

Potter County Ag Talk

August 2016



Austin Voyles

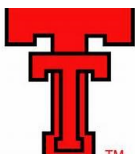
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Education Meetings in the Panhandle

All across the Panhandle, agents are planning excellent educational opportunities for our producers! Below you will find a list of meetings that will be featured in the month of May!

I am confident in saying that each of these programs will provide excellent learning opportunities no matter your level of experience or expertise! Please call the respective offices to gather all the information needed to participate in one of these awesome opportunities!

Each county program has its individual website and contact information. I encourage you to reach out and contact the County Extension Agent for detailed information!

Date	Time	Location	Subject
8/11	9AM	Perryton	Pre-Plant Wheat Meeting
8/12	9AM	District Extension Office	Pre-Plant Wheat Meeting
8/30	8:30AM	Kuhlman Extension Office (Canyon)	Randall Crops Tour
9/8	9AM	Bush Research Farm	Sorghum Field Tour
10/20	9AM	Avi-Lanche Dairy	Southwest Dairy Day

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

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Excerpts from Beef Cattle Browsing - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Beef Cattle

DOES ZILMAX® ACTUALLY STRESS CATTLE ?

In 2013, some field observations indicated the growth stimulant Zilmax® (zilpaterol hydrochloride, ZH) might cause various undesirable physical and physiological symptoms in finished cattle, especially after transport to slaughter. Some major packing plants started refusing cattle fed ZH. Since then, some research has been conducted on this matter. A group of 480 Continental-British steers (22% black-hided, 78% red-hided) was studied to evaluate effects of shade and ZH feeding for 21 days before slaughter on feedlot performance, carcass quality, heat stress, mobility, and body temperature. Steers were fed from late January (when implanted with Revalor®-XS) to mid-June or mid-July (depending on body weight) a ration of 87% concentrate.



No differences were observed due to ZH for feed consumption, ADG, or feed efficiency; cattle fed in open pens tended to have a greater ADG than in shaded pens. As had been found in numerous research trials and by industry experience, cattle fed ZH had heavier carcasses, higher dressing percent, larger ribeyes, lower numerical Yield Grade (leaner carcasses), and tended to have less fat cover and lower marbling score.

Respiration rates for ZH were greater, with no differences due to shade. Time of observation affected mobility scores, with observations on the morning of slaughter at the processing plant being the worst for all groups of cattle. In both shaded and open pens, cattle fed ZH had lower body temperature than control. However, reduction in body temperature due to ZH was greater in open than shaded lots. From these results, the authors concluded that "ZH improved carcass weight with little impact on heat stress or mobility, suggesting that animal welfare was not affected by feeding ZH for 21 days at the end of the feeding period". NOTE: In spite of this and some other similar research results, ZH is still off the market.

(J. Animal Sci. 93:5801; Univ. of Nebraska, USDA-ARS Meat Animal Res. Ctr. at Clay Center, NE)

LIVESTOCK AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Greenhouse gases (GHG) have been implicated by most, but not all, environmental scientists as the primary driver of climate change. GHG emissions from agriculture, and particularly livestock, have been claimed to cause anywhere from about 20%-50% of total emissions in the U.S. The latest report on GHG from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says otherwise. According to that report, in 2014 agriculture accounted for only 8.3% of total U. S. emissions. Of total emissions from agriculture, about one-fourth was from livestock, mostly from beef and dairy cattle.



[Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks:1990-2014 (April, 2016; <https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/usinventoryreport.html>)]

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TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

I'VE INCLUDED IT
TWICE!!!! BIG TIME IM-
PORTANT!!!!

VFD UPDATE

August 2016

The Veterinary Feed Directive: What Producers Need to Know

Tiffany Dowell Lashmet

Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist

By January 1, 2017, if a livestock or dairy producer wants to feed his animals certain medicated feeds, he cannot simply go to the feed store, purchase the feed, and dump it in the feed bunk. Amendments to the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD), a federal regulation from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), makes the process more complicated for producers, veterinarians, and feed suppliers.

What is the VFD?

Before the VFD was enacted in 1996, the FDA recognized two categories of animal drugs: over-the-counter and prescription. Because requiring prescriptions for animal feeds containing antibiotics was considered impractical, medicated feeds were classified as over-the-counter drugs.

In 1996, a third category, VFD drugs, was added to the list. Significant amendments, known as the Second VFD Rule, were published in June 2015. The VFD concept attempts to balance the need for antibiotic use to protect animal health with the concern about overuse of antibiotics in the livestock industry and throughout society. The revised VFD rules ensure that antimicrobial drugs are used for therapeutic (to treat only sick animals), rather than production purposes and that licensed veterinarians supervise such use.

The amendments make three significant changes:

- ◆ Drug sponsors will modify labeling for certain products by withdrawing production uses such as increased rate of weight gain and allow only therapeutic uses.
- ◆ Medicated feed additives designated as medically important were previously considered over-the-counter, but will be VFD drugs subject to the new rules. The term medically important includes all drugs considered important for therapeutic use in humans.
- ◆ A veterinarian must complete a VFD form before a producer can buy any VFD drugs, even those in medicated feeds.



Valuable Links for All Producers Regarding the new VFD

- **VFD Fact Sheet**—www.potter.agrilife.org
- **FDA Approved Drug List**—<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/SafetyHealth/AntimicrobialResistance/JudiciousUseofAntimicrobials/ucm390429.htm>
- **VFD Face Sheet**—<http://www.agrilifebookstore.org/Veterinary-Feed-Directive-p/eag-024.htm>
- **Texas Ag Law Blog**—<https://agrilife.org/texasaglaw/2016/01/12/veterinary-feed-directive-what-you-need-to-know/>
- **Dr. Ted McCollum's Comments**—<http://amarillo.tamu.edu/facultystaff/tmc/veterinary-feed-information/>

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Cattle to crops: Randall County Crops Tour set Aug. 30
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Contact: Dr. J. D. Ragland, 806-468-5543, j-ragland@tamu.edu

CANYON – The 40th annual Randall County Crops Tour hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is set for Aug. 30 at the Kuhlman Extension Center, 200 North Brown Road, Canyon. “We have a good program lined up that offers something for just about everyone interested in agriculture in Randall County,” said Dr. J. D. Ragland, AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent in Randall County. The morning portion will kick off with registration at 8:30 a.m., followed by the program at 9 a.m. This year the event is free, with the registration fee covered by Happy State Bank.

The following topics and speakers are on the morning agenda:

- Reducing Potential Risk Factors While Capturing Profitability with Stocker Cattle Grazing, Dr. Ted McCollum, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, Amarillo.
- Wheat Varieties and Yield Results From High Plains Region, New Insen Genetic Trait Tolerance in Sorghum and Zest Herbicide-Release Update, Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Extension agronomist, Amarillo.
- Current Cattle/ Commodity Overview and Outlook: Managing Risk in Volatile Markets, Mike Maroney, Commodity and Ingredient Hedging LLC, Chicago, Illinois.

The noon luncheon keynote speakers will be State Rep. John Smithee, R-Amarillo, addressing current legislative agriculture issues, and Pat Ware, Amarillo National Bank executive vice president, who will highlight financial issues and concerns for High Plains agriculture producers and what lies ahead.

The noon luncheon and awards presentation is sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank of Canyon. Following the keynote addresses will be the presentation of the Randall County Extension Top Hand, Outstanding Result Demonstrator and Outstanding Agribusiness awards. At 1:30 p.m. all participants will have an opportunity to view and learn about the newest technology in agricultural equipment with displays and presentations from local and area dealers just south of the Kuhlman Extension Center.

Then the tour bus, sponsored by the Palo Duro Soil and Water Conservation District of Canyon, will be loaded and make three stops. Topics and presenters at the stops will be:

- Cotton Variety – Flex Trial, Bell.
- Sugarcane Aphid Management Sorghum Plots, Dr. Ada Szczepaniec, Texas A&M AgriLife Research entomologist, Amarillo.
- Live Cattle Dart Gun Vaccination Demonstration, Jason Douglas and Zane Ricketts, Micro Technologies, Amarillo.

The tour should conclude around 4:30 p.m.

Three Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units – one drift minimization, one integrated pest management and one general – will be available for private pesticide applicators.

An RSVP is requested by Aug. 26 by calling 806-468-5543. For more information, contact Ragland at that number or j-ragland@tamu.edu.



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WHEAT PICKS

August 2016



WHEAT PICKS FOR 2016-2017

Deletions in 2016: TAM 111 has now been completely removed from our Picks list. Ongoing trials tend to demonstrate that TAM 111 yields are not as competitive as in years past. Under good management (including stripe rust control if needed) it is still a good variety, and producers who have saved 111 seed are OK to continue planting, but relative to some of the newer varieties 111 does not appear to have the edge it once had, and rusts (more recently stripe) have diminished its former advantage. TAM 304 is no longer a Pick for full irrigation (insufficient yields, low test weight). Multi-year yields before 2016 across the irrigated and dryland were good and excellent with resistance to rusts, but 2016 yields were mediocre.

Additions: TAM 114 (initially tested as TX07A001505) is added for all production conditions. We would have added it in 2015 but there was little seed available. TAM 114 has good across-the-board resistance to rusts, good straw strength, desirable milling and baking qualities, and also has intermediate resistance to some biotypes of Hessian fly. WB Grainfield grain yields are good and key rust resistance is in place. Denali has tentatively been added for limited irrigation and dryland production conditions (we will discuss further) as yields have been consistently good though over three years. It is susceptible to rusts which restricts us from currently placing Denali as a Pick for full irrigation.

Wheat Variety "Picks", Texas High Plains (Preliminary, 7/26/2016)

Full Irrigation

TAM 112
TAM 113
TAM 114
Denali
WB Grainfield
Iba
T158
Winterhawk

Limited Irrigation

TAM 112
TAM 113
TAM 114
Denali
WB Grainfield
Iba
T158
Winterhawk

Dryland

TAM 113
TAM 114
WB Grainfield
Iba
Winterhawk

