

VOL. 16 | APRIL 2021

OUR BACKYARD

An agricultural newsletter by Hardin County AgriLife Extension



OVERVIEW:

- From the Agent
- Texas Speaks
- Horticulture Corner
- Producers Coral
- Good Read
- Programming
- Get Involved

From the Agent

Howdy!

I am thrilled to announce we will be having our first BIG coming back program this month! Join us April 7 in Tarkington (my hometown!) for a FREE Beef Quality Assurance Field Day to hear from some of the top cattle leaders in the field!

Not only is that great news, but we are seeing our plants show us just how tuff they are by coming back after the winter storm! I even have some bluebonnets growing at my house.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie A. Pace". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie A. Pace | Hardin County Extension Agent



TEXAS SPEAKS

STATEWIDE SURVEY Identifying the Strengths & Needs of Texas Communities

WHAT IS TEXAS SPEAKS?

TexasSpeaks is a state-wide online survey conducted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service with the purpose of listening to Texas citizens as they identify the strengths and needs of their communities.

Data from the survey will be aggregated at local levels and provided to local stakeholders. Additionally, statewide data will be aggregated and made available to state agencies and decision makers.

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

To engage as many Texas citizens as possible to create the most accurate and helpful data to support Texas communities at both the state and local levels.

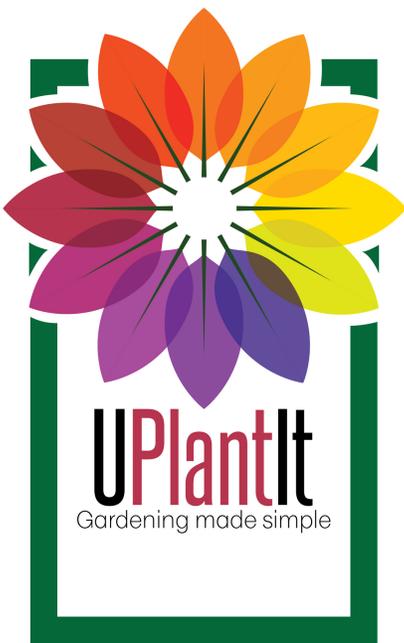
QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE SURVEY

- Online
- Open to the public
- Anonymous
- Takes 10 minutes
- Includes an opportunity to collect open-ended feedback



PARTICIPATE TODAY!
<http://tx.ag/texasspeaks>





HORTICULTURE *Corner*

In the Garden

It is time to begin fertilizing yards, make sure to get a soil test from the Extension Office first so you know what the grass really needs!

Begin watching plants and gardens more, since they will begin to dry out faster now.

Help prevent diseases in your flower and vegetable beds by rotating what types of plants you grow in a location every year.

Native Texans

This month I had a resident reach out about identifying something that had been flowering on their property for over thirty years, which is a Costal Azalea. Also called a Texas Azalea, have smaller blooms than our typical Azalea plants.



Native to East Texas, they only grown 1-5 feet in height and only spread out about 3 feet. The flowers bloom white with pink throats, and are a favorite of our pollinators. It loves boggy areas near streams and the sandy soils of the pine forest, so it can thrive almost anywhere you put it in your yard, as long as it has some shade.

What should I plant this month?

Garden Transplant:

Beans

Cucumber

Melons

Okra

Peppers

Potatoes

Squash

Tomatoes

Landscape Transplant:

Annuals

Perennials

Roses

Trees/Shrubs

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Hardin County
Spring & Fall Vegetable Planting Guide**

Name of Crop	Inches Between Rows	Inches Between Plant In Row	Spring Planting Dates	Fall Planting Dates	Approx. Days to Maturity
Beans (Bush)	18-30	3-4	March 5 - April 30	Aug. 1 —Sept . 20	50-70
Beans (Pole)	24-30	12-18	March 1-April 15		50-90
Beets	12-24	2-3	Feb. 1– March 1	Sept. 15—Nov. 1	60-70
Broccoli	24-30	12-20	Feb. 1—Feb 15	Aug. 15—Oct. 1	70-100
Brussel Sprouts	24-30	12-20		Sept. 1—Oct 1	100-110
Cabbage	24-30	12-20	Jan 15-Feb 15	Sept 1—Nov 15	70-100
Carrots	12-24	2	Jan 15—Feb 15	Oct 1—Nov 1	80-90
Cauliflower	24-30	12-20	Feb 1—Feb 15	Sept 1 — Oct 1	80-100
Collards	12-24	6-12	Feb 1—Feb 28	Sept 1 — Oct 1	60-90
Corn (Sweet)	24-36	8-12	March 5—April 15	Aug 1—Aug 15	80-100
Cucumber	36-48	18-36	March 15-May 1	Aug 15—Sept 20	60-80
Eggplant	18-30	18-24	March 1—April 15		90-100
Garlic	12-24	2-4		Sept. 15—Oct 15	150-160
Kohlrabi	12-24	3-5	Jan 15– March 1	Sept. 15 --Oct 20	65-85
Lettuce (Leaf)	12-24	2-3	Feb 1—April 1	Sept 15—Oct 15	50-90
Mustard	12-24	4-6	Feb. 15—April 1	Sept 1—Nov 1	40-50
Okra	30-40	18-24	April 1—to July 15		65-75
Onion (Seeds)	12-24	2-3		Sept. 1 —Nov 15	100-130
Onion (Plants)	12-24	2-3	Jan 15—Feb 15		90-130
Peas (English)	18-30	1	Jan 10—Feb 15	Oct 1—Nov 1	65-105
Peas (Southern)	24-36	3-5	April to May 20	Aug 1 —Sept 1	70—90
Pepper (Transplants)	24-36	18-24	March 1 to April 25		70-100
Potatoes (Irish)	24-36	8-12	Jan 15-to Feb 20	Aug 15 —Sept 1	90-110
Potatoes (Sweet)	30-36	10-14	April 1 to May 20		110-140
Radish	12-24	1	Feb 1 to April 15	Sept 1 —Oct 15	35-50
Spinach	12-24	3-4	Jan 1 to Feb 15	Sept 1 — Nov 1	50-70
Squash (Summer)	30-40	14-30	March 20 —May 1	Aug 1 —Sept 1	60-70
Tomato (Transplants)	24-40	18-30	March 1 to April 20	July 15 to Aug 1	80-100
Turnip (Greens or Root)	12-24	2-3	Jan 15 to March 15	Sept 1 to Oct 15	40-70

*1st Fall Frost November 30th

*Last Spring Frost March 3rd

*Revised 1/28/21

PRODUCERS

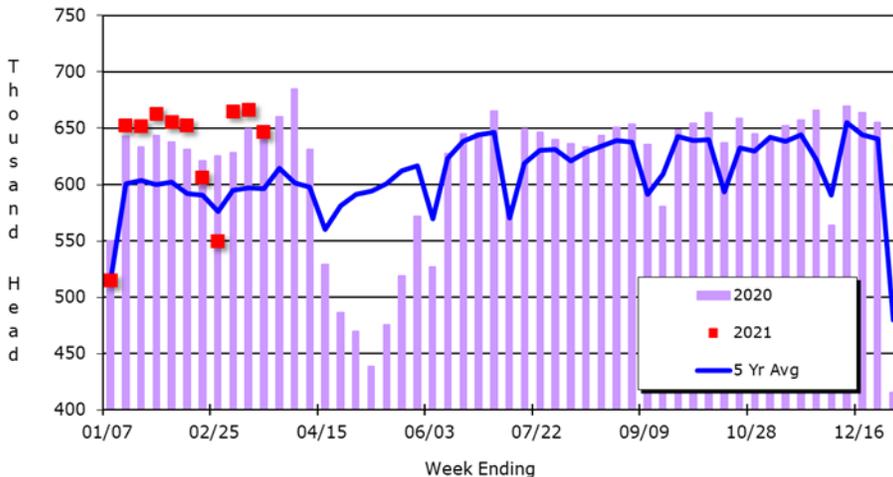
Coval



Cattle Market

MARKET PRICES	Current	Change vs Month Ago	Change vs Year Ago
(\$/cwt, U.S. avg)			
550# Steers	169.93	5.88	11.94
750# Steers	137.58	1.27	11.31
Fed Steer	114.20	0.31	4.23
Ut/Comm Cows	61.70	(3.31)	(1.68)
Omaha Corn	5.25	0.02	1.58
USDA Hay Forage	137.00	3.00	3.00

U.S. Cattle Slaughter
Weekly, Federally Inspected



What to do with the herd this month?

Start watching for horn and face flies, consider what type of insecticide you will use this year

Monitor body scores and adjust nutrition as needed

Plant and fertilize those warm season pastures (Make sure to get a soil test first)

Monitor calves for scours, restock your calving supplies

When will she calve?

April 1-24 → January 8-31

April 25-30 → February 1-6

BQA Tip

When giving injections never mix products unless they are specifically designed to be mixed. The only vaccines that should be mixed together are products in the same box when the label states they should be mixed.



Liability on the Ranch

By: Texas Rep. Andrew Murr

Raising cattle is a business and way of life that is filled with risk and uncertainty. From the weather to cattle prices, there are a lot of things we can't control in our chosen profession.

We have all become so accustomed to this lack of control that we often don't give much thought to the most unpredictable thing of all—the livestock themselves. If you've ever been charged by a 1,500 pound bull or found yourself between an angry cow and her calf, you know exactly what I mean. If you haven't, you will have to take my word for it—it's not a fun place to be.

Working with livestock, especially large animals like cattle, is inherently a risky business. That's why the Texas Legislature passed the Farm Animal Liability Act back in 2011. Simply put, the act is designed to protect livestock producers, among others, from liability for property damage, injury or death resulting from the fundamental risks associated with farm animal activities.

Many of you have probably seen signs to this effect at livestock shows, rodeos, equestrian centers, and other venues throughout Texas. You see signs at these locations because the 2011 Farm Animal Liability Act primarily addresses those who are “participating in a farm animal activity,” such as rodeo competitors. However, many of us also read the statute to apply to ranchers and ranch hands and the activities associated with ranching.

Unfortunately, the legal language in that area is a little unclear and was challenged in court soon after it became law. In 2013, a ranch hand was trampled to death by a bull. The ranch hand was an employee of the ranch for eight years and knew the job's dangers well, yet his family sued the rancher for wrongful death. The rancher in turn argued that he was not liable based on the Farm Animal Liability Act.

That case wound its way through the courts and eventually came to be heard in the Texas Supreme Court. In June 2020, the Texas Supreme Court issued a 6-2 opinion that the Farm Animal Activity Act does not apply to ranchers and ranch hands.

As a result of the ruling, if you do not have worker's compensation insurance and one of your ranch employees are injured by your livestock, you can be held liable. In fact, I've already personally seen television advertisements from law firms encouraging personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits that specifically identify agriculture as a target industry.

This is a tremendous legal risk for cattle producers that we must fix, and as a rancher, attorney, and member of the Texas House of Representatives, I have a plan to do precisely that. In November, I filed House Bill 365 to amend the Farm Animal Liability Act. The proposed changes in this bill will make it clear that the liability limitations apply to ranchers and their employees.

Passing this legislation will be one of my top priorities for the 2021 Texas Legislative Session, but there is a long road ahead. Short of putting my fellow legislators in the pens with me working cattle and marking calves, I am working hard to educate them on just how important it is to protect our state's livestock producers from unnecessary lawsuits and risk.

The leaders and staff of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association have been instrumental in the process, but we need your help, too. Please tell your State Representative and State Senator that you support H.B. 365 to better protect livestock producers from legal liability. They must hear directly from you, their constituent, and understand how damaging it could be to the cattle industry and food supply if we continue to allow ranchers to be sued for their livestock's unpredictable actions.

Ranching is a hard way of life, but one that is absolutely essential. Many of the risks and challenges faced by cattle producers every day are out of our control, but we can control legal liability. Many family livestock operations simply cannot weather an unexpected lawsuit and continue to feed America at the same time. I hope you will join me in supporting H.B. 365 and helping producers get back to the business of raising our food.

Upcoming Programs for Hardin County

The entire agency has been working together in an effort to bring you CEUs and great online programs! I have included just a few that might be of interest to you, but there are so many more coming up on agrilifeextension.tamu.edu

There are also many different programs on agrilifelearn.org



TDA has allowed AgriLife to create a completely online Texas Private Pesticide Applicator Training. This training is \$75 on the AgriLife Learn Portal agrilifelearn.tamu.edu



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER



A SAFE, WHOLESOME AND HEALTHY BEEF SUPPLY



Hardin & Liberty County Beef Quality Assurance Field Day

Wednesday, April 7th

Registration 8:15 am - 8:30 am
Program 8:30 am - 2:00 pm

GH White Ranch Headquarters
264 FM 2518, Cleveland, TX 77327



Program Topics will focus on:

Dr. David Anderson

Beef Market Outlooks

**Dr. Joe Paschal, PhD - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Livestock Specialist**

Health Protocols, Value added Marketing Programs

Dr. Ron Gill

Cattle Handling—Sorting, Handling and Processing Calves

Dr. Lourens Havenga—Multi-Min USA, Inc.

*Presentation on Taking care of the immune system-before we vaccinate!
The do's and don'ts.*

Dr. Thomas Hairgrove, State Extension Veterinarian

Calf processing techniques & practicum.

Dr. Sonja Swiger, Extension Livestock Entomologist

External parasites

Cost to attend - FREE

Meal included

Please preregister by **Monday, April 5th**
by calling the Liberty County Extension Office at
936-334-3230.



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.



The Orange County Master Gardeners Association's Annual

Bloomin' Crazy Plant Fair & Sale



SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 8AM - 1PM
CORMIER PARK, 8235 FM 1442
ORANGEFIELD (follow the signs)

Numerous varieties of plants will be available.

We will still be following the current guidelines as set forth by the CDC such as social distancing and requiring you wear a mask covering mouth and nose. Hand sanitizer will also be available.

The number of customers in the pavilion will be limited. Tickets will be passed out and called when we have space available.

Credit Cards will be accepted in addition to checks and cash.



Visit <https://txmg.org/orange> - Plant Sale for more information

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GARDENING IN THE GULF COAST

Join our Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Horticulture agents and specialists online as they discuss gardening in the Gulf Coast Region of Texas.

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

April 14 at 10:00am - Xeriscape Gardening

by Kevin Gibbs

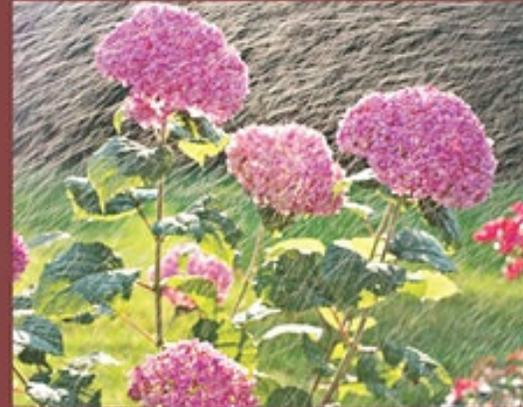
AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Nueces County



April 28 at 10:00am - Replace those Water Hogs!

by Ginger Easton-Smith

AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Aransas County



May 12 at 10:00am - Pollinator Gardens

by Paul Winski

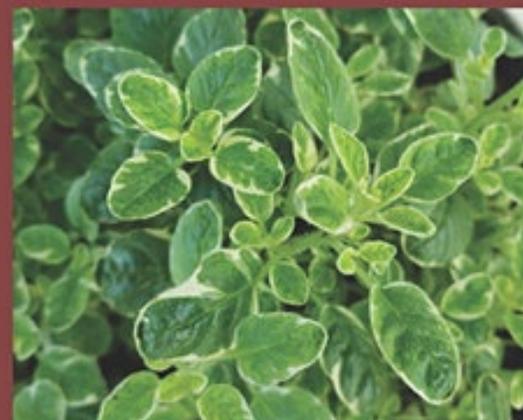
AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Harris County



May 26 at 10:00am - Herbs Revisited: Rosemary & Thyme

by Stephen Brueggerhoff

AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Brazoria County



Online via Microsoft Teams

[Register Here](#)

Registration Questions? Please email Janice Anderson at
janice.anderson@ag.tamu.edu

Brazoria & Galveston Counties

BASIC WEED CONTROL

PART OF THE 2021 FORAGE SERIES

Join us and guest presenter, Dr. Scot Nolte, State Extension Weed Specialist, to discuss basic weed control. Identify common weeds in pastures and hay fields, along with toxic plants. Learn how to control those pesky plants, including chemical and non-chemical controls.

April 15, 2021

Program 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

Virtual Option

Use computer, tablet, smart phone
\$15/person

In-Person Option

Presenter will be live streamed
Brazoria Extension Office
21017 CR 171, Angleton, 77515
\$20/person | NO on-site registration
Includes meal

2 CEU Credits

**Register 3 days
before program**
tinyurl.com/y3s8tahk

Contact

Jessica Chase, CEA-AGNR or
Jean Godwin, admin assistant
jean.godwin@ag.tamu.edu
979-864-1558
brazoria.agrilife.org/agriculture

Phoenix Rogers, CEA-AGNR or
Reese Daily, admin assistant
charissa.daily@co.galveston.tx.us
281-309-5068
galveston.agrilife.org/agnr

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This program is one of a 6-part series. Whether you are new to being a land steward or have been in the business for years, there is something for everyone in this 6-part series. Come to one, some, or all.

If you need special accommodations, please contact the Extension Office no later than seven days before the program so we can consider your request. 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. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

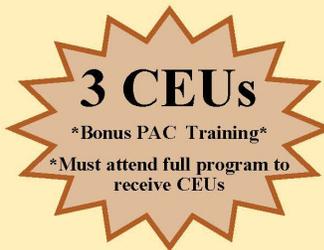


Spring Cleaning Weed and Brush Control for Pastures and Hay Meadows

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Weed Control for Pasture and Hay Meadows

Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Ph.D.
Professor & Extension Forage Specialist
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Department of Soil & Crop Sciences



Brush Management and Range & Pasture Herbicide Updates Picolinic Acid Chemistry Training

Megan Clayton, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Department of Rangeland, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management

Program: 8:00 am to 11:00 am

Via Microsoft Teams

All preregistered attendees will receive meeting details including the link to attend once registered

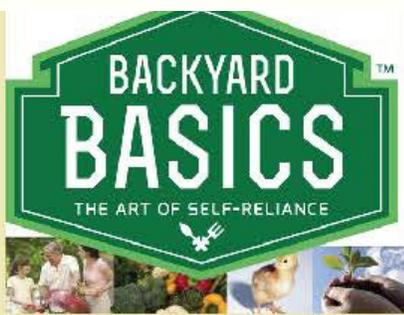
Online Registration [ONLY](#)

\$20.00 per person

- * No refunds unless cancelled by the organizer
- * Program will not be recorded for distribution

[Click here to register on Eventbrite!](#)

For questions, please contact Brandy Rader, Admin. Assist. ANR, by phone 281-633-7029 or by email brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu



HARDIN COUNTY

LAWNS & LANDSCAPES

Do you want your lawn or
landscape to look beautiful?

Do you have a weed or plant you
want identified in your lawn?

This is the program for you!
Bring in your a sample/pictures of
your weed or plant, your questions
and join us for some Basic
Backyard Lawn & Landscape Care

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

6:00 P.M.

\$15.00

1135 REDWOOD, KOUNTZE, TX 77625

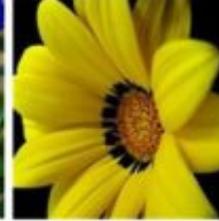
-RSVP to Tammy.goodman@ag.tamu.edu by
Monday 5/3/2021.

-Payments will be taken at the door.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend
this meeting and who may need auxiliary
aids or services are requested to contact the
Jefferson County Human Resources
Director at (409) 839-2391 five working
days prior to the meeting so appropriate
arrangements can be made.

Educational programs of Texas A&M
AgriLife Extension Service are open to all
people without regard to race, color, sex,
religion, disability, national origin, age,
genetic information, veteran status, or
gender identity.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S.
Department of Agriculture, and the County
Commissioners Courts of Texas
Cooperating



Floral Fridays

Join Horticulturist
Stephen Brueggerhoff
and

Celebrate Plants in Bloom

This is an ongoing Facebook Live program
Every Friday at 11 AM
www.facebook.com/brazoriacountyextension



If you need special accommodations, please contact the Extension Office no later than seven days before the program so we can consider your request. 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. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

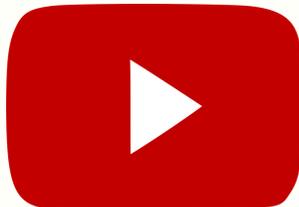
For the most up to date
information and programming
efforts:

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- **Hardin County 4-H Youth
and Development**



YouTube

Hardin County 4-H

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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 Hardin County Extension Office at (409) 246-5128 two working days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

Get involved with Hardin County Extension

Please consider joining the Hardin County Agriculture Committee to provide leadership and suggestions for upcoming programming. You don't have to make a large time commitment, with as few as four meetings per year, but we would love to hear your ideas and for you to share input on your county!

Please contact the office to update your email address, or if you know someone that would like to be added to this list, at (409) 246-5128, or by email katie.pace@ag.tamu.edu. We also welcome suggestions for upcoming newsletters!

PO Box 610 | 1135 Redwood | Kountze, TX 77625

p: (409) 246-5128 | f: (409) 246-5201

<http://hardin.agrilife.org>

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