

TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Texas Livestock Producers Watch for New World Screwworm

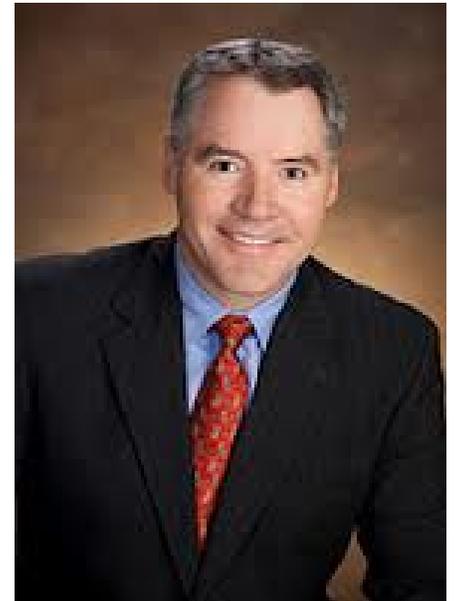
There has been a confirmed New World screwworm infestation in Big Pine Key, Fla. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) is urging Texas livestock producers to be on watch for signs of infested wounds in animals. No screwworms have been confirmed on the mainland, but animal health officials are recommending that producers pay particular attention to animals that were received from Florida since June 2016.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/APHIS-10-7-16>. If anyone suspects screwworm infestation in an animal, they are advised to immediately contact their TAHC Region Office or private veterinary practitioner, who will then notify TAHC.

TCFA Annual Convention – Speaker Spotlight

TCFA 2016 Convention will be held Nov. 6-8 at the Omni Fort Worth Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas. The program will offer dynamic speakers delivering crucial information to beef producers, and as always, there will be plenty of opportunities to make memories and have a great time. Visit www.tcfa.org/news-events/convention.html to register.

Randy Blach is CEO of CattleFAX, an organization focused on helping member cattle producers make more profitable marketing and management decisions. Blach came to CattleFAX in 1981 and served as director of market analysis for 15 years and accepted his current role in 2001. During this time, he has spoken at hundreds of cattle and beef industry conventions, meetings and seminars. A Colorado native, Blach and his family remain actively involved in cattle ranching with cow/calf, stocker and finished cattle. He was raised on his family's ranch in Yuma, Colo., and graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in animal science. Blach received the Honor Alumni award from CSU's College of Agricultural Sciences in 2004, the Livestock Leader Award in 2011, and the Industry Leadership Award in 2016.



Congratulations to Jaret Schulte for being the winner of the Oct. 5 registration drawing and receiving a Yeti Rambler® thermos.

Visit the TCFA website for more details on registration and the full Convention schedule at www.tcfa.org/news-events/convention.html.

Notice of Annual Meeting. TCFA's Annual Business Meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 8, during the TCFA Annual Convention Closing General Session. All members are encouraged to attend.

2016 General Elections Early Voting – Cast Your Vote Before Convention

Early voting for the 2016 General Election is right around the corner! Early voting dates are as follows: Texas, Oct. 24 through Nov. 4; New Mexico, Oct. 25 through Nov. 5; Oklahoma, Nov. 3 through Nov. 5. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 8. If you will be attending the 2016 TCFA Annual Convention, please remember to vote early, as Convention will run through Election Day!

Early voting locations in Texas will be available through the Texas Secretary of State's Online Voter Central at www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml, and polling place hours vary at each early voting location. Registered and eligible voters may vote at any early voting location located in their county of residence.

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/2016-TCFA-Election> for a list of BEEF-PAC supported candidates. Please contact Josh Winegarner at (806) 358-3681 or josh@tcfa.org with questions about these candidates or to find out more information about the candidates from your area.

Please Take the Texas Beef Checkoff Survey

As you may know, national and state Checkoff funds are utilized to increase domestic and/or international demand for beef through programs of promotion, research and education. In 2016, some of these funds were used to support the Beef Loving Texans advertisements on TV, radio, billboards and print. Texas Beef Council would like to get your feedback on these efforts.

Please take their brief survey at www.quicksurveys.com/s/z7PEw26.

CRSB Announces National Beef Sustainability Assessment and Strategy Findings

The Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (CRSB) released the findings of its National Beef Sustainability Assessment and Strategy – a two-year, “farm to fork” study that benchmarks the environmental, social and economic performance of the Canadian beef industry. According to a news release from CRSB, the Assessment also lays out a strategy for CRSB to advance sustainability efforts in the industry and measure progress going forward. The Assessment evaluates environmental life cycle topics, such as climate change, fossil fuel use, water use, air and land pollution potentials, biodiversity and carbon storage.

“The results reflect positively on the Canadian beef industry,” noted Fawn Jackson, Executive Director of the CRSB. “However, there are still opportunities for improvement, as well as areas in which industry wants to continue to excel, which is why the National Beef Sustainability Strategy was created.”

The U.S. beef industry completed a similar assessment more than three years ago when the largest and most extensive life cycle analysis was published and certified in July 2013. The five-year update of the U.S. Beef Life Cycle Analysis is in process and will be published in 2018.

To view a summary of the Assessment and Strategy, visit <http://tinyurl.com/CRSB-10-7-16>.

Pew Takes Issue with Antibiotic Label Changes

The Pew Charitable Trusts released an analysis this week on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) Guidance for Industry (GFI) #213, saying that one-third of labels will not fully meet judicious use standards after the implementation of this new policy. GFI #213 asks pharmaceutical companies that produce antibiotics for food animals that are also important to human medicine to remove indications for promoting growth from the labels of antibiotics and require veterinarians to oversee the use of these antimicrobials in animal feed or water. Pew’s analysis takes issue with other FDA judicious use standards that are not covered by GFI #213, such as durations of use, defined dosage and specified indications.

Pew is calling on FDA to “announce a concrete plan and timeline for making all label revision changes – regarding duration limits and other aspects of appropriate use – as quickly as possible and follow through accordingly.”

TCFA disagrees with Pew’s analysis and will continue to work with beef producers, FDA, pharmaceutical companies and university scientists to develop policies and regulatory programs based on sound science and that are protective of both human and animal health, while preserving the availability of antibiotics and ensuring judicious use. Thanks to the hard work of U.S. producers, the U.S. continues to enjoy the safest food supply in the world.

To read Pew’s full analysis, visit <http://tinyurl.com/Pew-10-7-16>.

FSIS Seeks Comments on Animal-Raising Labeling Claims

USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced this week updated proposed guidelines in regards to animal-raising claims in food labeling, such as “grass-fed,” “free-range,” and “raised without antibiotics,” among others. These updates pertain to the documentation that must be submitted to the processor supporting the particular animal-raising claim.

FSIS is seeking comment on these updates. To view the proposed guidelines, visit <http://tinyurl.com/FSIS-10-7-16>.

Cattlemen’s Webinar Series: Preparing for VFD

The new Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) for medically important feed-grade antibiotics will take effect on Jan. 1, 2017. NCBA is hosting a webinar Oct. 27 at 7:00 p.m. CDT to hear the latest information on how cattlemen and the cattle industry can prepare for these changing antibiotic use regulations. Mike Murphy, DVM, JD, PhD (FDA Veterinary Medical Officer, Office of the Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine) and Tom Portillo, DVM (Manager of Animal Health & Wellbeing, Friona Industries and 2016/17 President of Academy of Veterinary Consultants) will provide brief presentations followed by a Question & Answer session.

To register, visit www.beefusa.org/cattlemenswebinarseries.aspx.

World Health Summit Embraces “Meatless Mondays”

Attendees at the World Health Summit 2016 in Berlin will dine on a “Meatless Monday” meal during the meeting on Oct. 10 as the organization embraces the trending concept. The “Meatless Monday” endorsement is intended to be part of the meeting’s session on Planetary Health with emphasis on environmental changes.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/WHS-10-7-16>.

Make-A-Wish Delicious Wishes Burger Bash

The North Texas chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation is hosting its inaugural Delicious Wishes Burger Bash on Friday, Oct. 21, at Cornerstone Ranch Event Center in Bushland. They hope to raise \$50,000 to help grant wishes of children in the Amarillo and Panhandle area. Attendees will have the opportunity to sample burgers from local vendors consisting of cooking teams and restaurants who will be competing for the title of “Best Burger in the Panhandle.”

Tickets are available for \$50 each. To purchase a ticket, please contact Alba Austin at aaustin@ntx.wish.org or (806) 358-9943. For more information on the event, visit <http://tinyurl.com/9-30-BurgerBash>.

NCBA National Anthem Contest

NCBA is seeking entries for its National Anthem Contest, where the winner will have the opportunity to perform the National Anthem for various events and NCBA’s 2017 Cattle Industry Convention in Nashville, Tenn. Applicants must be 18 years and under and a family member of an NCBA, ANCW or CBB member.

Entries must be submitted by Oct. 21. To learn more, visit www.beefusa.org/ncbanationalanthemcontest.aspx.

Sponsor Spotlight

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

This week’s spotlight shines on

RAMP
Right to the bunk.

SWEET BRAN

RAMP and Sweet Bran, proud sponsors of TCFA, help cattle feeders across Texas minimize their cost of gain and maximize their profit. RAMP is a complete starter ration that changes the way cattle eat and the way they gain – all the way through finishing. Sweet Bran is a valuable part of the finishing diet that provides higher, more consistent feed intake and promotes better rumen health and reduced cost of gain. For more information on RAMP and Sweet Bran, call (800) 317-8825.

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Texas Cattle Feeders Association

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