



San Patricio Agriculture

“Agriculture Affects Everyone”

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST: January, 2017

Volume 6, Issue 1

- * **January 12, 2017**
Field Crop Symposium
- * **January 19-29, 2017**
A&H Show
- * **February 3, 2017**
Telecast - Ten Steps to a Successful Vegetable Garden

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County Website:
<http://sanpatricio.agrilife.org>

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

Hello again,

January 1, seems to come around far too often but it does signal a new year and the anticipation of what is in store for the seasons to come. We are looking at good soil moisture at the moment and in some spots around the county it is wet. There has been a considerable amount of fertilizer applied already but due to wet conditions there is some that still needs to be put out.

There are a few upcoming events I would like to call attention to, the annual Field Crop Symposium, hosted by Nueces and San Patricio County AgriLife Extension will be held on January 12, 2017, at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 10345 Hwy 44, Corpus Christi, Texas. We are offering 5 TDA CEU's and 5 CCA CEU's at this program. I have included a flier for more details.

January is also A&H Show time. I hope you will be able to go out and support the youth of Aransas and San Patricio Counties as they exhibit their various projects they have working with. There is a show schedule included in this newsletter

Starting February 3rd at 12 noon, I will be telecasting at the Extension Office, 219 N. Vineyard, Sinton, Texas, an hour long gardening series that Dr. Joe Masabni, Extension Small Acreage Vegetable Specialist, Overton, Texas has put together to be held on the First Friday of every month. Topics are as follows: February 3 - Ten Steps to a Successful Vegetable Garden, March 3 - What You Should Know in a Vegetable Garden, April 7 - Composting, May 5 - Cover Crops, June 2 - Fertilizer Use in the Home Garden, July 7 - Hugelkultur, August 4 - Fall Vegetable Gardening, September 1 - Food Safety, October 6 - Hobby Greenhouses, November 3 - Growing Vegetables in Containers and December 1 - Tomato Grafting.

Finally, beginning mid February, I will be starting a project called Follow this Crop. Wendland Farms is allowing me to document a crop year on one of their farms. I will be posting short videos in a timely matter with regards to growing a crop in San Patricio County. My goal is to provide some educational videos that anyone who doesn't know much about farming can acquire a better understanding of the agriculture that surrounds all of us. These videos will be able to be accessed at our county website, sanpatricio.agrilife.org, county Facebook or my Twitter account. All addresses are on the front page of this newsletter.

Til next time,

Beef Cattle Browsing

Dr. Stephen Hammack, Professor & Extension Beef Cattle Specialist Emeritus

EFFECT OF COW WEIGHT AND AGE ON ECONOMICS OF BEEF PRODUCTION

Average beef cow weight (the most meaningful measure of size of a cow) has increased from around 1000 lb to 1300-1400 lb over the last 40 years or so. A research study examined effects of cow weight, along with cow age, on economics of production. Four years of data were analyzed. There were nine production scenarios analyzed:

- raised calves, sold at weaning;
- raised calves, retained for growing, sold as yearlings;
- purchased weaned calves, sold as yearlings;
- purchased weaned calves, sold as live slaughter animals;
- purchased weaned calves, sold on a carcass-value grid;
- raised calves, sold as live slaughter animals;
- raised calves, sold on a carcass-value grid;
- purchased yearling, sold live slaughter animals;
- purchased yearling, sold on a carcass-value grid.

Comparisons were made based on net dollars return per cow exposed to breeding. As expected, calf weaning weight increased as cow age increased to 5-6 years of age and decreased thereafter. For producers raising their own calves, lighter-weight cows showed highest returns, whether selling was at weaning or as yearlings. Even when calves were purchased at weaning and grown to sell as yearlings, lighter cows were favored. When cattle were sold either live at slaughter or on a grid, heavier cows were favored, except for two situations: 1) when weaned calves were bought and sold on a grid, medium-weight cows ranked highest and 2) when yearlings were bought and sold on a grid, lighter cows again came to the top.

In general, for cow-calf producers, selling at either weaning or yearling favored smaller cows; but for cow-calf producers retaining ownership to selling at slaughter or on a grid, heaviest cows were best. For those buying calves or yearlings and feeding them out, heavier cows were on top when selling live slaughter; but when selling on a grid, light or medium weight cows ranked best.

These results show that the most profitable cow size varies with the production and marketing scenario. However, the majority of cow-calf operators sell calves at weaning, or shortly thereafter. For these producers, based on these findings, smaller cows are indicated.

(Prof. Anim. Sci. 32:420; Univ. of Nebraska)

WHAT IS GENETIC EDITING?

“Genetic engineering” is commonly seen and heard these days, even though its meaning may not be commonly understood. Now we’re seeing and hearing “genetic editing”. Are they the same?

Genetic engineering is a process in which a gene sequence is added to an organism by transferring from one species to another. In most cases, the transferred sequence is inserted randomly into the genetic material (the genome). In **genetic editing**, specific genes from within a species replace other genes at the same specific location in the genome.

An example of how genetic editing has been used is replacing a gene for horns in Holstein with the naturally occurring polled allele of the gene from Angus. Other uses might involve some aspects of disease resistance, genetic defects, and other traits controlled by one or a few specifically identified genes. Such things as weight gain, feed efficiency, carcass composition, and others are controlled by many different genes, which have not been specifically identified, and, at least in the foreseeable future, are not likely to be.

(<http://articles.extension.org/pages/73389/what-is-gene-editing>; Univ. of California Davis)

FIELD CROP SYMPOSIUM

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EXTENSION
Extending Knowledge.
Providing Solutions.



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**5 TDA CEU
&
5 CCA
Offered**

January 12, 2017

Texas A&M Research and Extension Center
10345 Highway 44
Corpus Christi, TX

TENTATIVE AGENDA

8:00 – 8:30 am

Registration, Coffee, and Donuts

8:30 – 8:35 am

Welcome and Introduction

8:35 – 9:25 am

Herbicide Resistance: Life after Atrazine and Residual Control Beyond Outlook
Dr. Josh McGinty, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Corpus Christi

9:25 – 10:25 am

Sugarcane Aphid Assessment
Dr. Robert Bowling, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Corpus Christi
Jason Thomas, Graduate Student, Texas A&M University

10:25 – 10:35 am

Break

10:35 – 11:25 am

Dealing with Pathological Problems of Corn and Grain Sorghum
Dr. Tom Isakeit, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station

11:25 – 12:05 am

Understanding Balance Sheets and Developing a Financial Statement
Mac Young, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Corpus Christi

12:05 – 12:35 pm

Catered Lunch

12:35 – 1:25 pm

Grain Sorghum and Corn Hybrid Suggestions and Management
Dr. Ronnie Schnell, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station

1:25 – 2:15 pm

New Worker Protection Standards Employer Requirements
Dr. Mark Matocha, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station

2:15 – 2:30 pm

Review and Evaluation of Program

2:30 pm

Issue CEU Certificates and Adjourn

Please RSVP to 361.767.5223 by January 10th. A participation fee of \$25 will be charged to all participants and include a catered lunch.

Extension program serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2017
SAN PATRICIO-ARANSAS COUNTIES A&H SHOW
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7**



5:00 p.m.	Queen's Contest, Sinton High School
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Check In Pen of 2 Heifers
Afternoon TBA	Pen of Two Heifer Show, Judging
9:00 a.m.	Pen of Two Heifer, Interviews
1:00 p.m.	Pen of Two Heifer, Awards
2:00 p.m.	Pen of Two Heifer, Auction
8:00 a.m. Check in	Check in Horses
9:00 a.m.	Horse Show
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Homemaking Adult: Check in Cultural Arts
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Homemaking Youth: Check in Textile, Clothing, Handicraft, Fine Art and Photography for Judging
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Homemaking Youth: Check in Foods entries
10:00 a.m.	Judging of all Homemaking Division entries (closed to public)
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Homemaking Adult: Check in Food entries
5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.	Bring in Hogs
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Weigh in and Classify Market Hogs
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Check in Poultry
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	Check in Steers, Breeding Beef, Lambs, Goats
8:30 a.m.	Special Show
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Check in Rabbit entries
12:00 Noon	Judging of Poultry
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Weigh in and sift Meat Goats
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Weigh in and Classify Market Steers and Breeding Beef
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Weigh in Market Lambs
3:30 p.m.	Judging of Rabbits
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Check in Ag Mech Projects
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Homemaking Building open to Public
8:00 a.m.	Judging of Market Hogs
	Division I - Duroc
	Division II - Hampshire
	Division III - Crosses
	Division IV - Yorkshire
	Division V - Other Purebred Breeds
7:00 p.m.	SELECTION OF GRAND AND RESERVE CHAMPIONS
	Judging of Market Lambs
	Division I - Predominately Southdown or Shropshire
	Division II - Fine Wool
	Division III - Fine Wool Cross
	Division IV - Medium Wool
	SELECTION OF GRAND AND RESERVE CHAMPIONS
	FRIDAY JANUARY 27
8:00 a.m.	Judging of Ag Mech Projects
8:00 a.m.	Judging of Meat Goats
	SELECTION OF GRAND AND RESERVE CHAMPIONS
	Under Supervision of Chairman "Take Home" Hogs
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Homemaking Building open to Public
1:30 p.m.	Judging of Breeding Beef
2:00 p.m.	Judging of Market Steers
	Division I - British
	Division II - American
	Division III - Exotic
	SELECTION OF GRAND AND RESERVE CHAMPIONS
4:00 p.m.	"All Around" Senior Showmanship Contest
5:30 p.m.	Ag Mechanics Awards
6:30 p.m.	Livestock Judging Contest
	SATURDAY JANUARY 28
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Homemaking Building open to Public
8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.	Check out "Take Home" Steers, Lambs, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits not in Auction Sale
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Ag Mechanics Silent Auction
12:30 p.m.	Parade of Champions (Homemaking Division, Horse Division)
1:00 p.m.	Auction Sale
After Auction Sale	Dance

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

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San Patricio County Extension Agent
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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 361-364-6234 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
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Sinton, Texas 78387
(361) 364-6234

