

Colorado County Groundwater District Gives June Report

By Jim Brasher,
General Manager

One of the key goals of the Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District is to communicate with the District constituency on matters of impor-

ance and be available for help on groundwater issues.

One of the District's key tools to accomplish this will be through our new web-site: www.ccgcd.net. As with the old site, you will still be able to find office contacts, answers to frequently asked ques-

tions, and learn a bit about the background of the District.

Additionally, you will have links to: District documents, forms and presentations; well information; conservation measures; geological and cultural maps; pertinent state legislative activity; and, updates on key area projects that could impact Colorado County.

The District has a new employee! I want to introduce our new District Office Manager, Kim Kansteiner. In the short time that she has been with the District, she's already proven to be invaluable and I'm confident that she'll help keep me and our multitude of files, forms, communications and documents all organized.

You can contact Kim or me by e-mailing us at our new e-mail accounts: jim@ccgcd.net or kim@ccgcd.net. Of course, we're also available by phone at 979 732-9300.

The work on the CCGCD's management plan, which includes District goals and objectives, is nearing completion. Once the draft is finished, it will be presented to constituents at a public hearing for comments and/or concerns.

Once the document is past the hearing stage, it will need to be approved by the Board of Directors and then by the Texas Water Development Board. At that point, the District will have full rights to develop rules and regulations needed to effectively manage the county's groundwater resources.

One of the key parts of the management plan is what is called "Desired Future Conditions" or DFC. The DFC is the desired, quantified conditions of the groundwater resources (such as water levels, water quality or spring flows) at a specified time in the future.

Think of it as being what you would like the aquifer to look like in 50 years time. Once the DFC is defined, then the District

can work toward managing the resources so that the DFC can be met.

Needless to say, it would be an unpleasant situation if your water well suddenly ran dry without warning. By trying to understand what's going on in the aquifer, we can help circumvent this situation.

Understanding an aquifer can be extremely complex, but the simplistic way to view this is to try to know the following: how

much groundwater is present; how much is being produced; how much will be produced in the future; and, how will that production impact water levels in various wells around the county.

That's a tall order, but there

are tools that can help do that. In future columns, I'll try to explain how we go about determining this information and how we can apply it so that Colorado County will have a sustainable groundwater supply for future generations.

Cordova Headed To Iraq With Texas 72nd

The 72nd Unit of the Texas National Guard has received orders to deploy this fall, most likely to Iraq. One of the commanders of the unit is Eagle Lake native Command Sgt. Maj. Alfred R. "Freddy" Cordova. He enlisted in

1995 and has been on state and federal active duty since September 11, 2001.

Command Sgt. Maj. Cordova is the son of the late Leocardo Sr., and Mary Cordova of Eagle Lake.

Jenna Cook Graduates From University Of Texas

Jenna Marie Cook graduated from The University of Texas at Austin on May 22, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Learning and Development and a minor in Educational Psychology.

She graduated with Kappa Delta Pi Educational Honors.

Jenna will begin her teaching career in Lamar ISD.

She is the daughter of Robby and May Kay Cook.

Hog & Pig Inventory Down

The June 1, Texas hog and pig inventory, at 1.01 million head, was down 6 percent from the June 2008 total of 1.07 million head.

The number of breeding hogs totaled 95,000 head, down from 105,000 in June 2008, according to figures released by the Texas Field Office.

The June 1 market hog inventory was down 5 percent from a year ago to 915,000 head, 91 percent of the total hog and pig inventory.

The inventory of market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds, at 295,000 head, was down 6 percent from the previous year.

The inventory of hogs weighing 60 to 119 pounds, at 215,000 head, was down 4 percent from the June 2008 inventory.

Market hogs weighing 120 to 179 pounds totaled 205,000 head, equal to last year; hogs weighing 180 pounds or more, at 200,000 head, were down 9 percent from a year ago.

The March-May 2009 Texas pig crop totaled 456,000 head, up

4 percent from last year.

Pigs per litter averaged 9.70, up 13 percent from the previous year.

State Director, Doug Rundle, reported that 47,000 sows farrowed in Texas during March through May 2009, down 8 percent from last year.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, is estimated at 66.1 million head, down 2 percent from June 1, 2008 but up 1 percent from March 1, 2009.

The breeding hog inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 3 percent from last year.

Market hog inventory, at 60.1 million head, was down 2 percent from last year, but up 1 percent from last quarter.

The U.S. pig crop for March-May 2009, at 28.5 million head, was down slightly from 2008 but up 2 percent from 2007.

U.S. producers intend to have 2.97 million sows farrow during the June-August 2009 quarter, down 3 percent from actual farrowings during the same period in 2008.

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150-300 lbs	109-140	90-110
300-400 lbs	100-125	90-100
400-500 lbs	97-109	82-95
500-600 lbs	88-100	80-87
600-700 lbs	84-97	77-87
700-800 lbs	78-88	70-82
HEIFERS		
#1	#1	#2
150-300 lbs	100-120	86-98
300-400 lbs	88-112	80-92
400-500 lbs	84-102	79-97
500-600 lbs	90-102	75-91
600-700 lbs	80-93	67-82
700-800 lbs	76-88	64-74
STOCKER COWS		
Good Stocker Cow/ Calf Pairs	800-950	
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