

Cooke County Crop and Cattle Report for Monday, October 8, 2018

Well we received more rain Saturday night with the southern areas getting half inch, the middle to northern areas of the county receiving up to 2 inches and up to 3 in the northwest corner. Farmers had a small window this time to try and get some more wheat and oats in the ground. Fields dried out faster than everyone thought they would from the last 12 inch flood, so they were taking advantage of it before this rain hit Saturday night. The early planted wheat was a little yellow from all the water & had to be sprayed for Armyworms, the second wave of planting there were some that was drowned out in places from the flood, while others got half stands or less, so there was some do overs. This recent rain will bring up the third wave of trying to get the winter crop in the ground and there are still some that have not planted yet trying to outlast the worms. There is more rain in the forecast for the next couple days so there will be a fourth wave of planting going on as soon as it dries up again and hopefully that will wrap it up for the fall. The Fall Armyworms have been taking heavy artillery fire for several weeks from folks spraying everything known to man, to try and rid themselves of this grass devouring creature. The FArmyworm didn't get all the grass and there was lots of hay laid down last week and folks were busy trying to get it baled up before this rain hit, I think most made it. The hay made is not the best of quality, but it will sure beat a snowball come this winter. The cattle look good considering all the wet conditions they have endured lately and folks have weaning on their minds when dry enough. I'm curious to start hearing some reports on weaning weights as calves start hitting the market, I'm hoping for the best. With moderate demand for calves at the markets, prices have declined a few dollars this last week. Once the wheat is up and ready to graze demand will increase as it always does as operators fill their orders for stocker calves. Of course long weaned calves bring more money, if you can afford to hold them for 30-60 days. Buyers sure like them- but does it pay? Put the pencil to it. You're the boss! Visit <https://cooke.agrilife.org/martys-articles/> for information on "A Weaning Strategy"

In the markets as of Oct 6- Slaughter cattle trade was at \$112. Current feed yard closeouts were \$53 in the red. The live cattle futures are up-Oct at \$113.80(Dec 118), while Oct Feeder futures were at \$1.58(Nov 1.58). The cash prices here in Texas for 750 lb feeder steers were at \$1.60 and 550 lb. stocker steers were at \$1.62. Cows and bulls were steady with average dress slaughter cows at \$52-58, while bulls were \$78-83. Fresh weaned Steers & Heifers

Coastal Bermuda: unchanged-Small Squares-9.00-10.00 per bale. Large Rounds: 70.00-100.00 per roll

Replacement Cows: 1-4 yr old 800-1250 lb cow 4-6 months bred 775.00-925.00; 5-6 yr old 1025-1550 lb 4-6 months bred 810.00-1050.00 7-8 yr old 1200-1550 lb cow 4-6 months bred 825.00-910.00 per head.

Pairs: 7-8 yr old 1050-1100 lb cow w/125-150 lb calf 825.00-1125.00 per pair.

Visit Cooke County AgriLife Extension website at cooke.agrilife.org for our local events, news & updates
Visit www.cattlerange.com for all the latest market reports and Ag news.

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