

# HAMILTON COUNTY AG/NR NEWSLETTER

Bruce Boyd, Hamilton County AG/NR Agent

MAY 2019



## NEW SCRAPIE TAG REQUIREMENTS

The United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) announced new nationwide identification and recordkeeping requirements for sheep and goats on March 25, 2019. Although the rule has gone into effect, there will be an education period for compliance.

Read about the new requirements at

[https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2019/2019-05-02\\_SheepandGoat\\_ADT.pdf](https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2019/2019-05-02_SheepandGoat_ADT.pdf).



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Hamilton County Goat Symposium  
Saturday, May 18, 2019

Market Trends/Demands, Parasite Control & Fecal Egg Count Lab and Herd Health & Nutrition.

Cost: \$10 Per Person  
2 General CEU's available

Location:

Hamilton Commission Company  
2525 N. US Hwy 281, Hamilton, TX 76531  
RSVP:

Bruce.Boyd@Ag.Tamu.Edu or 254-386-3919

\*A FREE youth Goat Management Program will be from 2-4pm with Prairie View A&M University Research Specialist, Scott Horner. Please RSVP to the information above.

## Upcoming Programs Continued



### Dairy Goat Appraisal Workshop



Friday, June 7, 2019  
 8:00am

Location: 14470 FM 1602, Hico, TX 76457

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION IS HOSTING A DAIRY GOAT APPRAISAL INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP, AND WILL HAVE AN APPRAISER FROM THE AMERICAN DAIRY GOAT ASSOCIATION ON LOCATION THAT WILL EVALUATE THE CIRCLE 4B RANCH HERD, AS WELL AS OTHER LOCAL HERDS.

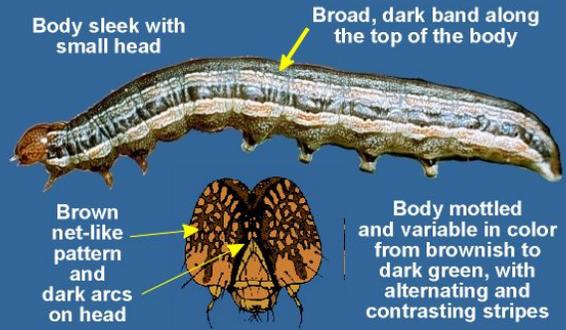
There is no fee for this program, and we will cover topics such as:

- Goat anatomy
- Choosing your dairy goat for homestead or show

RSVP'S ARE REQUIRED AND CAN BE MADE TO 254-386-3919 OR BRUCE.BOYD@AG.TAMU.EDU



## Armyworm Identification



True armyworms are active in area wheat fields and other grass crops. This is a different species of armyworm than the fall armyworm that caused so much damage late last summer. However, both the true and fall armyworm look much alike.

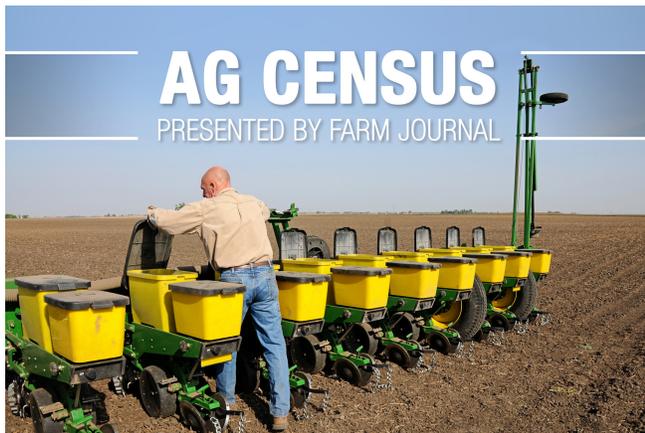
When fully grown, True Armyworm larvae are 1½ inches long and green to brown. They have an orange strip with a white border running along the length of the body. The eyes have a honeycomb or net-like pattern of lines. There is a dark band at the top of each proleg (small, fleshy leg on the abdomen). There is no white inverted "Y" running between the eyes as is characteristic of the fall armyworm.

The larvae of the true armyworm (*Pseudaletia unipuncta* (Haworth)) can damage wheat and forage grasses in the spring. Outbreaks are favored by cool, damp weather from late March through June. Armyworm larvae do not develop well once daytime highs average more than 88°F. The heat causes their numbers to decrease dramatically.

Infestations often begin in areas where the small grains are the tallest and thickest or near the edge of fields. During the day, armyworms hide at the bases of the plants; they move up the plants to feed late in the afternoon, at night, and during cloudy weather. They can cause extensive damage below the crop canopy before they are detected. Early armyworm detection is important because small larvae are easier to control. Also, the larger the larvae, the more they consume. Signs of damage include leaf feeding and beard and head clipping. It is important to protect the flag leaf and grain head from armyworm damage. Control measures are suggested when four to five larvae per square foot are found in combination with evidence of extensive feeding on lower leaf.

Information on insecticides for small grains is presented in the attached Extension publication *Managing Insect and Mite Pests of Small Grains in Texas*.

Allen Knutson  
 Extension Entomologist



### Texas' Top Ag Commodities

1. Cattle and calves  
 \$12,291,224,000
2. Poultry and eggs  
 \$2,991,846,000
3. Cotton and cottonseed  
 \$2,648,181,000
4. Milk from cows  
 \$2,159,171,000
5. Grains, oil seeds, dry beans and dry peas  
 \$2,152,014,000