



# E-Newsletter

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## "Like" TBBA on Facebook

Become a fan of the TBBA Facebook page and connect with Brangus breeders around the world. Click on the icon below to be directed to the page.



## Suggestions?

Help our marketing efforts meet YOUR needs. Any suggestions to the Facebook page or E-Newsletter should be

## Letter from the President

Fellow Texas Brangus Breeders,

I trust your Independence Day activities were celebratory and safe! We are blessed to live in the greatest country to ever exist, even with our problems! We spent the week in South Florida and wish I could have brought back some moisture that fell every day we were there! I believe many breeders in Texas have been recipients of some scattered moisture for which we are grateful.

I am sad to inform the sudden and unexpected passing of Terry Dean, father of Tyler Dean, IBBA Director of Youth Activities and Shows. A Memorial Service will be held Monday July 8th, 2:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall of the First Christian Church, Beaver, OK. This is a tremendous loss for the Dean family. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. In lieu of flowers, the Dean family asks that memorial donations be made in memory of Terry Dean to the International Brangus Auxiliary Scholarship Fund. Donations can be made to:

IBA  
c/o Sharron McCreary  
13465 Brooklyn Road  
Evergreen, AL 36401

I am glad to see the National Cattleman's Beef Association (NCBA) President, Scott George comment on his disappointment with the US House of Representatives failure to pass the 2013 Farm Bill (HR 1947). He commented the passage of the Bill is a top priority for NCBA.

Many of our juniors and families will be heading to West Monroe, LA for a weeks worth of activities and show at the NJBS. This is the highlight of the year for our juniors and we at the TBBA wish all competitors, the very best! Go Brangus! Please have a fun time but even more a safe trip....Good Luck to All!

God Bless!

sent to  
mollie@txbrangus.org

Joe Dillard, TBBA President

**Texas Brangus  
Breeders  
Association**

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## **Renewable Fuels Standard Repeal**

WASHINGTON - Following an announcement by Sens. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), Mark Pryor (D-Ark.) and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) that they have introduced the bi-partisan Renewable Fuels Standard Repeal Act (S. 1195), the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), National Chicken Council (NCC) and the National Turkey Federation (NTF) urge Congress to repeal the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS).

"The RFS has been such a poorly managed mess, it's time to drain the swamp," said NTF President Joel Brandenberger. "The RFS needs a fresh start in order to put in place a smarter policy on the mix of fuel and feed." The RFS last year required 13.2 billion gallons of corn-based ethanol to be blended into gasoline; it mandates that 13.9 billion gallons be blended in 2013, an amount that will use about 4.9 billion bushels of corn, or about 40 percent of the nation's crop.

"Chicken producers are already competing with the weather," said NCC President Mike Brown. "Why must we also compete with an inflexible federal mandate that voluntarily places another strain on our limited resources? I commend Sens. Barrasso, Pryor and Toomey for taking an approach that would let the free market decide whether corn should go to food or to fuel." Livestock and poultry groups called on the administration last fall to waive the RFS for the second time since 2008. And for the second time, in spite of the widespread drought and lowered harvest, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) refused to use the safety valve built into the biofuels mandate.

"Cattlemen and women are self-reliant, but in order to maintain that we cannot be asked to compete with federal mandates like the Renewable Fuels Standard for the limited supply of feed grains," said NCBA Policy Vice Chair Craig Uden, an Elwood, Neb., cattle feeder. "When EPA is unable to provide even a temporary waiver of the RFS during the worst drought in 50 years, it is apparent the RFS is broken and we appreciate the efforts of Sens. Barrasso, Pryor and Toomey to fix this flawed program."

NCBA, NCC and NTF call on Congress to repeal the RFS to ensure market stability certainty for rural American economies.

-Release by National Cattlemen's Beef Association

## The Water that Divides Us, Part I

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Drought has bedeviled South Texas farms, ranches and citrus groves relentlessly for the past few years, taking significant chunks out of local economies, threatening industries, municipalities and residents of the Lower Rio Grande valley. Complicating the issue has been a disagreement over Mexico's obligation to deliver water to the region as mandated by a 1944 water treaty. Following is the first in a three-part series discussing the drought, the treaty and the ramifications for both sides of the border.*

Tough times call for tough actions. That's what many Rio Grande Valley lawmakers, farmers, ranchers, irrigation district and community officials and business leaders are saying this summer as extreme drought conditions dry up water reserves, reduce profits and continue to plague residents and businesses in Deep South Texas.

To make things even tougher, Valley leaders say the current trouble can't be blamed solely on Mother Nature, but also on Mexican water officials who many say have failed to deliver water due South Texas according to a 1944 water treaty.

The implications and aggravation of the spiraling water shortage in the border region represents the latest in growing tensions between the people and cultures of two nations who have made great strides in recent years to reach across historical, social and economic differences to build a new coalition and cross-cultural community designed to benefit local residents regardless of which country they live or work.

Gone are the days when a visit to a Mexican border town was limited to a walk across the bridge for lunch or cocktails and a quick visit to the local market square to purchase inexpensive curios. Since the early days of NAFTA, interest in tourism has spiked on both sides of the Rio Grande. American and Mexican citizens stream across international bridges by the thousands every day headed in both directions to shop; to bank; to attend schools, universities and concerts; to enjoy restaurants and shopping malls; and in a growing number of cases, to conduct international business in a vibrant exchange of culture and new border custom.

While much of America has expressed concern in recent years over ongoing immigration and border issues, a trip to the Valley in recent times painted a very different picture. The region is now a dual-nation free trade zone where international commerce moves in both directions, providing exchanges of business and culture to benefit all borderland residents. It is the "new norm" for the South

Texas frontier, a place with a new spirit of unity - a tie that binds together a region that is diverse in culture and transforms it into an economically viable and profitable relationship.

To read more, [click here](#).

-Release by Logan Hawkes for Southwest Farm Press

## **USDA Reveals Citrus Campaign**

In an effort to raise awareness about citrus greening disease and the negative effect it can have on the citrus industry, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has launched a new campaign urging growers to "Don't Go Green."

The "Save Our Citrus" campaign focuses on Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening disease, and the steps growers can take to keep their citrus trees free of the plant disease that has devastated millions of citrus trees in the U.S.

The campaign urges citrus growers to be aware of quarantine areas, inspect their plants regularly for diseases and insects, keep homegrown citrus at home and check plant suppliers to ensure they're reputable.

The USDA has set up a website to help concerned growers at [www.SaveOurCitrus.org](http://www.SaveOurCitrus.org).

-Release by Texas Farm Bureau

## **TAMU Beef Cattle Short Course**

Registration for the 59th Annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course is available now through August 1.

Short Course will be held in College Station, TX August 5-7. For more information, [click here](#).

## **TBBA Business Card Ads**

TBBA members have the opportunity to advertise their farm or ranch through the new business card advertisements to be launched on the TBBA website soon. If you would like to purchase a business card ad, e-mail [mollie@txbrangus.org](mailto:mollie@txbrangus.org) for more information. Business card ads will cost \$50.

## **Call for Cattle Photos**

The TBBA is constantly looking for ways to improve our social media sights. If you have photos of your Brangus cattle around the farm or ranch that you would like us to

share on the Facebook page, please e-mail those in .jpg format to [mollie@txbrangus.org](mailto:mollie@txbrangus.org).

To view the current "Around the Farm and Ranch" album, [click here](#).

## June/July Calendar of Events

### **July:**

#### **14th-20th:**

National Junior Brangus Show and Futurity- West  
Monroe, LA

#### **15th-17th:**

Texas Grazingland Conference featuring Temple  
Grandin-Ft. Worth, TX

#### **16th:**

Western Region Brangus Classic- Sacramento, CA

### **August:**

#### **5th-7th:**

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

#### **15th:**

Western National Brangus Show Entry Deadline

\*Are you a TBBA member with an upcoming sale or field day? E-mail [mollie@txbrangus.org](mailto:mollie@txbrangus.org) to have it listed on the website and E-Newsletter calendar\*

Sincerely,

Texas Brangus Breeders Association

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