



Justin Little, Rice Consolidated Jr. FFA member placed second in his class at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Justin showed a 1,254 pound Angus steer. Pictured left to right: Monte Williams, AST; Clayton Watz, Tanner Williams, Preston Little (Dad); Justin, Collin Klimitchek and Kari Beth Mahalitic. Justin also participated in the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo in February.



Josh Jurica, a seventh grader at Garwood Jr. High and a member of the Rice Consolidated Jr. FFA chapter won 2nd place Light-Weight Red Angus at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. This win gave him a spot in the sale. His steer sold for \$6,500, he will receive \$5,000 of that. Josh is the son of Jim and Michelle Jurica. Pictured left to right: Justin Tamascik, Monte Williams, AST Carl Tamascik, Trey Staff, Tanner Williams, Michelle Jurica, Amber Huvar, Josh Jurica, Noelle Jurica, Christie Michalcik, AST and Bernadette Jurica.

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Texas Crop Weather Report

Agricultural Summary

Many producers across the state experienced light to moderate rainfall last week. The Western half of the state received mostly traces to 0.25 inches of rainfall, as isolated showers brought 0.50 to 1.5 inches to areas of the Plains and small sections of Central Texas.

Higher rain accumulations occurred in areas stretching from the Blacklands to areas east and south.

The Upper Coast along with South Central Texas received the majority of rainfall with mostly 2.0 to 3.0 inches, as isolated showers brought as much as 6.0 inches to small sections.

Localized flooding was reported in some of these locations, and some replanting may be necessary. Isolated showers of mostly 2.0 inches also crossed small areas of East Texas and the Lower Valley.

The Blacklands and East Texas received mostly 0.50 to 1.5 inches of rainfall. The Edwards Plateau and South Texas both received mostly traces to 1.5 inches of rainfall.

Portions of the Northern High Plains and the Trans-Pecos remained relatively dry. Moisture levels increased across most areas the state, and a few locations received enough rainfall to increase and even replenish water for livestock use.

Some producers experienced some improvement in pasture condition, but supplemental feeding for livestock continued.

Field Crops Report Small Grains

Winter wheat conditions continued to improve in the Northern High Plains due to the combination of warmer temperatures and recent moisture.

Producers continued to pull cattle off wheat fields intended for grain or hay. Also in the Northern High Plains, some producers are also beginning to irrigate fields.

Although soil moisture was added to many fields in the Southern High Plains from recent rainfall, some producers experienced problems of green bugs and aphids.

Rains were also beneficial to wheat producers in the Southern

Low Plains, Cross Timbers, and Edwards Plateau.

Producers along the Coastal Bend will be closely monitoring wheat fields for leaf disease due to high temperatures and humidity. Statewide, wheat and oat condition was mostly fair to good.

Cotton: Land preparations were ongoing in the Northern Low Plains. Some producers along the Coastal Bend experienced minimal field flooding, which may cause them to replant fields.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Corn: Planting continued to progress in most areas of the state except the High Plains.

Sorghum: Rains delayed planting in the Blacklands. In South Central Texas and the Coastal Bend, flooding and small

hail damage may cause some producers to replant some fields. The increase in rainfall provided much needed moisture to sorghum in South Texas as planting continued.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Some producers in North East Texas prepared to plant vegetable seeds. Those in the Trans-Pecos area began planting of summer crops such as watermelons, cantaloupes, pumpkins, and onions.

Harvest of cabbage and spinach continued in both the Edwards Plateau and South Texas.

Pecans: Pecans remained dormant in the Trans-Pecos area.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Some producers in the Northern High Plains continued to

move cattle off wheat fields.

Warm weather and recent moisture contributed to the progression of pastures and Coastal fields in the Cross Timbers as some fields began to "green up." Although soil moisture was too low for good growth of warm season perennials in the Blacklands, many producers continued to apply fertilizers.

Hay feeding decreased in South East Texas as pastures began to "green up." Some producers in South Central Texas reported losses of livestock from recent flooding.

Livestock in South Texas benefited from increased forage due to recent moisture and higher temperatures. Statewide, range and pasture condition was mostly fair to poor.

Frnka Chosen As Young Texan

Richard Frnka, a student at Granbury High School (GHS), was chosen as February's Young Texan by the Optimist Club at GHS for his achievements.

He is the son of Rose Roquemore and Robert Frnka.

Richard has a grade point average of 4.679.

His honors include Academic Decathlon gold and silver medalist, co-captain and No. 1 player

on tennis team for two years; National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, DARE role model.

Richard's extra-curricular activities include varsity cross-country, varsity tennis, varsity soccer, Academic Decathlon, piano, and UIL math team.

His community service projects include United Way, library,

Key Club, and neighborhood tech support.

Richard is employed as a soccer referee.

His future plans include attending college and majoring in math and physics, leading to an engineering degree.

Richard is the grandson of Eunice and Fred Frnka and is the nephew of Jeff Frnka all of Eagle Lake.

Confederate Daughters Met March 8

The United Daughters of the Confederacy met on March 8 at the home of Nancy Christenberry in El Campo.

President Katherine Benson opened the meeting with the Ritual and members recited the Pledge to the flags.

Third Vice President Millie Cordes reported that the Children of the Confederacy will have an overnight camp out in Dripping Springs the end of this month.

Registrar Jennie Sue Mugli reported that papers on Inez Matula and Mary Francis Bennett are in.

Chaplain Evelyn Barrett presented a memorial service for Bertha Mae Mattern, Nona Etheridge Schmidt and Lillian Farek

Wotipka.

Under new business Millie Cordes wanted to honor Lora Thomas by submitting a picture of her and some of our members to the United Daughters of the Confederacy Magazine. Members voted to submit the picture. Millie also reported that the retirement home of Jefferson Davis, Beauvoir, is being restored, it had nine feet of water in it during

Hurricane Katrina.

Arlis Trebig gave a report on Foreigners who served in the Confederacy. The meeting was adjourned and the members enjoyed refreshments served by Nancy Christenberry and Arlis Trebig.

The next meeting will be April 12 at 2 p.m. at the Weimar Community Cemetery Chapel in Weimar.

Angus Organization Adds New Local Members

Patton Angus of Alleyton and Frank and Bonnie Reznicek of Eagle Lake are new members

of the American Angus Association (AAA), reports John Crouch, executive vice president of the national breed registry organization in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

The AAA, with more than 34,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef cattle registry Association in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on more than 14 million registered Angus.

The Association records ancestral information and keeps production records on individual animals for its members.

These permanent records help members select and mate the best animals in their herds to produce high quality, efficient breeding cattle, which are then recorded with the AAA.

Most of these registered Angus are used by the U.S. farmers and ranchers who raise high quality beef for U.S. consumption.

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