

## Cooke County Crop and Cattle Report for Monday, April 15, 2019

Well we received a good rain over the County this weekend with a minimum of 1.5, upwards to 3 inches depending on your location. This was the first significant rain we have had since the middle of March. The spring grasses and March-April winds sure dry it out fast this time of year and most folks were in need of some moisture. However, there were some spots that were still wet before the rains hit Late Friday night and then hung around all day Saturday delivering the pay load. The wheat and oat crops are looking much better for the most part and in the stages from flagging to heading, the result of a very wide planting window last fall, thanks to all the moisture. Be sure to scout for rust and bugs and treat when thresholds are met. The Corn crop is all up looking healthy and growing good, best start we have had in several years looks like to me. The Grain Sorghum(Milo) is about 85 plus percent complete according to reports, with most of that up and growing. No reports on any Cotton or Soybeans going in the ground but it will be just around the corner. The stocker cattle are looking good with all that good winter grazing now. Numbers were kept low all winter because of the wet conditions and lack of forage, but now they can't keep up with the winter grasses explosive growth. Cow Calf producers say their cows are looking much better now that the winter grasses are plentiful and have some strength to them and calves are on the gain. Most folks have stopped feeding hay now and are happy about that, with the Native and improved grasses coming on now and that is a welcomed sight. The mesquite trees have put out so hopefully there will not be any more freezes this spring. Some were fertilizing last week and others are getting in the mood. The next few weeks would be the ideal times to fertilize and weed spray your pastures and hayfields if your weeds are up and 2-6 inches tall. Everything is a little behind this year with the cooler weather and soil temps but this week with daytime highs in the upper 70's and nighttime temps around 60 they will be popping. You will have to work around the weather this week as more rain is in the forecast. If you have fertilizer or weed control questions give me a call.

**In the markets as of April 13-** Slaughter cattle trade lower at \$124. Current feed yard closeouts were \$15 in the red. The live cattle futures for April are at \$126.50, while April Feeder futures were \$145.50. The cash prices here in Texas for 750 lb feeder steers were at \$1.47 and 550 lb. stocker steers were at \$1.67. Average dress slaughter cows & bulls were steady, cows at \$46-55 while bulls were \$69-83

**Replacement Cows:** 2-4 yr old 4-6 months bred 1030-1405 lbs 1000.00-1275.00; 2-4 yr old 1-9 months bred 955-1200 lbs 800.00-960.00; 5-8 yr old 1-9 months bred 775-1465 lbs 775.00-985.00;

**Cow/Calf Pairs:** 2-8 yr old 1650 lb cow w/150-300 lb calf 1400.00-1450.00 per pair. 2-8 yr old 1025-1175 lb cow w/150 lb calf 1025.00-1167.00; 5-8 yr old 1300-1325 lb w/150-300 lb calf 1075.00-1375.00

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Visit [www.cattlerange.com](http://www.cattlerange.com) for all the latest market reports and Ag news.

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