Agricultural Research and Education (ARE) Committee

Policies for Review

September 2018

Red Imported Fire Ants
(ARE-1)

WHEREAS, the red imported fire ant invasion and its spread throughout Texas and the U.S. is a serious threat to the cattle industry and is a health and economic threat to people, animals, and crops; and

WHEREAS, the red imported fire ant costs billions of dollars per year and causes many indirect problems through effects on industrial and commercial infrastructures and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, federal restrictions have limited rancher's abilities to control this pest; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature established the Fire Ant Research and Management Account Advisory Committee to develop a research and management plan that would assist in the control of the red imported fire ant on rural and urban private property; and

WHEREAS, much progress has been made toward the goal of controlling the red imported fire ant through the interdisciplinary research, education program, and implementation of the Texas Imported Fire Ant Research and Management Plan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA urges the federal and state regulatory agencies to expeditiously approve chemical and biological products that can effectively control red imported fire ants and be ecologically safe; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA strongly encourages the federal and state government to continue to fully support and adequately fund fire ant research, education, and regulatory programs.

new 6/20/03, revised 10/2/09, revised 9/27/13, renewed 9/26/14

RECOMMENDATION:

Pharmaceutical Development for Control of Feral Swine
(ARE-5)

WHEREAS, feral swine are a terrible economic problem to farmers and ranchers in Texas causing millions of dollars in losses to crops and pasture land; and

WHEREAS, feral swine are nocturnal, with an extremely short gestation period and large litter sizes, which render present day control means ineffective; and

WHEREAS, the technology of conception prevention and sterilization in domestic swine has been commercially available for years but it has not adapted for use in feral swine; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA encourages the development of a product by university researchers and the pharmaceutical industry for landowner use that is safe and effective for the control of feral swine.

new 10/1/10, renewed 9/26/14

RECOMMENDATION: