

Bee County Agriculture Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 3

June 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PRIVATE APPLICATOR TRAINING

DATE: JULY 19, 2018

PLACE: BEE COUNTY AGRILIFE EXTENSION OFFICE

TIME: 9:00AM – 12:00PM

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING COURSE COST \$50 WHICH INCLUDES THE COST OF STUDY MANUALS. PLEASE CONTACT EXTENSION OFFICE AT 361-621-1552 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

TEXAS WATERSHED STEWARD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

DATE: JULY 17, 2018

PLACE: BEE COUNTY EXPO CENTER

TIME: 8:00AM – 12:00P, SIGN-IN AT 7:30AM

THE TEXAS WATERSHED STEWARD PROGRAM IS A **FREE** STATEWIDE ONE-DAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF TEXAS' RESOURCES BY EDUCATING AND INFORMING COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABOUT THEIR WATERSHED, POTENTIAL IMPAIRMENTS, AND STEPS THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO HELP IMPROVE AND PROTECT WATER QUALITY IN THEIR WATERSHED. **3 TDA CEUS OFFERED** THOSE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING PLEASE REGISTER AT - [HTTPS://TWS.TAMU.EDU/WORKSHOPS/REGISTRATION](https://tws.tamu.edu/workshops/registration) OR CALL THE EXTENSION OFFICE TO GET REGISTERED

Inside This Issue

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- Stocking Rates for Livestock, Native Wildlife and Exotic Wildlife
- BQA (Beef Quality Assurance) Tip of the Month
- Sheep Health Management
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Hurricane Preparedness for Livestock

Joe C. Paschal, Ph. D., AgriLife Extension Livestock Specialist

Livestock owners should “hurricane-ize” their livestock each year prior to hurricane season. This would include making sure their livestock are current on their vaccinations (blackleg, leptospirosis, tetanus, encephalitis). Additional feed, hay and water supplies should be purchased several days prior to landfall and stored in case these are not available following the hurricane. Owners should stock up on basic veterinary supplies (bandages, topical antibiotics, tetanus toxoid) and have restraint equipment (ropes, halters) ready to restrain injured animals for veterinary assistance. Immediately prior to landfall turn off all electrical power and water in the barn (not fences).

Livestock owners can also hurricane-ize their barns, pens and pastures by removing from the premises any loose boards, wire, fence posts, etc., to reduce the chance of injury to livestock by flying objects. Pens and barns should be looked over closely and loose boards or sheets of tin should be replaced or nailed down. Barns can be strapped down to ground ties as trailers are to reduce (but not eliminate) wind damage. Equipment should have a place under cover whenever possible to protect it.

If at all possible, livestock should never remain in a closed barn. Damage or destruction of the barn by wind or tornados would injure or kill them. Whenever possible livestock should be evacuated out of the threatened area (again do this well in advance, with feed, hay, water, and additional veterinary supplies). Make sure your trailer is safe to haul in, good floor with mats, safe tires with a spare, and working lights. Don't plan on coming back until the all clear is given.

If large livestock (cattle and horses) cannot be evacuated, turn them loose in larger pastures or pens with some solid shelter or tall brush and large trees on high ground. This is not the recommended approach for maximum safety, but it is preferable to remaining in small pens or barns. Cattle or horses will instinctively go deep in this type of cover. Smaller livestock (sheep, goats, swine, or rabbits) can be brought indoors for protection if necessary, especially in the garage. Wooden pallets can be used to create a pen. Also check to see that feed and hay is well covered or protected from wind and water. Put covers on round bales or hay and stack on posts, tires, or high ground to prevent water damage.

Do not put yourself at risk checking livestock that remain outside but be prepared to check on them immediately following the storm. Most animals are used to being outside in bad weather and will be simply stressed and need clean feed, a dry place to stand, and water. Some electrolytes or vitamins will be beneficial in returning them to normal. However, expect the worse, animals may be injured, some severely, so be prepared to render first aid on arrival. For minor cuts and abrasions most owners are capable of assistance. For more traumatic injuries, call your veterinarian for assistance. Younger animals are more susceptible to stress than older animals and may need more care. Also, bad weather often causes pregnant females near term to give birth so watch for little ones. Assist in birthing when necessary.

Most damage to buildings, pens, and animals comes from wind and flying objects so the ability to protect them in advance from these dangers greatly reduces the chance of injury to livestock.

Animal Unit Equivalent Chart - Texas
Domestic Livestock, Native Wildlife, and Exotic Wildlife

Kind of Animal	Body Weight Pounds	Daily Ave Intake % of BW	Annual Forage Intake Pounds	AU per Head	Head per AU (Rounded)
Domestic Livestock					
Beef Cattle (Cow) *	1000	2.6	9490	1	1
Horse	1100	3.0	12045	1.27	1
Domestic Sheep (Ewe)	130	3.5	1661	0.18	6
Spanish Goat (Nanny)	90	4.5	1478	0.16	6
Boer x Spanish Goat (Nanny)	125	4.0	1825	0.19	5
Angora Goat (Nanny)	70	4.5	1150	0.12	8
Native Wildlife					
White-tailed Deer	100	3.5	1278	0.13	7
Mule Deer	135	3.5	1725	0.18	6
Pronghorn Antelope	90	4.0	1314	0.14	7
Exotic Wildlife					
Axis Deer	150	3.5	1916	0.20	5
Sika Deer	145	3.5	1852	0.20	5
Fallow Deer	130	3.5	1661	0.18	6
Elk	800	3.0	8760	0.92	1
Red Deer	350	3.5	4471	0.47	2
Barasinga Deer	350	3.5	4471	0.47	2
Sambar Deer	400	3.5	5110	0.54	2
Pere David's Deer	400	3.5	5110	0.54	2
Sable Antelope	500	3.0	5475	0.58	2
Blackbuck Antelope	75	4.0	1095	0.12	9
Nilgai Antelope	350	3.5	4471	0.47	2
Scimitar-horned Oryx	400	3.5	5110	0.54	2
Gemsbok Oryx	400	3.5	5110	0.54	2
Arabian Oryx	150	3.5	1916	0.20	5
Addax	250	3.5	3194	0.34	3
Ibex x Boer Goat	125	4.5	1825	0.19	5
Impala	130	3.5	1661	0.18	6
Common Eland	1000	2.5	9125	0.96	1
Greater Kudu	450	3.5	5749	0.61	2
Sitatunga	200	3.5	2555	0.27	4
Waterbuck	500	3.0	5475	0.58	2
Thompson's Gazelle	85	4.0	1241	0.13	8
Mouflon/Barbado Sheep	120	3.5	1533	0.16	6
Auodad Sheep	200	3.5	2555	0.27	4

This chart is based on the standard concept of an Animal Unit being one 1000 pound beef cow consuming an average of 2.6% of her body weight daily throughout her yearly production cycle. Actual daily consumption will vary considerably throughout the year.

Young of the year (calves, lambs, kids, fawns) are considered as part of the mother until weaning. After weaning, they are considered a separate animal and should be added.

* Other sizes and classes of cattle are usually calculated as 0.1 AU per 100 pounds of body weight. (700 pound steer = 0.7 AU; 1200 pound cow = 1.2 AU; 1500 pound bull = 1.5 AU; etc)

For wildlife species, the AU Equivalent is based on a normal population consisting of females, males and yearling animals. If a specific herd has an unusually high proportion of females, the average weight will be lower and the AU Equivalent may need to be adjusted.

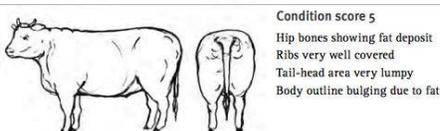
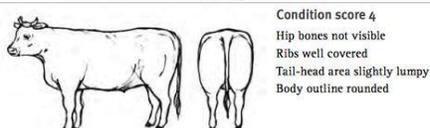
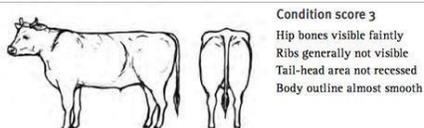
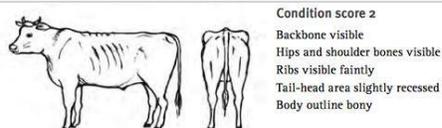
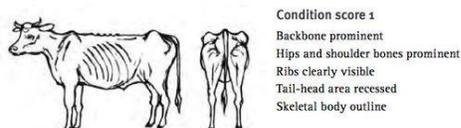
Chart developed by Steve Nelle and Stan Reinke, NRCS with input from literature and other specialists from TCE and TPWD.

BQA Tip of the Month – Proper use of antibiotics and other drugs

To avoid any potential residue issues and allow products to work correctly, antibiotics and other drugs should always be administered according to label directions. The use of a drug in any manner not specifically listed on the label is considered extra-label drug use. Examples would include changing the dose rate, route of administration or for a disease or species that is not listed on the label. Extra-label drug use can only be conducted under the directions of a licensed veterinarian and requires revised administration procedures and an extended withdrawal time.

BQA Tip of the Month – Cow body condition score at calving

Cow body condition score (BCS 1 = emaciated, 9 = obese) prior to or at calving is the major factor in affecting subsequent pregnancy rates. To optimize pregnancy rates, 2 and 3 year old females should be in BCS 6 or higher at calving and cows 4 years old or older should be in BCS 5 or higher. After calving, weight loss should be controlled so that cows don't lose more than 1 body condition score in about 100 days. If hay or forage quality is low then appropriate supplementation to achieve or maintain these targets will ensure that low BCS do not reduce pregnancy rate.



Sheep Health Management

*Dr. Frank Craddock, former Extension Sheep and Goat Specialist

Health management is important when raising a lamb project. Success of your lamb project partially depends on the lamb's health. A lamb that has trouble with illness and disease will commonly have difficulty reaching full genetic potential. When you first buy a lamb, assume it has had no treatment or vaccinations. The vaccinations and treatment recommended are given below.

Overeaters (Enterotoxemia) Vaccination:

Clostridium Perfringens Type D vaccine

2-4 weeks after first vaccine give a booster

Vaccinate every other month after booster is given

Tetanus Toxoid

Give every six months

Tetanus Antitoxin

Give after an injury, castration, or docking

It is a fast protection that lasts about two weeks

Sore Mouth

There is a vaccine available

For treatment rub lesions with iodine or peroxide to dry area and reduce infection

Worming

Once a month use a wormer that is effective for your area

Southern Chinch Bug – Identification and Control

*Casey Reynolds, Assistant Professor and Extension Turfgrass Specialist

Southern chinch bugs are common pests of St. Augustine grass in the southern United States and often cause significant damage to turf during the summer months. While St. Augustine grass is the only turfgrass to suffer severe damage from chinch bugs, they can also feed on centipede grass, zoysia grass, bahia grass and Bermuda grass. However, feeding on these grass species usually occurs only when they are grown in close proximity to St. Augustine grass and the damage is typically minor.

The southern chinch bug belongs to the insect order Hemiptera, suborder Heteroptera, and family Lygaeidae. These bugs go through gradual metamorphosis – which means they change from eggs, to nymphs, to adults. The adult southern chinch bug is 1/8 to 1/10 of an inch long with a black body and white wings. Each of its wings has a black triangle-shaped spot and the wings fold over the body. During the winter, adults are the most common life stage, but nymphs and eggs can also be present in small numbers.

Chinch bugs go through five life stages. Though small they nymphs and adults are visible to the naked eye. After nymphs have matured, adult chinch bugs spread primarily by walking but can also spread through mating flights. After mating, females lay their eggs into the crevices of grass nodes and at the junctions of grass blades and stems. Eggs take approximately 2 weeks to hatch depending on the temperature, at which point the life cycle begins again. When present in the turf, chinch bugs of all life stages can be found in the thatch and at the base of turfgrass plants. They damage the grass by feeding on its phloem sap and injecting a toxin that kills the plant tissue. If left untreated, chinch bug damage can cause irregular yellow patches that may spread outward and ultimately kill the turf.

One factor that makes southern chinch bugs particularly difficult to control is that they hatch quickly and mature in 4 to 6 weeks. In Texas there can be as many as 3 to 6 generations each year. Several active ingredients can effectively control chinch bugs, but timing the application correctly is a key to success. Many insecticide product labels state they should be applied before the eggs hatch, when 1st instar nymphs are observed, or when damage first appears. Therefore, it is important to scout for chinch bugs before significant damage occurs. You can do this by pulling back the turfgrass canopy and looking for

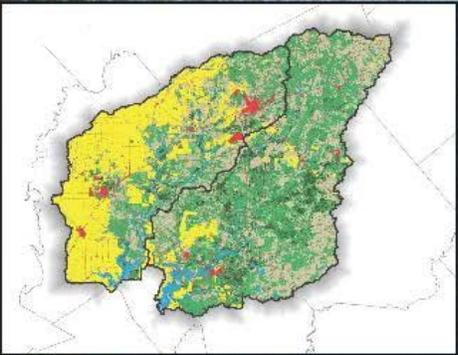
nymphs and adults at the edges of damaged and undamaged areas. If chinch bugs are present and are causing unacceptable damage, apply an appropriate insecticide as soon as possible.

Many products that are labeled for chinch bugs recommend watering the product into the turfgrass canopy. This watering maximizes control by placing the active ingredients into direct contact with the chinch bugs.

There are many ingredients that control chinch bugs effectively, but formulations, sites for use, and application rates, methods, and timing. For a complete list of products labeled for chinch bug control, consult the Texas Turfgrass Pest Control Recommendations Guide.

** Note: mention of insecticides is for informational purposes only and does not imply recommendation or endorsement. It is always the applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific insecticide being used. The label always takes precedence over the recommendations found in this publication.*

TEXAS Watershed Steward



Beeville, TX

Workshop provided through Clean Water Act 319 nonpoint source grant funding from the TSSWCB and U.S. EPA



The Texas Watershed Steward program is a free, educational workshop designed to help watershed residents improve and protect their water resources by getting involved in local watershed protection and management activities.

July 17, 2018:

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Bee County Expo Center

214 S. FM 351

Beeville, TX 78102

(Near intersection of Hwy 59 & FM 351)

The workshop will provide an overview of water quality and watershed management in Texas, including a discussion on the Mission & Aransas Rivers watersheds along with efforts by the Texas Water Resources Institute and area residents to improve and protect it. Free continuing education credits are offered for a wide variety of professional disciplines. For a complete list of CEUs/continuing education offered, or to register, visit our website or call the number below.

<http://trws.tamu.edu>

Pre-register for the workshop by going to:

<http://trws.tamu.edu/workshops/registration>

or call 979.862.4457

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TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

Texas Water
Resources Institute
independent, nonprofit

AGRI-NEWS TRIVIA

- Every day, 76 million Americans eat beef
- Because breeds that lay brown eggs are typically slightly larger birds, they require more food, making brown eggs usually more expensive than white
- In 2010, soybeans represented 56% of world oilseed production, and 33% of those soybeans were produced by the American farmer
- Fruit farming began sometime between 6000 and 3000 BC. Figs were one of the first cultivated fruit crops
- More than 6000 different kinds of apples are grown around the world. The biggest producer is China, followed by the U.S., Iran, Turkey, Russia, Italy, and India.

Commercial products and trade names are mentioned for information purposes only. No guarantee or endorsement by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service is intended or implied.



Newsletter by E-Mail

Due to increased postage costs, we would like to make future newsletters and announcements available to you electronically. If you would like to receive future information by email send an email to robbin.reininger@ag.tamu.edu. Benefits of having your newsletter sent through e-mail are: pictures and graphs will be in color, easy to store on your computer, no papers to mess with, click-able links to other internet sites, and sooner access.

Check out and 'Like' the Bee County Agriculture and Natural Resources Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/beecountyag

We're on the Web! <http://bee.agrilife.org>

Robbin L. Reininger, CEA-Ag/NR

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