

SPECIAL LESSON 14

TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

Historic Ranches of Texas

- *From the Texas Almanac 2014–2015*

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 4, 9, 12, 21, 22, 23

7 - 6, 7, 10, 12, 21, 22, 23

8 - 6, 29, 30, 31

STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 3

8 - Social Studies - 1, 2, 4

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

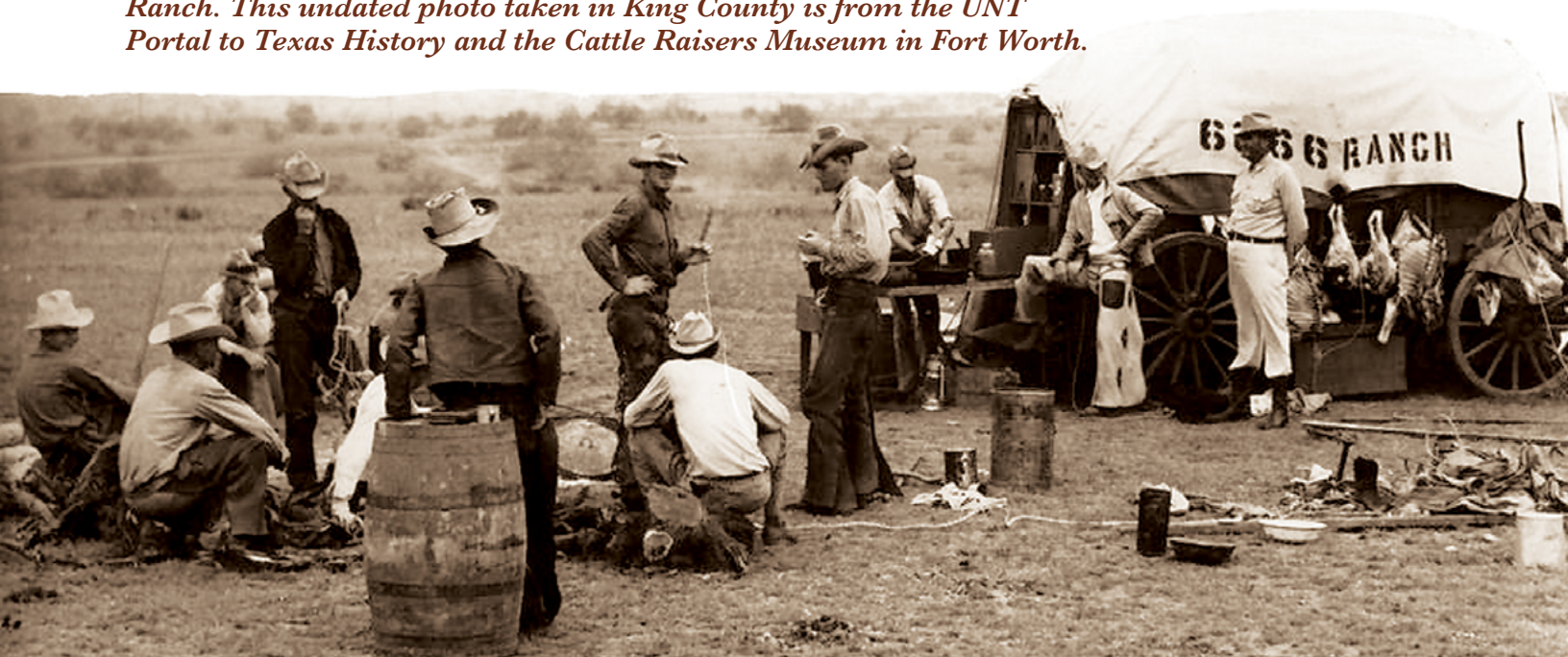
- 1. RANCHES OF TEXAS TABLE:** Students will read the article “Sketches of Eight Historic Texas Ranches” on pages 34-43 of the *Texas Almanac 2014-2015*.

They should then fill in the **Ranches of Texas Table** on the **Student Activity Sheet** using information from the article.

ADVANCED ENHANCEMENT SUGGESTIONS:

- After reading the article and filling out the chart, use **claim, evidence, and commentary** to answer the following prompt:
**Some ranches are known for size, others for uniqueness or use of the land.
What qualities do you feel makes a ranch significant?**
- Have students read the article and note information commonly given about these historic ranches. Then have them **create their own chart** and fill in their information to complete it.

The chuck wagon serves up chow to cowboys from the Four Sixes Ranch. This undated photo taken in King County is from the UNT Portal to Texas History and the Cattle Raisers Museum in Fort Worth.



SPECIAL LESSON 14 – Historic Ranches of Texas

2. **BRANDED READER:** Students will read the article and answer the questions on the **Branded Reader Student Activity Sheet**.

As they work, they should **shade or lightly color** their answers on the **Branded Reader Answer Key** to create the likeness of a famous Texas brand. What is it?

3. **BRANDING:** Some brands were based on their owner's name. Others were created from the name of the ranch. Some were inherited and altered to make them new or unique.

Students should take note of **Jose Antonio Navarro's brand** on the chart on page 44 of the *Texas Almanac 2014-2015* (also included in this lesson). Notice how each initial is clearly incorporated, yet the design is still simple.

Students will create 5 brands. They can use the **Student Activity Sheet** or separate sheets of paper for each brand.

- The **first brand** should be an exact replica of one of the brands shown on pages 44–45 (also included in this lesson).
- The **second brand** should be an adaptation of that same brand, as if you had inherited the ranch and brand and wanted to change it enough to make it your own.
- The **third and fourth brands** should be two separate and unique brands that incorporate your initials.
- The **fifth brand** should be made to represent a ranch name, such as "Bumblebee Ranch." For this brand, the teacher could hold a drawing for ranch names; or have students work in pairs, and each classmate will think of a ranch name and the other student will create the brand.

XIT cowboys herd cattle around 1881. Photo from the UNT Portal to Texas History and the University of Texas at Arlington Library.



Special Lesson 14 – Historic Ranches of Texas

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Ranches of Texas Table

Ranch	Founder(s)	Year Estab- lished	Acreage	Brand	Counties Included	Best Known For	Still in Existence?
King							
JA							
XIT							
Matador							
Four Sixes							
Swenson			N/A				
YO							
Waggoner							



Branded Reader Questions

Read “Sketches of Eight Historic Texas Ranches” on pages 34-43 of the *Texas Almanac 2014-2015* and answer these questions. As you work, shade or lightly color your answers on the **Branded Reader Answer Key**, and you will create the likeness of a famous Texas brand. What is it?

1. How much land did Col. Juan Ignacio Perez claim in his will? _____
2. How many acres was this? _____
3. Texas’s first ranches provided beef to: _____
4. What resulted from the closing of missions? _____
5. A visitor to James White’s ranch in the 1840s described his longhorns in this way:

6. Generally, the farther west you go, the _____ land per acre is needed to be considered a ranch.
7. King Ranch was founded by Captain Richard King and Gideon K. “Legs” Lewis, who was a former _____
8. King and Lewis’s ranch, which eventually became known as King Ranch, was established in this year: _____
9. King took sole ownership of their Santa Gertrudis Ranch after Lewis _____
10. King Ranch is known for developing a new breed, the Santa Gertrudis, which was recognized by the U.S.Department of Agriculture (USDA) in _____
11. King Ranch is also known for breeding _____ and _____ horses. *(Each answer is a separate box.)*
12. Today, King Ranch is run by the _____ of Richard King.
13. JA Ranch was founded by namesake John Adair and _____.
14. JA Ranch used the natural barriers created by _____.
15. At its peak, JA Ranch covered more than _____ counties in the Panhandle.
16. XIT Ranch was founded by businessmen from _____ in exchange for building the state capitol in _____. *(Each answer is a separate box.)*

Branded Reader Questions

17. XIT Ranch covered more than _____ acres in parts of _____ High Plains counties. *(Each answer is a separate box.)*
18. By the 1900s, the owners of the XIT Ranch decided to make money on their land by doing what? _____
19. Unlike the previous ranches, Matador Ranch also had significant land holdings in _____ and _____ *(Each answer is a separate box.)*
20. Matador Ranch also makes money by allowing _____.
21. Legend says Samuel Burk Burnett won the Four Sixes Ranch in a _____.
22. For the Four Sixes Ranch, which came first: the brand or the name? _____
23. Though already a successful rancher, Samuel Burk Burnett also made significant profits from the _____ on his ranch.
24. Despite acquiring land over several decades, Swante M. Swenson never actually _____ on any of his ranches.
25. Like many other large ranching operations, the SMS or Swenson Ranches was made up of _____
26. Members of Swenson's family helped organize an _____ celebration known as the "Texas Cowboy Reunion."
27. The YO Ranch is known for being one of the first ranches to allow hunting of _____ for profits.
28. Charles Schreiner III is credited with saving the _____ breed.
29. YO Ranch also brought in money by stocking _____ for hunting.
30. Waggoner Ranch was the largest Texas cattle ranch within _____
31. Because of its brand, Waggoner Ranch was also commonly called _____
32. Which ranch's brand did you make with your correct answers? _____

Special Lesson 14 – Historic Ranches of Texas

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Branded Reader Answer Key

Denver	Texas Ranger	grew tobacco	1836	had slaves	poker game	decade
dairy farming	international cooperatives	Spanish missions	Western	South Dakota	Governor	moved to Kansas
1952	camels	lemon	1940	red	name	sheep
El Paso	8	Austin	fishing	6	1914	25
centennial	Quarter	Sheriff	1882	monthly	Three D Ranch	Chisholm
corporation	"pure Spanish breed"	2 million	cotton production	Brazos River	was killed	President
High Plains	a single fence	fracking	llamas	Houston	deer	Galveston
owned cattle	private ranching	several smaller properties	5 leagues	selling	Thoroughbred	2 leagues
inherited from parents	longhorn	was bought out	bi-annual	orange	hunting	almost half a million
Lazy Q	1853	blue	1896		oil wells	cows
1876	commercial farming	weekly	Red River	exotic African game	Chicago	farmed
Boston	more		black	lime	brand	goats
New York City	Palo Duro Canyon	descendants	3 million	Canada	Charles Goodnight	sheep herding
found the deed	over 22,000	1848		less than 25,000	lived	buffalo
12			4 million	annual	10	brown

Branding – Create Your Cattle Brands

Some Texas cattle brands were based on their owner's name. Others were created from the name of the ranch. Some were inherited and altered to make them new or unique.

Look at Jose Antonio Navarro's cattlebrand on the chart on page 44 of the *Texas Almanac 2014-2015* or on page 7 of this lesson. Notice how each initial is clearly incorporated, yet the design is still simple. *NOW, CREATE 5 BRANDS OF YOUR OWN!*

INSTRUCTIONS

FIRST BRAND: An exact replica of one of the brands shown on pages 44–45 of the *Texas Almanac 2014-2015* or on pages 7 and 8 of this lesson.

SECOND BRAND: An adaptation of the first brand, as if you had inherited the ranch and brand and wanted to change it enough make it your own.

THIRD and FOURTH BRANDS: Two separate and unique brands that incorporate your initials.

FIFTH BRAND: A new brand to represent a ranch name, such as "Bumblebee Ranch." Think of the name yourself or you think of one for a classmate and have that classmate think of one for you.

YOUR DRAWINGS

Special Lesson 14 – Historic Ranches of Texas

TEXAS ALMANAC POSTER

Some Historic Cattle Brands

	Don Nicolas Saez , 1700s, recorded in Bexar archives.		Acuff – M.S. Acuff, 1894, Lubbock.		Chain C – C.T. Herring, 1878, Panhandle.
	Jose Antonio Navarro , 1833.		Gay – W.C. Gay, 1884, Coleman County.		OL – L.B. Harris, 1872, San Angelo.
	This series illustrates how early Mexican brands in Texas developed as they were handed down from one generation to another, each generation adding some distinguishing mark of its own.		Lazy S – C.C. Slaughter, 1876, West Texas and Northwest Texas.		Three Circles – Late 1860s; later run by Furd Halsell, Fort Worth.
	Crossed W – James Taylor White, 1820s, Liberty County.		Walking Diamond – Typical of a “walking” brand.		Mashed O – W. E. Halsell, 1870s, Clay and Wise counties.
	These two illustrations from Ford's book show how a ring was used as a branding iron and that running brands were usually made with an ordinary wagon rod, bent at one end to facilitate the branding process.		Flying X – Typical of a “flying” brand.		M Six – William McFaddin, 1837, Jefferson County; later in Victoria area.
	Jim – James Harris, 1850s, Collin County; later, James H. Banta, Wichita County.		TC Connected – Thomas O'Connor, 1837, Refugio and contiguous counties.		F – Milton Faver, 1850s, Big Bend; called the first cattle king of Big Bend.
	Hicks – F.L. Hicks, 1856, Bandera County.		Seven D – Used first by Fayette Tankersley; later by J.B. Wilson of Dallas and E.C. Sugg. Many cattle bearing the 7D brand were shipped to Europe.		Spade – J.F. Evans, 1880s, Panhandle; later sold to Isaac L. Ellwood.
	Doak – J.A. Doak, 1851, Gonzales County.		O Cross – W.B. Worsham, around 1876, Clay County.		T Anchor – Gunter family, 1870s, San Antonio.
	Dyer – J.H. Dyer family, 1849, Hill County; they were early Anglo settlers in that county and J.H. was elected the first county judge.		U Lazy S – John B. Slaughter, 1866, Palo Pinto County.		Circle – Oliver Loving and Charles Goodnight, 1866, road brand.
	Young – Andy Young, 1872, Dallas and Young counties.		Lazy OB – Snyder Brothers, around 1868, West Texas and Georgetown; sometimes called OB.		Four Sixes – Samuel Burk Burnett, 1868. King County.
	Gerome – Gerome W. Shields, 1876, Coleman County. Herd widely known as “Rome” cattle.		SLL – Chas. Schreiner, John T. Lytle, and John W. Light, 1870–1887; they sent large herds to northern markets.		XIT – Capitol Syndicate investors, about 1884, Panhandle.
	Mulkey – W.G. Mulkey, 1889, Hardeman County.		JY – R.B. Masterson and Sons, 1898, Panhandle.		Hashknife – J.R. Coutts, 1872, Taylor County; brand later used by various cattlemen, including E.C. Sterling, Knox Brothers, J.W. Stevens, J.W. Knox, E.W. Hunt.
	MXL – T.F. Maxwell, 1876, Stephens County; later as XL brand.		DS – Daniel Shipman, early 1800s, one of Austin's Old Three Hundred colonists.		LX – Bivins family, 1879, Panhandle.
			Frying Pan – H.B. Sanborn, 1880s and 1890s, Panhandle.		Blocker 7 – John Blocker, 1870, road brand. Blocker was first president of the Trail Drivers Association.
			V Bar – W.S. Ikard, 1867, Wichita Falls area; brought the first Hereford cattle to Texas.		

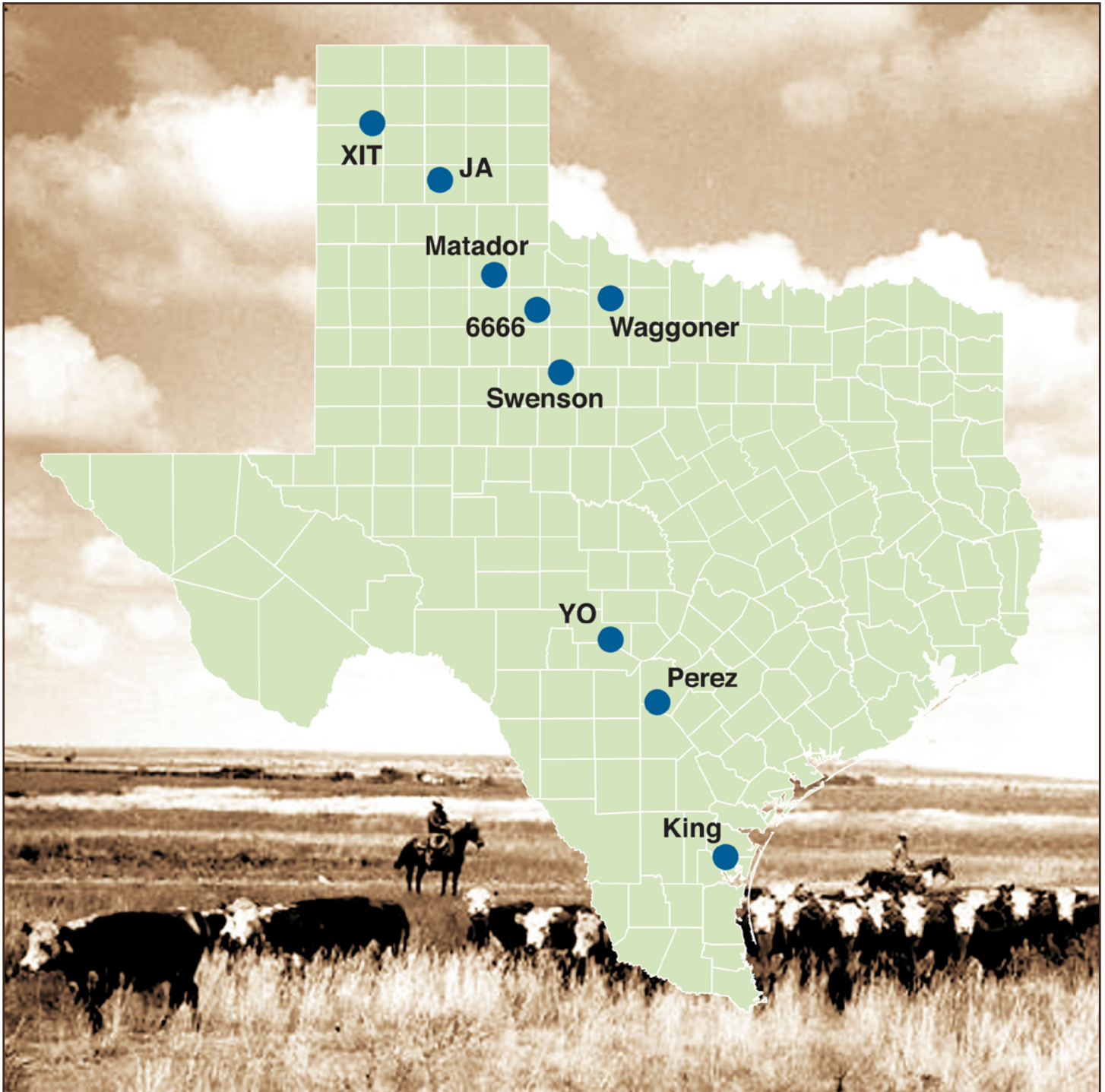
Special Lesson 14 – Historic Ranches of Texas

TEXAS ALMANAC POSTER

Some Historic Cattle Brands

	HK Connected – Captain Richard King, registered 1859, Nueces County; named for Henrietta King.		Jigger Y – McElroy Ranch, 1900, Crane County.		Half Circle L – M.F. Taylor, 1885, Wharton County; J.D. Hudgins, 1906, Wharton County.
	Running W – Captain Richard King, registered 1869, Nueces County.		Pot Hook – Joe T. Sneed, 1900, Amarillo.		Swinging 11 – Callaghan Land & Pastoral Co., 1932, Encinal; replaced the Running Circle or Corbota brand.
	Half Circle Ten – George W. Saunders, 1864, San Antonio; led in founding of the Trail Drivers Association.		Lazy Y – Fred Snyder, Lubbock.		Running Circle – Also known as the “Corbota,” a running circular brand that was bad for the hide of cattle.
	JAL – George, John M., and William Henry Cowden 1882, Midland.		SMS – Swenson Brothers, 1883, Stamford.		D – P.F. Dunn, Corpus Christi.
	Half Circle Two – Another brand of the Cowden Brothers, 1882, Midland.		JA – Registered in 1876 by Charles Goodnight for John Adair, Northwest Texas.		EL – Elsinore Cattle Company, 1886, Pecos.
	Y – Charles Schreiner, 1887, Kerrville.		KC – Robert Casey, 1854, Reeves County.		Seven F – Harris Ranch, 1888, San Angelo.
	LFD – George W. Littlefield, 1878, Austin. Discontinued in 1923, three years after Littlefield’s death.		Hundred and One – R.S. Guthrie, 1886, Trans-Pecos; tribute to George Miller and his 101 Ranch in Oklahoma.		X Bar – The Higginbotham family, 1892, Dallas.
	TL – A.B. Edwards, 1880, Archer and Clay counties.		D – Daniel Kinchloe, 1847; bought by A.H. Pierce, 1870s, Wharton County.		U – W.R. McEntire, 1880, Sterling City.
	Bar S – Sawyer Cattle Company, 1884, San Antonio.		Long X – Reynolds Ranch, 1882, West Texas.		Three Blocks – W.H. Portwood, around 1900, Seymour.
	Lightning – A.S. Gage, 1886, Trans-Pecos area, especially Brewster, Presidio, and Jeff Davis counties.		Single L – Cyrus B. Lucas, 1888, Goliad, Bee, Live Oak, Refugio, and Aransas counties.		TV – T.C. and W.J. Wright, 1854, Southeast Texas.
	A Bar – A.E. Gates, 1900, Laredo area: Webb, Dimmit, La Salle, and Duval counties.		Matador V – Matador Ranch, 1879, Northwest Texas; purchased from John Dawson.		Three Ds – W.T. Waggoner, 1881, Wise and Clay counties and later in Vernon, Wilbarger County.
	H Crook – J.B. Hawkins, 1866, Matagorda County.		Triangle – J.C. McGill, 1911, counties south of the Nueces River.		Turkey Track – W.T. Coble, 1881, Amarillo.
	O Six – As early as 1837 in Calhoun County; purchased by Kokernot Brothers – John W. and Lee M. – in 1872, Trans-Pecos area.				Panther Scratch – Coastal brand since 1889; bought in 1910 by T.J. Poole Sr.
	Spur – Espuela Cattle Company, 1880, Northwest Texas; later by Swenson family; later by W.J. Lewis, 1910, Hall County.				

Historic Ranches of Texas



Cowboys herd cattle on the Swenson or SMS Ranch. Map locations show general proximity of each ranch's headquarters; most were or are not contiguous. Photo is from the UNT Portal to Texas History and the Cattle Raisers Museum in Fort Worth.