

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

County Extension Agents

Fallon Foster
Family & Consumer Science

Christina Ritter
4-H/Youth Development

Ashlee Krebs
Agriculture/Natural Resources

Office 409-882-7010



County Judge

Brint Carlton

Commissioner Precinct 1

David L. Dubose

Commissioner Precinct 2

Barry Burton

Commissioner Precinct 3

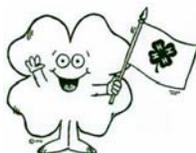
John W. Banken

Commissioner Precinct 4

Jody E. Crump



Look for us as
Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension—Orange County



Orange County AgriLife Newsletter

JUNE 2015

**Our office will be closed
Friday, July 3
in honor of Independence Day**

*Check out our newsletter
for more information on
the programs listed below
along with lots more information.*

Beginning Ranchers Program

June 9th & 10th, 2015

Organized for ranchers who have been in
the business 10 years or less!



Youths Ages 5-8



Day Camp

Adventures

**Kid's Jam
Canning Class**
Ages 8-12



**Orange County 4-H
Poultry Workshop**
June 29, 2015 @ 6 pm



**Outdoor
Awareness
for Kids**



**Texas A&M
Beef Cattle
Short Course**

A little about.....

Ashlee D. Krebs our new County Extension Agent -Agriculture & Natural Resources

Orange County welcomes the new county extension agent for Agriculture Natural Resources, Ashlee Krebs. Ashlee is originally from Warren and comes from a very diverse and active agriculture background. Ashlee's first day was May 11, 2015 and has already hit the ground running with home visits and numerous calls for the community. Ashlee hopes to bring more diversity in what extension offers to the county, with offering numerous programs year round from Gardening, to Bees, to Beef and Forage Production. There are several programs already in the making with the county to include all extension and new things for the Agriculture side of the Service.

Before coming to Orange County AgriLife, Ashlee was an Agri-Science Teacher for two years where she had many successes with Judging Teams and Leadership teams with the FFA. Furthermore, she has advised numerous students with their livestock projects which have all had many great accomplishments. Before teaching she was an intern with TAMU AgriLife in Erath County located in Stephenville, TX where she trained the state winning 4H Livestock Judging team. In May 2013, Ashlee Graduated with honors from Tarleton State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Development with a minor in Animal Science. She is currently working towards her Master's of Science in Animal Science with Sul Ross State University. Ashlee is very passionate about agriculture and what she can do for Orange County.

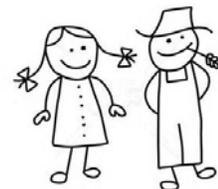
Join us for a reception welcoming Ashlee

June 3

10 am to 12 noon

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

11475 FM 1442 Orange



Interested in
being a Master Gardener
Or
Private Applicators training
Contact the Extension office at 882-7010
so we can compile a list in order to get the
classes/course arranged.





Offered by: **Spindletop Center Youth Prevention Services in collaboration with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension of Orange County**

Free for families with children ages 7-17. The families will meet once a week

Strengthening Families topics include

- ♥ Communication/Listening Skills
- ♥ Limits and Consequences
- ♥ Problem Solving and Negotiation Skills
- ♥ Stress and Anger Management Skills
- ♥ Extension Programs



Call the Extension Office for further information
409-882-7010

Weekly meeting held from July 7 through September 8th
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Kid's Jam Canning Class

Ages 8-12



Wednesday, July 8, 2015

10:00 am

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office

11475 FM 1442 Orange

882-7010 *limited space,*

must call to reserve your spot



Kids come and have fun while learning how to can strawberry jam!



Outdoor Awareness for Kids



Ages 8-14

July 10, 2015

Claiborne West Park

1pm - 4pm

Call 409-882-7010 for more information



Presented by
Ashlee Krebs—Ag/Natural Resources
& Christina Ritter-4-H
Orange County Extension Agents

Summer Safety Tips: A Guide to Protecting Kids When Activities Heat Up

Longer days, lighter nights and more worrying. Yup, it's summer. And before your kids race out the door, you're doing all you can to protect them from sun, bugs, head injuries, etc.

There's something about this season that makes kids run faster and play harder. And like everything else parents carefully do to protect their kids -- cooking healthy kid food, hiring the right babysitters, buckling them into car seats (or shouting out seat belt reminders) -- summer takes preparation, too.

Here's how you and your summer babysitter or nanny can help keep kids safe this season -- without feeling like Summer Cop, monitoring the fun right out of their vacation.

Be Sun Savvy

Here's a summer-bummer: a person's sunlight exposure during childhood and adolescence is generally considered to increase the risk of melanoma. We've heard it all before, but make sure your family and caregivers all have the same sun-strategy. **Apply early and repeat.** For kids six months and older (as well as adults), sunscreens with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or greater reduce the intensity of UVRs that cause sunburns. Apply liberally 15 to 30 minutes before sun exposure, so it can absorb into the skin and decrease the likelihood that it will be washed off. Reapply every two hours and after kids swim, sweat or dry off with a towel. For most users, proper application and reapplication are more important factors than using a product with a higher SPF.

Cover. Dress kids in protective clothing and hats. Clothing can be an excellent barrier of ultraviolet rays. Many light-weight sun-protective styles cover the neck, elbows and knees.

Keep infants out of the sun. Keep babies younger than six months out of direct sunlight, dressed in cool, comfortable clothing and wearing hats with brims. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) says sunscreen may be used on infants younger than six months on small areas of skin if adequate clothing and shade are not available.

Plan early morning play. For kids beyond that baby stage: parents should plan outdoor activi-

ties to avoid peak-sun hours (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) as much as possible. Sound impossible for your active kids? Make sure you all can get a break from the sun, when needed.

Beware of shade. Many people think sitting in the shade is a simple sun compromise. Shade does provide relief from the heat, but it offers parents a false sense of security about UVR protection. You can still sunburn in shade, because light is scattered and reflected. A fair-skinned person sitting under a tree can burn in less than an hour.

Stay off cell phones. Don't allow yourself to get distracted when your kids are in the water. And, yes, chatting with other parents is a common distraction as well.

Know your skills.

Adults and caregivers should refresh their Infant Child CPR certification each year, especially before summer, if there is a pool involved. Kids should never swim alone, and having adults or caregivers know water safety skills is smart.

Put a guard up. Even kiddie pools in backyards should be drained after use, urges Samuel. For houses that have swimming pools, fencing should be at least four feet high and surround the pool on all sides, with doors that close and lock by themselves. Pool supply companies may offer options for alarms and other safety systems. Remember to never rely solely on an alarm or a fence. Train your kids to never go near the pool without an adult.

Educate yourself. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has a [pool safety guide](#) where families can find out how to keep kids safer at any pool -- whether it's the community park or your child's camp.

Prevent Dehydration

You may be surprised how much -- and when -- kids should drink liquids. To prevent dehydration, kids should drink 12 ounces of fluid 30 minutes before an activity begins and take mandatory fluid breaks (like many day camps require), with kids under 90 pounds drinking five ounces every 20 minutes during activities and kids over 90 pounds drinking nine ounces every 20 minutes. Tip: A

child's gulp equals a half-ounce of fluid, so your child should drink about 10 gulps for every 20 minutes of play.

The Safe Kids Coalition urges parents and caregivers to watch for warning signs of dehydration, such as thirst, dry or sticky mouth, headache, muscle cramping, irritability, extreme fatigue, weakness, dizziness or decreased performance.

Head Off Injuries

helmet safety is extremely important, particularly during the summer when kids spend lots of time outdoors riding bikes. Kids should always wear a properly fitting helmet that is approved by the CPSC for the activity they are doing (biking, skateboarding, etc). Why not take your child with you to pick it out at the shop, so he can have a say in the color and design? And, it may sound silly, but don't forget to fasten the chin strap -- lots of people don't bother. Make a family rule: no helmet, no wheels. And parents and caregivers, you must serve as an example: wear your own helmet!

Never Wait in a Hot Car

It only takes 10 minutes for a car to heat up by 19 degrees. Every so often, we hear news stories of parents forgetting infants or leaving a sleeping toddler in the car, and tragedies that ensue. Never leave a child alone in a car, even for a minute. Degrees can be deceiving. Fatalities can occur at temperatures as low as the mid-50s because a vehicle heats up so quickly. Children are at a great risk for heat stroke because their bodies heat up three to five times faster than an adult's does. Cracking a window? Not a solution. Some advanced technologies are still being developed that may help prevent heat stroke deaths in vehicles, but nothing has been proven effective yet.

Create a Summer Survival Kit

- Cell phone
- Water
- Medications for chronic conditions
- Bandages
- Antibiotic cream for cuts and scrapes
- Crushable icepack for bruises
- Benadryl
- An epi-pen for a person with known allergies
- Sun protection
- Hats and sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Tweezers



For this complete article go to:

<https://www.care.com/a/summer-safety-tips-a-guide-to-protecting-kids-when-activities-heat-up-1106031447>

Transform a traditional necktie into a nifty eyeglass case



Step 1: Lay a tie front side down. Measure and mark 17 inches in from the pointed tip, then cut the tie widthwise. Discard the narrow end of the tie.

Step 2: Using a seam ripper, open the seam along the back of the tie at least six inches, to create a pouch for the glasses.

Step 3: Measure eight inches in from the cut end and mark. Fold the tie at the mark toward the pointed tip; tuck under $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of cut edge and pin

Step 4: Using hand stitches along the top and sides secure the folded over portion of tie to the top layer of fabric beneath it (taking care not to sew the pouch closed). Finish by affixing a set of self-adhesive Velcro dots to keep the case closed



Sunday, June 21st

Clover 
Kids
 Youths Ages 5-8


Day Camp
Adventures



August 3rd, 4th & 5th
 1 pm to 4 pm
 Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
 4-H Office
 11475 FM 1442 Orange
 Registration Fee of \$15 per
 child due by July 27, 2015



Come experience the fun of what 4-H has to offer for the 4-H clover member. Some of the fun things we will be doing are Gardening, Animals, Sewing, Fitness, Food and **FUN, FUN, FUN!**



TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

If you would like to be a part of our exciting camp, call the 4-H office
882-7010.



4-H NEWS

Are you thinking about raising poultry or would like to show poultry during a live-stock show? Then JOIN us.....

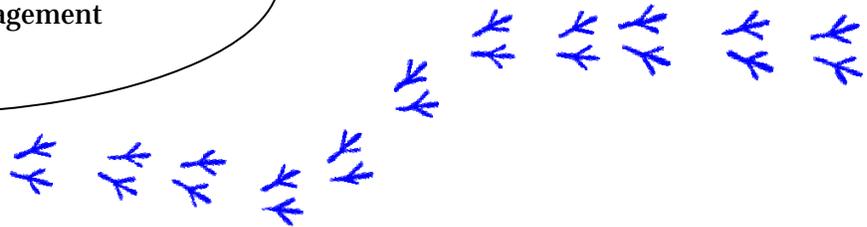


**Orange County 4-H
Poultry Workshop
June 29, 2015 @ 6 pm
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
4-H Office
11475 FM 1442 Orange**



County Extension Agent
Ashlee Krebs, Agriculture & Natural Resources
will be discussing the following topics:

- Facilities
- Feeding & Care Management
- Handling
- Selection



**Orange County 4-H
Community Service at Claiborne Park
IH-10, 12 miles West of Orange**

July 27, 2015

9am—12 noon



4-H will be painting and decorating trash cans for the park.

Be sure to wear old clothes

Bring your bug spray, hats and water.



Orange County Livestock Show Exhibitors and Parents

Orange County Livestock October show will be **October 9th and 10th.**

Tag in will be **July 11th 8 am** till noon at the OCLSA Barn (5319 Arnel Road, Mauriceville) If you emailed with your chicken count already, you will **STILL** need to come to tag in and finalize those number and fill out paperwork.

On **July 6th**, 6:30 pm, there will be a training lead by Christina Ritter, Les Daigle and Ashlee Krebs at the Agri-Life / 4H office (11475 Hwy 1442, Orange, TX 77630) on how to obtain buyers and much more. All students planning to exhibit **should** attend this training session.

It is important for the exhibitors to go out and visit businesses and ask for there support and this training will give you advice on the best way to do that.

Raffle tickets will be handed out again this year at tag in. If the exhibitor and parent attend the training on July 6th, you will receive the raffle tickets at this time, a week earlier!

OCLSA CHICKEN PICK-UP

August 13th

8 am to 10 am

At the

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office

11475 FM 1442 Orange

409-882-7010

MAJOR STEER &

DALLAS SWINE

TAG-In

MONDAY, JUNE 15th

3 pm to 6 pm

At the Orangefield Ag Barn

FM 1442 South Orange

(next to St. Helen Catholic Church)

MAJOR HEIFER VALIDATION COMING IN THE FALL OF 2015

MUST SUBMIT Heifer registration papers for MAJORS to the extension office by **June 25th**. A copy of the original papers will be made to send with registrations/validations. **OWNERSHIP must read on or before June 30th.** Contact Christina Ritter 409-882-7010 for more information.

Orange County 4-H Leadership Series

All 4-Hers
Welcome!!

JUNE 2nd at the 4-H Office,

Bring a
Friend!!

@ **6:00 PM** (1st Tuesday of each month)

Join us each month for games, food, leadership activities and comradery. Learn new skills, learn about careers and much more!!!!!!

Come experience the world of 4-H!!!!

4-H Pledge

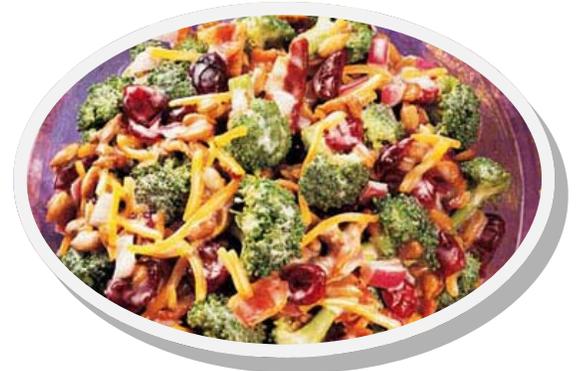
pledge ...
My head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater
loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my
health to better living, for my club, my community,
my country and my world.



Broccoli and Cranberry Salad

Salad

- 5 cups broccoli florets, cut into bite size pieces
- 1/2 cup chopped red onion
- 1 cup shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup cooked and crumbled bacon pieces
- 1 cup Cranberries (can use raisins)



Dressing

- 1 cup salad dressing or mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons sugar (or can use low calorie packets to taste of sweetness)
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Combine all salad ingredients in a large mixing bowl; mix well. Combine dressing ingredients in a small mixing bowl. Mix until thoroughly combined using a fork or wire whisk.

Variations: you can also add cauliflower and cherry tomatoes and sunflower seed or almonds.

Is Your Dirt Rich?

The Value of Soil Sampling

By Ashlee Krebs—Student Intern—Tarleton State University

As spring approaches and we prepare for the crops to be planted, many new additions will arrive in our livestock herds and the hopes of a good yield grow; the question arises if you have done all that is needed for that harvest. While today's economy gets harder for farmers and their families feel the burden of finding ways to keep the green in their fields and their wallets. However, for some you may be concerned about what the drought will mean to your pastures, crops, and hay production. One method that is easily forgotten that can save you time and money is soil sampling. Some may have never sampled their land, while others do so religiously.

Soil sampling is one facet of agriculture that tends to go unnoticed by many today, even though it can be one factor that makes or breaks your endeavors. For such little effort and cost you get a great investment in return. The benefits of soil sampling besides being cost effective help agriculturalist be better at managing their land by knowing what is in their soil so that they can better farm their land. Soil is one of the most important aspects of agriculture, no matter if you are growing forages, row crops, or livestock. It all starts from the ground-up! Soil samples determine what is in the soil by taking many samples throughout your field, and it takes only a matter of days for the result to come back. There are many types of soil analysis that can be done, prices range from \$10 to \$74. The general soil test runs \$10, and this is a broad test that is used to develop a soil program. That's quite a small investment compared to what you can potentially gain from using the soil recommendations that are given in your soil analysis report. If you look at the cost of fertilizers, a \$10 insurance to know what exactly to apply can save you hundred to thousands of dollars. By not doing a soil sample test means that they can be over or under applying, either way it is costing you!

Here is how you correctly do a soil sample. First, you need to pick up a soil sample bag from the County Extension Office. Then, you need to get the tool (trowel, spade, auger, or tube) to collect the sample. Whatever tool you use it need to be able to cut through the ground and slice 3 to 9

inches from the surface. Most ground that does not have limited rainfall, or top soil build up, can use the first 6 inches of the ground. You will send in 1 pint of soil composite sample, but you need to collect at least 10-15 samples first. (see Figure 1). The more samples you get the better the report! The best way is to determine the field you are sampling from, and go in a pattern (zig zag, X, random, etc.) throughout your field. (See Figure 2 and Figure 3). To get the best results stay away from the fence, gates, or heavy traveled areas. Using a bucket to collect your samples first and then mixing the dirt is the best way to get a composite sample. Once you collect the core or slice of your soil you need to allow it to air dry. The fill your sample bag with 1 pint of the soil you collected, and send it in!

In the soil sample results, it will give you a breakdown of what nutrients are in the soil, what nutrients are not, and how to correct the soil for optimal soil fertility. If the soil recommendation is followed, then an increase in soil productivity and crop yield are to be expected. These practices make the farmers better at managing their fertilizer programs, enhance their soil's fertility, and give them better harvest. Today, as you drive along the road of Orange County and see the many field it encompasses, take note of the fields that have healthy vital crops, which are due to a well developed soil program.

For more information on how to obtain your soil sample, come by the Orange County Extension Office, or visit <http://soiltesting.tamu.edu> for additional information.

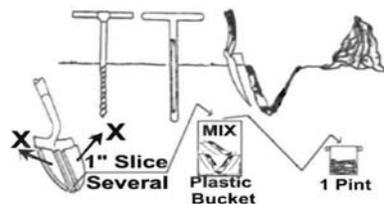
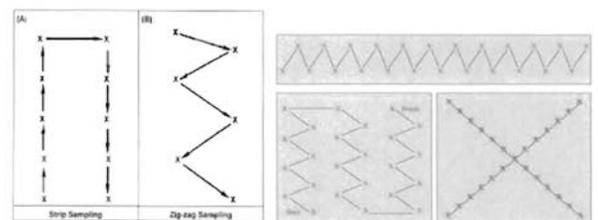


Figure 1

Figure 2 and Figure 3



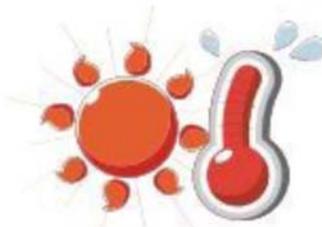
Summer's Almost Here!

We live in the South, a region famous for heat and humidity in the summer. Although we've written on this topic before, we think it needs to be repeated each year to remind caregivers and parents about those common sense tips that will keep children safe throughout the summer months. We want children to be connected to nature and the outdoors and to have the opportunity to explore during the summer months but let's use good judgment about when it's safe to have them outside.

Here are some resources that are available to you to refresh yourself on how to ensure a child's safety during the summer.



[Where's baby? Look before you lock](#) contains information for both parents and caregivers about ensuring that children are not left in locked cars. You'll also find an in-depth article about this topic in the [SECA Reporter Fall 2012](#).



[Staying Safe in the Summer Heat](#)

This June 2011 member e-mail can be found in the Member e-mail archive that is located on the "members-only" page of the SECA website. It includes a handout of "tips" in both English and Spanish. Print out this handout to give to staff...a refresher is always good!



[Sun Safety Alliance](#)

The Sun Safety Alliance, Inc. (SSA) is a communication and educationally focused Center of the Entertainment and Media Communication Institute, a division of the [Entertainment Industries Council](#), Inc. (EIC). SSA's mission is to reduce the incidence of skin cancer. You'll find tips and ideas for all age groups and links to health and safety brochures that can be customized for your program.

[Safe Kids Worldwide](#) is a global organization dedicated to preventing injuries in children, the number one killer of kids in the United States. Around the world, a child dies from an unintentional injury every 30 seconds. And millions of children are injured in ways that can affect them for a lifetime. The website features videos on child safety including [Heatstroke: Could It Happen to Your Child?](#)



Take a moment to refresh your knowledge of summer safety. We want you and the children in your care to have an enjoyable, fun summer!



Prepared by the Southern Early Childhood Association



Hey Kids, are you interested in learning about

Bees, their hives and equipment?

Details coming SOON, contact the Extension Ofc. 882-7010



With the large amount of precipitation we have been receiving in Orange County we find ourselves struggling with insect invasions, and various plant and tree problems. Many of these issue occur because there isn't a dry place for the critters to go. One insecticide that I find very helpful and readily available is Demon WP, which keeps a wide array of insects at bay. Please follow labeling and directions closely before using any chemicals. Furthermore, many will notice trees and various other plants having unusual behavior this year. Majority of the time this is due to the surplus

amount of water they are getting , and causing them to be "water logged", grow fungus, or die due to the lack of oxygen they are getting in the wet soil. As always if you have any questions please contact the Extension Office!

Lawn care tips for wet weather

Many areas of the country are experiencing wet weather, making lawn care difficult. When there's too much water, oxygen is forced out of the soil and the roots die. Here are some wet weather lawn care tips.

Lawn care tips for saturated soils

Allow the soil to dry. Walking on wet soils can compact it, leading to a bumpy lawn and promoting weed growth. Wait until the wet soil dries out before walking on it or mowing it.

Mow when you can. Repeated rainfall means your weeds and grass will grow like crazy. It's best to mow two times a week when the grass is growing fast, if possible. Parents, remember that it's never safe to allow your children on or near a mower in operation!

Clean up clippings. Typically, it's best to leave shorter clippings on the grass to offer nutrients to the roots, but very tall grass will bunch up and leave piles of grass clippings on the lawn. This not only looks bad, it might also suffocate the roots. Keep this from happening by bagging the clippings or raking them up after you mow.

Don't water. It may seem obvious, but don't water your plants and grass until the soil dries out again. Excessive rainfall can cause your grass to turn yellow and make the roots die. This will result in wilting plants or yellow grass. The tendency is to water a wilted plant, but if it's wilted because its roots have died due to excess moisture, over-watering can kill it.



Hawaiian Chicken Kabobs



"A light marinade of soy sauce, brown sugar, and sherry with sesame and spices tenderizes these chicken pineapple kabobs into an aloha grilled dream of a dish!"

Prep Time: 10 Minutes **Cook Time:** 20 Minutes **Ready In:** 2 Hours 30 Minutes **Servings:** 8

3 tablespoons soy sauce
3 tablespoons brown sugar
2 tablespoons sherry
1 tablespoon sesame oil
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
8 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves - cut into 2 inch pieces
1 (20 ounce) can pineapple chunks, drained skewers

1. In a shallow glass dish, mix the soy sauce, brown sugar, sherry, sesame oil, ginger, and garlic powder. Stir the chicken pieces and pineapple into the marinade until well coated. Cover and marinate in the refrigerator at least 2 hours.
2. Preheat grill to medium-high heat
3. Lightly oil the grill grate. Thread chicken and pineapple alternately onto skewers. Grill 15 to 20 minutes, turning occasionally, or until chicken juices run clear.

Pineapple Health Benefits, Nutrition Fact, and side effect

Pineapple save many health benefits for the body. The fruit is rich in vitamins A and C as antioxidants. It also contains calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, iron, sodium, potassium, dextrose, sucrose, and the enzyme bromelain. Fresh pineapple is the main source of bromelain, a combination of digestive enzymes and proteins that will fight inflammation in the body. Bromelain is also associated with the prevention of infection and injury. Research shows, bromelain helps accelerate the healing of wounds, sinus inflammation, digestive disorders, arthritis, and asthma. But of course required bromelain should be in large numbers, therefore today widely available supplement containing bromelain.

Pineapple Nutrition Fact Pineapple chunks about one cup contains 78.9 mg of vitamin C, a little below the citrus fruit about 87.7 mg. In equal portions, pineapple also contains 180 mg of potassium which is helpful to keep regularity of heart rate and blood pressure. Furthermore this fruit also contains manganese. Fresh pineapple contains bromelain, a combination of digestive enzymes and proteins that will fight inflammation in the body

Pineapple Health Benefits Here are some benefits of pineapple for our bodies:

1. **Weight loss** Pineapple fruit proved to be very good in one's diet program petrified. Content in it to reduce weight naturally.
2. **Maintaining healthy teeth** Efficacy of pineapple fruit can maintain the health of your teeth, it's because pineapple contains vitamin C which can help prevent dental plaque also gum disease.
3. **Helps soften the food in the stomach** Pineapple contains the enzyme bromelain which can be useful to help soften the food in the stomach. This enzyme also functions as an anti-inflammatory and inhibiting the growth of cancer cells.
4. **Overcoming skin inflammation** Pineapple fruit can be used to overcome the problem of skin inflammation. Way, take half of the pineapple is ripe. Peel the skin and scar. Use proceeds to rub the

grated pineapple peeling and scaly skin. Perform this activity at night before bed. The next day, freshly laundered.

5. **Increase blood sugar** Pineapple has a fairly high sugar content. For patients with low blood sugar, pineapple can be taken to help improve blood sugar levels.
6. **Overcoming constipation** Constipation can be caused by a lack of fiber. Fiber-containing foods can be fruits, one of which is the pineapple. The trick, drink pineapple juice. Choose a pineapple that is not too ripe. Choose a pineapple that are still acidic.
7. **Overcoming bloating** Other benefits of pineapple fruit is overcome interference bloating in the stomach. Drinking pure pineapple juice at least 30 minutes before you eating. Do this 3 times a day with a dose of 150 cc at a time.
8. **Strengthens the immune system.** The benefits of pineapple which is sourced from the essential amino acids and non-essential which is in pineapple fruit. Both of these compounds has long been known to strengthen the immune system and help the body overcome fatigue.

Pineapple Side Effect Although the pineapple fruit has many benefits, there are also side effects if consumed in excess, such as: Some research says young pineapple potentially abort the womb. Therefore, it is recommended to pregnant women not to consume young pineapple. Increase blood sugar levels. Ripe pineapple fruit in fact contain high levels of sugar. The diabetics should not consume excessive pineapple. Cause rheumatism. For some people, eating too much pineapple can cause headaches. Pineapple fruit can cause allergic reactions in some people. Some people may experience allergic symptoms such as skin becomes red and itchy after eating pineapple. To avoid this, dip pineapple in salt water before consumption. In case of serious allergies, lips and mouth can become swollen after eating pineapple.



Beginning Ranchers Program

June 9th & 10th, 2015

Organized for ranchers who have been in the business 10 years or less!

The program is provided to producers free of charge thanks to Texas Beef Council.

For more information contact:

Dr. Thomas Hairgrove

Office Phone: 979-458-3216

Email: tbhairgrove@ag.tamu.edu

To register:

Email extansc@ag.tamu.edu or call 979-845-6931 and speak to Shelby Arnold or Stephanie Lastovica.

Please give your name, number, and email address.

Focus: Beef Quality Assurance & Marketing of Livestock
Become BQA certified!

Speakers:

- Dr. Joe Paschal, Moderator, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

- Dr. Virginia Fajit, College of Veterinary Sciences

- Mr. Jesse Carver, Livestock Marketing of Texas

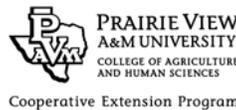
- Mr. Greg Goudeau, Navasota Livestock Auction

- Dr. Elizabeth Parker, Institute for Infectious Animal Diseases

- Dr. Kellye Thompson, Prairie View A&M University

Tuesday: Beef Center, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
-Dinner will be provided

Wednesday: G. Rollie White Visitor's Center, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
-Breakfast and Lunch will be provided



Master Gardener Specialist – Irrigation Efficiency Training

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

June 22, 23, 24, 2015

The Master Gardener Specialist – Irrigation Efficiency training will cover hands-on practices for determining irrigation efficiency, setting controllers, soak and cycle method, minor irrigation repairs, system trouble shooting, catch-can test, converting spray head irrigation to new water conserving heads, converting spray irrigation to drip irrigation and other water conservation practices.

Master Gardener Irrigation Efficiency Specialists will volunteer 20 hours above their current volunteer obligation, train Master Gardeners in their county, present the information to at least 3 other groups and do a catch can demonstration for Master Gardeners, a garden club, neighborhood association or civic organization.

Registration

Only 15 participant spots are available for this training. Registration is first come/first served basis.

Submit your registration forms as soon as possible at <http://dallas.tamu.edu>

Payment and forms must be in our office by June 12, 2015. No refunds will be given after June 18, 2015.

Please let us know right away by e-mail or phone if you are attending, carol.meadors@agnet.tamu.edu or 972-952-9621.

Tuition \$200.00

Registration fee of \$200.00 per person that includes:

- Irrigation Efficiency Master Gardener Specialist Manual
- Power Points, evaluations, and report form for public presentations
- Two lunches (Tuesday, and Wednesday) Please let us know about any special dietary needs
- Snacks and drinks will also be provided each day

Irrigation Demonstration Box (Optional) \$200.00

Irrigation demonstration box is available at an additional cost. Each box has over \$200.00 of equipment. This demonstration box may be purchased by the County Master Gardener Association to keep at the county office or by the individual Master Gardener. We want to make this offer separately from tuition to keep down the cost of the training.



Future of the cattle market, trends to be featured at 2015 Beef Cattle Short Course Aug. 3-5

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COLLEGE STATION – Historic high prices in the cattle market and future trends will be one of many important topics discussed in-depth at the 2015 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course scheduled Aug. 3-5 at Texas A&M University in College Station.

Dr. Darrell Peel, Oklahoma State University livestock economist, will be one of the featured speakers during the general session Aug. 3, discussing the cattle market outlook and current supply/demand factors that beef producers will want to consider in maintaining their own operations.

“High prices certainly have been welcomed among cattle producers here in Texas and abroad,” said Dr. Jason Cleere, conference coordinator and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service beef cattle specialist in College Station. “Many are wondering how long this trend will continue and are evaluating the economics of restocking and/or increasing their herd size. We have several topics throughout this year’s short course that will address these issues and more.”



Historic high prices in the cattle market and future trends will be one of many important topics discussed in-depth at the 2015 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course scheduled Aug. 3-5 at Texas A&M University in College Station. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo by Blair Fannin)

Other featured speakers during the general session include Brian Bledsoe, chief meteorologist at KKTV-Colorado Springs, who will provide a weather outlook. Dr. Rick Machen, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist, Uvalde, will discuss hot topics in the beef industry.

The short course is the premier beef educational event in Texas, attracting more than 1,400 attendees annually, Cleere said. The short course features 20 sessions covering basic practices, new technologies and other important industry topics. These sessions provide participants with an opportunity to choose workshops based on their level of production experience and the needs of their ranch.

“These concurrent workshops will feature information on introductory cattle production, forage management practices, range management, nutrition and reproduction, record keeping, genetics, purebred cattle, land-owner issues and much more,” he said.

In addition to classroom instruction, participants can attend one of the popular demonstrations on the morning of Aug. 5, Cleere said.

“There will be demonstrations on fence building, chute-side calf working, cattle behavior, penning and Brush Busters, program on brush management,” Cleere said. “These provide an opportunity for ranchers to see beef cattle production practices put to use.

“The goal of the short course each year is to provide the most cutting-edge information that is needed by beef cattle producers. We think we have information for everyone to take home and apply to their operations.”

Participants can earn at least 10 Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide continuing education units if they are already licensed, Cleere added.

An industry trade show will be held during the event, featuring more than 120 agricultural businesses and service exhibits. Cleere said the famous Texas Aggie Prime Rib Dinner is always a highlight of the short course. Registration is \$180 per person before July 30 or \$220 afterwards, and includes educational materials, a copy of the 600-page Beef Cattle Short Course proceedings, trade show admittance, admission to the prime rib dinner, lunches, breakfasts and daily refreshments.

Registration information and a tentative schedule will be mailed to previous participants in May, but also can be found on the short course website at www.beefcattleshortcourse.com

Producers can also register at the website or by contacting Cleere’s office at 979-845-6931.

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Annie's Fruit Salsa and Cinnamon Chips

By Ann Page

"This delicious salsa made with fresh kiwis, apples and berries is a sweet succulent treat when served on homemade cinnamon tortilla chips. Enjoy it as a summer appetizer or an easy desert"

2 kiwis, peeled and dices
2 Golden Delicious apples—peeled, cored and diced
8 ounces raspberries
1 pound strawberries
2 tablespoons white sugar

1 tablespoon brown sugar
3 tablespoons fruit preserves, any flavor
10 (10 inch) flour tortillas
Butter flavored cooking spray
2 tablespoons cinnamon sugar

1. In a large bowl, thoroughly mix kiwis, Golden Delicious apples, raspberries, strawberries, white sugar, brown sugar and fruit preserves. Cover and chill in the refrigerator at least 15 minutes.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
3. Coat one side of each flour tortilla with butter flavored cooking spray. Cut into wedges and arrange in a single layer on a large baking sheet. Sprinkle wedges with desired amount of cinnamon sugar. Spray again with cooking spray.
4. Bake in the preheated oven 8 to 10 minutes. Repeat with any remaining tortilla wedges. Allow to cool approximately 15 minutes. Serve with chilled fruit mixture.



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

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program -- SNAP.

The Better Living for Texans and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition assistance to people with low income. It can help you buy nutritious foods for a better diet. Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status.