

Heifer Ranch at Arroyo Seco, LTD

Newsletter



March 1, 2009

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From John's Desk:

- Well March came in like a lion and went out like a lion. I expect that it means a lot more wind for us, kind of like last year. We missed the blizzard, but received the cold. The interstate was closed at Tulia, just north of us. Amarillo, Dalhart and other parts of the Panhandle were in

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blizzard conditions. Our wheat crop was looking pretty decent until this last big cold and freezing spell. We think it is going to affect the wheat crop through out the Panhandle. We had some silage coming up and it burnt the dickens out of it. Tonage on wheat and oat harvest will be off somewhat.

The feed yard has been mostly dry and dusty due to the winds. The heifers look to be in good condition. They don't know whether to slick off or grow hair. The same weather extremes exist this month as last month from the teens to the 90's.

From Cattle Haulers:

On March 27, 2009 Cow Tran Inc. attempted to deliver a load of heifers from Hale Center, TX to Saint Johns, MI in Clinton County. The truck driver called ahead for directions and all was well until he reached one mile of the dairy. At the time he was pulled over by Michigan D.O.T officer and told he was on a weight restricted road and would like to weigh him with the portable scales. Not knowing he was on a weight restricted road he obliged the officer. Before the trucker was allowed to unload the already stressed cattle he was escorted back to Saint Johns to pay a fine of over \$ 4600.00. Come to find out if the driver would have known ahead of time he could have saved a lot of precious time and trouble by purchasing a \$ 25.00 permit to travel on the road. That is why the drivers call ahead to get directions and any other information they need to get into your dairies. This \$ 4600.00 fine is an outrageous amount of money for a trucker to absorb. Further more if the dairymen in the state of Michigan know of restricted roads leading to their farms please tell the truckers in advance so they don't have to go through this situation.

The Michigan Road Commission telephone number is 989-224-3274 please pass on to the drivers if there is any question at all about weight restricted roads.

Thank you

Jerry Gross

Cow Tran Inc.

From Justin's Desk:

Every animal with an RFID tag coming in are now being scanned and entered into Dairy Comp electronically. This has cut down on a lot of hand entering and writing down of information. In the next couple of years we hope to have every animal on the system. Our head count continues to remain steady with us getting in about 2000 and shipping out 2000 head a month.