event or some feature of your event be memorable?

You don't have to serve prime rib dinners to be memorable. But you do need to at least try to differentiate yourself in some form from others. What makes people talk about your sale event, or the product you offer? Perhaps you can stand out too among the online auctions these days too. And perhaps word of mouth and your own customer list is all you need to have a successful sale. And of course assumes that no one ever dies, goes out of business or gets divorced.

This old cattle business we all enjoy still craves and even thrives upon relationships and face-to-face interactions. Even during the pandemic, the numbers of those attending sales was very high. Why? Because we are still creatures that crave relationships with others.

SLS

### Wired Up in Texas

A man named John W. Gates went to San Antonio in 1876 with a new product to sell, something that inventor Joseph F. Glidden of Illinois called "barbed wire." To get potential customers' attention, Gates and partner Pete McManus rented Military Plaza, constructed a corral made entirely of barbed wire and filled it with Longhorn cattle. Inspired by the theatrics of a medicine show he had just seen, Gates hawked his new fencing material as "light as air, stronger than whiskey, and cheap as dirt."

Despite their best efforts to escape, the longhorns stayed put in the corral. The Washburn-Moen Company, which had recently purchased Glidden's business and hired Gates and McManus to sell the product, soon had more orders than it could handle. Gates figured he had done a pretty good job for the company and asked to become a full partner. When the company said no, Gates started the Southern Wire Company and made money in a manner usually referred to as "hand-over-fist."

Not everybody welcomed the new fence, not because it didn't work but because it did. Though it marked a final blow to open range and the frontier it represented, the barbed wire fence's day had so clearly arrived that it

became the wire-of-choice all over the country.

Gates continued to do well for himself. In 1900, he financed a down-on-his-luck oil prospector named Pattillo Higgins as part of the formation of the Texas Company, better known today as Texaco. Gates built pipelines and refineries in his winter home of Port Arthur, and when the Spindletop gusher blew in January of 1901, Gates found himself in control of Port Arthur's docks, its

refinery and the railroad needed to get the oil to market.

Gates is remembered today as John "Bet-A-Million" Gates because he liked to bet on things, and he had a lot of money to wager. In 1900, he attended a horse race in England and bet \$70,000 on a horse with 5-to-1 odds and won \$600,000 when the horse named Royal Flush finished line first. As the story was told and retold, the bet

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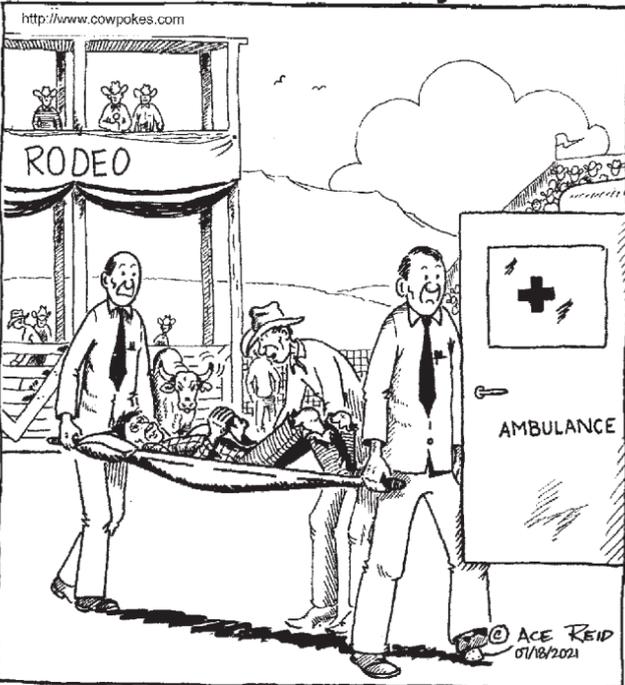
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USDA Livestock Export/Import Statistics For 7-29-21			
SPECIES:	7-24-2021:	Wk.-Dt.:	Yr.-Dt.:
<b>1) BEEF CATTLE</b>			
a. Slaughter	1,668	1,155	27,370
b. Breeding Males	5	33	1,077
c. Breeding Females	64	42	967
Total	1,737	1,430	29,414
<b>2) HOGS</b>			
a. Slaughter	0	0	0
b. Breeding Males	264	0	2,016
c. Breeding Females	0	0	3,387
Total	264	0	5,403
<b>3) SHEEP</b>			
a. Slaughter	0	0	0
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
<b>4) DAIRY CATTLE</b>			
a. Breeding Males	0	2	9
b. Breeding Females	129	105	2,158
Total	129	107	2,167
<b>5) GOATS</b>			
a. Angora	0	0	0
b. Spanish	0	0	0
c. Other	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0
<b>6) HORSES</b>			
a. Slaughter	488	91	9,562
b. Breeding Males	19	21	788
c. Breeding Females	47	36	1,274
d. Geldings	25	14	421
e. Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	46
Total	579	162	12,091
<b>7) EXOTICS</b>			
Total	0	0	5
<b>MEXICO TO NEW MEXICO IMPORTS</b>			
SPECIES:	7-31-2021:	1-1-2021 - Present:	
FEEDER CATTLE	9,845	387,918	
<b>MEXICO TO TEXAS IMPORTS</b>			
FEEDER CATTLE	2,064	120,962	

**COWPOKES®** By Ace Reid



"Jake, it's sure great you're a good cowboy, 'cause you'd never make it as a bull rider!"

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# DC News...

## House agriculture hearing pushes for more hook space

Washington--Recently, the U.S. House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to examine urgent challenges within the beef supply chain. After hearing testimony from agriculture economists, land-grant university faculty and cattle industry stakeholders, many members of Congress echoed the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's (NCBA) longstanding call to expand processing capacity.

Members also noted the need for greater transparency in cattle markets to create conditions that support both a reliable, affordable supply of U.S. beef and the continued financial viability of American cattle farmers and ranchers.

"The roadblocks that are depressing profits for our cattle producers and endangering the steady supply of affordable beef have really captured the attention of lawmakers,"

said National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Vice-President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane. "The continued momentum we are seeing on expanding processing capacity, both on Capitol Hill

and at USDA, is a positive sign. We are grateful to Chairman Costa and Ranking Member Johnson for prioritizing this issue. We look forward to continuing to work with members of the House Agriculture Committee to advance solutions like the Butcher Block Act that would alleviate some of the chokepoints that are hurting our producers."

Cattle industry concerns have seen increased attention recently from both sides of the aisle as NCBA has advocated for  
**(Continued on page 10)**

### Maternally Speaking... You Can't Find A Better Breed Than Santa Gertrudis!

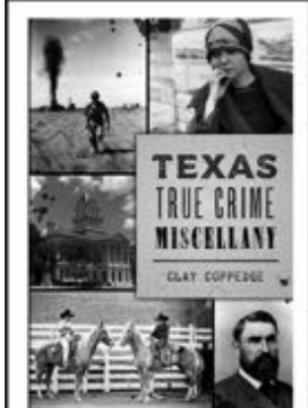


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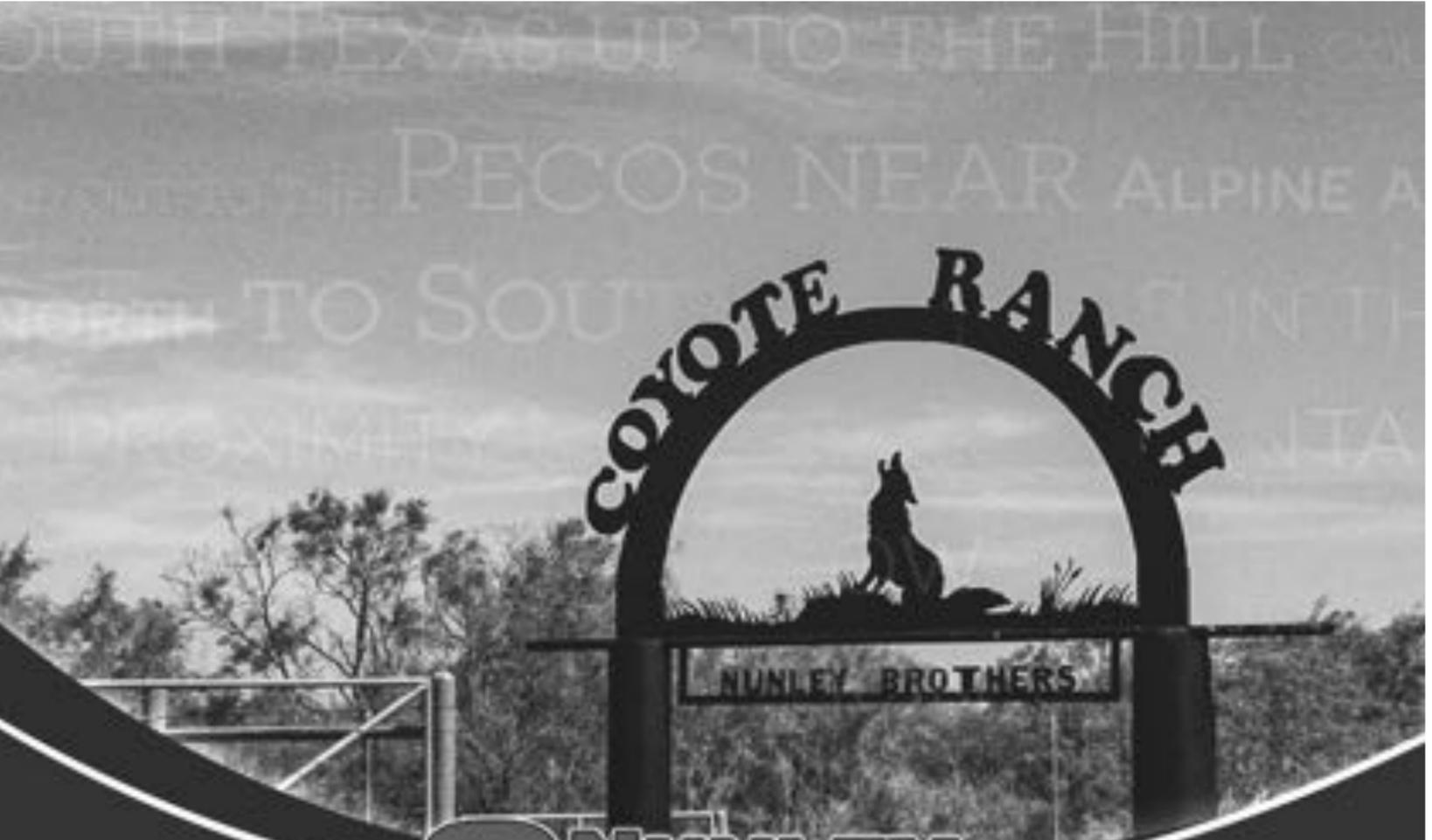
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From the author of the "Texas Trails" column in Southern Livestock Standard!

Outrageous acts of villainy have slowly drifted out of the national limelight and into the dustbin of Texas history. Consider the uproar over the 1879 shooting of actor Drew Barrymore in Marshall and the 1949 murder of oil field legend Tex Thornton in Amarillo. The 1909 Coryell County Courthouse massacre committed by a sixteen-year-old girl remains just as shocking today. For the long-suffering associates of repeat offenders like Fort Worth's Flapper Bandit or Temple's International Man of Mystery, notoriety couldn't fade quickly enough. From the lawless days of the frontier to the rise of organized crime, Clay Coppedge sifts through eighteen obscure case files to chart the evolution of illegal activity in the Lone Star State.



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SABINAL, TEXAS

**USDA Major Livestock Reports:**

**Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, July 29, 2021:** Total receipts 1,148, last reported (7-22-21) 1137, last year 1050. Feeder cattle 1033 (90.0%), last reported (7-22-21) 1001 (88.0%), last year 861 (82.0%). Slaughter cattle 80 (7.0%), last reported (7-22-21) 91 (8.0%), last year 158 (15.0%). Replacement cattle 35 (3.0%), last reported (7-22-21) 45 (4.0%), last year 31 (3.0%). Compared to last week steer and heifer calves and yearlings firm to 1.00 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls firm to 2.00 higher. Stock cows and pairs not well tested but higher undertone noted. Trading fairly active, demand good. Supply included: 90% Feeder Cattle (57% Steers, 40% Heifers, 3% Bulls); 7% Slaughter Cattle (78% Cows, 22% Bulls); 3% Replacement Cattle (46% Stock Cows, 19% Bred Cows, 35% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 40%.

**Amarillo Livestock Auction, Amarillo, Texas, August 2, 2021:** Total receipts 275, last reported (7-19-21) 100, last year 419. Feeder cattle 241 (87.6%), last reported (7-19-21) 90 (90.0%), last year 392 (93.6%). Slaughter cattle 26 (9.5%), last reported (7-

19-21) 10 (10.0%), last year 20 (4.8%). Replacement cattle 8 (2.9%), last reported (7-19-21) 0, last year 7 (1.7%). Compared to last week: Not enough comparable sales due to a light test. Trading activity was light to moderate on moderate demand. The weather has gotten back to normal with temperatures back up over 90 degrees. Supply included: 88% Feeder Cattle (8% Steers, 14% Dairy Steers, 65% Heifers, 9% Bulls, 4% Dairy Heifers); 9% Slaughter Cattle (100% Cows); 3% Replacement Cattle (33% Stock Cows, 17% Bred Cows, 50% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 65%.

**Oklahoma National Stockyards, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 3, 2021:** Total receipts 7637, last reported (7-26-21) 8494, last year 7000. Feeder cattle 7637 (100.0%), last reported (7-26-21) 8494 (100.0%), last year 7000 (100.0%). Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers steady to 3.00 lower. Steer and Heifer calves 2.00 -5.00 lower. Demand moderate. Supply included: 100% Feeder Cattle (59% Steers, 40% Heifers, 1% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 67%.

**SALE:** Beeville Livestock Commission, Inc.  
Beeville, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-30-21  
**VOLUME:** 399  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	133-142	128-166
300-400 lbs.	132-142	109-163
400-500 lbs.	128-178	116-164
500-600 lbs.	117-167	114-195
600-700 lbs.	113-149	111-135
700-800 lbs.	112-140	89-131
Slaughter cows	36-73	
Slaughter Bulls	70-94	
Stocker cows	560-960	
Pairs	585-760	

**SALE:** Brazos Valley Livestock Commission  
Bryan, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-6-21  
**VOLUME:** 542  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	160-190	140-165
300-400 lbs.	158-187	135-156
400-500 lbs.	150-177	130-152
500-600 lbs.	142-164	120-147
600-700 lbs.	132-153	120-136
700-800 lbs.	136-146	118-130
Slaughter cows	52-76	
Slaughter bulls	77-88	
Stocker cows	790-1135	
Pairs	850-1150	

**SALE:** Live Oak Auction, Inc.  
Three Rivers, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 8-2-21  
**VOLUME:** 1502  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	158-204	146-186
300-400 lbs.	156-174	138-168
400-500 lbs.	154-192	134-164
500-600 lbs.	144-184	132-162
600-700 lbs.	128-156	120-146
700-800 lbs.	116-148	110-138
Slaughter cows	46-82	
Slaughter bulls	82-102	
Stocker cows	550-1225	
Pairs	950-1375	

**SALE:** Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc.  
Nixon, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 8-2-21  
**VOLUME:** 977  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	190-220	156-171
300-400 lbs.	165-213	141-207
400-500 lbs.	153-194	137-183
500-600 lbs.	132-164	129-193
600-700 lbs.	131-152	128-175
700-800 lbs.	119-141	120-138
Slaughter cows	20-81	
Slaughter bulls	81-98	
Stocker cows	650-1000	
Pairs	1275	

**SALE:** Gulf Coast Livestock Auction, LLC  
Alice, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-27-21  
**VOLUME:** 437  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	170-204	146-170
300-400 lbs.	165-200	150-175
400-500 lbs.	158-185	150-178
500-600 lbs.	144-173	138-150
600-700 lbs.	137-150	130-158
700-800 lbs.	120-140	115-135
Slaughter cows	50-778	
Slaughter bulls	86-100	
Stocker cows	800-1100	
Pairs	850-1250	

**SALE:** Gillespie Livestock Company  
Fredericksburg, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-28-21  
**VOLUME:** 1063  
**TREND:** Higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	140-200	120-175
300-400 lbs.	160-222.5	120-172
400-500 lbs.	150-193	120-165
500-600 lbs.	140-179	120-155
600-700 lbs.	135-164	105-142
700-800 lbs.	120-153	96-128
Slaughter cows	40-80	
Slaughter Bulls	80-107	
Stocker cows	700-1100	
Pairs	900-1400	

**SALE:** Groesbeck Auction/Livestock Co., LLC  
Groesbeck, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-29-21  
**VOLUME:** 719  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	—	—
300-400 lbs.	150-215	125-180
400-500 lbs.	125-192	120-175
500-600 lbs.	120-169	110-162
600-700 lbs.	110-160	100-150
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	36-73	
Slaughter bulls	76-102	
Stocker cows	800-1400	
Pairs	1050-1700	

**SALE:** Jordan Cattle Auction  
San Saba & Mason, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-29-21  
**VOLUME:** 4990  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	170-200	150-200
300-400 lbs.	180-225	145-165
400-500 lbs.	160-206	142-164
500-600 lbs.	150-186	135-157
600-700 lbs.	140-164	130-152
700-800 lbs.	127-154	110-139
Slaughter cows	38-86	
Slaughter bulls	75-99	
Stocker cows	700-2300	
Pairs	900-2400	

**SALE:** Giddings Livestock Commission  
Giddings, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 8-2-21  
**VOLUME:** 581  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	135-192.5	150-180
300-400 lbs.	135-210	135-165
400-500 lbs.	130-183	120-154
500-600 lbs.	125-150	121-150
600-700 lbs.	120-150	123-142
700-800 lbs.	110-145	110-145
Slaughter cows	31-88	
Slaughter bulls	75-100	
Stocker cows	500-1175	
Pairs	850-1450	

**SALE:** Lampasas Cattle Auction  
Lampasas, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-28-21  
**VOLUME:** 391  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	—	—
300-400 lbs.	155-196	144-167
400-500 lbs.	143-186	139-164
500-600 lbs.	140-170	137-144
600-700 lbs.	133-157	132-140
700-800 lbs.	126-145	122-127
Slaughter cows	42-77	
Slaughter bulls	84-100	
Stocker cows	700-1200	
Pairs	—	

**SALE:** East Texas Livestock, Inc.  
Crockett, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-27-21  
**VOLUME:** 1585  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	177-210	155-200
300-400 lbs.	180-214	151-200
400-500 lbs.	164-194	140-170
500-600 lbs.	144-172	133-164
600-700 lbs.	125-169	119-154
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	55-75	
Slaughter Bulls	83-96	
Stocker cows	690-1500	
Pairs	840-1675	

**SALE:** Caldwell Livestock Commission Co., Inc.  
Caldwell, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-28-21  
**VOLUME:** 623  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	171-202	150-190
300-400 lbs.	175-212	160-170
400-500 lbs.	160-202	150-202
500-600 lbs.	150-167	146-210
600-700 lbs.	1s43-160	141-170
700-800 lbs.	130-142	131-143
Slaughter cows	40-79	
Slaughter bulls	71-101	
Stocker cows	750-1000	
Pairs	—	

**SALE:** Buffalo Livestock Commission Co., Inc.  
Buffalo, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-24-21  
**VOLUME:** 889  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	175-200	150-176
300-400 lbs.	163-189	142-161.5
400-500 lbs.	159-175.5	141-155.5
500-600 lbs.	152-176	127-142
600-700 lbs.	140-150.5	117-130
700-800 lbs.	125-145	—
Slaughter cows	45-80	
Slaughter bulls	80-104	
Stocker cows	650-1300	
Pairs	—	

**SALE:** Navasota Livestock Auction Co.  
Navasota, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-31-21  
**VOLUME:** 1282  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	130-215	125-188
300-400 lbs.	130-215	120-180
400-500 lbs.	130-202.5	120-171
500-600 lbs.	125-174	115-165
600-700 lbs.	125-159	110-152
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	40-76	
Slaughter bulls	60-98	
Stocker cows	600-1175	
Pairs	—	

**SALE:** Cattlemen's Brenham Livestock  
Brenham, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-30-21  
**VOLUME:** 991  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	171-224	143-190
300-400 lbs.	176-218	146-204
400-500 lbs.	152-178	140-175
500-600 lbs.	144-169	140-166
600-700 lbs.	137-162	132-168
700-800 lbs.	125-146	108-138
Slaughter cows	38-78	
Slaughter bulls	68-99	
Stocker cows	400-1050	
Pairs	950-1225	

**SALE:** Cuero-Victoria Livestock Markets  
Cuero & Victoria, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-30-21  
**VOLUME:** 1072  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	—	138-185
300-400 lbs.	142-202	142-225
400-500 lbs.	152-191	145-195
500-600 lbs.	145-175	136-201
600-700 lbs.	133-153	128-168
700-800 lbs.	118-134	100-139
Slaughter cows	28-76	
Slaughter Bulls	76-98	
Stocker cows	76-100	
Pairs	700-1460	

**SALE:** Gonzales Livestock Market, Inc.  
Gonzales, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-31-21  
**VOLUME:** 1159  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	195-220	161-168
300-400 lbs.	210-212	157-160
400-500 lbs.	168-190	154-156
500-600 lbs.	160-165	138-150
600-700 lbs.	145-147	130-137
700-800 lbs.	132-138	—
Slaughter cows	36-80	
Slaughter bulls	83-99	
Stocker cows	600-1025	
Pairs	750-1425	

**SALE:** Columbus Livestock Co.  
Columbus, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-29-21  
**VOLUME:** 754  
**TREND:** Steady/no change.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	140-220	120-195
300-400 lbs.	135-217	120-188
400-500 lbs.	130-200	115-155
500-600 lbs.	125-181	115-150
600-700 lbs.	120-155	109-140
700-800 lbs.	110-146	95-130
Slaughter cows	40-80	
Slaughter bulls	65-100	
Stocker cows	550-1250	
Pairs	750-1410	

**SALE:** Four County Livestock Auction  
Industry, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-27-21  
**VOLUME:** 925  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	130-220	125-180
300-400 lbs.	120-210	120-165
400-500 lbs.	120-200	110-160
500-600 lbs.	120-182.5	110-147
600-700 lbs.	115-156	105-139
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	40-76	
Slaughter bulls	78-96	
Stocker cows	700-1400	
Pairs	400-1150	

**SALE:** El Campo Livestock Auction  
El Campo, Texas  
**DATE OF SALE:** 7-27-21  
**VOLUME:** 485  
**TREND:** Steady/higher.

	STEERS	HEIFERS
200-300 lbs.	159-188	141-160
300-400 lbs.	163-193	139-158
400-500 lbs.	149-183	143-156
500-600 lbs.	144-161	126-158
600-700 lbs.	138-153	123-135
700-800 lbs.	—	—
Slaughter cows	20-78	
Slaughter bulls	80-101	
Stocker cows	—	
Pairs	—	

**Sheep & Goat Auctions:**

**Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, July 28, 2021:** Sheep and goats: Total receipts 6531, last reported (7-20-21) 6480, last year 8464. Feeder sheep/lambs: 240 (3.7%), last reported (7-20-21) 560 (8.6%), last year 677 (8.0%). Slaughter sheep/lambs 3288 (50.3%), last reported (7-20-21) 3487 (53.8%), last year 3888 (45.9%). Replacement sheep/lambs 110 (1.7%), last reported (7-20-21) 65 (1.0%), last year 89 (1.1%). Feeder goats 140 (2.1%), last reported (7-20-21) 140 (2.2%), last year 339 (4.0%). Slaughter goats 2653 (40.6%), last reported (7-20-21) 2099 (32.4%), last year 3386 (40.0%).

## Students tell story of the 44 Farms International Beef Cattle Academy

*Members of the 2020-2021 class reflect on the program's value to their beef operations.*

College Station, Texas-- For cattle producers enrolled in the 44 Farms International Beef Cattle Academy (IBCA), learning is a lifelong pursuit. Participants from South Africa and Texas explain the impacts the program has had on their cattle operations and why members of the beef industry should consider applying.

South African veterinarian Dr. Michael Magondo applied for IBCA after inheriting his father's cow/calf operation. Having spent 20 years away from livestock, Magondo realized his training in veterinary medicine alone did not prepare him to handle every aspect of cattle management.

"A training in veterinary medicine might give you the clinical diagnostic capabilities, but it definitely doesn't equip you on the husbandry side," says Magondo.

Magondo initially considered only taking a few courses instead of pursuing the certificate, which requires a minimum of six courses. He changed his mind after realizing the impact the entire certificate program would have on his operation.

"I look back, and I think the certificate was definitely worthwhile because of the interrelatedness of the material," says Magondo.

The program has allowed Magondo to evaluate his operation and define objectives to achieve his goals. Components of the courses have also provided him insight into what operations outside of his country can achieve and how he could apply similar practices to his cattle.

"There's been a lot of valuable, practical application that was reinforced by the theory that was covered. The information has made my life a lot easier and given me the confidence to make strategic decisions about what we do on the operation," says Magondo.

First-generation Texas rancher Jonathan Toups is evidence that even students with limited experience in the cattle industry can find significant benefit

from participating in IBCA.

When Toups started Maysfield Farms, a Beefmasters seedstock operation in central Texas, he was overwhelmed by the large quantity of information available on cattle management practices.

"I couldn't believe there

was that much detailed work that needed to be done constantly," says Toups. "After the first year of reading, I noticed the resources I was following were publishing pretty much the same information."

Toups realized the

(Continued on page 20)

SOUTH TEXAS

*Hereford Association*

**FALL SALE**

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**SPRING SALE**

Saturday, February 5, 2022

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# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

## 8TH ANNUAL BEEFMASTER SALE

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021

10:30 A.M. • Triple G Livestock Auction, LLC

12 Livestock Road, Rio Grande City, TX 78582 • (956) 487-5551

For additional information or assistance with phone bids contact Anthony or any of the names below.

Visit us online at [www.anthonymihalski.com](http://www.anthonymihalski.com)

**Anthony J. MIHALSKI**

Sale Manager

Anthony J. Mihalski  
7320 Triple Elm North  
San Antonio, TX 78263  
(210) 648-5475  
(210) 415-0888 Mobile  
aj1mihalski@aol.com

For additional information:  
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David Villarreal (956) 605-1846

### 60 Lots Including 6 Breeding Age Bulls

**Schedule of Events:**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 27**

View sale cattle all day

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 28**

8 - 10 a.m. - Breakfast tacos and cattle viewing

11 a.m. - Sale begins

**Accommodations:**

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**  
(956) 487-7772

**Quality Inn & Suites**  
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**Consignors:**

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Joe Longoria - El Perdido Ranch

Francisco Chapa

Oscar Saenz - Rising S

Art & Gracie Valdez

Kylie Granados

Chilo Gutierrez

Alvaro Restrepo

Valentin Ranch

Noel Trevino

Alex Gonzales

Richard Stillman

Bill & Peggy Skoruppa

Gerardo Rodriguez

Farm & Ranch Beefmasters

David & Dolly Villarreal

Xavier Pena

Tony Psencik

Fortunato Moreno

Danny Arnold



# Letters to the Editor

The following letter was sent to Southern Livestock Standard and represents the writer's experience and opinion.

**An open letter to various cattle producers and breed association representatives:**

I am a purebred/commercial cattle operator. We have been in business for many years. We have had many one on one sales. Each has had its own set of

circumstances. While each is different, you receive payment in cash, check, sometimes livestock or other goods and services. We have never had a problem with payment in over 69 years as a registered seller.

This changed very

recently for us. One of my employees was contacted about a recent ad we had placed. The ad group covers a roughly 150 mile area and is also online. The person made an inquiry, wanted five Angus bulls, wanted my bottom price and offered payment by cashier's check. Again, each deal is different, but these were not unusual offers, negotiation, etc.

The concern I had was the offer to buy with a cashier's check (which I thought meant money in hand) AND a purposeful overpayment. This included instructions to cash the

check and purchase postal money orders to send to the agent to pay the hauler. Obvious red flag!

My purpose in sending you my story is to serve as a warning to your subscribers/members to become more aware that we can be targets just like the elderly uninformed. We are used to a handshake, a man's word is his bond, etc., so we may be a bit too trusting. I was aware this became a little too different than usual and so lost nothing. I hope criminal prosecution can occur, but realistically it's hard to know what is real in this

sort of cyberworld! Please use this information in any way you think can help your folks!

Yours truly,  
Joseph J. Skrivanek, III

This is Joey Skrivanek. I operate a registered and commercial cattle operation in Caldwell, Texas. We produce registered Hereford and Angus cattle, plus Brahman crosses of both. One of our primary sales areas is bulls. We do like most of you. We advertise in magazines, plus locally in **American Classifieds/Thrifty Nickel**. We have

three names and phone numbers listed. **American Classifieds** are online and use paper ads also.

Recently, one of us got a text, asking if we still had the 20 Hereford and Angus bulls for sale. My guy referred him to me. As owner, I responded. I sent the contact a price list, plus some recent pictures. He asked my my lowest price on five Angus bulls. I sent that to him and he accepted. He said he would send me a cashier's check and further details about delivery. I gave a ten-day time period for me to receive the money. A day after the deadline, I received a US Mail Priority Mail delivery, from another state. We have sold cattle out of state (as well as internationally), but usually within 150 miles of us. Again, not completely unusual.

The cashier's check was for \$3,600 over the agreed sale amount. red flag! He said he was getting chemo treatment and would need me to pay the hauler directly. I was directed to cash the check, get postal money orders for \$3600, send photo copies of them to him and he would let me know about arrangements. I took the check to the bank, and being a long time watcher of shows like NCIS 1, 2 and 3, and knowing there is not such thing as a "coincidence" and the bank thinking the same way, we deposited the check into a special account. I did not take cash to buy money orders.

The bank indicated it would take seven-10 days to confirm if the check was "good". I had always thought a cashier's check was real money! No so! Even as a 32 year elected prosecutor, I have never had a "bad" Cashier's Check! This one came back with this notation "fictitious and altered!"

With the request for me to buy money orders for fees much higher than regular hauling would be was a major red flag, the thought that a cashier's check could be bad did not occur to me. My bank had seen it before.

Rely on your common sense. This proposed transaction, while it did have some things different about it, was not all that "strange". Fortunately, there were no serious financial issues that would have forced me to try for the quick sale. I had time to rely on experience, local bank support, etc. We have

(Continued on page 17)

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# ROUND-UP REVIEW

P.O. Box 1168 / 220 W. San Antonio St.  
Lockhart, Texas 78644-1168

August, 2021  
512/620-0162

www.icatexas.com  
email: tica@icatexas.com



## Executive Director's Report...

By: Bill Hyman

Thanks to rainfall across the state, almost every area has had sufficient rain. West and parts of North Texas still need moisture but the rest of Texas is perfect. Everywhere you go we are seeing hay balers hard at work. Cattle prices are better and U.S. beef demand is excellent. Personally, I've never seen grass this green in August. Maybe now we can start restocking.

Whitetail deer breeders, who normally sell and transport their deer to high fence ranches at this time of year, are now having to live test 100% of the deer they sell or transport. Most of these breeders have been in compliance with Texas Parks and Wildlife and Texas Animal Health regulations for many years. Now in June, they were notified that every deer that is transported to a new location must be tranquilized and live tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD) prior to movement. Since the bucks are

in velvet and temperatures are hot, this procedure will be extremely hard on the deer and could not have been done at a worse time. Mortality will be high and injuries will be more prevalent than usual. Veterinarians and CWD testing technicians are in short supply as breeders race to comply with the new rules by the Sept. 1 movement deadline. Remember, Parks and Wildlife considers the captive deer to be property of the state so there is no financial help for testing costs, deaths, or injuries that accompany the new rule.

It seems that based on the large sums of money and time that the deer breeders have invested for many years, they should have some say in the new regulation that was sprung on them in June, 2021. Hopefully, after testing results are in this year the CWD hysteria will go away and the emergency rule hardships will be long gone.

ICA



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

## Thoughts on haying and hay storage

Over the past few months, I have attended several excellent county Extension educational programs and the Independent Cattlemen's Association and the Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers Annual Meetings, covering a lot of miles. Everywhere I traveled, I saw hay fields in various stages of being mowed, raked, or baled.

Hay season was delayed this year due to the welcome deluge of rainfall in the late spring and early summer. Some of you were probably hoping for it to ease up a little and it did, finally. Mostly what I see are round bales but occasionally I see some smaller square bales. I remember earning what I thought was quite a bit of money when I was younger baling and stacking those square bales in a barn.

When round bales came along, nearly 50 years ago now, we became complacent. We were told that those bales would repel rain (or moisture) and they probably did when the round baler was new and the hay string pulled tight. Most round bales I see (and purchase) tied with string are not as snug as they should be and any amount of moisture reduces the quality and quantity of the hay. This is also true of hay bales wrapped in net wrap-

they are tighter, and less moisture is absorbed, but any amount of moisture reduces quality and quantity.

You can do certain things to reduce moisture damage; store on a raised flat surface, line the bales up face to face in the direction of the prevailing winter rains and leave the bales in the field or under trees and drip lines for example. But these are not perfect solutions.

Considering the cost (or value) of a well-made and harvested round bale (I paid \$75 for mine delivered) I think one could afford to put them under a roof. If you feed 100 bales and save 25% of the bale quality and quantity as a result of proper storage, that's worth \$1,875. If you consider that a barn will last at least 25 years, that savings is \$46,875, certainly enough to get a start on a hay barn.

Too often we think in the short run in the cattle business, maybe because many of us are smaller operators and any expense seems like a big one. In reality, taking care of the small things like storing hay properly (weed control, proper fertilization and testing hay quality are others) can amount to significant financial returns in the long run.



## President's Address...

By: Brad Cotton

Howdy friends,

It is hard to believe we are moving in to the month of August. Our pastures look great, cattle are fat, ponds are full and we have had relatively cool weather. There is so much to be thankful for including a rise in cattle prices.

While on the subject of cattle prices I want to go into a little detail on the bull and female sale, scheduled for Oct. 15th in Gonzales Texas. We held our first sale meeting and are excited to get things going. The rules have stayed pretty much the same but you can either call the office or get online and obtain the rules and entry

forms. This sale should be a great one due to the price of cattle and the abundance of grass. There will be something for everyone. Pens are from two to five head, which should accommodate both small and large ranchers. We are looking to have over 300 females and up to 60 bulls. To those considering consigning, we accept quality cattle and aren't real concerned about numbers. If you have a few replacement heifers to move we'd love to have them. Keep in mind the commission paid is similar to other special sales. At the Central Texas Independent Cattlemen's

(Continued on page 8)

### Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas

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#### STATE STAFF:

Bill Hyman, Executive Director Sandra Simi, Secretary, Accounting & Membership  
Cell: 830/857-3500 Cell: 512/620-3500  
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STATE OFFICE: P.O. Box 1168 • 220 W. San Antonio St. • Lockhart, TX 78644  
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### Chapter Happenings...

## Around The Lone Star State

#### South Central Texas Independent Cattlemen's Association news

Hello from our South Central Texas Independent Cattlemen's Association (SCTICA) chapter representing Wilson, Atascosa, Bexar and Karnes counties. We appreciate the wonderful rain and are delighted we can now drive through the fields, see green grass and lots of baled hay!

The SCTICA chapter will be meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021 at the Blessed Sacrament Catholic

Church in Poth, Texas, starting with a meal at 6:30 p.m.

AgriLife Extension agent Samantha Shannon's office will offer one CEU at this meeting.

Please call or text 210/215-1139 with your name and how many are attending for the meal count. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Colorado Valley Independent Cattlemen's Association news**  
The Colorado Valley  
(Continued on page 8)

#### INDEPENDENT CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

PO Box 1168 • Lockhart, TX 78644

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- ☆ Wrangler \$100
- ☆ Rancher \$125
- ☆ Round Up \$150
- ☆ Cattle Boss \$250
- ☆ Extra Hand \$500
- ☆ Top Hand \$1000
- ☆ Junior/Collegiate \$20 T-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

Recruited by: \_\_\_\_\_

AMEX/DISCOVER/MC/VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ CV Code (3 digit code) \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Dues to Independent Cattlemen's Association are not deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense. A portion of dues, however, is not a necessary business expense to the extent that Independent Cattlemen's engages in lobbying. The nondeductible portion of dues is 15%.

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210-492-3222

### Address...

(Continued from page 7)

Association(ICA) Sale, ALL commissions go to either putting the sale on or the State ICA office, who

works diligently looking after your interest as a cattleman. So not only are you selling cattle for a premium, but your commissions go to support your cause. Now that is a pretty good deal.

We are gearing up for an ICA State Board Meeting in September in Lockhart. Should you have any business you believe needs attention, call the office or speak to one of your local state directors. Our goal is to make sure you as cattlemen and rural landowners are represented. Until next month, stay safe and God bless Texas!

### Happenings...

(Continued from page 7)

Independent Cattlemen's Association (CVICA) fundraiser is being held on Wednesday, Aug. 18th at the La Grange KC Hall, which is located at 190 S. Brown Street. The meal will consist of BBQ chicken with buttered noodles,

pinto beans and coleslaw. Drive thru plates to go will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Plates are \$10. Proceeds will go towards awarding scholarships to graduating students in Fayette, Lee and Colorado counties. Call the KC Hall to reserve your plates, 979/968-5117.

ICA





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# Central Texas All-Breed Bull & Female Sale

## J.B. Wells Park | Gonzales, TX

### Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 14, 2021

- 4-7 P.M- Viewing of Cattle

Friday, October 15, 2021

- 11 A.M.- Sale Begins
- Will Sell Bulls followed by Females (Breds, Pairs, and Opens)
- Lunch served during sale



## 60 Range-Ready Performance Bulls

## 250+ Top Quality Females & Pairs

INDEPENDENT  
CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
OF TEXAS



**For more information contact the Sale Managers:**

Bill Hyman: (830) 857-3500 | Brian Malaer: (830) 203-1030  
State Office: (512) 620-0162



# Traditions endure

As a local cooperative, we share our profits with the Texans we serve. Since 2006, we've returned almost \$2 billion in combined cash and allocated equities to our members through our cooperative return program. So, when you're ready to expand or enhance your ranching operation, try a partnership that really pays. **Together we're better.**

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Semi load and gooseneck load lots  
Pricing based on quantity purchased  
Hauling available

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## Texas Trails...

(Continued from page 2)

grew to be a million dollars and gave Gates his famous nickname. The fact that he would bet on anything—such as a race between two raindrops rolling down a window pane—kept the moniker in place.

Meanwhile, barbed wire had replaced most of the old straight wire fences, which people began to trash or give away. A South Texas rancher named August Kaspar, a curious and creative sort, noticed all the straight wire dis-

carded in local pastures and began gathering it to make baskets. Using nothing more than a pair of wire pliers, imagination and know-how, he fashioned baskets designed to help him carry corn shucks and hay on the ranch. So many friends and neighbors expressed a desire for his wire baskets that Kaspar had to buy cutting and straightening machines to keep up with demand.

While Gates made a fortune from the invention of barbed wire, August Kaspar made his fortune from what it replaced. He

moved to Shiner in 1897 and built a building to produce the baskets full time opening the Kaspar Wire Works in 1898. Business was good and Kaspar was a good businessman but, for whatever reason, he was never able to get a patent on his baskets, which allowed competitors to start their own companies without paying royalties.

Kaspar responded by diversifying into the manufacture of horse muzzles, chicken coops and eventually coat hangers, gym baskets, shopping baskets, fly swatters, display racks, vending machines and newspaper racks; by the 1990s the company was producing as many as 70,000 newspaper racks a year for distribution worldwide.

Today, Kaspar Wire Works, still located in Shiner, is a subsidiary of Kaspar Companies. In the spirit and company tradition of changing with the times, Kaspar produces a wide range of products for a diversified and far-flung clientele. So do the makers of barbed wire fences.

SLS

## D.C. News...

(Continued from page 3)

commonsense solutions that address the most urgent challenges facing producers. In recent months, NCBA has engaged with Congress and the administration to:

- Secure the introduction of legislation to help small, independent processors expand capacity and improve marketing options for cattle producers.
- Reform the "Product of the USA" beef label in a way that benefits both consumers and producers.
- Defend family farms, ranches, and rural communities against devastating proposed tax hikes.
- Deliver critical progress on much-needed flexibility under hours-of-service regulations for livestock haulers.
- Ensure that the "America the Beautiful" or 30x30 conservation plan prioritizes the input of agricultural producers and respects private property rights.

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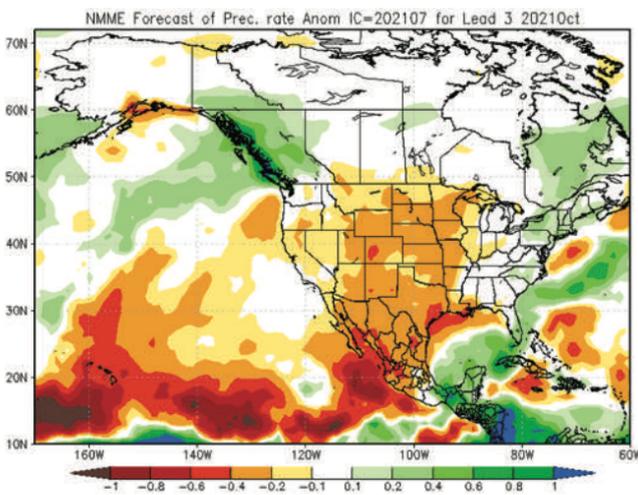
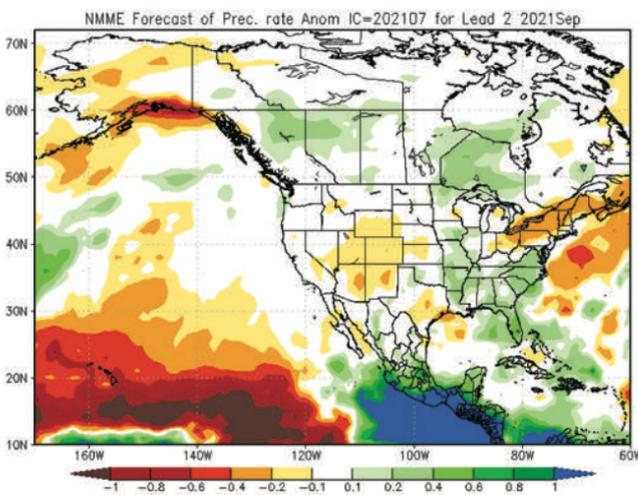
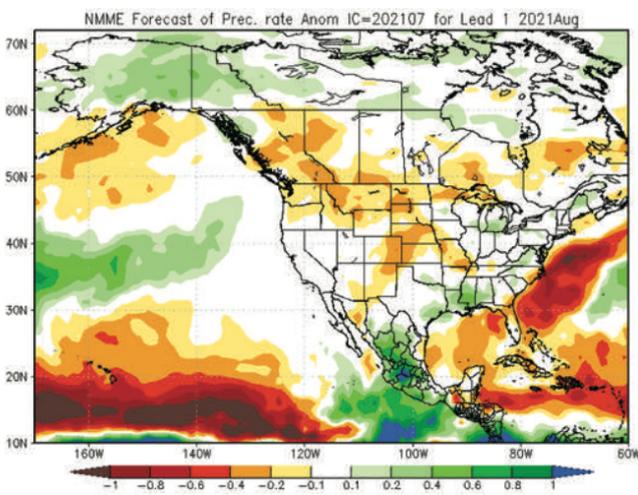
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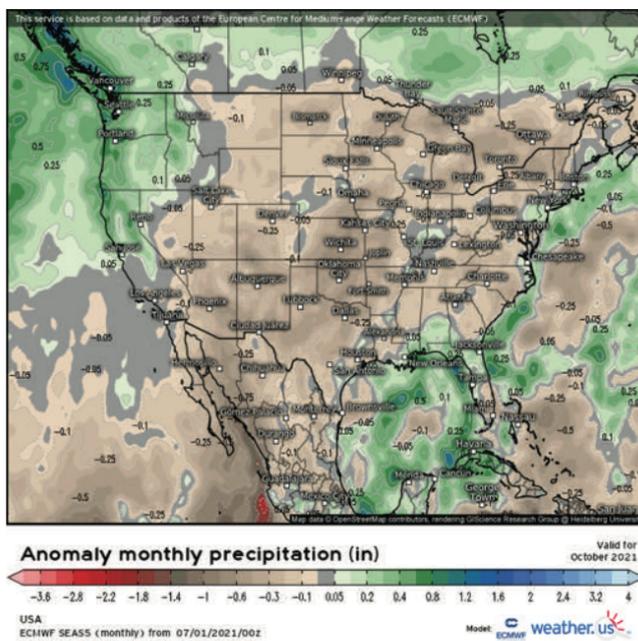
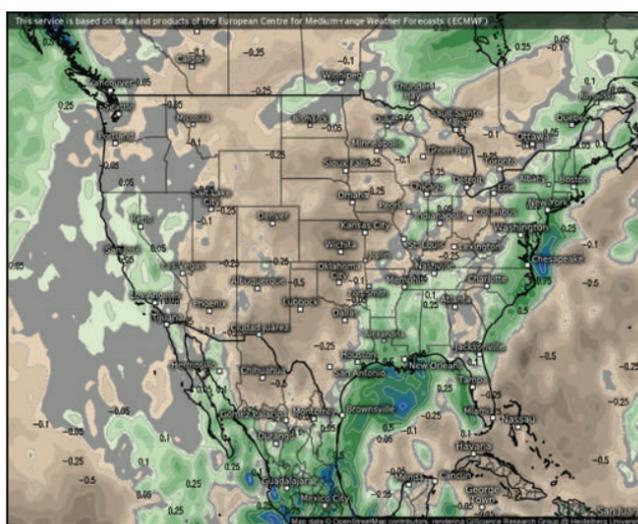
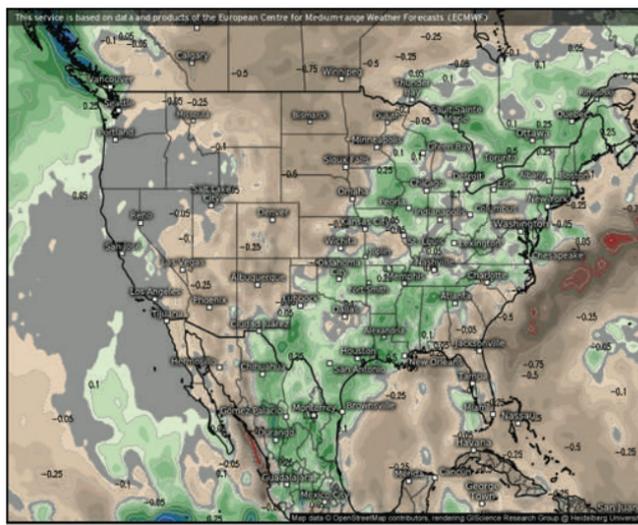
# Latest long range model outlook

The article deadline precludes me from putting in the model output that will be available in early August. However, I wanted to give you an updated look at what they were saying when they came out in early July.

## NMME Model August-October Precipitation Forecast



## EURO Seasonal Model August-October Precipitation Forecast



Behind the scenes, the NMME has a faster and stronger developing La Niña than the EURO Seasonal Model. This is important and based on what I am seeing right now, the NMME Model is a little too fast with the La Niña development. Right idea, just a little premature. At any rate, you can see the dry signal stay in some places for both models, and gradually become more enhanced. The NMME Model really expands the dryness for October. However, the impact will be largely dependent on what happens with the hurricane season. As of right now, I am still expecting a pretty big finish to the season, with areas along the Gulf Coast being threatened. We'll see how she goes.

If you have any questions or comments, please drop me an email... Brian Bledsoe, [brianbledsoewx@gmail.com](mailto:brianbledsoewx@gmail.com)

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**Report...**

(Continued from page 1)

taxes. As of 2021, \$11.7 million per individual and \$23.4 million per couple in assets are exempted from the estate tax, effectively protecting most farms from the estate tax. Additionally, when a decedent passes farm assets to an heir, the heir is currently allowed to use the stepped-up basis of valuation, effectively avoiding capital gains taxes.

**Using representative farms for analysis**

AFPC maintains a database of 94 representative agricultural operations in 30 different states. AFPC's representative farms and ranches are all assumed to be full-time, commercial-scale family operations. Data from those operations in conjunction with a farm-level policy simulation model allowed AFPC to analyze the impact of these policy changes on farms and ranches across the country.

As part of this analysis, AFPC analyzed a total of five scenarios:

- Current tax law with no generational transfer. This baseline scenario

assumes current tax law remains in place and that no event triggers a generational transfer.

- Generational transfer under current tax law. This scenario assumes current tax law remains in place and an event, such as the death of the principal operator, triggers a generational transfer in 2021.

- Generational transfer under the STEP Act. This scenario assumes the STEP Act is in effect and an event triggers a generational transfer in 2021. Under the STEP Act, the current estate tax exemption levels are maintained, and the stepped-up basis is eliminated.

- Generational transfer under 99.5% Act. This scenario assumes the 99.5% Act is in effect and an event triggers a generational transfer in 2021. Under the 99.5% Act, the estate tax exemption levels are lower, but the stepped-up basis is maintained.

- Generational transfer under STEP Act and 99.5% Act. This scenario assumes both the STEP Act and the 99.5% Act are in effect, and an event triggers a generational transfer in 2021. In this scenario, the estate tax exemption levels are lower and the stepped-up basis is eliminated.

"Agricultural producers are extraordinarily sensitive to changes in stepped-up basis and estate taxes because much of their net worth is traditionally comprised of land and equipment," said Joe Outlaw, Ph.D., co-director of AFPC and primary report author. "Given recent trends in land values, the concern now is even more heightened as cropland values have more than tripled

since 1997. So, even if a producer has not purchased any additional land, the land they were already holding is now considerably more valuable."

**Results of the analysis**

The report showed under current tax law, only two of the 94 representative farms would be impacted by an event triggering a generational transfer.

By contrast, under the STEP Act, 92 of the 94 representative farms would be impacted, with additional tax liabilities incurred averaging \$726,104 per farm.

"Eliminating stepped-up basis in the Sensible Taxation and Equity Promotion Act, even with the \$1 million exclusion, would impact all of the ranches and dairies of the 94 representative farms, plus bring on a significant additional tax liability," Outlaw said.

Under the 99.5% Act, 41 of the 92 representative farms would be impacted, with additional tax liabilities averaging \$2.17 million incurred per farm.

"Imposing lower estate tax exemption levels from the 99.5% Act would impact 41 of these representative farms, including 26 of 64 crop farms, five of 10 ranches and 10 of 20 dairies, as well as present a substantial average additional tax liability per farm," Outlaw said.

He noted that if both the STEP Act and the 99.5% Act were simultaneously implemented, 92 of the 94 representative farms would be impacted, with additional tax liabilities incurred averaging \$1.43 million per farm across the 92 representative farms.

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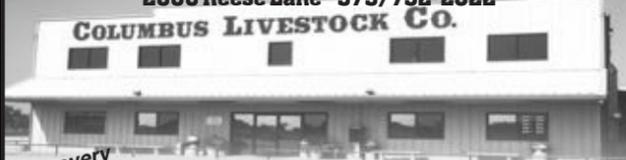


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# Borrowing boys: Is it safe to lease bulls?

By Dr. Meredyth Jones, Oklahoma State University  
College of Veterinary Medicine

As breeding season approaches for many livestock species, the idea of leasing males arises. Importing genetics to improve a herd or flock and maintain hybrid vigor, without the purchase and maintenance of a male, is a very attractive idea, especially to smaller producers. On the surface, it can seem that leasing males is viable with little downside, but some real problems may occur.

“Before entering into a lease agreement, disease testing is an important conversation to have with your veterinarian”

The greatest animal health concern with leasing males is biosecurity — protecting a group of animals from disease brought in by others. A bull moving from one herd to another takes with him any disease present in his home herd. Then, when he returns home, he brings back anything new he picked up.

A few things about livestock venereal diseases that make them easy to overlook. One is that most of them don't cause any overt disease in the male. So, if you think about a disease like trichomoniasis in cattle, the clue that you have the disease is that the females abort their young. You don't discover the disease based on the male, even though he is carrying and spreading it. The second thing is that, once a disease has been in a herd for a while, it reaches steady state in that herd. What this means is that the disease agent is present in the herd, but the animals have each developed sufficient immunity that the effects of carrying that agent are not seen. It's there, but it's not causing obvious problems. If, however, an animal from that herd goes into another herd that has no inherent immunity, then you've got big problems.

A few years ago, I received a call from a veterinarian colleague of mine who had pregnancy checked cows for a client,

and nearly 50% were open. Devastating. I suggested testing for trichomoniasis in the bulls. Five of the herd's seven bulls came up positive. They had absolutely no idea they had this horrific disease in the herd until it had decimated their calf crop.

At the very least, if males are to be shared across operations, disease

testing should be performed for high-consequence diseases for that species. And they should be tested both coming and going, so this can add up to a fair amount of expense. If the animal is being leased out of state, some testing will be legally required, but there are more diseases of concern than those requiring testing for interstate

movement.

Before entering into a lease agreement, disease testing is an important conversation to have with your veterinarian. For cattle, these diseases may include trichomoniasis, brucellosis, vibrio (Campylobacter), BVD, Bovine Leukemia Virus (BLV), Johne's disease and others.

My next concerns are a bit uncomfortable to talk about but involve the standard by which that animal

will be cared for when in another producer's care. Two producers can have very different ideas of what adequate care and husbandry entails. (Continued on page 20)

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# AgriLife TODAY

## Texas crop, weather

### Weeds a widespread problem in Texas croplands

By Adam Russell Texas AgriLife Today

Out-of-control weeds are the latest challenge to hit Texas producers among the negative effects related to untimely rains since late spring, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert. Rainy weather across

the state has created a convergence of problems related to weeds for producers of everything from row crops like corn, sorghum and cotton to forages, said Scott Nolte, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension state weed specialist, Bryan

College Station.

“The weather has impacted most every part of the state,” he said. “Many areas have a number of factors that are coming into play when it comes to weeds and weed control. It’s been a challenging season.”

Plantings were delayed due to widespread rainfall events that began in late-April. Heavy rains saturated soils in many areas around the state initially, and sporadic rains since have continued to make fieldwork, especially weed control, difficult from the Coastal Bend to parts of

the Panhandle, Nolte said.

Saturated soil and cloudy days also stunted crop growth progress. This delayed the canopy development that typically reduces the amount of sunlight available for weeds to germinate and grow, Nolte said.

Residual preemergent herbicide application effectiveness degraded over time as well, and weeds were allowed to compete with crops for sun, moisture and nutrients.

Moisture variability in individual fields with drier-to-saturated or flooded areas also resulted in a lack

of uniformity in crop maturation, he said.

Nolte said there were some cotton fields with a range of maturity ranging from 6-inch-tall plants to plants with blooms due to the rainfall. The lack of crop consistency exacerbated maturation issues.

There has also been an emergence of weeds that were rarely seen in areas of the state in previous seasons, Nolte said.

“One of the most common calls we’ve been getting is about sedges,” he said. “They thrive in wet environments, and we’re seeing a variety of sedge

species in areas we seldomly see them. We’ve had a number of them brought in for identification and control recommendations.”

Producers are also seeking control recommendations for fields in need of rescue from weeds, Nolte said. Weeds are easier to deal with via preemergent applications and by following with sprays that address newly emerged immature weeds.

The lack of timely applications has many producers seeking recommendations to fight mature grasses and vines, he said. Above-average moisture levels may allow producers to use some options like Liberty that are typically ineffective under drier conditions in areas like the Texas Plains or Panhandle.

However, at least one prevalent pest plant – pigweed – has producers concerned because it has become resistant to a standard herbicide – glyphosate – in parts of the state, Nolte said. Pigweed is among pest plants representing major problems at harvest time because weeds interfere with mechanical harvesting equipment.

Nolte said producers aware of history with glyphosate-resistant pigweed have other options, but another issue has been short supplies of certain products. Various international and domestic supply chain issue related to the pandemic and other factors have created situations where locating specific herbicides can be difficult.

Nolte said there is also concern for cotton producers specifically because the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency placed a hard cutoff date – July 30 – on the use of dicamba-based products, Engenia and Xtendimax. Cutoff dates were typically related to the plant stage, Nolte said, and AgriLife Extension sought an extension for producers in the Texas Plains, but was denied by the agency.

Producers are also seeking recommendations on how to best apply herbicides, including aerial crop-dusting methods or high-clearance tractors, he said, adding that as rain events continue it is important that producers access fields to apply herbicides before harvest.

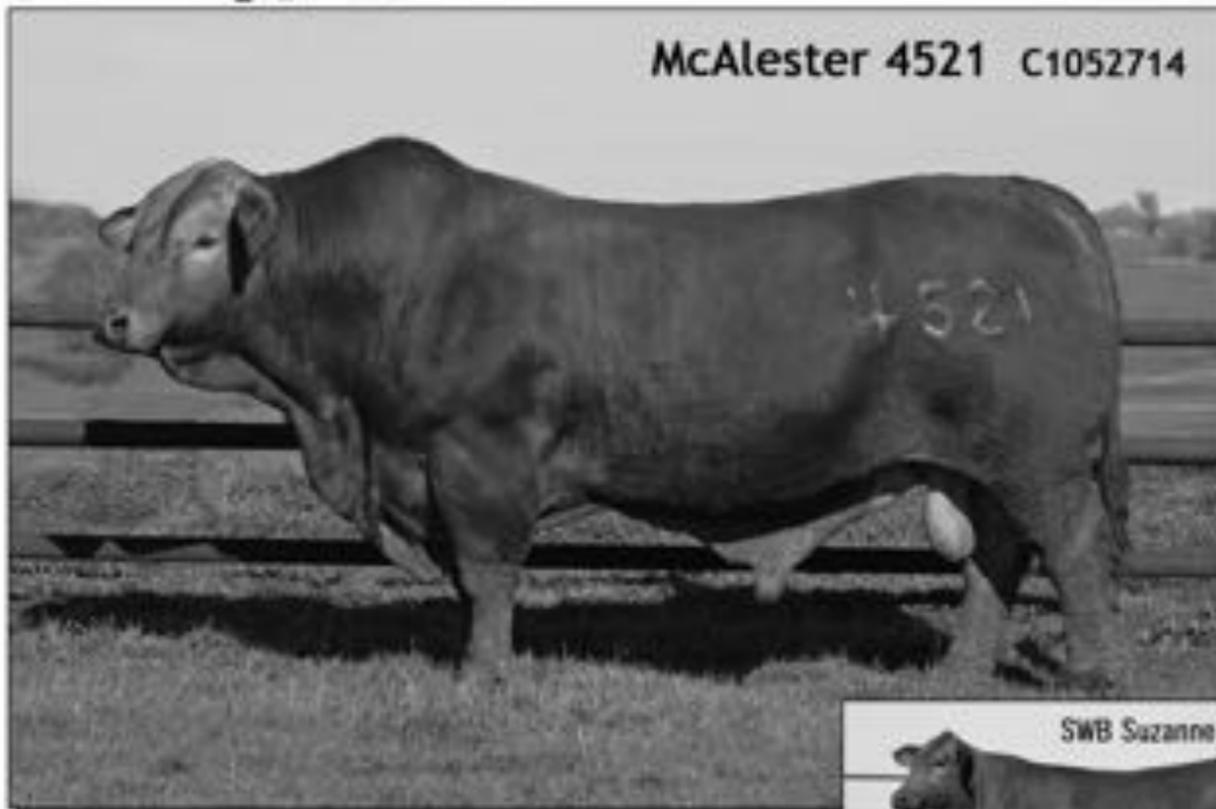
“With the cycle of rainfall, you might have two to three days for fields to dry

(Continued on page 15)



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**Crops...**

(Continued from page 14)

before more rainfall prevents access again," he said. "So, they're looking for any way to spray fields so they can harvest as soon as it dries enough."

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

**CENTRAL:** Conditions were returning to a more normal hotter, drier summer pattern. Temperatures increased through the week with rainfall events becoming lighter and more scattered. Topsoil was drying down a bit. Both corn and sorghum crops were rapidly developing with corn nearing full maturity and sorghum not so far behind. Low spots in fields suffered from flooding conditions that delayed crop development and were progressing unevenly. Farmers were preparing for the corn harvest. Pastures were doing well after the second cut, and livestock looked to be in great condition. Armyworms were still a problem in some pastures. Cotton looked great and was podding normally with ample moisture and heat. Stock tanks were full, and cattle were in good condition.

**ROLLING PLAINS:** Rain amounts were good this past couple of weeks.

Storms produced 0.5-3 inches of rainfall in some areas, but soils were drying out in other areas. Some farmers were still attempting to harvest wheat that had not sprouted. Summer tillage on wheat stubble was occurring as well as forage production. Pastures looked great for late July. Producers were fighting armyworms, which appeared a little earlier than usual. Grasshoppers were also an issue. Dryland cotton was doing well from all the moisture. Heavy numbers of flea hopper moths were seen in cotton. Flies and mosquitos were thick on livestock. Producers reported large volumes of hay being stored for winter. Calves were weaned and looked heavy. Stocker cattle were in good condition as well and nearing shipping to feedlots.

**COASTAL BEND:** Some areas received 2 inches of rain, while other areas were drying out a little. Crops were maturing quickly. Combines were running where it was dry enough, however, some producers put on tracks and were running equipment in mud. Most grain sorghum received some damage from all the previous weeks of rain resulting in shattering and head sprouting. However, loss assessments were still too

early to determine, and potential yields still looked good on some fields. Corn was being harvested but to a lesser degree than sorghum. Cotton looked good, and some fields were defoliated. Hay fields needed cutting when conditions allow. Rangelands and pastures were in good condition, and livestock were doing well.

**EAST:** Most of the region reported zero moisture. Panola County received scattered rainfall. Pasture and rangeland conditions were fair to excellent. Subsoil and topsoil conditions were adequate. Warm weather dried fields enough for producers to get in to cut and bale hay. Cherokee County reported producers were scrambling to cut and bale fields before armyworm infestations destroyed forages. Armyworm and grasshopper infestations continued to be a district-wide problem. Livestock were in fair to good condition. Wild pig activity remained an issue.

**SOUTH PLAINS:** Much of the district received up to half an inch of rainfall, but some areas received none. Crops were still doing very well from

(Continued on page 17)

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6.9	0.0	34	61	8	25	4.0	1.31	0.48	0.30	-0.013



**MSC BOULDER 2.0 129G99**

SIRE: MC BOULDER 8892A • MGS: BWCC OVERLOAD 403A

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	TM	CEM	SC	REA	IMF	FAT
2.4	2.8	46	89	16	39	2.7	0.89	0.75	0.18	0.000



**MSC MONUMENT 924H8**

SIRE: BWCC MONUMENT 1007 • MGS: TM THREE D 302A

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	TM	CEM	SC	REA	IMF	FAT
4.2	1.3	38	66	4	23	3.8	1.13	0.58	0.23	-0.008

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# Texas A&M University Beefmaster herd continues to grow

By Jeralyn Novak, Beefmaster Breeders United

Freezing temperatures and record-breaking snowfall is synonymous with February 2021. It was a turbulent time for everyone, especially cattle producers.

Despite the difficulties brought forth by many days

living below zero, the Beefmaster herd at Texas A&M University (TAMU) en-

dured the cold and more than tripled in size.

“One of the calves happened to be born during the middle of the ice storm, where it was down to zero and essentially, we couldn’t read a temperature on the calf,” said Jason Cleere, Ph.D., TAMU associate professor and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service beef cattle specialist. “We had graduate students work to save the calf and it survived. Our students have bonded with our

Beefmaster cattle and they are getting real-world learning experiences.”

In 2019, TAMU launched a purebred Beefmaster herd through donations from several Beefmaster Breeders United (BBU) members. The donors supplied 15 purebred Beefmaster heifers and purebred Beefmaster embryos to the TAMU Beef Center. The Beefmaster herd has expanded from 15 heifers to 53 total Beefmaster animals.

“Overall, the program is going well. All of the donated cattle are doing well,” said Cleere.

The spring 2021 calving season resulted in 15 natural purebred Beefmaster calves and 23 purebred Beefmaster embryo calves, by way of commercial cow recipients.

“We’re really grateful to the donors that supplied the live animals, as well as the embryos that were donated,” stated Cleere. “The opportunity to flush some of the best donor cows has allowed us to build the program rapidly. We are thankful to BBU and the breeders. We are excited about the program.”

TAMU made the decision to upgrade their cattle breeding program with a purebred Beefmaster herd, as well as a purebred Red Angus herd, back in 2018 and began accepting donations in 2019.

“There are multiple reasons why we decided to initiate a herd with Beefmasters,” said TAMU Animal Science Department Head Dr. Cliff Lamb. “Globally, about 70% of the world’s beef cattle are in tropical or sub-tropical regions. It is certainly a reason to have a breed that is associated with the ability to adapt to those climates.”

At this time, the Beefmaster herd and Red Angus herd are separate, and will remain separate herds until each herd is well established. The existing goal is to focus on expanding the purebred Beefmaster herd to approximately 60 premier Beefmaster cows. The long-term goal is to breed several of the Beefmaster females to Red Angus bulls, to ultimately demonstrate an example of systematic crossbreeding for educating cattle producers through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

(Continued on page 19)



Some of the Beefmaster heifers at Texas A&M University

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**Crops...**

(Continued from page 15)

previous rain events. Farmers were struggling to control weeds as a result of recent rains. A majority of cotton producers were spraying for weeds and applying growth regulator to slow plant progress. Some cotton was beginning to set bolls, and flea hoppers were reported in fields. A small number of boll worms were also seen emerging. Corn and sorghum were in good condition. Cattle were in good condition with plentiful grazing across the district.

**PANHANDLE:** Temperatures were mild with scattered rains reported. Rains continued to help rangeland, pastures and crops. Weed control in fallow fields was underway. Soil moisture levels were short to adequate in northern and central parts of the district, with southern areas reporting adequate soil moisture levels. Pasture and rangeland conditions were fair to good. Corn and soybeans were in good to excellent condition. Sorghum and cotton conditions were fair to good. Peanuts were in good condition. Wheat harvest was complete. Irrigation of most crops was expected to start again soon.

**NORTH:** Topsoil moisture throughout the district was mostly short to adequate. Up to 1 inch of rain fell across much of the district. Temperatures were below average for the most part. Conditions were getting drier, but subsoil moisture was still good. Hotter temperatures were in the forecast. Pastures and hay meadows looked good. Hay baling was still in full swing. Corn looked decent. Grain sorghum conditions looked much improved. Livestock were in good condition. Armyworms were a major issue in hay meadows over recent weeks.

**FAR WEST:** Temperatures were hotter over the past week and were expected to stay for the next few weeks. Highs were in the upper-90s with lows in the mid-60s. Isolated rain showers delivered up to 2

(Continued on page 19)

**Letter...**

(Continued from page 6)

been in the registered business for 69 years. We have sold over 3,600 bulls. Most transactions involve a personal check, a handshake, shut the trailer gate and follow-up: transfer of papers, thank you note, etc. Some pay with cash, some may trade other cattle, my brother took a mare and a foal in trade, etc. This deal only got "different" with the "overpayment", a request to cash the cashier's check and buy \$3,600 in money orders for hauling, and it right now!

What to do now? No harm, no foul! Let it go? Prosecute? How? Local law enforcement? Special Rangers of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association? All are being considered, but we know evidence is limited. What we have will be used. Text messages can be helpful, at least in tracking intent. And, have money "wired" directly to your bank instead of a cashier's check.

My purpose in sharing is to inform you that yes, fraud exists in agriculture -- not just in big deal, Easterday (who ripped off millions) situations. And, if it looks too good to be true -- trust your instincts. That's how we cattle folks have survived for generations!

Joey Skrivanek



**Livestock Sales Calendar**

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



- AUG 7 J&T Farms Beefmaster Sale, Lexington, TN
- AUG 21 Emmons Ranch Beefmaster Production Sale, Bryan, TX**
- AUG 28 Jordan Cattle Auction Early Fall Replacement Sale, San Saba, TX**

**Weekly Sales at 11:00 AM  
Mason on Monday & San Saba on**

**Jordan Cattle Auction**

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- AUG 28 Rio Grande Valley 8th Annual Beefmaster Sale, Rio Grande Valley, TX**
- SEP 1 Buffalo Livestock Marketing Pre-Conditioned Calf Sale, Buffalo, TX
- SEP 2 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker-Feeder & Premium Weaned Sale, San Saba, TX
- SEP 4 South Texas Cattle Marketing Replacement Female Sale, Nixon, TX**
- SEP 11 L Ray Ranch Complete Brangus Dispersal Sale, Poteet, TX**
- SEP 11 Beefmaster Network Sale, Raymond, Miss**
- SEP 11 XTB Cattle Sale, Canton, TX
- SEP 11 MBJ & Trio Power of the Brands Red Brangus Sale, Wharton, TX
- SEP 11 East Texas and Heart of Texas Simmental/Simbrah Association's Annual Production Sale, Henderson, TX
- SEP 18 Midsouth Cattle & Neal Ranch Annual Brangus Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Morganza, LA
- SEP 18 Club 1835 Elite Online Heifer Sale
- SEP 24-25 Flint Hills Classic Beefmaster Female & Bull Sale, Paxico, KS
- SEP 25 Live Oak Beefmaster Breeders Association "Perfect Pair" Futurity & Sale, Three Rivers, TX
- SEP 25 Pearsall Livestock Auction Special Replacement Sale, Pearsall, TX
- SEP 25 Jordan Cattle Auction Fall Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- SEP 25 Synergy SimGenetics Sale, Giddings, TX
- OCT 1 Southern Jewel's Precious Gems Sale, Victoria, TX
- OCT 1 Peach Creek Ranch Cattle Online Heifer Sale
- OCT 2 American Red Brangus Annual Sale, Flatonia, TX
- OCT 2 Scamardo Brangus Production Sale, Bryan, TX
- OCT 7 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- OCT 7 Dudley Brothers Production Sale, Comanche, TX
- OCT 8 Red River Farms Production Sale, Grand Saline, TX
- OCT 9 Cox Excalibur Red Brangus Sale, Weimar, TX
- OCT 9 Big D Ranch's Building Your Tomorrow Annual Brangus Production Sale, Center Ridge, AR
- OCT 9 Addison Brangus Farms & Friends Performance Sale, Cullman, AL
- OCT 9 Black Label Sale, Grandview, TX
- OCT 11 Williams Ranch Co Brangus Bull Sale, Bastrop, TX
- OCT 12 R A Brown Ranch Angus Female Sale & Quarter Horse Sale, Throckmorton, TX
- OCT 13 R A Brown Ranch Bulls Sale & Red Angus Female Sale, Throckmorton, TX
- OCT 14 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, San Saba, TX
- OCT 15 Central Texas ICA Sale, Gonzales, TX
- OCT 16 MP Brangus at Diamond D Ranch Fall Brangus Sale, Poteet, TX
- OCT 16 Beef on Forage Beefmaster Bull Sale, Brenham, TX
- OCT 16 Carr & Others Fall Beefmaster Sale, Floresville, TX
- OCT 16 Strait-Hefte Tried & True Santa Gertrudis Production Sale, Streetman, TX
- OCT 20 Thomas Charolais Ranch Bull Sale, Raymondville, TX
- OCT 20 Buffalo Livestock Marketing Pre-Conditioned Calf Sale, Buffalo, TX

- OCT 20 Texas Hereford Association Fall Classic Sale, Buffalo, TX
- OCT 21 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Female Offering, San Saba, TX
- OCT 22-23 LG Herndon Farms Best of the South Charolais and Brangus Sale, Lyons, GA
- OCT 23 Star G Annual Brangus Production Sale, Ben Wheeler, TX
- OCT 25 Perez Cattle Company Hereford Production Sale, Navasota, TX
- OCT 29-30 Quail Valley Farms Fall Brangus Female and Bull Sale, Oneonta, AL
- OCT 30 7P Simmental Bull & Female Sale, Tyler, TX
- OCT 30 South Texas Hereford Association Fall Sale, Beeville, TX**
- OCT 30 Jordan Cattle Auction October Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- OCT 30 7P Ranch Annual Bull and Production Sale, Tyler, TX
- NOV 4 Jordan Cattle Auction Stocker-Feeder & Premium Weaned Sale, San Saba, TX
- NOV 4 Jordan Cattle Auction special Bull Offering, San Saba, TX
- NOV 6 Southern Cattle Co Annual Fall Bull Sale, Marianna, FL
- NOV 6 Tanner Farms Angus & Brangus Bull Sale, Shuqualak, MS
- NOV 10 Buffalo Livestock Marketing Pre-Conditioned Calf Sale, Buffalo, TX
- NOV 10 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, San Saba, TX
- NOV 10 Barber Ranch Annual Hereford Bull Sale, San Saba, TX
- NOV 18 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, San Saba, TX
- NOV 19-20 Cavender-Draggin' M Partners at Cavender's Neches River Ranch, Brangus & Charolais Bulls, Registered Brangus Female and Commercial Female Sales, Jacksonville, TX
- NOV 19 Salacoa Valley Farms Brangus Bull & Female Sale, Fairmount, GA
- NOV 20 Collier Farms Performance Tested Bull Sale, Brenham, TX
- NOV 20-23 LMC & Friends Giving THANKS Online Sale VII
- DEC 3 Lone Star Angus Alliance Bull Sale, Hallettsville, TX
- DEC 4 Jordan Cattle Auction December Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- DEC 4 Tom Brothers Opening Day Private Treaty Bull Sale, Campbellton, TX
- DEC 4 Rancher's Choice Charolais Bull Sale, Nixon, TX
- DEC 9 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- DEC 11 Caldwell Livestock Auction Replacement Female and Premium Bull Sale, Caldwell, TX
- DEC 11 Las Palomas Brangus Production Sale, Newnan, GA
- DEC 13 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- JAN 8 Live Oak Beefmaster Breeders Association Bull Sale, Three Rivers, TX
- FEB 5 **South Texas Hereford Association Spring Sale, Beeville, TX**
- FEB 12 San Antonio Livestock Show & Rodeo Beefmaster Subasta, San Antonio, TX
- FEB 16 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo All Breed Bull & Female Sale, San Antonio, TX
- MAR 19 Live Oak Beefmaster Breeders Association Spring Sale, Three Rivers, TX

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

September 24-October 17 - State Fair of Texas, Dallas, TX  
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### Crops...

(Continued from page 17)

inches of rainfall, with most areas catching half an inch. Dryland cotton was beginning to show moisture stress and needed rain. Irrigated cotton still looked good, but most of it was not at peak water demand yet. A few fields began to bloom. Pima cotton appeared to be doing very well. Some bollworm pressure was reported in certain areas but was very minimal. Cotton flea hoppers were still a concern. Corn was drying down. Sorghum looked mostly good, but headworms and stinkbugs were showing up in fields. Watermelon and cantaloupe harvests con-

tinued. Alfalfa and forage producers reported a steady harvest with minimal irrigation. Unfortunately for many alfalfa farmers, some cuts were rained on and some fields experienced increased weed pressure due to the rainfall. Pecans seemed to be doing very well with very little pest pressure. There was some pecan nut casebearer pressure early on, but most producers applied pesticides to control them. Large numbers of forbs were popping up and some perennial grasses were returning, but slower than the accompanying weeds. Cattle and sheep were being fed and processed for sale amid higher market trends.

ed producers were struggling with armyworm infestations. Many pastures were well behind on cuttings due to rainfall. Rangeland and pasture ratings were poor to excellent with good ratings being most common. Rice was progressing, and the drier weather should be better during flowering; however, heat stress could be a concern.

**SOUTHWEST:** Temperatures were beginning to heat up across the district. Precipitation reports ranged from trace amounts up to 1 inch. Rangeland and pasture conditions were holding steady. Producers were waiting for some fields to dry before harvest. Corn and sorghum harvests began in some areas where moisture levels allowed. Gillespie County reported armyworms in some areas. Mesquite spraying continued in Sutton County. Livestock were in fair to good condition. Cattle, sheep and goat markets remained steady. Fall gardens were being planted, and hopes were high. Fawns were running around, and survival rates should be on the high side where rangelands were in good shape.

**WEST CENTRAL:** Warmer temperatures were starting to arrive. Cotton looked great and should have enough moisture to get through the next couple of weeks. Farmers were cultivating cotton and side dressing with fertilizer. Sorghum and corn were maturing nicely, and harvest should start in a couple of weeks. Pastures were in good shape, and livestock were doing well. Some areas could experience declining conditions over the next few weeks due to high temperatures. Grain prices continued to dominate the dialogue regarding replacement cattle prices. Supplies of feeder cattle were lower and grazing conditions were excellent. Given premiums on feeder futures, sellers were not expected to rush replacement cattle to market, with the bulk of movements expected to be later this summer and into the fall.

**SOUTHEAST:** Walker County reported good to excellent growing conditions with some scattered rainfall in some locations. Soil moisture levels were short to surplus. Warmer daytime and nighttime temperatures boosted forage growth, but armyworms were emerging as well. Many counties report-

ed producers were struggling with armyworm infestations. Many pastures were well behind on cuttings due to rainfall. Rangeland and pasture ratings were poor to excellent with good ratings being most common. Rice was progressing, and the drier weather should be better during flowering; however, heat stress could be a concern.

**SOUTH:** Weather conditions throughout the district were mild with light scattered showers. Kleber, Kenedy and Starr counties received up to 3.5 inches of rainfall. Conditions were still wet in northern parts of the district, but some drying occurred. Forecast temperatures were expected to exceed 100 degrees. Harvest combines were running where conditions allowed. Several producers purchased flotation tires to access wet crop fields. Grain sorghum was harvested between rains, and corn harvest was underway. Sorghum harvest was 80% complete in some areas. Sprouting damage was far less than expected, and per-acre yields above 5,000 pounds were reported in Jim Wells County, but Zapata County reported some sorghum fields remained flooded. Sprouting concerns were reported in other counties as well. Some corn fields continued to mature. Fieldwork was resuming in areas due to warmer, drier conditions. Cotton was setting bolls. Some cotton fields with open bolls were damaged by rainfall. Growth regulators were applied to some fields due to rapid growth

rates. Heavy rains in some areas over recent weeks slowed corn, sorghum and cotton progress. Peanuts continued to peg and were being sprayed with fungicides as preventative management. Fall armyworms

were reported, but no heavy infestations so far. Grasses on rangeland and pastures looked good to excellent. Despite good grazing, some producers continued to report supplemental feeding for live-

stock. Browse availability for wildlife was excellent. Second cuttings of Coastal Bermuda grass and hay-grazer were beginning. Water tank levels were dropping in some areas.

SLS

### Beefmaster...

(Continued from page 16)

programs. The breeding decisions amongst the Beefmaster and Red Angus cattle is solely to demonstrate a systems approach of crossbreeding for commercial cattle producers for educational purposes, not to develop a new cattle breed.

As a result of the in-kind donations, the Beefmaster herd is currently utilized in the classroom as teaching tools for beef cattle production courses, as well as TAMU Livestock Judging Contests and the TAMU Beef Cattle Short Course.

"Dr. Andy Herring teaches a class and they discuss crossbreeding systems, body condition score and they've actually come out and helped vaccinate and deworm the Beefmaster cattle," Damon Acord, TAMU Beef Center Manager, described.

The Beefmaster herd has also been utilized by Dr. Ky Pohler to teach graduate students exactly how to collect and sort embryos.

Cleere conveyed that "as a faculty member, it's really nice to be able to have high quality cattle to use to teach students, as well as to be able to teach ranchers."

The opportunity for the Beefmaster breed to be at the forefront of educational programs produced by a top agricultural university is invaluable to the marketing of this sustainable and efficient beef cattle breed. More students are learning about Beefmaster cattle and these students are future agricultural leaders. More livestock producers are introduced to

Beefmaster cattle and these producers are future customers for Beefmaster breeders. The opportunities are endless for expanding the market and knowledge of Beefmaster cattle.

In the long term, the TAMU Animal Science Department would like to implement another systems approach by developing the crossbred Red Angus/Beefmaster calves on feed, finish them out at the TAMU Beef Center and then market them through their retail outlet as a branded beef program.

Nonetheless, the present goal is to instruct students through hands-on education, instead of instructing them from only a beef cattle production book.

"The temperament from our Beefmaster herd has been great," explained Acord. "They are compliant, they do what they're supposed to. They raise the calf. They take care of that calf first."

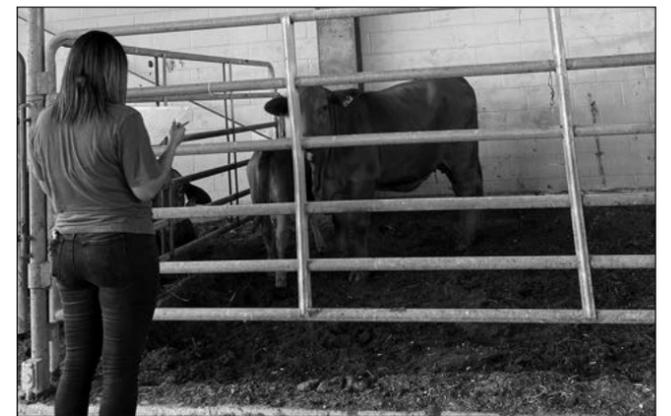
According to Cleere and Acord, the animal science department's demographics are changing, and many students do not come from cattle production, agriculture and ranching backgrounds. The students can be very naive to working with cattle. The docile

Beefmaster cattle are an extremely positive aspect for student engagement and judging contests. The docility and calm temperament exhibited by the Beefmaster herd mixes well with students.

"It really has been a pleasure dealing with the Beefmasters," Acord confirmed.

The current cow/calf pairs will continue to be used for educational demonstrations in the classroom and extension programs until approximately September 2021. The Beefmaster herd is setup for early spring calving, so the calves will be weaned in the fall. At weaning time, the heifer calves will be retained to expand the herd swiftly and the top bull calves will be developed on feed, and then marketed to bull buyers in fall 2022.

In summary, this partnership has created a tremendous opportunity for the Beefmaster breed to become a part of a leading agricultural university's quest to build a premier cattle operation. The TAMU Beefmaster herd is growing in numbers and in quality, thus promising a positive outlook for the TAMU Animal Science Department and BBU.



TAMU students are gaining real-world learning experiences with the Beefmaster herd.

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**The 44 Farms...**

(Continued from page 5)

IBCA program was not the repetitive content he had been reading elsewhere. As a first-generation cattle owner, he appreciated how the program's instructors presented the research-based evidence behind production practices in an exclusive and customized learning experience.

"Where else do you have access to people that have dedicated their lives to being the best in the field and with one of the best universities in the world in

the agricultural sector?" says Toups. "This class puts both of those together."

While Toups has not been in the cattle business long, the IBCA course structure allowed him to soak in a breadth of information in manageable segments. The online program enables students to watch videos as their schedules permit and collaborate once a week with an instructor.

"I can wholeheartedly say this is like a lifetime of experience rolled up into one year of class time," says Toups.

Like Toups and Magondo, anyone involved in the beef cattle industry is eligible to apply for IBCA. An ideal student candidate is eager to learn and is passionate about driving the industry forward. Applications for the 2021-2022 class are open now and close on Aug. 9, 2021.

Scholarships covering up to 70% of tuition costs are available for interested individuals. To be considered for a scholarship, complete the IBCA application and provide the information required for a scholarship request. Scholarships

are limited and will be awarded based on student profile and potential contribution to the IBCA goal: advancing knowledge to enhance beef production and quality across the globe.

The next academy begins in September and continues through August 2022. Apply today at [animalscience.tamu.edu/ibca/](http://animalscience.tamu.edu/ibca/) or email [ibca@tamu.edu](mailto:ibca@tamu.edu) for more information.

Texas A&M, established in 1876 as the first public university in Texas, is one of the nation's largest universities with more than

66,000 students and more than 440,000 living alumni residing in over 150 countries around the world. A tier-one university, Texas A&M holds the rare triple land-, sea- and space-grant designation. Research conducted at Texas A&M represented annual expenditures of more than \$905.4 million in fiscal year 2017. Texas A&M's research creates new knowledge that provides basic, fundamental and applied contributions resulting, in many cases, in economic benefits to the state, nation and world. The school's Lead

by Example campaign is a comprehensive effort to raise \$4 billion by the year 2020, making it the largest higher education campaign in Texas history and the second largest conducted nationally by a public university. Aggies are known for their deep commitment to the success of each other and their strong desire to serve.

**Borrowing...**

(Continued from page 13)

bandry are for an animal, and this can result in loss or injury to the animal or, at the very least, hard feelings. The nutritional demands on a bull during the breeding season are the greatest of any time of the year. Is the leasing producer prepared to and willing to go to the expense of adequately meeting that need? Breeding season is also the time when we see most injuries occur. Penile injuries, lameness and injuries related to fighting all peak during this time. Is the leasing producer disciplined in his daily evaluation of animals? Is he willing to seek veterinary care in a timely fashion for a lame bull?

Let's say leasing males is a reality of your situation. Here are some suggestions:

1. Talk with your veterinarian about the diseases of consequence and what testing should be done for animals coming and going.
2. Visit the other place. See how the herd looks, how they are cared for and the management of their environment. An in-person visit can provide you with a lot of information about where your animal is going or where it's coming from.
3. Develop a formal agreement for the lease.
4. Ask to see animal-health related paperwork on the animal, not just registration papers. A bull, ram or buck should have a breeding soundness examination performed by a veterinarian before and after breeding season. Ask to see the results of that test and any disease testing that was performed.
5. Have regular check-ins. Go and see your animal at the new place regularly or at least be connected digitally. It never hurts to have a second set of eyes on an animal to make sure that he's in good shape.

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