



TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Register Today for 2015 TCFA Annual Convention



"I want to personally invite each and every one of you to join me in San Antonio for the 2015 TCFA Annual Convention. We have a terrific educational and entertaining program waiting for us Nov. 1-3 at the Grand Hyatt on the Riverwalk. I guarantee this will be a great experience and an opportunity for you to establish new relationships and renew old ones. As the hotel reservation deadline is quickly approaching on Oct. 8, please make every effort to reserve your room with the Grand Hyatt and complete your meeting registration

with TCFA. We have added a number of fun and rewarding incentives to encourage registration by Oct. 8 – see below for all the details. Registering early also allows our TCFA staff to plan accordingly and be prepared to host a great event. Our staff stands ready to assist you at any time. If you have any questions, please contact the office at (806) 358-3681." – TCFA Chairman Tom McDonald

The time is NOW to register for TCFA's 2015 Annual Convention in San Antonio, Nov 1-3! **Room reservations must be made by Oct. 8.** Visit www.tcfa.org and click on the Convention banner at the top of the page for full details on registration and reserving your hotel room. **TCFA cannot guarantee available rooms after the Oct. 8 deadline.** The **EARLIER** you register, the **MORE** opportunities you have to **WIN!** Register by the following dates to be eligible for several drawings:

- Oct. 1 – a \$500 Cabela's gift card
- Oct. 5 – a YETI® Roadie Cooler (\$250 value)
- Oct. 7 – a \$100 beef gift certificate
- Oct. 8 – Free TCFA Convention registration fees for 2015 and 2016 (\$500 value)

The Grand Hyatt San Antonio will be our meeting and lodging venue this year. Situated on the famous Riverwalk, the Grand Hyatt is a prime location to stay while enjoying all that San Antonio has to offer. Arrive early Sunday afternoon in time to catch the Dallas Cowboys game with your friends. It will be showing at the Convention Welcome Party and Sports Lounge beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Monday morning speakers include Cornerstone Church Executive Pastor [Matthew Hagee](#), [Jason Dorsey](#), also known as The Gen Y Guy®, Farmland Reserve Inc. Past President [Paul Genho](#), TCFA Chairman [Tom McDonald](#) and NCBA President [Philip Ellis](#).

The awards luncheon will honor individuals and their achievements in TCFA programs throughout the year and feature [Miss Texas, Shannon Sanderford](#). Following the luncheon are some incredible tour opportunities from which to choose. Molly McAdams will present Beef Case of the Future, as you tour local meat markets. Enjoy local art and history by touring [The Alamo](#) and [Institute of Texan Cultures](#). Be part of a rewarding experience new this year by volunteering at the San Antonio branch of Snack Pak 4 Kids. TCFA and its members partner with [Snack Pak 4 Kids](#) in the Beef 4 Kids initiative, ensuring that children across the Panhandle and San Antonio have nutritious beef in their weekend diets. End the evening with a toe-tapping good time at the Cattle Feeders Get Together and BEEF-PAC Auction featuring [Mario Flores and The Soda Creek Band](#).

Tuesday morning's speakers include CattleFax CEO [Randy Blach](#), The Center for Food Integrity CEO [Charlie Arnot](#) and NCBA's Executive Director of Human Nutrition Research Shalene McNeill. Conclude your time at Convention by enjoying a round of golf, sporting clays or exploring historic San Antonio! Visit www.tcfa.org to register **TODAY!**

Senate Reauthorizes Mandatory Livestock Price Reporting

Monday, the U.S. Senate approved a bipartisan bill to reauthorize Mandatory Price Reporting (MPR) for livestock through 2020.

However, the Senate bill does not contain a provision, included in the House version, which designates the program as an essential government service, protecting it from future government shutdowns. Due to this difference, a House-Senate conference committee will be formed to reconcile the differences.

TCFA and NCBA will continue to work with members of the Conference Committee and the Obama Administration to reauthorize MPR before the current program expires on Sept. 30, 2015. TCFA and NCBA will do so working with USDA throughout the rulemaking process.

Teicholz Publishes Article Questioning Dietary Guidelines Recommendations

Nina Teicholz published an article in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) questioning the science behind the recommendations for the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Teicholz addresses issues of scientific rigor that were lacking in the research done by this year's committee, such as neglecting to use the Nutrition Evidence Library as set up by USDA to help conduct reviews. Instead of using verified scientific evidence, the committee has relied heavily on systematic reviews supported by food and drug companies. They conducted no formal review on saturated fats on any literature published in the last five years, even though several prominent papers have been published in that time.

"This year in its report to government, the committee largely sticks to the same advice it has given for decades – to eat less fat and fewer animal products and eat more plant foods for good health. But this decision to keep with the status quo fails to reflect much of the current, relevant science," according to Teicholz.

To read the full article, visit www.bmj.com/content/351/bmj.h4962.

Convention Speaker Spotlight: Charlie Arnot

Charlie Arnot is recognized as a thought leader in food and agriculture. He is highly regarded as both a writer and sought-after speaker who engages audiences across the globe. Charlie has more than 25 years of experience working in communications, public relations and issues management within the food system. He serves as CEO of The Center for Food Integrity, a national non-profit organization dedicated to building consumer trust and confidence in today's food system.

Charlie spent 10 years as a corporate officer for a leading food company; he worked for a public relations agency, was an award-winning radio journalist and worked in video and film. Charlie grew up in southeast Nebraska and graduated from the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Journalism degree.



Beef Checkoff Sets FY 2016 Plan of Work

The Beef Promotion Operating Committee has recommended that the Cattlemen's Beef Board invest \$42 million for fiscal year 2016 into beef promotion, research, consumer information, industry information, foreign marketing and producer communications. This plan will take effect pending approval from USDA. Among the national associations to receive funding during FY 2016 are NCBA at \$30.3 million, U.S. Meat Export Federation at \$8.4 million, Cattlemen's Beef Board at \$1.5 million and several others.

To view the full funding breakdown of the FY 2016 Checkoff budget, visit <http://tinyurl.com/Beef-9-25-15>.

Texas Ag Sales Tax Exemption Registration Expires Dec. 31

It's time to renew your agriculture sales tax registration! A valid Agricultural and Timber Registration Number is required under Texas Law to claim a sales tax exemption on products that are used to produce agricultural or timber products for sale. Agricultural and Timber Producers are also required by law to renew their registration number every four years.

The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts will be mailing letters for Ag/Timber Registration Number holders starting the first week of October to the address on file for the Registration Number. The letter will include instructions for renewing your registration number either online, by phone or by mail.

The expiration date occurs uniformly across the state for all Ag/Timber Registration Number holders and will next occur Dec. 31, 2015. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/tax-9-25-15> to receive more information on how to renew your registration.

Antibiotic Resistance Advisory Council to Meet

The Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (CARB) will have its first public meeting Sept. 29 in Washington, D.C. This comes six months after the panel was officially established by USDA, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Dept. of Defense. The goal of the group is to develop a national plan for combating the increase of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Dr. Michael Apley, a veterinarian and Professor for the Department of Clinical Sciences at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine will be participating in the meeting.

To learn more and to see the members of the council, visit <http://tinyurl.com/USDA-9-25-15>.

The following day, USDA, FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are hosting a public meeting to obtain stakeholder input on approaches for collecting on-farm antimicrobial drug use and resistance data. The agencies are working together to develop and implement a plan to collect additional data on antibiotic use in food-producing animals. Both TCFA and NCBA will have representatives at the meeting.

For more information, visit <http://tinyurl.com/FDA-8-28-15>.

GMO Labeling Bill Heads to Senate

The U.S. House recently approved a bill that would prevent states from issuing mandatory labeling laws on foods containing genetically modified ingredients. This legislation would accompany the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act that passed the House in July and establish a framework for a voluntary labeling system much like the USDA Organic certification. The bill's author, Mike Pompeo (R-Kan.), says he is confident it will get a vote in the Senate this year.

To read more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/GMO-9-25-15>.

Sage-Grouse Stays Off Endangered Species List

Western rangelands and livestock producers chalked up a win on Tuesday as Interior Secretary Sally Jewell announced the Greater Sage-Grouse is not warranted for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Despite this announcement, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service announced that their restrictive land use plans will be implemented. The Public Lands Council and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association have adamantly opposed these restrictive plans, which impede conservation efforts and range management practices already in place.

The U.S. House Natural Resources Committee will hold a full committee hearing entitled "Respecting State Authority, Responsibilities and Expertise Regarding Resource Management and Energy Development" on September 30.

To read the full press release, visit www.beefusa.org/newsreleases1.aspx?newsid=5179.

Texas Department of Agriculture's GROW Award Accepting Nominations

The Texas Department of Agriculture has opened nominations for its Gives Recognition for Outstanding Work (GROW) award for middle and high school students who demonstrate leadership and excellence in and out of the classroom. Teachers, school administrators and community leaders are encouraged to submit nominations for deserving students.

A committee will choose a winner each month during the regular school year to receive the award. Applications are due Oct. 1, and the first recipient will be announced Oct. 15. To learn more or to submit a nomination, visit <http://tinyurl.com/TDA-9-18-15>.

Texas Environmental Excellence Awards Application Deadline Extended

The application deadline for Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) 2016 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards has been extended through Oct. 9, 2015. This is the highest environmental honor in the state, which recognizes inspiring efforts of businesses, local governments, schools, students, individuals and other entities. The awards recognize projects from nine areas, including categories such as agriculture, pollution prevention and water conservation.

To learn more or to apply, visit www.teea.org/apply/.

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