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PRIVATE APPLICATOR TRAINING

When: 1st Tuesday 8/1, 11/7 **Pre-Registration Required...**(361)767-5223
Time 8:00 am—11:30 am **Where.....TX A&M AgriLife Ext. Office**
710 E. Main, Robstown, TX

Fee: \$50.00 (Includes study manuals)
 A Private Applicator is defined by law as a person who uses or supervises the use of a restricted-



Remember you can find us on Facebook as Nueces County Agriculture. Don't forget to "Like" us and you can follow the goings on of AgriLife Extension in Nueces County.

Special points of Interest:

- Private Applicator Training
- Farm Worker Protection



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

Zika is a vector-borne disease transmitted mostly by the Aedes species of mosquito which is found in many areas of the world including Corpus Christ. Recently the first confirmed case of Zika in Corpus Christ was made. You can protect yourself and the community from Zika and other mosquito vectored diseases by following the recommended steps below.

“The Four D’s” – How to Manage Mosquitoes & Protect Against Bites

1. **Dusk/Dawn** – Avoid being outside when mosquitoes are searching for a blood meal, which is usually in the early morning hours and just before the sun goes down. While some species are daytime biters, many prefer to feed at night but all can be actively feeding at dusk and dawn. Unfortunately, the mosquitoes that carry Zika, Dengue, Chikunguna and Yellow Fever also bite during the daytime.
2. **Drain** – Empty standing water from “containers” around your home and work areas, such as buckets, wheelbarrows, kiddie pools, toys, dog bowls, water troughs, tires, bottles, etc. Make improvements that allow standing water to run off following rains.
3. **Dress** – If out during mosquito feeding hours, wear long sleeves and pants in plain colors. Avoid attracting them by wearing excessive amounts of perfume or aftershave.
4. **Defend** – Any time you go outside for an extended period of time, wear a mosquito repellent. DEET provides up to 6 hours of high protection from mosquitoes and has an excellent safety record. People who dislike the smell or oily feel of DEET can choose from two other excellent mosquito repellents. Lemon oil of eucalyptus (an aromatic, plant-derived natural mosquito repellent) and picaridin (odorless) provide excellent, though shorter protection than DEET. Keep a bottle or can of insect repellent just outside the doorway to remind you to spray exposed skin.

Additional measures that can be used around the house or workplace include:

- Using mosquito dunks containing insect growth regulators or Bti
- Mowing tall weeds and grass
- Spraying labeled contact insecticides in shady mosquito resting areas

FARM WORKER PROTECTION SAFETY TRAINING

When....., 8/4, 11/10, 2017 **Time9:00 –11:00 am**
Where **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office**

Pesticide handlers and workers must be trained every year unless they are certified applicators. All participants in this training will be issued cards verifying they have successfully completed the required training.

2017 Field Crop Tour **THANK YOU** To Our Sponsors



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Hlavinka Equipment, Co.
Monsanto
Nueces County Farm Bureau
PhytoGen Cottonseed
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Seed Source Genetics
Smith Gin Co-op
Sorghum Partners LLC
South Texas Cotton & Grain Association
South West Agribusiness Consulting
Texas Corn Producers Board
Texas Farm Credit



TEXAS LAND TRENDS

A summary from a publication of the Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources, October 2014.

Population Growth

- According to a U.S. Census Bureau study from 2013, Texas has seven of the 15 most rapidly growing cities in the nation.
- From 1997 to 2012, the Texas population increased from 19 million to 26 million residents, an increase of 36 percent or approximately 500,000 new residents annually.
- The majority (87 percent) of the population increase occurred within the state's top 25 highest growth counties.

Land Loss

- From 1997 to 2012, there was a net loss of approximately 1.1 million acres of working lands, converted to non-agricultural uses. From 2007 to 2012, nearly 100,000 acres of Texas working lands were converted to non-agricultural uses, a significant decline from previous reporting periods (approximately 500,000 acres per 5-year period).
- More than 54 percent of total land conversion occurred in the state's 25 fastest growing counties. During this period (1997-2012), approximately 590,000 acres were lost from the agricultural land base in these counties.
- Texas continues to lead the nation in the loss of working lands (total acres). From 1982 to 2010, the USDA National

Resources Inventory (NRI) data reported the conversion of more than 4.1 million acres of Texas working lands to urban uses, with significantly higher conversion rates occurring from 1992 to 2007 (USDA 2013).

Land Values

- In 2012, the average appraised market value of Texas working land was \$1,573 per acre, a 36-

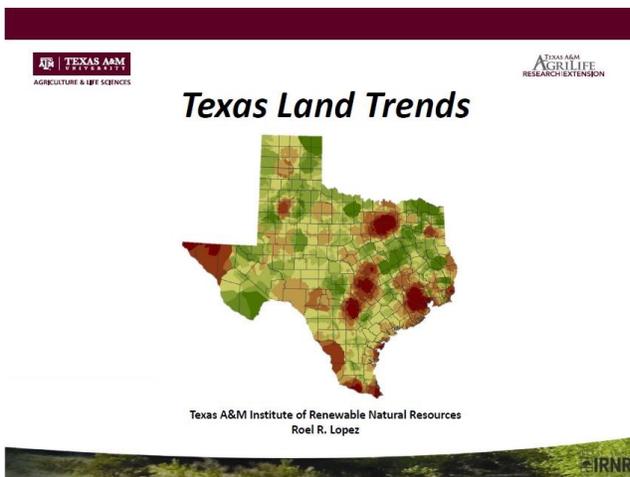
percent increase since 2007

and a 214-percent increase over the 15-year period. The largest increases in land values were observed surrounding major metropolitan growth areas.

- The significant decline in the conversion of Texas working lands from 2007 to 2012 (nearly 100,000 acres) may be attributed to a weak economy resulting from the economic recession that occurred during a portion of this period. With Texas' current economic growth, acceleration in working lands loss may be anticipated in the future.

Ownership Size

- Texas gained about 1,400 new working farms and ranches annually while the land base for Texas agriculture decreased by approximately 1.1 million acres (1997-2012).
- Average ownership size declined from 581 acres in 1997 to 521 acres in 2012.
- By the end of 2012, the USDA Census of Agriculture accounted for nearly 249,000 farming and ranching operations in the state, representing a 9 percent increase since the 1997 census.



PREPARING ANIMALS FOR HURRICANES

Jason P. Ott, CEA-Ag/NR

With Tropical Storm Cindy reaching the Gulf Coast last week (June 22, 2017) we are reminded of the importance of hurricane preparedness. For all coastal residence preparedness means protecting your family during and immediately after a disaster by making a family disaster plan and by creating a family disaster kit for your household. In addition to this, those with livestock and/or companion animals also need to have disaster plans for them as well. After all, the animal owner is ultimately responsible for their animal's welfare and in the case of companion animals are often considered part of the family.

Having an emergency supply kit for pets, as well as, yourself is important. Some of the things that should be included in your pet supply kit might include: ownership/health and vaccination records, medications, first aid supplies, pictures of the pet in case you are separated, sanitary items for properly handling pet waste. A supply of food and water that is sufficient to last for 3 days for you and your pet is also an essential part of preparedness supplies. Pet carriers/crates and leashes are also essential to help facilitate movement of your pet in the event evacuation becomes necessary.

Livestock owners should consider having similar supply kits at the ready. However, they might also include additional items such as electric fence supplies, flashlight, feed and water buckets, and extra tack ropes and halters. Well prepared livestock owners will ensure that all animals have current immunizations and that they are permanently identified. For horses maintaining a current coggins test is necessary.

If livestock is not permanently identified, at minimum owners can take pictures of the animal as proof of ownership. Waterproof luggage tag or cattle ear tags with owner information can be braided into horses' tails or manes. Small animal trimmers can also be used to clip owner's phone number on the necks of horses.

Owners of livestock need to have a plan in place to evacuate the livestock they own should it become necessary. Since not all livestock owners have trailer or adequate capacity for all the livestock they own planning evacuation in critical. If you are relying on other to help you evacuate make sure those needs have been discussed. Animals should be evacuated no less than 72 hours before a storm makes land fall. Before getting on the road, trucks and trailers need to be inspected to insure that they are in good operating condition. Part of your evacuation plan also needs to include knowing in advance where you and your livestock will evacuate to. A list of livestock shelters is available by dialing 2-1-1.

If you decide not to evacuate, remember that most damage to buildings, pens, and animals comes from wind and flying objects so the ability to protect livestock in advance from these dangers greatly reduces injury. Large livestock can be turned out in large pastures with solid shelter or tall brush on high ground to weather storms or kept in barns. Determining whether to house livestock in barns or turn them out depends on the situation and type of facilities in question.

Owners need to make a decision as to whether their animal is more likely to become harmed by flying debris coming off the barn or out in the pasture. If you choose to remain in the barn make sure that electricity to the barn is turned off and that adequate feed in the form of hay (not concentrate feed/grain) and water are available. Owners should not rely on automatic waterers to provide water during a storm because these systems can fail. Horses need around 18 gallons of fresh water a day, while cattle need 23 gallons.

Post storm, livestock owners should check on the condition of their animals as soon as it is safe to do so. Be prepared to take hay, water, and provide basic livestock first aid. Supplies to create temporary fencing and/or repair existing fencing may also be needed.





Texas Riparian & Stream Ecosystem Workshop

Lower Nueces River

October 3, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Nueces County Emergency Services District #4

5781 FM 666, Robstown, Texas 78380

Online RSVP and Agenda: naturalresourcestraining.tamu.edu/schedule

For more information and to register please contact Nikki Dictson at 979-458-5915 or n-dictson@tamu.edu.

Continuing Education Units available: Continuing Education Units available: Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicators License – 3 CEUs; Texas Water Resources Institute – 1 CEU; Certified Crop Advisor - 7 CEUs; Texas Nutrient Management Planning Specialists – 6 hours; Texas Floodplain Management Association – 7 CECs; Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying - 7 hours; Texas Board of Architectural Examiners “Acceptable for HSW credit”; and may also be used for CEUs for Professional Engineers.

The workshop will include both indoor classroom presentations and an outdoor field portion at the river to discover how they function and the role of riparian vegetation in properly functioning stream systems by viewing the river in action. A catered lunch will be offered for \$10 cash the day of the event, but RSVPs will be required by Sept. 27, 2017 and please remember to select if you would like the catered lunch or if you will bring your own lunch. RSVP online at the link above or complete the form below and send to Clare.Entwistle@ag.tamu.edu.

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Email address: _____ Phone: _____

Org./Employer: _____ Lunch Options: I would like the catered lunch
 I would like to bring my own



Jason P. Ott
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TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION



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Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361-767-5223 at least one week in advance of the program in order for proper arrangements to be made.

In the event of a name, address or phone number change please contact the office at:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
710 E. Main, Suite 1 Attn: Ag/NR
Robstown, Texas 78380
(361) 767-5223



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