

WEST TEXAS Country Trader



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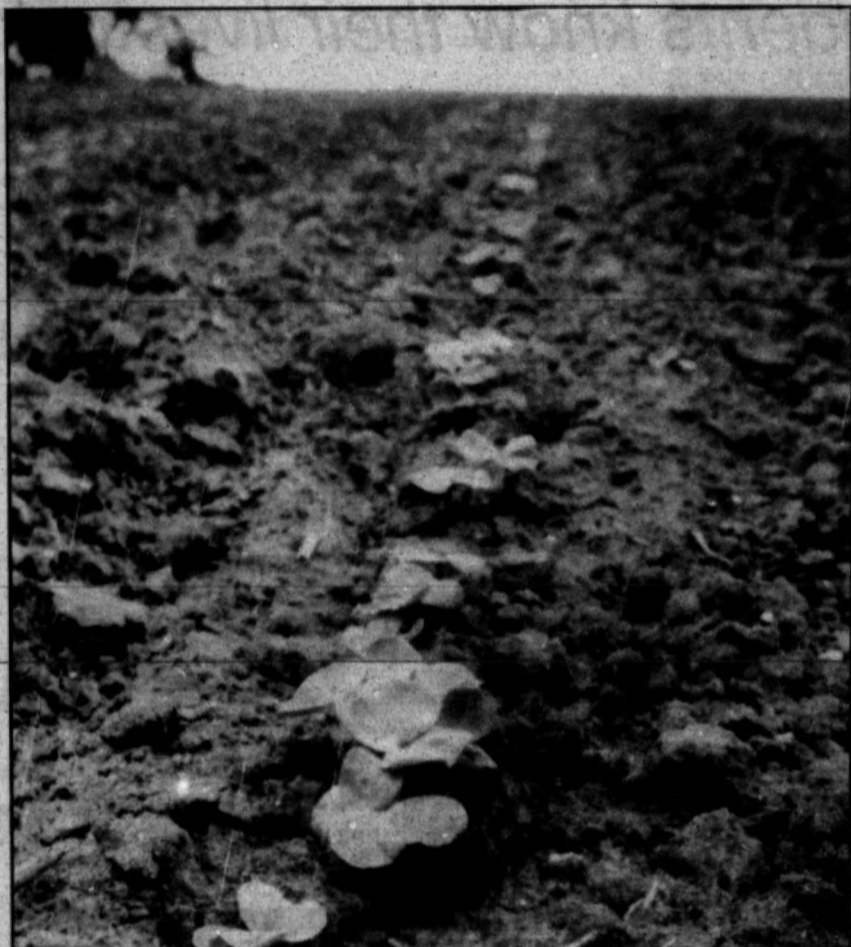
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Thursday, May 20, 1993



Gordon Zeigler/AgReview

Peeking out and growin'

Some early-planted cotton seems off to a good start on last year's corn ground on a farm east of Plainview. It was planted in early May.

Rain eases drought in west

By MARGARET SCHERF

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Heavy winter precipitation has resulted in a significant improvement in the water supply outlook for the Western states, breaking a six-year drought, says the Agriculture Department.

However, "drought conditions still persist in areas of the Pacific Northwest, Northern Rockies and Northern Plains," said a report this month by the department's Economic Research Service.

Water supplies for irrigation and other uses may be limited in those areas by below-normal summer streamflow and reservoir storage, it said.

During 1992, farmers used an estimated 95 million acre-feet of water for irrigation on nearly 53 million acres of farmland, the report said.

"Irrigated agriculture continues to dominate the use of water in the United States, accounting for 80 percent of total consumption," it said. "Surface water provides 63 percent of irrigation needs and groundwater 37 percent."

There is likely to be little change in 1993 in the amount of irrigated area and water use, the report said.

The projected cropland used for crops in 1993 is 335 million to 345 million acres, down from an estimated 343 million in 1992.

Changes in requirements for the acreage reduction program mean more corn and

Ag News Inside:

Cattle set record in 1992, Pg. 11

School equips ag students, Pg. 2

TFU chief Joe Rankin, Pg. 3

rice acres will likely be idled than last year and fewer barley, wheat and cotton.

Overall, 19 million to 22 million acres are expected to be idled under commodity programs, along with more than 36 million in the Conservation Reserve Program.

Farmers intend to plant about 103 million acres of feed grains this year, compared with 108 million acres in 1992, the report said.

After 12 sign-up periods in eight years, the CRP has temporarily retired from production more than 36 million acres of highly erodible and other sensitive cropland, 90 percent of the program's goal, it said.

"But the CRP's future is linked to potentially limited federal funding for maintaining or expanding the enrolled acreage beyond the current contracts," the report said. "As the initial 10-year CRP contracts begin expiring in late 1995, farmers can bring that land back into production."

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AgReview



Calendar Ag News

May 29

FLOYD COUNTY PIONEER REUNION: Parade featuring old tractors will highlight annual celebration. Parade time is 2:30 p.m.

June 5 & 6

CLOVIS ANNUAL CELEBRATION — Parade, tractor pull and other activities will highlight a weekend of fun.

June 12

ANNUAL ARMSTRONG TRACTOR PLAY DAY: Paul and Jackie Armstrong will host the event on their farm, 3½ miles west of Hart on FM 145, then three miles south. A slow race, parade and plowing contest will be held.

July 3

HALE CENTER JULY FOURTH CENTENNIAL: A tractor show will be the highlight of Independence Day events, with a parade set at 10 a.m.

July 3

ANNUAL WEBB TRACTORS SHOW AND PLAY DAY: Donald and Sallie Webb will host a tractor play day 3 miles northeast of Amarillo on FM 136. A parade, tractor pull, slow race, wheat threshing and log sawing will be held. Also, a Baker fan demonstration, feed grinding and other activities.

July 17

LEVELLAND CELEBRATION: Parade featuring tractors at 10 a.m. in the downtown area. For information, contact Preston Reeves at

Clarendon ag students know their livestock

BY GORDON ZEIGLER

AgReview Writer

C LARENDON — Livestock savvy is what Clarendon College has provided its ag students for two decades.

And, they get plenty of it by serving on championship livestock and meat judging teams or by completing a unique ranch/feedlot management program — all cornerstones of ag studies at CC.

"Our livestock judging program gives students a firm foundation in more ways than we can express," explains Lissa Parish, public information director and school recruiter at CC — a two year college of 350 students based in a town of 2,100 and known to be supportive of its college and its students.

"All our programs help build contacts for these kids," explains Ms. Parish. "They may go back later and get a job from them, or interview them...somebody they have met on the judging circuit, or in training for competition."

And, who should be better qualified to speak on the subject than one of its former students like Ms. Parish? She is one of Clarendon's outstanding former ag students — one who recruited right out of high school.

Now, recently assuming the post of recruiter at the college, it's her job to help round up the 25 outstanding FFA and 4-H youths needed to keep the programs going each year.

Her story is typical of entering students. She was a top ag student from Tucumcari, N.M., when Clarendon's longtime ag educator, Jerry Hawkins, talked her into trying Clarendon.

Lissa studied two years at CC, then went on to finish an Ag Communications degree at Texas Tech



UNIQUE AG SEQUENCE — Whether it's riding the pens at a Panhandle feedlot, or competing on a livestock or meat judging team, Clarendon College students get their feet wet in practical activities leading to ag-related careers or advanced study.

before joining the Kansas Livestock Association. Now, after gaining experience in the livestock industry first hand, she has returned to Clarendon where a job involving recruiting and promotion of the school opened up recently.

She picked a high point in Clarendon's ag endeavors to return.

"This year had our most successful year ever in the school's history," she boasts.

Clarendon won four of the five national contests it entered — taking top honors in Fort Smith, Ark., Phoenix, Denver and Fort Worth. The group placed third at Houston.

What really attracts the Clarendon students is twofold — an excellent opportunity to further skills learned in 4-H and FFA, and, secondly, to study in the heart of the nation's leading

livestock raising country.

"Some students, especially those in Texas, have never talked oral reasons in livestock competition," Ms. Parish pointed out. "That is one of our main objectives, and a skill that is developed during each annual round of competition."

So far as facilities, it is not the on-campus experience, but the proximity to a busy West Texas cattle industry that draws the crowds.

"We don't have a farm, per se, but we have livestock to work on," explained Ms. Parish. "But the livestock class routinely travels within a 150-mile radius from Clarendon where resources include some of the nation's top cattle lots, plus the packing plants of Excel, IBP and

See RANKIN, Page 12

Cotton future remains in bearish mode

The May USDA Supply/Demand Report, the first for the 1993/94 crop, fell on the bearish side of the market.

The report is based on "best estimates" as of current good conditions and trends. Crop conditions are still subject to weather uncertainty at home and abroad.

Both China and the Former Soviet Union areas are experiencing bad weather. If acreage and crops in these countries decrease substantially from last season, the U.S. export potential could increase. Domestic demand remains the strongest in many years.

The latest report supports expectations of abundant cotton supplies, a weak market, and large governmental costs. A critical review of the 1990 farm program becomes more likely with a resulting larger ARP for the 1994/95 crop. Projected ending stocks for the "new" crop tallies up a big 35 percent of usage. While that exceeds the program target of 30 percent, it is still far below the 43 percent posted for foreign countries.

The 1993/94 U.S. crop was placed at 17.5 million bales, up from 16.2 this season. Domestic use remains a strong 10.3 million but exports only 6 million. Therefore, ending stocks are expected to jump to 5.7 million, up from 4.4 this season and 3.7 in 1991/92. World stocks are also expected to remain plentiful around 39 million bales, with foreign stocks declining slightly.



COTTON MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Carl Anderson

Total U.S. usage could range between 16.5 and 17.0 million bales. But, stocks could still be above 5 million.

Another year of large deficiency payments will focus considerable attention towards changes in cotton provisions and their implementation that would reduce government exposure to large outlays. One way to help cut costs would be to increase the future levels of ARP. Remember the ARP was 12.5 percent in 1990/91 and deficiency payment 7.3 cents per pound; and in 1989/90 set aside was 25 percent and payment 13.1 cents.

Under the "flex" program, stronger prices should encourage acreage and assure supplies for market needs. Given the program provisions, it appears a 10 percent or higher ARP is needed each year to curtail government costs. Because of aggressive foreign competition, the U.S. has not been able to expand its share of world trade in recent years even with low prices.

Pricing opportunities appear to be fading. Forward contracts have been scarce. With option premiums rather high, buying puts are on the expensive side. However, for those who are experienced in options, the strategy of buying puts and selling calls out-of-the-money reduces the cost of price insurance. It does require margin money and creates a "price ceiling."

Producers that are not comfortable with options and futures may use an advisory service or place their cotton in a pool where the pricing is managed for them.

As of May 9, the Texas crop is average with West Texas in need of planting moisture. Beltwide, cotton planting is behind schedule in the Delta and Southeastern states. If their cotton ends up being planted in the last half of May, yields may be reduced.

(Dr. Carl Anderson, Cotton Marketing Specialist with the Texas A&M Extension Service, is a noted authority on the cotton markets)

A conversation with Farmers Union President Joe Rankin

BY GORDON ZEIGLER
AgReview Writer

Next 12 months pivotal to ag future

RALLS — Some believe that pivotal decisions to be made in the next 12 months regarding ag policy may well seal the fate and fortune of farmers for generations to come.

One of those is Ralls' Joe Rankin, president of the Texas Farmers Union.

There are hopeful signs that farmers will be heard this time around, by a more producer-friendly USDA, believes the Crosby County farmer who wants to put his two cents worth into the process.

Putting in a word for farmers and ranchers is just part of the job description of Rankin, third-generation South Plains farmer and president of the Texas Farmers Union since 1986.

Rankin typically spends four days a week in his TFU office in Waco, and three days on the cotton and wheat farm his grandfather established in 1905.

The busy TFU executive/farmer operates on the belief that establishing good ag policy does more for farm prices than anything else.

"Prices are made more by laws and farm policy than by anything else," says Rankin. "A farmer can do all the good, hard work in the world out there and good production will not offset proper agricultural policy."

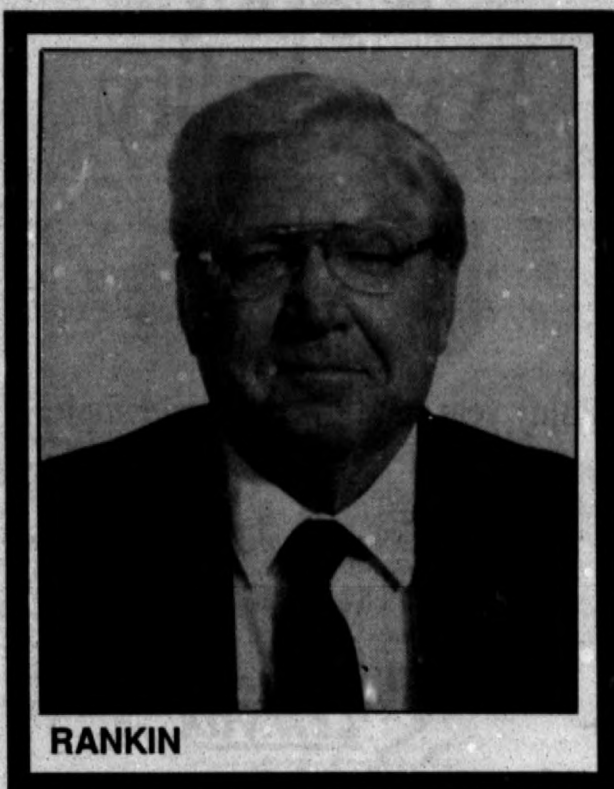
Rankin has served in TFU capacities most of his adult life, and has helped write some farm bills from a lobbying standpoint. And he's poised and ready to do battle again, this time with the Democrats, for the good of agriculture.

"I think what direction NAFTA goes, what direction GATT goes and what direction farm policy goes with this administration, may very well determine the next two to three generations of agriculture," Rankin says soberly.

Access to the big players at USDA will be a key for Rankin who, for one, has some key credentials that Ag Secretary Mike Espy and his undersecretaries will be looking for. He is county chairman of the Crosby Democratic Party.

He has built a reputation of advocacy for fair treatment of farmers and ranchers through intense work on the 1990 Farm Bill — at which time he remained vocal in his criticism of the Bush Administration's implementation of farm programs.

The fruit basket turnover at USDA will work to the



RANKIN

advantage of the current lobbying effort, Rankin believes. New faces being appointed at USDA will be more open to hear from the farmer, believes the TFU president.

"The administration has come out with their budget proposal put together by the Congressional Budget Office and Mr. Panetta, and they are cutting money out of it," Rankin said.

Fewer dollars in ag programs is a certainty, but there are some solutions that may yet benefit farmers.

"Our challenge is how can we run a program with reduced government spending and maintain farm income," says Rankin. "We have to realize money is not there and is not going to be there."

Rankin has suggested supply management as the best solution.

"Look at the last two years," Rankin points out. "The set aside requirements were too loosely written and we have overproduction. We have record low prices on wheat and feed grains. We had a fair price on cotton last year, but with flex acres and things like this we are going to see a big shift on the commodity that brought the most money last year."

Rankin refers to a computer model by Texas A&M

economists that analyzes program costs.

"If you had cut back 2 to 3 percent more and increased the set aside, this would have made producers millions of dollars and saved the taxpayers millions," Rankin explains. "Yet the thing we want to do is grow more of it and the devil take the handmost...something that costs us more in tax money and farm income."

Solutions to these problems may come if the administration is willing to listen to the TFU and others, Rankin believes.

"I feel this administration, their intent and purpose they said, was to have change," he said. "I see this as an opportunity to have input into the agricultural policy."

The key to change, Rankin explains, is addressing some of the Madigan-era policies now going into effect and, hopefully, heading some of the damaging ones off at the pass. But it may take some time. Many USDA staffers are yet to be named, delaying the lobbying process for now.

"Farm programs can be designed that will work," Rankin said. "But the USDA has not had their full complement of secretaries and specialists in place for us to know as to whether full complement of secretaries and specialists as to what their ag policy is going to be and how they are going to design programs."

The TFU and its Colorado-based National Farmers Union are looking at the farm program and potential for fine tuning it through administrative policy.

"Are we going to establish minimum set aside requirements," asks Rankin, "increase flex acres 15 to 25 percent as suggested by the CBO? What that does is increase acres still eligible for the loan but not deficiency payments. Increasing our oversupply and decreasing government payments is a double whammy to farm income."

And, Rankin is concerned with a move to terminate the 0/92 and the 50/92 provisions of the farm bill — something he says is up in the air since the USDA staff is not yet in place to respond to it.

"I think there is an opportunity for inputs by people, not just by Farmers Union, not just from Democrats, not just from agriculture," Rankin says.

If the Republicans were still at the helm of USDA, things would be more difficult in the months ahead, Rankin predicted.

See CLARENDON, Page 12

Marketing, management can up cotton profits

Options few in near term

NEW ORLEANS — Better marketing and better management of the crop are the keys to staying in business and making a profit in the next five years growers at a recent Beltwide Cotton Conferences here were told by a cotton specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

In the next three to five

years, there will be little change in cotton acreage in Texas and Oklahoma, Dr. James R. Supak, Extension Service cotton agronomist from Texas A&M said.

Only slight gains in yields are anticipated, he said, but lint quality will improve. His predictions were based on a survey of producers, ginners, Extension faculty and researchers in nine subregions which make up the growing area of the two states.

Some 4,500 growers, agribusiness representatives and educators attended the annual production and technical conferences at the Marriott Hotel here.

Supak told the delegates the survey indicates that six factors are most likely to influence acreage, yields and quality in the Southwest region (Texas and Oklahoma).

The factors Supak listed are: weather, insect man-

agement (pesticide resistance), rising input costs, government regulations, loss of support programs, and farm credit availability.

Options for reducing per unit production costs include "fine tuning" production practices, short-season production systems and conservation or reduced tillage. Available technology that could be adopted, according to the survey, include integrated crop management systems,

narrow-row production, low energy precision application (LEPA) irrigation, practices to improve stand establishment, weed control, crop termination and harvest practices.

"To stay in business, growers must improve their marketing skills, work to implement a statewide boll weevil eradication program, improve management skills, become proactive with regard to environmental and other governmental

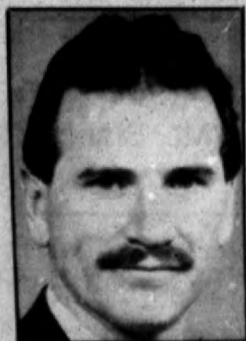
issues, become more involved with producer organizations and be willing to accept leadership roles," Supak said the survey reported.

• For the most part, farmers do an excellent job of producing cotton but have only limited marketing expertise. With reductions in government support programs, growers will need to learn the principles and use of the available marketing tools.

Crop conditions drop wheat price lower

Old crop fundamentals continue to remain in fairly good balance, with carryover stocks at the end of the current 1992-93 marketing year estimated at a fairly low 520 million bushels. Although U.S. supply and demand remains in fairly good balance, continued problems hindering exports to the Former Soviet Union tough price competition from other exporters, and a greater degree of oversupply in the rest of the world have kept domestic prices from rallying even further. The current problem of how to ship food for peace grain to Russia is just the most recent stumbling block to U.S. exports.

Most of the pressure currently being put on prices is a result of new crop conditions. Although 1993 planted wheat acreage at 72.289 million acres is expected to change very little from last year's 72.262 million acres, the wet weather last winter and this spring is pointing toward much higher yields and production. The U.S. wheat crop is rated at 79 percent good to excellent, compared to 54 percent last year. The good subsoil moisture levels that have



GRAIN MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Mark Waller

been built up since last fall could help produce some of the best yields seen in several years. The only real concerns seem to be that crop maturity is running a bit behind schedule, and there could be some trouble with diseases and quality if the rains continue too long. The Texas crop is about 22 percent headed currently versus 33 percent on average by this time of year. The U.S. crop is only about 5

percent headed versus 12 percent on average. Spring wheat plantings are also running behind at 16 percent compared to 45 percent on average.

May futures have been under pressure recently as the first notice day approaches, and some of the speculators continue to unwind old crop/new crop spreads. The \$3 area had provided some support for the July KC new crop contract, but now that that level has been broken, the market could drift lower between now and harvest.

If the wheat crop is much larger this year, USDA will either need to be very aggressive in generating export business, or the wheat may end up moving into the domestic feed market. If feed use needs to increase to absorb excess supplies, wheat prices may still need to decrease further relative to corn and sorghum prices in order to pick up the extra demand.

(Dr. Mark Waller, Grain Marketing Specialist with the Texas A&M Extension Service, is an authority on the nation's grain markets.)

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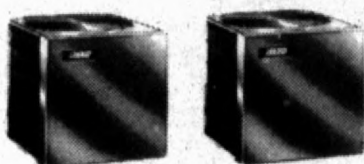
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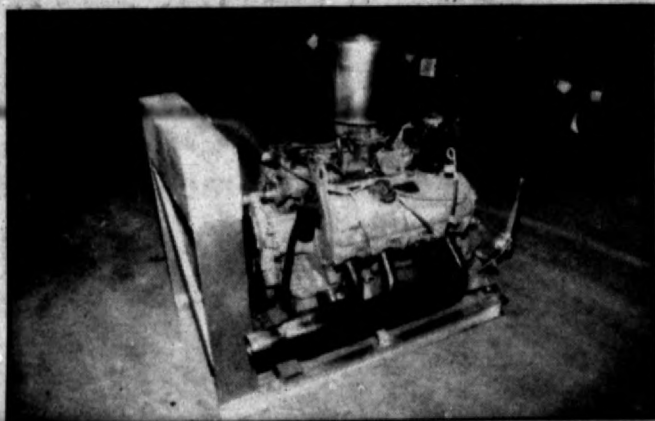
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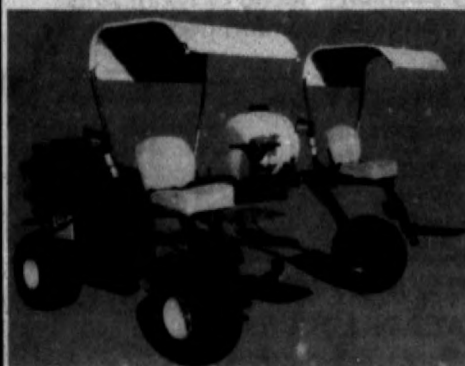
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Indian ponies preserve lost heritage

By JULIE BONNIN

Austin American Statesman

LOCKHART, Texas (AP) — At Rancho San Francisco in Lockhart, a 20-year-old white Huasteca mare called Feather kicks up her heels in a green pasture lit brilliantly by the midmorning sun.

Raised in the vast woodlands of the Kiamichi mountains in southeast Oklahoma, she has little use for human contact and one time kicked out the trailer tailgate, as if to make her feelings perfectly clear.

But if Feather is indifferent to the human race, her value to us is incalculable. The last of a breed originally descended from northern Mexico, Feather's progeny will help keep a broader breed category, the American Indian Horse, from succumbing to a similar fate.

Feather's owners, Nanci Falley and Scottie Stevenson, have operated the American Indian Horse Registry from their Lockhart ranch since 1979.

The Lockhart women are members of the American Minor Breeds Conservancy, an organization devoted to promoting livestock animals in risk of extinction. When the two took over the registry, it listed just 400 horses, none of them purebreds. Now the worldwide count is about 1,600 and 300 of those are purebreds.

Falley's interest in keeping the breed alive is as simple and clear as her horse's straight-on gaze.

"I think it's really important to see where we've come from," Falley says.

"I don't want them to disappear."

Falley, a South Texas native who says her first word was "caballo," the Spanish word for "horse," was intrigued both by horses and history as a child.

"I kind of have always been intrigued with Texas history and my grandmother was a history teacher. I was always asking her what kind of animals did the Spanish bring with them on the missions? When I got a little older I realized these animals were still around."

Falley, who formerly raised Arabian horses, now has 25 American Indian horses (also called Spanish horses). A few of the animals travel with her to festivals and other gatherings to educate people about the horses' long history.

Their lineage can be traced back to Columbus and Spanish conquistadors of the

15th and 16th centuries who brought the horse to North America, Falley says. A mixture of Barb, Arabian and Andalusian blood, the horses were considered the best in the world at that time.

Gradually the Plains Indians acquired the horses from Spanish settlers, who had moved north as missionaries. The horses transformed Native American culture. But tragically, U.S. Cavalry attempts to conquer the Indians frequently centered on the massacre of Indian horse herds.

The breed's survival, Falley says, is symptomatic of its toughness. The American Indian horse contributed to the making of a number of American breeds; the Morgan, quarter horse, American Saddle Horse, Tennessee Walking horse and others.

Slightly smaller and wirier than those standardized breeds, the American Indian horses have other physical characteristics that set them apart; larger nostrils, "cow-

hocked" rear legs that allow them to squat and turn easier than other breeds, Falley says.

Though the horses sometimes are looked down on by those who subscribe to a bigger-is-better mentality, Falley says, "They're kind of finding their niche now. People are more interested in what came before."

Through the registry, Stevenson and Falley help American Indian horse owners and breeders throughout the world network with each other. Though most of the horses remain in the United States, cowboy-crazy ranch owners in Germany and Belgium are especially interested in the breed, Falley says.

In addition to its link to the past, the American Indian breed is known for its perceptiveness, Falley says.

"I've never been fond of browbeating animals into doing something and you can really be a partner with one of these horses," she says.

"They really seem to enjoy working with you."

Falley and some of her brood have been invited to appear at San Antonio's Witte Museum next spring for an exhibit that opens in November called "Thundering Hooves; Conquistadors, Vaqueros, Cowboys and Comanches."

An ongoing exhibit of minor breeds can be seen closer to home at the Good Day Ranch, a 25-acre ranch and petting zoo for children located about five miles southwest of Oak Hill.

Among the animals owners Cindy and Jim Carroccio have stocked are an Irish Dexter cow, Tennessee Fainting goats and black-bellied Barbado sheep. Each of those breeds is included in the AMBC rare breed census.

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"Also, it's a way to demonstrate that the fancy new kinds of animals we have now came from somewhere," she says. "There's a reason to keep that genetic pool. We may need it later."

The Carroccios are at odds, however, with some animal rights activists who don't approve of breeding Fainting goats. The goats' muscles lock up and the animals fall over when startled, because of a genetic flaw.

It's because of their frailty that they're an easy mark for predators and are included in the AMBC census.

Carroccio, a member of AMBC, counters that the goats serve all sorts of purposes.

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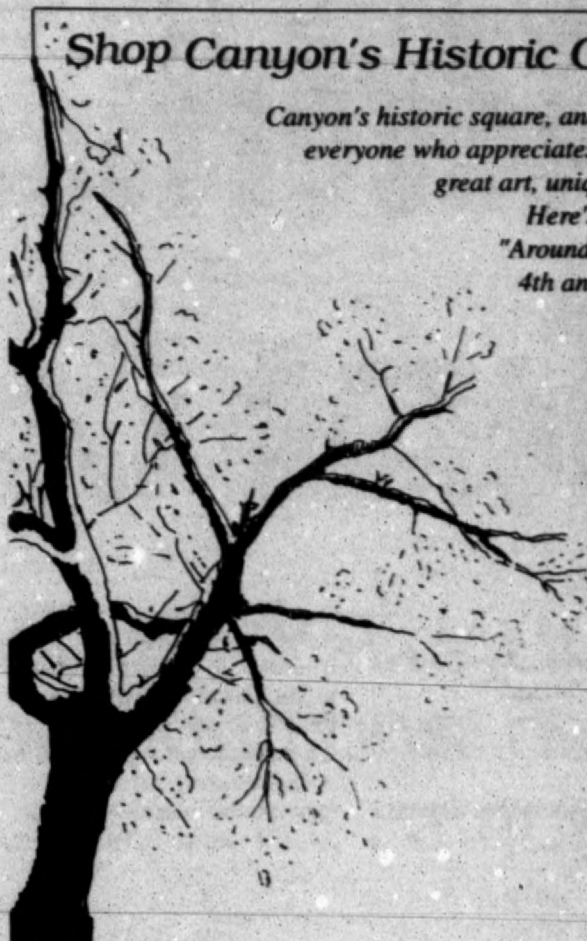
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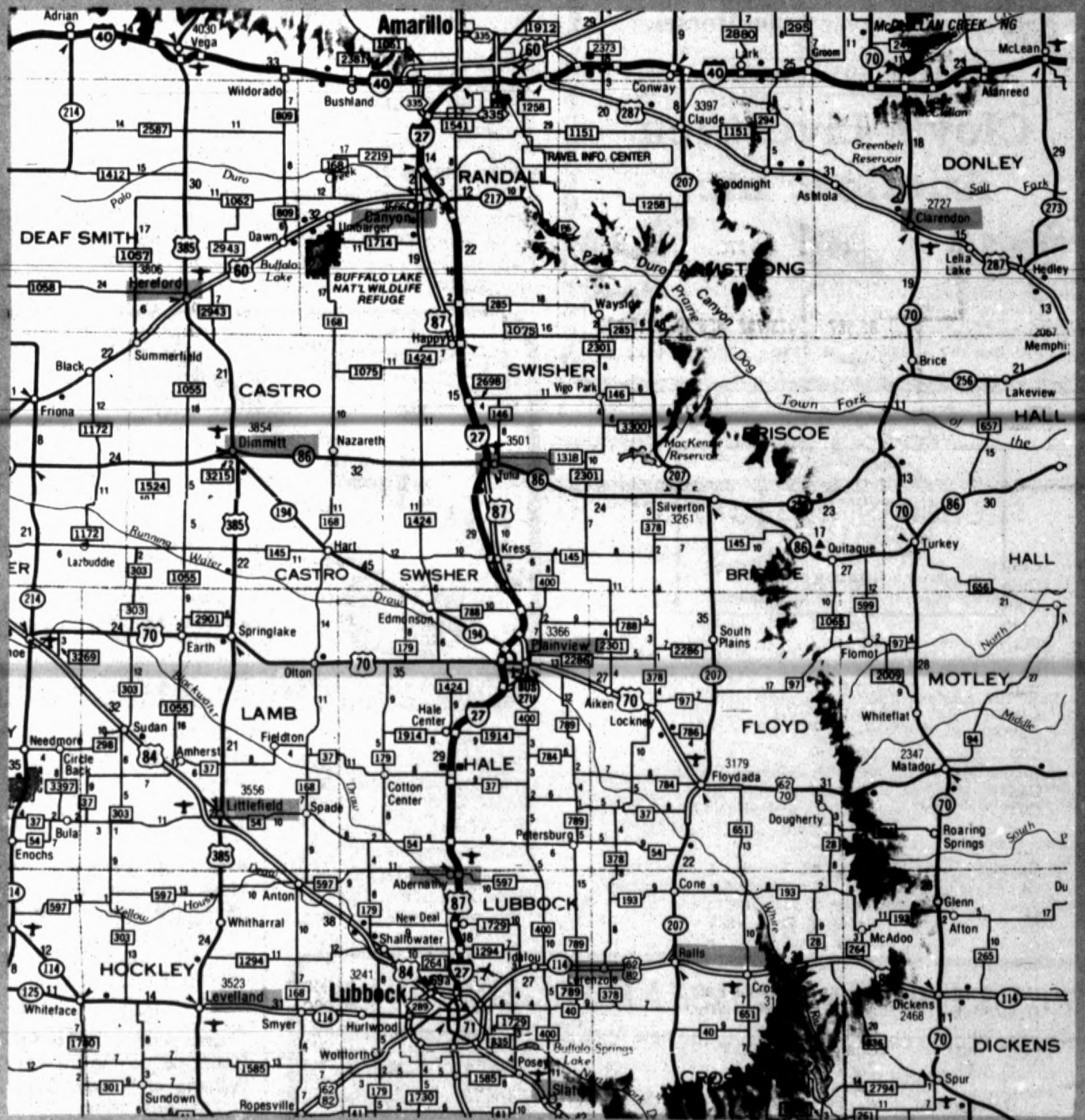
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Fed cattle survey reveals 1992 is a record breaker

By GORDON ZEIGLER

AgReview Writer

AMARILLO — Southwestern Public Service Company's annual Fed Cattle Survey indicates another record-breaking year in the area's cattle industry in 1992.

The survey shows a six percent increase in fed cattle from 1991 to 1992 — the fourth consecutive year of growth. Feedlots in the SPS service area fed 5,988,196 head in 1992, compared to 5,644,133 in 1991.

Castro and Deaf Smith Counties continue to be the leading counties in the Texas Panhandle in feedlot capacity.

A trend indicating steady growth is the total number of feedyards in the area — up from 122 in 191 to 124 in 1992.

"The six percent increase in fed cattle is three times higher than last year's percentage," said Dave Krupnick, SPS manager of agricultural and wholesale marketing. "I think this reflects a positive trend for the area's entire economy."

SPS annually prepares a Fed Cattle

Survey including feedlots in its service area, which covers 52,000 square miles. The region includes the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles, the Texas South Plains, eastern and southeastern Kansas.

Other good indicators from the survey are the increases in one-time total capacity, from 2,904,585 to 2,944,575, and the increase in the number of cattle slaughtered at the 12 beef packing plants.

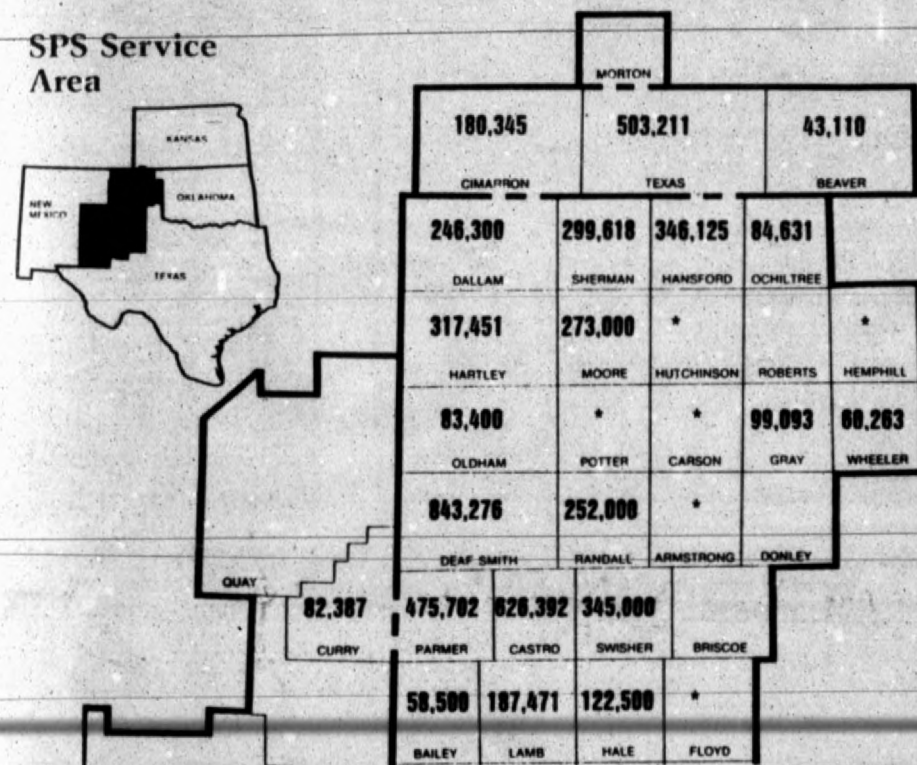
Krupnick pointed out that several packing plants are located just outside the service area, accounting for "the difference between the number of cattle slaughtered and the number fed."

The Fed Cattle Survey includes a chart on the ten-year history of fed cattle, the one-time capacity of surveyed feed lots, as well as information on the number of feedlots with 5,000 head or more. It also has a county breakdown.

Copies of the report are available by calling the SPS ag marketing department at 378-2180.

Feedlots — 1992

Cattle Fed in Southwestern Public Service Area — 5,988,196



FEEDLOTS WITH CAPACITY OVER 5,000

State	County	Feedlot Name	Site No.	Capacity
NM	Curry	Clovie Feedlot	97	11,000
NM	Curry	Mesa Livestock	120	8,000
NM	Curry	Oppliger Cattle Feeder	119	24,000
NM	Curry	Oppliger Land and Cattle	98	16,000
TX	Bailey	Coyote Lake Feedyard, Inc.	77	16,000
TX	Bailey	WES-TEX Feed Yards, Inc.	79	25,000
TX	Carson	Carson County Feedyards	38	13,000
TX	Castro	Bar-G Feedyard	67	70,000
TX	Castro	Beef Co., Inc.	63	9,000
TX	Castro	Bridges Cattle Company	127	5,000
TX	Castro	Cluck Feed Yard, Inc.	64	17,000
TX	Castro	Dimmitt Feedyard, Inc.	65	45,000
TX	Castro	Great Plains Cattle Feeders, Inc. S	72	12,000
TX	Castro	Hill Feedyard	68	20,000
TX	Castro	LS Feeders, Inc.	66	17,000
TX	Castro	Look Cattle Feeders	69	5,000
TX	Castro	Rafter 3 Feedyard	49	37,000
TX	Castro	Seven X Feed Yard	70	25,000
TX	Castro	Smith Cattle Feeders	73	12,000
TX	Castro	Sunnyside Cattle Co.	71	12,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Barrett & Crofoot East	44	40,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Barrett & Crofoot West	48	60,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Bartlett #2	46	35,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Champion Feeders, Inc.	45	32,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Circle 3 Feedyard, Inc.	124	20,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Frio Feeders	123	7,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Great Plains Cattle Feeders	122	18,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Hereford Feedyards	47	48,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Keeling Cattle Feedyard	125	14,500
TX	Deaf Smith	MC-6 Cattle Feeders, Inc.	121	12,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Southwest Feedyard	50	42,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Sugarland Feedyards	51	28,000
TX	Deaf Smith	Tri-State Feedyards, Inc.	52	15,000
TX	Floyd	Caprock Industries, Inc.	52	15,000
TX	Hale	C Bar Feedyard	82	18,000
TX	Hale	Shepard Feedyard	86	10,000
TX	Hale	Texzona Cattle Feeders	84	35,000
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TX	Lamb	Springlake Cattle Co.	116	10,000
TX	Lamb	Sudan East Feedyard	117	25,000
TX	Lamb	Sudan Livestock & Feeding	81	23,000
TX	Lubbock	Lubbock Feedlots, Inc.	92	48,000
TX	Randall	Lone Star Feedyard	53	42,000
TX	Randall	Randall County Feedyard	54	65,000
TX	Swisher	Bartlett No. 1	74	35,000
TX	Swisher	Swisher County Cattle Co.	75	50,000
TX	Swisher	Tulia Feedyard, Inc.	76	25,000
TX	Swisher	Wrangler Feedyard	118	45,000

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RANKIN

From Page 3

"They (the previous USDA regime) were so far removed," Rankin says. "We would have had the ag program format fully before us, so far as what the Office of Management and Budget cut out of it, and we'd just have to go with what we've got."

So, as Rankin puts a new farm program lobbying plan in place, he turns to two other areas of concern — NAFTA and GATT —

about which the the NFU and TFU have expressed reservations of late.

"One of the major items will be NAFTA," Rankin said. "We have serious reservations about that. They talk about labor considerations, retraining programs, health and environment. One of the things they don't talk about is agriculture. We see serious flaws in that. We are encouraging the administration to make changes in ways be helpful to everyone."

What worries the TFU is

the issue of loopholes on point of origin of imported commodities from Mexico and Canada — ones that were not actually grown there, but processed there.

"One of the big loop holes . . . is on peanuts. They can ship peanut butter, and this changes the country of origin . . . even though (Canada or Mexico) imported Chinese peanuts and ground them up. This practice has increased 4,000 percent in the last two or three years."

Cotton yarn is another

case, Rankin points out. The standard is not where the fiber is grown, but where the fiber is manufactured.

"Loopholes have to be given proper consideration," says Rankin. "Cattle could be another area where country of origin might come into play. Our cattle people have a right to be concerned with this. And others say, no problem we can't produce as many as we need anyway."

So far as GATT is concerned, Rankin argues for import safeguards at first.

"If you allow (immediate) imports on all com-

modities, we are talking primarily cotton, peanuts, milk and sugar, it will have a devastating effect immediately on all these commodities."

(The Texas Farmers Union is one of the state's major general farm organizations based in Waco. It represents the family far-

mer and rancher and is affiliated with the National Farmers Union, an organization comprising 250,000 members nationwide and employing four full time lobbyists in Washington. On critical issues, Farmers Union members take part in fly-ins to Washington to lobby the best interests of farmers and ranchers.)

CLARENDON

From Page 2

others.

Junior college students get only one shot at livestock judging, since they are allowed only one year of eligibility. After that, they get one more year of eligibility at a senior college.

Clarendon has launched many successful ag careers, Ms. Parish points out.

"We've had a lot of kids go onto judge at Texas

Tech, A&M, and Colorado state to name a few," she said. "And they do well, probably becoming the real standouts on those teams."

Hawkins has been in charge of the teams since their inception in about 1973.

In terms of ag studies, CC offers basic courses that are required prerequisites for more advanced courses at senior colleges — like basic agronomy, agriculture science, ag industry and ag

economics.

Meanwhile, in the general academic area, students are able to finish some of the really difficult college courses — chemistry, English and math — in an advantageous environment offered at Clarendon, a college without monster classes, but instead offering small study groups of 20 to 30.

Of the livestock students that study in Clarendon, it is estimated that all go on to a four year institution with many continuing on to the master's level.

The ranch and feedlot management sequence, on the other hand, has given numerous students the inside track to careers at area feeding facilities right out of school. But even some of these students opt for college first.

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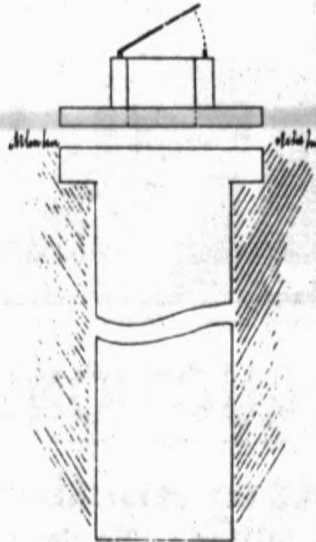
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GARRISON & TOWNSEND, INC.

BALE-ALL

BALE-ALL II

Bale-All II is a male sterile forage sorghum that produces little, if any, pollen on its own. This results in very little grain set unless it is in close proximity to other sorghums. Bale-All II produces a sweet stalk and heavy leaves for a top quality bundle or baling crop. It produces top tonnage for green chop or may be grazed. Best results and quality of feed occurs when cut at the booting stage. Height of Bale-All II under broadcast planting will be 4-6 feet. This is a recommended for baling considerations.

AGRONOMIC DATA*

Days to 1/2 Bloom	67-69 Days
Plant Height	7-9 Feet
Yield Potential	6-8 Tons/Acre
Usage	Hay, Grazing, Green Chop
Comments	Excellent for Baling or Bundles Fast Regrowth

BALE-ALL III

Male sterile, X-tra sweet

Bale-All III is a full maturity forage sorghum that produces palatable, juicy stalks that reach nine to eleven feet in the height. The plant produces an abundance of leaves and can be used for bundles or baling. Top quality feed is attained when swathed while in the boot stage. It is recommended that broadcast planting be utilized for baling. Height under these conditions will be 5-7 feet.

AGRONOMIC DATA*

Days to 1/2 Bloom	70-74 Days
Plant Height	9-11 Feet
Yield Potential	8-11 Tons/Acre
Usage	Hay, Grazing, Green Chop
Comments	Broadcast for Baling Can Also Be Bundled

Hereford, Tx

*All agronomic data will depend upon the growing conditions and may vary as conditions vary.

1-800-333-9048