

Cooke County Crop and Cattle Report for Monday, June 25, 2018

We received a few tenths of rain scattered around and a little more in the southern part of the county middle of last week, but it's been almost three weeks since we last had some decent rain. We are getting dry fast and the corn and milo is showing the stress of it. Corn is in the dough or denting stage and Milo is almost all headed out. Cotton and Soybeans still look ok but both will begin to suffer too if no rain in the next week, and no rain is in the forecast for the next 10 days. Pasture and hayfields are beginning to stress especially the improved grass, but again it just depends on your location because of the scattered showers here and there. What hay was made was not of the best quality for the most part as a lot of what was baled had dead winter grass in it along with some undesirable grass. I saw some fields being hayed that were pretty trashy looking to me so keep that in mind if you're buying hay. Be sure to test your hay whether you raise it or buy it, so you know what level of nutrients you have and if you need to supplement this winter, and how much. If it doesn't rain soon you may be feeding it this summer, long before winter arrives. Cattle still look decent but you can tell the grass is not as strong as it was by looking at them. If you need to supplement some protein to keep cattle in good shape or to make them eat maturing grass, I would suggest using a 32 or 38 % crude protein cube if you have ample forage for them to fill up on. Be aware of pinkeye as it's the season for it with all the flies doing their thing. Please refer to an article "Prevention of Pinkeye in the herd" on our website at cooke.agrilife.org

Well the grain commodities were all up a hair last week with the exception of wheat. Live cattle futures were also down a hair while Feeder cattle futures were up a little. Slaughter cattle estimates were at 664,000, up 10,000 from last week. Cattle on Feed report June 1 at 11.553 million head, up 4.12%

In the markets as of June 16- Slaughter cattle trade down at \$109.50. Current feed yard closeouts were \$136 in the red. The live cattle futures for June were at \$108(Aug 106), while August Feeder futures were at \$1.49(Sept 1.49). The cash prices here in Texas for 750 lb feeder steers were at \$1.44 and 550 lb. stocker steers are selling on average of \$1.55/lb. while heifers are \$9 back. Cows and bulls were mostly lower and average dress slaughter cows were at \$53-61, while bulls were \$82-87

Replacement Cows: 2-5 yr old 825-1275 lb black cow 2-5 months bred 785.00-1045.00; 5-10 yr old 1075-1400 lb black cow 4-8 months bred 750.00-975.00 per head.

Pairs: 875-900 lb Heifer w/75-250 lb calf 1325.00-1410.00; 3-5 yr old 950 lb black cow w/250 lb calf 1535.00; 5-6 yr old 1225-1325 lb black cow, bred back, w/200-300 lb calf 1450.00; 5-7 yr old 1000-1250 lb cow w/150-300 lb calf 1225.00-1285.00

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Visit www.cattlerange.com for all the latest market reports and Ag news.

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