

## *In This Issue*

Multi County New Landowner	Page 1
Small Farms & Vegetables	Page 1
Multi County New Landowner	Page 2
New Landowner Schedule	Page 2
BlueBonnet Master Gardener Sale	Page 2
Beef Cattle Management Seminar	Page 3
Spray Permits Required	Page 3
Wildlife Workshop	Page 3
Master Gardener Plant Sale	Page 4
Selected Reference	Page 5
Spring Management Tips for Cattle	Page 5
Upcoming Events	Page 6

## *Multi-County New Landowners February 15, 2019*

The first meeting for the 2019 Multi-County New Landowners Series is set for February 15, 2019 in Washington County. This seminar will be an introduction to the who, what, when, where, and how of AgriLife and provide you with the unique opportunity to visit with your local County Appraisal District regarding any questions about agriculture and wildlife tax evaluations.

This is a great opportunity to have an expert answer your questions. For more information on this series please contact the Austin County Extension Office by calling 979-865-2072 or by visiting <https://agrillife.org/coastalbend/nlo/>.

## *Small Farms & Vegetable Conference February 22, 2019*

The Horticulture Committee of Austin County will be sponsoring a Small Farms and Vegetable Conference on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Cat Spring Ag Society Hall. Registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. with the program to follow. This year's program will focus on beekeeping, soil fertility, spring vegetable gardening, mole and gopher control, and TDA laws and regulations update. The program will begin at 9:00 a.m. and last until about 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be served and there will also be several snacks breaks built-in to help get the blood flowing again. There will be a guarantee of 3 CEU's with a possible 5 CEU's offered pending TDA approval. Cost for the event is \$30.00 per person, To pre-register for the event, contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Office of Austin County at (979) 865-2072, or visit our website at <http://austin.agrilife.org>.

***2019 Schedule***  
***Multi County***  
***New Landowner Series***

***April 26***

Weed and Brush Control  
Austin County

***May 17***

Forage Production  
Livestock Production  
Fayette County

***August 16***

Bees and Trees for Homeowners  
Washington County

***September 20***

Fruit Trees, Pecans, Grapes  
Fayette County

***October 18***

Wildlife Management  
Native Grass Restoration  
Austin County

***November 15***

Managing Pests in the Country  
Colorado County

***Bluebonnet Master Gardener Spring***  
***Fruit Tree Sale***

The Bluebonnet Master Gardeners will host a PRE ORDER ONLY fruit tree sale. Select from tree varieties that can be grown successfully in our area. The final day to submit your order is March 1, 2019! Attached to this newsletter is an order form that can be filled out and emailed to [BMGAtrees@gmail.com](mailto:BMGAtrees@gmail.com).

Trees are to be paid for at the time of pick up. Pick up will be Saturday March 8, 2019 from 11:00am to 2:00 pm and Sunday March 9, 2019 from 2:00 pm to 4:00pm in Sealy. For more information contact Charlene Koehler 713-205-0789.

***Multi-County New Landowners***  
***Seminar***  
***March 15, 2019***

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for the 2019 Multi-County New Landowner Series will take place on Friday, March 15, 2019, in Colorado County. Registration begins at 1:00pm with the program to follow.

This program will focus on pond management for landowners. The goal of this session is to help provide landowners with valuable information regarding pond construction, vegetation, ecology, and stocking rates/management. You may bring a sample of a pond weed to the program for identification. This is a great opportunity to have an expert answer your questions. For more information on this series please contact the Austin County Extension Office by calling 979-865-2072 or by visiting <https://agrilife.org/coastalbend/nlo/>.

## *Spray Permits Required for a Portion of Austin County*

As a reminder to anyone that will be using state limited use or state restricted use herbicides in Austin County, a permit to apply these herbicides must be obtained through the Texas Department of Agriculture if you plan on spraying in certain portions of the county. The following areas of Austin County must acquire a permit as is specified in the Texas Agricultural code, chapter 75,

*1.)* Only the portion of Austin County lying east and south of the line beginning at the point where state highway 36 crosses the north county line, thence southerly along Highway 36 to FM 949; thence westwardly along FM 949 to the San Bernard River

*2.)* Between March 15<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>, in that portion of Austin County lying south of Interstate Highway 10, the following restrictions on the use of 2,4-D formulations shall apply:

- (A.)* The application by aircraft is prohibited
- (B.)* The use of all ester formulations by any method is prohibited

Permits may be obtained from the Texas AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County at (979) 865-2072. Forms can also be obtained by contacting the Texas Department of Agriculture Gulf Coast Regional Office in Houston at (713) 921-8200

## *Beef Cattle Management Seminar March 22, 2019*

The Beef and Forage Committee of Austin County will be sponsoring a Beef Cattle Management Seminar on March 22, 2019, at Four County Auction Center in Industry. Registration will begin at 12:30pm until 1:00pm with the program to follow. This year's program will cover topics such as feeder cattle selection with live demonstration, brush and weed management, and laws and regulations update. So, bring your questions and get answers from the experts!

Refreshments will be provided. There will be 1 laws and regulations and 2 general CEU's given to all pesticide applicators. There is a \$20 registration fee. Anyone wanting to participate is asked to contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office by calling 979-865-2072.

## *Wildlife Workshop March 29, 2019*

The Texas Parks and Wildlife is hosting a wildlife workshop at the Colorado County EMS Building on March 29, 2019 starting at 8:30 am. This program is for anyone interested in managing their land for wildlife and currently have an agriculture valuation. You must RSVP due to limited spots! Call 979-732-3458 to reserve your seat.

Topics to be covered include; history of wildlife valuation, possible practices to improve habitat and qualify for evaluation, and assistance from TPWD Wildlife Biologists in developing your plan.

## *Master Gardener Plant Sale Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>*

The Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association's annual plant sale will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019, from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm at Sealy Spring Fest Santa Fe Museum Grounds (211 East Main Street, Sealy, Texas).

Included in the sale will be plants that are drought and heat tolerant, cold hardy, and minimal maintenance. Expect many Earth Kind varieties, succulents, Texas Super Stars, herbs, annuals and perennials, as well as some unique and hard to find plants.

Proceeds will advance education, scholarships and beautification for Austin, Colorado, Fayette and Washington counties.

For additional information, contact Renee Kofman at 832-492-3293 or visit

<http://www.bluebonnetmastergardener.org>.

Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association is part of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M System.

## Selected References from Dr. Joe Paschal

### *Blackleg and Clostridial Diseases*

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2012/04/beef-blackleg-clostridial-diseases.pdf>

### *Implanting Beef Calves and Stocker Cattle*

Dr. F. T. McCollum

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2012/04/beef-implanting-beef-calves.pdf>

### *Common Cattle Parasites*

Dr. F. C. Faries

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2012/04/beef-common-parasites.pdf>

### *Protecting Cattle from Horn Flies*

Dr. Jeffery K. Tomberlin

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2012/04/protecting-cattle-from-horn-flies.pdf>

## *Spring Management Tips for Cattle*

Joe C. Paschal

Livestock Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Spring is here, and it is time to consider some management tips for the cowherd. With most of the calves on the ground, now is the time to begin planning to work this year's calves. Vaccination for Blackleg and other Clostridial diseases should be a priority. The Sudden Death diseases (including Blackleg) are the number one killer of calves and cows. In addition, castration of bull calves, implanting the steer calves, internal and external parasite control treatment, dehorning, and identifying all calves with an ear tag and a ranch or holding brand should be included. Any heifers considered for replacements should be vaccinated for Brucellosis or Bang's disease between the ages of 4 and 12 months of age. Brucellosis causes abortion and was once a significant reproductive disease in the state. After many years of vaccination and testing, Texas is Brucellosis free, but I highly recommend continued vaccination of replacement heifers, both purebred and commercial. Your veterinarian will have to administer the brucellosis vaccine, so you will have to schedule your calf working around an appointment with them. Although I prefer knife cutting for castration, some prefer to use an elastic band to castrate calves. If you prefer to band your bull calves, I recommend a tetanus toxoid vaccination. Since the process of castration by banding takes a little longer and the wound caused by the band takes longer to heal, there is a greater risk for infection. Some of the Blackleg vaccines, especially some of the 8-way vaccines, contain tetanus. Check the label or vaccinate with a separate injection. While planning for the calf working consider any cow work that might be done. If the calves are 3-4 months old, some early pregnancy checking could be conducted. In addition, there might be some vaccinations your veterinarian recommends, and certainly horn fly control would be appreciated by your cows. It has been an early season for horn flies and a combination of both a "knock down" product like a pour-on and long-term control like a fly tag should be used.

If you have more questions about this or other topics discussed, contact your local County Extension Agent or beef cattle veterinarian.

**Texas A&M AgriLife  
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Austin County**

**Haylee Wolfford  
County Extension Agent  
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***Upcoming Events***

**March**

15—New Landowners – Pond Management

22—Beef Cattle Seminar, Industry, Tx

**April**

13 Bluebonnet Master Gardener Plant Sale

26 New Landowner Series - Weed & Brush Control

**May**

17 New Landowners Series—Forage Production

30-31 Grass-fed Beef Conference—College Station

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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.