

Thirty-Eight Entries Make Up 2007 Colorado County Hay Show

Thirty entries made up this year's annual Colorado County Hay Show, which was held on Oct. 11 at the Texas A&M Research Station in Eagle Lake.

Colorado County has long been known as a hay producing county and this year was no exception.

Hay samples were tested for percent crude protein which gives producers an indication of how to feed livestock during the winter

months.

Steve Henneke took the show with Grand Champion Perennial with coastal, crude protein reading of 20.2 percent, Grand Champion Annual with pearl millet, crude protein reading of 22.1 percent, also had Grand Champion Legume with alfalfa entry with crude protein reading of 18.9 percent.

Sponsors for this year's show

were the Colorado County Livestock Committee, Texas Cooperative Extension and the following agri-businesses: Bernardo Farm & Ranch, Colorado County Farm Bureau, Colorado County Oil - Columbus, Colorado Feed - Columbus, Colorado Valley Bank - Weimar, Colorado Valley Veterinary Services, PLLC - Mike Ridlen, DVM,

Columbus Livestock, Inc., Columbus State Bank.

Also, Eagle Lake General Store - Division of Farmers Co-Op of El Campo, First National Bank - Eagle Lake, First State Bank - Columbus, Heffley's Mill & Grain - Plaque Sponsor, Highway Motor Co. - Weimar, Hill Bank & Trust Co., Hoelscher Oil Company,

Hollas/Duncan Insurance/Hollas Real Estate, M-G Inc., Farm Service Center - Plaque Sponsor, Potter Tractor, Prosperity Bank - Weimar, Purina Feeds - Michael Grahmann, Schneider Machine & Welding, Texana Seed - Garwood, and Weimar Veterinary Clinic - William W. Rugeley, DVM.

Thanks to Larry Nickel, Fayette County Extension Agent for serving as Judge and also thanks to Texas A&M Research Station for hosting this year's show.

Thanks to these sponsors for making our hay show a success.

And also thanks to Charlie Herchek and Roland Gassmann for preparing the delicious stew.

Texas Crop Weather Report

Agricultural Summary for week of Oct. 8-14.

Scattered showers were prevalent across most of the state with most of the rainfall in the Blacklands and North East Texas.

Winter wheat planting and land preparation continued in the Panhandle and Cross Timbers as many producers in the Blacklands were holding off due to Hessian fly activity.

Cotton harvest was beginning throughout most of the state as fields were being defoliated.

Good yields were reported in the Northern High Plains and the Blacklands as corn harvest was nearing completion.

Sorghum harvest continued in the Panhandle.

Peanut harvest continued in the High Plains and South Texas.

Soil moisture was short to adequate across the state.

The Blacklands and North East Texas received the most rain with 0.50 to 2.0 inches of rainfall.

The South Central Texas received 0.50 to 1.50 inches of rainfall. The Panhandle received 0.01 to 1.50 inches of rainfall.

The Edwards Plateau and South Texas received 0.01 to 0.25 inches of rainfall.

Trans-Pecos received the

least amount of rainfall with zero to 0.25 inches of rainfall. Livestock continued to be in good condition across most areas of the state.

Hay production continued across most areas of the state as most producers were harvesting their final cutting.

Ranges and pastures remained in good condition in most areas of the state, but most areas could use some rain.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat planting continued in the Northern High Plains as some irrigation was being conducted in some areas.

Soil moisture was becoming a concern as wheat was being planted in the Southern Low Plains.

Early planted wheat in the Cross Timbers was in need of rain due to the dry conditions.

Many producers in the Blacklands were holding off wheat activity.

Producers were striving to

control armyworms on early planted field in the Blacklands.

Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Cotton: Cotton was progressing well in the Northern High Plains as harvest aide materials were being applied.

There was some slight hail damage in the Southern High Plains as most dry land cotton was ready to defoliate.

Cotton matured quickly in the Northern Low Plains and was starting to defoliate.

Ginning was in full swing in the Southern Low Plains. Harvest continued in South Central Texas, South Texas, and the Coastal Bend.

Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Harvest was progressing well in the Northern High Plains as it was nearing completion.

Harvest was complete in the Blacklands as growers were preparing fields for spring planting. Statewide, corn condition was mostly good to excellent.

Sorghum: Sorghum remained

in good condition as harvest continued in the Northern High Plains as weather permitted.

Harvest was progressing well in the Southern Plains with some reports of feral hog damage.

Sorghum conditions were mostly fair to good statewide.

Peanuts: Peanut harvest was in full swing in the Southern High Plains.

Harvest continued in the Northern Low Plains.

The peanut crop continued to develop in South Texas.

Peanut conditions were mostly good to excellent statewide.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock continued to be in good condition across most areas of the state.

Hay production continued across most areas of the state as most producers were harvesting their final cutting.

Ranges and pastures remained in good condition in most areas of the state, but most areas could use some rain.

Crop Yields Reported For 2007

Agricultural Summary

The 2007 Texas Upland cotton crop is expected to total 7.5 million bales, up 29 percent from 2006 and up 7 percent from last month's forecast.

Yield is expected to average 766 pounds per acre compared with 679 pounds last year.

Objective yield measurements in Texas show bolls per acre and boll weight to be the highest in the last ten years, reports State Director, Dave Abbe.

Acres expected for harvest, at 4.7 million, were unchanged from the previous month.

Corn production is forecast at 273.6 million bushels, up 56 percent from last year's production, and up 3 percent from last month.

Based on October 1 conditions, statewide yield is expected to average 144 bushels per acre, 23 bushels greater than in 2006 and unchanged from last month's forecast.

Planted and harvested acreage were 2.15 million and 1.9 million acres, respectively.

Texas peanut production is up 22 percent from last year, at 629 million pounds.

Statewide yield, at 3,400 pounds per acre, is down 150 pounds from last year and up 100 pounds from last month's forecast.

Sorghum production is forecast at 92.7 million hundredweight (cwt), 165 percent above last year.

Yield, at 3,864 pounds per acre, is up 1,176 pounds from last year,

and unchanged from last month.

Planted and harvested acreage were 2.8 million and 2.4 million acres, respectively.

Rice production is forecast at 9,928 million cwt, down 8 percent from 2006.

Yield is forecast at 6,800 pounds per acre, down 370 pounds from a year ago and up 500 pounds from last month's forecast.

The 2007 Texas soybean crop is forecast at 2.6 million bushels, down 30 percent from last year's production and up 8 percent from last month's forecast.

Yield is expected to average 32 bushels per acre, up 8 bushels from last year and unchanged from last month.

Planted and harvested acreage were 85,000 and 80,000 acres,

respectively.

United States corn production is forecast at 13.3 billion bushels, up 26 percent from last year.

A yield of 154.7 bushels per acre is forecast, up 5.6 bushels from last year.

The sorghum crop is expected to be 280.8 million cwt, up 81 percent from 2006.

The U.S. Upland cotton crop is expected to total 17.4 million bales, down 17 percent from last year.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.60 billion bushels, down 19 percent from last year.

The U.S. peanut crop is estimated at 3.4 billion pounds, down 1 percent from a year ago.

U.S. rice production is forecast at 197 million cwt, up 2 percent from 2006.

Tips From Sally Garrett

County Extension Agent

Halloween Safety

Halloween means children getting outdoors to enjoy treats, fun, and games.

It also signals a change back to Standard Time with shorter days and longer nights.

With shorter days comes more night driving.

Because nighttime driving is more dangerous, it requires extra attention from motorists, as well as pedestrians and bicyclists, says Sally Garrett, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that nearly half of all fatal pedestrian crashes and almost one-third of fatal bicycle crashes occur in low-light or dark conditions.

According to a National Safe Kids study, children riding bicycles in low light, nighttime, dusk, or dawn are four times more likely to be injured than while riding in daylight conditions.

Garrett reminds you of the following safety tips to keep in mind during Halloween and all year long.

Tips for Motorists

Slow down. Watch for children walking on roads, medians, and curbs.

Enter and exit driveways carefully.

Be especially alert for children darting out from between parked vehicles and from behind bushes and shrubs.

They're excited - and they are not paying attention.

Never drink and drive - tonight or any night.

If you are partying, designate a driver.

Tips for Parents

Adults should accompany children at all times and supervise their "trick or treat" activities.

Teach children to "stop, look left-right-left, and listen" before they cross the street.

Use a flashlight and wear retro-reflective strips or patches on your clothing or costume to be more visible to motorists.

Be certain that the mask does not obstruct vision or hearing.

Ensure that costumes do not impede walking or driving ability.

Tips for Pedestrians

Before crossing a street, stop at the curb or edge of the road and look left, right and left again to be sure no cars are coming.

Continue to check for traffic while on the street.

Walk - never run - from house to house or across the road.

Cross the street only at intersections and crosswalks.

When crossing at an intersection with a traffic light, be sure to watch for turning cars.

Obey all pedestrian signals. Walk on sidewalks whenever possible.

If there are no sidewalks, walk on the left side of the street facing traffic.

By taking some extra time to make sure drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists obey the rules, Halloween can be a safe and fun time for all.

For further safety information, contact the Colorado County Extension office at (979) 732-2530.



The Ganado Rotary Club Will hold a Pork Steak Dinner Friday, Nov. 2 before the Ganado vs. Rice football game.

Dine in or take out. Pick up will be at the KJT Hall from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. We want to welcome all Rice fans. Meals will be pre-order only. Please call 361-771-5901 before Oct. 26.

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