

# Cattle feed yard operator works hard

By Vera Sloan

Colby Free Press  
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Feedlot operator Wayne Carpenter of Brewster has been chosen to receive the first Water Quality Recognition Award sponsored by the Kansas Bankers Association for the Thomas County Conservation District.

The association started the program two years ago through conservation districts across the state as a way of stimulating more interest in protecting water resources, but Carpenter is the first recipient of the award in Thomas County.

Carpenter and his wife Leisha own Carpenter Cattle Co., which operates an 8,000-head cattle feed yard 5 1/2 miles north of Brewster.

The feeding pens occupy land near a creek, and to protect the ground water and prevent downstream contamination, Carpenter said, he built the first of two ponds to collect the runoff in when he started the feeding operation in 1980.

Each pond has two parts, a sediment pond to collect solids, and a fresh-water pond which is free of solids. Solids settle to the bottom



Wayne Carpenter of Carpenter Cattle Co. claimed the 2008 Water Quality award for the Thomas County Conservation District with his state-of-the art ponds to catch runoff from the feed yard. The water is recycled through to water and fertilize a nearby alfalfa field.

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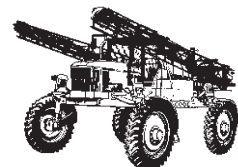


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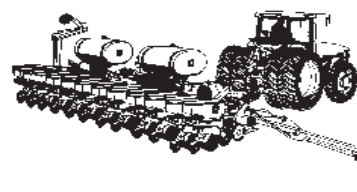


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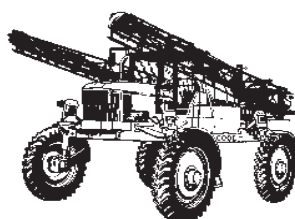
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