

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
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Issue III

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Agriculture and Natural Resources

July Producer Meetings Held

Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
 Katelyn Kowles, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management

Agents Mark Brown (CEA-Ag Lubbock) and Katelyn Kowles (EA-IPM Lubbock-Crosby) hosted 2 early morning meetings titled "Coffee with the County Agents" to visit with producers about crop conditions and management, pest situations and important deadlines. These meetings were held at Idalou Co-Op Gin (7 attending) and Slaton Co-Op Gin (10 attending). Both of these Co-Op Gins participated as sponsors of the new Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Survey program for cotton in Lubbock and Crosby Counties.

Issue Addressed: Ag Profitability and Impact of Federal State and Local policy on Agriculture.

Mosquito Egg Collection for Area Survey of Aedes Mosquitoes

Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
 Katelyn Kowles, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management
 Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
 Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

The Lubbock County Extension Staff participated in a regional survey that was conducted jointly by Texas AgriLife Extension and the Biological Threat Research Lab of Texas Tech University. The purpose of the survey was to document the presence of two Aedes species of mosquitos that have the potential to vector the Zika virus. More than 360 ovitrap submissions were submitted from 32 counties since August 21. Both species were detected in Lubbock County. However, this does not indicate the



Ft. Worth Arboretum by Jaden Davenport,
 Cooper 4-H Club

presence of Zika; but rather of known potential vectors of the disease.

Issue Addressed: Emerging Issue - Zika Awareness & Education

August 4 Regional Quality Cotton Conference

Katelyn Kowles, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management
Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources
Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension held a late season Cotton Fiber Quality conference and tour at the Research Center in Lubbock on August 4. It was an all-day event focused on providing timely information related



to late-season decisions such as harvest aids, equipment setting and care, irrigation timing, weed control, genetics, and fertility. Following presentations and field visits in the morning, there were tours at the USDA ARS Cotton Production and Processing Research Unit and the Texas Tech University Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Profitability

Lubbock County IPM Scouting Program

Katelyn Kowles, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management

The Lubbock/Crosby County Integrated Pest Management Scouting Program uses IPM techniques to control weeds, insects, and diseases through educational programs and weekly field scouting. 2016 was the first year the program was back up and running after a brief hiatus. In Lubbock county this year I had participation from 5 gins that selected fields for weekly scouting. Each time a field is scouted, producers receive an electronic field report with plant mapping data and pest information. I work closely with the Texas Pest Management Association (TPMA), which is comprised of producers, commodity groups, consultants, and IPM agents across the state, and an IPM Steering Committee, which helps guide the program.



Other IPM Activities include:

- Applied research projects examining sugarcane aphid control in sorghum and spider mite control in corn
- YouTube videos on how to scout for pests in major crops

- A weekly newsletter, Southern High Plains IPM, is sent out electronically during the growing season with information on current crop conditions, pest updates, upcoming events, etc.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Profitability, Resistant Weed Management within Communities

Ag in the Media

Katelyn Kowles, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management
Mark Brown, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

Agents with AgriLife Extension are working hard to get out timely agricultural information to producers on the High Plains. Wednesdays from 1-2:30 p.m. on AM950/100.7 FM host of the West Texas Ag Life radio show Eddie Griffis visits with IPM/Ag agents and specialists from surrounding counties to discuss crop conditions, pest issues and any other important agricultural news. Lubbock County agents Mark Brown and Katelyn Kowles are weekly guests who share what they are seeing from the field. Additionally, IPM has a regular blog, Southern High Plains IPM, with agriculture news and resources for producers in the area. This summer, AgriLife Extension has had a regular presence on the local news, recording TV news spots on issues such as the Zika virus, sugarcane aphid, and cotton harvest.

Issue addressed: Ag Literacy/Educating the Public About Agriculture

Pasture and Poisonous Plant Management Workshop

Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

Sparse pastures can force hungry livestock to eat toxic plants. To help producers manage their land properly, the Lubbock AgriLife Extension Service conducted a pasture and poisonous plant management workshop on August 15 in Lubbock. The free educational program started at 6:30 p.m. in the Bank Lobby located at 916 Main St. The speaker was Dr. Tim Steffens, AgriLife Extension rangeland resource management specialist at West Texas A&M University.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Profitability

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 brand new “Children’s Barnyard” building at the south Plains Fair. The new facility was made possible through grant funding from the CH Foundation and the Talkington Foundation, as well as support from the South Plains Fair. The barnyard was manned daily by

4-H Club members for the following 4-H groups: Teen Council, Shallowater, Wilcat, Cooper, Frenship, Trinity and New Deal. A total of 237 4-H'ers and parents manned the exhibit supplying 580 volunteer hours. Animal exhibits this year included: ducks, chickens, ducklings, chicks, a llama, exotic sheep, a miniature pony, a ewe sheep with twins and of course the favorite petting animals goats and sheep. Other Ag Awareness exhibits included the "Commodity Carnival" manned by Texas 4-H Youth Livestock Ambassadors, Ag banners provided by Texas Farm bureau and a Beekeeping exhibit set up and manned by the Caprock Bee Keeper's Association. Decorative straw hay bales were also provided by the Kendrick Family. Approximately 80,000-90,000 south plains residents were reached through this years exhibit.

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 50 producers and vendors and saw nearly 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*

Lubbock County Conservation Workshop

Vikram Baliga, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Lubbock County had the great opportunity to partner with the Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife, NRCS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the High Plains Water District to host the 2016 Lubbock County Conservation Workshop on July 23rd at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture. Attended by 65 homeowners and landowners managing anywhere from .5 to 500 acres of land, this workshop addressed issues on wildfire preparedness, use of trees and windbreaks, wildlife management, water conservation, land stewardships, and rangeland management. Positive evaluations and great discussion have encouraged

organizers to consider making the workshop an annual event.

*Issue addressed: Water Conservation;
Ag Literacy/educating the Public about Agriculture*

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 p.m., 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 11 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 11 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.

There were 100 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

Lubbock/Dawson County sheep & Goat clinic was held in Lamesa, August 27. We had 30 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

2016 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 2015-16 4-H year. Congratulations to the following Lubbock County 4-H'ers for being recognized as Gold Star Recipients: Carolyn Benitez, Frenship 4-H Club; Marisa Pesina, Trinity 4-H club, Mary Kathryn Paxton, Trinity 4-H club; and Andi McMillin, Shallowater 4-H Club. Donna Smith, Frenship 4-H Club parent volunteer was also recognized as the 2016 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 21 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 3rd 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 16 and December 14. For October, our meeting included making snack kabobs and microwave carmel corn.

One Day 4-H

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

On October 8, 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 and picked okra and tomatoes. We also conducted a canned food drive to benefit the South Plains Food Bank.



Family and Consumer Sciences

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: "Summer Food Safety," "Feed Your Brain," and "Break Free From Osteoporosis". The program was delivered to 224 BLT senior citizens 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 134 youth.



In July, August and September the Texas Tech University Dietetic Internship program provided us with three dietetic interns to complete their Community Rotation for this year. Interns Taylor Smith, Vanessa Garcia and Emily Lipinsky each spent 32 hours in August & September teaching adult classes at Catholic Charities, Emory Senior Apartments, Walker/MASH House and kids classes at Maggie Trejo, Hope Community Shalom, Copper Rawlings and Mae Simmons Summer Camp. Each intern wrote Nutrition articles for Senior adults to be published at a later date. Vanessa Garcia judged Adult Level Canning and Elementary Level arts and crafts, as well as being a food judge in the adult category at the South Plains Fair this fall. She assisted with Food Handlers classes for restaurant employees.

Agent Davis presented "Disaster Preparedness" and Food Safety After a Disaster as well as Pandemic Flu to 6 at Habitat for Humanity.

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

Clients of Catholic Charities, Managed Care Center for Men and Walker House for women, and Family Guidance Center were introduced to Better Living for Texans (BLT) lesson series, A Fresh Start to a Healthier You!. The four lessons are: Session 1: Creating Safe and Healthier Meals, Session 2: Balancing Your Day, Session 3: Saving More Money at the Grocery Store, Session 4: Celebrating Small Bites. These lessons will be evaluated as a BLT series.

Classes were offered in July, August and September.

Courtyard at King's Dominion a Senior Residence, 19th Street Senior Center, Copper Rawlings Senior Center and Mae Simmons Senior Center received Nutrition Education programing in July, August and September. The topics were: In the Know about Nutrition- Summer Food Safety, Feed Your Brain and Break Free from Osteoporosis.

Better Living for Texans My Plate brochures and other handouts were given to participants at a My Plate Nutrition display table at the Patterson Library, Learn to Read Fair in July and at the Dream Center Church Health/Resource Fair in September.

Summer Food Service Kids Camps continued at Copper Rawlings Community Center, Hope Community Shalom, Mae Simmons Community Center and Maggie Trejo Super Center. The Nutrition topics for July were Grains and Dairy with food demonstrations. August topics were Fruit and Protein along with a food demonstration. The campers all received My Plate handouts, work sheets, coloring sheets, recipes and bookmarks relating to the food groups.

In July I attended the Texas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences state meeting in Lubbock, Texas. The theme was back to the Basics and Into the Future. I served on the hospitality committee. The first week of August I attended the Better Living for Texans/ Expanded Food and Nutrition Program conference in San Antonio, Texas. The theme for the conference was leading a Nutrition Revolution for the Future.

Total contacts for July -255, August-147 and September-198

Issue Addressed: Healthy Pregnancy-Infant Mortality; Early Brain Development, Obesity-Childhood; Walking Paths

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 2016-17 and to get reports from the State Meeting in Plano. Programs will include: Nutrition Facts and Myths; Adult bullying; Dementia and Care Giving; Navigating Pinterest; and either *Who Get's Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate* or Ancient Grains.

Issue Addressed: Obesity-Childhood; Walking Paths, Aging Issues-Food Insecurity; Financial Insecurity, Safety-Personal; Crime Prevention; Property Protection



**Worksite/Community Health Wellness
Food Protection Management**

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

One Food Protection Management Certification class was offered during this quarter in Hale 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. Nine Food Handlers trainings were held for restaurant employers, day care teachers and church volunteers to fulfill the new state law with 211 attending. This enables these persons to retain their jobs.

Diabetes Education

Agent, Kay Davis continues to collaborate with the community health Center of Lubbock to provide diabetes education as well as with UMC Community. Health Workers and RN's with their outreach with the new Extension diabetes curriculum "Wisdom, Power, and Control." This group also has an active diabetes support group meeting at the Dream Center. This curriculum won the Mary G. Wells Diversity in Programming Award at the Southern Region and National Levels of the National Extension Agents-Family and Consumer Science Association. Agent Davis and teammates from across Texas along with the coordinating Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Specialist, Dr. Ninfa Pena Purcell traveled to the NEAFCS Conference in Big Sky, Montana in September to accept the award and present a concurrent session on the curriculum and program results. The \$500 cash award will be used to provide training and curriculum to other counties and agencies. Agent Davis also participated in a Health Fair at UMC promoting diabetes classes and has identified RN's willing to be trained to teach the Spanish version "Si, Yo Puedo Controlar mi Diabetes."

Issue Addressed: Obesity-Childhood; Walking Paths, Aging Issues-Food Insecurity; Financial Insecurity, Safety-Personal; Crime Prevention; Property Protection; Economic Development



Upcoming Events

High Plains Ag Conference

Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Ag and Natural Resources

This year's High Plains Ag Conference will be held December 9, 2016 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 Laws and Regulations will be addressed. Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be offered.

Issue addressed: Agricultural Education and Awareness

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