

The Cattleman



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NEWS BRIEFS

State Leaders, Policy Experts Provide Perspectives at Policy Conference

Industry leaders, state lawmakers and experts in timely topics are on the agenda for the 2016 TSCRA Policy Conference, Sept. 28 to 30, in Austin. All TSCRA members are welcome to attend and be a part of establishing association policy on the issues of importance to cattle raisers.

The Opening Session of the Policy Conference will feature a talk with Evan Smith, CEO and co-founder of The Texas Tribune. Hear about today's political climate and get an inside peek at both the local and national races in this important election year. Attendees of this session will also hear from Richard Wortham, executive vice president of the Texas Beef Council, about the latest Texas Beef Checkoff programs and their new Beef Loving Texans campaign.

Glenn Hegar, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts will give an update on Texas' financial health and a review of

 **TSCRA Policy Conference** September 28-30
Austin, Texas

the strength of Texas' economy during the General Session on Thursday. Hear how it may be affected in the upcoming legislative session.

Get perspectives on water issues facing Texans from State Rep. Drew Darby, chair of the Energy Resources Committee, and Charles Perry, Texas State Senator and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water, and Rural Affairs.

You can register for as little as \$75 for Wednesday and Thursday meetings only. Other registration options are available that include meals and receptions. Registration rates will increase on Sept. 15. Register for the Policy Conference at tskra.org/policyconference.

September BQA Tip: Horn Flies

Many methods are available to aid in the control of horn flies. If using back rubbers, make sure to use vegetable oil or mineral oil to mix with the insecticide instead of products like diesel or motor oil. Diesel can be absorbed through the skin and stored in the fat, creating residue concerns.



Being Squeezed out of Your Individual Insurance Coverage?

You may have seen the news that Aetna is the latest insurance company to significantly decrease its individual plan coverage in the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, marketplace. UnitedHealth Group had also recently announced plans to drop most of its ACA exchange plans and other companies are raising rates on individual plans almost 60 percent in 2017.

If it looks like health insurance plan shopping is in your future, give Cattle Raisers Insurance a visit. There is a good possibility you could qualify for group health coverage without even realizing it. A group plan can offer you expanded coverage, lower premiums and less volatility in your insurance coverage. It is worth investigating.

Visit the Cattle Raisers Insurance website at cattleraisersinsurance.com or call 800-252-2849 and let them help you explore your options.



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Information Sought on Thefts in Baylor and Knox Counties

TSCRA Special Ranger Scott Williamson and local law enforcement authorities are seeking information leading to the arrest or indictment of a suspect or suspects involved in multiple equipment thefts in or near Baylor and Knox counties.

According to Williamson, between July 19 and July 25, a John Deere tractor, model 5103 with a front-end loader (bucket not attached) was stolen from Portwood barns south of Megargel on the Baylor and Young County line. The VIN number on the tractor is PY51034002153.

Between July 25 and Aug. 3, the Orsak barn in Seymour was burglarized. A Miller wire welder, model 210 and serial number LF062810, was stolen, along with various other property including chop saw, drills, tools and chains. The property was loaded into a trailer believed to be a horse or stock trailer.

Anyone with information on these or other crimes in the Baylor and Knox County area should contact Williamson at 940-636-6203 or TSCRA's Operation Cow Thief hotline at 888-830-2333. A \$3,000 cash reward may be paid to individuals who can provide useful information leading to the arrest and indictment of suspect(s). Individuals reporting information may choose to remain anonymous.

TSCRA Crime Watch: Calves Missing in SE Okla.

TSCRA Special Ranger Bart Perrier, Dist. 4, reports two sets of calves missing from different properties in Johnston County in southeast Oklahoma. The first group, missing from a property near Mill Creek, is 17 head of multi-colored crossbred steer calves weighing between 750 and 800 pounds each. The calves are mostly black, red or white, with a CI brand on the right hip and assorted numbered ear tags.

Missing from a property near Tishomingo are 7 head of Charolais-Angus crossbred calves that are smoke gray, yellow or tan. These calves do not have brands but do have a V notch in the bottom of the left ear.

If you have any information regarding these cases, please call Special Ranger Perrier at 918-275-4257.

Interstate Animal Movement Requirements Just a Click Away

It can be difficult to know what documentation is required if you are planning on moving animals across state lines for a show, sales or other event. However, thanks to a website sponsored by the National Institute for Animal Agriculture and US Animal Health Association, answers are just a click away.

At InterstateLivestock.com, information is available on nearby tagging sites and requirements for regulations concerning livestock diseases such as tuberculosis, brucellosis, among others.

To get started, visitors answer a few questions about livestock movement circumstances, including the species involved, origin and destination. After those choices are made, the site provides an easy to follow report about what is currently required for your livestock movement.

For specific information on health certificates, contact your veterinarian.

TSCRA EVENT CALENDAR

You're welcome to attend!

- Sept. 8: Wichita Falls Cattleman's Luncheon - Wichita Falls
- Sept. 13: Ranch Gathering - Clarendon
- Sept. 14: Ranch Gathering - Spearman
- Sept. 15: Expo Academy - San Antonio
- Sept. 15: Ranch Gathering - Bartlesville, OK
- Sept. 20: Ranching 101: Land Leasing - Fort Worth
- Sept. 20: Ranch Gathering - Mobeetie
- Sept. 21: Ranch Gathering - Ozona
- Sept. 28-30: TSCRA Policy Conference - Austin

TSCRA members — ask about discounts from the following partners!