

# The Cattleman



May 2017 ★ [tskra.org](http://tskra.org) ★ 800-242-7820

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Join Us in Galveston for TSCRA's Summer Meeting



Come to the Cattle Raisers Summer Meeting, June 15 to 17, at Hotel Galvez and Spa, Galveston, to keep up with the latest developments in the beef industry, to enjoy some relaxing time with your family, and to catch up with your friends in peaceful surroundings.

The Cattle Raisers Summer Meeting is a unique opportunity to combine family and fellowship with the important work of the cattle industry. TSCRA's officer team will share their perspectives on the challenges facing ranchers and beef producers and all TSCRA committees will meet to discuss pertinent issues. A few of the topics discussed will be using drones in ranching, private property rights and eminent domain reform. A private tour of the Port of Galveston will also be offered, as well as a dinner social at the historic Bryan Museum.

For more information, including a full schedule, special hotel rates and registration options, visit [tskra.org/summermeeting](http://tskra.org/summermeeting).

### Cattle Raisers Applaud Confirmation of Sonny Perdue for Agriculture Secretary

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association President Richard Thorpe issued a statement in response to the confirmation and swearing in of Gov. Sonny Perdue as the next Secretary of the USDA:

"On behalf of Texas' cattle raisers and ranchers, I am pleased to welcome Secretary Perdue to his new post. His knowledge and experience within the agriculture industry, combined with his record of success as the governor of Georgia, give me great confidence that he is the right person to lead USDA. We look forward to working with Secretary Perdue to ensure a bright future for Texas cattle raisers."

Perdue, a former governor of Georgia, was confirmed April 24 and sworn into office on April 25.



Sonny Perdue, with his wife, Mary, takes the oath of office administered by Associate Justice Clarence Thomas. Picture courtesy USDA.

## We're Upgrading Our Membership System to Serve You Better!

TSCRA's membership system will be undergoing a significant upgrade in May. Some online services may be interrupted beginning May 1, including purchases made online at the Cattle Raisers Trading Co. online.

To join TSCRA, renew your membership by credit card or purchase CRTC items, please call our offices at 800-242-7820, or email [membership@tscra.org](mailto:membership@tscra.org).



## New Ag Law Podcast

All things relating to agricultural law can now be found with a click of a button as Tiffany Dowell Lashmet begins a new podcast called "Ag Law in the Field." Dowell Lashmet, a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agricultural law specialist in Amarillo, will host a weekly 30-minute segment to talk with her guests about a wide variety of ag law topics.



The podcast will be available every Thursday online at [aglaw.libsyn.com](http://aglaw.libsyn.com), on iTunes, or on the Podcast app on cell phones, all for free. The podcast plans to visit with many ag law stakeholders to discuss their thoughts, experiences and interests as related to agricultural law.

Dowell Lashmet already publishes Texas Agriculture Law Blog, which has been named one of the top 100 legal blogs in the nation three years in a row, according to editors of the ABA Journal, the professional publication of the American Bar Association. Her blog can be found at [agrilife.org/texasaglaw](http://agrilife.org/texasaglaw).

If you were an attendee at the 2017 Cattle Raisers Convention, you heard Dowell Lashmet give a talk in the Eminent Domain workshop; she is a regular speaker at TSCRA events.

## BQA Tip of the Month: Benefits of a Controlled Breeding Season

A controlled breeding season is an important management tool. Castration, vaccination and dehorning are easier to perform when calves are similar in age. Additionally, having cows at the same stage of production allows for more effective timing of vaccinations and a more efficient feeding program. Breeding seasons should be limited to about 90 days to reduce the potential of heifers being bred by herd bulls prior to weaning. Unfortunately, heifers being bred at 6 to 8 months of age is more common than many people realize.

Are you a certified Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) producer? If you're not, the training is free and available online and in person at select meetings across the state. Visit [www.texasbeefquality.com](http://www.texasbeefquality.com) for more information.

**TSCRA MEMBERS**  
ask about discounts from  
the following partners!

## TSCRA EVENT CALENDAR

You Are Welcome to Attend!

- May 11-14:** Western Heritage Classic, Abilene
- May 11:** Cattlemen's Luncheon, Wichita Falls
- May 12:** Ranch Gathering, Abilene
- May 16:** TSCRA Ranching 101 – Ranch Accounting and Taxes, Fort Worth
- May 25:** Ranch Gathering, Lampasas
- Jun 15-17:** TSCRA Summer Meeting, Galveston
- Sept 27-29:** TSCRA Policy Conference, San Antonio