

Calhoun County Ag Talk



Fever Tick Situation update



Geri L. Kline
County Extension Agent
Agriculture and Natural
Resources Calhoun County

Since we have had such a mild winter ticks will continue to be a problem for cattle and livestock producers. So far there are 8 counties with infested premise quarantines: Cameron, Kleberg, Live Oak, Maverick, Starr, Webb, Willacy and Zapata. Cattle fever ticks carry the parasites that cause Texas cattle fever. Texas cattle fever is severe and often fatal diseases in animals that haven't been exposed to it in several generations. There is some research that was done many years ago that found that as few as 8-12 ticks could have a significant economic impact on preweaning weight

gains in calves. The ticks can also transmit several blood borne diseases. Another problem with ticks is that they like to feed on or near the ears which can cause hair loss and infections that can damage the ear. Cattle fever ticks can infest white-tailed deer, nilgai and other wildlife species, but they prefer cattle. If you think your animals have cattle fever ticks contact your local Texas Animal Health Commission regional office. The most recent report is on the next page. For more information: <http://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/solutions/cattle-fever-tick/>

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Keep updated with Calhoun County Agriculture events

Due to rising paper, postage and ink costs this newsletter is going to only be sent out electronically. If you know of anyone who needs to be added to the list please have them call 361-552-9747 with an email address or you can go online and view the newsletters at anytime:



<http://calhoun.agrilife.org/newsletters/ag-newsletter/>

If you like texting more than email please text @agnewsup to 81010. Using this will allow me to quickly update everyone to events or interesting articles.



Texas Animal Health Commission

Fever Tick Situation Report

February 27, 2017

Statewide Quarantine Summary

143 Infested Quarantined Premises:

- 52 permanent quarantine zone premises
- 91 non-permanent quarantine zone premises
- Counties with infested premises quarantines include: Cameron, Kleberg, Live Oak, Maverick, Starr, Webb, Willacy and Zapata

74 Exposed Quarantined Premises:

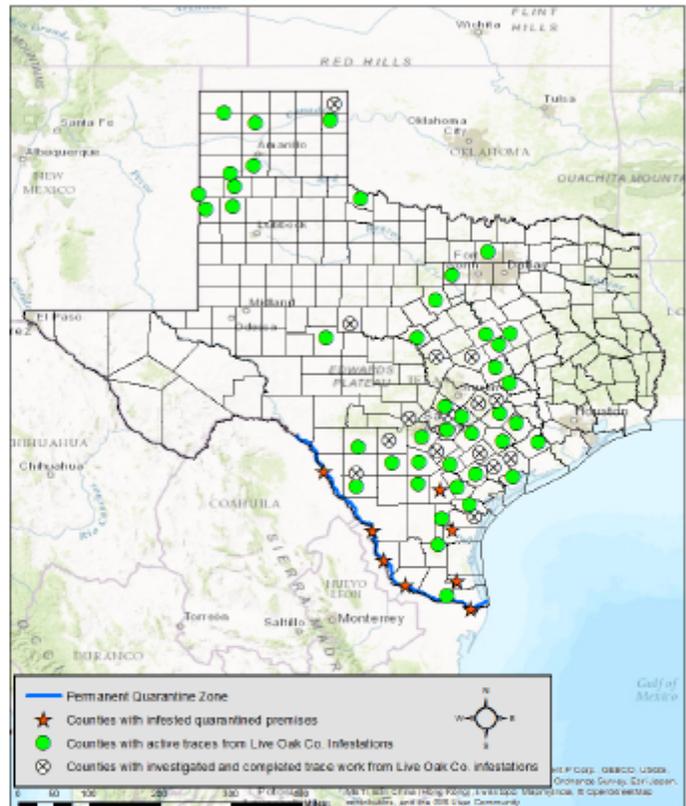
- 41 permanent quarantine zone premises
- 33 non-permanent quarantine zone premises

2,092 Adjacent/Check Quarantined Premises:

- 317 permanent quarantine zone premises
- 1,775 non-permanent quarantine zone premises

Counties with exposed, adjacent or check premises quarantines: Bastrop, Bee, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cameron, Colorado, Denton, Dewitt, Dimmit, Falls, Fayette, Frio, Goliad, Gonzales, Hidalgo, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kendall, Kinney, Kleberg, Live Oak, Maverick, McMullen, Milam, Mills, Parker, Runnels, Starr, Uvalde, Webb, Wharton, Willacy and Zapata.

Infested Quarantines and Live Oak County Traces by County



Mark Carter, TAHC
02/16/2017

For more information regarding the fever tick program and terminology used, please visit

http://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/TAHCBrochure_FeverTickFAQ.pdf

Live Oak County Control Purpose Quarantine Area (CPOA)							
November 28, 2016 to February 19, 2017 Reporting Period							
Out of State Traces: 19 head				Texas Traces: 415 head			
Acreage under Quarantine: Approx. 61,212							
Live Oak Co. Quarantines		Inspections and Treatments				Movement Permits Issued	
Type	Total	Species	Inspected	Infested	Treated	Species	Total
Infested	8	Bovine	5,511	315	3,872	Bovine	287
Exposed	2	Equine	361	2	225	Equine	89
Adjacent/ Check	271	Wildlife	275	0	86	Wildlife	29
Released	0	Other	0	0	0	Other	0
Live Oak County Dipping Vat Inspections and Treatments: 5,588 head							

Tawny Crazy Ants

Please be on the lookout for the tawny crazy ant. These ants were found in Pasadena in 2002 and are an invasive species.

These ants do not sting but can bite. The bite doesn't cause much pain.

Tawny crazy ant gets its name because the ants dart around and act crazy. Worker ants are all about the same size but the queens or males are bigger than the workers. Tawny crazy ants have a lot of queens which makes them hard to contain.

These ants can cause many problems. They attack electrical equipment, which can lead to shorts. They also protect aphids to eat the honey dew that the

aphids make. Tawny crazy ants have also been found to get into your airbag sensors, which ruins them.

During March and April the tawny crazy ants will come out of their dormant season, if you

think you have crazy ants please put some in a jar with rubbing alcohol and the extension office can help identify them. They were found in Calhoun County last fall and are in Victoria, Matagorda and Wharton counties as well.

For more information: <http://urbanentomology.tamu.edu/urban-pests/ants/raspberry/>



Local Events:

Victoria County AgriLife Extension Service is holding a private Applicator Training on March 24th at the Victoria County Extension Office.

Victoria County Extension office is also having a Texas Land Trust Meeting on March 30th from 9am—3pm at the Victoria Educational Gardens. Please RSVP to the Victoria County Extension Office.

Victoria County Master Gardener Plant sale will be held on April 8th at the Victoria Educational Gardens pavilion. It starts at 8:30am until sold out.



Victoria County Extension office phone number is:
361-575-4581

Calhoun County AgriLife
Extension Office

186 Henry Barber Way Ste 1
Port Lavaca, TX 7797

Phone: 361-552-9747

Fax: 361-552-6727

E-mail: geri.kline@ag.tamu.edu

We are on the web!

<http://calhoun.agrilife.org/>

"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."

Picture of the month

You are probably wondering why I put a lady bug as the picture of the month. Actually the picture to the right is a Asian lady beetle. This beetle looks like other lady beetles but their color can range from red to orange to tan. Most of them have a M-shaped mark behind their head. Asian lady beetles don't sting but do bite. Some people can be allergic to the bite and should seek medical attention. These beetles were brought into the United States to manage agriculture pests such as scales insects, aphids etc. A problem with the Asian lady beetle is that they become a nuisance pest

when they get into your homes and other structures. To keep beetles from entering people should seal any crack and crevices where they could get in. If they do get inside your home it is best to use a vacuum to suck them up. When disturbed Asian lady beetles can cause an unpleasant odor and may stain some surfaces with a fluid they secrete. For more information:

<http://city-bugs.tamu.edu/2017/02/24/lady-beetle-invasion/>

"The soil is the great connector of lives, the source and destination of all. It is the healer and restorer and resurrector, by which disease passes into health, age into youth, death into life. Without proper care for it we can have no community, because without proper care for it we can have no life."

- Wendell Berry

