**Youth Livestock Project Validations and DOPA Program**

It is hard to imagine that it is time to order tags and validate animals for next year’s show season. But there are many livestock validations coming up, so be sure to check the dates and get your orders in on time. If you plan on showing steers at the Comanche County Show or any Texas major shows you must validate them this June. If you are showing under Comanche County 4-H, tag orders are due to the extension office by April 6th and will cost $26.00 each.

Sheep, Goat and Swine validations for the State Fair of Texas will also be in June. Tag orders are due by April 6th and are $16.00. If you are showing any of these livestock with one of the FFA Chapters in the county, please be sure to check with your Ag Science teacher for tag order dates and deadlines.

State 4-H Horse validations will be completed online on 4-H Connect. Validations will be from March 1 to April 15th. Validations are $10.00 per head. Late validations will run from April 16th to May 1 and will cost $20.00 per horse. You must be a member of 4-H to validate your horse or show at the District or State Show. Please call the office or see your ag teacher if you have any validation questions.

**DOPA Program**

The Comanche, Erath and Hamilton County AgriLife Extension offices will be hosting our annual DOPA training for dairy producers on Tuesday, April 4th at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Stephenville. The program will be broken into 2 sessions. Registration for the morning session will begin at 9:30 AM and the program will run until lunch. The second session will begin at 1:00 PM and run until 4:00 PM.

On the morning session we will have Kyle Weldon, Attorney from Bradbury Law Office, discussing “Air, Water and Private Property Cases Impacting Livestock Producers,” and Dr. Zong Liu covering “Mortality Management for Central Texas Dairies”.

After lunch we will have Dr. Ashley Lovell discussing “Nutrient Tracking Tool,” Dr. Zong Liu discussing the “Texas Climate Smart-Manure Management and Financial Assistance Programs,” and finally Texas State Trooper, Scott Roundtree talking about “Trucking and Manure Hauling Laws”.

The program will offer 5 DOPA credits and the meal will be provided by our great dairy industry sponsors.