



# TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

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# NEWSLETTER

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## **2016 General Election Early Voting Opens Next Week – Cast Your Vote Before Convention**

Early voting for the 2016 General Election begins next week in Texas! 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](http://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](mailto:josh@tcfa.org) with questions about these candidates or to find out more information about the candidates from your area.

## **GRSB Concludes Annual Meeting**

The Global Conference on Sustainable Beef held Oct. 4-7 in Banff Springs, Alberta, was co-hosted by the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (GRSB) and the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (CRSB). Nearly 225 beef value chain stakeholders from 15 countries participated in the event focusing on continuous improvement in the global beef value chain.

According to a press release from GRSB, highlights on the conference included advancing zero deforestation in beef production, assessing the overall sustainability of the beef value chain and connecting consumers and sustainability. The conference offered more than 15 interactive sessions with 50 presentations related to beef sustainability. Video presentations from the conference will soon be available online.

For more information, visit <http://tinyurl.com/GRSB-10-21-16>.

## **Advertise in the 2017 *Cattle Feeders Resource Guide* Celebrating TCFA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

TCFA is now accepting advertising contracts for the 2017 *Cattle Feeders Resource Guide*. Take advantage of this unique advertising opportunity by celebrating TCFA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in this special edition. This publication will highlight the history of the industry as well as celebrate the future. Feel free to tailor your advertisement to reflect TCFA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Advertisers who purchase a full-page, four-color ad in the *Cattle Feeders Resource Guide* receive a free bonus web ad on TCFA's website, a great value in which advertisers have the opportunity to target potential buyers more precisely with ads that may reflect seasonal or market-focused messages.

The deadline to advertise is Nov. 18. You certainly do not want to miss a rare advertising opportunity such as this! View the rate card at <http://tinyurl.com/2017-TCFA-RateCard>, or contact Scena Snider for more details at (806) 358-3681 or [scena@tcfa.org](mailto:scena@tcfa.org).

## **TCFA Feedyard Technician Program**

TCFA, in collaboration with West Texas A&M University and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, presented 55 area high school students representing 12 school districts with a certificate and jacket for completing the Machinery Operation, Safety and Repair portion of the Feedyard Technician Certification Program Oct. 18-19 at West Texas A&M University's Stanley Schaeffer Agriculture Education Learning Lab.

WTAMU students who are obtaining a degree in Agriculture Education tested the Feedyard Technician Program participants on metal-working skills such as welding and cutting on which they have been working to master in their agriculture classes at their individual schools. The students had the opportunity to train on wheel loader and skid steer operation and safety at Warren CAT in Amarillo. They also received a thorough feedyard and mill safety training, which a portion of the students attended at Dimmitt Feedyard and others at Wheeler Land and Livestock.

To complete the certification process, the students were tested over their skills with a written exam. They were also interviewed by TCFA and feedyard industry officials on topics covered in the training.

Completion of this certification program enables students to be better prepared to obtain employment within a feedyard with a basic understanding of the knowledge and skills necessary to be an asset to the operation.

Students in the program are identified by their Agricultural Science Teacher, feedyard managers or have expressed interest to be accepted into the program. They should be enrolled in at least one high school agricultural class each semester and participate in extra-curricular activities such as FFA.

Students who graduated from the program are Cecilia Aguilar, Adrian; Ryan Brown, Adrian; Sydney Bruse, Adrian; Tommy Coronado, Adrian; Javier Enriquez, Adrian; Amelia Garcia, Adrian; Lacy Petty, Adrian; Shalom Sanchez, Adrian; Kristen Soto, Adrian; Daniel Banuelos, Booker; Manuel Camacho, Booker; Daniel Dominguez, Booker; Valentine Ramirez, Booker; Victorino Silva, Booker; Cameron Bigelow, Bushland; Hunter Smith, Bushland; Cameron Thomas, Bushland; Monce Cenicerros, Darrouzett; Nathan Eastep, Darrouzett; Jordan Harrington, Darrouzett; Mordikye Miller, Darrouzett; Jorge Martinez, Dimmitt; Derian Solis, Dimmitt; Daniel Flores, Dimmitt; Jose Medina, Dimmitt; Jamie Cigarroa, Friona; Brandon Douglas, Friona; Cason Drake, Friona; Guillermo Quintana, Friona; Jose Rodriguez, Friona; Reagan Stowers, Friona; Gerardo Trejo, Friona; Cody Kling, Groom; Chandler LaRoe, Groom; Logan Siler, Groom; Mason Miller, Groom; Bailey Anders, Highland Park; Shyanne Bailey, Highland Park; Brakelle Hansen, Highland Park; Dehle Jones, Highland Park; Lindsay Pineda, Highland Park; Joe Waggoner, Muleshoe; Aron Chacon, Muleshoe; Ever Vidana, Muleshoe; Billy Tosh, Muleshoe; Landon Greer, Post; Dylan Morris, Post; Hayden Cape, Springlake-Earth; Kaytlin Krutzch, Springlake-Earth; Julio Maldonado, Springlake-Earth; Trustin Miller, Springlake-Earth; Tanner Sloan, Springlake-Earth; Adrian Trevizo, Springlake-Earth; Treg Box, Sudan; and Lane Logan, Sudan.

Contact Brady Miller at [brady@tcfa.org](mailto:brady@tcfa.org) for more information on this program.



## **TCFA Annual Convention – Golf and Sporting Clays**

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](http://www.tcfa.org/news-events/convention.html) to register.

TCFA Convention will offer the always popular golf and sporting clays tournaments Tuesday afternoon following the closing general session. The golf tournament, benefiting the TCFA Education Foundation, will be held at the Golf Club Fossil Creek. This club continues to re-define the golf experience in the Southwest thanks to its captivating Arnold Palmer-designed golf course and superlative guest service. With its championship layout – one of the last to be personally designed by Palmer himself – and its luxurious clubhouse, Fossil Creek offers an experience unequaled in the Metroplex.

If shooting sports are more your style, join your fellow marksmen for a round of sporting clays at the Alpine Shooting Range a few minutes from downtown Fort Worth. Alpine Shooting Range has been a part of the Fort Worth area shooting experience since 1968 and is sure to offer a great time to all who visit. Don't miss out on this fun opportunity for friendly competition as TCFA Convention comes to a close.

If you have already registered for Convention, you can still register for additional tours and events at any time as long as spots are still available. Visit the TCFA website for more details on registration and the full Convention schedule at [www.tcfa.org/news-events/convention.html](http://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.

## **Researchers Identify Vaccine to Help Reduce Antibiotic Use in Cattle**

Researchers at Kansas State University (KSU) recently patented a vaccine that may prevent *Fusobacterium necrophorum* bacterial infection. This bacterium is responsible for causing liver abscesses, calf diphtheria and foot rot in cattle. According to a press release from KSU, the vaccine uses a two-pronged approach. The vaccine first immunizes against leukotoxins to ensure that there are natural antibodies built up in the liver to fight the potential bacteria. The second element of the vaccine helps the animal produce antibodies that will prevent the bacteria from attaching to the animal's organs, thus rendering them unable to cause infection.

To learn more about the research, visit <http://tinyurl.com/KSU-10-21-16>.

## **Federal Court Dismisses Activist Challenge of Dietary Guidelines**

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, an animal activist group which promotes a vegan lifestyle, filed a complaint in January against the USDA and Department of Health and Human Services saying that the groups allowed too much food industry influence on the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee's crafting of the 2015 Dietary Guidelines. The lawsuit has been dismissed by a federal court on the grounds that the complaint was non-justiciable and that there are no existing guidelines for determining how much industry influence is too much in circumstances such as this.

## **Australian Herd Rebuilding Reduces Competition on U.S. Beef Exports**

USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) says U.S. beef producers will have less competition from Australian beef this year, as rains have encouraged Australian beef producers to start rebuilding their cattle herds after two years of droughts and liquidations. Due to the drought, Australia exported 1.9 million tons of beef in 2015, making it the largest beef exporter in the world that year. This led to a decline of nearly 2 million head of cattle in the two years of severe drought.

FAS says U.S. production is forecast up nearly 4 percent on cattle supplies and carcass weights that will help to increase exports to South Korea, Japan and Mexico.

To view the full report from FAS, visit <http://tinyurl.com/FAS-10-21-16>.

## **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/cattlemenswebinars.aspx](http://www.beefusa.org/cattlemenswebinars.aspx).

## Sponsor Spotlight

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

This week's spotlight shines on



Elanco's comprehensive food animal product and service offering enables them to partner with customers to help solve their greatest business challenges in the following key areas: **Health Management** offers a holistic approach to preventing and managing disease and reducing future threats to food safety; **Feed Management** ensures animals receive the nutrients they need to grow to their full potential, while managing resource inputs efficiently; **Output Management**, powered by Elanco Knowledge Solutions data, monitors and optimizes animal health and productivity and drives business success; and **Access**, powered by *Elanco Global Market Access/Elanco Pulse Institute*, enables confident business decision-making as customers seek to expand their businesses to markets around the world.

This comprehensive set of animal health products and knowledge services empowers food producers, veterinarians and all food chain customers to advance their business and help address the demand for a safe, affordable, abundant food supply.

In the beef industry, Elanco works to demonstrate what they call Full Value Beef™ – partnering with their customers to better understand their businesses and provide meaningful solutions. Elanco delivers value in this health management space through vaccines, antibiotics, implants, analytics and technical support. For more information, visit [www.elanco.us/why](http://www.elanco.us/why).