



NETFC NOW



GENERAL MANAGERS VIEWPOINT BY Chuck Smith

We continue to recognize that our employees are the cornerstone of our success. Like many businesses across Texas and the nation, we've observed the prevalent "Help Wanted" and "Now Hiring" signs, highlighting the ongoing challenges in the labor market. We deeply appreciate our dedicated employees who consistently work hard to serve your agricultural needs. As we move through 2025, we reflect on our fiscal year ending March 31, 2025. The diligent work of our Board of Directors and management team continues as they collaborate closely with our auditors. This crucial process ensures the accurate verification of our year-end inventories and financial results. We anticipate the audit's completion within the next month, and the findings will be presented to you at our upcoming Annual Meeting to be held June 5, 2025 at the Hopkins County Civic Center.

Rest assured, your cooperative remains in strong hands, guided by sound board governance and a dedicated management staff. Have a blessed May!



RETAIL FARM SUPPLY & SULPHUR SPRINGS FERTILIZER

by Brandon Bell

903 885 3143 Store 903 885 5036 Fertilizer

What's all the BUZZ about an IPM for Your Cattle?

Hey folks, let's talk flies. They're more than just a nuisance to our cows; they're silently picking our pockets! The experts say flies cost the U.S. cattle industry billions. With today's high cattle prices, every extra pound on that 600cwt calf means real cash back in your pocket. Think about it, just a 20-pound difference due to fly control can translate to a significant gain. And it's not just about the money, it's about keeping our animals healthy, plain and simple.

So, how do we win this battle? It boils down to a simple, four-step plan called Integrated Pest Management, or IPM. Let's break it down in plain language:

Your 4-Step Fly-Fighting Plan:

1. **Know Your Enemy (Monitoring & Identification):** Keep an eye on your herd. Are those horn flies clustered like pepper on their backs? Or are face flies bugging their eyes? Knowing what kind of fly you're dealing with helps you choose the right weapon. Simple sticky traps can also give you a heads-up on fly numbers.
2. **Decide When to Fight (Setting an Action Plan):** You don't need to go to war over a few flies. But when do they cross the line? For horn flies, once you're seeing a couple hundred per animal, it's time to act. For face flies, even fewer can cause problems. Have a plan ready for when those numbers hit your trigger point.
3. **Stop 'Em Before They Start (Prevention):** Good farm habits are key here. Think clean living for your cattle! Regularly cleaning up manure (where flies breed), keeping things dry, and even rotating pastures can make a big difference along with ridding of old hay piles from winter feeding.
4. **Bring in the Big Guns (Control) - Your Product Powerhouse:** When those fly numbers breach your defenses, it's time to deploy the right arsenal. Let's dive into some of these trusted products, and let me tell you, investing in these products is investing directly in your profits:
 - For rapid, short-term knockdown (2-4 weeks) right on your cattle, Brute Pour-On delivers immediate relief. Keep a gallon handy for those heavy infestations.
 - For season-long, consistent control of horn and face flies, Tri-Zap Insecticide Ear Tags are frontline soldiers, offering 3 -6 months control. Remember to rotate tag types each year to prevent resistance.
 - Starbar Inhibidor pour-on offers another systemic approach, providing reliable control with a simple application along the backline.
 - To tackle adult flies in and around your barns and working areas, QuikStrike premise spray or granules are your go-to. Knock down those adults before they can bother your herd.
 - For a strategic, longer-term approach that targets the next generation, Clarify, available in our Beef Cow Plus Mineral and other tubs are a game-changer. By passing through the animal and killing fly larvae in the manure, you're breaking the fly life cycle at its source.

The Payoff: Healthier Cows, and a Heavier Wallet

Imagine a 600 lb. steer gaining an extra 15-20 pounds thanks to good fly control using IPM. At today's prices (let's just say a conservative \$2.95/lb.), that's an extra \$44.25-\$59 per head. Multiply that across your herd, and you're talking about real money! Plus, less stress from flies means happier, healthier animals that are more efficient. It's a win-win! Last year, U.S. cattle producers lost over \$1 billion to horn flies and other pests. How much of that money was yours?



Your Northeast Texas Farmers Co-op Team

We're here to serve you! Please don't hesitate to contact us 903-885-3143, and make sure you are following us on Facebook.

Northeast Texas Farmers Co-op would like to congratulate the following employees on their years of services as of April 30, 2025.

Eusebio Vazquez completed 35 years of service on April 23rd. Eusebio works at our Sulphur Springs Feed Mill.

Freddie Dale completed 17 years of service on April 7th. Freddie is our Greenville Fertilizer Manager.

Irene Hanson completed 10 years of service on April 27th. Irene works in our Sulphur Springs Lab.

Shawn Moore completed 8 years of service on April 12th. Shawn is our Assistant Sulphur Springs Mill Manager.

Thank you for your service!

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