



# 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-

## Letter from the President

Fellow Brangus Breeders,

Hope all of you are doing well! I don't know about you, but I would really like to have a few more weeks of spring before the onslaught of the Texas summer! We have had a beautiful spring and are thankful for moisture at least to green up the grass and cause the 3 or 4 years of dormant weeds to explode! I do not know about your area but it has been several years since the wildflowers have been as beautiful as this year. I certainly enjoy watching the spring calves bucking and pitching in the morning sun!

I do not have a lot to report this week but can tell you the committee installed for next year's Miss America Sale have already met and are making plans for the event, I think we will top this years by a measure!

It's a good time to be in the cattle business, may the rains continue, a deluge would be a blessing to fill the tanks!

I pray that each of you have a safe and blessed Easter weekend!

Until next time,

Joe Dillard

## Featured Breeder: Braley Brangus

"Who eats their pets?" That's was my wife's response when I first talked about raising cattle and eating our own beef. Although she was raised in North Texas and her dad raised commercial cattle since before she was born, she "just can't eat an animal she knows". Well, let's just say that her dad and I have decided to leave her in the dark about that (as long as she doesn't read this article).

Newsletter should be  
sent to  
mollie@txbrangus.org

**Texas Brangus  
Breeders  
Association**

**P.O. Box 690552  
San Antonio, TX  
78269**

**210-558-0800**

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

We began in 2007 after deciding that producing high quality cattle for our customers would be our best bet. We've made good choices and bad along the way, but we've built a core herd that is sure to produce calves that will be a great addition to any herd. We didn't have access to much land so we wanted cattle that would return the best profit per head. After lots of research we decided that Brangus would be our best fit, and that a registered herd would produce better quality cattle for ourselves and for our customers.

Although we were thinking quality, we made the mistake of looking for the "bargains". You know, the cheapest registered cows we could buy. We've read a lot of articles in the livestock magazines and get advice from people who have built a successful seedstock operation. Over the past seven years we have learned a lot, and we've acquired and raised some exceptional females.

Based on last year's calves, we are expecting to have some really nice calves available soon. Although we still like a good bargain, our highest priority is quality. These days those "quality" females must contain several high priority traits or we don't use them in production. A few of those "high priority traits" include attractiveness, fertility, maternal instinct, good EPD's, good disposition, and cows that maintain a good BCS without a lot of help. Many upgrades have been made to our operation and the results are very attractive calves with good EPD's.

In recent months the decision was made to grow the herd size while continuing to maintain and increase quality. Our goal is to produce some of the best cattle on the market today. We run the operation completely with artificial insemination and cull cows who won't breed with AI. Several hours every breeding season are spent just researching the best bull to breed to each cow. This year we are working on taking our operation to the next level by using in-vitro fertilization to increase production from one of our proven females.

We saw many of you at the TBBA Miss America Sale in Salado last month. A special thank to Draggin' M Ranch for their purchase of BRALEY'S MS GUARDAIN 789A. This heifer was an example of the quality that we are working hard to produce. We will continue to produce quality bulls and heifers in an effort to build an even stronger operation. Brangus is a great breed and we look forward to working with all of our fellow breeders to make the Brangus breed even better.

We are located just south of Farmersville, TX. Give us a call, email, or come by and see us. You can always visit our website to see what's going on or what we have for sale.

God Bless,  
Kenny Braley  
972-571-0491  
[www.braleybrangus.com](http://www.braleybrangus.com)

## Miss America Sale Report

36 Lots grossed \$147,852.00 to average \$4,107.00

1 Bull-\$9,400.00  
1 Donation heifer-\$3,000.00  
1 3N1-\$4,500.00  
9 Fall Breds-\$4,311.00  
14 open heifers-\$3,257.00  
6 Spring Bred heifers-\$4,933.00  
4 Spring Bred Cows-\$4,237.00  
36 total head-\$147,852.00

1 Donation heifer for the TJBBA from McDonald Ranches to Dillard Land & Cattle Co. \$3,000.00

Top selling bull Skyhawks FDR from Skyhawk Brangus to Don Thomas Brangus \$9,400.00

Top selling female CB Ms Onstar 222Z2 from Cavender Ranches to Draggin M Ranch \$10,000.00

Ms Brinks Lambert 541T66 from 3 Bar S Cattle Co. to Westall Ranch \$7,500.00

Ms DMR Heritage 23A from Draggin M Ranch to Clem Brangus \$6,800.00

The sale was well attended and a good time was had by all, we look forward to see you here next year for another great set of cattle to sell. Make plans now to attend March 27-28, 2015 at the Tenroc Ranch, Salado, Texas.

## Disaster Assistance Sign Up

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today that farmers and ranchers can sign-up for disaster assistance programs, reestablished and strengthened by the 2014 Farm Bill, beginning Tuesday, April 15, 2014.

Quick implementation of the programs has been a top priority for USDA.

"These programs will provide long-awaited disaster relief for many livestock producers who have endured significant financial hardship from weather-related disasters while the programs were expired and awaiting Congressional action," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "President Obama and I prioritized the implementation of these disaster assistance programs now that the Farm Bill has restored and strengthened them."

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) will provide payments to eligible producers for livestock deaths and grazing losses that have occurred since the expiration of the livestock disaster assistance programs in 2011, and including calendar years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Enrollment also begins on April 15 for producers with losses covered by the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP).

LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather. Eligible livestock includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, bison, poultry, sheep, swine, horses, and other livestock as determined by the Secretary.

LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on publicly managed land. An eligible livestock producer must own, cash lease, or be a contract grower of eligible livestock during the 60 calendar days before the beginning date of the qualifying drought or fire in a county that is rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as D2, D3, or D4.

ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish that have losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by

natural disasters.

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) employees have worked exceptionally hard over the past two months to ensure eligible farmers and ranchers would be able to enroll to receive disaster relief on April 15.

To expedite applications, all producers who experienced losses are encouraged to collect records documenting these losses in preparation for the enrollment in these disaster assistance programs. Information on the types of records necessary can be provided by local FSA county offices. Producers also are encouraged to contact their county office ahead of time to schedule an appointment.

For more information, producers may review the 2014 Farm Bill Fact Sheet, ELAP and TAP fact sheets online, or visit any local FSA office or USDA Service Center.

-Release by Southern Livestock

## **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.](#)

## **April/May Calendar of Events**

### **April:**

#### **25th-26th:**

IRBBA Annual Meeting and Divas in Red Sale- College Station, TX

#### **26th:**

GENETRUST at Cavender Neches River Ranch- Jacksonville, TX

**May:**

**3rd:**

JLS International "Winning Tradition XI" Sale- Devine, TX

**15th:**

NJBS Entry Deadline

**25th:**

NJBS Ownership Deadline

**31st:**

"The Event" Red Brangus Sale- Brenham, TX

\*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\*

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*Sincerely,*

*Texas Brangus Breeders Association*

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