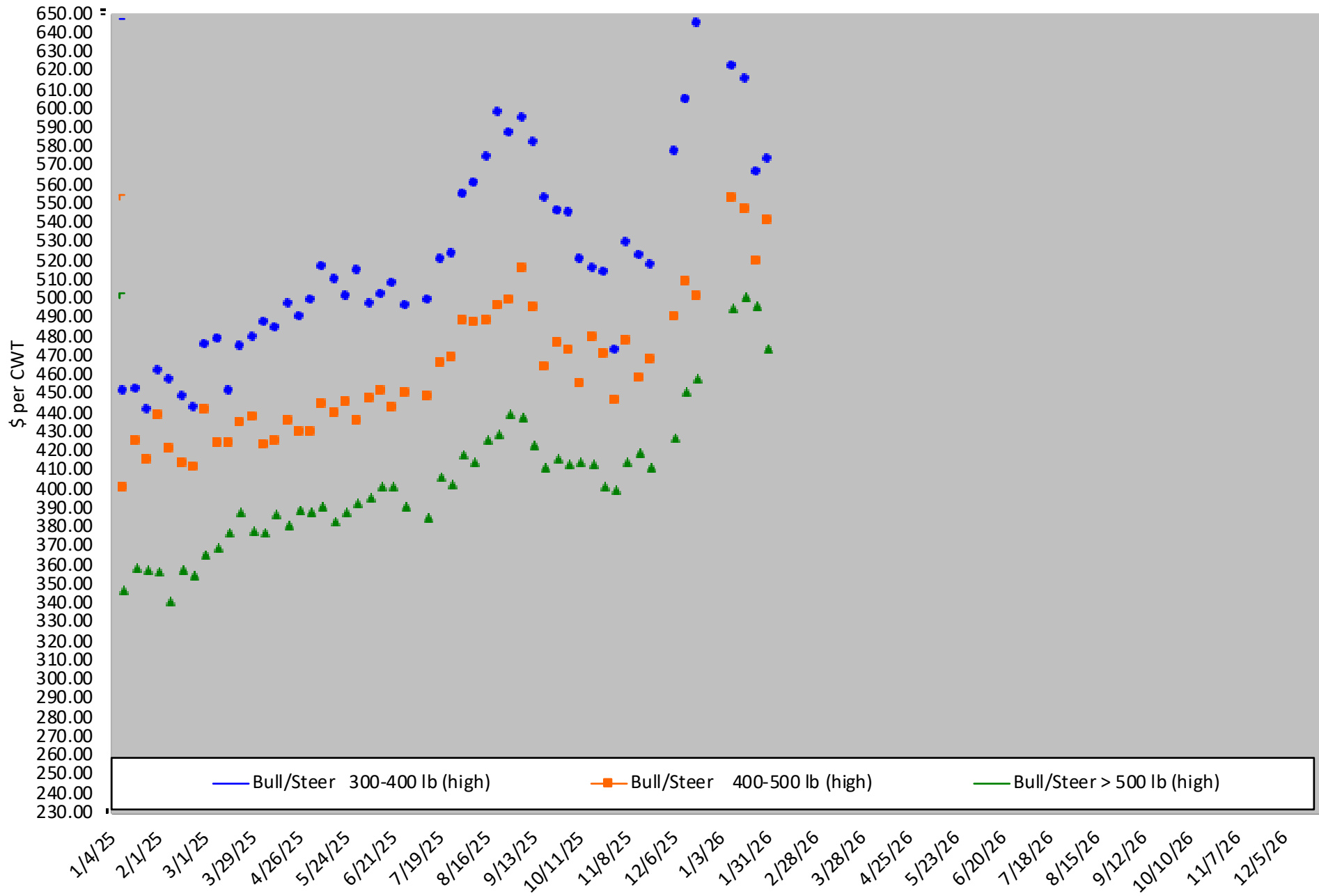


Calf Price Trends

Trend of the Highest Price Reported for Various Weight Calves, Average of 6 East & Central Texas Livestock Auctions

Chart created by Dr. Jason Banta, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

For a weekly email copy of this chart please email amsensing@ag.tamu.edu or contact a Texas A&M AgriLife County Extension Agent

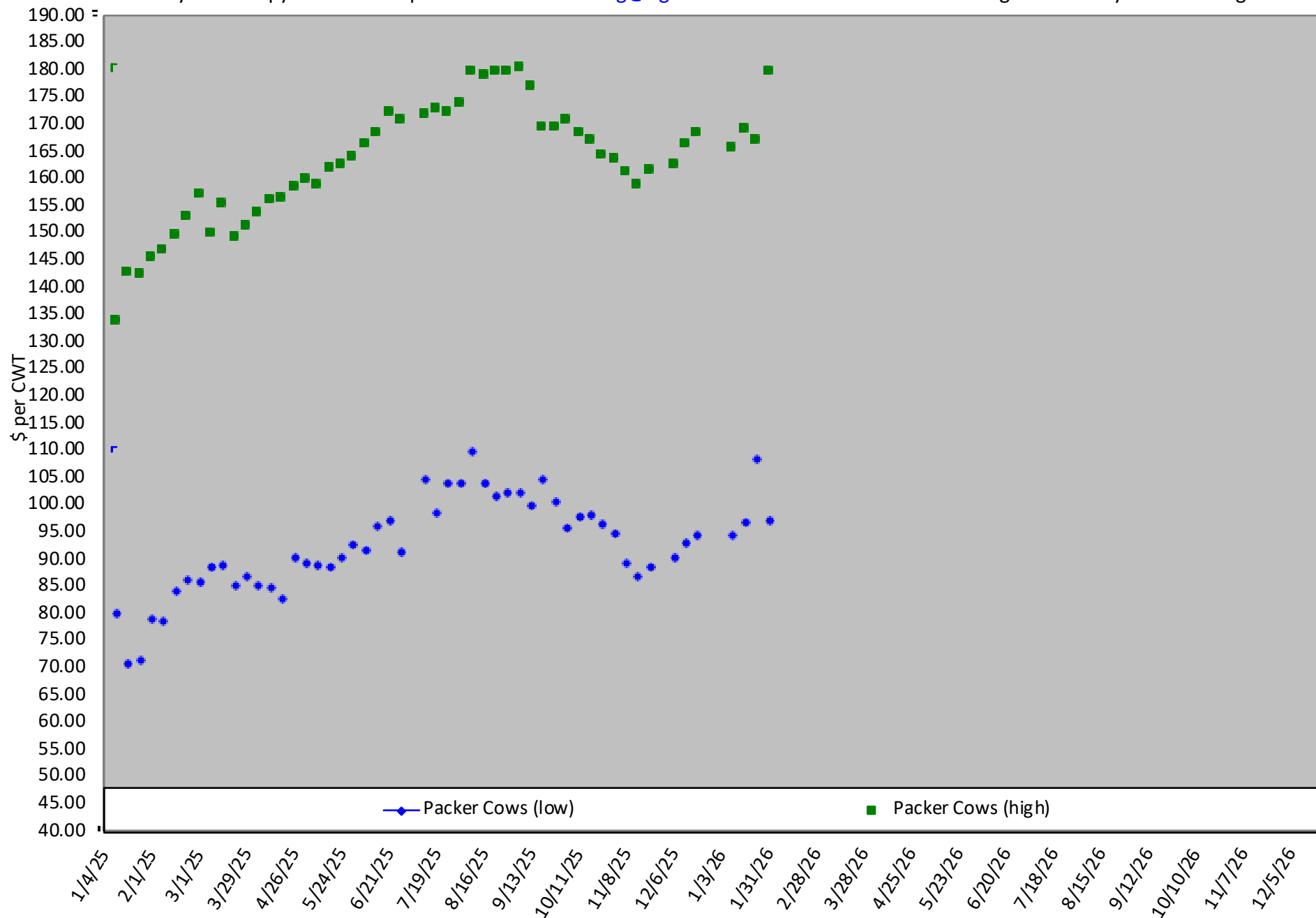


Packer Cow PriceTrends

Trend of High and Low Prices Reported for Packer Cows, Average of 6 East & Central Texas Livestock Auctions

Chart created by Dr. Jason Banta, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

For a weekly email copy of this chart please email amsensing@ag.tamu.edu or contact a Texas A&M AgriLife County Extension Agent



Spring Overton Pesticide CEU Program

Friday, March 6, 2026
Zoom Virtual Program

Hosted by Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson and Dr. Jason Banta
5 Pesticide CEUs Available (1 laws, 2 IPM, and 2 general)

Morning Session (8:30 - 11:30 am)

- Aquatic weed identification and control
- Pasture mealybug and other forage insect pests
- Laws and regulations of pesticide use

Afternoon Session (1:00 - 3:00 pm)

- Mosquitoes of Texas: the good, the bad, the ugly
- Integrated weed management in pastures and hay meadows



Registration Cost: \$35/ person for the program (5 CEUs)

Register Online At: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ansc-ev-097>

Registration Deadline: Thursday, March 5 at 4:00 pm

Practice sessions will be offered the week of the meeting for those who want to check out the process of connecting and viewing material with Zoom.

For more information on this program please contact Michelle Sensing @ 903-847-0611.

Bull buying season is in full swing. When selecting bulls, one thing that is often overlooked but deserves consideration is the way in which the bulls were developed. Unfortunately, many bulls are developed in an aggressive manner, which often causes acidosis or subacute acidosis and can lead to feet problems, fertility issues and reduced longevity. In order to push yearling weights or have the bulls fat for sale time, high-concentrate rations are commonly fed. When this is done poorly or without consideration for rumen health, it can lead to several problems, some of which don't show up until after the bulls have been purchased.

I often hear producers say that the bulls were developed on a high-fiber ration, but what does this really mean? It often doesn't mean what you might initially think. A high-fiber ration is not necessarily the same thing as a high-roughage ration. Roughage is a collective term used for forage, hay and other effective fiber-based feedstuffs that cause cattle to chew their cud and help maintain rumen pH and health. Feed ingredients like soybean hull pellets are high in fiber, specifically neutral detergent fiber (NDF), but they provide very little or no roughage value.

To help avoid problems, it is important to gradually increase grains and other readily fermentable carbohydrate-based feedstuffs to allow the rumen microbial population to adjust. This will help reduce acidosis and subacute acidosis. Additionally, a minimum amount of roughage should be maintained in the diet. Hand-feeding bulls and gradually increasing the amount of concentrate in the diet is one way to adjust bulls to a higher-energy ration.

Many producers like to use bulk feeders when developing bulls. This can be dangerous if not done correctly. If this approach is taken, it is critical to use a well-researched limiter and work with a company nutritionist who is familiar with the product and the research data.

Unfortunately, I have seen several sales advertise that the bulls are developed on grass or a high-forage-based ration. However, after completing the grass portion of the test, the bulls are put on a bulk feeder with very limited roughage or nothing to control intake.

Make sure to ask questions about bull development before buying your next bull. If bulls are not developed in a manner



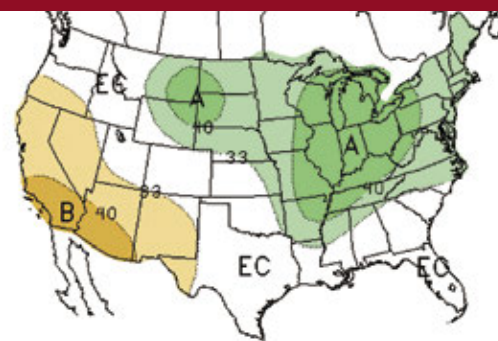
Jason Banta
Associate Professor and
Extension Beef Cattle
Specialist
Texas A&M University
jpbanta@ag.tamu.edu

to meet your operational goals, it might make sense to buy weaned bulls and develop them how you like.

0 to 3 month precipitation outlook as of Jan. 16, 2020

Chance of precipitation:

EC = Equal chance
A = Above normal
B = Below normal



Source: National Weather Service – Climate Prediction Center, www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

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AG IN THE EVENING

2026 virtual Zoom Educational Series programs brought to you by the Extension offices of Houston & Gregg Counties

ALL PROGRAMS START AT 6 PM

To register, click the TITLE of each program or scan QR Code

Jan 13: Dr. Jason Banta
Bull Selection for Cow-Calf Producers



Feb 10: Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson
The 4 R's of Nutrient Management



March 10: Dr. Jason Banta
Factors Affecting Forage & Hay Quality



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EXTENSION

Previous recordings available by
clicking photo



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