



Walker County Agriculture News Update

Mid October 2017

Greetings from the Walker
County, Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension office!

Good Afternoon,

If you are interested in attending these local educational programs, please RSVP. We may cancel certain planned events if a class does not have enough participation indicated prior to the event. We want to see you!

There are several outstanding local educational events on the calendar which will provide CEU credit for TDA Pesticide Applicators – don't miss them!

Upcoming events:

Fall Plant Identification Workshop (3 CEU's)

Friday, October 20th, 2017

3:00 PM

SHSU – Gibbs Ranch (Hwy 75 N, Huntsville)

\$10.00 /person (RSVP to 936-435-2426 for workshop by 10/19/17)

We walked the roadsides, fields, timber lines and woods this past spring. Now it is time to look at the fall season plants, both native and introduced that commonly grow in our area. If you have ever wondered what that plant was, join us as Dr. Barron Rector, Extension Rangeland Specialist shares his knowledge of our local flora. Emphasis will be placed on the utilization of plants by wildlife, livestock and the plants role within the environment.

8th Annual Butterfly Festival

Saturday, October 28th, 2017

10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Walker County Texas AgriLife Extension office (Tam Road & Hwy 75 N, Huntsville)

No Charge

Bring the family. This is a great educational event to learn about butterflies and their importance to us. If you have never seen a butterfly being tagged for tracking purposes, you need to be here -it's a neat thing!! All ages are welcome. Children's area events available!! Treasure Hunt starts at 10:30 AM. Meet the Walker County Beekeepers & learn about keeping bees and making honey!! Tag & Release of Monarch at 12:00 PM/NOON. This educational festival is sponsored by the Walker County Master Gardeners.

Walker County Olive Field Day (2 CEU's)

Monday, October 30th, 2017

4:00 PM

SHSU – Gibbs Ranch (Hwy 75 N, Huntsville)

No Charge (RSVP required to 936-435-2426 for field day 10/27/17)

Join us to view the Olive orchard at SHSU and learn about this exciting and new developing agricultural crop in Texas. Dr. Bobby Lane, SHSU Professor of Agronomy will be our field day guide to growing olives in Walker County. Learn about the selection, planting, care and maintenance needed to grow olives in our area of the state.

1st Friday Webinars (Monthly Horticulture Topics)

Walker County, Texas AgriLife Extension Office

12 Noon – 1:00 PM

(FREE – RSVP is required 936-435-2426)

We are still offering these sessions! The presentations have been full of outstanding information. If you wish to watch the webinar on your own computer at home or elsewhere, you do have that option. All you must do is go online to <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/smallacreage/> and click on the link for that date, then enter the password which is: online

Interested in some additional horticulture topic trainings? If so, here is the answer! These webinars will be shown at the Walker County AgriLife Extension office. Trainings will be held the first Friday of the month. If you wish to attend, RSVP to (936) 435-2426. RSVP is requested for those attending here on-site is so that we may contact you in the event of any changes.

I am providing this set of diverse presentations as continuing education credit for our Walker County Master Gardeners; however, anyone is invited to attend. Bring your lunch with you! The remaining 2017 schedule is:

- November 3 – Growing Vegetables in Containers
- December 1 – Hugelkultur

New Pond Management Workshop (2 CEU's)

November 7th, 2017

6:00 PM

Walker County, TX A&M AgriLife Extension office (Tam Road & Hwy 75 N, Huntsville)

\$10.00 /person (RSVP to 936-435-2426 for workshop by 9/6/17)

New or reconstructed ponds require specific and dedicated management efforts. Participants in this workshop will learn how to develop their management plan for the new impoundment and create an environment to support their goals for fishing and recreational utilization. Dr. Todd Sink, Aquaculture & Fisheries Extension Specialist will be on hand to work with you in exploring the management of your new pond. Weed control/management, water clarity, and several other important items will be discussed.

Online Educational Topics:

2017 Texas Range Webinar Series

12:00 PM (Recommended: check each webinar prior to day to confirm starting time)

No Cost for non-CEU recipients/\$10.00 with CEU's

Enroll in Course: <http://naturalresourcewebinars.tamu.edu/upcoming/>

November 2 –(1- CEU-IPM) [The Tools in our Land Management Toolbox](#)

December 7 –[Grazing with a purpose – Managing for what you WANT](#)

Hurricane Harvey Disaster Related Topics:

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs (information from the USDA)

USDA offers a variety of programs and services to help communities, farmers, ranchers, and businesses that have been hard hit by Hurricanes Irma, Harvey, Maria and other natural disaster events. To find out how USDA can further assist you, visit [USDA's Storm Disaster Page](#).

[Farm Service Agency Disaster Assistance Programs at a Glance](#)

[Sign up to receive Disaster Assistance Program email updates](#)

The Agricultural Act of 2014 indefinitely extended the following four disaster programs that were previously authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill. The programs are made retroactive to Oct. 1, 2011. To be eligible for disaster assistance programs under the 2014 Farm Bill, producers are no longer required to purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage, which was the risk management purchase mandate under the 2008 Farm Bill.

Monthly Livestock Forage and Livestock Indemnity Summary Tables (Excel files)

- [Livestock Forage Disaster Program Payments](#) (as of October 4, 2017)
- [Livestock Indemnity Program Payments](#) (as of October 4, 2017)

Livestock Forage Program (LFP): LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing. [Learn more about LFP.](#)

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP): LIP provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather or by attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government. [Learn more about LIP.](#)

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP): ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by LFP and LIP. [Learn more about ELAP.](#)

Tree Assistance Program (TAP): TAP provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines damaged by natural disasters. [Learn more about TAP.](#)

Loans for losses to crops, trees, livestock, farm land and farm property

The [Emergency Loan Program](#) provides loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine. [Emergency loan data by state and fiscal year is provided here.](#)

The [Disaster Set-Aside Program](#) provides producers who have existing direct loans with FSA who are unable to make the scheduled payments to move up to one full year's payment to the end of the loan. [Disaster set-aside data by state and fiscal year is provided here.](#) Assistance is available in counties, or contiguous counties, who have been designated as emergencies by the President, Secretary or FSA Administrator.

Farm land damage

The [Emergency Conservation Program \(ECP\)](#) provides assistance to producers if their land was damaged by a natural disaster and needs conservation practices.

Crop Losses

The [Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program \(NAP\)](#) provides assistance for crop losses when federal crop insurance is not available.

If you have questions or would like more information regarding Extension Educational Programs, call us at (936) 435-2426.



Reggie Lepley

Reggie Lepley,
County Extension Agent – Agriculture & Natural Resources
Walker County
(936) 435-2426

Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Educational program and need specialized services. Notification of at least three to five days in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs.

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