

**...TAHC
Anthrax Update**

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Animals include the following species: antelope, goat, horses, deer and cattle. Producers have been advised on vaccinating exposed animals and instructed on the proper disposal of affected carcasses, as outlined by TAHC's rules. It is common to see an increase in anthrax cases after periods of wet, cool weather, followed by hot, dry conditions. During these conditions, animals ingest the anthrax bacteria when they consume contaminated grass and hay, or inhale the spores. Outbreaks usually end when cooler weather arrives.

There is an effective anthrax vaccine available for use in susceptible livestock (includes but is not limited to, swine, equine, sheep, goats, cattle, etc.). TAHC encourages livestock owners to consult with a local veterinary practitioner and consider vaccinating livestock if owners live where anthrax is historically found in Crockett, Val Verde, Sutton, Edwards, Kinney and Maverick counties. Producers may order anthrax vaccines directly from the manufacturer.

After exposure to anthrax, it usually takes three to seven days for animals to show symptoms of anthrax. Once symptoms begin, death will usually occur within 48 hours. Acute fever followed by rapid death with bleeding from body openings are all common signs of anthrax in livestock. Owners of livestock and animals displaying

symptoms consistent with anthrax or experiencing death of animals should contact a private veterinary practitioner or a TAHC official.

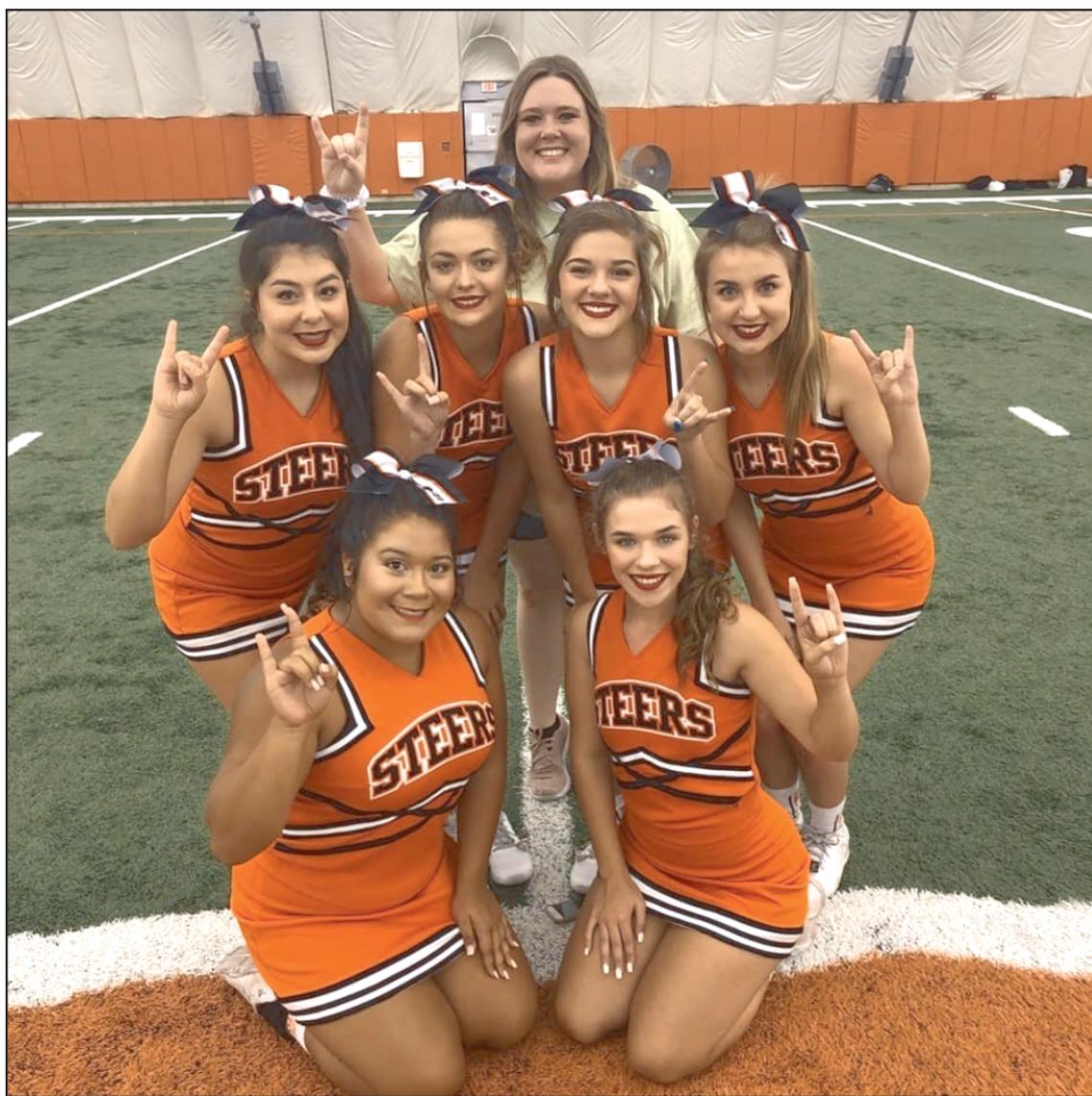
Producers are encouraged to follow basic sanitation precautions when handling affected livestock or carcasses. It is recommended to wear protective gloves, long sleeve shirts and to wash thoroughly afterward to prevent accidental spread of the bacteria to people. For more information on how anthrax affects humans please visit www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/anthrax/information/faqs/.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to eligible livestock owners for livestock deaths caused by eligible loss conditions. Anthrax is identified as an eligible disease. For more information about the LIP program visit www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSAPublic/usdafiles/Factsheets/2019/livestock_indemnity_program-fact_sheet.pdf or call your local Farm Service Agency.

For more information about Anthrax, visit www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/TAHCBrochure_Anthrax.pdf.

Past 2019 Anthrax Situational Updates:

- July 16, 2019 Update: www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2019/2019-07-16_AnthraxUpdate.pdf
- July 9, 2019 Update: www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2019/2019-06-21_AnthraxUpdate.pdf



Cheer Camp! The Robert Lee High School Cheerleaders attended UCA Cheer Camp, held at the University of Texas in Austin, recently. The young ladies received blue ribbons on both of their evaluations and were also awarded first place in Sideline, second place in Cheer, Best Overall Small Varsity Game Day Routine, and second place in Rally Routine and All American.

2019 / 2019 - 07 - 09_AnthraxUpdate.pdf

• June 21, 2019 Initial Case: www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2019/2019-06-21_AnthraxUpdate.pdf

TAHC will continue to send weekly updates as long as new cases are confirmed.

[Editor's Note: Due to the confirmation of anthrax in the

above mentioned Texas counties, the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo Ambassadors will not be performing at the rodeos in Eldorado or Sonora this year.]



A Bigger Parking Lot

by James M. Decker

One year ago, I used this space to summarize the history of Stamford's Texas Cowboy Reunion and the importance of its legacy. I wrote how the legendary Will Rogers visited the TCR in 1935 and described it as a "real cowboy reunion...in a real cowtown." I wrote how the TCR

was designed as something more than a rodeo. It was an all-around, multi-generation celebration of the Texas cowboy. I wrote that, in my humble opinion, this was why the TCR has persevered as many small-town rodeos have struggled or disappeared entirely.

This year, something happened at the TCR. We've seen growth in the last few years. Crowds have improved. Entries have increased. Presentation of the rodeo as a spectator event has improved. Facilities have been upgraded. But this year, it all escalated. On Tuesday night, the Stamford Art Foundation's Preview Party kicked off the festivities with a record crowd of 545 people. The rodeo saw approximately 680 entries across

the various events. Sponsorships eclipsed \$100,000 for the first time. The grandstands were packed for Friday night's rodeo performance. Saturday night was even bigger, with an estimated crowd of over 6,000 passing through the gates. To top it off, Saturday night's dance with Parker McCollum broke the TCR's all-time dance attendance record (set in 1996) with 2,652 paid attendees.

On both Friday and Saturday night, the rodeo crowds completely filled the parking lot.

By the time of the dance, cars overflowed to properties across the highway. There's a famous line in "Jaws" when the police chief says "you're gonna need a bigger boat." As I walked out of the rodeo Saturday night and waited in traffic to leave the grounds, all I could think was "we're gonna need a bigger parking lot."

I've been told for years that, in this day and age, there was a limit to the success the TCR could have. It's not 1930 anymore. People have air

conditioning and don't want to sit outside in the summer heat and dust. There are more recreation options on July 4th weekend. People prefer to be at the lake or watching fireworks shows. There are too many live music options to get decent performers at the dance. Amateur rodeos are a thing of the past. The TCR might continue, but it'll never be what it once was. If the TCR is to survive, you've got to move it to the fall and make it a ranch rodeo.

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