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<http://bexar-tx.tamu.edu>



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Extension Bexar County

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 3 – Beef 706
- May 4 – Multi-County Beef Cattle Program
- May 11 – Multi-County Pond Management Program
- May 9 – Multi-County Reproduction Management
- May 31 – Grassfed Beef Conference
- June 1 – Private Pesticide Applicator Training
- June 14 – Urban Wildlife Series

Beef 706

If you've ever wondered what happens after a calf leaves your place and is sold at auction, I would strongly suggest you consider participating in Beef 706. Nine counties across south Texas have joined together to offer producers a very informative and hands on program focusing on beef quality management and marketing opportunities.

Brush Country Beef 706 is a 3 part series offered by the Texas Beef Council and AgriLife Extension. The program is designed to help producers maximize profits and have a better understanding of what influences feeder cattle value.

Three sessions will be held.

- May 3rd – 5:00 pm Live Oak Livestock Market Auction, Three Rivers
- October 20th – 9 am Texanna Feedyard, Floresville
- October 29-30th – 9 am Rosenthal Meat Science Center, College Station

The cost to participate in the program is \$50. For more information, contact Sam Womble at 210-631-0400, Dale Rankin at 830-569-0034 or Warren Kopplin at 361-449-1703.

Multi-County Beef Cattle Program

Make plans to join us Friday, May 4th at Edmond Pruski's Ranch in Floresville for an informative beef cattle program. Topics include:

- Selecting Replacement Heifers
- Cattle Nutrition
- Chute Side Demonstration
- Brush Management and Timing

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Cost is \$10/person, 2 hours or CEU credit will be offered.

RSVP by May 2nd by contacting the Bexar County Extension Office 210-631-0400.



Multi-County Pond Management Program

Bexar, Guadalupe, and Wilson counties will be hosting a Pond Management program in Seguin Friday May 11th. The topic will focus on managing aquatic vegetation.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$15/person, 3 hours of CEU credit will be offered.

RSVP by May 7th by contacting the Bexar County Extension Office 210-631-0400.



Multi-County Reproduction Management Workshop

The Atascosa, Bexar, Frio, Medina, and Wilson County offices of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will once again host a workshop for producers covering several aspects of beef cattle reproduction.



Topics include: Ins and Outs of Pregnancy Testing, “Hands on” Anatomy of a Cow’s Reproductive Tract, Rectal Palpation and Estrus Synchronization Made Easy.

What makes this program unique is that **attendees will be required to bring 3-5 cows** for demonstration purposes. Space is limited and participation will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Attendees are asked to RSVP to the Bexar County Extension Office at 210-631-0400 by Wednesday, April 30th. Cost is \$15/person.

Producers can select one of two days to attend. The program will be offered on Wednesday, May 9th 9:00-2:00 p.m. and again on Thursday, May 10th from 9:00-2:00 p.m. at Tom Brothers Ranch, 770 Co. Rd. 412 Campbellton, TX. Lunch will be served both days courtesy of Capital Farm Credit.

Grassfed Beef Conference

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will host a Grassfed Beef Conference May 31-June 1 at Texas A&M University in College Station. Consumer interest in natural, grassfed and organic beef continues to rise in popularity. Agenda items include a discussion on fundamentals of growing forage, cattle types best suited for grassfed beef, prevention herd health, cattle handling, carcass fabrication and marketing to name a few. For more information, contact the Bexar County Extension Office or Dr. Ron Gill at rgill@tamu.edu or 979-845-3579.



Private Pesticide Applicator Training

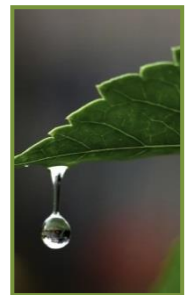
A Private Applicator Pesticide Training program is scheduled for Friday, June 1st at the Bexar County Extension Office, 3355 Cherry Ridge Street, Suite 212. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the training to follow at 8:30 a. m. Lunch will not be provided. This training is for people who do not have a license or those who had a license that expired at least a year ago. If you plan to attend, please contact the Bexar County Extension Office to sign up. Study materials are available at the Extension Office and can be picked up in advance. The program registration fee is \$60/person and includes study materials. Participants should plan on bringing a calculator and photo ID.



Urban Wildlife Series

Last year we had a very successful series of wildlife educational programs targeting urban residents

sponsored by the Bexar County Ag and Natural Resources Committee. We are expanding on that effort this year by offering another Wildlife Series with a particular focus on water. Programs will begin in June and continue through August. The cost is \$25 for the series or \$10/class. Programs will be held from 10-12 noon.



- Why Conservation Matters for People and Wildlife; San Antonio River Authority and the Clean River Program - June 14th (Bexar County Extension Office)
- Water and Wildlife of Texas - June 28th (Bexar County Extension Office)
- Stormwater Management for Wildlife and Water Quality; Ponds, Birdbaths and Wildlife - July 10th (Phil Hardberger Park)
- Native Plants and Water Conservation - July 31st (Phil Hardberger Park)
- Field Trip - August 14th (TBD)



For more information, contact the Extension Office at 210-631-0400.

\$2.36 Billion to Help Ag Producers

USDA will make disaster payments of up to \$2.36 billion, as provided by Congress, to help America's farmers and ranchers recover from hurricanes and wildfires.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced April 6 that USDA will make disaster payments of up to \$2.36 billion, as provided by Congress, to help America's farmers and ranchers recover from hurricanes and wildfires.

The funds are available as part of the new 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (2017 WHIP). Sign-up for the new program, authorized by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, will begin no later than July 16. USDA's Farm Service Agency will make these disaster payments to agricultural producers to offset losses from hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and devastating wildfires. The 2017 calendar year was a historic year for natural disasters, and this investment is part of a broader suite of programs that USDA is delivering to rural America to aid recovery. In total, the Act provided more than \$3 billion in disaster relief by creating new programs, and expediting or enhancing payments for producers.

"America's farmers feed our nation and much of the world, and throughout history they have known good years and bad years. But when significant disasters strike, we are ready to step in and provide the assistance they need," Secretary Perdue said. "USDA is working as quickly as possible to develop procedures and a system by which affected producers can access disaster assistance. For producers new to FSA programs, we encourage you to visit your local USDA service center now to establish farm records."

The new 2017 WHIP will provide significant disaster assistance and be guided by the following principles:

- Eligibility will be limited to producers in counties that experienced hurricanes or wildfires designated as presidentially-declared disasters in 2017;
- Compensation determined by a producer's individual losses rather than an average of losses for a particular area (where data is available);
- Producers who purchased higher levels of risk protection, such as crop insurance and noninsured crop disaster assistance program, will receive higher payments;
- Advance payments up to 50 percent; and
- A requirement that payment recipients obtain future risk protection.

WHIP disaster payments are being issued in addition to payments through our traditional programs, some of which obtained increased funding or had amendments made by the Act to make the programs more responsive, including the Emergency Conservation Program, Emergency Watershed Protection Program, Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program, Tree Assistance Program and Livestock Indemnity Program.

During 2017, the U.S. experienced a historic year of weather-related disasters, with an economic impact totaling more than \$300 billion. In total, the United States was impacted by 16 separate billion-dollar disaster events including: three tropical cyclones, eight severe storms, two inland floods, a crop freeze, drought and wildfire. More than 25 million people – almost eight percent of the population – were affected by major disasters.

FSA will distribute more information on how producers can file claims for WHIP disaster payments at a later date. For questions on how to establish farm records to be prepared when WHIP disaster signup begins, or to learn about other disaster assistance programs, producers are asked to contact their local USDA service center.

Result Demonstration Opportunities

I'm looking for a cooperator that might be interested in collaborating on a couple result demonstration projects.

1. IPT leaf-spray protocol with Dow's 3-way herbicide that they will launch this year. There are 4 treatments. Target species could be agarito, pricklyash, or lotebush.

2. A ground broadcast protocol with mesquite that has been shredded in the past. There would be 2-3 treatments, 0.3 to 0.5 acres per treatment. Plants would need to be under 5-6 feet tall.

If you've got an interest in either project, please contact me ASAP at 210-631-0400.

Dallisgrass

Dallisgrass is a warm-season perennial that has grazing potential. Dallisgrass is palatable and has a higher level of nutritive value than bahiagrass and some bermudagrass varieties, and it can retain its nutritive value later into the summer. Dallisgrass, however, produces a lower dry matter yield than some bermudagrass varieties. One concern with dallisgrass is the potential for an “ergot” fungus (*Claviceps* spp.) to infect seedheads and cause dallisgrass poisoning (also known as dallisgrass staggers). The fungus infects the seedheads typically in late summer or fall. The affected animals show neurological symptoms including trembling of major muscles and head, uncoordinated movements and sometimes displays of aggression. Poisoning can be avoided by removing livestock when seed heads are affected or keeping seed heads mowed.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Paul Baumann

Use of herbicides to control dallisgrass is probably the most common method practiced. **Glyphosate** (active ingredient in Roundup, etc.) is the only postemergence herbicide option. As with any herbicide application timing is critical along with following label directions. Ideally, dallisgrass needs to be sprayed when plants are less than 6 inches in height in the spring. Unfortunately for bahiagrass growers there are no selective herbicides available for postemergence control of dallisgrass, thus spot treatments of glyphosate are recommended. For rates and any restrictions refer to product labels. In bermudagrass, there is often an opportunity to selectively control dallisgrass with

glyphosate at the end of the season. Often, there is a period in late fall to early winter when bermudagrass becomes dormant while dallisgrass remains green for a short period of time. During this time glyphosate provides fair to good dallisgrass control. Bermudagrass injury varies depending on the stage of dormancy at the time of application. Timing and calibration are important. Once the first frost occurs, bermudagrass should be checked frequently so that the application can be made as soon as it is completely dormant. If glyphosate products with higher concentrations are used, the rate should be adjusted.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Paul Baumann

Happy



Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend class and need special accommodations or auxiliary aid, please contact the Bexar County Office at (210)631-0400 at least five (5) days prior to the date so appropriate arrangements can be made. *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.* The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating