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Ag Blog, Newsletter & Online Resources:

For up-to-date information on the latest ag-related happenings, subscribe to the **Ag News & Views Blog** (<https://agrilife.org/agnewsandviews/>) and visit the Bexar County website (<http://bexar-tx.tamu.edu>)!



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 6	Pesticide Applicator Training
Dec. 11	Multi-County Brush/Forage Conference
Dec. 11	Gillespie County 5-Hr. CEU Program
Dec. 18	Atascosa County 6-Hr. CEU Program
Jan. 8 & 15	Bexar County Beef Cattle Short Course
Feb. 9	Atascosa Special Replacement Female Sale

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

A Private Applicator Pesticide Training program will be offered **Thursday, December 6**, at the Bexar County Extension Office, 3355 Cherry Ridge Drive, San Antonio. Day-of registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the training from 8:30 - 12:00 noon. The cost is \$50 per person, which includes the training and study materials. Lunch is not included. Participants should bring a calculator and photo identification.

To sign up, contact Carrie Huntzinger at 210/631-0400 or email at chuntzinger@ag.tamu.edu.

2019 BEXAR COUNTY BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE

Mark your calendar for the annual Beef Cattle Short Course, January 8 and 15, at Palo Alto College – Ozuna Library (1400 Villaret Blvd.) in San Antonio. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. with the program to follow at 6:30 p.m. Two hours of CEU credit will be offered Tuesday, January 15. Cost is \$15/session. Please contact Carrie at 210-631-0400 to sign up.

Tuesday, January 8

Beef Cattle Production Around the World – Dr. Joe Paschal
International Marketing Opportunities – Mr. Pasquale Swaner

Tuesday, January 15

Feeding Hay and Preparing for Spring Green Up – Dr. Larry Redmon
Common Range and Brush Species – Effective Application and Timing – Dr. Bob Lyons



Special thanks to our program sponsors – Capital Farm Credit, Ful-O-Pep, Texas Farm Credit, Ag Workers, Hall Ranch, Inc., Corteva Agriscience, Texas Farm Bureau and the Bexar County Ag/NR Committee.

MULTI-COUNTY BRUSH/FORAGE CONFERENCE

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Wilson, Comal, Gonzales, and Guadalupe Counties will host a Brush and Forage Conference on Tuesday, December 11, at the Guadalupe County Extension Office (210 East Live Oak) in Seguin from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. This conference will provide pesticide applicators 5 TDA CEUs (3 general, 1 IPM, and 1 Laws & Regulations).

Topics to be covered at the conference will include “Why My Herbicide Brush Treatment Failed”, “Forage Insect Management”, “Soil Nutrient Management Using Animal Manures: A First Step in Your IPM Plan”, “Basic Biology of Feral Hogs and Management Techniques”, and “Pesticide Laws & Regulations.”

Please pre-register with the Guadalupe County Extension Office by Friday, December 7, at 830/303-3889 to ensure an accurate count for the meal and handouts. Registration is \$25 and includes lunch and handout materials. Individuals with disabilities should contact the office at least two days prior to the event so accommodations can be arranged. For more information or to pre-register for the event, contact the Guadalupe County Extension office at 830/303-3889.

GILLESPIE COUNTY 5-HOUR CEU PROGRAM

Gillespie County AgriLife Extension will host a 5-hour CEU Class on December 11, 2018, at the Gillespie County Extension Office, located at 95 Frederick Road in Fredericksburg. The program will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 2:45 p.m. Speakers will cover insect and deer damage control in landscapes using sustainable methods, mosquito control and prevention, dealing with termites and other wood-boring insects, managing turf/landscape weeds and diseases, and laws and regulations regarding pesticide use.

The cost for the class is \$75, which includes lunch and morning refreshments. To sign up, please contact the Gillespie County Extension Office at 830-997-3452. When you pre-register, please let us know if you want steak bites or catfish for lunch. Please pre-register by Friday, December 7. Payment can be made ahead of time or at the door.

ATASCOSA COUNTY 6-HR. CEU PROGRAM

Atascosa County will be offering a 6 hour CEU program for Private, Commercial and Non-Commercial applicators on Tuesday, December 18, in Leming, TX. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$30. Please RSVP by Monday, December 10, to 830/569-0034. Topics include: Feral Hog Management; Prickly Pear Herbicide Update; Cattle Fever Ticks/External Parasites; Pesticide Laws and Regulations; Cotton, Corn and Grain Sorghum Update; and IPM in Pastures and Hay Fields.

TIPS FOR FARM TENANTS DEALING WITH ABSENTEE LANDOWNERS

Texas Ag Law Blog

As we see fewer farmers and a landowner population that continues to increase in age, there will likely be more and more absentee landowners across rural America. Delta Farm Press recently wrote an article offering tips for ag tenants dealing with absentee landowners. The biggest takeaways are to communicate well and ensure agreements are in writing. To see the entire article, visit <https://www.deltafarmpress.com/land-management/managing-leases-absentee-landowners>.

FERTILIZATION OF WINTER PASTURES

Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson - Extension Forage Specialist, Overton

Fertilization of winter pasture should be based on a soil test to maximize forage production and prevent applying more fertilizer than is needed. Nitrogen fertilization of small grain and small grain-ryegrass mixtures can be split in 2 to 4 equal applications during the growing season. Phosphorus and



potassium can be applied at planting. If more than 75 to 80 lbs./acre of potassium are needed, it is recommended to split into an autumn and late winter

application because of leaching.

Nitrogen fertilization of over-seeded ryegrass is usually split in 2 to 3 applications. Phosphorus and potassium, if needed, can be applied at planting.

The initial N application should be delayed until after the ryegrass is established to reduce N utilization by the warm season grass and possible leaching in sandy soils. Additional N can be applied in mid winter and early spring.

Over-seeded clover-ryegrass may not receive any N or up to 2 applications, depending on the amount of early forage needed. Without N, sufficient forage for grazing will not likely be available until February or early March, depending on location. The most common program is a single application in December to enhance ryegrass production during the winter when there is very little clover growth. Maximum forage production is obtained with 2 applications of N, one after the ryegrass and clover are up and a second in midwinter. Nitrogen should not be applied in the spring if there is a good clover stand. Phosphorus and potassium can be applied at planting or shortly after planting.

ATASCOSA SPECIAL REPLACEMENT FEMALE SALE

Producers in Bexar and surrounding counties are invited to participate in the 1st annual Atascosa Cattlemen's Association, Special Replacement Female Sale. The sale will be held on February 9, 2019, at the Atascosa Livestock Exchange in Pleasanton, TX.

The goal is to sell approximately 500 head of replacement females along with the commercial heifer projects shown by junior exhibitors from Atascosa and McMullen counties. You are invited to consign commercial females that are of replacement quality to the sale. Please contact one of the numbers below, and a sale committee member will make arrangements to inspect your cattle for sale approval. Nominations will close on December 21, 2018.

For more information and sale rules, contact - Darryl Ashley 830-570-0765; Derek Ashley 830-570-0764; Philip Tom 512-296-6845; Ward Smith 830-255-9788 or Chris Turner 361-449-7955.

TEXAS A&M NATURAL RESOURCES INSTITUTE WILD PIG WEBSITE

The NRI has a great resource regarding wild pigs. Check out the following website:

<https://wildpigs.nri.tamu.edu>

You'll find a blog to subscribe to, featured videos, mobile aps, publications and other resources.



Is this the first time you are seeing any of this information or hearing about these coming events? Subscribe **NOW** to the [Ag News & Views](#) blog so that you will receive this information via email, as soon as it is posted!

NOBLE RELEASES NEW FORAGE CRABGRASS CULTIVAR CALLED IMPACT

By Mike Trammell, Senior Plant Breeder and Twain Butler, Ph.D., Professor

Just mentioning the word “crabgrass” can make some agricultural producers and landowners cringe and mutter disapprovingly, while others smile and nod with approval. Crabgrass is an annual, warm-season grass that is fast-growing, easy to establish, and capable of natural and prolific reseeding, all traits that allow it to excel as a “weed.” Despite its bad reputation, crabgrass was originally used in Europe as fodder before being introduced in the United States, probably in the mid-1800s, as a forage for grazing livestock.

Impact crabgrass was released for forage livestock producers needing a later-maturing cultivar than Red River but one that is also broadly adapted, high-yielding, and with improved nutritive quality and good reseeding ability.

The Noble Research Institute has been conducting research on crabgrass for many years. In 1988, the Noble Research Institute (then called the Noble Foundation) was the first to publicly release a crabgrass cultivar, Red River. Over the years, Red River became the main commercial crabgrass cultivar and helped crabgrass gain acceptance as an important warm-season, annual grass for forage and livestock operations initially in the Southern Great Plains and now throughout the southern United States. However, a limitation of Red River was its early seed-heading date, which increased maturity and reduced the quality and quantity of late-summer forage.

Recently, Noble plant breeders developed a new crabgrass cultivar called Impact. Impact crabgrass was released for forage livestock producers needing a later-maturing cultivar than Red River but one that is also broadly adapted, high-yielding, and with improved nutritive quality and good reseeding ability.



Impact crabgrass (left), on average, heads out 10 days later than Red River (right), resulting in later maturity and improved forage quality.

Steers grazing Impact crabgrass averaged:

1.56 pounds per day of weight gain per acre during a five-year period.

192 pounds of live weight gain per acre during a five-year period.

In Noble’s grazing systems research trials, steers grazing Impact crabgrass averaged 1.56 pounds per day of weight gain and 192 pounds of live weight gain per acre during a five-year period (2013-2018) following graze-out wheat.

Impact has an adaptation area that includes the south-central and southeastern United States. It is particularly productive in dryland situations, but it also performs well under irrigation. Green chop, silage and hay production are also potential uses of Impact. It is adapted to both tilled and no-till forage livestock production systems. Impact crabgrass seed is available from Barenbrug USA.

Happy holidays from all of us to each of you!

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