

**...Farm Bill**

(Continued from page 3)

“This year’s bill also retains and strengthens the Price Loss Coverage program to help provide Texas agricultural producers with stability through unpredictable weather and natural disasters,” Cornyn said. “Finally, the bill promotes animal health and reauthorizes disease research programs, including a crucial one that will help the U.S. Department of Agriculture provide research to contain the spread of the cattle fever tick.”

The Senate farm bill calls for a new program to replace the Dairy Margin Protection Program, which was not as effective for dairy farmers as intended.

It would also create stronger trade promotion programs, rural development and research programs.

Additional funding to increase Conservation Reserve Program acres to 25 million is also included.

“Agriculture and farming are vital to the fabric of our nation and are an enduring legacy of the great state of Texas. Resources like crop insurance provide farmers with an economic safety net for their efforts to feed and supply their fellow Americans, in good times and bad, and ensure food security for our nation,” Cruz said.

Cruz noted the Senate achieved some long-needed reforms in this year’s farm bill and took a stride toward more.

“For example, I’m pleased the final Senate bill takes steps towards restoring programs for cotton producers, by reducing the impact of amendments designed to benefit other regions and commodities at the expense of others,” Cruz said.

**Rifle Team!** On June 23, 2018, the Coke County 4-H Rifle Team hosted the 3rd Annual Coke County 4-H Invitational at the Red Canyon Gun Club in Robert Lee, Texas. It was another successful shoot with kiddos from Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Crane, Hill, Jones, Taylor, and Tom Green counties competing. This shoot was a wonderful ending to a very successful season for the Coke County team. Julian De La Garza placed second in the Junior Light Rifle, Tristan Grantham placed third in the Intermediate Light Rifle and Garrett Knight placed second in the Senior Light Rifle. Garrett Knight also placed first in the Senior Silhouettes. Congratulations Coke County!



The House passed its farm bill in a 213-211 vote June 21.

The chambers are expected to select members for a conference committee after the Fourth of July recess.

The committee, which will be chaired by Roberts, will craft a single bill out of the House and Senate passed legislation to create a single bill for the president’s consideration.

“Of course, no bill is ever perfect, but this bipartisan effort gives us a solid framework for progress,” Duvall said of the Senate farm bill. “We do have concerns about some of the

provisions that were added to the bill that make it harder for farmers to manage risk, but we are confident that those issues can be satisfactorily addressed by the House/Senate conference committee. We look forward to working with conferees from both houses to get the best possible farm bill done for rural America.”

The current farm bill expires September 30.

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