



# E-Newsletter

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## Suggestions?

Help our marketing efforts meet YOUR needs. Any suggestions to the Facebook page or E-Newsletter should be sent to [mollie@txbrangus.org](mailto:mollie@txbrangus.org)

**Texas Brangus**

## Letter from the TBBA President

Dear Members,

Your Board of Directors, and especially Steve Densmore, who has done all the leg work, have come up with a great educational event. On August 14 and 15, 2012, a TBBA Beef 706 has been arranged to take place at Texas A&M. In addition, at the completion of their course we will go to Sexing Technology for a tour of their facility and diner. A schedule of the events will be posted on the TBBA web site [txbrangus.org](http://txbrangus.org). Everything is free except your room and travel. A schedule breakdown is provided [by clicking this link](#). Also, you can learn more about the 706 event by clicking on the logo below. If we get about 40 members to sign up, this will be a total TBBA event. If we have more than 40 they can schedule another event on 16 and 17 August. You will get an RSVP in the mail which you must return by 10 July if you wish to attend. I know I am planning on going.

Don't forget to start programming your entries for the TBBA Bull sale at Jordan's in San Saba, TX on 6 December 2012. Bob Helmers is taking the nominations. He also is taking nominations for the Hill Country Brangus bull sale in November. We are looking for about 35 high quality bulls for this event.

The National Junior Brangus Show and the Brangus Futurity takes place in West Monroe, LA the week of 15 July 2012 and with the Open Brangus Show on Saturday, July 21. This is a really great event to see some of the best Brangus animals and visit with your fellow breeders. Go there and hone your skills picking your own Grand Champion bull or female.

The TBBA Convention has changed from February to April 6, 2013 and is still at the Tenroc Ranch in Salado, TX. The Miss America Sale will also be held here. Start selecting your best females for this elite heifer sale. Your vice, President, Joe Dillard and Sec/Tres., Donnie Dipple, are setting up this event. If you have suggestions for improvement, contact them.

## **Breeders Association**

P.O. Box 690552  
San Antonio, TX  
78269

210-558-0800

[txbrangus.org](http://txbrangus.org)



Your Board has also approved a Sale at the Ford Center in Beaumont, TX on 8 March 2013. On Friday you can sell your best registered females and then on Saturday you can market your lower end females as commercial heifers. Mike Doguet is heading this event.

Sincerely,

Russ Williamson, President



## **58th TAMU Beef Cattle Short Course**

COLLEGE STATION - The 58th annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course, conducted by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, is scheduled for Aug. 6-8 at Texas A&M University in College Station.

A variety of cattle production management topics will be presented at this year's short course including a weather outlook, said Dr. Jason Cleere, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist and conference coordinator.

"Our topics this year will fit right into what Texas beef producers are experiencing with forage management, beef cattle management and beef cattle marketing," Cleere said. "The long-term cattle market outlook is one of many other topics that will be discussed in the 22 different cattleman's college sessions at the short course."

Dr. Joe Paschal, Texas AgriLife Extension livestock specialist, discussed beef cattle genetics at the 2011 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course. The 2012 short course will feature the latest in beef cattle research and management strategies. (Texas AgriLife Extension Service photo by Blair Fannin)

The general session will feature a virtual tour of a U.S. feedyard and U.S. beef packing plant, a presentation on what consumers want to know about raising beef, as well as challenges and opportunities for ranchers in the next 20 years. Sessions will be held at various locations on the Texas

A&M campus with the main general sessions at Rudder Auditorium.

"Planning committee members from around the state have met with us and helped us put together another outstanding program," he said. "The short course has become one of the largest and most comprehensive beef cattle educational programs in the U.S."

The cattleman's college portion of the three-day short course provides participants with an opportunity to choose workshops based on their level of production experience and the needs of their ranch, Cleere said.

"These concurrent workshops will feature information on introductory cattle production, management practices in the areas of forage, nutrition and reproduction, record keeping, brush-busting, cattle handling, landowner issues and much more," he said.

In addition to classroom instruction on Aug. 6-7, participants can attend one of the popular demonstrations on the morning of Aug. 8.

"There will be demonstrations on chute-side calf working, cattle behavior, penning, selection and brush-busting," Cleere said. "These provide an opportunity for ranchers to see beef cattle production practices put to use.

"The goal of the short course each year is to provide the most cutting-edge information that is needed by beef cattle producers, and this year is no exception."

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Participants can receive a Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator's license during the short course and can earn at least seven pesticide continuing education units if they are already licensed, Cleere added.

An industry trade show will be held during the event, featuring more than 110 agricultural businesses and service exhibits.

Registration is \$160 per person and includes educational materials, a copy of the 600-page Beef Cattle Short Course proceedings, trade show admittance, admission to the prime rib dinner, lunches, breakfasts and daily refreshments.

Registration information and a tentative schedule have been mailed to previous participants, but can also be found on the short course website at <http://beef.tamu.edu>.

Producers can register online at <http://beef.tamu.edu> or contact Cleere's office at 979-845-6931.

To view the participant's brochure, [click here](#).

## **Farm Bill Passes Senate**

Several ag organizations applauded Senate passage of the 2012 Farm Bill Thursday and expressed the importance of completing work on the bill before the current bill expires in September.

American Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Stallman says the measure approved by the Senate provides farmers improved risk management tools consistent with the organization's core principles. He says it includes important reforms and is fiscally responsible while including important provisions to enhance crop insurance, maintain a viable marketing loan program and minimize the potential for farm program provisions to drive producer decisions. But Stallman says the bill isn't perfect and there is still work ahead to fully secure the kind of policies Farm Bureau believes its farm and ranch families need. He called the Senate measure a workable bill.

Ahead of the final vote - National Farmers Union noted the bipartisan legislation makes significant policy reforms while retaining critical farm safety net programs. NFU President Roger Johnson says it helps farmers manage actual risk, continues to feed our nation's food insecure, streamlines and strengthens important conservation programs, continues critical investment in renewable energy and supports the rural economy.

American Soybean Association President Steve Wellman says the Senate's farm bill would establish an effective risk management program for soybean producers that complements crop insurance, consolidate conservation programs and have agriculture do its fair share to help address the nation's fiscal situation. Major provisions supported by ASA include the Agriculture Risk Coverage program - under which revenue losses exceeding 11-percent will be partially offset at either the farm or county level - and reauthorization and funding of the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development program. Wellman says ASA does disagree with some of the amendments approved on the Senate floor - but on the whole - the group believes the bill will help farmers manage risk, conserve natural resources and develop foreign markets.

American Farmland Trust hailed Senate passage of the 2012 Farm Bill. They were particularly pleased that an amendment to reattach conservation compliance to crop and revenue insurance was adopted. They also pointed to the inclusion of the new agricultural land easement component - patterned after the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program. AFT further noted that language specifically supporting the role of

land trusts and state agencies who work with USDA in protecting farm and ranch lands through this program was adopted. AFT President Jon Scholl says the reforms provide more comprehensive and efficient tools for conservation - but says conservation programs shouldered a significant share of cuts to aid deficit reduction. He says more than a quarter of the spending cuts result from reforms and reductions in the Conservation Title.

Gene Schmidt - National Association of Conservation Districts President - says the farm bill approved by the Senate is a reform bill with benefits that stretch far beyond rural America. He says the bill impacts everything from food security, to the economy and to the conservation of the land, air and water we rely on every day. As passed by the Senate - Schmidt says the 2012 Farm Bill includes a strong Conservation Title that streamlines and consolidates programs for increased efficiency and ease-of-use for producers. At the same time - he says critical funding is maintained for all of the conservation purposes needed to implement conservation where it counts. NACD is calling on the House to follow the Senate's lead in passing a bill that recognizes the role of local-led conservation in protecting and preserving America's natural resources. Schmidt says we can't afford not to invest in our natural resource base as we face increased pressure to produce food, feed, fuel and fiber for a growing population.

The farm bill approved by the Senate Thursday addresses many priorities critical to United Fresh members - including programs supporting essential research, market promotion and nutrition and continued support of specialty crops. United Fresh President and CEO Tom Stenzel says the bill supports fruits and vegetables in ways that will boost consumption and help provide healthful options to Americans.

National Cattlemen's Beef Association Vice President of Government Affairs Colin Woodall says NCBA stands firm in its commitment to support the Senate's farm legislation. He says the amendment process was concerning in its early stages - but all is well for cattlemen and women. As written - Woodall says the legislation incorporates all NCBA priorities. He notes there is no livestock title, conservation programs are maintained and the research title is sustained. Woodall says NCBA will continue working with the House to ensure amendments that would interject the federal government into production agriculture are left out of the legislation or soundly defeated.

-Release by Southern Livestock Standard

## **Group Condemns Bank of America**

Last week, the Animal Agriculture Alliance condemned a new Bank of America VISA that supports the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

The organization says the new credit card provides HSUS with \$60 for every new account opened and an additional 25 cents for every \$100 spent.

"HSUS is a radical animal rights organization that is not affiliated with local animal shelters and instead uses its more than \$100-million budget to threaten America's hardworking farmers and ranchers," said Animal Agriculture Alliance CEO Kay Johnson Smith in a letter to Bank of America. "While many Americans mistakenly believe HSUS is the national organization affiliated with local animal shelters, very little of its funding is used for hands-on animal care. Instead, HSUS uses its resources to attack farmers and ranchers with legislation, litigation, and public relations smear campaigns."

-Release by Texas Farm Bureau

## **July/August Calendar of Events**

### **July**

**1st:**

Data Entry Deadline- IBBA Fall NCE Run

**10th:**

RSVP for TBBA Beef 706 Event Due

**15th:**

National Junior Brangus Show- West Monroe, LA

**19th:**

Regional Standard of Excellence Brangus Show & West Coast Brangus Breeders Annual Meeting- Sacramento, CA

### **August**

**6th-8th:**

Texas A&M University Beef Cattle Short Course-  
College Station, TX

Sincerely,

Texas Brangus Breeders Association

**Serving and promoting the interest of its members specific to the breeding, raising, and marketing of Brangus cattle.**