

KINNEY COUNTY AG/WILDLIFE NEWSLETTER



2020 Advocating for Agriculture Symposium

Webinar: April 14, 2020 - 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Registration is required by all participants. This link to access this symposium online will be emailed to registered participants on April 13. In order to receive CEU Credit, please log in to the symposium, with your first and last name as registered.

Social media is full of misinformation about agriculture and agricultural products. This symposium will arm participants with useful scientific-based information about beef compared to synthetic products, new hemp production laws, herbicides used to maintain productive lands, selecting livestock that fit the environment, Path to the Plate programming, pesticide safety and environmental health, proper use of fertilizer, and the sustainability moment.

This webinar provides 2.0 Ag. Pesticide CEUs in the General Category for those participants with a Pesticide Applicator License. You must attend the entire symposium to be eligible. The CEUs will be awarded in conjunction with 50 minutes on range and pasture updates and understanding glyphosate claims. Another CEU will be awarded in conjunction with presentations over pesticide safety and environmental health and information on how fever ticks are treated.

Brought to you by the Corpus Christi based Extension Specialists. See page two of this newsletter for the agenda and more info.

** Registration link: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ag>

We hope this finds you and your family doing well and practicing social distancing, washing your hands, and taking care of yourselves as you work through the current state we are in concerning Covid-19. All face-to-face Extension activities, programs, and meetings have been cancelled, rescheduled, or changed to an online format through April 17th. That date is subject to be extended, depending on the need to isolate further to help control the spread of Covid-19.

Y.A.L.L. EXPERIENCE

July 19-24, 2020

Travel to South Texas to Explore and Experience Agriculture.

Participants from across the State of Texas, dedicate six days and five nights to understanding production agriculture and what it takes to feed this country.

Throughout this experience they learn about the dynamics of the agricultural industry, including: horticulture, beef cattle, problem solving, marketing, finance, education, leadership, and more.

30 participants will be selected (Current 9th to 12th graders)

Cost is \$200 For information or to Register Visit: <https://yall.ticketleap.com/20yall>
Questions call: 830-257-6568

KINNEY COUNTY WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PREDATOR CONTEST

Four rifles will be given away in March 2021 for the following categories:

1. Bobcats/Mountain Lions
2. Coyotes/Red Foxes
3. Feral Hogs
4. Open Class \$5 donation

Certifications take place at Kinney County Wool & Mohair

2020 Advocating for Agriculture Symposium

Hosted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension—Corpus Christi Based Specialists

2 General
CEUs
Available



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

7:30 am - 12:30 pm

*Join us from the comfort of your home!
All you need is a computer/laptop with internet capabilities.*

AGENDA

- 7:30-7:50 Join the Online Symposium
- 7:50 Welcome & Introductions—*Dr. Megan Clayton*
- 8:00 The NOT Beef Burger—*Dr. Joe Paschal*
- 8:30 Update: Hemp Production Laws in Texas—*Dr. Josh McGinty*
- 9:00 Update: New Range & Pasture Herbicides—*Dr. Megan Clayton*
- 9:20 The Scoop on Glyphosate—*Dr. Josh McGinty*
- 9:50 Cattle, Sheep, or Goats? Fitting the Right Animal to your Situation—*Dr. Joe Paschal*
- 10:20 QUESTION BREAK
- 10:30 Path to the Plate & RanchTV.org—*Dr. Dan Hale*
- 10:50 Pesticide Safety & Environmental Health—*Dr. Mark Matocha*
- 11:20 Fertilizing: Options and Accurate Prescriptions—*Dr. Jamie Foster*
- 11:50 Cattle Fever Tick Update—*Dr. Joe Paschal*
- 12:05 The Sustainability Movement—*Dr. Megan Clayton*
- 12:25 FINAL QUESTIONS/ADJOURN

To Register, please visit <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ag>

The cost is \$10/person

Registration closes on April 12th

For more information: Megan.Clayton@ag.tamu.edu

A link to the Symposium will be emailed the day before the webinar

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

AGGIE HORTICULTURE



FIREBUSH – A SUPERSTAR FOR SUMMERTIME

Texas summers are infamous for the stress they place on blooming plants in the landscape. But Firebush, a bedding plant for our area, offers real hope to our summer landscape. Firebush is an evergreen shrub which offers many advantages to Texas gardeners. This plant:

1. Is very heat tolerant once established
2. Will grow in almost any well drained soil
3. Has no serious insect or disease problems when grown in full sun and is “semi deer resistant”
4. Has a very long blooming period
5. Does extremely well in containers with proper drainage
6. Will attract hummingbirds and is commonly called “Hummingbird Bush”



CAPE PLUMBAGO

Tender perennial with profuse blue flowers which thrives in the hot Texas summer. Disease, pest, and deer resistant. Sometimes called “sky flower” because of the sky-blue color of its flowers. Native of South Africa. Exposure: Full sun; partial sun Size: Height 3–4 feet tall; width, up to 5 feet wide. Bloom time: May till frost. Care: Plumbago can be a bit rambling if not pruned; prune spent flowers to encourage re-blooming and to maintain desired plant shape.

Blue-Blooming Vitex and Plumbago:
Butterflies Love 'Em, Deer Don't

Texas Superstar Plants! Check out this page for more plants you'll love for our area. <http://texassuperstar.com/plants/ax6543>



How to plant a garden— <https://cdn-ext.agnet.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/how-to-plant-a-garden>

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

Secretary Perdue Statement on Coronavirus Rescue Package

(Washington, D.C., March 27, 2020) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue issued the following statement after President Donald J. Trump signed the CARES Act:

“The passage of the Coronavirus response legislation will provide much needed relief to Americans across this country, especially workers and small-business owners who have been impacted by COVID-19. President Trump has made the safety and security of the American people a top priority during this national emergency, and this bill will help make Americans more financially secure. At USDA we will deliver relief assistance to farmers and ranchers as quickly as possible,” said Secretary Perdue. Americans across the nation are stepping up to the challenges facing them during these uncertain times. At USDA we are doing our part to ensure those who need help will get it, whether it’s through nutrition assistance, ensuring the food supply chain is safe and secure, or through new flexibilities with our Rural Development loan programs.” The CARES Act contains \$9.5 billion in assistance for agriculture producers who have been impacted by COVID-19 along with a \$14 billion replenishment to the Commodity Credit Corporation. In addition, the legislation includes \$100 million in Re-Connect grants to expand access to broadband in rural America for educational purposes, business, and access to critical telehealth.

ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS MAY NEED TO CARRY A TRAVEL TO-AND-FROM WORK AUTHORIZATION

(Texas Farm Bureau, March 28, 2020) According to the Texas Department of Agriculture, Agricultural and food workers are considered essential employees. There is a travel to-and-from work authorization provided by the Texas Department of Agriculture available to download for those who need proof to travel to work during the COVID-19 outbreak:

<https://txfb.us/coronatravel>. *Your local Extension office can print you one.*

To get more COVID-19 resources for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities:

<https://txfb.us/covid19resources>.

The poster features a wooden background with sewing supplies like thread spools and fabric. A completed floral-patterned face mask with white elastic loops is shown on a wooden cutting board. The title 'Operation Face Mask' is in large, bold, black letters, with the subtitle 'Supporting our Healthcare Professionals' below it. The text is organized into sections: Instructions, Fabric, Distribution, Special Notes, and a disclaimer. The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension logo is in the bottom right corner.

Operation Face Mask

Supporting our Healthcare Professionals

Instructions:

- Written instructions included
- Video instruction available at <https://youtube/VgHrnS6n4iA>

Fabric: 100% cotton fabric, pre-washed in non-scented laundry detergent (with or without a layer of fusible interfacing)

Distribution: Distribution should be coordinated with your county extension agent. There are 3 options available to counties:

- Texas Oncology Cancer Centers across the state
- Local healthcare facilities
- JoAnn Fabric Stores drop-off

Please note that the first option offers cash awards to the 3 counties who send the most completed masks to Texas Oncology by April 10. County agents have a special submission form for this option; therefore, you must coordinate/communicate with your local agents.

Special Notes:

- To best comply with social distancing, individuals should work independently to make items. There should be no in person meetings or 'sewing sessions.'
- A system of collecting finished items that maintains recommended social distancing and disinfection protocols (for packaging, not items) will be developed by county offices. Check with your local office for this protocol.
- Some volunteers in high risk categories may need other volunteers to deliver materials for sewing and pick up finished items. Pick-up and delivery could be jobs for volunteers who do not sew and are not in COVID-19 high risk groups.

*** These fabric face masks are not a replacement for N-95 respirators and other PPE. These masks are meant to be used in situations that will free up N-95 respirators and other masks for higher priority uses.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT YOUR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT.**

**TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION**



66TH ANNUAL *Texas Section Society for Range Management* **YOUTH RANGE WORKSHOP**

**JOIN OTHER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
FROM ACROSS TEXAS FOR A FUN,
EXCITING, EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE!**

Learn about Texas Rangelands and Natural Resource Management from a team of experts including: Ranchers, Rangeland Management Specialists, Soil Scientists, Wildlife Biologists, Educators, and Consultants.

Educational Experiences, Demonstrations & Hands-on Experiences

- Range Management & Wildlife Habitat Management
- Grazing Management & Forage Preference
- Soil Science & Soil Health
- Plant Identification & Plant Collection
- Rangeland Health Evaluation
- Fire Ecology & Prescribed Burning
- Rainfall Effectiveness & the Water Cycle
- Brush Management
- Carbon Cycle Relationships
- Field Trips to Area Ranches

When/Where/Who/Cost:

June 21-26, 2020

Texas Tech University Center
at Junction, Texas

Students (14 to 18 years old) who have
completed 8th grade.

Cost is \$400 per student and includes all
meals, lodging, and educational materials.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For Workshop Info:

Caitlyn Cooper – (940) 229-1270 or
Dan Caudle – (817) 597-0788

Sponsorship opportunities may be available
from Soil and Water Conservation Districts,
ranches, businesses, or organizations in
your local area.

For questions or information on financial matters contact:

Jenny Pluhar – (806) 679-8729

APPLY AT: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/2020YRW](https://tinyurl.com/2020YRW)

 facebook.com/TSSRMYouthRangeWorkshop

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2316bc869eb3439c9de7bbf65bb4e7c7>



TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Serving Texas Animal Agriculture Since 1893

State Veterinarian Encourages Vaccination Against Anthrax

AUSTIN, TX – The State Veterinarian of Texas encourages livestock owners to have their animals vaccinated against anthrax this spring.

"Following last year's outbreak in Southwest Texas, we encourage livestock owners in the previously affected and surrounding area to consult with their veterinarian about vaccinating animals before warmer weather arrives." said Dr. Andy Schwartz, Texas State Veterinarian and Executive Director. "The anthrax vaccine is dependable and proven to protect livestock from the disease."

To be effective, the vaccine must be administered two to four weeks before a normal outbreak, usually in early spring. The vaccine is available for use in swine, equine, sheep, goats, and cattle. There is no approved vaccine for use in deer.

It is common to see an increase in anthrax cases after periods of wet, cool weather, followed by hot, dry conditions. At that time, animals ingest the anthrax bacteria when they consume contaminated grass and hay or inhale the spores. Outbreaks usually end when cooler weather arrives.

In 2019, the TAHC received 20 confirmations of anthrax in 5 Texas counties: Crockett, Edwards, Kinney, Maverick, Sutton, and Val Verde. In effort to gain better understanding of factors that may have contributed to the outbreak, the TAHC, USDA, and Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) created a survey for landowners in the affected area. To participate in the survey, please call 512-719-0716.

Anthrax is a bacterial disease caused by *Bacillus anthracis*; a spore forming bacterium that can remain alive but dormant in the soil for several years. Upon becoming infected, animals typically display [symptoms of anthrax](#) within three to seven days. Once symptoms begin, death will usually occur within 48 hours. Anthrax is a reportable disease to the TAHC and anyone suspecting anthrax should notify a local veterinarian or the TAHC at 1-800-550- 8242.

For more information on anthrax, visit these links:

https://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/cattle/#anthrax

https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2019/2019-08-13_AnthraxUpdate.pdf

Kinney County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

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