

# AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE SERVICE OF SMITH COUNTY



**CLINT PERKINS**  
SMITH COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT  
AGRICULTURE & NATURAL  
RESOURCES



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SMITH COUNTY EXTENSION  
AGENT HORTICULTURE



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AGRICULTURE & NATURAL  
RESOURCES

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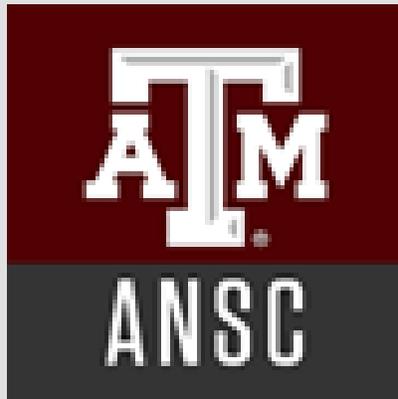
# BQA TIP: HORN FLIES

**ESPECIALLY IN THE SUMMER MONTHS, HORN FLIES CREATE CHALLENGES FOR BOTH CATTLE WELFARE AND YOUR BOTTOM LINE. WHEN LOOKING FOR A SOLUTION TO COMBAT HORN FLIES, LOOK FOR THIS INGREDIENT: PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE. ITS A SYNERGIST INCLUDED IN SOME PYRETHROID FORMULATIONS THAT INHIBITS THE BREAKDOWN OF THE ACTIVE INGREDIENT, IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRODUCT.**

**CONSIDER SELECTING POUR-ON PYRETHROID PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE FOR IMPROVED FLY CONTROL. IF INCLUDED, PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE WILL BE LISTED ON THE LABEL.**

**IF A PYRETHROID IS USED IN A SPRAY OR RUB, CONSIDER ADDING PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE TO THE MIX.**

**SEARCHING FOR PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE ONLINE WILL RESULTS IN A FEW PRODUCTS OPTIONS, SO MAKE SURE THE PRODUCT LABEL STATES IT CAN BE USED ON LIVESTOCK.**



**TEXAS BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE (TBQA) IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN TEXAS AND SOUTHWESTERN CATTLE RAISERS, TEXAS BEEF COUNCIL AND TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE ANIMAL SCIENCE EXTENSION BEEF GROUP. ANSC EXTENSION FACULTY DEVELOP RESOURCES AND CONDUCT THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING ASSOCIATED WITH THE INDUSTRY- WIDE EFFORT. THE MISSION OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROMOTE GOOD MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CATTLE PRODUCERS, IN AN EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE IN BEEF AS A WHOLESOME FOOD PRODUCT.**

# **It is Time to Start Planning A Strategy for Sod Seeding Winter Pasture into Warm Season Forages**

**By: Clint Perkins**

The weather this year has been just plain dry. The drought started last winter and has not let up. Most parts of North-East Texas are in a severe to extreme drought as we speak. According to Brian Bledsoe, who is a meteorologist in Colorado and presented at the 2022 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course in College Station a couple of days ago, said that we are still in an La Nina weather pattern that is

expected to last into the heart of winter. It is showing signs of weakening by spring planting season. A La Nina weather pattern usually indicates a dry to drought conditions here in East Texas. He also pointed out that with a La Nina weather pattern usually means that we will have a more active hurricane season. The middle of August could see some tropical storm development as signals are pointing in that direction. He also pointed out that the La Nina has occurred three times straight, which he referred to “triple dipping”, and there has never been a fourth straight La Nina weather pattern.

With hay supplies being very limited, producers need to begin planning to have a winter pasture in August to be planted in the middle of September to October time frame. This is the time to sod seed small grains such as cereal rye, wheat, oats, and ryegrass into bermuda grass or bahia grass pastures for some late winter and early spring grazing. This could also let you supplement your hay supply. I would go ahead and book the seed now. Small grain pasture provides high quality forage which can supplement (if limit grazed) or substitute for hay to carry your herd through to next spring.

# **It is Time to Start Planning A Strategy for Sod Seeding Winter Pasture into Warm Season Forages**

**By: Clint Perkins**

Small grain pasture provides high quality forage which can supplement (if limit grazed) or substitute for hay to carry your herd through to next spring. When the small grains are sod seeded into existing bermuda grass or bahia grass pastures, it provides solid footing for cattle through wet periods. Sod seeding also allows small grains to be grown in areas where seedbed preparation is not feasible.

In many places, wheat is the small grain of choice, but cereal rye and ryegrass can also be used. Cereal rye usually will cost a little more per acre to establish due to the higher price of seed. However, cereal rye has more fall growth potential and normally provides better fall grazing. It is the best cold tolerant of the small grains. Cereal rye will end its growing season early in the spring allowing bermuda grass to begin its growing season with little or no competition. Ryegrass is less expensive to establish but does not provide much fall or early winter grazing when sod seeded. The growing season for ryegrass does not end until May-June, which makes it compete with early bermuda grass or bahia grass growth. This competition limits bermuda grass production during its most productive time of year. Wheat provides moderate fall grazing and lasts longer than cereal rye, but not as long as ryegrass. By utilizing small grain forage by early May will reduce competition with warm season grasses. I do not recommend planting wheat if you have sandy soils.

# **It is Time to Start Planning A Strategy for Sod Seeding Winter Pasture into Warm Season Forages**

**By: Clint Perkins**

Hold off nitrogen applications until there is a frost that will cause the warm season grasses to go into dormancy. Apply 50 to 60 lbs. of actual nitrogen (108 to 130 lbs. of urea or 150 to 180 lbs of ammonium nitrate) after the warm season grass goes dormant.

An additional top-dress of 60 to 80 lbs. of nitrogen will need to be applied in late January or early February. Increasing the stocking rate in the spring will take advantage of the abundant forage produced in the early spring. Try to graze the winter pasture out by the end of April to allow for bermuda grass fertilization and growth.

Small grains can be a tool to help extend hay supplies and increase milk production in fall and early winter calving cows. I have 3 different publications I wrote on Winter Pasture Establishment here in the office for pick up or you can visit our Smith County webpage at <https://smith.agrilife.org/agriculture-natural-resources/clints-winter-pasture-publications/> and download the publications. Remember to keep a high magnesium mineral out for cows that are nursing calves and running on small grain pastures.

If you have any questions, please contact Clint Perkins at the Smith County Extension office located at 1517 West Front Street, suite 116 in Tyler, or call 903-763-2924

# SUNSCALD ON MAPLES

**BY: GREG GRANT**

Hot temperatures occur every summer in Texas and can cause ugly scars on young smooth tree trunks. Sunscald is a physiological disorder that occurs on the lower part of the trunk on the southwest side, typically on young trees. Thin barked trees such as Japanese maples, red maples, and dogwoods are especially susceptible, but even young oaks can succumb to the problem.

The trunk damage is most prevalent on young, recently planted trees that have not developed a thick, corky insulating bark. The damage usually starts a few inches above the ground and extends as high as the first branches.

Sunscald is a summertime problem. Trees are kept cool by transpiration, the evaporation of water from the leaves. If a tree is newly planted or a severe drought occurs, transpiration can be slowed and temperatures in the tree can begin to increase. Not only does transpiration cool the leaves but the flow of water through the tree trunk also cools the trunk. Temperatures near 140°F are lethal to most cells. In drought conditions, established oak trees with thick bark have been measured with temperatures above 135°F, so one can only imagine the trunk temperature of a young, newly planted red maple in an asphalt parking lot or next to the sidewalk in a new subdivision.

The southwest side of the tree gets the most sun so that portion of the trunk will be the hottest. Usually there is no bark cracking when this kind of injury occurs, but a year or two after the damage a flat side of the trunk will develop and new bark growth will push in from the side of the wound, pushing the old, dead bark off of the trunk.

# SUNSCALD ON MAPLES

**BY: GREG GRANT**

Usually trees survive, but the trunk is disfigured for years, and the open wound can be the source for borers or a hollow tree later in the tree's life.

Preventing sunscald injury means paying special attention to watering during the first few years of establishment for young trees. Keeping the tree trunk out of direct sunlight during the heat of summer is the first consideration. Retaining as many of the lower branches as possible on young trees and wrapping the trunk with a light-colored tree wrap that reflects the sun's heat away both work. Thereafter, watering during prolonged periods of drought is also important until the tree develops a large enough canopy to shade its trunk during the heat of summer.



There is no quick cure for trees that have experienced this problem. First assess the damage and see what percentage of the tree trunk's circumference is girdled. This will approximately equal the percentage of reduced growth and vigor in the surviving tree. If the damage is less than halfway around the tree and new callus growth is growing into it, the tree may be worth saving by cleaning the dead bark and wood from the wound, mulching, lightly fertilizing each spring and fall, and watering deeply once a month during June, July, and August. However, replacement in the fall or winter is often the best option.

Source: University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service

# Heat Exhaustion By: Anthony Brown

Last month we talked about dealing with the drought and different strategies on how to irrigate crops, and keep livestock hydrated in this treacherous heat. I also touched on the cattle markets and the affects it will have on the industry if we do not get the amount of rainfall needed. Not only do we need to protect our livestock, flowers, and other garden crops, but we should be careful when protecting ourselves out in this heat. It seems like temperatures are getting warmer and warmer every year. Whatever the actual temperature is outside, you can always add 5-10 degrees more due to the heat advisory. East Texas is in a very humid region of the state, so this increases the chances of people getting ill behind the hot temperatures. When working outside in these conditions work becomes harder and can lead to impaired decisions that can cause harm to you or those working alongside of you. Every year in the United States about seven hundred people die from heat related illness. As you get older chances of you succumbing to a heat stroke increases. There are signs to identify that you may be getting ready to have a heat stroke or getting close to the level of heat exhaustion. When you are out working in heat your body will begin to naturally try and cool down by releasing sweat from glands under your skin. Due to our humidity levels, it is more difficult to cool our bodies because sweat evaporates at a slower rate. Our heart rate will begin to speed up due to the flow of blood trying to get to the surface of the skin. Experiencing excessive heat will cause you to have heat exhaustion, heat cramps, heat rash, and in extreme cases--heat strokes. Heat strokes are the most severe heat related sickness. One sure sign someone is about to have a heat stroke is when they no longer break out in a sweat.

# Heat Exhaustion By: Anthony Brown

Heat strokes are the most severe heat related sickness. One sure sign someone is about to have a heat stroke is when they no longer break out in a sweat. Body temperature of a person that is having a heat stroke can reach up to 105 degrees Fahrenheit, and the person begins to be confused, irritable, hallucinates, and complains of body chills. If the body does not cool down immediately, death will soon follow. Call EMS as soon as possible, move person to a cooler, soak their clothes with water, and fan their body to help cool them down. People who have different chronic diseases, consume alcohol regularly, are obese, and have had a previous heat illness episode will have heat strokes at a higher rate than a more physically fit individual. After a heat stroke you should let your body rest for 5 to 10 days depending on the severity of the stroke. The best way you can help prevent getting sick in the heat is to become accustomed to it. Slowly begin to work in the heat for short amounts of time and increase the amount of time you spend in the heat gradually. Workers should ease the work they are performing, slow down and not rush when trying to complete a task then rest periodically. Make sure to remain hydrated by drinking fluids such as Water, Gatorade, and any fluids that contain electrolytes. Do not wait to drink when you become thirsty because by then you may already be experiencing dehydration. It is extremely hot this year and during most newscasts, meteorologists advise people to remain indoors during the peak temperature of the day. Watch the heat advisories each day to keep track of peaking temperatures. Always make sure you let someone know your whereabouts if you plan to go out by yourself.



# Things to do in August

## **PLANT CARE**

- **WATCH FOR SIGNS OF DROUGHT STRESS IN PLANTINGS. APPLY NECESSARY DEEP SOAKING SUPPLEMENTAL WATER AS NEEDED. LARGE-LEAVED PLANTS SUCH AS HYDRANGEAS, CANNAS, AND ELEPHANT EARS MAY NEED EXTRA WATER DURING DROUGHT. KEEP PLANTS MULCHED TO MINIMIZE DROUGHT STRESS.**
- **REMOVE SPENT BLOOMS AND BLOOM STALKS OF CANNAS. APPLY BT AS NEEDED FOR CANNA LEAF ROLLERS.**
- **LAST CHANCE TO PLANT PLANT BEANS, CUCUMBERS, AND SQUASH IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN FOR A FALL CROP.**
- **CONTINUE TO IRRIGATE LAWN, ANNUALS, AND VEGETABLES ONCE PER WEEK (ONE INCH OF WATER); AZALEAS PERENNIALS, AND JAPANESE MAPLES EVERY TWO WEEKS; AND SHRUBS, VINES, GROUNDCOVERS, AND SHADE TREES ONCE PER MONTH UNTIL FALL RAINS BEGIN.**
- **CONTINUE TO WATCH FOR CHINCH BUGS ON ST. AUGUSTINE GRASS IN HOT, SUNNY, EXPOSED LOCATIONS. TREAT IMMEDIATELY AS NEEDED WITH APPROPRIATELY LABELED INSECTICIDE.**
- **REMOVE TREES KILLED OR SEVERELY DAMAGED BY WINTER STORM URI AND SUMMER DROUGHT.**
- **DEADHEAD (REMOVE) SPENT BLOSSOMS AND SEED-HEADS ON ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS.**

## **ODDS AND ENDS**

- **PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED WATER FOR THE BIRDS. CHANGE NECTAR IN HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS EVERY WEEK AS HEAT CAUSES THE NECTAR TO FERMENT.**
- **GUARD AGAINST MOSQUITOES BY ELIMINATING STANDING WATER IN CONTAINERS. USE MOSQUITO DUNKS (*BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS ISRAELENسيس*) IN BIRD BATHS AND GARDEN PONDS.**
- **SHARPEN LAWN MOWER BLADES FOR A CLEANER CUT.**

# Helpful Resources

## HORTICULTURE

East Texas Gardening with Keith Hansen: [easttexasgardening.com](http://easttexasgardening.com)

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/easttexasgardening](https://facebook.com/easttexasgardening)

Greg Grant's Blog: [arborgate.com/gregs-ramblings](http://arborgate.com/gregs-ramblings)

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/ggrantgardens](https://facebook.com/ggrantgardens)

Neil Sperry's Web Site: [neilsperry.com](http://neilsperry.com)

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/NeilSperryTexas](https://facebook.com/NeilSperryTexas)

Plant Answers: [plantanswers.com](http://plantanswers.com)

Texas Gardener Magazine: [texasgardener.com](http://texasgardener.com)

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/texasgardenermazazine](https://facebook.com/texasgardenermazazine)

## AGRICULTURE

Ranch TV: <https://ranchtv.org>

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/ranchtv/](https://facebook.com/ranchtv/)

Texas A&M Wildlife and Fisheries Extension: <https://wfsc.tamu.edu>

Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/user/WFSCAgriLife>

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/wfscextension/](https://facebook.com/wfscextension/)

Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute: <https://nri.tamu.edu>

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/tamuNRI/](https://facebook.com/tamuNRI/)

Wild Pig Resources and Videos: <https://feralhogs.tamu.edu>

## UNIVERSITY BASED

Texas A&M Aggie Horticulture: [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu)

Facebook Page: [facebook.com/aggiehorticulture](https://facebook.com/aggiehorticulture)

Integrated Pest Management: [ipm.tamu.edu](http://ipm.tamu.edu)

Insect Answers and Information: [citybugs.tamu.edu](http://citybugs.tamu.edu)

Disease Diagnostic Laboratory: [plantclinic.tamu.edu](http://plantclinic.tamu.edu)

Turf and Grass Care: [aggieturf.tamu.edu](http://aggieturf.tamu.edu)

Texas A&M Forestry Service: [tfsweb@tamu.edu](mailto:tfsweb@tamu.edu)

Soil Testing Information: [soiltesting.tamu.edu](http://soiltesting.tamu.edu)

## GARDENS

SFA Gardens in Nacogdoches: [sfagardens.sfasu.edu](http://sfagardens.sfasu.edu)

The Gardens at Texas A&M: [gardens.tamu.edu](http://gardens.tamu.edu)





# Vegetable Garden Planting Guide

for the Tyler Area

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
ASPARAGUS (Crowns)												
BASIL *												
BEANS, BUSH & POLE												
BEETS												
BROCCOLI *												
BRUSSEL SPROUTS *												
CABBAGE *												
CANTALOUPE (Muskmelon)												
CARROTS												
CAULIFLOWER *												
CHARD, SWISS												
CILANTRO												
COLLARDS/KALE *												
CORN, SWEET												
CUCUMBER												
DILL												
EGGPLANT *												
GARLIC (Cloves)												
LETTUCE (leaf)												
MUSTARD												
OKRA												
ONION (sets)												
PARSLEY *												
PEAS, ENGLISH/SNOW												
PEAS, SOUTHERN												
PEPPERS *												
POTATO, IRISH (Tubers)												
POTATO, SWEET (slips)												
PUMPKIN												
RADISH												
ROSEMARY*												
SPINACH												
SQUASH, SUMMER												
SQUASH, WINTER												
TOMATOES *												
TURNIPS												
WATERMELON												

\* = TRANSPLANTS

Plant seed unless otherwise noted

By: Greg Grant, Smith County Extension Agent- August 2021

## PRIVATE APPLICATOR TRAINING

Friday, August 6, 2021

Cotton Belt Building

1517 West Front Street, Suite 116A

Tyler, TX 75702

8:30 am to 12:00 pm

An opportunity to obtain the required training for Private Applicators. **Training only, testing will not be offered.** Effective June 1, 2014, the Texas Department of Agriculture no longer offers paper exams. New testing procedures will be explained during the training.

The training is required for all Private Applicators. Study materials are available for purchase for \$40 including the Private Applicator General Manual, the Texas Department of Agriculture's Laws and Regulations Manual, and all the handouts/worksheets needed for this training. These materials should be purchased for review in advance of the training. A \$10 training fee will be charged the day of the training. **Cash or check only** made payable to the Livestock and Forage Committee.

Contact:

\*To register for Training and/or to purchase study materials call  
(903) 590-2980

Anyone needing special assistance at an Extension program should contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office at (903) 590-2980 at least one week prior to the program or event.

*"Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider."*

*"Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity."*

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

# **BE A MASTER NATURALIST**



Give yourself the best gift of all—knowledge! Learn about our rich E. TX ecosystem from experts in their fields and volunteer with like-minded friends. Whether you are into bugs, birds, bats or botany, you will love these classes! Master Naturalists find fun ways to enjoy the outdoors together while helping to preserve the Earth's treasures for our children and grandchildren. Join us!

More than 40 hours of classroom study & field trips enrich & prepare you to volunteer and sustain our natural world.

\$150 tuition covers materials, instruction, books and more.

Class space is limited.  
Applications accepted in order received.

**FOR MORE INFO AND APPLICATION CONTACT:**

BEVERLY- [finwren@sbcglobal.net](mailto:finwren@sbcglobal.net)

Website URL = <http://txmn.org/etwd/>

Non-profit Sponsored by:  
TPWD and AgriLife Extension  
Approved in most school districts  
for CTE Credit

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION



**2023 CLASSES BEGIN JAN. 17th**

**6-9 PM Tuesdays thru April.**

**In person classes held at  
Tyler Nature Center,**

**11942 FM 848, Tyler, TX 75707**





**SAVE  
THE DATE**



**MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDARS!**

**2022 ANNUAL  
FROM BULBS TO BLOOMS  
SALE & CONFERENCE**

**October 3 - 15**

**Pollard United Methodist Church**

3030 New Copeland Road, Tyler, TX

**Online  
shopping  
opens  
10/03/22**

**Order  
pick up  
&  
In person  
events  
10/15/22**



Featuring hardy, hard-to-find, and heirloom bulbs plus selected trees and shrubs adapted for the East Texas Area

YouTube/website video, Online shopping, In person shopping, In person Conference, door prizes

*All funds help support the educational programs sponsored by the Smith County Master Gardener Association*

**More details to follow**

check us out on Facebook or our website at <https://txmg.org/smith/>



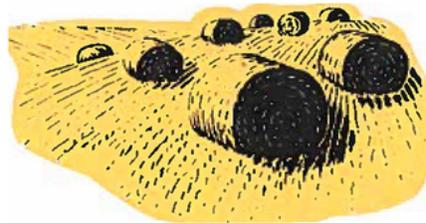
Contact us at 903-590-2980 or 903-590-2994  
or email our help desk at [SmithMGEEvents@gmail.com](mailto:SmithMGEEvents@gmail.com)



ENTER  
THE 38th ANNUAL SMITH COUNTY  
HAY SHOW

ENTRY DATES:

*August 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022*



ENTRY FEE: \$3.00

AUCTION & SHOW

The Howdy Neighbor BBQ & Smith County Hay  
Show will be held September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022  
at 5:00pm under the Community Stage Tent

**Please call the office with any questions  
regarding drop off locations and Hay Show Rules**



# First Tuesdays in the Garden

Join us at noon on the patio in the IDEA Garden on the  
First Tuesday  
In September, October and November for our Fall gardening  
series of programs.

Seating is limited, so you may want to bring a lawn chair.  
The lectures usually run about 30 to 40 minutes, followed by  
a question-and-answer session.

All lectures begin at noon.  
Tyler Botanical Gardens - IDEA GARDEN  
420 Rose Park Dr., Tyler TX

## **September 6- "Winter Greens"**

Nave Cummings will give tips on planting and  
enjoying winter vegetables in your garden. She will  
encourage you to think about your favorite greens and  
how to cook with them.

## **October 4- "Not All Bulbs Are Daffodils"**

Anne Pattullo will discuss 20 easy to grow bulbs  
for every season.

## **November 1- "Bundle Up Your Garden"**

Andie Rathbone will present best practices  
to prepare your plants for a cold winter.

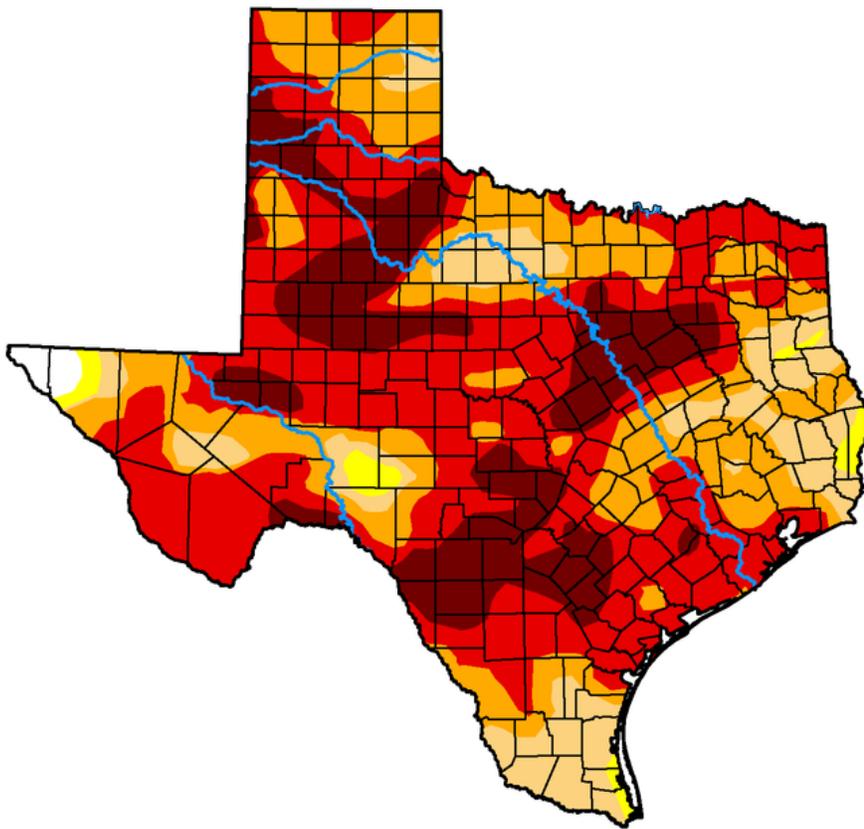
Look forward to seeing you there!

<https://txmg.org/smith/events/>



**U.S. Drought Monitor**  
**Texas**

**July 26, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Jul. 28, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

**Author:**

Curtis Riganti  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Smith County Earth-Kind®  
Environmental Education Committee:

Presents: **WATER WISE AND  
POUND FOOLISH**

How to properly irrigate during  
drought, restrictions, and year-round

September 2, 2022

Tyler Rose Garden

420 Rose Dr. Tyler Texas 75702

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

(Registration starts at 8:30 am)

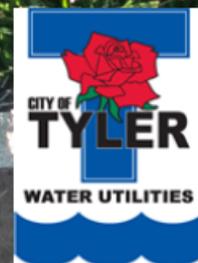
Soils/Water, What, When, Why,  
How and Where to Water

Presented by:

Clint Perkins, Smith County Agriculture  
& Natural Resources Extension Agent

Greg Grant, Smith County  
Horticulturist Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension Agent

**Admission  
\$ 20  
payable at the  
door cash or  
check only**



The members of the 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, veterans status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other classification protected by federal, state or local law and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.