

Agriculture Newsletter

COLORADO COUNTY

June 2017

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

9+ CEUs
Inside

Cattleman's Financial Planning Series

Do you have a plan for what will happen to your ranch after you are gone? Are you familiar with the laws and taxes regarding the transfer of ownership in your land and/or operations? Are you sure you're getting all of the tax deductions for which you are eligible? Should you depreciate that new tractor over time or write it off in the current year? Is it better to buy replacement heifers or raise your own replacements? How much can you really afford to pay for that replacement heifer? These questions and many more will be answered during an upcoming financial planning series hosted by the Colorado County Beef and Forage Committee.

As the average age of our nation's farmers and ranchers continues to increase, many are left wondering about the future of their operation and the land upon which they rely. Stories about the crippling gift tax, death tax, or capital gains tax are common when discussing farm and ranch estate planning. Many landowners also are looking for ways to keep their land in agricultural production after their death, hoping that the next generation will not sell it for development. This program will help provide guidance in addressing these and other related issues.



Additionally, rising farm input costs and low profit margins mean every rancher is looking to maximize tax deductions and manage their finances to their fullest potential. To help arm producers with the knowledge needed to do so, this educational program will review current tax codes and any recent changes, while also looking ahead to potential future changes from the current government administration.

Finally, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has resources and personnel to help ranchers of every size be more efficient in budget management, recordkeeping, restocking strategies, long-range herd planning, and estimating future income.

All livestock producers are encouraged to make plans to attend the three-part series on the following dates:

June 6 – Estate & Gift Taxation & Planning

June 13 – Current/Future Tax Law, Recordkeeping for tax purposes, Understanding Depreciation, Restocking strategies - Tax implications

June 20 – Cattle Market Outlook, Cow Bid Estimator, restocking strategies, long-range planning, recordkeeping for production

All programs will be held at the Colorado County Services Facility/EMS Building at 305 Radio Lane in Columbus. For convenience, programs will run from 6:00-8:00pm. There will be a one-time fee of \$10 to attend. For more information and to register, call the Colorado County AgriLife Extension Office at 979-732-2082.

Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service
Colorado County

Stephen Janak, CEA
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Resources

316 Spring Street
Columbus, TX 78934
979-732-2082

colorado.agrilife.org

Upcoming Events & News You Can Use

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - Stakeholders Meetings

Under Texas Code §11.326(g) and (h), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) must evaluate river basins without watermasters every five years to determine whether a watermaster should be appointed. In 2017, the TCEQ is evaluating the Upper Brazos River, San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal, Brazos-Colorado Coastal, Colorado River, and the Colorado-Lavaca Coastal Basins. Stakeholder input is an important part of this process.

Stakeholder meetings will be held June 13, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at the Boling Community Center, Main Auditorium, 6839 CR 162, Boling, Texas and June 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at the Brazos Crossing Administrative Building, Lamar CISD Board Room, 3911 Ave I, Rosenberg, Texas 77471.

The TCEQ will be taking public comment through 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2017. Please mail your comments to the Watermaster Section, MC 160, PO Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or by email to watermaster@tceq.texas.gov.

Feathers, Furs and Farming

There's been a lot of buzz recently about feral hog toxicants, the cattle fever tick, and other invasive species. Come get the latest on these issues and other invasive organisms that you may be unaware of, but are certainly present and threatening agriculture production in Colorado County. A few examples of these other species include: Tawny Crazy Ant, Kudzu Vine, Tropical Soda Apple, Cactus moth, Deeprooted sedge, Emerald Ash Borer, Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, and others.

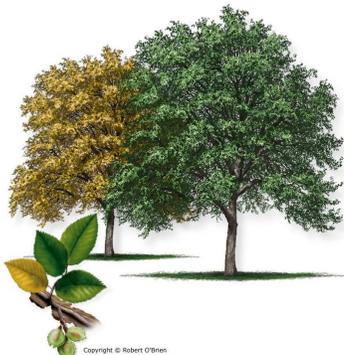


This month's program is scheduled for **June 16, 2017** at the Colorado County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Topics to include: Feral Hog Toxicants, Feral Hog Control Techniques, Invasive Organism Management, Cattle Fever Tick Update and Invasive Organism Identification.

Registration fee is \$20.00 per person. **Three CEU's (2 Gen, 1 IPM)** will be offered to licensed private pesticide applicators. For more information call 979-732-2082.

Multi-County New Landowner Educational Program

The Multi-County New Landowner Education program is a series of 8 informational meetings, seminars, and field days designed to make new landowners in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, & Washington Counties aware of what types of agricultural enterprises are best for their property. Participants in the program will hear from experts in a variety of fields in agriculture about best management practices that can be implemented on their own property.



The next New Landowner Program will take place on **August 18, 2017** at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E. Blue Bell Road in Brenham. Registration begins at 1:00pm and the cost is \$20 per person if you have not signed up for the entire series. The August program will discuss tree management, common problems with trees in our area, and how to care for trees. We will also discuss beekeeping for beginners: "What you need to know before getting into bees". **CEUs** will be available, although how many is still to be determined. For more information: 979-732-2082

43rd Annual Eagle Lake Rice Field Day set for **June 27**

The 43rd annual Eagle Lake Rice Field Day is scheduled for 4 p.m. **June 27** at Wintermann Rice Research Station on Farm-to-Market Road 102 just north of Eagle Lake.

The field day will offer an opportunity for producers to tour the research station, making stops along the way to hear about disease management, insect management, weed management, nitrogen management, varietal testing, the inbred rice breeding program and the hybrid rice breeding program.

The field day is planned and coordinated by the Colorado County Rice Committee, which is comprised of local producers who meet throughout the year to identify topics for the event that are relevant and applicable to producers in the area. Area agribusiness continues to provide crucial sponsorship to support this event so that all who are interested in attending can do so free of charge.



The evening program will be held at the Eagle Lake Community Center with Dr. Joe Outlaw, Co-Director of the Agricultural & Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University addressing farm policy and governmental administration issues.

Also on the agenda for the evening program are Drs. Shane Zhou and Fugen Dou of the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Beaumont. Drs. Zhou and Dou will provide attendees with information concerning organic rice production in Texas.

A catered meal will be provided at the evening program. **Two (2) continuing education units (CEUs)** will be offered to all licensed pesticide applicators who attend the tour and evening program.

For more information, contact the Wintermann Rice Research Station at 979-234-3578 or the Extension office for Colorado County at 979-732-2082.

Sugarcane Aphid Hybrid Tolerance Turn-row Meeting

There will be a short turn-row meeting held just before the Colorado County Row Crop Tour that will look at a demonstration plot of different sorghum hybrids and their tolerance to the Sugarcane Aphid. Sorghum producers wishing to view this demonstration trial and discuss current-season results with Extension Entomologists and Agronomists should plan to be at the intersection of Highway 71 and FM 2546 (just north of El Campo) at 3:30pm on **Thursday, June 29th**. It will conclude by 4:30pm. The trial is testing tolerance or resistance to the sugarcane aphid in several hybrids that are claiming some level of tolerance or resistance. These are then compared to known non-tolerant hybrids which are planted in the plot as well. This will be near time for sorghum harvest at this location, so the results should be fairly conclusive, as aphid pressure is already ramping up at the time of publication. There is no cost to attend. Licensed pesticide applicators will receive **one (1) CEU in IPM**. For more information: 979-732-2082.



Colorado County Row Crop Tour

The Colorado County Row Crop Tour will be held **Thursday, June 29th**, starting at the Nada Community Center with registration at 4:30pm. The tour will depart at 5:00pm and travel to the cotton variety trial first, then after a short stop to look at soybeans, will travel to the corn variety trial at Leopold Grain. The tour will end back at the Nada Community Center where a catered meal will be served and discussion will wrap-up. There is no cost to attend due to generous sponsorship from many local agribusinesses. Pesticide license holders can receive **three (3) CEUs (1 Gen, 1 IPM, 1 L&R)** when they register at the beginning of the tour and stay through the end. For more information: 979-732-2082

As always, please feel free to contact me about your individual issues, needs or concerns.

I can be reached by phone at 979-732-2082

or email at stephen.janak@ag.tamu.edu.

Sincerely,



Stephen D. Janak

County Extension Agent—Ag/Natural Resources—Colorado County

colorado.agrilife.org

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. 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 at (979) 732-2082 ten (10) days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

«CITY, STATE, ZIP»

«ADDRESS»

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316 Spring St.
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