

OUR ANNUAL RANCH HORSE BUYER'S GUIDE

WORKING RANCH

**TOUGHIN'
OUT THE
DROUGHT**

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO AVOID
A PREG RATE NOSEDIVE

DOUBLE THE DATA

ACROSS-BREED EPD INFORMATION
QUANTITY IS AT AN
ALL-TIME HIGH



INSIDE!
WR JUNIOR
PULL-OUT
SECTION

IN CONTROL OF THE COWS

IT PAYS OFF IN MORE WAYS
THAN ONE WHEN YOU PUT THE
HERD IN THEIR PLACE

THE JULY 2015

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that's an improvement

Hunker Down ... if you can't get to town

Are you prepared to wait out a BIG disaster?

The power of Mother Nature is too often underestimated. It is not a matter of if but when she will show her face in a nasty way. Natural disasters such as large floods, snowstorms, and tornados can put a damper on the normality of life faster than just about anything. Events such as train derailments, chemical spills, plane crashes, animal disease outbreaks, terrorist attacks, and criminal investigations can also bring things to a screeching halt in your neighborhood. Hoping for the best is one way of dealing with situations like these, but preparing for the worst ahead of time typically results in a much better outcome.

Quite simply, planning ahead and being prepared can mean the difference between life and death. It is critical ranchers not only prepare for themselves, but their families and their livestock. Disastrous situations that may cause extensive power outages, contaminated water supplies, and road closures can be crippling if nothing has been done beforehand to prepare for such an event. "Have a plan B, or even a plan C. Prepare for



DAN SCHREIBER/SHUTTERSTOCK

the worst,” suggests Joe Reick, with **Wise Company**.

FOOD AND WATER

Food and water are staples of life for both humans and animals. Having enough food to make it through a disaster is critical. The **American Red Cross** suggests each person have at least a two-week supply of non-perishable food on hand at all times. If worse came to worse, of course, a rancher could always butcher a calf or cow, but that might not be that easy to pull off during disastrous times. Keeping an up-to-date supply of canned, dried, and other extended shelf life foods stocked up is handy in these situations.

Along with food, ranchers need to keep bottled water on hand for drinking purposes. The American Red Cross allots one gallon of water per person per day and suggests keeping at least a two-week supply of drinking water available at all times. Water purification additives and portable water filtration and purification systems are also valuable tools. Remember that without a supply of water, sanitation can become an issue. Be sure to have a bathroom plan in place.

In addition to stocking up on food and water for human consumption, ranchers should keep a supply of extra forages, feed, and minerals on hand at all times throughout the year for their stock. A gas or diesel powered water pump and a large holding tank come in handy if water must be pumped from a natural water source in a different location and hauled to livestock.

SUPPLIES

A First Aid Kit is a must on all ranches! Items should be stored in an easy-to-carry case or bag that can be used on site or be carried if evacuation is necessary. The kit should be kept stocked at all times and placed in an easily assessable location. “There are only two responses to any disaster – shelter-in-place or evacuate,” maintains Jim Serre with **GetReadyGEAR**. “You need to be prepared for both scenarios. Having some supplies that will support you during an evacuation to a shelter or other location is a must. Keep food, water, First Aid kit, radio, and lighting supplies in a bag ready to go. Don’t forget copies of all your

important documents. For shelter-in-place events, make sure you have identified a ‘safe’ room in your home where you can shelter from a potential HAZMAT or other event,” Serre adds.

According to the American Red Cross, a seven-day supply of important medicines should be held back in case you become stranded for an extended period of time. All important medical and emergency phone numbers need to be posted in a convenient place. Having a supply of matches, firewood, a gas grill, batteries, fuel, and fuel treatment easily accessible is often helpful. Curtis Morton with **PRI Products** suggests, “Always have plenty of fuel on hand to power equipment and generators for extended periods of time. The fuel should be treated annually to ensure its’ stability for indefinite storage. When emergency strikes, untreated fuel may be unusable due to deterioration, algae infestation, or phase separation.”

Two-way radios; crank and solar powered AM/FM radios, jump starter kits, and cell phone chargers; a manual can opener; candles; flashlights; and lanterns are a few other items ranchers may want to consider keeping close by in the event of an emergency. Also, it is a good idea to have some extra cash saved back for a disastrous type of situation that may cause banks to close or result in impaired traveling conditions.

As far as animals go, it is wise to keep some extra bandage material and antibiotics available in case you can’t get to town. Having extra powdered milk replacer, colostrum replacer, and electrolytes set aside for an emergency situation may also come in handy.

POWER

When the power goes out, don’t be left in the dark with no idea where anything is or what to do. Electricity is intensively relied upon for so many different things such as producing light; controlling temperature for comfort and preventing pipes and tanks from freezing; powering technological devices; powering refrigeration units, and much more. Solar and wind power are options ranchers may want to consider using all the time or at least during grid power outages.

PTO-driven generators, automatic engine generators, and smaller portable

generators are available to get necessities back up and running. PTO driven generators require a tractor and take a little time to hook up but are often a more economical choice for ranchers. Engine driven generators are configured with either automatic or manual starts. With an automatic start generator, a switch will wait for three to ten seconds following an interruption to utility power before sending a signal to the generator to start. When the generator’s power is available an automatic transfer switch (ATS) will disconnect from the utility power and connect the ranch to the generator power. When the ATS senses the return of power, it typically waits about one minute or more to insure the utility power remains on before disconnecting from the generator and reconnecting the ranch to utility power.

When deciding what type and size generator to purchase, Jerry Horst with **The Power Connection Inc.** and **GenPower**, advises ranchers to work with a reliable generator company. Electricity is dangerous and it is important that everything is hooked up and installed properly. “Usually it is best to speak with an electrician or a generator company to properly size the equipment. Electricity kills! Equipment not installed properly kills! A spinning PTO shaft kills! Don’t be careless or allow children near operating generators or tractors,” warns Horst. He also points out that a generator normally last 30 to 50 years if it is properly serviced and kept in the dry.

WHAT’S OUT THERE?

With many new items and gadgets on the market to fulfill needs and even luxuries during disastrous times, WR thought it would be good to highlight a few companies and products ranchers might want to check out. This is what we found:

GENPOWER PTO DRIVEN GENERATORS

GenPower’s brushless PTO generators are available in 12kW, 15kW, 25kW, 40kW, 55kW, 75kW, and 100kW models to fit different emergency power requirements. These single-phase and three-phase generators come mounted on a trailer for easy portability behind a tractor, or on a

frame for permanent installation on a concrete pad. GenPower also carries accessories such as cables, transfer switches, PTO shafts, and connectors. www.genpowerpto.com

GenPower PTO Driven Generators

GETREADYGEAR®

GetReadyGEAR, Inc. is an emergency preparedness supply and training company that helps organize customers for the unexpected. GetReadyGEAR provides preparedness supplies and kits to families, schools, businesses, and government agencies nationwide. In addition to kits, GetReadyGEAR sells individual emergency drinking water pouches and different varieties of food bars, freeze dried foods, and Heater Meals. In addition, they offer a variety of water purifying and storage products. GetReadyGEAR also carries First Aid kits and supplies along with different lighting options.

One of GetReadyGEAR's top selling items is a compact flashlight, radio, and cell phone charger device that can operate on DC power from a car battery, solar power, or a built-in manual crank generator. This device also pro-



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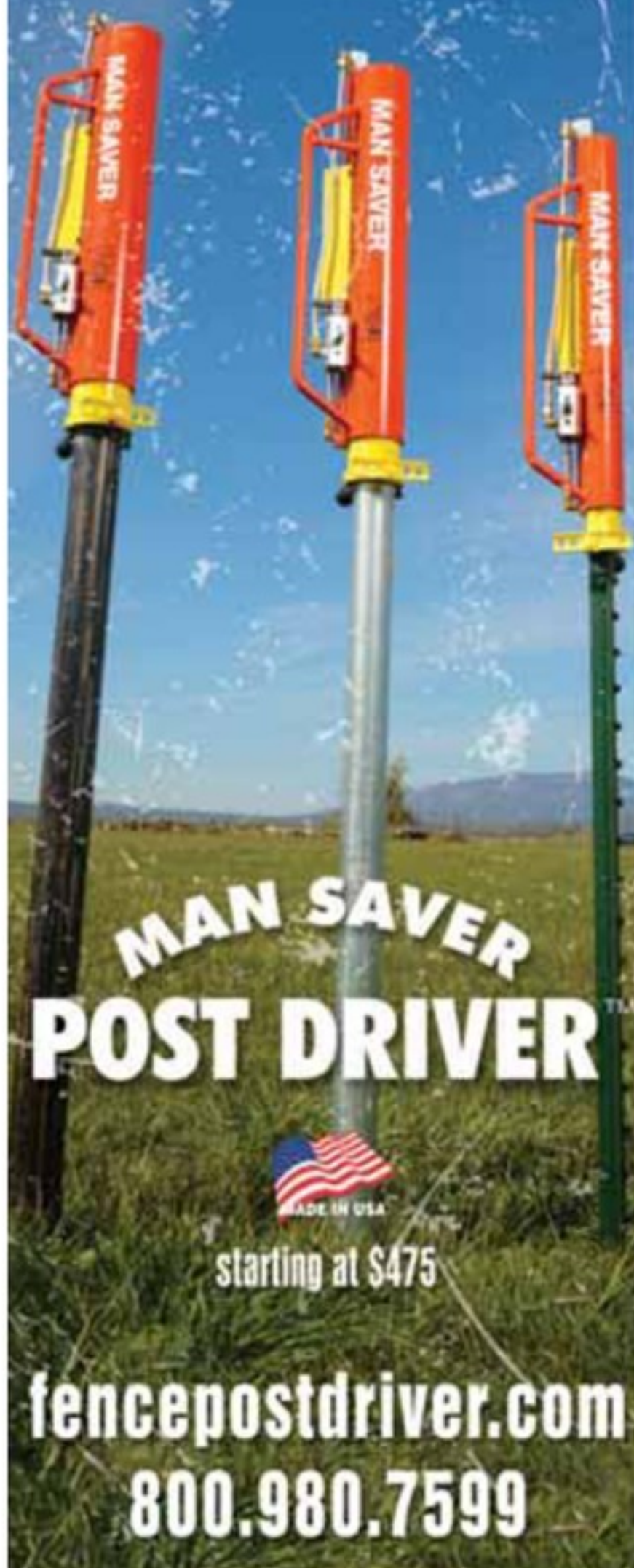
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vides both AM and FM radio with a tuner and antenna to ensure users always have access to the nation's Emergency Alert System. Additionally, this device has a bright LED light, a red strobe light to attract rescuers, and an audible alarm. www.getreadygear.com

Solar Cell Phone Charger and Utility Light (SP-3000) is the perfect solution to recharging most digital devices through a USB port during emergencies or anytime normal power is not available. A powerful LED flashlight and two level room light are added benefits. This device has a portable

PRI PRODUCTS

Infested and degraded fuels is the primary cause of engine failure, but with **Power Research Incorporated (PRI)** manufacturing and marketing a revolutionary line of chemical fuel treatments for large industrial usage and for smaller consumer usage, this is no longer a problem for ranchers. PRI's unique thermal stability chemistries, PRI-D for diesel fuel and kerosene along with PRI-G for gasoline and E-10, are industrial grade. Both of these products restore and preserve the most degraded fuels under the most challenging conditions. PRI-Oxide is a highly effective anti-microbial treatment that works well with PRI-D to eliminate and control tank slime and sludge. PRI products ensure fast start-ups and smooth running during critical emergency situations. www.priproducts.com



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