

Extension At A Glance - Lubbock County

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Agriculture & Natural Resources / 4-H and Youth Development / Family and Consumer Sciences / Community Development

MISSION

**Improving the lives of people, businesses, and communities across Texas and beyond
 through high-quality, relevant education.**

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Lubbock County 2016 Critical Issues Educational Exhibit

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences
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 Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
 Vikram Baligs, County Extension Agent - Horticulture
 Mary Alice Roberts, BLT Extension Assistant

The Lubbock County Staff exhibited a display in the Merchant's building of the South Plains Fair regarding the 2016 Lubbock County Critical Issues and rainwater harvesting/Earth Kind Landscaping. This display was viewed by an estimated 80,000 South Plains residents. Extension continues to Feed Our World, Protect Our Environment, Grow Our Economy, Enrich Our Youth and Improve Our Health.



"A Snowy Mess" by Marisa Luera



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

Agriculture and Natural Resources

June 24 Cotton Industry Future Leader's Tour

Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

On July 24, the Lubbock County Extension Staff hosted a Cotton Industry tour for future leaders. A total of 9 high-school students from South Plains 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters were selected through an application process to participate in the tour.

The 2015 tour included stops at: Texas A&M AgriLife Research Cotton Breeding Program at Lubbock, Idalou Co-Op Gin, Plains Cotton Growers, Bayer Crop Science Biotechnology Lab, USDA Cotton Classing office, and Texas Tech Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute. This tour served as a "Capstone Project" for Hunter Parrott during his summer internship with Texas AgriLife Extension.

Issue Addressed: Public Education/Awareness about Agriculture

YouTube Video Channel and Cotton Maturity Video Produced

Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

After attending a training regarding local production of video clips for on-line education purposes, the Lubbock County Extension Staff developed a YouTube Video Channel account. Then, on September 17-18, a 4-minute video was recorded and published on "Determining Cotton Fiber Maturity" using the Nodes Above Cracked Bowl method. The video has had 95 views on YouTube, and 79 views through Facebook thus far.

After the first video was successfully published, the Lubbock County Staff opted to purchase some video-recording equipment to increase audio and visual quality. We plan to produce more educational videos on a variety of topics as another method of educational outreach. Check out our work at: <https://youtu.be/RjIBAbYrBf8> (YouTube -Lubbock AgriLife Extension).

Issue Addressed: Pesticide Education for Producers and Homeowners

New Technologies in Weed Control

Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

Control of herbicide-resistant careless weed (also known as Palmer amaranth or pigweed) continues to be an expensive battle for Lubbock County and surrounding cotton producers.

New technologies for weed control in cotton are anticipated to launch in 2016.

These include:

- the Roundup Ready Xtend crop system with cotton varieties that have tolerance to dicamba, glyphosate, and glufosinate herbicides, by Monsanto, Deltapine, and other licensed dealers.
- the Enlist Duo crop system by Dow Agrosiences with cotton varieties that have tolerance to 2,4-D, glyphosate, and glufosinate herbicides.

Information about these coming products, as well as upcoming Extension and Industry field days has been distributed through radio programs, newsletters, and ag bulletin boards at various agribusinesses.

Both of these new weed control systems will be available pending regulatory approvals, and will each be another tool to help battle glyphosate-resistant careless weeds.

Issue Addressed: Weed Resistance Management

Ag Awareness Efforts at the South Plains Fair

Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development
Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources



Lubbock County 4-H Clubs had another successful year in the operation of the Children's 4-H Barnyard at the South Plains Fair. An estimated 75,000-80,000 South Plains residents viewed the exhibits in the Barnyard. A different 4-H Club manned the exhibits each day, totaling 247 volunteers. For many area children, this is their first opportunity to see a farm animal up close. In addition to 40 large animals and approximately 90 poultry on display, other Ag Awareness efforts included Texas Farm Bureau's "mobile learning barn," and display of the "Commodity Carnival" Exhibit by the Texas Youth Livestock Ambassadors that many adults as well as youngsters enjoyed viewing. Also, an exhibit by Benton Kastman, a local member of the Texas Beekeepers Association, was displayed.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Education and Awareness

Lubbock Downtown Farmer's Market

Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

Since June, the Lubbock Master Gardeners have been spending the third Saturday of every month at the Lubbock Downtown Farmer's Market. This year, the LDFM boasted as many as 45 producers and vendors and saw near 1,500 people every Saturday morning. The farmer's market has been a great partner for Lubbock County AgriLife Extension and for the Lubbock Master Gardeners as it has been a prime outlet to talk to the public and meet with many of the great growers in Lubbock County and surrounding areas. The LDFM is held every Saturday morning from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and runs from mid-June through late October. It is held on the corner of 19th street and Buddy Holly Avenue in Lubbock outside of the Tornado Gallery. Thanks so much to the LDFM on behalf of Lubbock County AgriLife Extension and the Lubbock Master Gardeners for letting us take part in such a wonderful event. We can't wait to see the Market even bigger and better next year!

*Issue addressed: Agricultural Education and Awareness;
Economic Development*

Earth-Kind Landscapes

Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

Earth-Kind Landscaping workshops were held on July 25th and August 1st, 2015, both covering the same material. A total of 50 people were present to learn about general Earth-Kind landscaping principles, maintaining an efficient and effective irrigation system, and the installation and use of passive and active rainwater harvesting system. In addition to the information received during the workshops, attendees had the opportunity to request a home landscape evaluation from the Lubbock County Horticulture Agent or a member of the Lubbock Master Gardeners Association. Each participant also received a set of irrigation audit collection cups, a rainwater harvesting installation manual, a Texas Nursery and Landscape Association landscape guide, and an Earth-Kind Landscaping design manual. Evaluations filled out at the workshops indicated a significant increase in knowledge in the topics covered as well as an intent to implement many of the water conservative practices learned during these two workshops.

Issue addressed: Water Conservation

Horticulture in the Media

Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

The Lubbock Master Gardeners and Lubbock County AgriLife Extension agents are making the most of media outlets available to them to relate relevant, timely horticultural information to the public. The Lubbock

Master Gardeners have a weekly radio spot as part of the West Texas Ag-Life radio show on AM 950/100.7 FM. Each Friday from 1:30-2:30 pm, 2 Master Gardeners are on with host Eddie Griffis to discuss current and seasonal issues in Horticulture and answer questions from the public. Lubbock County Horticulture Agent Vikram Baliga is also a weekly guest on Lubbock's First News on AM 790 every Thursday morning at 7:10 where he is part of a similar spot to the Lubbock Master Gardeners' program. Additionally, both the Lubbock Master Gardeners and Lubbock County AgriLife Extension horticulture have active and prominent presences on Facebook and other social media outlets and have had the opportunity to record TV news spots with KJTV- Fox 34, and KCBD- News Channel 11 over the past several months.

Issue addressed: Agriculture Awareness



July 13 Turfgrass Field Day

Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

A Turfgrass Field Day was held July 13 at the Texas Tech Quaker Research Farm in Lubbock. The Field Day was a collaborative effort between Texas Tech and Lubbock County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. The program was tailored for both the professional golf course, athletic field and commercial landscape professional as well as for the homeowners seeking to maintain a top quality lawn under dry conditions. Wide arrays of topics were offered to those interested in establishing and maintaining healthy turf grass in West Texas.

Professional Turf Managers Tour

- MS Research Update
- Herbicide Resistance
- Pesticide labels
- PGR's
- VitAg Fert Trial
- Frazee Mowing

Residential lawn care topics included:

- Weed ID
- Insect ID

- Fertilizer
- Water Retention
- Plant Selection

There were 120 people in attendance. The program started at 7:30 a.m. with registration followed by introductions of speakers and administrators. Attendees were divided into two groups. Professional golf course and athletic field operators in one group and commercial and residential people in another group. Each group rode in trailers to their designated area. Once the program was complete the groups met back at the barn where a sponsored lunch was served and evaluations were completed.

Issue addressed: Water Education

Sheep and Goat Clinic

Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

A District wide sheep & Goat clinic was held in Lamesa, August 29th. We had 35 4-H'ers and parents attend the program. Participants learned about selection, washing, clipping, showmanship, nutrition, health and facilities.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Education and Awareness



4-H and Youth Development

4-H Enrollment Time

Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development

The 4-H year runs from September 1 through August 31; so its official we are up and going strong! 4-H'ers and volunteers must re-enroll every year to maintain active membership. Membership is now completed online through 4-H Connect. There is a link on the County Extension website (see 4-H Enrollment - Connect). 4-H'ers age 9 years old or in the 3rd grade through 12th grade may enroll. There is a \$20 enrollment fee through October 31; after this date, the fee is \$25 per member. Clovers (youth ages 5-8) may also enroll, however no enrollment fee is required. Through 4-H, there are many opportunities for youth to get involved. If you have questions, please give us a call.

Issue Addressed: 4-H Work, programs and leadership development

2015 4-H Gold Stars

Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development

At our County 4-H Achievement Banquet in August, we recognized approximately 200 youth and adults for the 2014-15 4-H year. Congratulations to the following Lubbock County 4-H'ers for being recognized as Gold Star Recipients: Joshua Smith, Frenship 4-H Club; Marisa Luera, Frenship 4-H Club; and Caleb Dansby, Shallowater 4-H Club. Sharman Cook, Wildcat 4-H parent volunteer was also recognized as the 2015 Lubbock County-South Plains 4-H Distinguished Leader. Each of these recipients will be recognized at the District 4-H Gold Star Banquet on November 23 at the Frazier Pavillion.

Issue Addressed: 4-H Work, programs and leadership development

4-H Clover Project

Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development

This is the second year for our 4-H Clover Project series. For the Clover meetings, we meet monthly for a one hour project meeting related to on-going 4-H projects. The clover meetings focus on exploring 4-H opportunities just for clovers and gives them information about the opportunities available when they become a 4-H'er. Clover meeting dates for the remainder of the year are November 19 and December 17. For October, our meeting included making a trail mix for a nutritious snack and making a holiday pumpkin.



One Day 4-H

Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development
 Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture
 Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

On October 10, Lubbock County 4-H'ers were involved in a variety of community service activities supporting the Statewide "One Day 4-H" community service project. Our activities this year included volunteering at the South Plains Food Bank Farm where we planted strawberries, and picked eggplants and pulled up eggplant plants. We also conducted a canned food drive to benefit the South Plains Food Bank.

Following this activity we traveled to the Lubbock County Courthouse, where we planted a Burr Oak tree on the North side of the Courthouse, in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Texas Forest Service.

Texas Forest Service Representative Jonathan Motsinger gave a presentation about the Forest Service and also demonstrated proper planting techniques.



Family and Consumer Sciences

Building Strong Families Conference

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

The Building Strong Families Board met monthly to plan the 2015 conference. This conference was held October 22, 2015 at the Overton Hotel and Conference Center with approximately 363 registered. Results will be included in the next quarterly newsletter and annual report. Registration was \$10.00 and offered 6 CEU's.



Issue Addressed: Parenting

Better Living for Texans

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences
 Mary Alice Roberts, BLT Extension Assistant

Kay Davis, CEA-FCS

- Better Living for Texans qualified senior citizens centers are receiving a monthly nutrition program. This past quarter programs included: "Foods to Boost Your Mind," "Vitamin D is Your Friend," and "Almonds" (for heart and mind health). The program was delivered to 284 BLT senior citizens and 318 non-BLT seniors by Kay Davis.
- Maggie Trejo and Mae Simmons Community Centers Youth Food Service Camp Programs received nutrition Education twice a month in July and August reaching 349 youth.



Mary Alice Roberts, BLT Extension Assistant reports on the following programs:

Better Living for Texans (BLT) three lesson series Back to Basics was taught for clients of Catholic Charities, Managed Care Center for Addictions-MASH for Men, Walker House for Women, and Habitat for Humanity. These lessons will be evaluated as a BLT series.

A one time class in August was offered at Lubbock State Supported Living Center for Volunteer Foster Grandparents. The lesson was on how to Take The Time To Boost Your Mind.

Mae Simmons Senior Community Center, King’s Dominion and Emory Sr. Apartments all received Nutrition Education programs once a month this quarter. The topic in July was: In The Know About Nutrition-Take The Time To Boost Your Mind. August topic was: In The Know About Nutrition-Vitamin D is Your Friend . September topic was: Simply Good Food-Almonds.

Better Living for Texans Summer Kids camp nutrition programs continued through out July and August at Copper Rawlings, Mae Simmons and Maggie Trejo Community Centers. Topics in July were: Hand Washing, Fruits, Grains, and Vegetables. August topics were: Protein foods and Dairy products. Hand washing demonstration was done in July with the participants. All food topics in July and August were followed up with a food tasting.

In July Texas Tech University Dietetic Internship program provided us with a couple of dietetic interns to complete their Community Rotation for this year. Interns Holli McNeill and Kathy Olsen each spent 32 hours in July teaching adult classes at Catholic Charities, Emory Senior Apartments, Walker/MASH House and kids classes at Copper Rawlings and Mae Simmons Summer Camp. Kathy also attended a coalition meeting at the Lubbock Food Bank. Each intern wrote a Nutrition article for Senior adults to be published at a later date. Intern Lori Boyd completed 24 hours in September writing three Nutrition articles for adults and seniors, judged Elementary Level arts and crafts, as well as being a food judge in the adult category at the South Plains fair this fall.

Food Safety-Being Prepared before, during and after a Disaster was the topic discussed on FOX Radio program West Texas Ag Life with Eddie Griffis in September, reaching 55,000 listeners.

Total contacts for July- 466, August - 413, September - 55,141

Issue Addressed: Nutrition and Health

Texas Extension Education Association

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

The Lunch Bunch TEEA Club in Lubbock County met recently to plan programs for 2015-16 and to get reports from the State Meeting in Waco. Programs will include: “P to the Power of 4,” “Don’t Let Blue Get to You,” “Low Calorie Desserts,” “Disaster Preparedness,” “Eat What You Grow,” and “Thistledew Lavender Farm Tour.”



Food Protection Management

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

One Food Protection Management Certification class was offered during this quarter in Lubbock Co. The Hale County CEA-FCS Agent, Deana Sageser and Lubbock CEA-FCS Agent, team teach these classes. This course is truly a help for food establishments in meeting legal requirements and developing strategies to insure safe food service. Three people retested for certification. Two Food handlers trainings were held for WorkForce clients in August and September with 11 graduating and 2 receiving employment.

Issue Addressed: Nutrition and Health, CRED



Worksite/Community Health & Wellness

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

A Friend to Friend Breast Cancer program was held at Sysco Foods on September 17, 2015. Thirteen employees and spouses were present to learn about breast cancer and testing. Sysco provided lunch. Future worksite wellness programs are being planned.

Eleven Home Daycare providers received a nutrition/cooking with kids training.

Four Texas Tech Dietetic Interns have spent 32 hours each in a community nutrition rotation with the Lubbock County Extension FCS and BLT programs.

Issue Addressed: Nutrition and Health

Resource and Financial Management

E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

Two budgeting and financial management classes were taught to 12 WorkForce Clients. Participants learned about banking services, balancing checking accounts, budgets, credit, etc.

Issue Addressed: Financial/Resource Management/CRED

Upcoming Events

Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
E. Kay Davis, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences

High Plains Ag Conference

This year's High Plains Ag Conference will be held December 12, 2015 at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Lubbock. The program will offer a wide range of topics. Topics such as: weed resistance, corn production, cotton production and the Farm Bill will be addressed. Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be offered.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Education and Awareness

Daycare Providers Conference

The Parenting Coalition will host a Daycare Providers Conference on March 5, 2016. More information will be coming soon.

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We will seek to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any of our meetings. We request that you contact Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service - (806) 775-1740, as soon as possible to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you will require.