

SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK STANDARD

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 08

24 PAGES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2021

Heifer development beginning at weaning

By Steve Boyles

Heifers can be sold at weaning or anytime thereafter. Select at least 20% excess and continue growing the heifers until breeding. A second selection at yearling age is helpful. Let the bull or artificial insemination

program select the heifers you keep by maintaining a relatively short breeding season (45 days). Pregnancy diagnosis after the breeding season provides another opportunity for culling. A final selection can be made after heifers wean their first calf. Weaning weight of the first calf is a fairly good, though not foolproof, indicator of future production.

Early growth (weaning and yearling weight) and frame

The traditional method for choosing replacements is pick the big ones at weaning. Traditional selection is simple and is not necessarily all bad. If growth is needed, selection on size will provide it. The bigger heifers are generally older and thus selection is from the earlier calving cows. It also may (or may not) select heifers of heavier milking cows. Heavier and older heifers are more likely to cycle and breed early and be well on their way to having acceptable lifetime performance.

“The traditional method for choosing replacements is pick the big ones at weaning”

However, there are problems with the traditional method of selection. Some of the heaviest heifers at weaning may be fat and offer the potential of poor lifetime milk production due to fat deposits in the udder. Some big heifers are fast growing due to an endocrine imbalance

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PERIODICAL

Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas
ROUND-UP REVIEW
 • SEE PAGES 12-14 •

Just Your **Standard Bull** 
By Michael Sturgess

TEXAS *Trails...*
By Clay Coppedge

As I sit here, almost a full year from last year's election day on November 3rd, I have to wonder or say "what if." What if the election had gone a different way. What would change? What issues would stay the same?

President Biden's approval rating by the Gallup polls is at 42%. That's pretty low. But it's still not as low as Trump's record of 37% in October 2017. Regardless, the big indicator here is that Biden's rating has dropped 11% since June. That's huge! Why?

Something more near and dear to Texans is the current border situation. What a @*#! show! I think it is safe to say the border situation under Donald Trump would be considerably more stable. According to the Center for

Immigration studies, Biden is spending \$3 million per day to Not build the border wall. Meanwhile, Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed into law a \$2 billion border security funding bill that nearly triples the amount that the state spends on border defense.

"It is the federal government's job to secure our border, but the Biden administration has failed to do its job, so Texas is stepping up to do what the federal government is supposed to do," Abbott says as he signs the bill.

So as thousands of undocumented people pour across our borders, amidst double digit inflation, record shortages of parts, equipment. Vehicles...the list goes on. According to AAA, the current average prices of unleaded gas has

skyrocketed to \$3.389/gallon. A year ago, that average was \$2.160. The current average for diesel is \$3.611, up 52.2% from the \$2.373/gallon average posted a year ago.

And how many times have you heard the phrase "people are not going back to work." It is obviously one of the reasons why we are seeing shortages. Those in manufacturing are manufacturing less—those in shipping are shipping less—those in service are servicing less—those in sales are selling less. There is not one sector of the economy that is not affected. Is it the stimulus money? Are people actually being paid Not to work?

So, back to my original question, what if? For one thing, I feel confident in saying that we could have averted the current border crisis. The current open border policy of Biden's administration has proven to be an utter failure, one of which is certain to be recorded in history as a major travesty. A cattle customer we have from South Georgia is also a large produce farmer who has had 3-4 generations of documented migrant workers that he has depended on for many years. Grandsons, sons, fathers and grandfathers...ALL DOCUMENTED.

I'm confident that Trump wins the immigration battle.

(Continued on page 23)

The Big Boom of 1882

The cycles of boom and bust, whether in the cattle industry or world economics, are always accompanied by people who said they saw it coming all along and who, after the inevitable crash, are busy explaining why it happened and who is to blame. It's that way now, and it was that way in 1882 when the beef market boomed as it had never boomed before and some people became richer than they ever imagined. For a while.

Frontier journalist Don Hampton Biggers lived through the cattle boom and bust of the 1880s. Biggers explained how by the time the 1882 cattle boom in West Texas occurred, the country and the wider world had heard stories about all the free grass available in the vast expanses of the West. With railroads opening the area to travelers of all stripes, people descended on the area with visions of being a "cow person." Europeans, primarily from England, came to see for themselves this land of sunshine and grass, where the skies were not cloudy all day (during droughts, especially) and seldom was heard a discouraging word, mainly because there was scant human habitation and thus very little speech of any kind.

These investors and adventurers hit West Texas at a good time. Rainfall had

been decent. Water and grass were sufficient, if not downright abundant. This was a land where large cowherds could graze until their hearts were content. The investors came, they saw, they bought. Boom!

With no practical knowledge or experience raising cattle, these lords of commerce from afar turned their operations over to men who, in many cases, were only slightly more experienced than the owners. When problems

arose, as they inevitably did, their response was to throw money at it, but money turned out to be a poor substitute for practical knowledge.

The old-time cowman who had operated in the area before the boom believed that free grass was an inherent right, and the end of it doomed him. "Any attempt to get him to secure his interest by purchasing or otherwise getting positive possession of

(Continued on page 8)

USDA Livestock Export/Import Statistics For 10-21-21

SPECIES:	10-16-2021:	Wk.-Dt.:	Yr.-Dt.:
1) BEEF CATTLE			
a. Slaughter	2,430	2,407	47,867
b. Breeding Males	24	48	1,458
c. Breeding Females	19	0	1,182
Total	2,473	2,455	50,507
2) HOGS			
a. Slaughter	0	0	0
b. Breeding Males	142	90	2,573
c. Breeding Females	0	0	4,593
Total	142	90	7,166
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	2	11
b. Breeding Females	0	101	1,578
Total	0	103	3,220
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	549	490	14,405
b. Breeding Males	138	56	1,404
c. Breeding Females	56	79	2,122
d. Geldings	31	25	697
e. Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	52
Total	774	650	18,680
7) EXOTICS			
Total	0	0	76

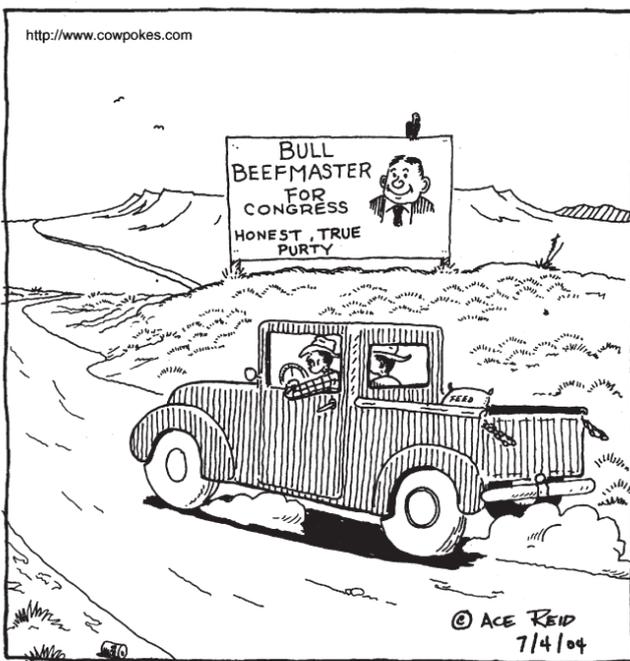
MEXICO TO NEW MEXICO IMPORTS

SPECIES:	10-19-2021:	1-1-2021 - Present:
FEEDER CATTLE	9,101	473,276

MEXICO TO TEXAS IMPORTS

FEEDER CATTLE	3,444	146,177
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COW POKES® By Ace Reid



"He'd make a good congressman. I sold him some steers once, he staged a filibuster at the scales, and I believe they shrank 10 percent."

SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK STANDARD

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Southern Livestock Standard (USPS 024-951) is published 24 times per year, every other week except monthly in June and December, by Southern Livestock Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 791364, San Antonio, Texas 78279-1364. Periodicals postage paid at San Antonio, Texas.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes for Southern Livestock Standard to Southern Livestock Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 791364, San Antonio, Texas 78279-1364.
Physical Address: 407 Breesport St., San Antonio, TX 78216



Member: Livestock Publications Council

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CATTLE SHEEP GOAT HORSES EXOTICS
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SUBSCRIPTION WILL START UPON RECEIPT OF PAYMENT



NCBA welcomes Cattle Contract Library Bill amid ongoing push for transparency

Washington -- The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) welcomed the introduction of the Cattle Contract Library Act, led by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD) and Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX).

The bipartisan bill would establish a cattle contract library within USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (USDA-AMS), equipping cattle producers with the market data they need to make informed business decisions and exert greater leverage in negotiations with major meatpackers.

The cattle contract library is widely supported by industry groups and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle, and the introduction of this legislation comes after more than a year of NCBA pushing for the creation of the library.

"After more than a year of upheaval, facing everything from extreme drought to supply chain disruptions, many cattle producers have been backed against a wall. We need to act urgently to provide them with relief," said NCBA President Jerry Bohn. "There is no single, silver bullet solution to the wide variety of needs among our diverse membership, but lawmakers can start by focusing on viable solutions that have broad-based support across the industry. The cattle contract library is one such solution, and it will help our producers command more leverage in negotiations with the packers. We appreciate the work of Congressman Johnson and Congressman Cuellar to move the ball forward on this urgent issue."

Earlier this month, NCBA Vice President and South Dakota rancher Todd Wilkinson testified before the House Agriculture Committee and underscored the need for greater transparency in cattle markets. One of the solutions he advocated for was the creation of the cattle contract library, as well as full reauthorization of Live-

stock Mandatory Reporting (LMR).

Background

NCBA has long advocated for increased transparency in the cattle and beef supply chain.

In August 2021, NCBA succeeded in pushing USDA to make more market data publicly available. The agency began publishing a new daily report on the foundational prices used in cattle market formulas, grids, and contracts, and a new weekly report on the volume of cattle purchased at each different level of pricing.

In June 2021, NCBA led a letter with the support of more than 36 state affiliate groups urging Congress to act on the reauthorization of LMR. LMR is the legislative mandate that

requires large meat processors to regularly report information on their transactions, such as the price they pay for livestock and the volume of purchases.

In May 2021, NCBA met with American Farm Bureau Federation, Livestock Marketing Association, National Farmers Union, R-CALF and U.S. Cattlemen's Association to discuss urgent concerns and the need for a cattle contract library was one of three priorities agreed upon by these disparate groups.

The introduction of the

Cattle Contract Library Act follows months of NCBA engagement to ensure Members of Congress understand the most urgent needs facing cattle producers, the com-

plex cattle market conditions influencing these outcomes, and the risks of adopting one-size-fits-all policy solutions that may hurt producers' bottom line.

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Sneed Pool Cattle Co., Dumas, Texas, runs Barber Ranch Hereford bulls with black cows. Cody White, ranch manager, said, "Using Barber Ranch bulls has added 60 pounds to the calves' weaning weights. Udders have improved as well as the longevity and fertility of the replacement females by using the Saily Maternal Index (SMI) in bull selections. The performance of our cattle fed out in the feedlot has improved as well by placing emphasis on the Certified Hereford Beef (CHB) index." Ask us about these and other valuable indices provided by the American Hereford Association and included with every bull we sell.



Barber Ranch customer **Coby Schacher** (left) topped the Teahoma, Oklahoma, Livestock Auction this spring with a set of boldy calves sired by Barber Ranch bulls. Teahoma LA manager/owner Ashley Noland stated that since Schacher has been consigning calves to his auction, they have consistently topped the market. This spring, Schacher's pens sold the highest of any cattle sold that week—all across the US. Let us help you get top dollar for your next calf crop.



Scharbauer Ranches is a fifth-generation cow/calf operation that over the last seven years began retaining ownership of all its calves. "We tend to market our Hereford cattle either private treaty or see the process all the way to the end, where the beef ends up at our retail meat shop, Midland Meat Company in Midland, Texas. Barber bulls have been a go-to source for 20-plus years in our operations for a number of reasons. They are native to our area and do very well where we are located. They are consistently in the top 1% or 2% of all Hereford bloodlines. The conformation of the bulls is what we are looking for, and the bulls tend to have a very docile temperament and respect a horse. When selecting IPOs, we really like to focus on Weaning Weights, Ribeye and overall Yield Grade. Whether from Hereford cows or Angus cows, the majority of our keeper heifers are sired by Barber bulls. "Quality" is what we strive for in both our ranching and meat operations, and the Barber Family and Barber bulls are synonymous with quality."

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USDA Major Livestock Reports:

Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, October 21, 2021: Total receipts: 1,161, last reported (10-14-21) 1,290, last year 1,634. Feeder cattle 906 (78.0%), last reported (10-14-21) 1,174 (91.0%), last year 1,128 (69.0%). Slaughter cattle 127 (10.9%), last reported (10-14-21) 81 (6.3%), last year 310 (19.0%). Replacement cattle 128 (11.0%), last reported (10-14-21) 35 (2.7%), last year 196 (12.0%). Compared to last week steer and heifer calves and yearlings firm to 2.00 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls steady. Stock cows and pairs firm. Trading fairly active, demand good. Supply included: 78% Feeder Cattle (53% Steers, 39% Heifers, 8% Bulls); 11% Slaughter Cattle (85% Cows, 15% Bulls); 11% Replacement Cattle (71% Stock Cows, 24% Bred Cows, 5% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 51%.

Oklahoma National Stock Yards, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 26, 2021: Total receipts: 7,966, last reported (10-18-21) 6,290, last year 3,092. Feeder cattle: 7,966 (100.0%), last reported (10-18-21) 6,290 (100.0%), last year 3,9092 (100.0%). Compared to last week: Feeder steers steady to 2.00 higher. Feeder heifers 2.00 -4.00 higher. Demand moderate to good for feeder cattle. Cattle futures higher today following a bullish Cattle on Feed Report Friday. Steer calves 5.00 -7.00 higher. Heifer calves 2.00 -5.00 higher. Demand very good for calves under 500 lbs.; moderate for other weights. In most cases, un-weaned calves continue to see the typical big discounts from their weaned counterparts. Supply included: 100% Feeder Cattle (52% Steers, 44% Heifers, 5% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 48%.

Amarillo Livestock Auction, Amarillo, Texas:

No Sale Reported

SALE: Beeville Livestock Commission, Inc. Beeville, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-22-21

VOLUME: 656

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter Bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Brazos Valley Livestock Commission Bryan, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-26-21

VOLUME: 973

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Live Oak Auction, Inc. Three Rivers, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-25-21

VOLUME: 2070

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc. Nixon, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-25-21

VOLUME: 1504

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Gulf Coast Livestock Auction, LLC Alice, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-19-21

VOLUME: 845

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Gillespie Livestock Company Fredericksburg, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-21-21

VOLUME: 1481

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter Bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Groesbeck Auction/Livestock Co., LLC Groesbeck, Texas

DATE OF SALE:

VOLUME:

TREND:

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Jordan Cattle Auction San Saba & Mason, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-22-21

VOLUME: 2921

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Giddings Livestock Commission Giddings, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-25-21

VOLUME: 1104

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Lampasas Cattle Auction Lampasas, Texas

DATE OF SALE:

VOLUME:

TREND:

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: East Texas Livestock, Inc. Crockett, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-26-21

VOLUME: 2847

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter Bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Caldwell Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Caldwell, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-20-21

VOLUME: 887

TREND: Steady/no change.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Buffalo Livestock Commission Co., Inc. Buffalo, Texas

DATE OF SALE:

VOLUME:

TREND:

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Navasota Livestock Auction Co. Navasota, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-23-21

VOLUME: 1984

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Cattleman's Brenham Livestock Brenham, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-22-21

VOLUME: 1443

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Cuero-Victoria Livestock Markets Cuero & Victoria, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-22-21

VOLUME: 2172

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter Bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Gonzales Livestock Market, Inc. Gonzales, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-23-21

VOLUME: 1512

TREND: Steady/higher

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Columbus Livestock Co. Columbus, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-21-21

VOLUME: 1204

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: Four County Livestock Auction Industry, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-19-21

VOLUME: 876

TREND: Steady/higher

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

SALE: El Campo Livestock Auction El Campo, Texas

DATE OF SALE: 10-26-21

VOLUME: 917

TREND: Steady/higher.

Table with columns: STEERS, HEIFERS, and rows for weight classes (200-300 lbs to 700-800 lbs) and animal types (Slaughter cows, Slaughter bulls, Stocker cows, Pairs).

Sheep & Goat Auctions:

Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, October 26, 2021: Total receipts: 4,900, last reported (10-19-21) 5,751, last year 2,795. Feeder sheep/lambs 49 (1.0%), last reported (10-19-21) 401 (7.0%), last year 0 (0.0%). Slaughter sheep/lambs: 1,421 (29.0%), last reported (10-19-21) 2,358 (41.0%), last year 1,801 (64.4%). Replacement sheep/lambs 0 (0.0%), last reported (10-19-21) 185 (3.2%), last year 29 (1.0%). Feeder goats: 98 (2.0%), last reported (10-19-21) 130 (2.3%), last year 0 (0.0%). Slaughter goats: 2,891 (59.0%), last reported (10-19-21) 2,530 (44.0%), last year 950 (34.0%). Replacement Goats: 441 (9.0%), last reported (10-19-21) 147 (2.6%), last year 15 (0.5%). Compared to last week slaughter lambs firm to 15.00 higher. Slaughter ewes 5.00-10.00 higher. Feeder lambs not well tested. Nannies steady; kids 10.00-20.00 higher. Trading active, demand good. Supply included: 1% Feeder Sheep/Lambs (100% Lambs); 29% Slaughter Sheep/Lambs (7% Woolled & Shorn, 80% Hair Breeds, 6% Ewes, 5% Hair Ewes, 2% Hair Bucks); 2% Feeder Goats (100% Kids); 59% Slaughter Goats (77% Kids, 9% Nannies/Does, 14% Bucks/Billies, 0% Wethers); 9% Replacement Goats (100% Nannies/Does).

Gillespie Livestock Company, Fredericksburg, Texas, October 19, 2021: Sheep and goats: 2,161 head. Light Lambs Steady. Heavy Lambs Steady. Kids Steady. Light Kids Steady. #1 Wool Lambs 40-60 Lb 160.00-325.00 Cwt. #1 Wool Lambs 60-80 Lb 200.00-325.00 Cwt. Bbd Lambs (40-60 Lb) 200.00-300.00 Cwt. Dorpx Lambs (40-60 Lb) 220.00-380.00 Cwt. Dorpx Lambs (60-80 Lb) 220.00-380.00 Cwt. Light Slaughter Lambs (45-80 Lb) 200.00-380.00 Cwt. Slaughter Lambs (100-150 Lb) 160.00-310.00 Cwt. Packer Ewes 100.00-150.00 Cwt. Sheep Bucks/Rams 110.00-240.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (20-40 Lb) 300.00-600.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (40-60 Lb) 250.00-400.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (60-80 Lb) 250.00-375.00 Cwt. Sp/Boex Muttons 280.00-375.00 Cwt. Angora Kids 200.00-400.00 Cwt. Lower Quality. Kids 200.00-260.00 Cwt. Packer Sp/Boex Nannies 130.00-250.00 Cwt. Stocker Sp/Boex Nannies 200.00-330.00 Cwt. Angora Nannies 120.00-275.00 Cwt. Boex Billies 190.00-240.00 Cwt.

For additional market reports go to: www.southernlivestock.com

Rusk selected to lead Charolais

Source American International Charolais Association



Dr. Clint Rusk

Rusk completed his M.S. degree in 1992 and his Ph.D. in male reproductive physiology in 1997 at CSU. After completing his doctorate, Dr. Rusk joined Purdue University as its youth livestock specialist. He enjoyed conducting educational programming for 4-H members and their parents for 13 years. In 2009, Rusk was selected to lead the South Dakota State University Animal

and Range Sciences Department. Over a three-year period, Rusk gained valuable administrative experience working with industry leaders, university professors, successful alumni and an outstanding group of dedicated students.

As executive vice president, Rusk will work closely with AICA staff and board to serve the association's members. He will be

in attendance at the November board meetings in Louisville, Kentucky. His employment will start November 1st at the AICA headquarters.

He and his wife, Madeleine will make their home in Kansas City. The Rusks have two children: Shane and his wife Julie and a daughter Ashley.

Rusk said, "I am thrilled to join the AICA at executive vice president. I look

forward to meeting Charolais breeders at the American Royal in Kansas City and the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville in the coming

weeks. While in Louisville, I'm also looking forward to attending the induction of J. Neil Orth into the prestigious Saddle and Sirloin Club on Sunday evening, Nov. 14th."



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The American-International Charolais Association (AICA) Board of Directors has selected Clint Rusk, current Department Head of the Animal and Food Sciences Department at Oklahoma State University, as its new executive vice president. He will be replacing J. Neil Orth, who is retiring at the end of 2021 after two decades of leading the organization.

Rusk grew up on his family's Hereford and Angus ranch near Sun City, Kansas. After graduating as valedictorian of his high school class, he attended Colby Community College, where he was a Presidential Scholar and a member of a national champion livestock judging team. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kansas State University with his B.S. degree in 1980. After graduation, he returned to his family's ranch for five years. In 1985, Rusk and his family moved to Fort Collins, Colorado, to manage the purebred cattle unit at Colorado State University (CSU). In 1987, he also accepted the duty of coaching CSU's livestock judging team. Rusk coached 10 livestock judging teams at CSU. His teams were reserve national champions in 1987, 1991, 1993 and 1995. He was named "Coach of the Year" by the Intercollegiate Coaches' Association, in 1991 and 1992. For the past 24 years, Rusk has helped coordinate livestock judging contests for collegiate, 4-H and FFA contestants at contests across the country.



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Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation launches Jerky Jackpot Fundraiser...

Take five For Texas 4-H

Hundreds of counties across Texas stand to benefit as the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation

is currently focused on an ambitious fundraiser termed the Texas 4-H Jerky Jackpot, a delicious project designed to funnel dollars directly into county 4-H youth programs. The fundraiser will feature Bob Tallman's Authentic Cowboy Beef Jerky, an artisan brand of hand-cut beef jerky made strictly from U.S., ranch-raised beef. By selling only five bags, each

4-H'er will be the force behind thousands of dollars being poured into their county's coffers.

Through this initiative, programs that teach leadership, life skills and the value of responsibility to tens of thousands of youths across Texas's 254 counties will be bolstered with much-needed funds targeted to each county.

"The Texas 4-H Youth

Development Foundation is excited about the potential revenues that will be generated from the "Jerky Jackpot" fund raiser through its relationship with Bobby T's Jerky," said David White, Foundation CEO. "Every county 4-H program in Texas stands to gain critically needed funds to continue providing life skill and educational curriculums and activities to thousands of Texas youth."

Texas rancher and 12-time Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association

(PRCA) Announcer of the Year, Bob Tallman, has a long history with 4-H, having been a member as a youth in Winnemucca, Nevada.

"The programs 4-H provided during my younger years helped guide me to the career I have today, teaching me that it was possible to follow my dreams," said Tallman. "I've been a Texan for more than 40 years now and it's been a true honor for me to serve as a spokesperson for a program that provides real impact for kids from rural settings all the way to urban neighborhoods. I've seen how badly needed funding is for many of these counties and I am thrilled to be a part of the support the 4-H Foundation will be able to offer."

"The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation is excited about the potential revenues that will be generated from the "Jerky Jackpot" fund raiser

Supporting the fundraiser is easy. Go to Texas4HFoundation.org, purchase product and have jerky shipped to your doorstep or order as a gift. Buyers will also be able to select the county they wish to support, as well as name the 4-H member who encouraged them to buy. 4-H members will be eligible to receive prizes ranging from 4-H t-shirts and caps to Apple iPad and iPod products to an all-expense paid trip for themselves and two adults to the 2021 National Finals Rodeo as Bob Tallman's guest.

White also commended Fort Worth-based Balcom Agency for its contribution in developing the materials used to promote the fundraiser.

"Having Balcom Agency provide their expertise to the marketing of this fundraiser has been nothing short of incredible," said White. "Rarely has 4-H had such professional and compelling tools to work with in sharing its goals with the people of Texas."

The Texas Jerky Jackpot fundraiser will take place through Nov. 30. To make a purchase and support your local county, go to Texas4HFoundation.org to learn more.

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Don't short the small stuff in nutrition

By Dr Katie Mason, University of Tennessee assistant professor and Extension beef cattle nutrition specialist

Sometimes we take the small things for granted, and in cattle nutrition, the "small things" are minerals. Because they make up such a small portion of cattle nutritional needs, it is easy to think they may not be that important. Mineral availability in pasture and hay forages fluctuates according to the season, fertilizer application, weather conditions, forage species, and other factors. Cattle mineral requirements also fluctuate with growth and stage of production. These elements that cannot be made by the body and are essential for proper animal function (bone development, immune function, muscle function, etc.).

The easiest way to satisfy the mineral requirements of cattle is to provide a complete mineral program year-round. Here are a few considerations when it comes to minerals:

- Macrominerals are required in larger amounts, while microminerals are needed in smaller amounts.

- The calcium to phosphorus ratio (Ca:P) in a diet should be somewhere in the range of 1:1 to 4:1, with 1:1 to 1.6:1 being ideal.

- Salt (sodium and chlorine) cannot be stored in the body and must be provided daily.

- High-magnesium mineral is important during times of year when grass tetany is prevalent, like late winter and early spring.

- Grasses typically provide an adequate amount of potassium.

- Sulfur is more likely to be in excess than deficient, especially in diets high in distillers grains and corn gluten feed.

- Cobalt, iodine, iron, and manganese are rarely deficient in the diet.

- Copper is the most common deficiency in grazing cattle and can present symptoms similar to fescue toxicosis.

- Selenium is very toxic and should only be used in a premixed form, so as not to exceed the legal limit.

- Zinc absorption is tied closely to copper absorption.

When providing mineral to cattle, provide one feeder for every 30 to 50 cows. Make sure they are always full and place them

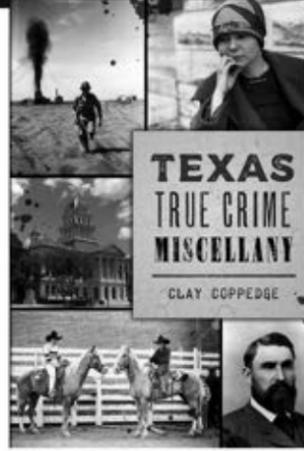
close to water or loafing areas to encourage cattle to visit the feeder. Cattle should consume between 2 and 4 oz. of mineral supplement per day; do not cut premixed minerals with salt as this will alter intake and dilute the amount of mineral consumed. Trace mineral salt is not a complete mineral because it does not contain calcium

and phosphorus, and therefore will not meet the needs of your cattle.

Mineral nutrition is complex, but a critical component in cattle nutritional management programs. For more information see UT Extension PB 1749, "Mineral Nutrition of Beef Cattle."

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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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Schedule of Events
Thursday, November 11th
 4:00pm - Cattle viewing

Friday, November 12th
 7:00am - Cowboy coffee
 11:00am - 18th Annual Bull Sale
 1:00pm - 18th Annual Commercial Female Sale
 4:00pm - Tri Star cattle viewing
 6:00pm - Gathering & dinner

Saturday, November 13th
 7:00am - Breakfast & cowboy coffee/cattle viewing
 11:00am - 4th Annual Tri-Star Sale



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Store chemicals safely

By Linda Geist, University of Missouri Extension

Proper inventory management of farm chemicals saves money and protects animals, people and the environment, says University of Missouri Extension specialist Sam Polly.

"With the cost of pesticides, letting a product degrade in your storage shed is not a mistake anyone can afford to make very many times!" says Polly, who teaches private pesticide applicator training for Missouri University (MU) Extension.

Polly shares tips from Purdue University and MU Extension:

Keep an up-to-date inventory of stored pesticides. The shelf life of pesticides varies, but once opened, chemicals begin to break down. Throwing away unused or ineffective product is like throwing away money, he says.

Always follow label instructions for storage and use. Store pesticides in a controlled environment. High temperatures can melt plastic containers, make glass containers

explode and cause some pesticides to volatilize. Low temperatures can cause freeze damage. Extreme temperatures can also affect potency and stability.

Keep protective equipment nearby but away from pesticides. Train farmworkers on proper procedures. Post emergency telephone numbers.

Other tips:

- Locate pesticide storage facilities away from people and livestock. Avoid flood-prone areas to reduce risk of contaminating water sources. Make sure the site is protected from severe weather and high winds.

- Lock storage facilities and post warning signs on doors and windows noting that chemicals are stored inside. Also post a "no smoking" sign.

- Keep chemicals in their original containers.

Choose a well-ventilated area. Store dry chemicals on pallets.

- Do not store where heat or electricity can spark.

- Check routinely for rusting containers and signs or labels that are unreadable.

- Choose a well-lit area so labels can be read and containers can be easily inspected for leaks and corrosion.

- Close containers tightly to avoid spills, evaporation and cross-contamination. Do not store liquid chemicals above dry chemicals.

- Rotate older products to the front of the shelf to use first. When switching to a new formulation, use existing inventory first. Use unsealed containers the same season they were opened.

More information: (Continued on page 9)

Texas Trails...

(Continued from page 2)

the land was regarded as an act of hostility or a personal insult," Biggers wrote. "Originally, the cattlemen were themselves the strongest opponents of the lease law."

After some lean years for the cattle industry in the 1870s, the pastures were green and lush again and the waterways were full by 1882. Range cattle that were going for \$7 a head a year before cost \$35 a head by the end of 1882. "Grass fed" Texas beef sold for \$6.80 per hundredweight on the Chicago market, its highest price ever.

"The boom day era presented spectacles that will never be repeated in any country under any circumstance," Biggers wrote, not realizing at the time that economic history also has a way of repeating itself. "It was a blaze of glory in a world of visions, a riotous feast on the crater of ruins. It was drink and be merry, spend money and get more. The English nobleman, sent here perhaps as the 'business manager' for some English company, the native millionaire and the cowpuncher were boon companions in a social dissipation. They ate at the same table, drank at the same bar, gambled in the same game and all come to

grief in one batch."

The English syndicates and the lords of various manners were ill-prepared for the blizzards and harsh winter conditions of 1886 and 1887 when a series of blizzards hit the Texas plains, driving the cattle south until they came to fence lines where they mixed and mingled until they dropped dead from hunger, exposure and exhaustion. They piled up, one atop another, for miles, the dying cattle walking on top of the dead ones until they too died, on and on like this for miles.

The English syndicates hardly noticed the loss of their millions, but the old cowboys noticed because their occupation was suddenly as long gone as the buffalo.

Biggers cited one example of a rancher with 45,000 head of cattle in 1882. The rancher refused an offer of \$1.5 million for his cattle, horses and range privileges in 1883. In 1886 he sold out for \$50,000 less than the total of his liabilities. This was, Biggers noted, a common story among West Texas ranchers in the 1880s. He wrote: "In fact about the only men who did not suffer a similar fate were those who were very wealthy and owed but little or the small stockman who owed nothing."

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Worrell and Mouser named contestants of the year in the 2021 NJHA Fed Steer Shootout; other winners recognized in Kansas City

Kansas City, Mo. -- Now in its fifth year, the National Junior Hereford Association's (NJHA) Fed Steer Shootout contest teaches juniors about the opportunities and challenges of the cattle feeding industry. In the 2021 contest, 41 members from 15 states entered 133 steers in the program. This year's winners received nearly \$20,000 in scholarships and awards from the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and premier partner, BioZyme Inc., St. Joseph, Missouri. The young cattle feeders took center stage and were recognized for their efforts Oct. 22 at the American Hereford Association's (AHA) Annual Membership Meeting and Conference in Kansas City, Missouri.

Contestants collected actual feedyard performance and carcass data on their pen of three and individual entries of Hereford and commercial Hereford-influenced steers, while gaining comprehensive industry knowledge on topics such as animal health, nutrition and marketing. All steers were fed at HRC Feed Yards, Scott City, Kansas and through a generous sponsorship from Texas Stardance Cattle, steers were hauled to and harvested at National Beef Packing Co. in Dodge City, Kansas, as candidates for the Certified Hereford Beef® brand. Industry partners such as Merck Animal Health, Allflex Livestock Intelligence and Neogen played a vital role in the success of the pro-

gram.

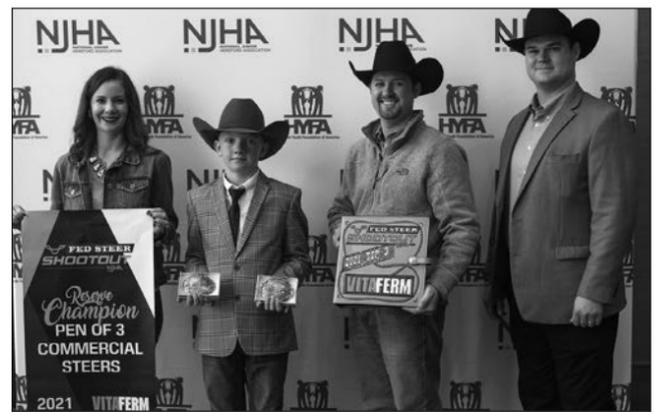
Additionally, contestants entered performance portfolios from data reports they received throughout the feeding period and answered short answer questions summarizing what they learned throughout the program. The top three contestants, in both the junior and senior divisions, were selected from the submitted portfolios and had the opportuni-

ty to compete for the NJHA Fed Steer Shootout Contestant of the Year titles. The selected contestants presented a short speech followed by a panel interview about what they learned during the contest and how they can apply this knowledge in the beef industry.

After completing their performance portfolios and a rigorous interview and presentation process in

front of a distinguished panel of judges, Jarrell Worrell from Mason, Texas was named the contestant of the year in the junior division and Haley Mouser, Tenstrike, Minnesota earned the contestant of the year title in the senior division. In addition, Worrell exhibited the reserve champion pen of 3 commercial steers in the contest.

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Jarrell Worrell (second from left) is joined by sponsor representatives after he was named the contestant of the year in the junior division of the National Junior Hereford Association Steer Feed Out.

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Safely...

(Continued from page 8)

- “Pesticide Storage,” extension.missouri.edu/ipm1013.

- Links to contacts, databases, fact sheets and other resources, muext.us/PrivatePesticideTraining (opens in new window).

- “National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual,” extension.missouri.edu/mx328.

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Development...

(Continued from page 1)

and are subfertile at breeding.

The biggest problems traditional heifer selection is "frame creep". This is the gradual increase in mature cow size over time resulting from the use of larger frame bulls and retention of their daughters. The larger, higher maintenance dams may be too big for the feed resources. If nutrition does not change, these cows may suffer reproductively.

Selecting heifers for larger actual weight will generally result in a more uniform group capable of reaching pubertal weight at about the same time. So long as their sires and grandsires are not too big, there is little danger that selecting the larger heifers will cause significant "frame creep". Be careful not to mistake frame for weight. Framey heifers with below average body condition may be "hard keepers" later in life.

Frame size: matching the development program with genotype

We know that most components of fertility that

influence first calving and subsequent reproductive performance are not highly heritable. This suggests that management practices are most likely to influence the majority of factors related to reproductive performance. How we manage replacement heifer calves from the time they are weaned from their dams to the beginning of the first breeding period is extremely critical for their subsequent performance.

Studies indicate that puberty can be expected to occur at a genetically predetermined size among individual animals, and only when heifers reach target weights can high pregnancy rates be obtained. In other words, heifers with the genetic potential to reach a heavier mature weight must attain a heavier prebreeding weight before their first breeding season. Using the standard set by the Beef Improvement Federation for nine frame-size classifications for U.S. breeding cattle (Table 5), producers can estimate body composition and energy requirements per pound of gain at various weights during the feeding period.

Weaning weight and yearling weight are moderately to highly heritable traits (.25-.50). As a rough guide, heifers that have within-herd weaning weight ratios below 90 (herd average 100) should be culled in a commercial herd. One caution to keep in mind is watch for calves that have high adjusted weaning weights and low actual weaning weights. These calves may come from heavy milking cows that are late calvers in the herd. In a purebred herd, the heifer's EPDs for weaning and yearling weight should be used when making selection decisions on growth. If seedstock producers are having trouble keeping their heaviest milking cows (high milk EPDs) in the early part of the calving season, they need to be aware of the impact that the some of these cows could have for their commercial bull buyers.

Yearling weights are a more accurate predictor of growth potential than weaning weights. Yearling hip heights are more accurate for predicting mature size than weaning hip height. Heifers with the

heaviest yearling weights tend to be the largest framed. Maximum acceptable frame scores may need to be established to match cow size with feed resources. To remove your personal biases, it is suggested an unbiased third party measure your heifers and categorize them to frame and estimated mature size.

Growth is an important trait in heifer selection but there are other important traits. What are those traits?

Maternal/production traits

The traits that are important in replacement

heifers are the maternal traits: early puberty, fertility, calving ease, milk, soundness (longevity), temperament and efficiency. Early puberty is highly heritable (H2 = 50%) and related to early first pregnancy. Calving ease is important because it affects the time required for rebreeding. Soundness traits (feet, legs, udders, eye, etc.) are highly heritable and are related to longevity and productivity. Genes for mastitis resistance have been identified; selection for bloat resistance have been accomplished; evidence has been developed indicating gene-

tic differences in the incidence of fescue toxicity.

Heifer selection with crossbreeding emphasis

Hybrid vigor is important but is not everything. Producers should not overlook good replacement prospects just to gain a little more hybrid vigor. Keeping heifers of terminal sires may cause "frame creep".

Time when born

Adjusted 205-day weights and ratios provide a better estimate of the true genetic differences in preweaning growth of the calves and milking ability of the cow than do actual weaning

(Continued on page 16)

Table 5. Relationship of Frame Score and Hip Height to Estimated Mature Cow Weight^a

Frame Score	Hip Height (inches)			Cow Weight (estimated, lbs)
	7 Months	12 Months	Maturity	
1	35	39	44	880
2	37	41	46	955
3	39	43	48	1030
4	41	45	50	1100
5	43	47	52	1175
6	45	49	54	1250
7	47	51	56	1320
8	49	53	58	1395
9	51	55	60	1470

Hip height (in.) based on Beef Improvement Federation standards. Weights (lb) are expected averages for flesh condition (body condition score 5). Source: Fox, D. G., C. J. Sniffen, and J. D. O'Connor. 1988. Adjusting nutrient requirements of beef cattle for animal and environmental variations. Journal of Animal Science 66:1475.

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 Carcass: 21; 0.80; -0.003; 0.04; 237.94



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 M949315 • Born 2/29/20
 BW 82 • WWt 688 • Pld
 Sire: DC/BHD King F2503 P
 Dam: Endsley's Stef 571
 EPDs: 6.2; 0.8; 55; 99; 26; 8.6; 54; 1.0
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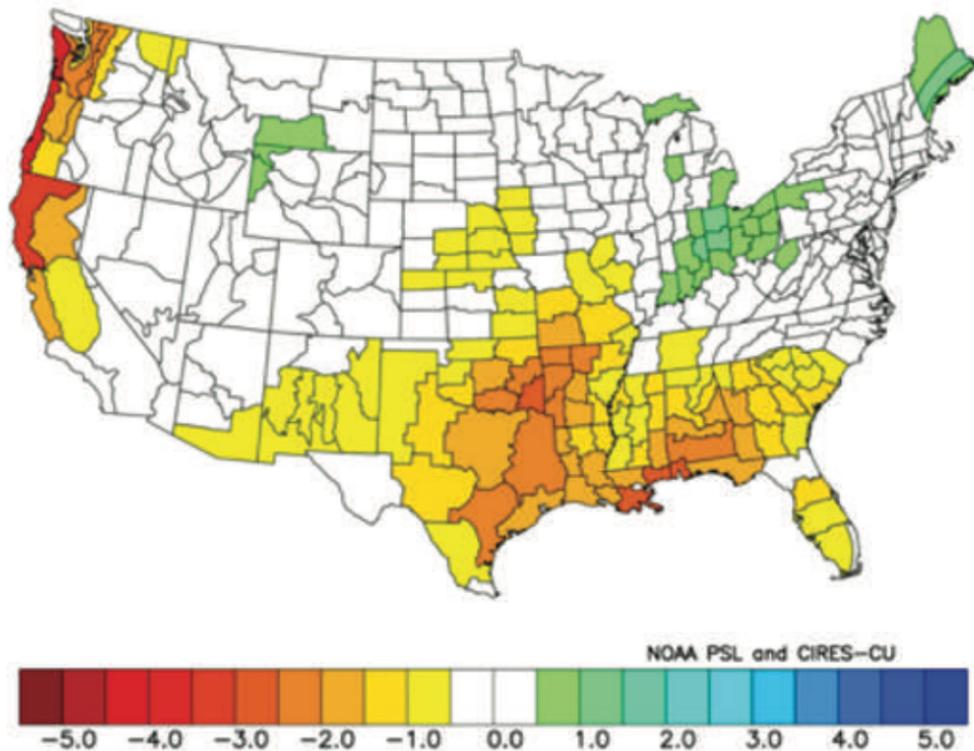
By Brian Bledsoe

Analog years for the next several months

Analog years are important when considering a long range forecast. Looking at the setup that occurred in past years and comparing it to present conditions isn't an easy task. However, it can often times give us a good idea of what is to come. So, here is the precipitation anomaly and temperature anomaly graphics with the current set of analog years (listed in the graphics):

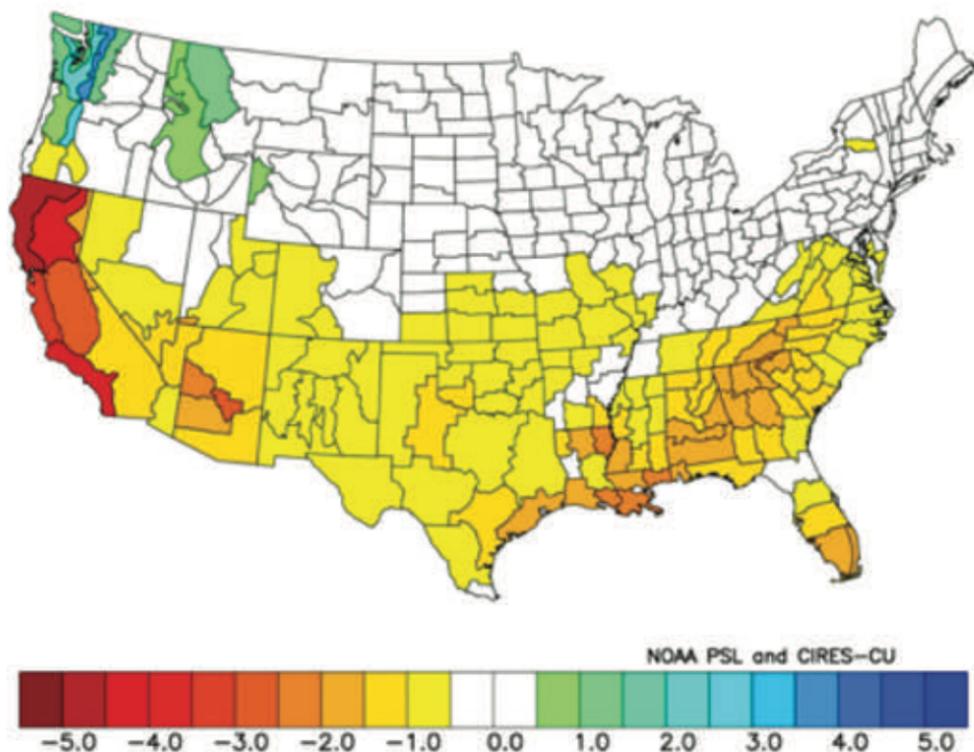
November-December

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Composite Precipitation Anomalies (in)
Nov to Dec 2005,2008,2010,2011,2013,2017,2020
Versus 1991-2020 Longterm Average



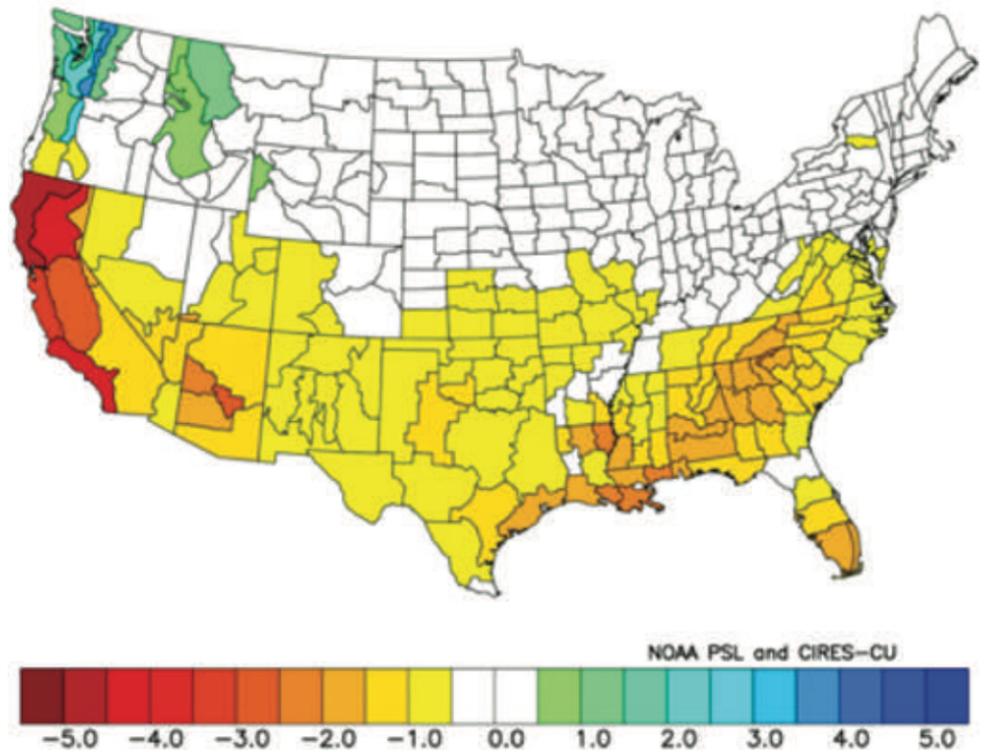
January-February

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Composite Precipitation Anomalies (in)
Jan to Feb 2006,2009,2011,2012,2014,2018,2021
Versus 1991-2020 Longterm Average



March-April

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Composite Precipitation Anomalies (in)
Jan to Feb 2006,2009,2011,2012,2014,2018,2021
Versus 1991-2020 Longterm Average



Yellow and orange areas were drier than average, with green and blue areas being wetter than average. White shaded areas came out near average...

We'll likely cut some of these years in a few weeks as the overall setup becomes more and more clear. However, a moderate La Niña is coming and that type of situation is mostly not good for the southern tier of the country. As I always say, there can and will be exceptions to this trend, but it is something I certainly don't like seeing. We'll have a brand new set of models in a couple weeks and I will include them the next time we chat.

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

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ROUND-UP REVIEW

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October, 2021 512/620-0162

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Executive Director's Report...

By: Bill Hyman

It is November and ranchers across Texas are preparing for winter. Here at the ICA office we are getting ready to send out the Cattle Drive letters. For all of you new members, Cattle Drive is the time of year we send out a letter asking for financial help with our lobbying efforts.

Meeting with our state officials during the off year is more important than during the session. During the off year they have more time to listen and are not bombarded by non-agricultural issues. They and their staff are not booked up with meetings and can sit down and have a conversation without watching a stopwatch for the next meeting. Our representatives and senators have time to focus and ponder our conversations and ask pertinent questions.

The non-session year is also a time to get to better know the newly elected members and more importantly, their staffs. Next year, once the special session is over and the mid-term elections are done, it will be a time for educating the new folks and strengthening our friendships with our favorite supporting members from past sessions.

So if you believe in freedom to farm and ranch without a dictionary sized book on rules and regulations, ICA can certainly use your financial help. We are not the largest association, but we represent ranchers who hold the same beliefs as our officers and directors. We will continue to work for you and the industry we are in love with. Thank each of you for your continued support.

ICA



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

Past, present and future of beef reproduction

Last week I was asked to speak at the 2021 South Central Texas Cow Calf Clinic in Brenham on what I considered were the most important reproductive management practices in the last 50 years, what are the most important ones currently and what might be the most important practices or technologies in the near future.

Without a doubt, the most important management practices of the past were development of accurate pregnancy diagnosis via rectal palpation, development of bull breeding soundness exams and development of effective semen collection, freezing and thawing and estrus synchronization and artificial insemination techniques. Even though these management practices were first introduced over 50 years ago, just a little more than half actually use them regularly.

The most important reproductive management practices currently are the development and use of ultrasound and blood tests to determine pregnancy, refinement of estrus synchronization and artificial

insemination techniques to include the use of sexed semen and wider use of embryo transfer techniques to include invitro fertilization and cloning. Even though the last two are mostly used in pure-bred herds, estrus synchronization can have a significant economic impact in commercial herds by tightening up the breeding and calving season and improving the uniformity in weight of the calf crop.

I have never been very good at forecasting the future, so I asked my colleague in Ft. Stockton, Dr. Bruce Carpenter, who is a reproductive physiologist to weigh in. His predictions were widespread use of Color Doppler Ultrasound to detect pregnancy via ovarian blood flow as early as day 20 (currently the best we can do is 28 days), continued refinement of blood pregnancy tests to determine stage of gestation rather than the current yes or no pregnancy status and finally, better sexed semen techniques and freezing procedures to bring sexed semen's viability ("fertility") on par with

(Continued on page 14)



President's Address...

By: Brad Cotton

Howdy, friends. I hope this article finds each of you doing well. The year continues to fly by as we are now in November. Lots has been happening in the Independent Cattleman's Association as well as the cattle industry as a whole this past month.

We wrapped up our fall bull and female sale in Gonzales Texas on Oct. 15th and it was a great success. The cattle all sold well and the demand for good females was outstanding. The sale was attended well with standing room only. Looking around at the crowd, I truly believe we had more people involved in the bidding than recent years. I guess the rains this year have added to the demand of replacement cattle. Every-one seemed to be in pretty good spirits while attending the sale. It was great seeing many old friends as well as making some new ones.

A great deal of work goes in to making this sale the yearly success that it has become. Two people who put in countless hours, Brian Malaar and Bill Hyman, both deserve a huge thank you. These two were working when the rest of us arrived and still there when we left. During the sale, attendees were treated to a great lunch by

Baker Boys of Gonzales. The following sponsors all played a role in our success this year: Capital Farm Credit, Steele Auto Group, Texas Farm Credit of Pleasanton, Fehner & Son, WB Farm and Ranch, EBarr Feed and JD Shelton. Keep these folks in mind for your business needs as each of them consistently rises to the occasion on behalf of ICA of Texas.

As I write this article, I am preparing to attend a funeral service for long time state director and chapter director Alton Kuykendall. He was one of a kind and an overall great person. He was always willing to promote ICA and recruited many new members. If there was an ICA function you could bet he would be there. In preparation for the Gonzales sale each year water tubs are placed in the pens and hoses used to fill the tubs with water. Doesn't sound like much but believe me it is a job. He was always there to help without being asked. He will truly be missed.

I hope each of you continues to be blessed with rain, health and happiness over the weeks to come. Stay safe and God bless each of you.

ICA

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Chapter Happenings...
Around The Lone Star State

**South Central Texas ICA
 16th Annual SCTICA
 Windy Miller Memorial
 Benefit Team
 Roping Results**

The South Central Texas Independent Cattleman's Association (STICA) had their 16th Annual SCTICA Windy Miller Memorial Benefit Team Roping on Saturday, Oct. 2, 2021, at Cowboy Fellowship Arena in Jourdan, Texas. SCTICA directors hung banners of sponsors along the arena to celebrate the community support they continue to receive. SCTICA wishes to thank all of the sponsors and those who turned out to support the event.

SCTICA directors were very pleased with S Productions as they ran the roping and kept it going very smoothly. "This was the first time we used S Productions and we were very pleased with the way they handled every situation that came up during

the roping," stated Brenda Moore, SCTICA treasurer. For the first time, SCTICA directors voted to give monetary prizes to hi point winners in both categories. Other prizes included cash, trophy buckles, knives, boot jacks and oil changes. The winners are listed below:

Hi Point Winners
 #10 & #8 ropings combined - Parker Stevens

#13 roping - Joel Galvan
 The roping started with the #13 Slide followed by the #10 roping and #8 roping separately. Those winners are as listed:

#8 Team Roping Winners

- 1st - Allen Coleman & Parker Stevens
- 2nd - Manuel Gomez & Parker Stevens
- 3rd - Deandre Coleman & Jesse Trubula
- 4th - Henry Sidney & Parker Stevens
- 5th - Henry Sidney & Stuart Wells
- 6th - Ralph Cornett & Travis Poth

#10 Team Roping Winners

- 1st - Chance Ray & Cody Burbridge
- 2nd - Manuel Gomez & Cody Burbridge
- 3rd - Jeff Thomas & Austyn Coronado
- 4th - Henry Sidney & Gilbert Gonzales
- 5th - Henry Sidney - Justin Butler
- 6th - Joel Poth & Sal Dominquez

#13 slide Team Roping Winners

- 1st - Manuel Gomez & Joel Galvan
- 2nd - Juan Gonzales & Justin Ambriz
- 3rd - Chase Wiley & Dan Braman
- 4th - Chase Wiley & Daniel Braman
- 5th - Juan Gonzales & Joel Galvan
- 6th - Clayton Paterson & Danny Zuniga

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change, San Antonio Steel Company, Brush Country Contractors, Discovery Customer Homes, Custom Construction LLC., Louis Stoeber, Nixon Livestock, Texas Farm Credit, Badillo Family, Gus & Susan Gonzalez, Five R Farms, Dick & Valerie Jackson, Lube Works and Cactus Ropes.

**Colorado Valley ICA
 Fundraiser set**

The Colorado Valley Independent Cattlemen's Association (CVICA) fundraiser is being held on Thursday, Nov. 4th at the La Grange KC Hall located at 190 S. Brown Street. The meal consists of BBQ pork steak 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 \$12. 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

Prepare farm and ranch equipment for winter storage

By Trisha Gedon, Oklahoma State University Communications

With colder weather just around the corner, many farmers and ranchers are preparing to store machinery for the winter. Rodents will be eyeing that same machinery for another reason — as a cozy place to shelter for a few months.

Reproduction...

(Continued from page 12)

non-sexed semen, especially for artificial insemination at a specific or "fixed" time.

Dr. Ky Pohler, associate professor and reproductive physiologist in the Texas A&M Department of Animal Science suggested the possibility of creating livestock that have twice the current number of chromosomes, polyploids, or whole genome duplication. There are polyploids in forages and in other animals, but not livestock. The advantages are twice as many genes, increased heterosis or hybrid vigor that could be passed to progeny and the potential to cover up recessive genes. However there are quite a few hurdles to get there but it is an interesting concept! We will see.

"There are dozens of nooks and crannies under the hood of a piece of farm machinery that are attractive to many rodent species," said Kevin Shelton, Oklahoma State University Extension associate specialist and coordinator of OSU's Pesticide Safety Education Program. "However, the last thing you want to do is provide an efficiency apartment to these rodents for the winter. The wiring harness is appealing and is a readily available chew toy, which will cause lots of problems next spring."

Shelton said the easiest thing to do to deter rodents is to simply raise the hood while machinery is stored in a barn or shed. This allows light in and makes the engine compartment less attractive. However, this may not be appropriate for outside storage due to rain, wind and snow.

Baits and traps also are options in developing a control program. Tips include:

- Snap traps are one of the oldest types of traps and usually provide a quick death to the rodent. Mice typically have small territo-

ries, so traps must be placed within their range to be effective. They can be placed under a vehicle hood and inside the cab and glove box. Be sure to place snap traps where pets don't have access.

- Live-catch traps are rodent stations that can be baited with a food attractant or rodenticide. Some may have snap traps or glue boards inside.

- Because rodents are naturally inquisitive, sticky traps or glue boards work well.

- Mice are nibblers, so putting a little bait in several bait stations will help increase consumption. Use several kinds of bait until a preference is detected, then use that one until feeding stops. Always use an enclosed bait station, and never place them where children or pets can have access.

"While application of toxic baits is a viable method of rodent control, it's important for people to be aware of where they are baiting and with what," Shelton said. "Avoid placing baits where non-target animals are likely to come

(Continued on page 15)

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Benefits to a controlled breeding season

Source: Louisiana State University

When you think of a breeding season, you think of the time that you turn the bull out to the time you remove the bull from your herd. Now, if you never pull your bulls away from your cows do you consider that a “controlled breeding season” household income. Certain management strategies do not always make sense for every producer. In the case of a controlled breeding season, there is no “ideal” breeding season length. There are suggestions on how long a breeding season should be, with the most common being 60 to 120 days. But as long as you understand the benefits to a controlled breeding season and can utilize those benefits above and beyond what you are currently doing, then you are making a difference in your operation.

Marketing.

If you do not remove bulls from the cowherd at some point during the breeding season, you end up with a calving season that does not end. This is extremely detrimental to the true value of your calves realized through marketing. By limiting the exposure that a bull has with your cows, you can dictate calving at a more ideal time of year that suits you, the producer, and the markets. By shortening the breeding season, you create more uniform lots of calves for marketing.

Timing

Timing and the length of your breeding season can play a big role on how you manage the body condition of those cows. It is critical that your cows calve in

good body condition in order for them to have a short postpartum recovery period so that a majority of them are cycling before the breeding season. Optimum body condition score at calving and at breeding should be somewhere between a 5 and 6. In the southeast, our spring calving cows typically go into the breeding season sometime in April/May, when there is a controlled breed-

ing season. During this time there is an abundance of cool-season forages that are typically of higher quality than our warm-season forages and cattle can recover from calving and reach a minimum body condition score of 5 at breeding. However, if you have a longer breeding season and it overlaps with hay feeding, typically supplementation is required because most of our warm-

season grass hay does not meet the nutrient requirements for a lactating cow. Thus, your cost of production goes up.

Yearly cycle

The average gestation length of a cow is approximately 283 days. So for a cow to become pregnant and calve on a yearly basis she will need to become pregnant within 90 days of calving. If you have a 120

(Continued on page 16)



The average gestation length of a cow is approximately 283 days. So for a cow to become pregnant and calve on a yearly basis she will need to become pregnant within 90 days of calving.

Prepare...

(Continued from page 14)

in contact.”

Natural predators are playing their own part in pest control as well. Snakes, both venomous and non-venomous, house and barn cats, foxes and bobcats are effective rodent killers. So are birds such as hawks, owls and even roadrunners.

“It won’t be long until rodents are looking for a new home for the winter. Keeping these tips in mind will help ensure your equipment is in good shape when spring rolls around,” he said.

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Benefits...

(Continued from page 15)

day calving season, you will have some cows calving at the same time that you start the breeding season. By the

time she starts cycling, you may be 60 to 90 days into your breeding season, hoping you get her bred on her first heat. If she takes 3 heats to get bred, then that cow becomes pregnant 100

to 120 days or more into your breeding season. That cow is now on a schedule to calve every 13 months and will likely calve later year after year. A 60-day breeding season is very doable. After the last calf is born, all cows will have had at least 30 days to recover before the breeding season. Therefore, a higher percentage of cows have an opportunity to become pregnant at the start of the breeding season! And always remember, tools such as estrous synchronization and AI allow you to get a majority of your

cows a chance to get bred on the first day of the breeding season, allowing one extra opportunity for them to conceive early on.

Planning

In order to have a controlled breeding season, you have to plan. Planning helps you set goals such as when you want to start and end the breeding season. For example, if you currently have a 150-day breeding season and want to shorten it, shorten the number of days the bulls are with the cows on the beginning and end of the breeding season. For exam-

ple, if currently your 150-day breeding season begins March 1st and ends July 31st, then begin by turning your bulls out March 15th and then pull your bulls on July 15th, and reduce your breeding season by 30 days each year until you reach your desired length of time. This can be done many different ways and it doesn't have to be 30 days each year. You can start off with shortening it just 15 or 20 days each year. As long as you work to shorten it to your desired length each year, you will reach your goals. Oh, and one last

thing, don't keep your open cows. Strategic culling of late calving and open cows will assist in reducing the breeding and calving seasons, and improve overall fertility in your herd.

SLS

Development...

(Continued from page 10)

weights. Late-born calves with light, actual weaning weights can still have excellent adjusted 205-day weights and ratios.

Milk production

Caution, some heavy milking cows may not meet nutritional requirements through the available forage. The calving intervals for these cows will generally exceed 370 days. Selecting replacement heifers out of these cows could eventually cause an increase in open cows. Heifers with the heavier actual weaning weights are more likely to cycle early and calve early as 2-year-olds. Therefore, actual weaning weights may do a better job of identifying the heifers and cows that will be the most productive. Seldom should heifers be selected as replacements that have low actual weaning weights, but high adjusted weights and ratios.

Seedstock producers are selling the "genetics" for growth and milk. The adjusted weights and other genetic indicators such as pedigree EPDs become more important. However, seedstock operators should not produce cattle that are not adaptable to their customer's resources. If seedstock producers are having trouble keeping their heaviest milking cows in the early part of the calving season, they need to be aware of the impact that the some of these cows could have for their commercial bull buyers.

Disposition

Research has found differences in chute scores between heifer and steers. It has been found that steers have a lower (more desirable) average temperament rating than heifers. Cattle that are calmer have higher average daily gains than do cattle with excitable temperaments.

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AgriLife TODAY

Texas crop, weather

Expect higher prices, fewer options on Thanksgiving food

By Adam Russell, Texas AgriLife Today

Consumers can expect higher prices and fewer options for whole turkeys leading into this Thanksgiving, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

David Anderson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension livestock economist, Bryan-College Station, said turkey production was down 5% compared to last year, but prices have risen significantly. Fewer turkeys combined with higher food supply chain and logistical costs like feed, fuel and labor have pushed prices upward.

The national wholesale average for whole hens is \$1.35 per pound compared to \$1.14 per pound this time last year, Anderson said. The five-year average per-pound price is \$1.06 for those turkeys.

Wholesale boneless, skinless turkey breasts, which mostly end up in retail delicatessens and sandwich shops, were up to \$3.45 per pound compared to \$1.80 per pound last year with a five-year average of \$2.74 per pound.

Anderson said both turkey numbers and pounds produced are at the lowest point since 2015, a response to slipping demand.

“This has a lot to do with the fact they are producing fewer turkeys,” he said. “Other factors are a part of that, but this is more to do with years of per-capita consumption dipping and longer-term demand-side issues for the turkey industry.”

Anderson said marketing and economic changes for turkey have been driven by consumer choices around the holidays, which has historically driven the whole bird market.

industry, but over the past several years, consumers have gone with other meat options, especially for traditional get-together style holiday lunches and dinners beyond Thanksgiving.

“We typically think of Thanksgiving and Christmas when we talk about whole turkeys, but a growing number of consumers have chosen other options like prime rib or brisket or an entirely different menu that used to represent that second bird,” he said. “It doesn’t take a large percentage of that among 330 million consumers to be a

big deal.”

Anderson said the other big part of turkey consumption – as deli meats – has grown slightly over recent years but is being outpaced by other grocery

store and restaurant offerings.

Anderson said prices for pork, beef and chicken are also up, but that other factors from bottlenecks to

(Continued on page 18)

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Texas Farm Credit launches programs to award \$100,000 to ag students

Robstown, Texas – Texas Farm Credit is relaunching its updated student programs to include more

opportunities and increased award amounts totaling \$100,000 for 4-H and FFA students within its service

territory.

Texas Farm Credit has a mission to support agriculture and rural communities now and in the future. The customer-owned cooperative proudly offers the following programs to recognize and reward students who excel in both the classroom and in their agriculture groups.

“We’re honored to play a part in growing and supporting our future leaders,” said Mark Miller, Chief

Executive Officer. “We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to both the students and their local FFA chapters and 4-H clubs.”

Ag champs

Each Texas Farm Credit branch location will select one local student who will be awarded a \$1,000 academic grant and the title of Ag Champ. There will be 18 Ag Champs in all. In addition, each winner will also have a \$1,000 contribu-

tion made in their honor to their FFA chapter or 4-H club. For eligibility, full details, and to apply, visit TexasFarmCredit.com/Scholarship.

Scholarships

Texas Farm Credit will present \$5,000 postsecondary scholarships to 10 future ag leaders. Winners will be announced in May 2022. The annual scholarship program is named in honor of Paris, Texas native Marsha Pyle Martin,

a strong advocate for youths and agriculture, who passed away in 2000 following a 30-year Farm Credit career. Winners will be selected based on their transcript, application, and essay. For eligibility, full details, and to apply, visit TexasFarmCredit.com/Scholarship.

Video showcase

This virtual showcase encourages local youth in grades 3rd-12th to submit a video spotlighting their ag related project or passion for a chance to win a portion of the \$20,500 cash prize. With both a junior and senior division, there’s something for everyone in this unique and creative contest. For eligibility, full details, and to apply, visit TexasFarmCredit.com/Showcase.

SLS

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Crops...

(Continued from page 17)

feed prices and higher demand are driving those increases. Aside from hitting consumers in the pocket, lower supplies of whole birds could mean finding the prototypical centerpiece turkeys could be more difficult this Thanksgiving.

Lower supplies and higher costs could also mean individual grocery stores may not offer feature specials on whole birds that are typically used to attract shoppers in hopes they fill their shopping carts with other related items.

“They may not be able to find certain size birds they are used to, or it may be frozen rather than fresh,” he said. “This year, buying a turkey may require being more flexible according to what is available.”

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

CENTRAL: Rainfall events occurred throughout the week and limited fieldwork. Temperatures were cooling. Some areas received more than 5 inches. There was standing water in areas. What cotton remained to harvest looked poor under wet conditions. Newly emerged oat and wheat fields looked excellent. Pastures were greening up again. Harvested corn, sorghum and cotton fields were becoming

(Continued on page 19)

Bovine Elite announces new ownership

Bovine Elite Inc. (BEI) has announced new owners and the beginning of a new chapter. New owners include Cody Pohler, DVM, Lance Roasa DVM and

Crops...

(Continued from page 18)

ing weedy. Livestock were grazing greening stubbles. Farm ponds were filling. Wheat plantings should ramp up once fields dry enough, but fertilizer and fuel prices and nitrogen fertilizer availability may impact producer decisions and ultimately acres. Most counties reported good livestock conditions.

ROLLING PLAINS: A cold front delivered cooler temperatures and some rain. Hardeman County reported trace amounts of rainfall up to 1 inch while Palo Pinto County reported 2 inches and Wise County reported 2.5-3.5 inches of rain. The rain was needed for wheat planting. Wheat had emerged in some locations, but some counties were reporting poor wheat emergence and conditions. Emerged wheat that received good rains was recovering from dry conditions well. More wheat planting was expected when soil conditions allow. Irrigated cotton looked good in all areas, but dryland fields looked poor, and some farmers were starting to harvest. Rain was expected to hurt cotton grades with average to above-average yields being reported. Pastures perked up following the rains, and producers were expecting some fresh growth up to frost. Bottomland pastures looked especially good, and producers were turning out cattle for grazing. Cows and calves looked good. Most calves were weaned.

COASTAL BEND: Most areas of the district reported heavy rains, which resulted in deep soil moisture but halted fieldwork. Ponds were full, with some flooding but little damage reported. Cotton was mostly baled up. Cotton stalk destruction was halted due to wet con-

(Continued on page 20)

Jason Phillips.

Carl Rugg, Ph.D, started the company in 1990 and owned and operated the business for the last 30 years. Over that time, BEI has developed into an international supplier of beef and dairy semen, AI equipment and reproductive management training. Dr. Rugg was dedicated to providing the cattle industry with genetically superior sires that would assist producers in achieving their production goals and

has built a trusting client base with his firm's professional herd management services.

"Carl was known as a pioneer in the bovine reproduction field and we were all saddened by his untimely passing. When exploring the possibility of purchasing BEI, our focus was on how we could continue the success of the business and expand to new levels. It is exciting and we are focused on our local customers, but we are

equipped to expand even further into international markets, offering semen and embryo sales. The connections we have can bring even more elite bulls to each breed in our lineup," said Roasa.

The ownership group has plans to maintain the high level of customer service and same product lines that clientele have come to expect.

"BEI has an experienced team that has maintained excellence and we

are grateful and excited to inherit this team. They have worked tirelessly during this transition," explained Roasa.

Pohler added, "the team, and myself look forward to helping make your operation more successful, not matter how small or large. Kyle Kemp, BEI procurement manager and I are excited to get out to events and trade shows to hear about how we can help meet your needs. On behalf of the owners, I real-

ly want to thank the Rugg family, especially Penny for working with us through this purchase and giving us the opportunity to purchase a world class business. We are really looking forward to meeting the sire owners and customers that Dr. Rugg was so close to over the years. This is a new chapter in BEI's history," said Pohler.

BEI Is located in College Station, Texas can be reached at 800/786-4066. For more information visit www.bovine-elite.com.

SLS

SALACOA VALLEY FARMS

Fall 2021

— BULL & FEMALE SALE —
FAIRMOUNT, GEORGIA

Friday, November 19th
"The Peaches" Female Sale at 4PM
Selling 15 Top End Females
"The Source" Female Sale
Selling ALL 6 Year Old Cows at Salacoa Valley
Approximately 75 Head

Saturday, November 20th
Bull Sale at 10AM
Selling 170 Culling 2 and Yearling Brangus and Ultrablack Bulls

T3 Modelo 129H4
R10439751



11 EPDs in the top 35% or higher

Conqueror of Salacoa 541H42
R10460581



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R10459909



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T3 Rocket 23H4
R10451400



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Salacoa Strategy 23H70
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Salacoa Strategy 468H32
R10460567



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Salacoa Atlanta 209H12
R10446971



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Salacoa N Surrender 71H8
R10460543



14 EPDs in the top 35% or higher

Bar N Mr Big Lake 914H4
R104610901



13 EPDs in the top 35% or higher

BS Ms N Surrender 23H120
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Map to Sale Site



1. In Hallettsville from 77N and 90A intersection go West 3 miles on 90A.

2. Take a right on FM 340 and go North 1 mile.

3. Sale site is on left hand side of the road.

Crops...

(Continued from page 19)

ditions, and there were concerns about green-up in fields that had not been tilled or sprayed. Second crop rice headed out and neared harvest. Some winter pastures were planted and responded well to moisture. Many wildlife plots were also planted. Rangeland and pasture conditions improved with adequate soil moisture. However, grass growth was limited by cooler temperatures and shorter day length. Some early pecan harvest began. Livestock remained in good condition with steady to higher prices at market.

EAST: Conditions were drying up in most of the region, but Cherokee County reported that recent rainfall improved conditions. Harrison County reported a growing fire risk. Pasture and rangeland conditions were fair to good. Subsoil conditions were short to very short, and topsoil conditions were short. Producers were wrapping up their final cuttings of hay. Fall gardens were doing well with proper supplemental watering. Horseflies were a major nuisance.

SOUTH PLAINS: Dry conditions continued across the district. The pumpkin harvest finished up for the year for Floyd County. Cotton farmers were defoliating across the district, and harvest will be in full swing very soon. Sorghum harvest continued with good yields reported. Cattle were in good condition.

PANHANDLE: Soil moisture levels were short to adequate for nearly all areas. Overall rangeland and pasture conditions were poor to fair, and crops were in fair to good condi-

tion. Producers were busy with silage and corn harvests and planting wheat and preparing for cotton harvest. Silage cutting was close to completion with decent yields this year. Corn harvest was underway with some above-average yields reported. Sorghum harvest was going well especially on the seed side. Dryland sorghum did well this year with some great yields reported. Winter wheat planting was underway with many acres in and emerged. Early planted fields were starting to be irrigated in anticipation of some grazing. Cotton was close to stripping with many of the harvest aides already applied. Most warm-season forages on rangelands and pastures were now dormant. Precipitation was needed for fall and winter grazing.

NORTH: Soil moisture remained very short to short for some counties and adequate to surplus for other counties. Rainfall amounts ranged from 1-3 inches around the district. The moisture was needed but limited fieldwork. Temperatures ranged from lows in the 50s to highs in the 80s. Pasture and rangeland conditions were very poor to good. Summer grasses had mostly shut down in drier areas. Winter wheat was planted but had not yet emerged. Livestock were in good condition. Winter rye and other cool-season forages were emerging.

FAR WEST: Overnight temperatures were in the low 50s and daytime highs were still into the high 80s in some areas. No precipitation was reported over the last few weeks, which has hurt rangeland conditions. Bacterial blight was still an issue in crops. Ranchers continued with

(Continued on page 21)

A map of the 12 Texas A&M AgriLife Extension districts:



Crops...

(Continued from page 20)

fall shipping season.

WEST CENTRAL: The weather started to cool, and the area received a good rain, 1-3 inches, that should jump start recently planted small grains. More producers applied fertilizer and planted small grains. Planted wheat was emerging. Some pecans were harvested, but some needed to open a bit more. A lot of dryland cotton was sprayed with defoliant to prepare for harvest. Pastures were in good shape. Livestock remained in good condition with abundant forage.

SOUTHEAST: Producers were beginning to plant winter forages, and oats made up a majority of acres. There was very little rain lately, though Walker County reported decent rains and San Jacinto reported heavy rains. Most hay fields had been cut and baled, but some producers were trying to get a final cutting before temperatures stopped growth. Army worms were a problem for some producers looking to get their last cutting. Cool-season forages were being established. Rice harvest had finished up for the most part. Livestock were in good condition. Rangeland and pastures were poor to excellent with fair ratings being most common. Soil moisture levels were adequate to surplus.

SOUTHWEST: Cooler temperatures and rainfall were reported across the district. Caldwell County reported up to 8 inches of rain with some flood damage. Recent moisture improved pasture conditions. Small-grains land preparation and planting continued as conditions allowed. Livestock were in fair to good condition, and markets were steady to higher. Wildlife were in good condition.

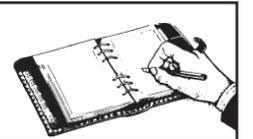
SOUTH: Weather was mild with short to adequate soil moisture levels. Cooler temperatures were reported in some areas, and scattered rains were reported in several counties. Amounts ranged from 0.5 of an inch to 3.5 inches. Wheat and oat fields were being planted, while cotton and peanut harvests continued. Cotton and sesame harvests were complete in some areas. Cotton and grain prices were very good for producers. Growers continued to prepare for strawberry planting. Cool-season vegetables were being planted. Pasture and rangeland conditions were poor to excellent. Ranchers were providing supplemental feed for their herds and wildlife. Hay prices were \$50-\$65 per round bale. Pastures greened up in areas that received good rains. Disking and other fieldwork continued. Beef cattle producers were busy marketing calves, and sale barns were reporting above-average volumes with steady to slightly lower prices on all classes. Citrus trees and sugarcane were being irrigated. Citrus trees were showing some fruit, but many trees were not showing signs of new growth.

SLS



Livestock Sales Calendar

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



- OCT 29-30 Quail Valley Farms Fall Brangus Female and Bull Sale, Oneonta, AL
- OCT 29-30 2nd Annual Texas Breeders Classic Fall Replacement Sale, Brenham, TX
- OCT 30 7P Simmental 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 31 Cattleman's Brenham Livestock Auction Special Replacement Female Sale, Brenham, TX
- NOV 3 Cowmaker Angus Bull Sale, Crockett, 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**

Jordan Cattle Auction

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

Hales Angus & Cannon Charolais Bull Sale
Thursday, November 4 @ 10:00 AM | San Saba
30 Angus & 34 Charolais Bulls
Books are Closed!

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San Saba 325-372-5159 | Mason 325-347-6361 | jordancattle.com

- NOV 6 The One Charolais Sale, Nacogdoches, TX
- NOV 6 Southern Cattle Co Annual Fall Bull Sale, Marianna, FL
- NOV 6 Tanner Farms Angus & Brangus Bull Sale, Shuqualak, MS
- NOV 8 The Branch Ranch Rough & Ready Ranch Raised Brangus & Ultrablack Bull Sale, Mansfield, LA
- 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 12 **Briggs Ranch-Harris Riverbend Farms-Salacoa Farms Bull Sale, Bloomington, TX**
- NOV 13 **Tri-Star Santa Gertrudis Sale, Bloomington, TX**
- NOV 13 **Lesikar Angus "Big Butts" Bull Sale, Athens, TX**
- NOV 18 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, San Saba, TX
- NOV 19-20 **Cavender-Druggin' 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 **South Texas Heritage Santa Gertrudis Sale, Robstown, 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 **Brazos Valley Livestock Commission Co. 24th Annual Fall Replacement Sale, Bryan, TX**

Brazos Valley Livestock Commission Company, Inc.

23rd Annual Fall Replacement Sale

Saturday December 4, 2021 at 11:00 AM
6097 East State Highway 21
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Cattle Sales
Tuesday at 12:00 Noon

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Office Number: 979-778-0904

- DEC 4 Tom Brothers Opening Day Private Treaty Bull Sale, Campbellton, TX

- DEC 4 **Rancher's Choice Charolais Bull Sale, Nixon, TX**
- DEC 4 **2 Bar C Ranch 3rd Annual Angus Production Sale, Luling, TX**
- DEC 9 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- DEC 11 Navasota Livestock Auction 17th Annual Special Female & Bull Replacement Sale, Navasota, 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
- DEC 18 Pearsall Livestock Auction Special Replacement Female Sale, Pearsall, TX
- JAN 8 Live Oak Beefmaster Breeders Association Bull Sale, Three Rivers, TX
- FEB 5 South Texas Hereford Association Spring Sale, Beeville, TX
- JAN 22 44th Cattleman Bull & Female Sale, El Campo, TX
- JAN 29 37th Annual DeWitt County All Breeds Bull & Replacement Female Sale, Cuero, 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

Developing a winter feeding program

By Steve Boyles

Winter feed costs are the largest single expense in most livestock grazing production systems. Extending the grazing to reduce the cost of feeding stored feed will greatly increase profits. Labor can be reduced 25% or more. Rotational grazing takes about three hours per acre per year as opposed to hay production, which takes seven hours per acre per year. The cost for grazing a cow per day is \$.25 compared to \$1.00 per day to feed hay to a cow.

The first step is to evaluate the potential, available, existing feed. Crop residue can be an abundant winter feed. Corn stalks can maintain a spring calving cow in good body condition for about 60 days after corn harvest. The feed value will decline quickly after the 60-day period. Cattle will select and eat grain, then husks and leaves, and last cobs and stalks. Strip grazing increases utilization, rations the feed, and reduces the need for supplementation. The crop fields should be grazed so that adequate residue remains soil erosion control.

Stockpiled perennial grasses can be grazed in the late fall/early winter. The general recommendation is to clip or make hay in the field during the end of July and apply 30 to 50 pounds of nitrogen per acre. High-producing, clean, well-drained fescue and orchard grass meadows would be a good choice. Let the forage

grow until you need it. Strip grazing will increase utilization.

Winter annual forage crops can be used to provide grazing. Brassicas are easy to establish, fast-growing, high-yielding, and high-quality and can withstand cold temperatures. Turnips can reach maximum quality in as little as 60 days. The tops can tolerate temperatures down to 20 degrees and the bulbs down to 10 degrees. Cows and sheep will eat both the tops and bulbs.

Grazing and presetting round bales prior to feeding can reduce trampling and extend the grazing season. Setting rounds 20 feet on center in the fall when the weather is fit and moving a temporary electric fence to feed them reduces winter feeding time. Hay should be fed away from drainage ways and near livestock watering sources. Feeding hay in low fertility areas will improve the fertility and future pasture quality.

Livestock heavy use areas or pads should be located outside the flood plains. If the pad is located close to a watercourse, run off and manure from the pad should be managed to protect the stream from pollution. These areas should be located at least 300 feet away from neighboring residences and away from wells. A manure management system should be designed to handle any accumulated manure on the pad.

UPCOMING
EVENTS

October 28-30 Beefmaster Breeders United Annual Convention, Fort Worth, TX

February 10-27 San Antonio Livestock Show & Rodeo, San Antonio, TX

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Emergency order requires performing more than 11,500 tests in 12 weeks...
Texas A&M veterinary lab wraps up chronic wasting disease surge testing

The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, TVMDL, recently accomplished a testing milestone in the ongoing battle to curb the deadly disease in white-tailed deer known as chronic wasting disease, CWD.

In June, a 120-day emergency order was enacted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, TPWD, in an effort to mitigate the spread of CWD across Texas' captive deer populations. The order required deer breeders to test all deer for CWD prior to sale or release. This resulted in an unprecedented surge in demand for the antemortem immunohistochemistry, IHC, test run at TVMDL, the only laboratory authorized to perform this testing in Texas.

"TVMDL was established to protect animal and human health through veterinary diagnostics, and we are fortunate to have the capabilities to ramp up our services to provide testing for large-scale events when needed," said Amy Swinford, DVM, TVMDL director.

Chronic wasting disease by the numbers

CWD, a naturally occurring prion disease, similar to bovine spongiform

encephalopathy, BSE, in cattle and scrapie in sheep and goats, has a relatively short history in Texas. Compared to other states where the disease has ravaged deer herds for decades, CWD was first detected in Texas in free-ranging mule deer in 2012 and in captive white-tailed deer in 2015.

Since then, the state's approximate 1,200 deer breeders, in addition to those charged with protecting Texas' wild deer populations, have worked diligently to mitigate the disease's spread.

At TVMDL, samples for CWD are tested by one of two methods: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, ELISA, which is performed on postmortem specimens, and immunohistochemistry, IHC, which is performed on both postmortem and antemortem samples.

As the emergency order applied to live deer, TVMDL was required to perform IHC testing on samples collected antemortem. During an average year, TVMDL performs roughly 11,000 IHC tests. During the testing period of the emergency order, TVMDL performed 11,535 tests, effectively testing a year's worth of samples in 12 weeks.

Tackling the chronic wasting disease testing challenge

When TVMDL learned of the impending challenge imposed by the emergency rule, the agency quickly began planning for the resources that would be required to ramp up testing. Thanks to The Texas A&M University System and TPWD, TVMDL acquired additional personnel and equipment to enhance their existing testing services. Using these additional resources, TVMDL developed multiple work shifts that stretched across the week and weekend. This workflow ensured tests were received, processed and tested quickly and efficiently.

"Throughout the testing surge, we were able to provide most clients results within our published turnaround time," Swinford said. "This would not have been possible without the dedication of our staff."

"In addition to newly hired temporary employ-

ees, we had staff from multiple testing sections volunteer for overtime to assist those in the receiving and histopathology sections," she said. "One of our retired pathologists even came out of retirement to help evaluate slides. This was truly an agency-wide effort, supported by our Texas A&M University System partners and Texas Parks and Wildlife."

Surge testing at TVMDL

Over the agency's 50-plus year history, TVMDL has performed testing for several large-scale disease outbreaks and events such as anthrax, pet food recalls, avian influenza and canine influenza. Most recently, TVMDL was instrumental in providing COVID-19 testing of animals as well as humans.

The agency is part of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, NA

HLN, a group of state and regional laboratories that perform surveillance testing for high-consequence agricultural and zoonotic pathogens. As a NAHLN member, TVMDL has the proven capabilities to perform diagnostic testing in the event of a large-scale testing surge.

For more information on TVMDL, visit tvmdl.tamu.edu or call one of the agency's four laboratories.

Calibrating sprayers, simply

By Dr. Gary Bates, University of Tennessee professor

November and December are good months to control most of the cool-season weeds found in our pastures and hayfields. Not only is the ground less muddy compared to spring, but weeds are growing and sensitive to herbicides during the fall and early winter. Before you can accurately apply the right amount of herbicide to a field, you have to know how much spray mix is being applied to each acre. This will help you determine how many acres you can cover with one tank, and how much herbicide to add to each tank. Sprayer calibration is not difficult, but it can be challenging if you have never seen it done before. Here are simple methods to calibrate a boom and boomless sprayer.

Boom Sprayer

1. Select a course length based on nozzle spacing (from chart below)

Nozzle spacing (inches)	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38
Course length (feet)	204	185	170	157	146	136	127	120	113	107

- Measure out course in field to be sprayed.
- Measure time (in seconds) to drive course. Use a comfortable gear and speed. Take the average of three trips. Make note of engine speed (rpm)
- Park tractor with engine running at same rpm and catch the output from one nozzle for the time found in step 3.
- Measure output from one nozzle in ounces. This will equal sprayer output in gallons per acre.
- Determine acres that can be covered with tank. This will be tank volume (gallons) divided by sprayer output (gallons from step 5)
- Multiply acres from step 6 by desired herbicide rate. This will give the amount of herbicide to add to full tank.

Boomless Sprayer

1. Select a course length based on spray swath width (from chart below)

Spray Width (feet)	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44
Course length (feet)	182	171	161	152	144	137	130	124

- If your sprayer's spray width is not listed, divide 5460 by your spray width to get travel distance.
- Measure out course in field to be sprayed.
- Measure time to drive course. Use a comfortable gear and speed. Take the average of three trips. Make note of engine speed (rpm)
- Park tractor with engine running at same rpm, put garbage bag around nozzle and catch the output for the time found in step 3.
- Measure in pints. This will equal sprayer output in gallons per acre.
- Determine acres that can be covered with tank. This will be tank volume (gallons) divided by sprayer output (gallons from step 5)
- Multiply acres from step 6 by desired herbicide rate. This will give the amount of herbicide to add to full tank.

Standard bull...

(Continued from page 2)

But what about the current inflation issue? My fear is that with the pandemic and all the stimulus money that was enacted by BOTH administrations,

double digit inflation was going to happen one way or the other. Perhaps less on fuel prices? Maybe.

The one thing we know for certain was Trump's platform of putting America back to work is something we need desperately.

With more people out there working... who knows? Perhaps the current inflation would be lower. Make no mistake, you can't throw free money around without making money worth less.

SL5



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