



TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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U.S. Panel Decides Against Consolidating WOTUS Challenges

Earlier this week, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation ruled that the nine pending district court lawsuits challenging the Waters of the U.S. rule will not be consolidated in the District Court of the District of Columbia. Lawyers for the Obama Administration were seeking to consolidate the various lawsuits into one venue, but the Panel concluded that “discovery, if any, will be minimal, as these cases will be decided on the administrative record” and consolidation would “not serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses, or further the just and efficient conduct of this litigation,” which is the standard for centralization of actions. It has not been determined whether challenges to the water rule will be heard in district or circuit courts.

Under the Clean Water Act, certain types of challenges bypass the district courts and are directed to the Appeals Courts. The three-judge panel for the 6th U.S. Circuit of Appeals has yet to determine jurisdiction over the issue. If it is determined that the water rule constitutes “effluent limitation” or “other limitation” or directly affects permitting for the challengers in the case, it could claim jurisdiction. Within the order granted by the 6th Circuit last Friday, the question of jurisdiction would be “ripe for decision in a matter of weeks.”

California Passes Law to Limit Antimicrobial Use in Livestock

California Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill (SB 27) into law this week that sets standards for medically important antimicrobials used in livestock production. The law requires that these types of antimicrobials are only available with a veterinary feed directive or prescription. It will also require the California Department of Food and Agriculture to monitor the sale and use of antibiotics. The law has the support of the California Veterinary Medical Association, which says it will positively impact antibiotic resistance in both people and animals, and believes it will set a precedent for the rest of the nation.

The new law will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2018. To view the full text, visit <http://tinyurl.com/CA-10-16-15>.

Report Explores Recent Research on Fat’s Dietary Benefits

A new report from the Credit Suisse Research Institute discusses the move away from carbohydrates to fats and red meats in dietary research and advice in “Fat: The New Health Paradigm.” The report is based on over 400 medical research papers and books.

According to the report, eating cholesterol has virtually no impact on the level of cholesterol in the blood or on potential heart diseases, and the link between saturated fat intake and cardiovascular risk has not been proven. The report also predicts that global fat consumption per capita is likely to soar by 23 percent over the next 15 years and protein consumption by 12 percent, while the intake of carbohydrates is set to decline by 2 percent.

To view the full report, visit <http://tinyurl.com/CSRI-10-16-15>.

China’s Changing Diet Brings Agricultural Opportunities

According to a report from PriceWaterhouseCoopers, China has quadrupled its meat consumption since 1971. Because of this, the country has become increasingly dependent on imports but has also ramped up its own agricultural production. China has begun to rely more on imports of soybeans and corn and is beginning to grow its own meat production system. The report also notes that a new market is emerging for companies that specialize in areas of traceability, precision farming and waste management.

To read the full report, visit <http://tinyurl.com/PWC-10-16-15>.

Bill Gates Invests in Meat Alternative Movement

According to a report from Hexa Research, the global meat substitute market is predicted to increase by 7.5 percent over the next seven years. Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates is investing 108 million in this movement with a startup business founded by a Stanford University biochemist. The company, Impossible Foods, Inc., will produce plant-based substitutes for meat and cheese products.

The company plans to launch its first product, the Impossible Burger, in 2016. To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/Gates-10-16-15>.

U.S. Meat Production and Trade Expected to Increase

The USDA released its biannual Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade report this week. The primary message of the report was that production and trade of all meats is expected to increase in 2016. The beef herd is expected to expand in the U.S., Brazil and India, collectively expanding world beef production by one percent. As the Australian drought begins to subside, the country should begin rebuilding their cow herds, thus lowering slaughter and raising their beef prices. This should create more opportunities for U.S. beef, particularly in Asia.

Overall, the U.S. is predicted to continue as the world's leading beef producer with a forecasted 11.4 million metric tons in 2016. To view the full report from USDA, visit <http://tinyurl.com/USDA-10-16-15>.

New Survey Shows Consumers Value Nutrition, Cost Over Added Labels

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs released its 2015 Science and Food Survey Wednesday with findings on what American consumers most care about when purchasing food. The survey found that consumers value low cost and good nutrition over factors such as antibiotic-free, non-GMO and organic. Of the respondents, 92 percent considered it "somewhat important" to "very important" that food be affordable and 91 percent answered the same in regard to nutrition. Antibiotic-free labels were rated at this level by 74 percent of respondents, non-GMO labels were at 70 percent and organic labels were at 54 percent.

To read more about the survey, visit <http://tinyurl.com/CCGA-10-16-15>.

EU Approves Changes to Organic Rules

The European Commission approved new, strengthened rules for organic farmers. Member states must ensure traceability of each product at all stages to guarantee consumers that their products are truly organic. They introduced measures to avoid contamination and plans to help small farmers make the switch to organic. However, to the surprise of some groups, there were no provisions made for animal welfare in organic farming certification.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/EU-10-16-15>.

Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Program Seeking Applicants

The Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership (TALL) Program is a two-year leadership development program managed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. The program invests 455 hours of intensive training in seminars, speakers and domestic and international study trips over two years. The typical class size is about 26, and tuition is \$3,000.

"Texas agriculture has a need for individuals who can lead our industry as it faces new and unique challenges. These individuals will provide the leadership, insight and direction to ensure agricultural viability for the future," said Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, AgriLife Extension leadership program director.

Participants include traditional crop producers, ranchers, bankers and attorneys, as well as those who work in lumber, food processing, agricultural corporations and horticultural industries. Applications for the newest class, Class XV, are due March 15, 2016. Application forms are online at <http://tall.tamu.edu>.

EPA Recognizes Texas A&M Agrilife Research Extension Center

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently recognized Texas A&M Agrilife Research Extension Center at Dallas during the 2015 WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition in Las Vegas, Nev., with its WaterSense Promotional Partner of the Year award. According to a press release from EPA, Agrilife worked hard to promote the WaterSense program and products. WaterSense products saved 346 billion gallons of water in 2014 alone.

To read the full press release, visit <http://tinyurl.com/EPA-10-16-15>.

TDA Accepting Applications for Young Farmer Grant Program

The Texas Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications for its Young Farmer Grant Program. This program is designed to provide financial assistance to agricultural producers between the ages of 18 and 45 who are engaged in creating or expanding an agricultural business in Texas. Applicants must be able to match the grant funds dollar-for-dollar, as the funds will be awarded on a reimbursement basis. The grants range from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and are offered twice per year.

The deadline to submit applications is 5:00 p.m. on Nov. 3. To learn more or to apply, visit <http://tinyurl.com/TDA-10-16-15>.

2015 TCFA Annual Convention

Register today for TCFA's 2015 Annual Convention in San Antonio, Nov 1-3! Visit www.tcfa.org and click on the Convention banner at the top of the page for full details on registration. The time period to book your hotel within the discounted TCFA room block has expired; however, additional rooms may still be available at an increased rate.

Congratulations to our early-registration drawing winners! **Brad Lubbers** of **JBS Five Rivers** won the \$500 Cabela's gift card; **Frank Junfin**, owner of **Kunafin "The Insectary,"** won a YETI® Roadie Cooler; **Karli Schilling** of **Friona Industries** won a \$100 beef gift certificate; **Shelby Horn** of **Great Plains Cattle Feeders** won free 2015 Convention registration; and **Matt McLennan** of **Palo Duro Feeders** won free 2016 Convention registration.

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. You don't want to miss this year's Annual Convention! Visit www.tcfa.org to register TODAY!

Monday morning speakers include Cornerstone Church Executive Pastor [Matthew Hagee](#); [Jason Dorsey](#); also known as The Gen Y Guy®; 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!

Notice of Annual Meeting. TCFA's Annual Business Meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, during the TCFA Annual Convention Closing General Session. All members are encouraged to attend.

Sponsor Spotlight

TCFA is proud to recognize its top sponsors whose efforts help deliver top-notch service.

This week's spotlight shines on



Micro Technologies, an MWI Animal Health company, is a proud and long-time sponsor of TCFA! Since 1971, Micro Technologies has supplied the beef industry with innovative solutions that improve animal value and productivity while also providing process verification of management, food safety and traceability requirements. They accomplish this by uniquely integrating advanced health, feed, animal, and information management systems with consumable products technologies such as animal health and micro feed ingredient products. In addition to its track record of cutting-edge innovation, Micro Technologies is best known for its unparalleled commitment to customer service. Please contact your Micro Technologies representative by calling (800) 858-4330.

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