

Texas Parks And Wildlife Department Gives Migratory Bird Report

South Zone: The second duck opener was good, but not great like the first opener.

Solid shoots were posted across the region. Pintails, gadwalls, shovelers and green-winged teal were the species taken on the coastal prairie.

Many hunting parties got a shot at mallards as well. The last cold front coupled with a full moon send many greenheads to the coast.

Not as many teal were seen on the coast compared to the first split. Pintails continue to cooperate on the prairies.

Port O'Connor and Rockport was solid for pintails, redheads, seap and wigeons. Afternoon bay hunters took solid straps as well.

Goose hunting has improved. Snow geese have been readily decoying in strong feeding fields of rice and winter wheat.

Specklebellies have decoyed as well since there are many young birds in the mix. The recent front deposited Canadas to the coast and some hunters reported taking their limit of three Canada geese to go along with two specks.

Sandhill crane numbers are good and hunting should be strong when the season opens Dec. 23 in Zone C.

Mild weather for the week should do nothing to prompt more birds to fly south.

The region received an inch or more of rain Sunday which helped recharge drying ponds somewhat. The last 45 days have been quite dry on the coast. Prospects are fair to good.

High Plains Mallard Management Unit: Duck hunting continues to be very good on playa lakes and feed lot tanks near Dumas, Amarillo, Knox City, Spearman

and Etter.

Mallards, pintails, green-winged teal, wigeons, gadwalls and wood ducks have been showing in bags.

Many more mallards since the last front. Hunting continues to be weather-driven. When the weather is stable, Canada geese have been patterning to the same fields and hunters have seen great decoying action.

When the winds shift several times, the geese have been fickle. Lots of geese, though. Snow goose hunting has been fair around Lake Etter.

Sandhill cranes have moved out of the Panhandle region since the last front. Prospects are good with a little weather.

North Zone: The opener of the second split for the North Texas section of the North Zone was fair at best. Isolated pockets of water,

which are hard to come by in this region, held ducks.

Lakes and reservoirs saw the busiest shooting. The last front did deposit more mallards to the region.

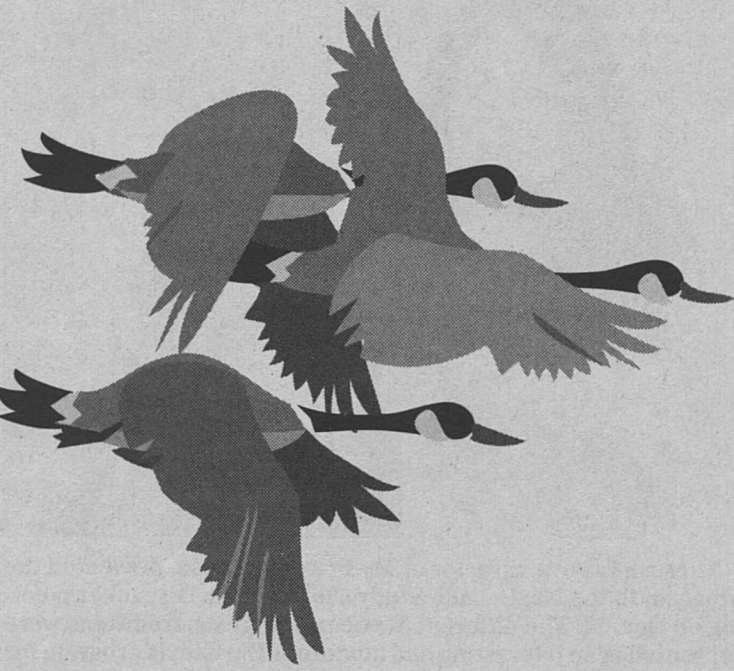
The IH-10 corridor saw the best action in the North Zone, though it was lackluster compared to the first opener.

Many hunters in rice fields near Winnie, Brookshire and Sealy banded their birds, but many took half-limits as well.

Gadwalls, green-winged teal, shovelers and pintails made up the bag, with a few mallards in the mix. Sunday, hunters reported much slower hunting.

Mild temperatures are forecasted for the week, which does nothing to prompt migration. Prospects are fair in North Texas and fair to good closer to the coast.

Dec. 13 Report



Rice Industry To Tackle Exportation Problem

Texas rice producers are encouraged to implement voluntary measures in 2007 in an attempt to regain valuable export markets, according to experts.

Earlier this year, samples of Cheniere variety rice contained trace amounts of genetic material from LL601, a Liberty Link genetically-modified rice that had not been approved for release.

Markets reacted negatively to the discovery and led to an

embargo of U.S. rice sold to the European Union and some other countries.

"This is a voluntary effort the industry is putting forth," said Dr. Garry McCauley, a research scientist with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

"Not planting or marketing the Cheniere variety is a very feasible way to get our rice back into those export markets again."

At the USA Rice Federation

meeting recently in Las Vegas, an outline of recommendations was formulated as part of an overall strategy by the rice industry to prevent unapproved GMO rice from entering the marketplace.

For example, seed dealers have agreed not to sell the Cheniere rice variety for planting in 2007.

Texas growers are advised to implement the following practices entering the 2007 growing season:

- Purchased rice planting seed must be dealer certified as LL601-trait free.
- Upon first entry to the marketplace at a rice dryer/elevator, the grower must present dealer seed certification and documentation of rice acreage certified to Farm Services Agency (including the farm serial number).
- "All of these documents will be reviewed for completeness at the first place the rice enters the

marketing chain," said McCauley, noting major Texas rice mills have agreed to participate in the effort by not purchasing rice that cannot be documented as being planted with LL-trait-free seed.

Growers are advised to carefully clean all planting, harvesting and storage equipment prior to starting the 2007 season, McCauley said.

"If the problem is going to go away, we need to make a good stewardship effort to clean this up," he said.

For more detailed information, rice growers should contact the Texas Cooperative Extension agent in their county.

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Cotton Production Down 32 Percent

Texas Upland cotton production for 2006 is expected to total 5.7 million bales, down 32 percent from 2005 and unchanged from forecast last month, according to figures released by the Texas Field Office.

Statewide harvested acreage is estimated at 4.2 million acres, 25 percent less than last year.

Yield is expected to average 651 pounds per acre compared with 723 pounds last year, and unchanged from the November forecast.

Production on the Southern High Plains is estimated to total 2.45 million bales, down 41 percent from last year's production.

Average yield, at 632 pounds

per acre, is 125 pounds less than a year ago.

The Northern High Plains crop, estimated at 1.56 million bales, is four percent more than last year.

In the Low Plains, production is estimated at 450,000 bales, 59 percent less than last year.

United States Upland cotton

production is forecast at a record 20.57 million bales, down 12 percent from last year and virtually unchanged from the November forecast.

Yield is expected to average 790 pounds per acre compared with 825 pounds in 2005.

Harvested acreage is estimated at 12.5 million acres, eight percent less than a year ago.

Milk Production Up 10 Percent From Last Year

Texas milk production totaled 573 million pounds during November, up 10 percent from last year's production of 523 million pounds.

October 2006 production totaled

561 million pounds.

The number of milk cows during November averaged 338,000 head, up 17,000 head from last year and unchanged from the

October 2006 number.

Production per cow averaged 1,695 pounds during November, up four percent from last year.

Milk production in the 23 states

participating in the monthly survey totaled 13.3 billion pounds, up three percent from production in these same states in November 2005.

October unrevised production, at 13.7 billion pounds, was up two percent from October 2005.

Production per cow during November averaged 1,616 pounds, 24 pounds above a year ago.

The average number of milk cows in the 23 states was 8.25 million head, 81,000 head more than last year, and 3,000 head more than October 2006.

Rice Conference Slated Jan. 24

The 3rd Annual Western Rice Belt Production Conference is scheduled for Wednesday January 24, at the El Campo Civic Center in El Campo.

The morning will kick off with registration and coffee at 8 p.m. with the program starting at 8:20

a.m. Topics for the day will be Insect Management, Varietal Performance and Weed Management, Irrigation Management, Equip Update, Rice Field Leveling and the 2007 Farm Bill Policy

Update. This program will offer a minimum of 3 CEUs for private Commercial and Non-Commercial Applicators. CCA's will also be available.

For more Information you can contact the Colorado, Jackson, Matagorda and Wharton County Extension Offices.

Christ Is The Reason For The Season

By Sister Inola Johnson, North Lake Baptist Church Pastor/instructor: Rev. J. H. James, Eagle Lake

It grieves me something awful, to know that there are people in this world, that want to do away with the name "God". The eternalness of "God" teaches us that "The Holy Bible, began with this statement, "In the beginning "God" created (create, means, to bring into existence, this visible and invisible world, without any pre-existence material) The Heaven, and the Earth."

"God" is sovereign; he has supreme authority in all creation. America, needs the "Redeemed" to take a stand on the foundation in which it was build on. Once a "Godly" country. Who woke us up this morning?

In spite of wanting to remove "In God We Trust" off our currency, or "One Nation Under God," from the pledge. And even "Christ" out of Christmas.

It is absolutely impossible, for anyone on this green earth,

to escape the present of the Almighty God. No matter what the "Supreme Court" or anyone else says or thinks.

King David declared in *Psa. 139:7-10*, "Where can I go to flee from God's presence, if I ascend to heaven, He's there. If I make my bed in Hell He's there. If I take the wings of the morning and fly to the uttermost parts of the sea, even there He will lead and hold me."

Psa. 53:1, "The fool says in his heart there is no God. (The doctrine, of fool means) anyone that turns a deaf ear, and refuses to hear, accept, and obey, God's word unite in a relationship and fellowship with Him is a fool."

God is absolutely Holy. He is not a man that he should lie, Numbers 23:19. His understanding is infinite, there is no searching of His understanding—for he is far pass finding out.

He is an omnipresence God everywhere at the same time. He is in Iraq, Iran, Sudan; He is over Saddam, Ben Laden, and the entire universe.

God continues to say, *II Chronicles 1:14*, "If my people which are called by my name," (read it).

No one, I do mean no one is trying to push or shove a belief, faith, nor religion down anyone's throat, God's business is a divine who so ever will business.

Isa. 46:9, God identified himself saying, "For I am God, and there is no one else like me." I knew the end of this world, from the beginning.

Don't let anybody fool us. Luke 2:10 says, "The angels (angels are spirits of God direct messengers from God) said fear not I bring you good news. This day, in the city of David, a savior is born which is Christ the Lord. The wise men came with gifts, that's where we get gift giving from.

But the greatest gift of all gifts, was that love gift God gave (John 3:16) to the whole world.

I am speaking for ALL of the redeemed.

We thank God for the blood of the crucified lamb.

Merry 'Christ'mas

Colorado County Deed Records

Memorandum of Oil and Gas, Debbie Stehling to EBR Properties II LP, var. tracts John H. Standish et al surveys, filed Oct. 12.

Memorandum of Oil and Gas, Thad Stehling to EBR Properties II LP, var. tracts John H. Standish et al surveys, filed Oct. 12.

Memorandum of Oil and Gas, Douglas Stehling to EBR Properties II LP, var. tracts John H. Standish et al surveys, filed Oct. 12.

Memorandum of Oil and Gas, Ervin F. Heffley and other to EBR Properties II LP, 375.86 acres John H. Standish survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Alix M. Cornelius S. Van Rees to EBR Properties II LP, 29 acres John E. Hester survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Jo-seph Allen Trustee and other to EBR Properties II LP, 19 acres Waco MFG Co. survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, L.H. and Frances M. Dennison to EBR Properties II LP, 10 acres J.L. Townsend et al surveys, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Louis H. Witwer III Trustee and other to EBR Properties II LP,

10 acres J.L. Townsend survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Helen Black Bushnell to EBR Properties II LP, 10 acres Waco MFG Co. survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Ju-dith M. Finkelstein to EBR Properties II LP, 8.33 acres Waco MFG Co. survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Helen Mark Hartmann to EBR Properties II LP, 33.3 acres Waco MFG Co. survey, filed Oct. 12.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease, Patsy Marik Blase to EBR Properties II LP, 33.3 acres Waco Manufacturing Co. survey, filed Oct. 12.

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Merry Christmas