

## Part 1: The BVD Virus in Cow/ Calf Operations-What does it look like and where did it come from?

By Dr. Michelle Arnold, University of  
Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory



“BVD” or “Bovine Viral Diarrhea” virus is one of the most common and costliest viruses affecting cow/calf herds and backgrounding operations. Control of the BVD virus is best accomplished

through implementation of three equally important practices: 1) surveillance testing to detect and remove infected cattle, 2) vaccination to increase herd immunity and 3) implementation of biosecurity measures to reduce virus entry into the herd. But how would a producer know that BVD virus is circulating in his or her herd? This article, the first in a two-part series, is written to help understand how BVD virus enters a beef herd and how to recognize its effects, and targets for control. Part 2 will address diagnostic testing strategies, how to correctly interpret results, and how to implement BVD virus measures.

One of the initial problems with this virus is its name. Although BVD stands for “Bovine Viral Diarrhea”, rarely does an animal show any symptoms of diarrhea. Instead, cow-calf producers may observe one or more of the following disease manifestations in the herd:

1. Poor reproductive performance despite females in good body condition and fertile bulls.

- More open cows-Producers may find a decrease in overall pregnancy rate, including a reduced percentage confirmed pregnant after the first service. This infertility and “delayed breeding” are often blamed on the AI technician, a dud bull, hot weather, or fescue when it is actually the BVD virus causing failure to conceive and early embryonic death.
- Fewer live calves- BVD virus infection during pregnancy may result in abortions, mummies, stillbirths, neonatal deaths, and weak newborns that die shortly after birth.

2. Physical abnormalities including “dummy

calves” that cannot nurse, eye defects, and cleft palates in newborns if dams are infected with the virus during mid-pregnancy.

3. An increased number of calf death losses pre-weaning due to pneumonia or scours.

It is important to realize that BVD virus in a herd may not have easily recognizable “classic signs” such as an increased number of abortions or birth defects. It may simply look like fewer mature cows pregnant at pregnancy check, finding cows open that should be calving, or more disease and death loss in pre-weaned calves than usual.

There are two types of BVD virus infection described in cattle; 1) “acute” or “transient” infection and 2) “persistent” infection (PI). An acute BVD viral infection usually lasts 10 days to 2 weeks and symptoms may range from severe to unnoticed, depending on the age of the affected animal and its level of immunity. In an adult unvaccinated (or poorly vaccinated) animal, the virus typically does not cause outward signs of sickness. However, the virus attacks

reproductive tissues (ovaries of females, testes in males) resulting in infertility. Bulls may experience prolonged testicular infections. In pregnant cattle, the virus crosses the placenta to the developing embryo or fetus, causing several types of reproductive wastage or malformations, depending on the stage of fetal development when infection occurred.

Acute BVD virus infection in a susceptible calf may result in disease manifestations ranging from mild to severe disease and death. The BVD virus first attacks the immune system where it destroys the production of disease-fighting white blood cells, causing severe immunosuppression. Secondly, it can work synergistically with other viruses to make them more aggressive and deadly. This combination attack results in increased disease and mortality risk in pre-weaned calves exposed to the virus and a substantial risk of respiratory disease and death loss in calves post-weaning.

As mentioned previously, the outcome of acute BVD infection in the cow herd

may be observed by a producer as infertility, delayed breeding, abortions, malformed calves, and neonatal death loss. Acute BVD virus infections in pre-weaned calves are recognized by the increased amount of sickness and death loss. What cannot be observed is the 2nd type of BVD infection, the development and birth of persistently infected (PI) calves. If an unvaccinated pregnant cow or heifer is infected with the BVD virus between 42-125 days (about 4 months) of gestation, the virus crosses the placenta and infects the fetus during a critical stage in its immune system development. The virus incorporates itself into the developing fetus, so the immune system does not recognize the virus as a foreign invader. When this calf is born, it is “persistently infected” with the BVD virus (known as a “PI” calf) and is a lifetime “carrier” and “shedder” of massive amounts of virus particles from all its bodily fluids including saliva, nasal discharge, feces, and urine. Those PI calves that survive past sexual maturity will also

shed virus particles in milk, semen, uterine secretions, and aborted membranes. A PI cow will always have a PI calf although less than 10% of PI calves come from PI positive dams. One PI calf born on a cow/calf operation usually means there will be additional disease problems within that calf crop. Any fetus infected with BVD later in gestation (150 days (about 5 months) or more) while in the uterus will not become a PI but still will not be “normal”. The virus commandeers certain cell types to produce more virus particles that would normally be used for critical fetal development. This results in destruction of endocrine tissue and may destroy 20-80% of the thymus gland, an important driver of immune function in young calves. These calves will have increased respiratory disease, poor growth and performance, and if they reach sexual maturity, more reproductive issues. Therefore, the reason pre-weaned calves in the same field with a PI calf typically

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PERIODICAL

Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas  
ROUND-UP REVIEW

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I apologize for the brevity of this column because of being behind. In fact, the column is mainly about being behind! Running out of time, money and options seem to be the theme of this fall.

First, as I write this column, I am sitting in a KOARV site in Jennings, Florida. We just wrapped up a very successful bull sale at the Phillips Ranch—Fenco Brangus Bull sale in Bunnell, and have another one Saturday at Herndon Farms in Lyons, Georgia

On this trip, I left San Antonio Sunday morning bright and early to try and get as many of the 15+ hours

of road time need to get to Bunnell. I don't know if you guys have realized, but Florida is a lot like Texas in that it takes a long time to get there and then another day just to get where you're going.

I encountered Sunday morning what many of us who have RV's fear—a blown tire. It's not my first blown tire in an RV, but it is the first in this particular RV. First of all, my RV is what is classified as a Super C RV, which means the front is a Freightliner Truck chassis. Now, it wasn't a front tire—what they call a "steer" tire. Blowing a front tire can prove to be tricky, depending on the driving conditions, etc.

This tire was an outside dual tire on the passenger side. I'm not saying I ever want to have a blowout, but that is the one out of all tires I would choose to blow if I had the choice. So, I had just passed a minivan on IH 10 when the person passing starts pointing to the rear of my coach. Of course, that is a tell-tale sign to find the nearest and safest place to pull off the highway to see what is happening.

For me, it was the Harwood exit on east bound IH10, about five miles east of the Bucces's at IH10 and Hwy 83. The access road there was wide, level and little to no traffic at all.

The next step. I called Coach-Net. I have both roadside assistance and a tire replacement policy with them. As most of you know, I don't usually talk about vendors good or bad in this column, but I had a very good experience with Coach-Net that I wanted to share. On my previous coach, I had a policy with a different vendor. I won't mention their name but when I used them, I lost about six hours of driving time.

With Coach-net, I called the 800 number, and a lady took all my information down, and made sure she had my exact location and that I was at a safe place to park. She gathered all my info, then told me that a dispatcher would reach out to me shortly. About 30 minutes later, the dispatcher calls and they have someone on the way that would be there in 15 minutes. In exactly 14 minutes, the guy shows up. At 15 minutes, the dispatcher calls to make sure the tire repair guy had arrived.

This is not an exaggeration. The guy had the old tire off and the new one replaced in 30 minutes! I was back on the road in short time. Suffice it to say, I recommend Coach-Net to all my RV friends out there.

These days, it seems we are all just a little behind. And it isn't just time. It's money and patience and hay and a mountain of other things. I know these calves are bringing more, and I am grateful for that. But it just seems that with this inflation and economy that everything we buy costs considerably more.

Well, if you were around for the Carter administration, you have seen it before. We will make it through somehow. Just remember, it can always be worse.

**Chicken War**

The chickens were the real heroes of the "war" named in their honor – the Chicken War. They came out of the fray with more dignity than the dignitaries, soldiers and empire builders who made the war, if not necessary, at least possible. They were also the only ones that fought back.

It happened way back in 1719, when both the French and Spanish had plans for Texas. Their respective plans did not include each other. They were rivals, which is one step away from being enemies. Here in the new world, the French claimed Louisiana and the Spanish controlled Mexico. In between was a sparsely settled region – Texas – and dozens of Indian tribes whose people had lived there for centuries.

In those days, this or that expedition would wander into a region, plant a flag, build a mission or presidio and try to explain to the natives why such actions meant the tribes now had to give up their land, possessions and human freedom. The Spanish built missions in hopes that God would will the natives to lay down their arms peacefully. Both countries also built forts, in case the natives failed to do so or the other country attacked them.

None of this worked according to plan. The tribes were not interested in working at the mission or doing what the priests and friars told them to do. Some would show up, praise Jesus for a while and then revert to their pagan ways as soon as they had enough to eat or their enemies were gone. Sometimes they showed up at the missions as a group and tried to kill everybody. That's to say nothing of the rattlesnakes and other perils of frontier living.

So it's not surprising that in 1693 the Spanish abandoned the Texas missions. The French had also enjoyed about all of Texas they could stand. Since the Spanish no longer considered France a threat to their ambitions, they showed no further interest in Texas until the French did.

We'll get back to the chickens in a minute.

Back in Europe, the French and Spanish were at loggerheads with each other over control of the Mediterranean islands of Sicily and Sardinia.

Both sides insisted to each other that this meant war. Lieutenant Philippe Blondell, in charge of seven soldiers at a French post in Natchitoches, Louisiana, received orders from his government to find some Spanish and attack them. He gathered his entire force and led them to the Spanish post of Los Adias, where he encountered only a lay priest, an old soldier and...a bunch of chickens.

In the battle that wasn't, the priest and soldier sur-

rendered without a fight. Blondell decided to claim total victory, along with supper, by taking the chickens as well. Doing his best sly fox impersonation, Blondell raided the henhouse, strapped the chickens to his saddle and prepared to depart victorious when some of the prisoners – the chickens – began to squawk.

The squawking spooked Blondell's horse, which reared and, without ceremony, threw Blondell to the

(Continued on page 5)

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SPECIES:	10-9-23:	Wk.-Dt.:	Yr.-Dt.:
1) BEEF CATTLE			
a. Slaughter	441	402	21,436
b. Breeding Males	66	22	2,172
c. Breeding Females	251	0	1,182
Total	758	424	24,790
2) HOGS			
a. Slaughter	0	0	0
b. Breeding Males	188	0	1,117
c. Breeding Females	0	0	2,808
Total	188	0	3,925
3) SHEEP			
a. Slaughter			
1) lambs	0	0	0
2) ewes	0	0	1,763
b. Breeding Males	0	0	0
c. Breeding Females	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1,763
4) DAIRY CATTLE			
a. Breeding Males	0	0	16
b. Breeding Females	80	39	3,772
Total	80	39	3,788
5) HORSES			
a. Slaughter	356	454	12,731
b. Breeding Males	63	67	1,461
c. Breeding Females	60	80	1,880
d. Geldings	5	16	638
e. Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	6
Total	424	618	16,716
6) EXOTICS			
Total	0	0	179

MEXICO TO NEW MEXICO IMPORTS		
SPECIES:	10-9-23:	1-1-23 - Present
FEEDER CATTLE	10,939	484,812

MEXICO TO TEXAS IMPORTS		
SPECIES:	10-9-23:	1-1-23 - Present
FEEDER CATTLE	2,852	120,073

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USDA Major Livestock Reports:

Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, October 19, 2023: Total receipts: 1,005, last reported (10-12-23) 841, last year 689. Feeder cattle 603 (60.0%), last reported (10-12-23) 538 (64.0%), last year 462 (67.1%). Slaughter cattle 312 (31.0%), last reported (10-12-23) 185 (22.0%), last year 117 (17.0%). Replacement cattle 90 (9.0%), last reported (10-12-23) 118 (14.0%), last year 110 (16.0%). Compared to last week steer and heifer calves and yearlings steady. Slaughter cows and bulls weak to 3.00 lower. Stock cows and pairs steady in light test. Trading and demand moderate. Supply included: 60% Feeder Cattle (27% Steers, 43% Heifers, 17% Cows, 10% Bulls, 3% Dairy Heifers); 31% Slaughter Cattle (87% Cows, 13% Bulls); 9% Replacement Cattle (74% Stock Cows, 9% Bred Cows, 18% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 54%.

Oklahoma National Stockyards, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, October 24, 2023: Total receipts 6,382, last reported (10-16-23) 6,984, last year 7,938. Feeder cattle: 6,382 (100.0%), last reported (10-16-23) 6,984 (100.0%), last year 7,938 (100.0%). Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers 4.00-8.00 lower some later heifer sales up to 15.00 lower. Demand light to moderate as cattle futures closed sharply lower following a very Bearish Cattle on Feed Report last Friday. Steer calves 2.00-4.00 lower, except few under 500 lbs. long weaned or fancy sold sharply higher. Heifer calves 4.00-10.00 lower. Demand moderate to good for calves. Rain and cooler temperatures are headed this way and this is limiting demand for unweaned or short weaned calves(45-60 days or less). Quality mostly average, few attractive. Supply included: 100% Feeder Cattle (57% Steers, 40% Heifers, 4% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 63%.

Table with columns: SALE: Beeville Livestock Commission, Inc., Beeville, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-13-23; VOLUME: 680; TREND: Steady/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Brazos Valley Livestock Commission, Bryan, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-25-23; VOLUME: 921; TREND: Steady/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Live Oak Auction, Inc., Three Rivers, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-23-23; VOLUME: 2501; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc., Nixon, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-23-23; VOLUME: 959; TREND: Steady/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Gulf Coast Livestock Auction, LLC, Alice, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-17-23; VOLUME: 605; TREND: Steady/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Gillespie Livestock Company, Fredericksburg, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-18-23; VOLUME: 881; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Groesbeck Auction/Livestock Co., LLC, Groesbeck, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-19-23; VOLUME: 953; TREND: Steady/no change. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Jordan Cattle Auction, San Saba & Mason, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-29-23; VOLUME: 3010; TREND: Steady/no change. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Giddings Livestock Commission, Giddings, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-23-23; VOLUME: 1308; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Lampasas Cattle Auction, Lampasas, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-18-23; VOLUME: 501; TREND: Steady/no change. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: East Texas Livestock, Inc., Crockett, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-24-23; VOLUME: 2056; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Caldwell Livestock Commission Co., Inc., Caldwell, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-18-23; VOLUME: 760; TREND: Active/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Buffalo Livestock Commission Co., Inc., Buffalo, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-14-23; VOLUME: 2475; TREND: Steady/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Navasota Livestock Auction Co., Navasota, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-21-23; VOLUME: 1626; TREND: Steady/higher. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Cattleman's Brenham Livestock, Brenham, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-20-23; VOLUME: 1293; TREND: Steady/no change. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Cuero-Victoria Livestock Markets, Cuero & Victoria, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-20-23; VOLUME: 1651; TREND: Steady/no change. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Gonzales Livestock Market, Inc., Gonzales, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-21-23; VOLUME: 1054; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Cattleman's Columbus Livestock Auction, Columbus, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-18-23; VOLUME: 1088; TREND: Steady/no change. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: Four County Livestock Auction, Industry, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-24-23; VOLUME: 688; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Table with columns: SALE: El Campo Livestock Exchange LLC, El Campo, Texas; DATE OF SALE: 10-24-23; VOLUME: 1989; TREND: Steady/lower. Includes sub-tables for STEERS and HEIFERS with weight ranges and prices.

Sheep & Goat Auctions:

Producers Livestock Auction, San Angelo, Texas, October 24, 2023: Sheep and goats: Total receipts 4,300, last reported (10-17-23) 6,968, last year 4,220. Feeder sheep/lambs 129 (3.0%), last reported (10-17-23) 139 (2.0%), last year 30 (0.7%). Slaughter sheep/lambs 2,408 (56.0%), last reported (10-17-23) 2,261 (32.4%), last year 2,056 (48.7%). Replacement sheep/lambs 0 (0.0%), last reported (10-17-23) 70 (1.0%), last year 84 (2.0%). Feeder goats 43 (1.0%), last reported (10-17-23) 279 (4.0%), last year 253 (6.0%). Slaughter goats 1,590 (37.0%), last reported (10-17-23) 3,662 (52.6%), last year 1,671 (39.6%). Replacement goats 130 (3.0%), last reported (10-17-23) 557 (8.0%), last year 126 (3.0%). Compared to last week slaughter lambs steady. Slaughter ewes steady to 4.00 higher. Feeder lambs not well tested. Nannies steady; kids weak to 10.00 lower. Trading and demand moderate. Supply included: 3% Feeder Sheep/Lambs (100% Sheep); 56% Slaughter Sheep/Lambs (15% Woolled & Shorn, 66% Hair Breeds, 18% Hair Ewes, 0% Hair Bucks); 1% Feeder Goats (100% Kids); 37% Slaughter Goats (55% Kids, 7% Nannies/Does, 38% Bucks/Billies, 0% Wethers); 3% Replacement Goats (100% Nannies/Does).

Gillespie Livestock Company, Fredericksburg, Texas, October 10, 2023: Sheep and goats: 3202 Light Lambs Steady. Heavy Lambs Steady. Kids Higher. Light Kids Steady. #1 Wool Lambs 40-60 Lb 180.00-250.00 Cwt. #1 Wool Lambs 60-80 Lb 170.00-250.00 Cwt. Bbd Lambs (40-60 Lb) 130.00-220.00 Cwt. Dorpx Lambs (40-60 Lb) 200.00-290.00 Cwt. Dorpx Lambs (60-80 Lb) 200.00-290.00 Cwt. Light Slaughter Lambs (45-80 Lb) 140.00-290.00 Cwt. Slaughter Lambs (100-150 Lb) 140.00-240.00 Cwt. Packer Ewes 20.00-100.00 Cwt. Sheep Bucks/Rams 90.00-175.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (20-40 Lb) 100.00-410.00 Cwt. #1. Sp/Boex Kids (40-60 Lb) 140.00-370.00 Cwt. #1 Sp/Boex Kids (60-80 Lb) 160.00-315.00 Cwt. Sp/Boex Muttons 175.00-400.00 Cwt. Angora Kids 140.00-240.00 Cwt. Lower Quality Kids 100.00-200.00 Cwt. Packer Sp/Boex Nannies 45.00-200.00 Cwt. Stocker. Sp/Boex Nannies 200.00-300.00 Cwt. Angora Nannies 20.00-130.00 Cwt. Boex Billies 180.00-235.00 Cwt..

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## Federal budget woes delay new Farm Bill progress

By Gail Ellis, Oklahoma State University

The 2018 Farm Bill expired on Sept. 30, 2023, as government officials focused on passing a 45-day continuation of the federal budget.

Amy Hagerman, an associate professor of agricultural economics and Oklahoma State University Extension

### Texas Trails...

(Continued from page 2)

ground, butt first. In the commotion that followed, with feathers flying and Blondell sprawling and soldiers rushing to his aid, the priest got away. We don't know the ultimate fate of the chickens.

Perhaps intending to impress upon others the magnitude of the military brilliance he survived at Los Adias, the friar took it upon himself to report the presence of a large French force marching on Texas, even as he spoke. That's all the Spanish needed to hear. They pulled out of East Texas and western Louisiana in droves, heading for San Antonio de Bexar.

The French and Spanish eventually settled their diplomatic differences and didn't have to fight each other, at least not for a while. Word of Blondell's battle with the chickens got around and people referred to the incident and events that followed it as the Chicken War. It's catchy name, but maybe it's not quite right.

Considering how the Spanish basically ran from a nonexistent threat with a battle cry of "The sky is falling!" we think a better name for the fowl resurrection might be The Chicken Little War.

limited impact in the short term but could have long-term impacts without a continuation.

Without a continuation or resolution of the Farm Bill, some commodity programs, for example, would revert to outdated legislation created in the 1930s and 1940s, Hagerman said. However, the Farm Bill has some longevity outside of its official expiration. Certain programs that operate on calendar or crop years designated for official reporting will continue through the end of 2023 and into 2024.

"I expect we'll see a lot of conversation around the

budget in the coming weeks," Hagerman said. "That's really important for the Farm Bill as well, because the budget determines the money for some of those programs (operating under the 2018 Farm Bill) and for USDA offices to administer the programs."

Hagerman predicts the Farm Bill will be extended before the end of this year. A short extension could indicate a new Farm Bill will be considered soon, whereas a lengthier extension could result in 2018 Farm Bill rules and regulations staying in place for the foreseeable future.

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tention to risk management in general for their whole farm and stay in close touch with what the deadlines are and what changes might be on the horizon," Hagerman said.

It is important for producers to understand any new

legislation and know which programs are available to them, she said. Some legislation will not be affected by the Farm Bill expiration, but other rules or appropriations could be void until further action is taken.

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### Part 1: The BVD...

(Continued from page 1)  
exhibit more sickness and death loss (scours, "summer pneumonias") is two-fold; 1) due to ongoing immune system suppression from constant BVD virus exposure coming from the PI calf and 2) due to a damaged immune system from BVD virus infection while in utero.

The key to transmission of the BVD virus within and between herds and virus persistence year after year is the PI animal. Ingestion or inhalation of the virus by direct contact with body fluids or aerosols from PI cattle are the main and most important source for BVD virus transmission. In addition, any virus deposited in watering troughs, feed troughs, round bales of hay, cattle trailers-virtually everywhere the PI animal goes-can be picked up by the other cattle in the herd, either by mouth or nose. Importantly, a PI calf shedding virus in the pasture during breeding season will expose many (if not all) of the cows/heifers to the virus during the highest risk time for development of the next generation of PI calves that will be born during next year's calving season. Acutely infected cattle shed virus particles too but at a significantly lower rate and shorter length of time. A normal calf infected with the BVD virus sheds approximately 10,000 virus particles per day and recovers in 10-14 days. In comparison, a PI calf sheds 10 MILLION virus particles every day of its life. This is why detection and removal of PI animals is crucial to BVD virus control.

Once a producer receives the diagnosis of BVD virus infection in the herd, the first question asked is how did it get here? Research has proven that the #1 cause of BVD virus entering a herd is through the purchase of pregnant females, especially first calf heifers, without properly testing for the virus. The testing strategy must include testing every purchased pregnant female for BVD and also testing her newborn calf for "PI" status. It is not enough to test the dam and ignore her

unborn calf because it may not have the same BVD status as its dam and cannot be BVD tested until it is born! It is recommended to calve out purchased pregnant females away from the home herd and test their calves for BVD virus as soon as possible. In addition, don't allow these cow/calf pairs to have contact with the home herd until each new cow and her calf has a BVD negative test result. Although a pregnant cow tests negative for BVD, always bear in mind she can still be carrying a persistently infected ("PI") calf that will test positive. Over 90% of PI calves are born from BVD negative dams.

All newly purchased cattle, regardless of age or pregnancy status, should be tested for BVD-PI, vaccinated appropriately, and isolated away from the home herd at least 2 weeks. Other sources of the BVD virus in a cow/calf herd include introduction of new breeding bulls, a calf purchased from a sale to graft on a cow, or feeder calves purchased at auction and brought home to the farm have the potential to be acutely or persistently infected. Even show cattle that are vaccinated and have tested negative for BVD-PI may become acutely infected with the virus and can bring the virus back when they return from fairs and exhibitions. This is why quarantine for all animals arriving to the farm away from the home herd for at least 2 weeks with no nose-to-nose contact or shared water sources is crucial to preventing virus spread. In the same manner, herds with fence line contact with feeder calves or other cattle frequently traded may result in exposure to the BVD virus if allowed to touch noses or share water. There are other minor sources of transmission including fomites (needles, OB sleeves, nose tongs) and vectors including stable flies and horse flies. Other species including sheep, pigs, alpacas, deer, and goats can also carry the virus to cattle.

Although vaccination is a key component in BVD (Continued on page 8)

## ROUND-UP REVIEW

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### Executive Director's Report...

By Cooper Little

As you begin making plans for the holidays, be sure to mark your calendar for the U.S. Cattlemen's Association's (USCA) 16th Annual Meeting which will be held Dec. 1-2, 2023, at the Embassy Suites in downtown Fort Worth.

Producers from across the U.S. will meet to discuss policy resolutions, nominate leadership candidates, and discuss the past year's successes and the organization's priorities for the year ahead. Following the business meeting, invited speakers will take the stage for conversations on the current state and future of the U.S. cattle industry.

There will be practical knowledge shared at the meeting, too. Custom Ag Solutions will host a work-

shop on market risk management training and share tools and strategies that producers can start using today to help make marketing decisions. Attendees of the workshop will receive a one-year complimentary subscription to a highly sought after industry analytics platform.

USCA will also host a live auction fundraiser dinner on Friday evening – including a drawdown raffle for a Kubota UTV. Afterwards, head down to the Stockyards for a night out with friends.

For more information or to register for the meeting, visit [www.uscattlemen.org/meeting\\_registration](http://www.uscattlemen.org/meeting_registration) or call USCA's Executive Vice President Lia Biondo at (202) 870-1552.



By Joe C. Paschal,  
American Brahman Breeders  
Association Executive Vice President

### Evaluating sustainability in tropically adapted cattle

Recently, I had the chance to visit the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station near Beeville, Texas. It is part of my plan to visit research stations conducting beef cattle breeding research across the southern U.S, particularly those with *Bos indicus* cattle. The Beeville Station No. 1 was the very first Texas Agricultural Experiment Station to be created and is the oldest research station west of the Mississippi River. When it was founded in 1894 by Texas A&M, the research interests included breeding Duroc hogs, mules, dairy cattle and poultry, in addition to beef cattle. There was also significant research in crops including sorghum and cotton.

The body condition scoring system used today (1 – thin and 10 – fat) was researched and developed at the station by Dr. Jim Wiltbank and later by Dr. John Beverly, collaborating with South Texas ranchers. Dr. Gary Williams was the senior scientist there for the last 40 years before retiring and now Dr. Milton (Milt) Thomas is the senior animal scientist. Thomas is interested in tropical adaptability of the cow, especially to South Texas and

subtropical conditions and is planning to measure grazing habits in addition to reproductive and growth traits.

He recently added *Bos indicus* influence cattle (Brahman, Brangus, Beefmaster, and Santa Gertrudis) to the station to be used in that research. These cattle were part of the USDA Agricultural Research Service Meat Animal Research Center herd at Clay Center, Nebraska. The USDA Station in Nebraska is the largest (and about the only) USDA station doing beef cattle research. Both Thomas and the USDA researchers want to measure the differences in adaptability to the climate in which these breeds are usually raised, rather than Nebraska. All of these breeds were originally developed under tropical and subtropical conditions, and it makes perfect sense to evaluate them under those conditions.

Dr. Thomas is hosting a Field Day at the Beeville Station on Thursday, Nov. 2nd from 9:00 a.m. until noon (lunch is included) to discuss his and his colleagues' work. If you are interested you can register by going to <http://tx.ag/FieldDayRSVP>.



### President's Address...

By Kerry Wiggins

Well, it true. If you don't like Texas weather, wait a while and it's sure to change! This time to the better. Really is nice to have some moisture and now sunshine to bring that green back to the pastures. Hopefully, for late hay making for some and good grazing for others. And the temperatures are so much nicer. We best enjoy it while we can as El Niño, although laying low will eventually strike with the cold and wet.

Not much happening on the political front as Congress seems to be in a perpetual

stand still. Lots of talk, no action.

Meanwhile, the cattle market remains strong, but inputs keep moving up. Who knows where the fuel prices are going to settle, much like the interest rates. Lots of talk, no action.

However, we do know that we can make a difference by supporting Amendment 1 - Right to Farm legislation this Fall. Remember to tell your friends and neighbors to get behind this bill as it will help keep the agricultural industry viable in our State.

### Chapter Happenings... Around The Lone Star State

#### South Central Texas ICA Chapter News

South Central Texas Independent Cattlemen's Association hosted a ranch rodeo on Saturday, Sept. 30, in Stockdale, Texas. H4 Land and Cattle was the winning team, taking three out of four events. The team consisted of Ethan Garza, Quest Lane Garza, Mason Howard, Frank James and Anthony Nunez. Second place went

to the Magic Cattle team. Blaze Johnson of Stockdale was awarded the top hand buckle, and Mason Howard's horse claimed top horse title. The audience was treated to some excitement, as the under six competitors rode in the Mutton Bustin' and were awarded trophies for their rides. Congratulations to the winners and all the participants. We are very pleased

(Continued on page 12)



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#### STATE STAFF:

Cooper Little, Executive Director <a href="mailto:Cooper.Little@ICATexas.com">Cooper.Little@ICATexas.com</a>	Sarah Simon, Executive Assistant Alexia Higgins, Chapter Liaison
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### Part 1: The BVD...

(Continued from page 6)


virus control, just vaccinating the herd annually without practicing excellent biosecurity and surveillance for PIs will not keep this virus from gaining entry to the farm. Vaccines against BVD virus (including those with Fetal Protection claims or "FP" vaccines) will reduce the chance of fetal infection and PI development but this is an extremely high bar for any BVD vaccine to achieve. The question of whether to use modified live or killed

vaccine is not an easy one to answer. Many popular beef magazines offer articles concerning what types of vaccines work "the best" or are "safest" according to the latest research. The truth is, there are tradeoffs when it comes to vaccine selection. Modified live vaccines (MLVs) offer better and more effective pregnancy protection but the IBR portion of the vaccine can impact conception rates if given too close to breeding season. If using timed artificial insemination (AI), experts recommend administering MLV

vaccines at least 45 days pre-breeding to allow 2 estrus cycles prior to insemination. In addition, MLV vaccines can cause abortions if given to pregnant cattle without strict adherence to label directions. Killed vaccines, on the other hand, are safer but are not as good at preventing fetal BVD infection. A herd with excellent biosecurity and at exceptionally low risk can err on the side of safety and use killed vaccine. However, herds that purchase animals including replacement females and/or

(Continued on page 19)

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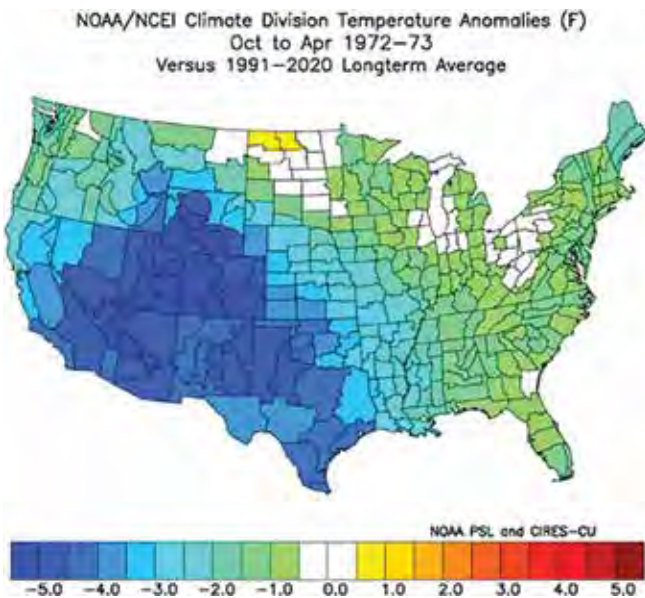
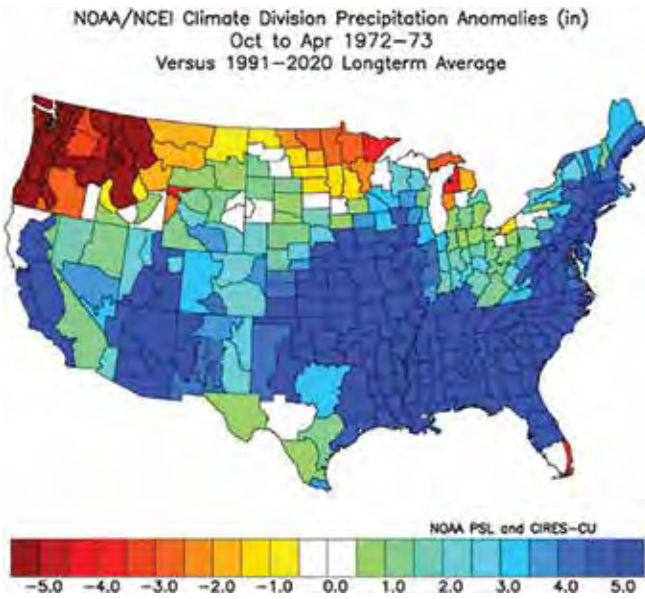
# WEATHER WISE

By Brian Bledsoe

### Winter thoughts

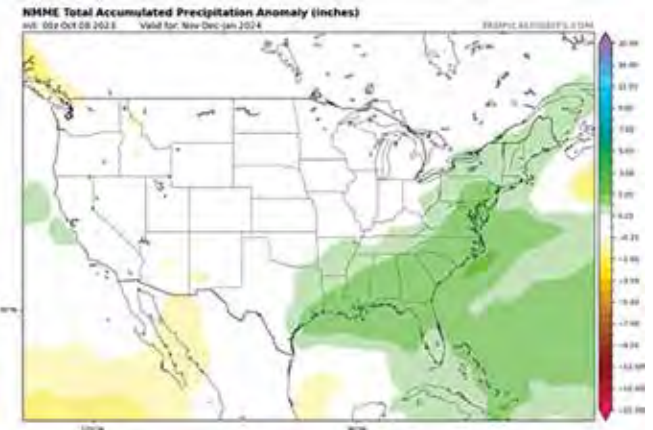
My thinking is that the upcoming winter could be pretty rough for parts of the Plains. The closest analog I can find, which I have shared with you many times, is 1972-73. This is the last time we had a strong east-based El Niño with a negative PDO. However, I can't find an analog that has a strong east-based El Niño with a STRONGLY negative PDO like we have now. However, it's what October - April of 1972-73 looked like...precipitation and temperature anomalies shown below.

the first half of 2024 could be wetter than average for a lot of us, but I worry about that shutting off for the back half of 2024. Could the negative PDO cause this El Niño event not to produce moisture for the winter and spring? I suppose it is possible. However, I remain more concerned about the back part of 2024, versus the first part. The maps below from the EURO seasonal model, and from the NMME model, show forecast precipitation and temperature anomalies for November through January.

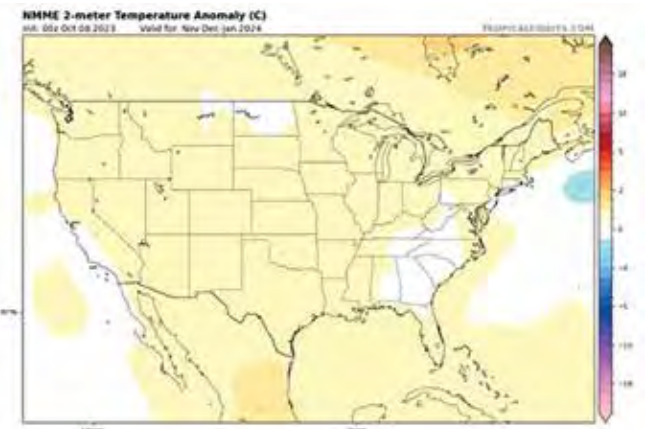


As I have said before, I am also worried that due to the PDO being so negative right now (-2.94), this El Niño event will be short-lived. It will also make it much easier to go back to La Niña later next year. History also shows that we will usually see La Niña reemerge after an El Niño disappears...this doesn't even factor in the negative PDO issue, which is significant to me. So, I think

### NMME Precipitation Forecast

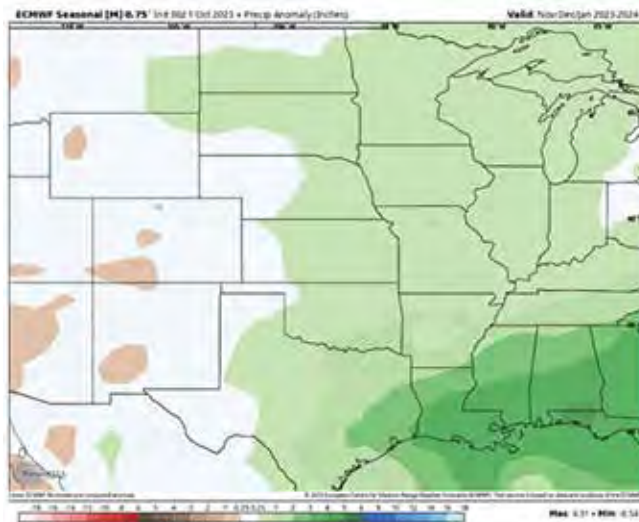


### NMME Temperature Forecast

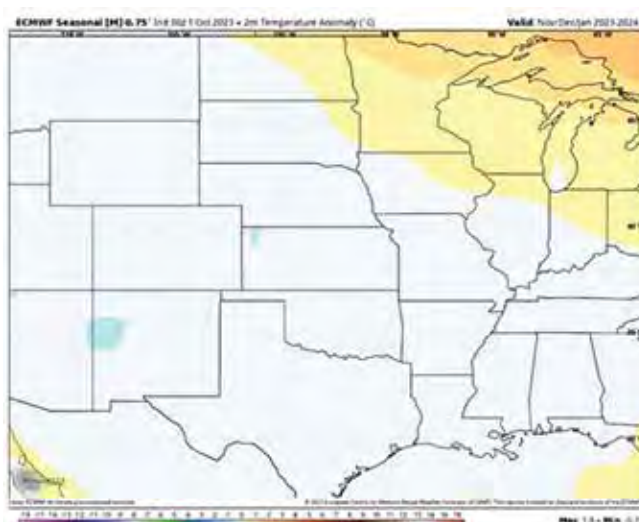


I'll have another update on this next month. Fingers crossed for some good moisture!

### Euro Seasonal Model Precipitation Forecast



### Euro Seasonal Model Temperature Forecast



**If you have any questions or comments, please drop me an email...  
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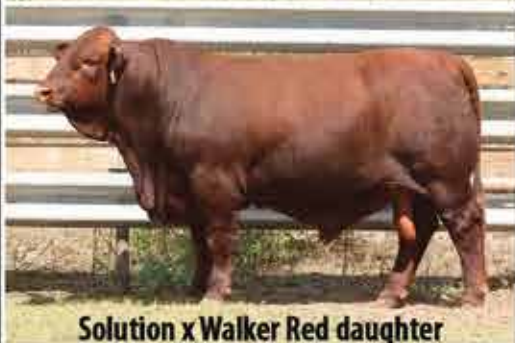
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**Chapter...**

(Continued from page 7)

with the success of this event and appreciate everyone who came out to watch.

**Brazos Valley ICA Chapter News**

Greetings from the Brazos Valley Chapter of the ICA! I have received good suggestions regarding future meetings. Our next meeting, which will take place in 2024, will probably start at 6 p.m. and be in Milam County, where a lot of our members reside. After our September meeting, Devin Schroeder and June Owens offered their help. I am grateful, and I will certainly



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take them up on their offer.

Please remember to vote in the November election. Proposition #1 involves the right to farm and ranch. Proposition #3 is a proposed

amendment to avoid a wealth tax in Texas. I encourage everyone to read up about all the proposed amendments to our Texas Constitution.

For more information on

our chapter, contact James Alford 830/203-8181.

**Guada-Coma ICA Chapter News**

I hope everyone is enjoying this cooler weather. Though we did not receive as much rain as we had hoped, we seem to be the hole in the donut with rain all around us, I am staying optimistic that our luck will change and bring us some winter grass.

Our chapter will have their next meeting Monday, Nov.6 at Seguin Cattle Company. A meal will be served starting at 6:30 p.m., followed by our guest speaker, Guadalupe County Sheriff Arnold



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Zwicke.

We will be discussing our Christmas party which will be held at The Big Red Barn on Dec.3. Meal tickets will be on sale at our November meeting for \$20 each. This is our fundraiser for the year. Money

raised from this goes to help fund the many scholarships that we give out each spring. We are asking for donations for the live auction and silent auction. Bring your family and friends for a great meal and a good time.

**Mid-Tex ICA Chapter News**

Mid-Tex chapter held a garage sale fundraiser on Sept. 30 to raise funds for the Mid-Tex Scholarship Fund. We will be able to grant two scholarships due to our success at this fundraiser and two very generous donations. Special thanks to Claire Selman and Donna Homann for giving their time and energy to help with this event. Thanks to Sandra and Barry Hevner from the South Central ICA Chapter for coming and helping with the sale. Extra hands are always appreciated and thanks to everyone who dropped off items for the sale.

**East Texas ICA Chapter News**

Greetings from the East Texas ICA Chapter! We are looking forward to our upcoming chapter meeting which will be on Nov. 14th at 6 p.m. and located at The Regen Ranch in Oakwood, Texas. Be sure to save the date, and we hope to see you there.

**Victoria Crossroads ICA Chapter News**

Howdy from the Victoria Crossroads ICA chapter. We had a wonderful chapter meeting on Thursday, Oct. 19th at Taqueria Jalisco in Cuero, Texas. We would like to say thank you to our sponsor, Ful-O-Pep Feeds. We greatly appreciate your support of the Independent Cattlemen's Association! We also want to thank our speakers Paul Hahn, from the Texas Animal Health Commission, and ICA Executive Director Cooper Little. They provided lots of helpful information regarding TAHC updates and legislative updates, such as HJR 126 Proposition 1: Right to Farm. We had an amazing turnout with many attendees from the DeWitt County area and we are looking forward to expanding our reach to even more current and potential members across the counties that make up the Victoria Crossroads. Be sure to stay on the lookout for details about

(Continued on page 15)



## Fifth Annual Production Sale

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### DECEMBER 2, 2023

OFFERING 90+ PLUS REGISTERED ANGUS HEIFERS AND COWS, AS WELL AS 85+ PLUS REGISTERED ANGUS BULLS WITH EPDS AND GROWSAFE PERFORMANCE DATA.

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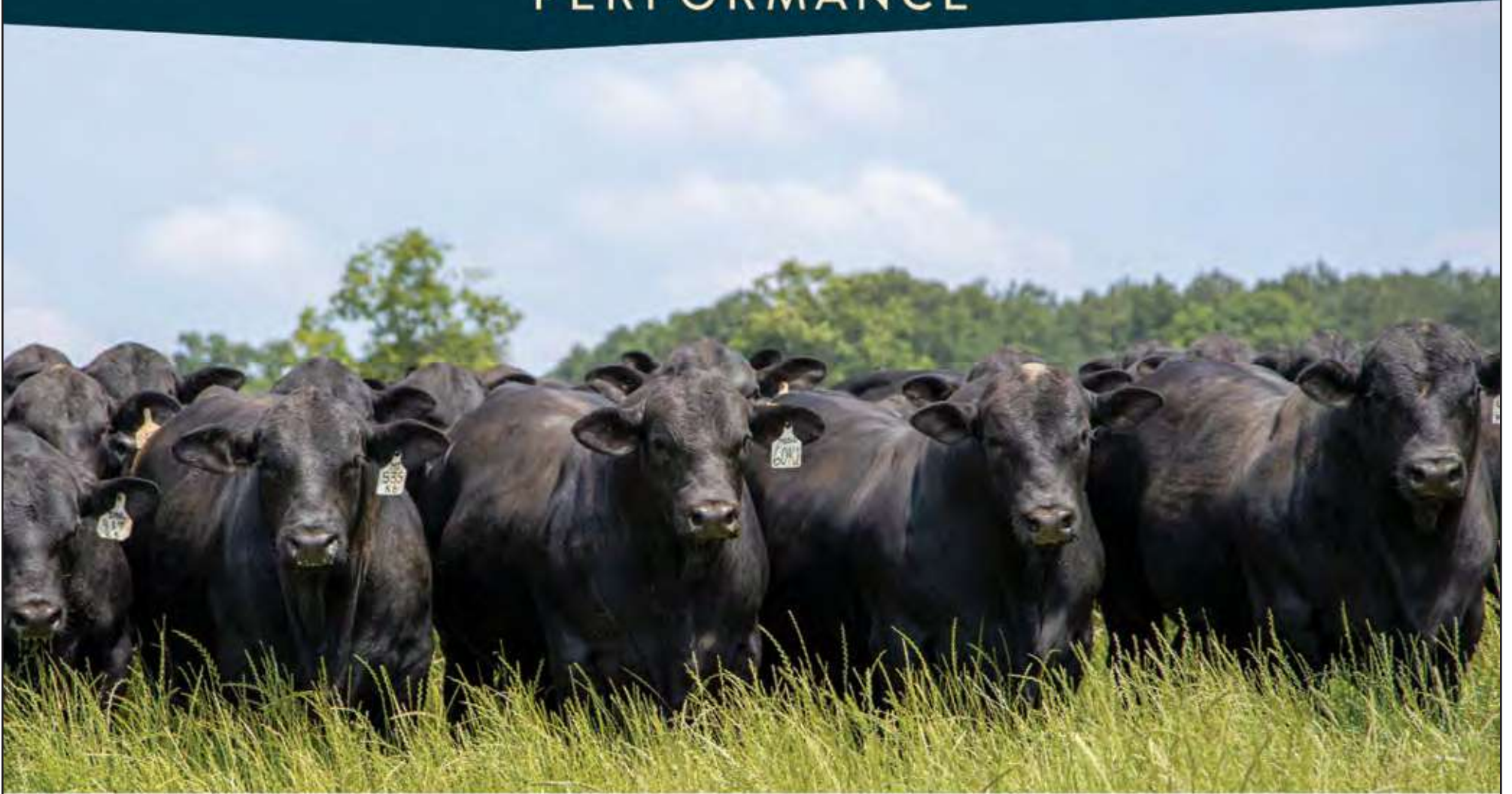
2 Bar C Ranch Angus uses the most up to date 50K Genomic Data available at the time of breeding to insure the best possible enhancements to EPD factors that are important to commercial and purebred cattle producers. Producing bulls with high calving ease, great weaning and yearling weights that are superior in carcass weight, marbling and rib-eye help the commercial producer achieve the best profitability in their calves without sacrificing the maternal traits that are important to a well-balanced animal.

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**205 BRANGUS AND ULTRABLACK BULLS | 300 COMMERCIAL FEMALES**

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# AgriLife TODAY



## Texas crop, weather

### Recent rainfall could cause spike in the fall armyworm population

Texas Crop and Weather Report – Oct. 17, 2023

By Randi Williams, Texas AgriLife Today

Many producers throughout Texas are noticing an increasing fall armyworm population in their rangelands and forages in areas after receiving rainfall over the last few

weeks. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts recommend producers be prepared to protect their valuable forages.

Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension forage specialist and professor in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, Overton, said the most important thing for producers right now is to realize the areas receiving rain will see grass growth that could fuel armyworm populations. Damage from infestations could be problematic for cattle operations dealing with short hay and forage supplies due to drought.



Producers throughout Texas have noticed a spike in the armyworm populations throughout their rangelands and forages. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Michael Miller)

“Armyworms can be picky eaters,” said Olson-Corriher. “These insects are going to se-

lect well-fertilized or irrigated forages to feed on.”

#### Scouting valuable forages for armyworms

Forage producers planting cool-season forages, such as winter wheat, annual ryegrass or any small grains, are at higher risk of armyworm infestations. Young seedlings are subject to more damage than more mature perennial warm season forages.

Scouting is the most effective way to know if you're dealing with armyworms and deciding how to manage populations.

“After a rain, producers should walk through their fields at dawn, when armyworms are most likely to be active and see if the population size warrants treatment with an insecticide,” Corriher-Olson said.

Producers should be looking for armyworms that are green with brown or black colorations and are identified by the white inverted Y on their heads. Mature armyworms can grow up to 1.5 inches in length.

#### Controlling armyworm populations

When scouting forages and seeing a spike in armyworm population, if there are more than three armyworms per square foot, producers are advised to determine which insecticide to spray and do so immediately.

“Most producers keep insecticides on hand that are labeled for different scenarios,” said Corriher-Olson.

David Kerns, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension state integrated pest management coordinator and professor in the Texas A&M Department of Entomology, said the bigger the worm, the more they can eat.

“If you have a large population of large larvae, you'll need to handle them immediately because they can consume an entire field overnight,” Kerns said.

Most producers are likely to use a pyrethroid insecticide due to the low cost, but that might not get rid of the majority of the population because they only last up to five days. Additionally, the armyworms must be directly exposed to the

(Continued on page 17)

# Barber Ranch ANNUAL BULL SALE

11 a.m. CST, Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Jordan Cattle Auction, San Saba, Texas

100+ lots of cutting-edge Hereford genetics...Horned & Polled...Powerful...Docile...Efficient...Fertile



#### BR RARE AIR 2001

AHA 44350448 • 1/2/22 • Horned  
S: BR Rare Air ET • D: Loewen Annie D765 15F  
Calving ease prospect with excellent performance.  
CED +6.5 / BW +1.7 / WW +67 / YW +107 / Milk +33 / M&G +67 /  
CW +80 / REA +65 / Marb +.30 / CHB +151



#### BR GENESIS K048 ET

AHA P44378574 • 2/5/22 • Scurred  
S: Loewen Genesis G16 ET • D: BR Belle Pepper E094 ET  
Highest performance bull, out of a full sister to Belle Air.  
CED +1.9 / BW +3.8 / WW +75 / YW +125 / Milk +40 / M&G +78 /  
CW +98 / REA +.74 / Marb +.53 / CHB +187



#### BR KINGSTON 2070

AHA P44383561 • 2/15/22 • Scurred  
S: BR Kingston H028 ET • D: Loewen Miss 4013 20D 25E  
Total package herd bull candidate.  
CED -1.0 / BW +3.9 / WW +71 / YW +113 / Milk +30 / M&G +65 /  
CW +81 / REA +.63 / Marb +.41 / CHB +157



#### BR BELLE AIR 2009

AHA 44350452 • 1/4/22 • Horned  
S: BR Belle Air 6011 • D: BR Gabrielle 7089  
Calving ease Belle Air son with excellent carcass traits.  
CED +7.9 / BW +0.3 / WW +57 / YW +84 / Milk +31 / M&G +59 /  
CW +73 / REA +.81 / Marb +.54 / CHB +161

### Principal Sires Represented:

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BR Rare Air ET • BR Belle Air E133 • BR Belle Air 8123 • BR Endure 0159

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Desdemona, TX



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# Right to farm and ranch set as Prop 1 on November ballot

Source: Texas Farm Bureau

(WACO, Texas)—The right to farm and ranch in Texas is set as Proposition 1 on the Nov. 7 General Election ballot.

The proposition is supported by Texas Farm Bureau (TFB).

“It’s great to have a proposition number for the right to farm and ranch constitutional amendment. There are 14 propositions on the ballot, so it is very helpful to remind voters which proposition is the right to farm and ranch constitutional amendment,” TFB President Russell Boening said. “The proposition number will be an important part of messaging going forward as we promote this monumental opportunity to protect the future of Texas family farms and ranches.”

On the ballot, Prop 1 will read:

*“The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management.”*

The constitutional amendment is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to protect farming and ranching and the future of food security in the state.

“Prop 1 isn’t about protecting the past. It’s about ensuring Texans’ access to safe and affordable food in the future,” Boening said.

In Texas, about 97% of farms and ranches are owned and operated by families, and one in seven Texans has a job related to agriculture. That shows how vital farming and ranching are to a healthy Texas.

“The amendment protects all farmers and ranchers—large and small. Only responsible, normal day-to-day agricultural practices are protected, not practices employed by bad actors,” Boening said.

But the state loses over 240,000 acres of agricultural

land each year to development, natural resources, livestock, according to a recent study, and wildlife are protected, too. making Prop 1 even more important. The proposition needs a majority vote to pass.

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*Santa Gertrudis*

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*2nd Annual*

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**Thanksgiving Weekend**  
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1:00 PM | Purvis, MS  
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75 BRANGUS BULLS  
40 REGISTERED FEMALES  
125 COMMERCIAL FEMALES  
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**2023 Featured Lot**

**Tajo Ms Stonewall 000E1**  
*She Sells - Proven Donor*

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**Kendall Stennett - Spur S**  
601.410.4003 | [kendall\\_stennett@yahoo.com](mailto:kendall_stennett@yahoo.com)

## Chapter...

(Continued from page 12)

our next chapter meeting on the ICA website.

### Gonzales ICA Chapter News

As of last week, another successful Central Texas ICA All Breeds Sale has come and gone. We appreciate all our volunteers and participating consignors for bringing such quality stock. A big thanks goes out to our sponsors: Capital Farm Credit, WB Farm & Ranch Supply, E Barr Feeds, Y-Tex, Boehm Tractor Sales, Shoppa's, Fehner & Son Grain Co., Oviedo Auto Group, and our auctioneer, JD Shelton.



**NIXON**  
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 Hwy. 87 East • Nixon, Texas  
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 Gary Butler, Manager • (830) 857-4330

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**LIVESTOCK COMMISSION, INC.**  
 Sale every Friday 11:00 a.m.  
 Hwy. 59 East • Beeville, Texas  
 Beeville Livestock • (361) 358-1727  
 Gary & Rodney Butler, Owners  
 Rodney Butler, Manager • (361) 645-5002



**SOLD: 1,792 Cattle HORSES: 1**  
**SHEEP & GOATS: 17**  
**MARKET TREND: Steady/Active**

- ✓ *Your livestock marketing needs are best served by those who share your concerns and live and operate in the same world you live in.*
- ✓ *Our facilities offer you competitive commission rates and quality care. We are a family owned and operated business.*
- ✓ *Give us a call. We will market and care for your cattle like they were our very own.*



**Fall Bull Sale**  
 Already Consigned: Smith Herefords, Schmidt Hereford, Bill Breeding, Rafter J, Case Hereford, OH Triangle, Moscatelli  
**and Pride of Texas Female Sale**  
**October 28, 2023**  
 Beeville Livestock Commission  
 Sale Starts at Noon

Accepting Entries:  
**Bull consignments:**  
 55 Hereford Bulls  
 CASE HEREFORDS, SCHMIDT HEREFORDS, OH TRIANGLE, SMITH HEREFORDS, ALYXANDRA HACKBEIL, PFLUGER GENTRY CREEK RANCH, B & C CATTLE CO, RAFTER J, MOSCATELLI HEREFORDS, IVEY RANCH LLC, TYLER JOHNSON, ROCKING CHAIR RANCH, SCHATTE HEREFORDS  
 5 Brahman Bulls  
 DIAMOND T CATTLE CO, JANIK CATTLE CO, DRC RANCH, RAFTER J/TWISTED L BRAHMAN  
**Pride of Texas Female Sale**  
 NEW THIS YEAR: Super Baldy's being black or red Baldy (1 parent being Hereford)

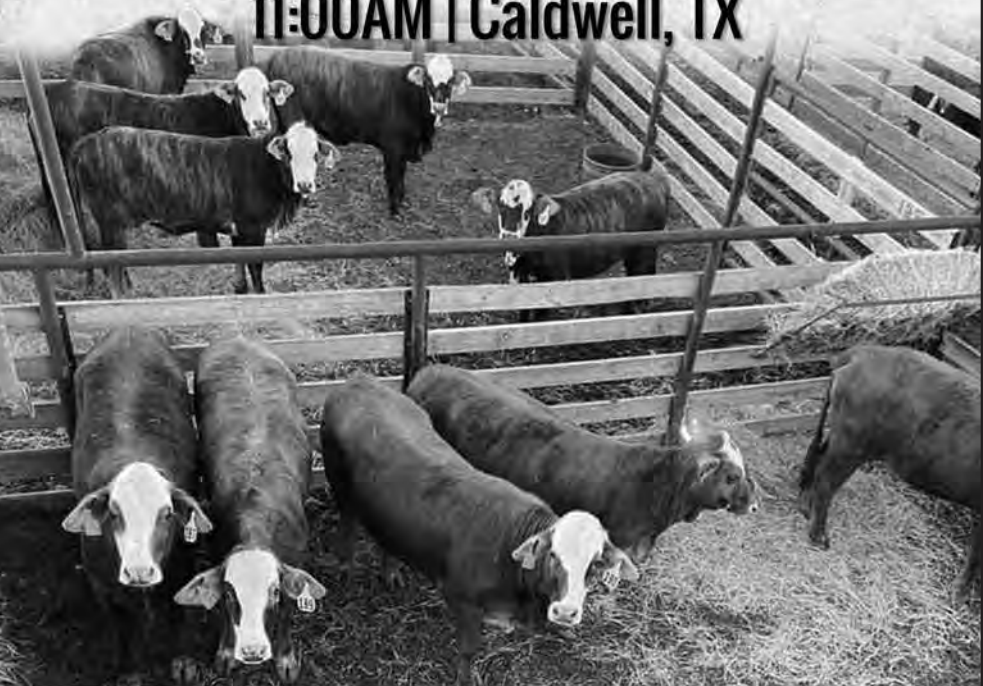
For more info, contact:  
**Sara Lanham-Sale Manager**  
 210-844-4806 | southtexashereford@gmail.com



*Stockers Sale*

Selling Open - Breds - Pairs  
 Cows and Heifers

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>**  
**11:00AM | Caldwell, TX**



Office Phone: 979-567-4119  
**Carl Herrmann** 979-820-5349  
**Hank Herrmann** 979-820-5277



**ENDSLEY'S CHAROLAIS FARMS**

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*Celebrating our 68<sup>th</sup> Year Raising Charolais*

We are consigning 41 bulls to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
**RANCHERS' CHOICE BULL SALE**  
 December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Nixon Livestock Commission at 1PM  
 This is one of our consignments.



**ENDSLEY'S CARMICHAEL 240**  
 M976368 • Calved 2/14/2022  
**Perf.:**  
 BW 93 WW/Ratio 744/103 YW/Ratio 1467/109  
**EPDs:**  
 BW -0.2 WW 80 YW 144 TSI 284.24

EPD's for WW & YW are in the top 3% and TSI in the top 4%.  
 He is an example of the quality we are consigning.  
*We have sold in this sale since it began — buy with confidence.*



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



**Texas Crop...**

(Continued from page 14)  
pyrethroid by touching or eating the plant.

"We have translaminar pesticides that soak into the leaf tissue of the plants," Kerns said. "This means it lasts longer and the rain won't wash it off, but the translaminar pesticides are higher in price."

He added that a year like this that has been droughty "is going to suppress the armyworm population but be on the lookout for armyworms since the recent rain gives them something to build on."

AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries:

**CENTRAL**

Dry conditions continued with a dire need for rain. Cooler weather arrived, and while it brought some greening to the pastures and much-needed moisture to the fields, the lack of significant rainfall remained a concern. Mild conditions and cooler temperatures allowed fieldwork to continue. Nighttime temperatures were expected to be in the 50's, which would cause the warm-season grasses to slow their growth. Most cotton acreage, including irrigated, that was not already harvested was abandoned due to lack of rainfall or running out of irrigation water. Stock tank levels were good. Some moderate leaf spot disease pressure showed in Jiggs Bermuda. Wheat planting was delayed as much as possible due to Hessian fly concerns. Few fields were planted to resistant varieties. Small grains were going in and hay was being baled. The pecan harvest began, but yields were very low and quality was only fair. Livestock numbers were still holding with the uptick in green grass. Some culling was taking place before winter. Cattle remained in good body condition, with producers feeding limited hay.

**ROLLING PLAINS**

Winter wheat planting was in full swing across the Rolling Plains. Most producers were hopeful that the recent moisture

would help the wheat come up, but more rain will be needed shortly to keep soil moisture at minimal levels going into the fall. Most dryland cotton was turned into insurance as a loss. Rain was needed for pastures and livestock drinking sources.

**COASTAL BEND**

Cooler weather and scattered showers helped with soil moisture retention. Some counties received over 2 inches while others only got two-tenths of an inch. Grain and cotton producers were planning to fertilize soon. Winter pasture planting continued. Some producers were hoping to get a final hay-cutting before the first frost. Some cattle producers were still feeding hay and supplements. Markets were still strong, and many producers took advantage of the high prices by weaning and selling off calves earlier than usual.

**EAST**

Although conditions had improved, the drought continued. Pasture and rangeland conditions were fair to good. Subsoil conditions were adequate to short overall, while topsoil conditions were adequate. Producers were getting another cutting of hay when possible. Others were planting winter pastures to try and offset low hay supplies. Shortages remained a significant concern going into the cooler seasons. Livestock were in fair to good condition, with some supplementation taking place. Producers noticed larger populations of armyworms.

**SOUTH PLAINS**

Cool nighttime and moderate daytime temperatures allowed a few heat units to be picked up and slowly finish off the cotton crop. Producers sprayed defoliants on the cotton fields, and a few started stripping cotton. A few gin yards were beginning to receive cotton and will kick off ginning soon. The pumpkin harvest finished up this past week. Winter wheat has emerged with the rains from last week. Rainfall totals ranged from half an inch to 1.4 inches. Silage was being

**2 0 2 3** **2 0 2 4**  
**LIVESTOCK SALES CALENDAR**  
EDITOR'S NOTE: Bold-faced listings have advertisements in this issue.

- OCT 27 TriStar Santa Gertrudis Production Sale, Bloomington, TX
- OCT 28 Briggs Ranches Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Bloomington, TX
- OCT 28 Jordan Cattle Auction Fall "Best of the Best" Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- OCT 28 South Texas Hereford Assn. Bull & Female Sale, Beeville, TX**
- OCT 28 LG Herndon Farms Charolais & Brangus Bull & Female Sale, Lyons, GA
- OCT 28 7P Ranch Simmental Bull & Female Sale, Tyler, TX
- OCT 29 Perez Cattle Co. Fall Bull & Commercial Female Sale, Columbus, TX
- OCT 30 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, Mason, TX
- NOV 2 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder & Premium Weaned Sale, San Saba, TX
- NOV 2 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Sale, Hales Angus Farms & Cannon Charolais Ranch, San Saba, TX
- NOV 3-4 GenePlus Brangus Bull & Female Sales, Concord, AR
- NOV 4 The One Charolais Sale at Tenroc Ranch, Salado, TX
- NOV 6 Branch Ranch Rough & Ready Brangus Bull Sale, Mansfield, LA
- NOV 8 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Sale, Barber Ranch Herefords & Express Ranches Angus, San Saba, TX
- NOV 10-11 ACE @ Quail Valley Farms Brangus & Santa Gertrudis Bull & Female Sales, Oneonta, AL**
- NOV 15 Lesikar Angus Ranch Sale, Athens, TX**
- NOV 15-16 CDP Brangus Bull & Female Sales, El Dorado, AR**
- NOV 16 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Sale, Ft. Schaefer Farms Angus, San Saba, TX**

- DEC 2 Brazos Valley Livestock Commission 27th Annual Replacement Sale, Bryan, TX**

**Brazos Valley Livestock Commission Company, Inc.**  
**27th Annual Fall Replacement Sale**

**Saturday December 2, 2023 at 11:00 AM**  
**6097 East State Highway 21, Bryan, Texas**

**ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS NOW**

*Brazos Valley Livestock Commission Co., Inc.*  
Pete Scarmardo --- Owner • Pete's Mobile Number: 979-268-1947  
Scott Scarmardo --- General Manager • Scott's Mobile Number: 979-224-3764  
Office Number: 979-778-0904

- DEC 7 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- DEC 9 Inaugural GKB Cattle & Barber Ranch Hereford Female Event, Desdemona, TX
- DEC 9 Texas Drovers Annual Bull & Replacement Female Sale, Weimar, TX
- DEC 9 Navasota Livestock Auction Female & Bull Replacement Sale, Navasota, TX
- DEC 11 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, Mason, TX
- DEC 14 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Sale, Leachman's Texas Fall Stabilizer Bulls, San Saba, TX
- DEC 14 Leachman's Texas Fall Stabilizer Bull Sale, San Saba, TX
- JAN 4 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, Shady Oak Farm Charolais & SimAngus Bulls, San Saba, TX
- JAN 8 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, Mason, TX
- JAN 11 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker-Feeder & Weaned Sale, San Saba, TX
- JAN 13 Live Oak Beefmaster Breeders Association Bull Sale, Three Rivers, TX
- JAN 20 Jordan Cattle Auction January Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- JAN 20 46th Annual Cattleman Bull & Female Sale, El Campo Livestock Exchange, El Campo, TX
- JAN 27 39th Annual DeWitt County Purebred Breeders All Breed Bull & Female Sale, Cuero, TX
- FEB 1 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- FEB 8 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, Martin-Bruni Brangus & STS Ranger Registered Angus, San Saba, TX
- FEB 14 San Antonio All Breed Bull and Replacement Female Sale, San Antonio, TX
- FEB 17 Jordan Cattle Action Early Spring Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- FEB 24 Advantage Plus Beefmaster Bull Sale, Brenham, TX
- MAR 2 South Texas Cattle Marketing Spring Replacement Female Sale, Nixon, TX
- MAR 7 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Stocker & Feeder Sale, San Saba, TX
- MAR 7 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, Cattleman's Kind Simmental & SimAngus Bulls, San Saba, TX
- MAR 21 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, Knox Brothers Hereford and Angus Bulls, San Saba, TX
- APR 4 Jordan Cattle Auction Special Bull Offering, STS Ranger Angus Bulls, San Saba, TX
- APR 13 Jordan Cattle Auction Spring "Best of the Best" Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- APR 13 Collier Farms Advantage Sale, Giddings, TX
- APR 17 Springtime in Texas Sale & BBU National E6 Sale, Brenham, TX

**Jordan Cattle Auction**  
Weekly Sales at 11:00 AM  
Mason on Monday & San Saba on Thursday

**Special Bull Offering**  
Thursday, November 16 @ 10:00 am | San Saba  
In conjunction with the regular sale. Bull will sell at 10:00 am.  
Featuring Schaefer Farms Angus & Shad Oaks Farm Charolais & SimAngus Bulls.  
Books are Closed!

**December Replacement Female Sale**  
Saturday, December 2 @ 10:00 am | San Saba  
Books are Closed!

For details on the above sale or online viewing/bidding call or visit our website.  
**Ken & Kynda Jordan - Owners & Operators**  
San Saba 325-372-5159 | Mason 325-347-6361 | jordancattle.com

- NOV 17 Cavender Ranches @ Neches River Ranch Brangus & Commercial Female Sale, Jacksonville, TX**
- NOV 18 Cavender Ranches @ Neches River Ranch Brangus & Charolais Bull Sale, Jacksonville, TX**
- NOV 18 Collier Farms Performance Beefmaster Bull Sale, Brenham, TX**
- NOV 25 Pine Belt Alliance Brangus Bull & Female Sale, Purvis, MS**
- NOV 29 Caldwell Livestock Auction Special Replacement Sale, Caldwell, TX**
- DEC 1 J Bar Angus Bull & Female Sale (formerly Lone Star Angus Alliance Sale), Hallettsville, TX**
- DEC 2 Jordan Cattle Auction Replacement Female Sale, San Saba, TX
- DEC 2 2 Bar C Ranch Angus Production Sale, Luling, TX**
- DEC 2 Rancher's Choice Charolais Bull Sale, Nixon, TX**
- DEC 2 Pied Piper Farms Annual Production Sale, Industry, TX
- DEC 2 Pounds Pay Commercial Replacement Female Sale, Industry, TX
- DEC 2 Sunbelt Red Brangus "Color'em Red" Sale, Henderson, TX

cut. The grain was still drying down, and harvest had slowly begun. Cattle reports were in good condition.

**PANHANDLE**

There were high winds and arid conditions. Some pro-

ducers dusted in wheat crops in hopes of some moisture. Irrigated wheat progressed and several producers started wells for grazing. Fieldwork continued as producers prepared for the harvest of corn

and sorghum. Silage choppers continued, with some producers wrapping up the year very quickly. Dry conditions were affecting pastures and rangelands.

**NORTH**

Pastures and rangelands were reported as fair to poor from most counties. Subsoil and topsoil moisture levels were average, with few counties reporting very short or ad-

(Continued on page 19)

**SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK**  
★ STANDARD ★

# CLASSIFIED

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2 or More Times.....\$9.60	5 lines for \$6.00, \$1.50 for each
Minimum.....1 inch	additional line (allow 16 char-
Reverses.....\$15.00	acters per line). The terms on
Blind Box Charge.....\$5.00	Classified advertising are cash.
	No credit is allowed.

**Credit For Errors Allowed On First Insertion Only**

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**Part 1: The BVD...**

(Continued from page 8)

bulls, herds near stocker cattle or unvaccinated neighboring cattle, show cattle herds, herds with frequent deer contact, or any other probable exposure

should err on the side of efficacy and choose modified live. If breeding occurs year-round so MLVs are not an option, an alternative is to administer two doses of MLV vaccine to open heifers (at weaning and a

second dose 6 weeks prior to breeding) with annual revaccination using a killed vaccine. This combination stimulates excellent protection without the risk of MLVs although this protective response will dimin-

ish after several years. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, cattle herds are unique entities with different risks for disease on every farm so work with a veterinarian to choose the right vaccines for the herd.

**Texas Crop...**

(Continued from page 17)

equate moisture. Temperatures overnight ranged from the 30s to 50s and slowed the growth of vegetation and grasses. A few counties received rainfall, but most did not. Winter pasture planting continued. The ground was prepared for wheat, but few forage-use acres were planted. Hay harvest continued. No grain crops were planted. There were no significant insect or disease issues, and livestock were doing well.

**FARWEST**

Temperatures steadily decreased with highs in the low 80s and lows in the high 50s. Scattered thunderstorms continued across the region. Cotton harvest was picking up, with almost everyone in the field either defoliating or harvesting. Defoliation was taking longer with the cooler temperatures and rates of harvest aids being increased. Yields were proving to be well below expected due to very small bolls and fewer of them on the plants. The harvest should not last long because of

the dry weather and no rain in the forecast. Gins were letting modules stack up to try and keep the ginning season in as short of a window as possible. Wheat planting continued and planted acres were expected to be higher than average this season, but emergence was poor due to a lack of soil moisture. Watermelons and cantaloupes were still producing well. Chilies were growing well. Onions were in the ground, and pumpkins were being harvested. Pawnee pecans were starting to get harvested as well. Livestock were in fair condition as supplemental feeding continued. Cattle have a body score of 4.

**WESTCENTRAL**

Temperatures cooled significantly, with lows in the 45-50 range and highs in the 75-85 range. Conditions remained dry as rain fell sporadically in small amounts. Producers continued planting oats and wheat. Cotton defoliation continued and harvest started. Pecan trees were dying in some orchards and even ir-

rigated orchards were showing stress. Insect pest problems continued and fall armyworm populations were increasing. Drought was still a severe issue as stock tanks were low. Grasses slowed down due to the cool fronts. Rangeland and pasture conditions needed more rain. Many producers were selling livestock due to the lack of grass and water. Cattle prices were still high. Supplemental feeding continued for the cattle producers kept.

**SOUTHEAST**

Some producers managed to harvest the last hay/forage cutting, which will be a tremendous help going into winter. Dry conditions persisted as the cold front blew in. Rangeland and pasture ratings varied from excellent to very poor, although rainfall improved pastures and crop fields and new growth was emerging. Producers have noticed fall armyworms and most pastures were treated for them, as well as Bermuda grass stem maggots. Supplemental feeding had slowed down, and pro-

ducers continued culling the herds. Some producers started spreading lime.

**SOUTHWEST**

The district had variable precipitation. Despite the rainfall and cooler temperatures, drought conditions persisted. Farmers were preparing for wheat plantings, and oats were being planted. Supplemental feeding continued for livestock. Deer body conditions were expected to improve with the growth of greener forages.

**SOUTH**

The recent cool down and rainfall improved rangeland and pasture conditions. With the recent rain, producers noticed fall armyworm populations rising. Cotton harvest was completed, but peanuts were still being harvested. Plastic was being put down for strawberries, and harvest was completed for the season on vegetables and coastal Bermuda. Supplemental feeding continued for livestock. Wildlife benefited from the moisture, quality of forage and cover. Cattle

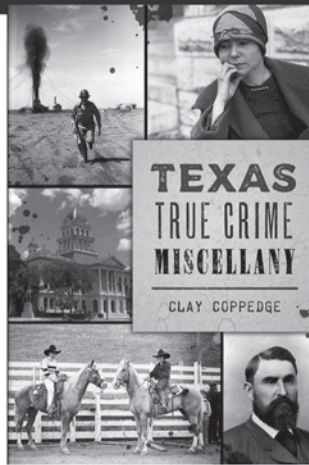
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sales slowed due to improved season began, with many land-pasture conditions and less cow owners preparing for wildlife culling. Preparation for hunting population surveys.

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