

**Need for Continuing Education in the Fed-Cattle Industry**

- Being educated by leading teachers and industry professionals is vital for those who want to enter and remain in the feedyard-industry workforce.

**AgriLife Extension’s Response**

- The Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA) *Feedyard Technician Program* is a collaboration between the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, and West Texas A&M University.
- The objective of the program is to enlist the support of agricultural science teachers in identifying potential students who would benefit from the knowledge and skill offered by the program as they prepare for a career in the fed-cattle industry.
- The program offers two distinct career paths: (1) cattle handling and care and (2) machinery operation, maintenance, and repair.

- The program delivers education in such areas as basic cattle nutrition, humane cattle-handling practices, daily feedyard responsibilities, cattle processing and care, machinery operation, inspection and safety, welding techniques, shutdown procedures, and other areas.

**Jobs Supported**

- Average annual wages for feedyard managers and employees were used to estimate the salary impacts of trained participants who sustain jobs and businesses in Texas.
- The TCFA *Feedyard Technician Program* directly supported more than 86 feedlot employees, with an estimated annual salary base of \$3.5 million in 2015.

