

November 2013

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service—Lamar County**

**Rebuilding the Beef Herd Program—November 20**

In January 2012 the Texas beef cow inventory was 660,000 cows smaller than it was a year before, due largely to the historic drought of 2011. Although 2012 and 2013 were somewhat better than 2011, beef cow numbers in Texas and across the US remain close to all-time lows...and market prices are charting record highs.

The smaller cow inventory combined with high input costs, competing uses for land, prices of competing meats and radical changes in grain use are reshaping the beef business. Those with serious intent to enter, rebuild, or expand their beef operation can't wait till "normal" rains come and pastures are completely healed to develop a plan. A plan must be in place when the opportunity presents itself.

It is with this in mind that the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service developed the Rebuilding the Beef Herd program. This program will be held in Paris at the Love Civic Center on Wednesday, November 20. Cattlemen in Lamar and surrounding counties are invited to attend.

This will be an extensive day-long program to address several issues associated with the current climate in the beef cattle industry.

**8:30 am Beef—Better (and different) Times Ahead**

Demand vs. supply is shedding bright light on beef's future, but most agree the future will be significantly different than even the recent past. Relatively recent changes in grain and land use, ever increasing input costs and marginal profits could shape demographics in the beef industry for the next two decades. Here's a review that puts them all in perspective.

**9:30 am Forage Recovery & Pasture Restocking**

When it rains, drought-stricken warm-season forages must be allowed to rebound either from root reserves or seed while resource managers begin to restock with cattle. Flexibility has been and will continue to be an essential element. This discussion will focus on the art and science of balancing grazing pressure and forage supply.

**10:30 am Evaluating Replacement Options**

What type of cow best fits the new production paradigms? In this review of critical considerations like mature size, environmental adaptability and market acceptance, cattlemen may find answers to questions such as: "What might I buy?", "Can I find them?" and "How concerned should I be about health issues?".

**Lunch provided**

**1:00 pm Can a \$2500 Cow Breakeven?**

Sure, relative to drought-forced liquidation prices, replacement females will be more expensive. "How high is too high?" you ask. This session will build from the morning's

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Annual NE Texas  
Farm & Ranch  
Pesticide Applicator  
Clinic—December 10

### Rebuilding the Beef Herd—cont.

opening presentation and lead participants through an in-depth look at determining a reasonable price and the financial requirements for purchasing breeding females.

#### 2:30 pm Flexibility in Resource Use

Natural resource stewards realize production conditions change, forage supply is not constant and animal inventory needs some 'flex' built in. Continuing on from the morning's last discussion, here's a detailed look at resource inventory and replacement female options and how to strategically build flexibility into your operation.

#### 3:30 pm Leased Grazing—What, Why and How

Every longstanding grazing lease involves a content lessor and successful lessee; that relationship has several key elements- resource inventory, lease expectations, structure, arrangement, tenure and documentation. Looking for country or cattle to graze grass you own? Then you'll want to sit in on this session.

Registration fee \$40 per person. Please RSVP by Friday, November 15.

For more information contact one of the following county Extension offices.

Lamar County—Mike Morrow—903-737-2443

Red River County—Lynn Golden—903-427-3867

Delta County—Cody Maxwell—903-395-4400

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### Cattlemen's Premium 45 Stocker/Feeder Sale—November 26

The next Cattlemen's Premium 45 Stocker/Feeder Sale is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 26, 2013**. Weaning deadline for calves in this sale would be October 13. Sale Guidelines and Certification Forms are available at Cattlemen's Livestock Commission or at county Extension offices in Lamar and Red River



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### Red River Valley All Breed Bull Sale and Replacement Female Sale—December 2-3

The annual Red River Valley All-Breed Bull Sale and Replacement Female Sale is scheduled for December 2-3 at Cattlemen's Livestock Commission in Paris. This annual event is sponsored by the Ag Committee of the Lamar County Chamber of Commerce. The committee is expecting between 75 and 100 registered herd bulls of vari-

### Red River Valley All Breed Bull Sale and Replacement Female Sale—cont.

ous breeds and an outstanding selection of replacement females, both bred and open.

The annual chili supper will be Monday evening, December 2 at 5:00 pm. The evening's activities include the presentation of scholarships, auction of baked goods, door-prizes, and a presentation by Toney Hurley, Special Ranger for the Texas & Southwest Cattle Raisers Association. Sale cattle will be available for viewing during the evening and on Tuesday morning.

The bull sale starts at noon Tuesday, December 3.

For a sale catalog contact the Lamar County Chamber of Commerce.



### NE Texas Farm & Ranch Pesticide Applicator Clinic—December 10

The annual NE Texas Farm & Ranch Pesticide Applicator Clinic will be held Tuesday, December 10 at the Love Civic Center in Paris. This program is sponsored each year by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offices in Lamar, Red River, Fannin and Delta Counties.

Registration begins at 7:30 am with the program beginning at 8:30 am.

Speakers will include: Lynn Angell with Monsanto—Management of Herbicide Resistant Weeds. This will include discussion of current and future technologies for weed control; Dr. Allen Knutson, Extension Entomologist—Management of Grasshoppers in Pastures; Dr. Mark Matocha, Extension Specialist — Texas Pesticide Laws and Regulations Update; Ken Adams, TDPS—Texas CDLs and Farm Vehicle Compliance; Dr. Sonja Swiger, Extension Entomologist—External Parasite Control on Cattle; Steve Upson, Noble Foundation—Management of Native & Improved Pecans.

This program has been approved by the Texas Department of Agriculture for CEUs in the following categories. 1 L&R, 3 IPM, 1 GEN. CEUs are good for recertification of Private, Non-Commercial, and Commercial licenses with the Texas Department of Agriculture.

A registration fee of \$30 is payable at the door. This includes the noon meal.

**To assist us in planning for the noon meal, please RSVP to the county Extension office by December 1. 903-737-2443.**

In addition to the CEU training on December 10, a separate session will be held for those who need to obtain a Private Pesticide Applicator License. If interested, stop by the county Extension office to purchase the study guide and training materials. Study guide packet is \$40.

Registration fee will be \$30 at the door.

The Texas Department of Agriculture offers testing for all licenses the 4th Wednesday of even-numbered months in Tyler and on the 4th Wednesday of odd-numbered months in Mt. Pleasant.



TEXAS A&M  
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EXTENSION

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**Lamar County**

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