

### DID YOU KNOW...

.....you can support the youth of Rusk County by making a donation or sponsoring an award for the Rusk County Youth Project Show ...

Stop by the Extension Office—we can assist you !

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Tune in to 98.5 FM & 1470 AM Monday-Friday at 8am and noon to hear the Rusk County Extension Agents Report on KWRD Radio, Henderson TX. Agents will be discussing a wide array Of Agricultural, Natural Resource, 4-H and Family and Community Health related issues and events.

## Rusk County

# Ag News & Views

WINTER 2021

## 2021 Rusk County Hay Show

We had 99 hay samples submitted and we recognized the top ten hay producers in Rusk County

Here are the results, and the supporters of those ten:

Producer	Buyer
Trent Smith	Fish & Still
Randy Weatherford	Lowe Tractor
Ken Ragle	Steele's Feed
Sonny Truelock	Hunt Livestock
Galan & Patti White	Steele's Feed
Whitworth Family	Heritage Land Bank
Damon Bassett	Tri-County
Ken Hale	Vera Bank
Robert Harris	Lowe Tractor
Gary Griffin	Henderson Ranch & Feed

Special thanks to additional Hay Show Supporters/Purchasers:

Terry Nicholas, Todd Smith, Velvin Oil, Texas Fresh, Gary Griffin, George & Diann Anderson, Boatcycle, Livestock Nutrition Center, The Ranch Home & Feed, Mike Rollins, and H&W Powersports to name a few



**Lot 1** in this year's Hay Show was produced by Trent Smith. Trent's hay was purchased by Fish & Still. Pictured (l-r) Ryan McAnally and Trent Smith.



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**Rusk County AgriLife**

*Jamie Sugg*

Jamie Sugg  
County Extension Agent-  
Agriculture





**Lot 2:** Randy Weatherford produced hay in the top ten this year. Randy's hay was purchased by Lowe Tractor. Pictured (l-r) Gyce Butler, Stephen Lowe and Randy Weatherford.



**Lot 3** hay was produced by Ken Ragle. Ken's hay was purchased by Steele's Feed in Troup. Pictured (l-r) Chance Steele, Ken Ragle, Bo Steele with Sawyer Steele in the front row.



**Lot 4** hay was produced by Sonny Truelock and it was purchased by Hunt Livestock. Pictured (l-r) Sonny Truelock and Mark Hunt.



**Lot 5** hay was produced by Galan & Patti White. The White's hay was purchased by Steele's Feed in Troup. Pictured (l-r) Chance Steele, Galan and Patti White, Bo and Sawyer Steele.





**Lot 6** hay was produced by Whitworth Cattle. The Whitworth hay was purchased by Heritage Land Bank. Pictured (l-r) Steven Dyess, Baxter Whitworth and Bryan Wages.



**Lot 7** hay was produced by Damon Bassett. Damon's hay was purchased by Tri-County Livestock in New Summerfield. Pictured (l-r) Wesley and Will Davis, Jill and Damon Bassett.



Ken Hale produced the hay of **Lot 8** this year. Vera Bank was the purchaser of Ken Hale's hay. Pictured (l-r) Ken Hale and Ryan Ellis.





**Lot 9** hay was produced by Robert Harris. The purchaser of Robert's hay was Lowe Tractor. Pictured (l-r) Stephen Lowe, Robert's grandsons Cason and Jackson Pirtle, and Gyce Butler.



Gary Griffin raised the hay of **Lot 10** this year. Gary's hay was purchased by Henderson Ranch & Feed. Pictured (l-r) Jimmy Berry, Gary's granddaughter Hannah Pace, and Robert Berry.

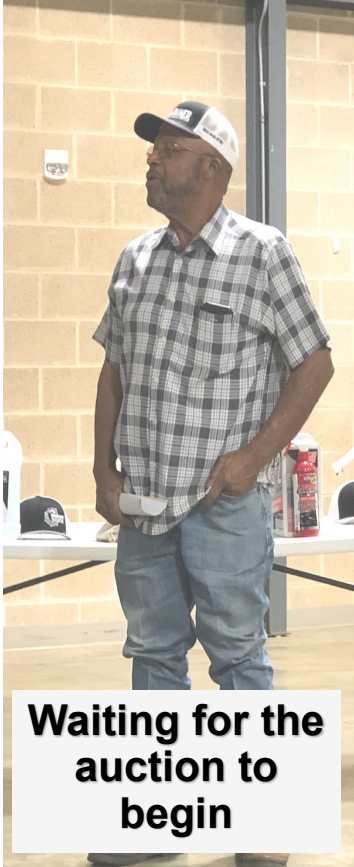
This year's hay show auction raised over \$13,000 for the youth of Rusk County. All proceeds from the annual Rusk County Hay Show go to Rusk County Youth Project Show exhibitors. Proceeds are in the form of add-ons for youth exhibiting county-bred steers and county-bred commercial heifers.

Flag was made by Terry Nicholas and was donated for the hay auction. The purchaser was Todd Smith





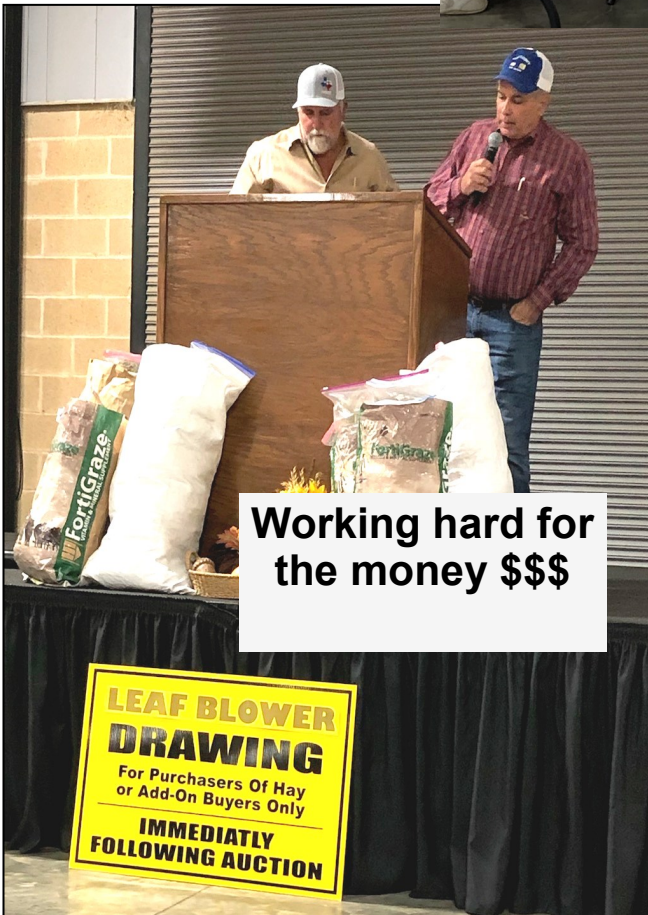
## 2021 Hay Show



**Waiting for the  
auction to  
begin**



**We had plenty of  
help this year!**



**Working hard for  
the money \$\$\$**

**LEAF BLOWER  
DRAWING**  
For Purchasers Of Hay  
or Add-On Buyers Only  
**IMMEDIATLY  
FOLLOWING AUCTION**



**Getting  
instructions**

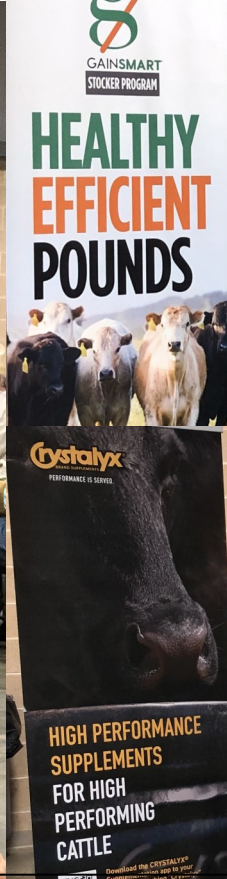


## Some of this year's Hay Show purchasers!



**Bo and Sawyer Steele**

Sawyer has been attending  
the hay show his  
entire life



**Henderson Ranch & Feed**



**Meal was  
sponsored by:**

**The Ranch Farm  
& Home  
and  
Livestock  
Nutrition  
Center**





Restricted Use<sup>1</sup> or  
State-Limited Use<sup>2</sup>  
Herbicides

2,4-D  
2,4-DB  
Banvel (Dicamba)  
Cimarron Max  
Crossbow  
GrazonNext  
GrazonNext HL  
Grazon P+D  
PasturAll HL  
Surmount  
Tordon 22K  
Weedar 64  
Weedmaster  
Weedone LV6

Non-Restricted Use  
Herbicides

Amber  
Chaparral  
Cimarron Extra  
Cimarron Plus  
Milestone  
Pastora  
PastureGard HL  
Reclaim  
Redeem R&P  
Remedy Ultra  
Spike 20P  
Spike 80DF  
VelPar L  
Vista XLT

<sup>1</sup>**Restricted use:** for purchase and use only by certified pesticide applicators or persons under their direct supervision. Designation is placed on the product by EPA, and the label will state restricted use.

<sup>2</sup>**State-limited use:** pesticides containing certain active ingredients, with the potential to cause adverse

Effects to non-targeted vegetation, are classified as SLU when distributed in containers larger than one-quart liquid or 2 pounds dry or solid.

## Now is the Time to Control Thistle



If left uncontrolled, thick thistle stands can reduce grazing and result in less forage production. A single thistle plant can produce at least 4,000 seeds, which increases

the chance for higher thistle populations in the pasture the following year. Consequently, management practices need to be conducted prior to flower formation for effective thistle control. Even if thistles have not infested your pasture in the past, it is ideal that your pastures are scouted in late fall through mid-spring (November to March) to ensure that thistles do not get out of control. New

infestations are easier to manage than large-scale populations. Although there are several different species of thistle in Texas, most are closely related and control recommendations will not differ.

**Best time to control with a herbicide is when thistles are in the rosette stage. The rosette stage is when the thistle forms a low-growing ring of eaves.**

As they mature they are harder to control and may require higher rates of herbicide to have effective control.

### Select Herbicide Options:

Weedmaster  
2, 4-D  
GrazonNext  
Remedy  
PastureGard  
Cimarron Max (for bermudagrass pastures, will control bahia grass)

**REMEMBER: THE LABEL IS THE LAW!** Always read the pesticide label before using.



Rosette Stage

## Winter Weeds: Do they matter?

As forage producers, we focus most of our energy on our warm season perennial pastures and hay meadows (bermudagrass, bahiagrass, etc.). That means most of our weed control efforts are also focused on warm season weeds (such as [carolina horsenettle](#), blackberry, etc). Unfortunately, cool season weeds can be just as detrimental to our warm season perennial forages.

**Annual ryegrass**...a cool season annual forage often utilized by livestock producers for winter grazing. However, it's often deemed an enemy of many a hay producer in East Texas. Later maturity of annual ryegrass can delay or prevent our warm season perennial forages from breaking dormancy in April/May therefore delaying our initial hay cutting. There are multiple ways to manage unwanted ryegrass. Use of herbicides to control annual ryegrass is probably the most common method practiced. Pendimethalin can be used as a pre-emergent herbicide for dormant bermudagrass and bahiagrass pastures and hay meadows. Glyphosate; metsulfuron and nicosulfuron are post emergent herbicide options.

**Henbit** is a plant that is not generally considered a pasture weed. It can become a major competitor with bermudagrass in the early spring for moisture and nutrients. 2,4-D alone is not highly effective against henbit. However, glyphosate in the dormant season; mixtures of 2,4-D and glyphosate; and mixtures of 2,4-D and dicamba, picloram, aminopyralid, and metsulfuron; are quite effective against henbit. Henbit is a cool season annual and should be sprayed when it is small for best results.

If left uncontrolled, thick **thistle** stands can reduce grazing and result in less forage production. Best time to control with a herbicide is when thistles are in the rosette stage. The rosette stage is when the thistle forms a low-growing ring of leaves (November – March). If thistles have bolted or developed seed heads, they are much more difficult to control. Several broadleaf herbicides are effective against thistles if they are in the rosette stage (2,4-D alone; 2,4-D with picloram; dicamba or aminopyralid; metsulfuron methyl; or a combination of metsulfuron methyl with 2,4-D and dicamba).

**Texas Groundsel** or Texas squaw-weed is another common cool season annual weed. Control is less expensive and more likely if plants are treated while still in the rosette stage. Once the plant begins to bolt, more herbicide is required. 2,4-D alone can be effective if applied in the rosette stage. Other effective products include: 2,4-D and dicamba, 2,4-D and aminopyralid, aminopyralid, metsulfuron, metsulfuron and nicosulfuron, metsulfuron with 2,4-D and dicamba.

Winter weeds are not a problem in all perennial warm-season pastures and hay meadows. Fields should be scouted to determine if treatment is warranted. In most cases, controlling winter weeds in summer perennial pastures involved an additional application since it is unlikely that an application during the dormant season will control summer weeds.

**Strict adherence to label directions is required by law.** Paying close attention to label directions will also ensure safe, effective and economical use. Herbicide labels contain directions for proper rate and timing of application, a list of susceptible species, and information regarding cleanup and disposal following use.



**EAST REGION AGRILIFE  
CONFERENCE & EXPO  
CROSS BRAND COWBOY CHURCH  
11915 FM 2015  
TYLER, TEXAS 75708  
JANUARY 14, 2022**

**TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION**



**PRAIRIE VIEW  
A&M UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Cooperative Extension Program

<b>Times</b>	<b>Topics and Speakers</b>	
7:15 AM - 8:00 AM	Registration and Visit Vendors	<b>Registration Fee</b> <b>\$ 10.00</b>
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Termites</b> -Janet Hurley (SPCS License holders only) Senior Extension Program Specialist - IPM Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Dallas	
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Break and Visit Vendors	<b>Pending Approval</b> <b><u>6 SPCS</u></b> 1 Termite 1 Pest 2 Gen 1 L&O 1 Weed
9:15 AM - 10:15 AM	<b>Ants in Turf and Pastures</b> - Janet Hurley Senior Extension Program Specialist - IPM Texas A&M AgriLife Extension-Dallas	
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	<b>Pesticide Laws and Regulations Update-</b> Dr. Mark Matocha Associate Professor & Extension Specialist Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - College Station	<b>Pending Approval</b> <b><u>5 TDA</u></b> 2 Gen 1 L&R 2 IPM
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	<b>Pesticide Safety</b> -Dr. Mark Matocha Associate Professor & Extension Specialist Texas A&M AgriLife Extension- College Station	
12:15 PM - 1:15 PM	Lunch and Visit Vendors	<b>RSVP By:</b> <b>January 7, 2022</b> <b>903.590.2980</b>
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM	<b>Disease in Turf and Bermuda Grass-</b> Dr. Chrissie Segars Assistant Professor & Extension Turfgrass Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Dallas	
2:15 PM - 2:30 PM	Break and Visit Vendors	<b>Presented by: Texas</b> <b>A&amp;M AgriLife Extension Agents</b> <b>from the following Counties:</b> <b>Anderson, Cherokee, Gregg,</b> <b>Henderson, Panola,</b> <b>Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur,</b> <b>Van Zandt, and Wood</b>
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>Weed ID and Control using IPM Strategies-</b> Dr. Chrissie Segars Assistant Professor & Extension Turfgrass Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Dallas	

## BQA TIP-OF-THE-MONTH – DEWORMING

Deworming is important to maintain cattle health and performance. Timing and frequency of treatment will vary depending on geographic location, rainfall, stocking rate, age of the animal, and persistent activity of the product used. Producers in the southern United States in areas with higher rainfall and higher stocking rates may need to deworm twice a year (late-May or June and again November or December). Only one treatment may be needed in areas with 15-25 inches of rainfall and moderate stocking rates. Routine deworming might not be needed in areas with low rainfall and low stocking rates.



## TIMING OF GROWTH IMPLANTS FOR STOCKERS

Stocker calves often experience various types of stress before being received including, but not limited to, weaning, commingling, handling, and transportation. There has been some speculation that such stress might adversely impact response from growth implants. A group of 203 bull or steer calves of rather uniform weight (averaging  $447 \pm 6$  lb) and of unknown health history were obtained from local livestock auctions. Calves were vaccinated for BRD, Clostridia, and tetanus, dewormed, and any bulls were castrated by banding. At that time, calves were assigned to one of four experimental groups: 1) implanted at processing with Synovex S®, 2) implanted 14 days later, 3) implanted 28 days later, or 4) not implanted. All calves were placed on a corn-gluten based receiving ration for 42 days followed by 78 days grazing wheat pasture. At the end of wheat pasture grazing, non-implanted controls averaged weighing 689 lb. Implanted groups averaged 732 lb, significantly above controls. There was no significant difference among the three implanted groups. There were no significant differences among the four groups in health status during the entire trial. The authors concluded “our observations suggest that there is not a clear benefit to delaying growth implantation and that a growth implant does not affect health or vaccine response in newly received calves”.

(J. Animal Sci. 93:4089; West Texas A&M Univ., Univ. of Arkansas, Zoetis)



## A better way to feed cows for cold weather

**In severe storms, you can't keep up with cows' actual energy requirements. Here's the solution.**

[Alan Newport](#) | Jan 23, 2019 BEEF Magazine

The nature of many beef producers is the morning of every new winter storm to rush out and feed the cows something extra. In truth, this may be backward thinking, says Glenn Selk, Oklahoma State University emeritus extension animal scientist. He notes the major effect of cold on the nutrient requirement of cows is an increased need for energy. When cattle face extreme cold or even worse -- cold and wet conditions -- they really cannot keep up with these demands for energy. Therefore, Selk says, they should be fed better on either side of the storm to help overcome the condition losses they will surely suffer.

Here's his explanation: To determine effects of cold weather, lower critical temperature for beef cows must first be estimated. For cows with a dry winter hair coat, the lower critical temperature is considered to be 32 degrees. Researchers generally use the rule of thumb that cow energy requirements increase 1% for each degree the cold or wind chill is below the 32 degree lower critical temperature.

In this example, the predicted wind chills will average about 4 degrees F. Therefore the calculation example for a cow with a dry winter hair coat would be done this way.

Step 1: Cow's lower critical temperature is 32 degrees F.

Step 2: Expected wind-chill from weather reports will be 4 degrees with wind chill.

Step 3: Calculate the magnitude of the cold as the difference between the lower critical temperature and the wind chill:  $32 - 4 = 28$  degrees

Step 4: Energy adjustment is 1% for each degree magnitude of cold or 28%.

Step 5: Feed cows 128% of daily energy amount. This says if a cow was to receive 16 pounds of high-quality grass-legume hay; she would need 20.5 pounds of hay during the cold weather event.

Further, research says energy requirement for maintenance of beef cows with a wet hair coat is much greater. Cows with wet hair coats are considered to have reached their lower critical temperature at 59 degrees. Even worse, their requirements change twice as much for each degree of change in wind-chill factor, meaning their energy requirement actually increases 2% for each degree below 59 degrees. To calculate the magnitude of the cold when the cow is wet you would use the above process, but use 59 degrees instead of 32, and your cow energy requirements would be multiplied by 2% instead of 1%. This means those cows facing a 4-degrees wind chill with wet hair coats would need a 110% increase in energy, which Selk notes is more than twice their normal energy intake.

"This amount of energy change is virtually impossible to accomplish with feedstuffs available on ranches," Selks says. "In addition, this amount of energy change in the diet of cows accustomed to a high-roughage diet must be made very gradually to avoid severe digestive disorders. Therefore, the more common-sense approach is a smaller increase in energy requirements during wet cold weather and extending the increase into more pleasant weather to help regain energy lost during the storm."

He adds these calculations show us it is not feasible to feed a wet, very cold cow enough to maintain her current body condition, and that underscores the need for cows to be in good body condition at the start of winter.



**TEXAS A&M**  
**AGRILIFE**  
**EXTENSION**

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We are on the web:  
[rusk.agrilife.org](http://rusk.agrilife.org)

If you prefer to receive the Ag & Natural Resource Newsletter via email, please email me at [jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jdsugg@ag.tamu.edu) and I will add you to the list. You will also receive Weekly Livestock Market Reports and Trends



**Extension Office closed January 3, 2022**

### **PRIVATE PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Licensed private applicators are required to re-certify every five years by obtaining 15 continuing education credits, including two credits in Laws and Regulations and two credits in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), prior to expiration of the license.