

# WEST TEXAS Country Trader

The West Texas Country Trader is a Supplement of:

Abernathy  
Weekly Review  
The Canyon News

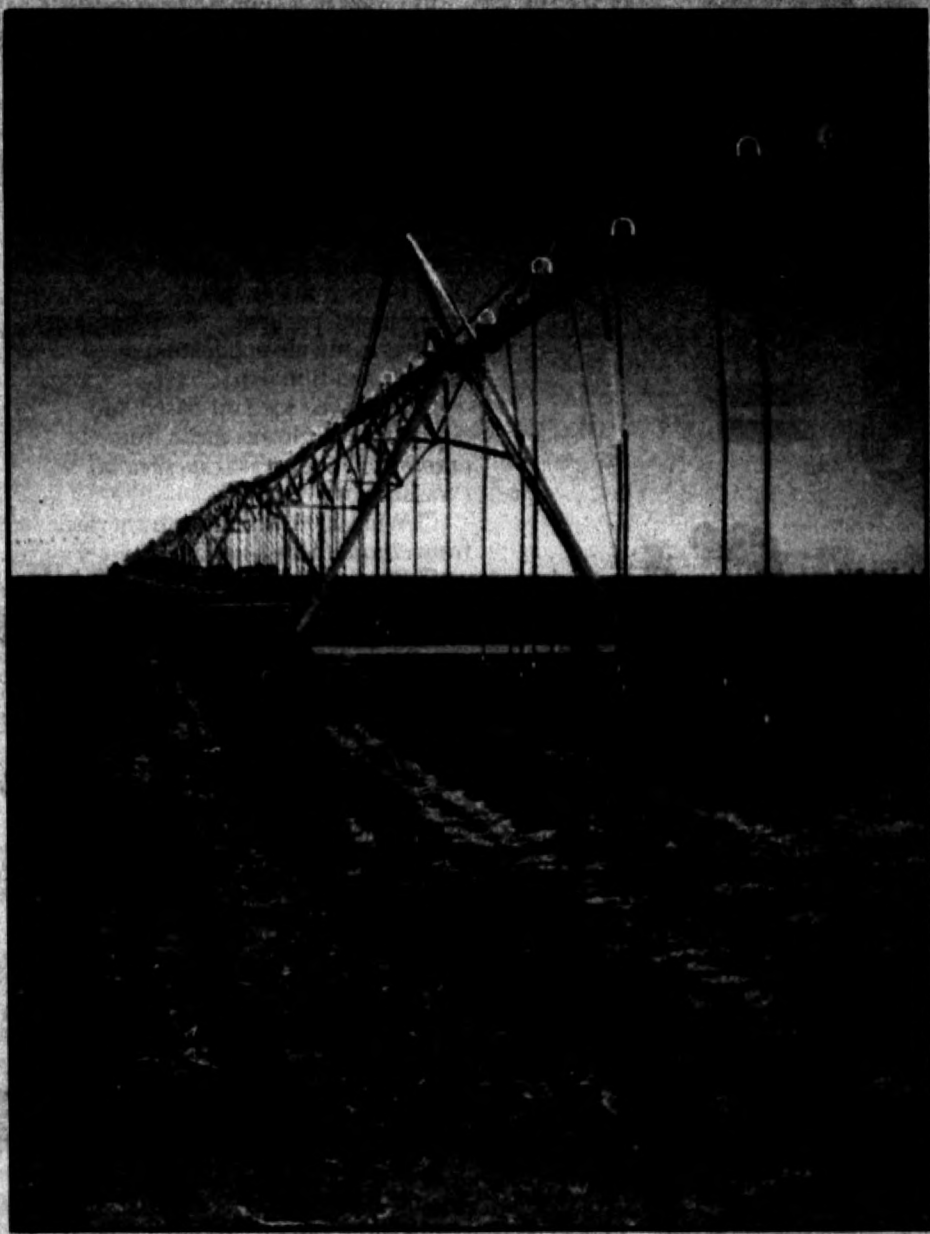
The Castro County News  
The Clarendon News

The Lorenzo  
**SEABER**  
HEREFORD BRAND

Plainview Daily Herald  
Ralls Reporter-News

Thursday, March 3 1994

The Slatonite  
The Tulia Herald



Woody Williams/The Canyon News

## Supplementing Mother Nature

Center pivots have been the salvation of wheat in the upper Panhandle, since Mother Nature has provided little natural moisture.

## Texas cattle inventory up from last year

AUSTIN — The inventory of Texas cattle and calves totaled 14.80 million head on Jan. 1, 1994, up 3 percent from last year's inventory of 14.30 million head.

Texas continued to rank first in the nation in total number of cattle and calves with 15 percent of the total United States inventory. According to figures released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, total value of the state's cattle and calf inventory was 8.8 billion, virtually unchanged from 1993.

Value per head averaged \$595 compared with \$615 last year. State Statistician, Dens Findley, reported that the beef cow inventory, at 5.81 million head, was 4 percent above last year, while the milk cow inventory increased 3 percent to 390 thousand head. Total

inventory of all cows that have calved was 6.20 million head, up 4 percent from a year ago and the largest inventory since 1984.

Beef replacement heifers totaled 980 thousand head on January 1, down 6 percent from the previous year. Milk replacement heifers increased 30 percent to 130 thousand head. The Texas inventory of steers 500 pounds and over totaled 3.05 million head, 5 percent more than the 1993 total of 2.90 million head.

Total inventory of heifers, steers and bulls under 500 pounds was 2.60 million head, virtually unchanged from the 1993 total of 2.59 million head.

The 1993 calf crop totaled 5.35 million head, up 4 percent from the 1992 crop at 5.15 million. The United States inventory of all cattle and calves totaled 101.7 million head on January 1, up 1 percent from last year's revised inventory of 100.6 million head and up 2 percent from January 1, 1992.

All cows and heifers that have calved totaled 44.5 million head, 2 percent above both last year and two years ago. Beef cows totaled 34.9 million head, 3 percent more than a year ago, while milk cows dropped 2 percent to 9.64 million head. Beef replacement heifers, at 6.42 million head, increased 4 percent from the previous year.

Milk replacement heifers were virtually unchanged at 4.20 million head. The 1993 calf crop was estimated at 39.6 million head, up 1 percent from 1992 and up 2 percent from 1991. The estimated calf crop was down 1 percent

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## AUCTION

### ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Saturday, March 5, 1994 \* Sale Time 10:30 A.M.

426 Ash Street - Plainview, Texas

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- 2-John Deere Pedal Tractors
- 1-John Deer Metal Wagon
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- 7-Die Cast LTD Edition Airplane Coin Banks w/Original Boxes
- 1-Set of Four Precision Classic John Deere Tractors, Collection w/Original Boxes
- 1-Large Lot of Approx. 30 1/25 Scale Die Cast Metal Coin Banks
- 1-Buggy Seat Original
- 1-Original 1945 Sky Chief Gasoline Metal Sign, 11" Wide x 18" Tall
- 1-Very Old Highway Express Metal Truck, Built by M.A.R. Toys - Nice
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AUCTIONEER NOTES:  
1. Personal Private Stock Collection  
2. No Buy Backs  
3. NO CHILDREN Under 13 yrs. of Age Day of Sale  
4. Inspection Friday, March 4th, 1994 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Please Be On Time For This Sale & Lunch Will Be Available & Bring Your Own Checkbook  
TERMS & CONDITIONS: Cash Day of Sale. All Items Sold As-Is, Where-Is, Without Warranty. We Act Only As Commission Agents. All Announcements Made At Auction Supersedes Any Printed Or Oral Statements Made Prior.

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# AgReview



South Plains

## Ag News

MAR. 5-6

**OSTRICH SEMINAR.**— The Texas Southwest Ostrich Breeders Association will hold its two-day spring seminar at Amarillo's Radisson Inn. Call Kathy Holland at 764-3363 for information and reservations.

FEB. 27 - MARCH 1

**CORN CLASSIC DENVER, COLO.**— National Corn Growers Association will hold their annual meeting in Denver featuring industry updates, a report on what to be expected from the 1995 Farm Bill and exhibits. Information is available by calling NCGA at 314-275-9915.

MARCH 3

**PORTALES, N.M., FARM, RANCH and DAIRY EXPO**— The Texas Plains Two-Cylinder Club will display its antiques. An auction featuring antique tractors and implements will be held.

MARCH 18-20

**OLD TRACTOR SHOW IN PLAINVIEW**— The second annual Plainview Old Tractor Show will be held at Ollie Liner Center, with unloading and set up set for the 18th.

April 16-17

# New uses for old crops = new profits

Special to AgReview from Communicating for Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Center (AARC) is working with 25 business projects, providing funding on a cost-sharing basis to commercialize new products or processes from traditional ag products.

The goal of the AARC Center is to bring new industrial products using agricultural materials into the marketplace.

This increases markets for farmers, and many of these products have environmental or conservation benefits, especially when the crops are grown using sustainable agricultural practices.

All of the projects chosen for AARC funding are at the commercialization stage, according to Dr. Ioe Roetheli, deputy director of the AARC's national center in Washington, D.C.

They were chosen from more than 400 pre-proposals for funding. AARC had approximately \$10 million in funds available, which limited the number of projects it could support, according to Roetheli. Congress gave AARC a \$9

million appropriation for fiscal year 1994, and AARC is in the process of choosing additional projects for its program.

Projects were chosen for their potential for commercial success; environmental benefits; potential for rural job creation; and potential for earning value-added income for farmers and rural businesses.

The 25 chosen projects included 18 small businesses, one agricultural cooperative, three mid-sized companies, one large corporation and two nonprofit organizations.

The projects are:

- Production of ethanol from lignocellulosic materials—grasses and biomass sources typically from marginal lands. (Projects are in California, Florida and Texas.)

- Production of pulp from waste straw (Oregon).

- Production of newsprint from kenaf, which is an alternative annual crop, and recycled fibers (Texas).

- Lawn growing mats made from kenaf (a California projects with the

potential to use 50,000 acres of kenaf).

- Molded furniture parts made from wood strands flaked from pulp wood grade lumber (Michigan).

- Environ, a granite-like composite board material for furniture, tile and structural use made from soybeans and waste newspaper (Minnesota).

- On-farm composting utilizing animal manure, animal bedding, yard waste and starchbased biodegradable materials (Pennsylvania).

- Biodegradable films and coatings made from wheat (Kansas).

- Biodegradable starch-encapsulated pesticides made from corn to lower pesticide application rates (Kansas and Illinois).

- Improved seed oil-based, biodegradable lubricants made from crambe and industrial rapeseed oil (Washington).

- Windshield washer solvent made from ethanol (Missouri).

- Biodiesel production and processing technology (Kansas).

- Biodiesel from animal byproducts, including waste cooking fats and oils, tallow, lard, poultry fat (Florida).

- Biodiesel performance standards (Washington, D.C.).

- Specialty biodegradable lubricants and cosmetics made from *lesquerella* (California and Arizona).

- Biodegradable concrete release agent made from rapeseed (Illinois).

- Poly chemicals from corn starch to replace petroleum based products (Washington).

- *Hesperaloe* for paper towels (Arizona and Wisconsin).

- *Milkweed down* for use as an insulation material (Nebraska).

- *Kenaf* and wood composites for spaceboard (California).

- Epoxy materials from soy oil (Michigan).

- *Cotton fibers* with bioplastic properties (Wisconsin).

Communicating for Agriculture, a national organization dedicated to pushing new use possibilities for ag crops, advocates development of new uses for ag products. CA is a charter member of the national New Uses Council, an organization whose mission is to further commercialization of new, nonfood products from agriculture.

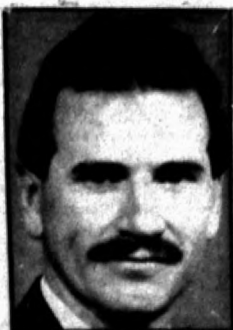
(This article was reprinted with permission from the monthly magazine of Communicating for Agriculture.)

## The nation's feedgrain markets looking for direction

The tight supply/demand situation and concerns over what the 1994 production season could bring continue to provide support for both new crop and old crop prices. The world situation, however, is not as tight relative to the U.S. Prospects for better crops in Southern Hemisphere exporting nations such as Argentina, South Africa, and Australia, should help keep a lid on U.S. export demand and prices as we move into spring. While livestock numbers are up and feed demand still looks fairly good, stronger exports will be needed to push prices higher.

Concerns are already surfacing with regard to potential production problems with the 1994 crop. As one might expect at this early stage, the scares run the entire gambit from floods to drought. While either is possible, it is very early for much accuracy in such projections. The tight old crop stocks situation will keep traders very skittish about potential planting and growing season problems, and a further risk premium could be built into prices as the planting season approaches.

From a marketing perspective, we need to keep in mind that a zero ARP for 1994 should expand acreage, and that higher prices usually begets more production and lower prices. While prices have the potential to rally this spring, it



## GRAIN MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Mark Waller

may be risky to put all your eggs in one basket. Remember the old saying that short term bull markets long tails. Get your marketing plans in place and your price objectives set if you have not already.

**WHEAT OUTLOOK:** The market continues to watch both old crop demand and new crop conditions, looking for near term direction. Tight feedgrain supplies continue to provide support on the perception that feed use of wheat should stay strong through summer. Exports, on the other hand, continue to lag, given the slow growth in the world

economy and a lack of cash among some normal buyers such as the Former Soviet Union (FSU). Even near record levels of EEP use have been unable to sustain any enthusiasm in the export market.

One factor that has kept prices from eroding too quickly as we head toward spring is the deterioration in new crop conditions. Problems exist in both the Midwest, with the soft red winter wheat crop suffering from late planting and too much water; and in the Southern Plains, with the hard red winter wheat crop suffering from a lack of fall/winter moisture. Recent rains have brought relief to some areas, but over the next couple of months the market will watch crop conditions closely.

Without some market surprise such as big export sales or damage to the growing crop, prices will likely erode as we progress toward summer harvest. It is important to have your marketing plan in place and have your price objectives set. While prices are not as high as you might want now, production could expand in 1994, and that could lead to lower prices.

(Mark Waller, Texas A&M Extension Marketing Specialist is an authority on the feed grain and wheat markets.)



# Can beef cause cancer? Researchers at Tech want to know

By Wendy Walton  
AgReview Correspondent

Think red, juicy, tender, full of flavor and high in protein. It can be served in many different varieties. It can be grilled as well as fried.

It's a slab of Texas-fed beef, considered great food by Texans, especially by cattlefeeders.

Dr. Barbara Penze Ph.D., pathologist at the Texas Tech Medical School, and Micah Butler, graduate student in meat science and muscle biology are researching carcinogens linked to colon and lower intestinal tract. A few years ago articles were sent to various universities linking beef to causing cancer especially in the colon, rectum and lower intestinal tract.

These findings have been disputed by many. These Texas Tech researchers want to explore the subject further with their own tests.

Interestingly enough, preliminary findings show more tumors result from milk protein in rats than beef.

Penze and Butler are using 280 rats in the cancer research project. There are eight groups of 35 rats. Ten rats are used for the control group. Twenty-five are injected with a carcinogen known to cause cancer in the colon, rectum and lower intestinal tract. Four of the groups are fed diets of a casein protein base consisting of corn oil and beef tallow. The diets ranged from five to 20 percent of the protein having these parts of oil. They are fed for 27 weeks on a free choice basis, consuming as much protein as possible.

The rats are terminated at the end of the week 27. The colon, liver, and lower intestinal tract are removed from each rat. The tumors are removed from the rats and examined by the histology lab, the area tissue and cells are studied. In this area the tumors were classified as benign or malignant.

In the preliminary analysis the rats fed cooked ground beef had 50 percent less tumors than those fed casein protein. The research will continue throughout the spring semester, and the final analysis will be determined.

"The combined efforts of the pathology department and the meat science department have been very positive," Buler said. "The knowledge I have gained in the cancer research has been excellent. The research is a positive reflection on the medical school and the meat science department as well as the college of agriculture sciences and natural resources."



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## REAL ESTATE

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## LOST AND FOUND

**THEFT—\$500 REWARD** for arrest and conviction. New 16-ft. Big Tex black two-axle utility trailer, 19 rolls 52" net bull wire. Stolen between Feb. 1-15 from Sunnyside farm 9 miles north of Springlake. Phone Castro County Sheriff's Office, 647-2189 or 647-3311. 46-11c/ccn

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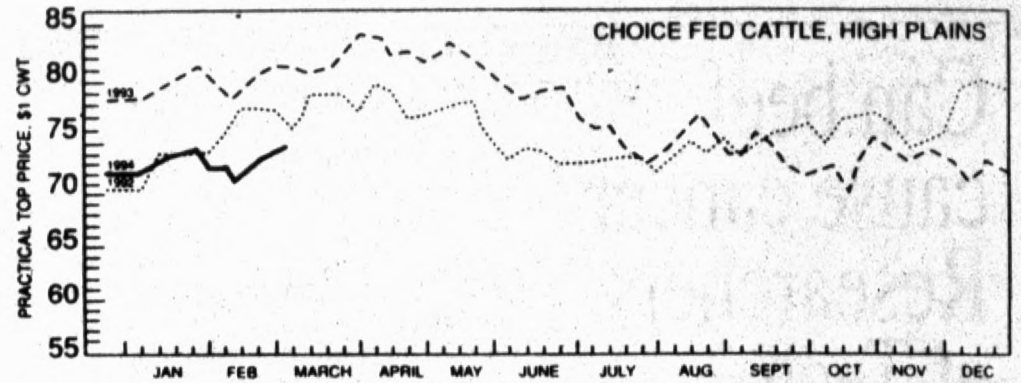


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Courtesy Texas Cattle Feeders Association, Amarillo

## Choice fed cattle, High Plains

The above report reflects market activity through Feb. 25.

## West Texans hold top cotton posts

Special to AgReview

Fourteen Texans have been elected to leadership positions in the National Cotton Council.

Tornillo grower William T. Lovelady was elected chairman of the Council's Producer Steering Committee.

Chosen as regional director was Craig D. Shook, Corpus Christi. Elected as state producer chairman was Jackie Burris, Wellman. Cottonseed crusher Wayne Martin, Plains Cooperative Oil Mill, Lubbock, was re-elected a Council vice president.

Named to the Council's 35-member board of directors were ginner

Myrl Mitchell, Lenora; warehouseman F.A. Underwood, The Trinity Co., Lubbock; cottonseed crusher Bill Quattlebaum, Southern Cotton Oil Co., Lubbock cooperative representative James Massey, Kingsville; cooperative representative David Stanford, Lubbock; Shook; and Lovelady.

Lubbock cooperative representative Van A. May was elected to Cotton Council International's board of directors. CCI is the Council's overseas export promotion division. Re-elected to CCI's board were cooperative representative David L. Hand, El Paso; merchant Paul Ruh, Paul Reinhart Inc., Dallas; and Martin.

Mitchell was elected chairman of the Council's Texas unit. Cottonseed crusher Robert R. Riggs, Southern Cotton Oil Co., Quanah, is unit vice chairman; and ginner Chris Breedlove, Sebastian, is secretary. The group was elected at the Council's annual meeting, Jan. 28-31, in New Orleans.

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| 1993 Fullsize Pickups & Suburbans (Shaded)      | \$198 <sup>00</sup> |
| S-10 & Jimmy Blazers (Shaded)                   | \$80 <sup>00</sup>  |

#### Ford Pickups

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1980-1986 Fullsize Pickups (Shaded) | \$85 <sup>00</sup> |
| 1980-1986 Fullsize Pickups (Tinted) | \$80 <sup>00</sup> |
| 1987-1993 Fullsize Pickups (Shaded) | \$85 <sup>00</sup> |
| 1987-1993 Fullsize Pickups (Tinted) | \$80 <sup>00</sup> |
| Ford Ranger & Bronco II (Shaded)    | \$85 <sup>00</sup> |

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## Feb. 1 cattle on feed stats just released

AUSTIN — There were 2.66 million head of cattle and calves on feed in Texas feedlots for the slaughter market on February 1, up 10 percent from a year ago.

According to the monthly report released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, the estimate was down 3 percent from the January 1 level. Inventory in the 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 2.65 million head.

Producers placed 365 thousand head in commercial feedlots during January, 11 percent more than a year ago. Placements increased 11 percent from the December 1993 total. Texas commercial feeders marketed 425 thousand head during January, up 21 percent from January 1993. Monthly marketings increased 15 percent from last month. On Feb. 1, there were 2.07 million head of cattle and calves on feed in the Northern High Plains.

South Plains

## Ag News

April 16-17

**COTTON GIN FESTIVAL** — The 4th Annual Cotton Gin Festival will be held in Burton in South Central Texas featuring cotton gin, antique farm equipment, folklife demonstrations, parade, contests, kids stuff, entertainment and arts and crafts.

May 6-8

**PAWNEE, OKLA., OLD TRACTOR SHOW** — Typical old tractor event. Information available at 405-282-7008.

May 28

**FLOYD COUNTY OLD SETTLERS** — Day of celebrating and fun, plus a parade.

## New W.I.F.E. chief elected

BOZEMAN, Mont. — An Alabama woman has been elected president of Women Involved in Farm Economics, a grass roots activist farm wives group.

Mary Ann Sheppard of Shorter, Ala., took over the position at the groups recent 17th Annual Convention.



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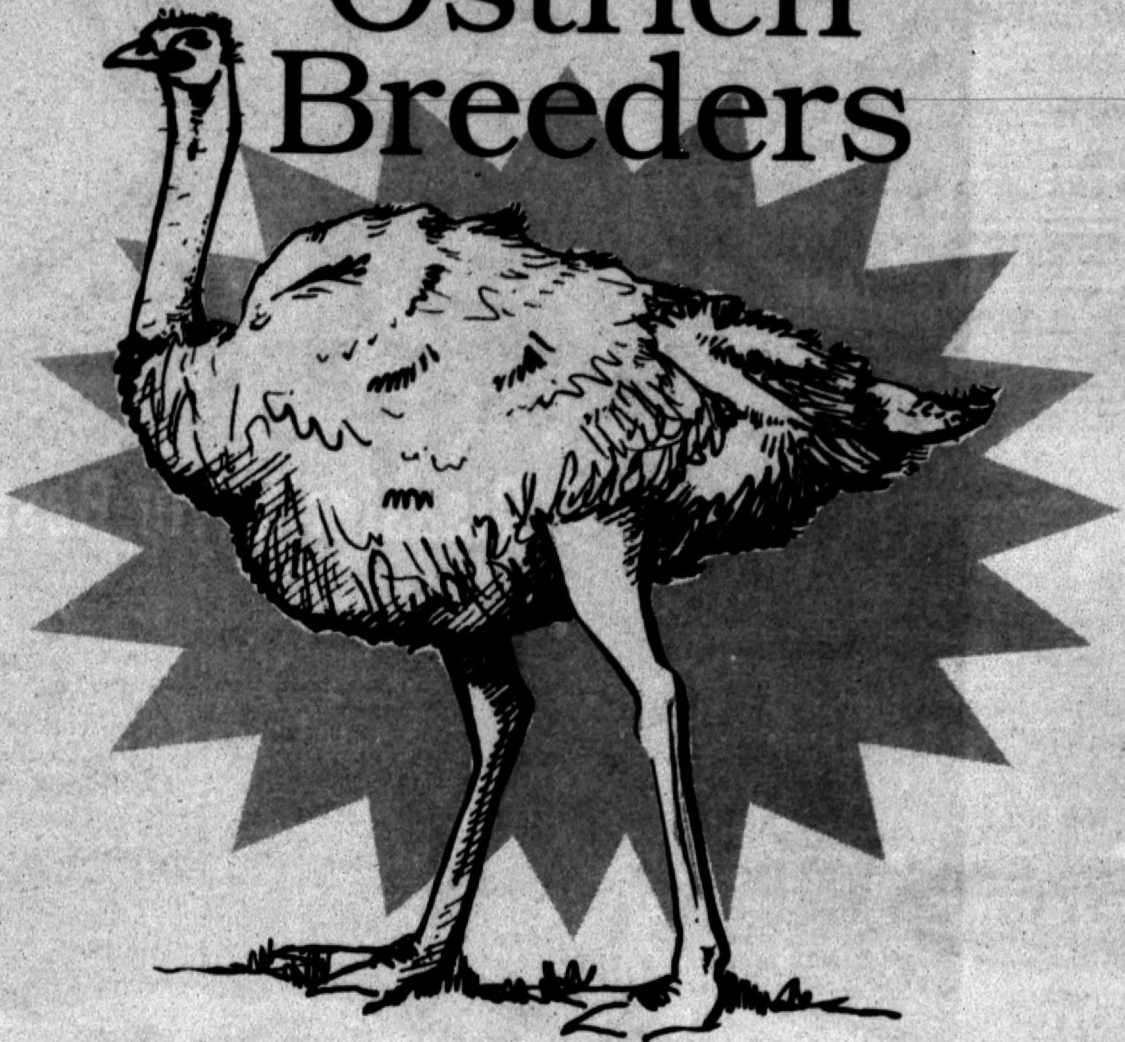
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1987 Cadillac Sedan DeVille. White and blue, good shape. \$6,500. 1901 Jefferson, 293-0800 after 6.

# ATTENTION

## Ostrich Breeders



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Photographer: Dana Fineman



# Corn sweeteners playing role in U.S. agricultural industry

WASHINGTON (AP) — The use of corn sweetener in food and beverages is on the rise, exceeding the use of cane and beet sugar for the eighth consecutive year, the Agriculture Department reported.

U.S. corn sweetener production uses between 7 and 10 percent of annual corn crops — and is expected to increase. As a sign of the industry's growing significance, the report is the first published by USDA to compile all data on corn sweetener trends in one place.

The 10 U.S. companies that manufacture the sweeteners use well over 600 million bushels of corn each year — producing more than 10 million tons of the sugary flavoring — at 21 facilities in 11 states, according to the "U.S. Corn Sweetener Statistical Compendium."

Corn is abundantly available in the United States at relatively low costs. And the wet-milling process used to turn the corn into a flavoring bears corn gluten feed and meal and corn oil, which can be resold by the manufacturer.

Because of this, it is much cheaper to produce sweetener in the United States than cane or beet sugar, the department said. Use of corn sweetener in fiscal 1993 was up more than three percent from the year before, to about 10.1 million tons. Two-thirds of that is high fructose corn syrup, used primarily in drinks. Glucose and dextrose — used in commercially prepared foods — account for the rest.

The report said an expansion in trade could take advantage of increased production. Because of high sugar prices in Canada, the United States' major sweetener trading partner, imports still exceed exports, the report found. Production for fiscal year 1994 are expected to rise an additional 1.7 percent, with prices remaining steady or a little higher.

WASHINGTON (AP) — New to a garden near you:

an evergreen shrub festooned with mauve-colored blooms.

The Chinese bush — which can grow as high as a small tree with graceful, arching branches — has been introduced to the United States at the National Arboretum and distributed to about 40 nurseries by Agriculture Department horticulturists.

It is the first evergreen variety of its kind to reach the Western world, said Sylvester March, the Arboretum's chief garden-cultivator.

Unlike the creamy white flowers and dark green foliage of its close relative, the witch hazel, the Loropetalum has two pinkish strains.

"Blush" has flowers that start off with a medium red-brown hue in late winter and early spring, maturing to a medium olive-green. "Burgundy" is darker — with red-brown foliage turning to a dark olive.

March likened the process to when "the first pink flowering dogwoods were introduced after only white ones were available."

The plants should be available commercially in about two years.

They are easy to grow, preferring slightly acidic soil and full sun, but also thriving in warmer as well as colder climates.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Farmers who had planned to increase their crops this year but were prevented by excessive rainfall and flooding can refile for

reimbursement based on prior years' plantings, the Agriculture Department announced last week.

"This is another step in our continuing effort to assist those producers who were severely impacted," Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy said in a statement.

Farmers who have filed for prevented planting payments have been limited to reimbursement only for the amount of that particular product they have planted in the past. With the change, they can refile for payments for crops they had planted before but were not going to sow this year.

The department provided an example: A producer usually plants 50 acres of soybeans and 50 acres of corn, but had planned in 1993 for 100 acres of soybeans. The floods or excessive rainfall foiled his plans, so the farmer filed for the 100 acres of soybeans but was only given approval for 50 acres.



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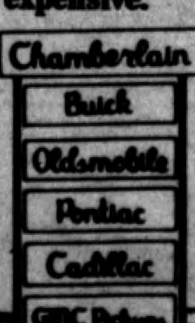
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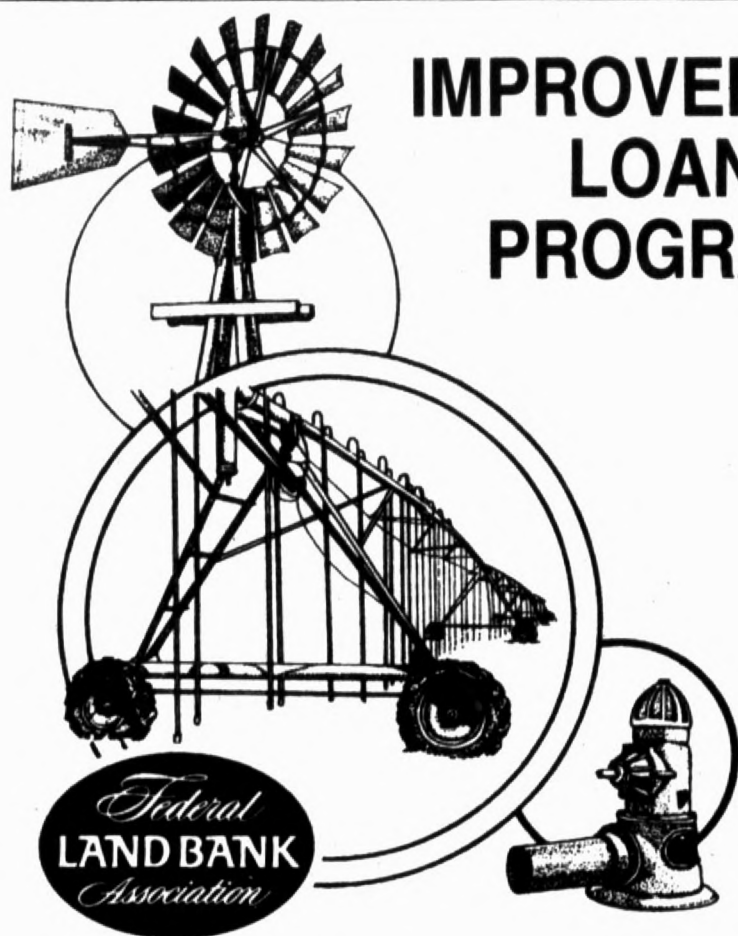
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## Meeting the challenges of today's family farm

By **JOE BRYANT**  
A&M Extension Journalist

LUBBOCK—Operating the family farm or ranch has all the complexities and problems of any family-owned business, participants in the Women in Agriculture Management Development Program were told here during the opening session of a two-day seminar.

A family-owned business is one in which two or more extended family members influence the business operation, explained Dr. Karmon Vinton, keynote speaker. She is a professor of management in the College of Business at Montana State University.

Some 80 women took part in the seminar, the second of two offered this year by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "It was designed for women who make the critical difference on their farms and ranches, whether their role is

manager, homemaker, tractor driver, 'gopher', record keeper, vice president or any combination of these," said Dr. Danny Klinefelter, Extension Service economist and program director.

The seminars were co-sponsored by the Farmers Home Administration of USDA; the G. Rollie White Charitable Trust, Ft. Worth, and the Plainview Clearing House, Plainview.

Vinton said that, contrary to what many believe, family-owne-xl businesses are a vital force in the American economy. She noted that more than 90 percent of all businesses, 150 of the Fortune 500 top businesses, more than 40 percent of Ameri-ca's gross national product are in family-owned enterprises.

Vinton listed four keys to achieving a healthy family farm or ranch. "We're looking for a business that's healthy and a family that's healthy," she said. A healthy business means one that makes money; a healthy family means one that maintains good relationships, she explained.

The four keys, she said, are:

- Understand the unique inter-relationships between the various family and business roles of the members;
- Treat the business as a business;
- Plan for the future of the family and the business
- Don't be afraid to ask advice.

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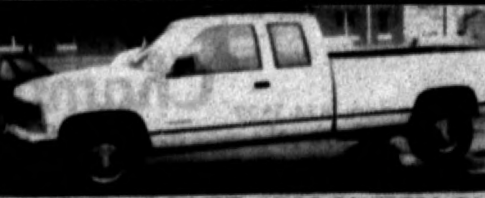
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