

Farmers Urged To Improve Profits, Cut Overhead

Today's farmers are in a tough spot. Prices for many of their products are down, while costs for fuel, labor, and equipment are up. Equally upsetting is the fact that this price-cost squeeze is not likely to improve soon.

"The farmer's best bet to improve profits is to cut overhead. Reduced tillage trials show that one way a farmer can do this is to change the way he plows his land," said Herbert Engstrom, chairman of the board of directors of the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District.

Conservationists with the USDA Soil Conservation Service call reduced tillage the system of the future.

"The fact is, many farmers plow too much with tradition. But, reduced tillage methods can be cut they're looking for," said Connie Fair, district conservationist with the SCS in Columbus.

In some cases, needed equipment is being cut down, Fair continued.

Many farmers are planting crops directly into the stubble of previous crops, without other preparation. Sometimes, this is the only way to successfully grow two crops in one year.

So, if you're looking for a way to beat the price-cost squeeze, here's a tip from the SCS. During the year, list all tractor trips across your land prior to harvest of your major crop. Estimate the cost of every operation. Decide whether each trip was made to increase production or if it was made because of tradition. By eliminating all the habit trips, you

County Food Info Day Sat., Mar. 31

Plans are underway for the Colorado County Food Information Day to be held Saturday, March 31 at the Columbus American Legion Community Center.

Frances L. Reasonover, Foods and Nutrition Specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, will be one of the speakers for the morning and afternoon session. Her topic will be on "Food Pads and Fad Diets". The reason behind her topic is an important one. Faddism and nutrition nonsense have created a major public health problem, with Americans squandering \$2 billion on food fads. Miss Reasonover cited that these people are fooled, because they don't know or won't accept scientific facts about foods and nutrition and that ignorance, indifference and fear contribute to the situation.

Throughout the day, home economists and food economists will be working with Miss Reasonover to show how a variety of foods will produce a wholesome diet. There will be food demonstrations going on all day using new appliances on the market.

Computer Diet Check She will also be assisting with the Com-

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FRANCES REASONOVER

puterized Nutrition Diet Check Program by aiding in explaining how important it is for people to better understand the nutritional value of their diet. The diet check program is an awareness activity to let people compare their diet pattern with the RDA. This is a new program through the Extension Service and Colorado County will be the second county, after Harris County, to use the program in this area of the state.

The Board of Directors of the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District would like to express a big "Thank You" to those district cooperators who recently made financial contributions to the district. These contributions will be used to carry out a stronger conservation program in Colorado County for your benefit.

New Aerial Photos The local Soil Conservation Service office is glad to announce that a new flight of aerial photographs has been received, and are now being used by personnel.

District Conservationist Connie Fair assisted Melvin Sunderman of Eagle Lake with the revision of conservation plan for Mrs. Esther Sunderman. Mrs. Sunderman's farm is located about two miles east of Eagle Lake on Highway 90A.

A new conservation plan has been developed on the K&L Ranch south of Weimar. This property is owned jointly by Wilton Leppin and Kervy Kahlon. Plans call for a new pond to be constructed.

District Conservationist Connie Fair and SCS Technician Adrian Fritsch provided technical assistance to Mrs. Tommy Bolden and Mrs. Rosie Williams on draining the area around their homes located north of Albeton.

Information was given by District Conservationist Connie Fair to Bill

bolworm. The Texas Department of Agriculture administers the Pink Bollworm Program.

Questions regarding the program should be addressed to the TDA district office in Brenham, 713-832-3471.

Soil Conservation News

Soils information was given to Mrs. Lis Badger, a student at the University of Texas in Austin, on the area just east of Eagle Lake. Mrs. Badger is doing a study on possible geothermal energy uses in the area and the soils as they relate to this possible new source of energy.

The Board of Directors of the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District held their regular monthly meeting on February 20 in the conference room of the County Ag. Building. Those directors attending were Herbert Engstrom, Henry Sunderman, Mrs. Rubina Heinsohn, Glen Stromquist and Melvin Albright. These meetings are always open to the public.

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CPL Mgr. Reports On Input Of Bay City Nuclear Project

Bryan Hale, manager of Central Power and Light Company's Bay City office, presented an informative program on the South Texas Nuclear Project under construction in Matagorda County and the area around it. Hale noted also that with additional population comes new businesses and shopping centers with 22 businesses employing over 300 persons. He praised the cooperation of community leaders and corporate officials involved with the plant construction in helping to solve some of the problems facing the community by its sudden growth.

CPL Customers Up 30% Hale commented that customers serviced by Central Power and Light Co. at Bay City increased by thirty percent during the past three years and brought about a change in attitude toward employment with more women being hired as meter readers, etc.

Hale also said film describing the operation of the South Texas nuclear project once it becomes operational (estimated in 1982) and progress that has been made on the plant construction by Brown & Root Company.

Hale noted that the first to feel the effect of the location of the plant in Matagorda County were the rice farmers since 12,000 acres of farm lands formerly used for rice production were taken up in the plant site.

"When you add 4,000 daily workers at any site, you are bound to create some problems," said the speaker. He told about the problems which developed with traffic and especially with the convoys of trucks and the vehicles used to transport the 4,000 workers to and from the plant site daily; an increase in the crime rate; and a shortage of labor which developed in the area because so many of the workers in the project came from businesses and industries that already existed in the Bay City area. He estimated that about 25 percent came from the Bay City area, another 25 percent from areas of Matagorda county surrounding the site, another 25 percent from other areas of the state, and another 25 percent from out of the state.

He reported that housing became a premium item, but noted that a great boom in the construction industry has

Zweigel on locating a site for his new home which he plans to build in the near future.

Thanks Offered The Board of Directors and staff of the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District would like to express their appreciation to the district cooperators who have made financial contributions in response to the letter and fact sheet recently mailed out. This money will be put to good use to help support the district.

Heroines Of Jericho Plans St. Pat's Tea Sun.

The Pride of Glew Flora. Court No. 305 of the Heroines of Jericho of Glen Flora will hold its first St. Patrick's Day Green Tea in the Masonic Hall on Sunday, March 18th at 4:00 p.m.

All-Risk Crop Insurance Worth A Look

Farmers who haven't carried insurance on their crop investment in the past may want to take a new look at the benefits of an all-risk insurance policy, according to Harry Clark, District Director of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

Clark points out that a number of significant improvements have been made in the insurance coverage for 1979 crops, including a substantial increase in the dollar amount of protection offered on such crops as cotton and rice.

Anyone wanting to find out exactly what it would cost to obtain insurance for his crops, and what yield guarantee the policy provides in his area, should contact the FIC Office at the USDA Building, 2916 North Richmond Road, Wharton, Texas 77488, telephone number 713-532-8500 ext. 14.

the instructing in the course.

The short course at East Bernard High School is scheduled to begin Monday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vocational Agriculture Building. Other meetings in the series of four will be held March 20, 21 and 22.

Persons interested in attending the short course may pre-register by contacting the teachers of vocational agriculture. They can also register at the start of the short course.

The meeting will be held in the Colorado County Courthouse in Columbus at 8 p.m. Friday, March 16th.

Other area counties where hearings will be held are Austin, March 16, 10 a.m. County Courthouse, Bellville, Fayette, Tues. March 13, 10 a.m. County Courthouse, La Grange, Lavaca, Fri. March 16, 3 p.m. County Courthouse, Hallettsville.

Hunters will have the opportunity to comment on a proposal for special "doe days" in the 1979 deer season in four counties, wherein a four-day season during the Thanksgiving holiday period would allow the taking of antlerless deer without a permit. Department officials point

Report Your Sport Call 234-2783

Raider Nine Looking To Improve Last Inning Play

Two Games In Final Inning - In Weimar Tournament

It doesn't happen very often and the odds of it happening two games in a row are really remote. But it happened to the Raider baseball team as they were the victims of seven-run rallies in the last inning which erased their six-run leads.

The Raiders, playing in the Weimar High School Baseball Tournament last weekend, met Hallettsville in the first round of play and had a comfortable 7-1 lead going into the final inning. But disaster struck and Rice led the game 8-7.

Playing in the consolation bracket on Saturday morning against district 20AA foe, Bellville, the Raiders had a 10-4 lead in the final inning but saw it disappear as the Brahmas rallied for seven runs to get the come-from-behind victory.

Raider coach Henry Garza is frustrated by the recent results, but not dissatisfied.

"Our kids are playing as well as can be expected," noted Garza. "We are hitting .305 as a team and have been collecting more hits than any of our opponents."

The problem, according to Garza, lies with the pitching. "It is early in the season and our pitchers

haven't fully developed their throwing arms."

The Raiders, lost their season opener to Weimar and are currently 0-3. In those three games, a total of 89 bases balls have been given up by Rice.

"Our control will improve as the season progresses," says Garza, expecting the pitching staff to come around in the next few games.

Starting for the Raiders this season are: John Schneider, catcher; David Grammer, first base; Arnold Rodriguez and Darriy Hince at second; Thomas Kallina, third; Kenny Flyk, short-stop; David Ruiz, John Grammer, Bruno Shimek and Rich Farris in the outfield; J. Grammer, Shimek and Farris also share duties on the mound for the Raiders.

Hallettsville 6, Rice 7 In the opening round of play on Thursday, the Raiders jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first inning. John Schneider walked and John Grammer got a single. Bruno Shimek followed with a hit to score both runners and then a hit by Thomas Kallina scored Shimek.

Hallettsville scored one in the second to make it 3-1 and Rice came up with a hit in the third. A hit by Grammer, an error on Kallina, and a hit by David Ruiz loaded the bases for

Schneider and Grammer were each three for four in the game and Shimek collected three runs batted in to lead in that category. Farris was the losing pitcher for Rice, giving up two hits and 10 walks in the five and one-third innings he pitched.

Rice Gets First Win Tuesday afternoon, the Raiders picked up their first win of the season with a 2-1 victory over Sacred Heart of Hallettsville at Rice Raider field.

Singles by Grammer and Shimek and a double by Arnold Rodriguez in the fourth inning accounted for the Raider scoring. Sacred Heart's score came on a solo homer in the first inning.

Grammer went the distance for Rice on the mound, giving up 3 hits and 3 walks, with 9 strikeouts. Rice is now 1-0 on the year.

Major proposals expected to arouse the interest of fishermen include increasing bag and possession limits for striped bass, dropping bag and possession limits for hybrid white/striped bass, and an experimental 16-inch minimum size limit on largemouth black bass in Lake Nacogdoches and the Fayette County Project Lake in Fayette County.

With a cold, misty breeze hampering play most of the day, Waller battled to a low team score of 388. Columbus finished second with a 948. Both teams received team trophies and individual medals.

Other finishers were Katy 345, Boling 351, Magnolia 361, Louise 356, and Rice 450. Royal was the eighth team. In the tournament, but only had three players and did not qualify for the team scores.

Members of this year's golf team coached by Bill Carpenter are: Russell Johnson, who finished with the low score for Rice with a 99; also, Ricky Miller, Jeff Pennell and Randy Epps.

The golfers will go to Fort Smith Saturday for a team tournament to be held by the Tishman High School.

March of Dimes Benefit Volleyball Games Future Homemakers of America Vs. The Young Homemakers Chapter Of Rice High School Thurs., March 22, 7:00 P.M. At Rice High School Gym Admission by donation to the March of Dimes EVERYONE COME!

Sports

Columbus Wins Rice Raider Jr. High Track Meet Sat.

The Columbus Cardinal seventh and eighth grade track teams each won their division in the Rice Raider Relays held at the Eagle Lake Middle School on Saturday.

The Columbus seventh graders finished with 95 points with Royal in second with 85, followed by East Bernard with 36 and Rice with 21.

The Cardinal eighth grade collected 42 points to win its division followed by West Memorial with 58, East Bernard with 41, Rice with 40 and Katy with 38.

The meet was shortened because of inclement weather and track officials tallied results of the preliminary races and results of the field events to determine the winners.

The Raider Jr. High School team, composed of individuals from Garwood, Sheridan and Eagle Lake and coached by Mike Stansifer, Benny Machac, David Wilson and Mike Benedict, made a fair showing despite the bad weather and limited combined workouts.

In the seventh grade division for Rice, the following individuals placed: Terry Cunningham, second in the high jump; Stanley Powell, third in the pole vault; Rupert Contreras, sixth in the 440; Rodney Witte, fifth in the 220; Cunningham, fourth in the 100.

In the eighth grade division, Rice finishers were as follows: Ed Thomas, second in the long jump; Dewayne Pangel, fifth in the long jump; Rob Johnson, third; Alex Ramirez, fifth in the shot put; Ramirez, first, Andy Gertson, fifth in the discus; James Powell fourth in the 220 low hurdles; Thomas, first in the 100 yard dash; and Pangel, second in the 220 yard dash.

This week the Jr. High schools will be back in action as they go to Brookshire for the Royal Relays for seventh and eighth graders this Friday.

Coach Wilson expressed his appreciation, on behalf of the Raider coaches and the El. Middle School, to all the people that helped to make the meet a successful one while it lasted.

Waller Takes All Honors In Rice Golf Meet Sat.

The Rice High School golf team hosted its annual golf tournament last Saturday morning and Waller finished with the low total to capture the team title.

Receiving medalist honors were Frank Stoen and James Stewart, both of Waller, both finishing with scores of 81. Stoen took top honors by winning in a one-hole playoff.

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Raider Boys Finish Eighth In 18-Team Track Meet At Royal

Barrios Wins First In Pole Vault Clearing 12 Ft. 7 In.

The Rice Raider track team had less than a week to prepare for the meet because of basketball.

Other top performers in Friday's meet included David Long, finishing second in the 200 meter race with a 22.9. Long's best time in the event last year was 22.8 and Brennan expects him to improve on that mark this year.

Lewis Tillman who had a best time of 49.8 last year in the 400 meter run, ran a 49.9 in last Friday's meet and he should improve along with the girls for a track meet. The following weekend the boys will compete in the Columbus meet.

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planned with his team's performance and is expecting his team to be among the contenders as the season progresses.

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Cotton Planting Dates Set

Agriculture Commissioner Reagan V. Brown reminds cotton farmers that planting dates for Lee, Bastrop, Fayette, Lavaca, Colorado, Austin, Washington and Waller counties are Mar. 10th to May 20th.

Planting and plow-up dates have been established to control the pink bollworm.

The Texas Department of Agriculture administers the Pink Bollworm Program.

Questions regarding the program should be addressed to the TDA district office in Brenham, 713-832-3471.

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Hearing On Game, Fish Laws Friday

Public hearings have been set for mid-March in all counties under the regulatory authority of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to consider hunting, fishing and trapping regulations for 1979-80.

Citizens are invited to exercise their right to comment on the proposed changes at these public hearings, generally held at the county courthouse.

The meeting will be held in the Colorado County Courthouse in Columbus at 8 p.m. Friday, March 16th.

Other area counties where hearings will be held are Austin, March 16, 10 a.m. County Courthouse, Bellville, Fayette, Tues. March 13, 10 a.m. County Courthouse, La Grange, Lavaca, Fri. March 16, 3 p.m. County Courthouse, Hallettsville.

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March of Dimes Benefit Volleyball Games

Rice High School
Future Homemakers of America
Vs.
The Young Homemakers Chapter
Of Rice High School
Thurs., March 22, 7:00 P.M.
At Rice High School Gym
Admission by donation to the March of Dimes EVERYONE COME!

Rice Tennis Team In Wharton Tourny Fri., Sat.

The Rice High School tennis team will see its first tournament action of the spring this Friday and Saturday as they compete in the Wharton Tiger Invitational Tennis Tournament.

Sixteen schools will be competing in the two-day event and the competition is expected to be tough.

Rice tennis coach Gil Stalbaum is expecting his team to make a good showing despite the competitive field.

Ben Anderson will be playing in the number one singles spot for the Raiders and is one of the few experienced players on the team. Bert Tise is the number two boys' singles player.

Two boys' doubles teams will also be competing in the number one singles spot for the Raiders and is one of the few experienced players on the team. Bert Tise is the number two boys' singles player.

Philip Leopold and Kevin Pellerin are partners on one team. Troy Hagendorf and Jimmy Epps, Ricky Miller and Mark Salazar, and Darrel Appelt and Arnold Rodriguez make up the other three teams.

The number one girls' singles player for the Raiders is Janice Walgren with Pam Kallina filling the number two spot. Stalbaum will also have to team two girls' doubles teams to represent Rice this weekend, but will only have three to pick from.

The doubles teams are: Julie Epps and Janice Walgren, Jacquie Kallina and Kathy Fraser, and Cindy Rodriguez and Terri Clippson.