

The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVII

June 10, 2009

Recent Rain Delivers Mixed Results; Puts High Plains in Better Position Than Last Year

By Shawn Wade

Judging the 2009 High Plains cotton crop to be significantly better today than it was at the same time in 2008 may be a bit of a stretch at first glance, especially when looking at dryland cotton acres.

Look a little deeper though, and the differences begin to tilt the table in favor of the current season despite the struggles that both irrigated and dryland crops have experienced thus far.

Planting season is winding to a close and June 5 marks the Federal Crop Insurance program final planting date for most central High Plains cotton counties. So far the weather has largely cooperated in terms of allowing growers to get fields planted. Unfortunately it hasn't provided all the planting moisture many would like to see. Southern High Plains counties with a June 10 final insurance planting date still have a few days to get their initial planting activity completed.

If dry conditions in these areas persist, some cotton could end up being abandoned and the acreage put to another use. If this occurs, it is important to note that crop insurance rules dictate that the drought affected acreage will not be

eligible for adjustment, due to non-emergence of seed affected by drought conditions, until 15 days after the applicable final planting date for the county in which the crop is planted.

Abandonment could still be the fate for some dryland acreage. Most dryland producers need 1.5-2 inches to get a cotton crop started. On an optimistic note, some dryland growers are at least getting a little rain and still have a chance to get something going in 2009.

For dryland crops the first big difference from 2008 is the fact that so far 2009 has reminded many producers that rainfall events do frequent the area during planting season.

That reminder has sometimes been served with a frustrating mixture of hope and trepidation to growers who can often see, and sometimes smell, the moisture they need falling just over the horizon.

The second big difference for dryland growers is the fact that there is actually some moisture underneath a fair amount of the region's dryland acres that could help sustain a young dryland crop. As always the key will be getting help from above to provide the moisture needed to germinate

and establish a crop in areas that are still dry.

While both 2009 and 2008 have started out dry from a planting perspective the 2008 dryland crop started in a bigger hole with both a dry seedbed and virtually no underground moisture. The end result in 2008 was ultimately the abandonment of some one million dryland cotton acres.

All things considered it seems the region's dryland acreage has to be considered a little better off, simply because a fair number of acres still have a chance to contribute to the region's 2009 production total.

Irrigated cotton acres appear to be progressing pretty well, although many irrigated growers have been disappointed that their crops haven't "grown off" the way they would prefer.

A big contributor to the irrigated crop's sluggish performance has been the relatively mild weather conditions that prevailed this far. Despite daytime temperatures have been pretty well in line with seasonal norms, nighttime temperatures continue to dip into the low to middle 50s at night.

According to Dr. Randy Boman, Texas AgriLife Extension Cotton Agronomist, the

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State U.I.L.



Borden County students recently competing in U.I.L. events at the University of Texas campus in Austin, Texas are (left to right) Katherine Froman, Brendan Tarleton, Chasiti Rutherford, Eric Espinoza and Lacey Roberts.

Success at Austin BHS U.I.L Students Perform Well at Meet

Several Borden County High School students had a successful couple of days at the recent U.I.L. Academic State Meet on the University of Texas campus in Austin.

Despite a 2½ week delay in the contest due to the swine flu scare, senior Katherine Froman and junior Chasiti Rutherford both received 3rd place bronze medals following fantastic performances in their respective events.

Froman, who finished her high school career off as three-time state qualifier, finished in third place in the 1A Spelling & Vocabulary contest. She scored a 94 out of a possible 100 in the contest, and received the medal that she so has been desiring since starting in the event as a freshman.

Rutherford received her own bronze medal in 1A Lincoln-Douglas Debate. She

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Borden County ISD Board Meeting May 18, 2009

Regular Board Meeting
May 18, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Board Room. Board members present were John Anderson, Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, Randy Hensley, Carol Lewis, Dennis Poole, and Mike Valentine. Jimmy Thomas and Bart McMeans were also present.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Anderson.
2. There was no community input.
3. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Carol Lewis to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2009 Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion was made by Joe Harding and seconded by Randy Hensley to approve the May 2009 bills. The motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion was made by Carol Lewis and seconded by Dennis Poole to sponsor a Chemical Free Graduation Party for the Class of 2009. The motion carried unanimously.
6. The results of the May 9, 2009 Borden County I.S.D. Bond Election were reviewed and canvassed. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Dennis Poole to approve the results as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Mike Valentine to set the regular June 2009 meeting for June 15, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion was made by Dennis Poole and seconded by Carol Lewis to accept the resignation of Tracye Spencer. The motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion was made by Dennis Poole and seconded by Joe Harding to amend the 2008-2009 Borden County I.S.D. Budget as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.
10. Mr. Thomas gave a year to date financial report, a construction report, and reported that 211 students were enrolled as of May 12, 2009. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Dennis Poole to approve the superintendent's report. The motion carried unanimously.
11. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Carol Lewis to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY ISD BOND ELECTION May 9, 2009

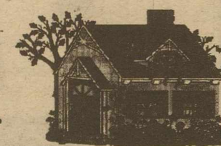
	PLAINS	SOUTH GAIL	VEALMOOR	MURPHY	FAIRVIEW	NORTH GAIL	SNELLINGS	EARLY	TOTAL	
	A	2A	2B	3A	3B	4A	4B			
FOR	13	21	4	6	7	18	8	85	162	60.2231% MARGIN
AGAINST	21	8	7	4	21	8	2	36	107	
TOTAL VOTES CAST	34	29	11	10	28	26	10	121	269	

Special Board Meeting
May 26, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in special session at 7:00 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Board Room. Board members present were John Anderson, Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, Randy Hensley, Carol Lewis, Dennis Poole, and Mike Valentine. Superintendent, Jimmy Thomas, Ross Sharp, Richard Constancio, James Hicks, and John Abbott were also present.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Anderson.
2. There was no community input.
3. Representatives from Shiver Megert & Associates and Wiley Hicks Jr. Inc. conducted an overview of the upcoming Construction Project.
4. A discussion pertaining to hiring summer employees and hourly wages was conducted. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Dennis Poole to set the minimum hourly wage for summer workers at a rate of \$7.75 for new workers, \$8.25 an hour for summer workers completing summer work that have previously been employed, \$9.00 an hour for new permanent employees, and to allow the following summer employees to be employed for the summer (Brendan Tarleton, Raylea Underwood, Chellsie Pigford, Tony Soto, Kate Wallace, Michael Cooley, David Rodriguez, Garrett Thomas, Quinton Shaffer, and R.T. Shaffer. The motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Carol Lewis to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System



Heart and Home ...

by Julie Smith

Borden County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences

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The Lowdown on Dirty Dishes: Tips for getting the job done in record time

When the lazy, hazy days of summer are in full swing, it's natural to want to give household chores short shift. Who wants to spend time doing dishes when the outdoors beckons?

While it's tempting to stock up on paper and plastic dinnerware, it's not necessarily the best solution. In addition to environmental concerns and the extra expense involved in purchasing these disposable products, pots and pans still need to be cleaned! So here are some tips for getting those dishes done at warp speed.

In the dishwasher:

* Load promptly. Make it a habit to put dirty dishes into the dishwasher as you use them. It gets clutter off the counter and keeps the process from becoming overwhelming.

* Follow the directions on the automatic dish detergent label so you use only as much detergent as is necessary to clean your dishes.

By hand:

* Preplan. Dishwashing is easier if food doesn't have a chance to dry on the dishes. So,

when cooking or baking, fill the sink with dish soap and hot water before you start. When you finish with a pot, pan or utensil, put it directly in the water.

* Presoak so it's easier to remove burned-on stains and cooked-on soils. This gives the detergent's ingredients time to break down soils. As a result, it'll minimize the amount of detergent required and the scrubbing time needed.

* Use hot water when washing dishes by hand. The hot water helps cut grease and lift dirt away, which reduces scrubbing time. If you have sensitive hands, wear a pair of rubber gloves.

* Air-dry your dishes. It's a time-saver.

To learn more about products formulated to clean dishes by hand, check out The Soap and Detergent Association's new Dish Care Fact Sheet. To download it, visit <http://www.cleaning101.com/files/dish-care-fact-sheet.pdf>.

Source: Soap and Detergent Association Cleaning Matter Newsletter July/August 2009

AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System



On the Wild Side of Life

by Cody G. Hill

Borden County Extension Agent -
Agriculture

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Borden County Youth Riding Club

There will be a Borden County Youth Riding Club meeting held on June 11, 2009 at the Borden County Extension Office. The planning meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and anyone interested in helping plan and schedule this years events are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Cody G. Hill at the Borden County Extension Office at (806) 756-4336.

Still Driving Me Crazy

By Sue Jane Mayes

Teaching driver education is similar to preaching at a tent revival. Not that I have been to many tent revivals, but I did read about them in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, which is more than enough to make me somewhat of an expert. So, on this the 14th anniversary of my driving instructor career in Gail America, it just seems like an opportune time to reflect on how sitting in the front seat of a car is akin to sitting on the front pew at a gospel meeting.

Let's just be honest: the two most important lessons in life revolve around learning about God and learning how to drive. The first one we need for our eternal salvation; the other is directly tied in to our daily transportation. Kids get that. Even though some young ones probably get saved just to please their parents or to get that standing ovation from the congregation, my guess is that they truly do feel better knowing that the Good Lord is behind the wheel on the Road of Life.

Teenagers also know that traveling the roads of Borden County are a lot more fun if they are behind the wheel. Obviously, then, when your kids want to take driver education to become drivers, just relax. They are just trying to become God-like.

Our classroom revivals require 32 hours of study. Then, THE moment arrives—you know, the seven steps of transportation—they are ready to take their driving permit test and become legal. What a day of rejoicing that is. We then begin the practice driving which consists of seven hours behind the wheel with me in the passenger seat (buckled up, holding on, and praying).

Just like a revival minister, I have to appeal charismatically to their senses. You bet I am going to throw some hellfire and brimstone their way when it comes to (1) drinking and driving, (2) over-correcting, (3) speeding, and (4) texting or talking on the phone while driving. Oh, I throw in a little mercy/forgiveness here and there, giving them a second chance at parallel parking if they mess up. If they can't parallel park after the third attempt, it's time to move on. I probably should follow the "seven times seventy rule" as the Good Lord did, but after all, I am human, so I just give up and suggest perpendicular and diagonal parking for the rest of their lives.

After a tent revival, sometimes people just revert to their old ways. Bad habits creep back. The same is true of young drivers. They think the permit in their pocket is a license to drive. It is not. It is a license *to continue to learn* to drive.

A sense of humor goes a long way in surviving life and in instructing 15-year-olds the art of driving. Never, though, do I want them to take this responsibility lightly. I sure don't. I am keenly aware that teaching someone else's child to drive is as crucial as teaching them to read and write.

No accidents to date, knock on the car dash. Plenty of near accidents that had me truly calling on the name of the Lord (not cursing). But, if in the event that moment does come when we get a ding in the car or hit that tree or jump a curve (wait, we have done that one), then I'll do what any good tent revival preacher would do.

I'll pass the plate.

Thought for the Day

Not much evil is done by evil people. Most of the evil is done by good people, who do not know that they are not good.

--Reinhold Niebuhr

Success at Austin...

(Continued from Page 1)

went 2-1 in her preliminary rounds by defeating opponents from Thorndale and Winters. Her speaker points awarded in each round helped her break to the semifinals, despite a loss to a student from Sulphur Springs North Hopkins. She dropped only 4 out of 90 speaker points in her three preliminary rounds. In the semifinals, she lost to a student from Saratoga West Hardin, but she still received the bronze medal as a state semifinalist.

Joining Froman and Rutherford on the medal stand at the State Meet was junior Brendan Tarleton who finished 6th in 1A Prose Interpretation. Tarleton advanced from the state preliminary round to the finals in the event, where he then received a state finalist medal.

Also competing at the state meet for BHS were juniors Eric Espinoza and Lacey Roberts. Espinoza competed in Extemporaneous Informative Speaking, but he failed to make the finals. Roberts competed in Feature Writing but did not place in the top 6. Val-

able experience was gained for next year.

Academic coaches Darrin Ard (speech & debate), Cindy Herridge (spelling & vocabulary), and Charla Soto (journalism), and Sue Jane Mayes (debate judge) accompanied their contestants to the State Meet.

Congratulations, BHS UILers!

ON SALE NOW!!

**All Color 2009
Yearbook**



**Get yours today!
On sale in the
front office.
\$20 each**

Gail FFA Sale Items Inventory Prices Slashed

Gail FFA still has cookie dough and meat items for sale at a now reduced rate.

Cookie dough \$12 each
Items available:
M&M Cookie-4, Sugar Cookie-2, White Chocolate Macadamia-2, Pecan Cobblers-4

Meat Items available:
Smoked Turkey-2-\$16, Party Pack-1-\$10, Smoked Bacon-5-\$10, Turkey Breast-1-\$12, Beef Fajitas-5-\$10, Chicken Fajitas-5-\$10, Pork Loin-5-\$12, Cajun Meat Pies-4-\$10

Contact Mr. Wallace or see an FFA member this week!

Help Wanted

Apex is looking for a part-time janitor in Gail. Tues and Thur anytime after 5:30 p.m..
Call 210-344-3763.

Healthy Glow Tan

Spray on tan

Full-body \$15

Call Tanya Shafer at
806/756-4400 or 325/242-1245.

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AgriLIFE EXTENSION

Texas A&M System

Improving Lives. Improving Texas.

Living Well

Educational Program BY MAIL

Living Well programs by mail will help improve your lifestyle and overall well-being to begin "Living Well in 2009."

1A packet relating to the program topic will be sent to you and you will need to complete an evaluation by mail. This will take the place of a face-to-face program, and will allow you to receive the program information.

Food Preservation

Do you plan to can or freeze foods this year? Then you need to be up-to-date on the latest information about food preservation techniques. This educational program by mail will provide you with current information for the safest and easiest ways to preserve your Summer bounty!

Contact the Extension Office by Friday, June 19th if you would like to receive the educational program packet by mail on Food Preservation.

Sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension Service - Borden County

140 East Wilbourn or P.O. Box 155 Gail, TX 79758 Phone (806)756-4556 Fax (806)756-4486
m-smith@tamu.edu http://borden-tx.tamu.edu

Color Me Healthy Fun Day

Come join the fun!
Please RSVP by
Monday, June 15th

You are invited to attend the
Color Me Healthy Fun Day
in the Community Room in Gail
All youth age 4-7 are invited
We will play games, sing songs, make crafts
and snacks, while learning how to...
Color Me Healthy!

Color Me Healthy
preschoolers moving & eating healthy

Date: Wednesday,
June 17th
Time: 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

For more information or to
RSVP, contact the Texas
AgriLife Extension Service-
Borden County office at
(806) 756-4336 or
jm-smith@tamu.edu.


Cost of \$5 to cover supplies

AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System
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Texas AgriLife Extension Service -
Borden, Garza, Lynn, Mitchell and Scurry Counties
is sponsoring a:

Pressure Canner Testing Clinic

Wednesday, June 10, 2009 - 1:00 p.m. through 5:30 p.m.
Scurry County Extension Office (2605 Avenue M, Snyder)



Bring your pressure canner lid and gauge by during the afternoon of the 10th for testing to determine its accuracy and safety for this canning season. We will have an exhibit on the *Do's and Don'ts of Canning*, and also have handouts available regarding all methods of food preservation. We will have drawings for door prizes. *So Easy to Preserve* recipe books will also be available for purchase at \$15 each. For more information, contact your local Texas AgriLife Extension Service office.

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BORDEN CO
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Commissioners Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 26th day of May, 2009, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Special Session in the Commissioners Court room in the courthouse of Gail, Texas, the following members of the court being present, to-wit:

VAN L. YORK, County Judge; **MONTE SMITH**, Commissioner Precinct No. 1; **RANDY ADCOCK**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; **JOE BELEW**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; **JOYCE HERRIDGE**, County Clerk and Ex-Officio of the Commissioners Court, constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda.

In attendance were John

Anderson, Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, Mike Valentine, Ralph Miller, Dean Roberson, Freda Radcliff, Lee Burchfield, N.L. Buchanan, Joe Grimes and Bert Moffitt.

PERANENT SCHOOL FUND

After discussion and consideration, Commissioner Belew made a motion to distribute this month form Borden County to Borden County I.S.D. the Texas Constitutionally Article 7, Section 6B Permanent School Funds in the amount of \$1,900,000.00. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion.

Voting for: Commissioners Adcock, Belew and Judge York.

Voting against: Commissioners Smith and Reyes.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court Meeting of May 12, 2009 were read. Commissioner Reyes made a motion to approve said minutes. Commissioner Belew seconded the motion. Motion carried.

U.S. HIGHWAY 180

Legion Commander N.L. Buchanan, Freda Redcliff, and Lee Burchfield presented a request to rename a portion of U.S. Highway 180 in honor of Jimmy Doyle, a Veteran killed in World War II and recently brought home.

The proposed Jimmy Doyle Memorial Highway would begin at the Scurry-Borden Line and continue through Borden County to Lamesa City limits. The County will be required to buy and maintain the signs designating Highway. No action was taken.

SURPLUS COUNTY EQUIPMENT

As advertised bids were opened at 9:30 a.m. for the

County Trailer. One bid was received in the amount of \$1,785.00 Commissioner Belew made a motion to reject bid. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BURN BAN

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to lift the Borden county Burn Ban. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Voting for: Commissioners Smith, Adcock and Reyes.

Voting against: Commissioner Belew and Judge York.

TRAP CLUB

Mr. Dean Roberson visited with the Court giving an estimated cost of new Skeet and trap Facilities.

SHOW BARN AND RODEO ARENA

Grimes & Associates Consulting Engineers representatives, Bert Moffitt, A.I.A. and Joe Grimes, P.E. discussed using their firm for the relocation and building of the Show Barn and Rodeo Arena.

WATER SYSTEM REPAIRS

Work is progressing on the water system. The Well passed test and will soon be working. Work and painting of the water tank is progressing.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

The current accounts were examined and Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve and pay said accounts. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE AGENDA

No new items were presented.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 9th day of June, 2009.

Recent Rain...

(Continued from Page 1)

sometimes cool morning temperatures of May and early June have the irrigated crop lagging a little bit even though overall heat unit accumulations are tracking close to normal.

The 2009 growing season is starting in typical High Plains fashion with more questions than answers at this early stage. With hopes for establishing more dryland acres this year, favorable weather could set the stage for the area to put together another respectable cotton crop this year.

Editor's Note: "Cotton News", a weekly service of Plains Cotton Growers to the cotton industry and news media in the 25-county High Plains area, is mailed from Lubbock each Friday. Its contents are confined to news items and comments pertaining to the High Plains cotton industry which is so vital to us all.

Anyone interested in making comments about the contents of this column can call PCG at 806-792-4904 or Email PCG at: cotnews@plainscotton.org

Former BC Coach to be Inducted Into Texas Six-Man Hall of Fame

Former Borden County coach and teacher, Eddie James, will be inducted into the Texas Six-Man Hall of Fame July 18, 2009 at Lowery Field in Lubbock, Texas.

James served as Borden County Athletic Director and

head coach from 1953 to 1962. He coached football, basketball and track.

Leaving Borden County in 1962, James accepted a teaching and coaching assignment in Seminole.