TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

410 North 13th Avenue • Edinburg, Texas • 78541 • 956-383-1026 or 800-638-8239

September 20, 2017

To: South Texas Cattlemen

Subject: Beef Development Program

We are excited about assisting with the 20th Annual Rio Grande Valley Beef Improvement Association's Beef Development Program (Bull Gain Test, Heifer Development Program & Pen of Steers). We invite your participation.

Please read the enclosed information carefully. **RSVP's ARE MANDATORY for all cattle by Friday, September 29, 2017. RSVP online via this link or call 956-383-1026 to RSVP by phone.**

Complete the necessary forms and bring them with you as cattle are delivered to the feedlot. **There are major changes from last year!! We are excited about offering a bull sale this year! Be sure to read the guidelines carefully.**

The Pen of Steers Program will be offered again, provided a minimum of 40 steers are RSVP'd for the program. See the enclosed information for all the details.

It is very important that all heifers continue to be vaccinated for brucellosis. **This is Required.** We will check to make sure that all heifers are vaccinated. We appreciate your cooperation with this effort. Vaccination of bulls and steers is important as well. Be sure to review the vaccination requirements.

Bulls and heifers are to be delivered to Rio Beef Feedyard on Thursday, October 18, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We ask that you **make sure your cattle are delivered to the feedyard on the above date and time so that we are there when they arrive to receive and process them**. If needed, please make arrangements for the cattle to come in early. Additional charges may be incurred for late arrivals. **All animals must be permanently identified and accompanied with the completed application forms and a check to cover fees.**

We look forward to working with you in continuing to improve the quality of the beef cattle industry in the Rio Grande Valley and the state of Texas through your participation in this program.

Sincerely,

Brad Cowan
County Extension Agent-Ag
Hidalgo County

Enrique Perez
County Extension Agent-Ag
Cameron County

Ronnie Zamora
EA-AgNR
Willacy County

Vidal Saenz
EA-CEP
Hidalgo County

Matthew Rodriguez
County Extension Agent- Ag
Willacy County

Omar Montemayor
County Extension Agent-Ag
Starr County

Enclosures
cc: Joe Paschal, Mike Risica, Todd Swift, Ruben Saldaña

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