



San Patricio Agriculture

“Agriculture Affects Everyone”

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST: May, 2016

Volume 5, Issue 3

- * **May 19, 2016**
Ranch Management Field Day
- * **June 1, 2016**
San Patricio County Crop Tour
- * **June 7, 2016** Grain
Grading Workshop, Corpus Christi
- * **June 21, 2016**
Building Aquaponics System
- * **August 1-3, 2016**
Beef Cattle Short Course,
College Station

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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,

It is hard to believe it is May already but it has been a good spring and the crops throughout the county look really good. We, however, could use a couple inches of rain soon. The corn and a good bit of the grain sorghum is rounding the curve and heading into the home stretch with what seems to be good yield potential. Cotton still has a long way to go but for now it is progressing nicely. Dr. Robert Bowling, Extension Entomologist in Corpus Christi, recently urged producers to keep a watchful eye for mites on corn, sugarcane aphids on grain sorghum, and cotton aphids and flea hoppers on the cotton. He also stated that he is finding cotton aphids but not at the 50/leaf threshold and doesn't believe they will get to that but producers need to be checking. If you do find threshold populations, wait a couple of days before spraying because it is not uncommon for their populations to decline rapidly.

I have included a flier for the South Texas Special Beef 706 Program, but want to call attention to this unique learning opportunity that doesn't come to this area very often. This opportunity, funded by the Beef Check-Off program allows participants hands on learning with regards to the feeder cattle to fabrication side of the beef industry. The cost is \$50, but if the participant completes all three sessions the \$50 cost will be refunded. Participation is limited so if interested please get signed up.

The San Patricio County Crop Tour is scheduled for June 1. I feel we have a good tour planned and hope you will make plans to enjoy the afternoon with us. I have included a flier but I do want to emphasize that if you want an hour of Laws & Regs it is being offered prior to the tour at 1:30pm and a separate CEU certificate will be given out.

Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties AgriLife Extension is hosting the Spring Ranch Management Field at the Welder Wildlife Refuge on May 19, with the main focus on feral hogs. Mark Tyson, Extension Specialist from College Station will be on hand to present on this topic. We will also be discussing fever ticks in South Texas and Dr. Megan Clayton, Extension Range Specialist, Corpus Christi, will talk brush management and will have a plant id exercise to conclude the day. Flier included.

Finally, I want to mention an Aquaponics Program scheduled for June 21. Nueces and San Patricio Counties AgriLife Extension will be hosting this event, but a location is yet to be determined. This will be a hands on learning experience in understanding the design and the building of an aquaponics system. If interested please contact the Nueces (361-767-5203) or San Patricio (361-364-6234) AgriLife Extension Office.

Till next time,

Beef Cattle Browsing

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

DO CONSUMERS TRUST THE FOOD INDUSTRY AND WHAT DO THEY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THEIR FOOD?

A survey conducted this year addressed these questions. Similar surveys were conducted in 2012 and 2014. Some key findings were:

- 65% of consumers now say it's somewhat or very important to know how food is produced;
- From 2012 to 2016 consumer trust in the agriculture community and in food companies increased by 15 percentage points;
- Even with these increases, currently only about one-third of consumers trust the ag community and food companies;
- Trust is highest among millennials and parents and lowest among boomers and self-identified bad cooks;
- By far the food attribute rated as most important was freshness (69%);
- 42% rated no antibiotics, no hormones, and natural as being important;
- Only 20-30% rated low-fat, low calorie, organic, or gluten-free as being important;
- 48% of organic shoppers and good cooks considered their knowledge of food production to be excellent or good, compared to only 11% for bad cooks;
- The most trustworthy sources of information on food production were family or friends (69%) followed by farmers and ranchers, the medical community, USDA, FDA, and academic community (50-60%);
- Less trusted were grocers/retailers, food companies, bloggers/social media, and mass media/news organizations (21-32%)
- Least trusted were animal pharmaceutical companies and political leaders/government (8-10%).

("Evolving Trust in the Food Industry", Sullivan Higdon & Sink Food Think, 2016; shsfoodthink.com).

BQA (BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE) TIP-OF-THE-MONTH: RESIDUES

Always refer to the product label for specific guidelines for proper use of each product. To avoid residues from anthelmintics (de-wormers), make sure cattle are not marketed until slaughter withdrawal times have passed. Slaughter withdrawal times vary by both chemical ingredient and method of application; the table below illustrates this concept for a few of the available injectable and pour-on macrocyclic lactone products.

Product	Pour-on	Injectable
Cydectin®	0 days	21 days
Dectomax®	45 days	35 days
Ivomec® Eprinex	0 days	—
Ivomec®	48 days	35 days

Texas Agriculture Law Blog

Tiffany Dowell, Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist, Agricultural Law

CHILD LABOR ON THE FARM AND RANCH

In preparing for an upcoming presentation, I have been looking into child labor laws in agriculture. What I've learned is that pretty much my entire childhood was illegal! Because many farmers and ranchers do employ minors to help on weekends or over the summer, understanding child labor laws related to agriculture is extremely important.

Source of Laws

Laws related to child labor and agriculture are found at both the federal and state levels. Federally, these rules are found in the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Additionally, many states also have state-level employment laws as well. In Texas, these laws are found in the Texas Labor Code, **Chapter 51**. Most of the Texas-specific laws closely follow along with the federal rules. Additionally, the Texas Labor Code does not require to be attending school. *See Texas Labor Code 51.003*. Thus, the key considerations for Texas farmers and ranchers are the rules found in federal law.

Farmer/Rancher's Own Children

A child of any age may be employed by his or her own parent at any time, doing any type of work, on a farm or ranch that is owned or operated by the parent. *See 29 CFR 570.2(a)(2); (b)*. The same is true if the owner or operator of the farm or ranch is someone standing in place of the parent, such as a custodial grandparent. *See id*. The same is true under Texas law. *See Texas Labor Code 51.003(1)*©.

Other People's Children

Employment of another person's child on the farm or ranch is where the rules get more complex. The applicable rules depend upon the age of the child and the nature of the tasks he or she is doing. *See 29 USC 570*.

- **Age 16 or 17:** The child can perform any farm job, including those deemed "hazardous" by the Secretary of Labor. Further, the child may work anytime, including school hours.
- **Age 14 or 15:** A child may perform only those jobs not considered to be "hazardous" by the Secretary of Labor. The child may only be employed outside of school hours.
- **Age 12 or 13:** A child may only work in an agricultural operation if the child's parent is also employed there. Work may only occur outside of school hours.
- **Children 11 or under:** A child may work in an agricultural operation only if parental consent is obtained and the farm employees are exempt from the FLSA requirements. Here again, work is only permitted outside of school hours.

"Hazardous Activities"

As noted above, children under the age of 16 may not participate in activities deemed to be "hazardous" by the Secretary of Labor. The Secretary has developed a list of agricultural related activities deemed "hazardous." *See 29 USC 570.71*. Many of these may surprise most farmers and ranchers. They are as follows:

- Operating a tractor of over 20 PTO horsepower, or connecting or disconnecting an implement of any of its parts to or from such a tractor.
- Operating or assisting to operate (basically including even touching) any of the following machines: corn picker, cotton picker, grain combine, hay mower, forage harvester, hay baler, potato digger, mobile pea viner, feed grinder, crop dryer, forage blower, auger conveyor, or the unloading mechanism of a nongravity-type self-unloading wagon or trailer, power post-hole digger, power post driver, nonwalking type rotary tiller, trencher, earthmoving equipment, fork lift, potato combine, power-driven circular, band or chain saw.
- Working on a farm in a yard, pen, or stall occupied by: a bull, boar, or stud horse maintained for breeding purposes, a sow with suckling pigs or a cow with a newborn calf (umbilical cord present).
- Felling, bucking, skidding, loading, or unloading timber more than 6" in diameter.
- Working from a ladder or scaffold at a height of more than 20 feet.
- Driving a bus, truck or automobile while transporting passengers.
- Riding on a tractor as a passenger or helper.
- Working inside a fruit, forage, or grain storage designed to retain an oxygen deficient or toxic atmosphere, a upright silo within 2 weeks of silage being added or when a top unloading device is in operating position, a manure pit, or a horizontal silo while operating a tractor for packing purposes.
- Handling or applying (including cleaning equipment, disposal or return of empty containers or serving as flag man) Category I chemicals, identified by the word poison and the skull and cross-bone labels or Category II chemicals, identified by the word warning on the label.
- Handling or using a blasting agent.

Texas Agriculture Law Blog

Tiffany Dowell, Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist, Agricultural Law

CHILD LABOR ON THE FARM AND RANCH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

- Transferring, transporting, or applying anhydrous ammonia.

There are certain exceptions for student-learners in vocational agriculture education programs and 4-H members who have completed a tractor training program. For more details, see 29 USC 570.72.

Recordkeeping Requirements

If children are employed on a farm or ranch, certain record keeping requirements apply. See 29 USC 516.33(f). The required records include the child's name in full, place where the child lives during employment, date of birth, and written consent of the parent if required for employment.

Penalty for Violations

Persons who violate these rules can face serious consequences. First, monetary fines up to \$11,000 per employee that is subject to a violation may be imposed. Violations found to be willful may be punished by up to an additional \$10,000 and imprisonment of up to 6 months. If the violation results in death or serious injury of the child, the penalty increases to \$50,000 per person and may be doubled if the violation is found to have been repeated or willful.

Conclusion

The good ol'days have certainly changed when it comes to employing children on the farm or ranch. Anyone who intends to hire children under 18 should be aware of these rules and be careful to comply with the requirements.

The post Child Labor on the Farm and Ranch appeared first on Texas Agriculture Law.

<http://agriflife.org/texasaglaw/2016/03/28/child-labor-on-the-farm/>

2016 Grain Grading Workshop

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a one-day workshop on the grading of grain sorghum, corn, and soybeans.

The workshop will be held from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm on June 7th at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center in Corpus Christi.

A registration fee of \$75 is required to cover the costs associated with instruction, lunch, materials & equipment used in the workshop.

Six Certified Crop Advisor Continuing Education Units in Crop Management are being offered.

Sponsors



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2016



Grading Workshop



June 7, 2016

Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center
10345 State Hwy 44
Corpus Christi, TX 78406

For more information:

Levi Russell

Phone: 361-265-9203

levi.russell@ag.tamu.edu

Spring Ranch Management Field Day

Thursday

May 19, 2016

Registration: 8:30–9am

9:00 am-2:30 pm

Location: Welder Wildlife Refuge

U.S. Hwy 77

Sinton, TX

Fee: \$20 (Lunch Provided)

payable at registration

Topics

- **Feral Hogs in Texas: Biology, Research, and Abatement Techniques**
- **Fever Ticks in South Texas**
- **Brush Control Demonstration and Plant ID**

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any of the above mentioned activities are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office eight days before all programs for assistance.

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For more information:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Refugio County 361-526-2825

San Patricio County 361-364-6234

Nueces County 361-767-5223

**CEU's
3- IPM
2- General
CCA Credits Available**

SAN PATRICIO COUNTY CROP TOUR

JUNE 1, 2016

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

AGENDA

- 1:15 - 1:30pm Registration for Laws & Regulations - Butter Churn Restaurant, 207 W. Sinton St., Sinton
- 1:30 - 2:30pm Review of TDA Pesticide Laws & Regulations - Bobby McCool, CEA, Ag/NR San Patricio County
** 1 hr TDA CEU L&R, pending; 1 hr CCA CEU PD**
- 2:30 - 2:55pm Registration for Crop Tour - Butter Churn Restaurant, 207 W. Sinton St., Sinton
- 2:45 - 3:00pm Load bus for Crop Tour
- 3:00 - 3:15pm Travel to Andrew Miller Farm - Grain Sorghum & Fertilizer Test - Hwy 188 E and CR 3963
Bus Ride - Welcome & NRCS Update - Sam Schiwart, District Conservationist
- 3:15 - 4:15pm UAS Demonstration - Dr. Jinha Jung & Dr. Anjin Chang - Asst. Professor of Engineering & Computer Sciences & Postdoctoral Research Associate
Overview of Grain Sorghum & Fertilizer Trial - Dr. Ronnie Schnell, Asst. Professor & State Cropping Specialist
Sugarcane Aphid Update - Dr. Robert Bowling, Extension Entomologist
Industry Seed Representatives
- 4:15 - 4:40pm Travel to Rieder Farms - West Sinton, FM 630 & CR 1541 or Hwy 188 W & 1541 S
Bus Ride - Stump the Specialists - Questions & Answer - Crop & Insect Management
- 4:40 - 5:40pm Overview of Cotton RACE Trial & Cotton Production - Dr. Gaylon Morgan, Extension State Cotton Specialist
Emerging Weed Pests in Reduced Tillage - Dr. Josh McGinty, Extension Agronomist
Industry Seed Reps
- 5:40 - 5:55pm Load Bus - Return to Butter Churn Restaurant
Bus Ride - FSA update - Kim Walker, County Executive Director
- 5:55 - 6:15pm Evening Meal
- 6:15 - 6:40pm UAS's in Agriculture - A Program Overview - Dr. Murilo Maeda, AgriLife Assistant Research Scientist
- 6:40 - 6:55pm Neonics & Bee's, Transforms Section 18 Requirement, & Section 24C for Sivanto - Dr. Robert Bowling
- 6:55 - 7:10pm Weed Resistance & False Ragweed Management - Dr. Josh McGinty
- 7:10 - 7:25pm Economics of Flex Lease - Dr. Levi Russell, Extension Economist
- 7:25 - 7:40pm San Patricio Representative Farm Summary - Farm Assist Program - Mac Young, Extension Program Specialist
- 7:40 - 7:55pm Water District Update - Charles Ring, Board Chairman, San Patricio County Water District
- 7:55 - 8:00pm Survey & CEU Certificates

**4 TDA CEU's with L&R *Pending
4.5 CCA CEU's Available**



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TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
 EXTENSION



SOUTH TEXAS BEEF 706

Brooks | Duval | Jim Well | Kenedy | Kleberg | Nueces | San Patricio

The Texas Beef Council, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and Texas A&M University - Kingsville have teamed up to present a special Beef 706 program. This three-part series of hands-on sessions focusing on beef quality management and marketing opportunities is available for beef cattle producers from Brooks, Duval, Jim Well, Kenedy, Kleberg, Nueces and San Patricio counties.

The checkoff-funded program is designed to help producers maximize profits and have a better understanding of the production process after their cattle enter the feedyard.

Session one will be held **May 23, 2016** at the Gulf Coast Livestock Auction in Alice, Texas beginning at 5:30pm with dinner. Here industry experts will discuss factors effecting feeder calves. Producers will then choose a calf to monitor through the production system at the following two sessions.

Session two will be held **October 25, 2016** at Kane Beef Processors in Corpus Christi, Texas beginning at 1:30pm. During this session producers will get an inside look into a meat packing plant and review their cattle as finished market steers

Session three will be held **November 1-2, 2016** at Texas A&M University Kingsville Animal Science Department beginning at 9:00am on Day 1 and 8:00am on Day 2. This 1.5-day session will allow producers to participate in a hands-on exercise that takes their chosen fed cattle from session one through the harvest, grading and fabrication process.

Beef Quality Assurance Credits will be offered over the course of the program to all interested participants. **The cost of the program will be \$50.00/participant and can be paid at the first session on January 19th. This cost is refundable based on full participation in the program.**



To RSVP and Register for this program, please contact your local County Extension Office.

VIC CANTU Brooks County 361-325-4402	TRAVIS TREVINO Duval County 361-256-4591	ROGELIO MERCADO Jim Well County 361-668-5705	FRANK ESCOBEDO Kenedy & Kleberg Counties 361-595-8566	JASON OTT Nueces County 361-767-5217	BOBBY MCCOOL San Patricio County 361-364-6234
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For more information on this and other checkoff-funded programs, please visit www.TexasBeefCheckoff.com or call 1-800-846-4113.

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

*Bobby R. McCool
San Patricio County Extension Agent
Agriculture/Natural Resources
219 N. Vineyard
Sinton, TX 78387*

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In the event of a name, address or phone number change please contact the office at:
Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service
219 N. Vineyard Attn: Ag/NR
Sinton, Texas 78387
(361) 364-6234

*Bobby R. McCool
County Extension Agent
Agriculture/Natural Resources
Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service, San Patricio County*

Bobby R. McCool

