



## Walker County Agriculture Update

### August Update 2018

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

#### Updated Events & Calendar Dates...

This is the time of year when our educational events are constructed for the remaining part of the year. I have added several upcoming AgriLife educational programs which you may find of interest. Look for the **(NEW EVENT)** designation in the calendar list to see what has been added in the past week.

The first event is one that we don't have much lead time with as we are working with an outside group's schedule.

#### Upcoming Events:

##### Pond Weed Control Field Day **(NEW EVENT)**

Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

9:00 AM

33 Hickory Lake, Drive, Huntsville, TX 77320

(2 Hrs. CEU Credit)

We ask that you park on the left side of the drive way, or along the road. Please do not park in the yard in front of the house.

Join us for this field day event to view aquatic weed control equipment, application methods and learn about pond or lake management options. Matt Ward with SOLitude Lake Management will be onsite treating Alligator Weed (& probably other aquatic plants). We will offer up to 2 Hrs. CEU credit for TDA Pesticide Applicators for participation in this Field Day.

##### Diseases Shared by Livestock & Wildlife

Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**(11:30 AM Registration, Noon – 1:30 PM Program)**

Walker County AgriLife Extension Office (102 Tam Rd & SH75 N, Huntsville, TX)

**RSVP to (936) 435-2426 to confirm a seat in the class.**

The next presentation (Native Plants & Water) blends well with the wildlife series above or can stand on its own merit. This is one that will be included in the Urban Wildlife Series being scheduled in Bexar County. Yes, we will be joining them via the web to explore this very relevant and interesting topic.

##### Every Drop Counts – Native Plants & Water Conservation

Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**(10:00 AM - Noon) \*Note the time is different from programs above**

Walker County AgriLife Extension Office (102 Tam Rd & SH75 N, Huntsville, TX)

RSVP to (936) 435-2426 to confirm a seat in the class.

### **Preserving the Harvest**

**Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

**Walker County Storm Shelter (445 Highway 75, Huntsville, TX 77340)**

**Cost: \$25.00 per person (includes Lunch & Supplies)**

**RSVP to (936) 435-2426.**

Wasting good home-grown vegetables and fruit is a terrible thing. At one time or another, we all grow more than we can eat right that day. Sometimes we even have trouble giving the extras to family, friends, and neighbors. Here is an outstanding opportunity to learn the proper methods to safely preserve your harvest for later enjoyment. The early spring session on this subject was exceptionally popular so we decided to offer it again with a new season of homegrown produce. Topics to be discussed during this event: Pickling and Hands-On Workshop to learn pickling, Jams and Jellies with a Hands-On Workshop. Join us for this extensive training on safe recommended methods and techniques to preserve the bounty of your home gardens.

### **Bull Selection Workshop (New Event)**

**September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**6:30 PM**

**SHSU Gibbs Ranch Working Pens (Top of the hill)**

**Cost: \$10.00 per person**

**RSVP to (936) 435-2426**

We will be discussing bull selection criteria based on physical characteristics and EPD numbers with the goal of meeting your ranch needs. Dr. Ron Gill, Associate Department Head & Extension Program Leader for Animal Science will team up with our SHSU faculty for this workshop. We plan to have live cattle in the pens for this workshop discussion.

### **Fall Hay Evaluation – Hay Testing Submission Deadline (New Event)**

**Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM**

**Texas AgriLife Extension office, Walker County**

**102 Tam Road, Suite B**

**Huntsville, TX 77320**

**Entry forms are available via email** from [r-lepley@tamu.edu](mailto:r-lepley@tamu.edu) Be sure to type Hay Entry Request in the subject line.

\*Additional information available from Walker County, TX AgriLife Extension at (936) 435-2426

### **Walker County Fall Hay Evaluation (1 CEU) (New Event)**

**With a STEAK DINNER!**

**Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30 PM**

**Walker County Storm Shelter**

**455 Hwy 75 N**

**Huntsville, TX 77320**

**\$5.00 /person (RSVP to 936-435-2426 by 10/22/18 for meal planning)**

In addition to producing and evaluation of quality hay, we will look at hay feeding management to stretch your hay supplies while increasing feed efficiency of beef cattle. Dr. Joe Paschal, Professor & Extension Livestock Specialist, from Corpus Christi will be on hand with us for the beef cattle discussion. We have an impressive set of sponsors lined up to help us with this educational event, more details in the next newsletter.

## **2019 Walker County Master Gardener Program Orientation (New Event)**

**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**11:00 AM**

**Walker County AgriLife Extension Office**

We hold this program orientation each year prior to the start of the next years Master Gardener Training Classes. If you are interested in learning about what the MG program has to offer and what is involved in the process, this is the event you need to be at. Training rosters fill quickly, contact the AgriLife Extension Office at (936) 435-2426 if you would like to be on the list.

## **Calving Assistance Workshop (New Event)**

**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**6:30 PM**

**Walker County AgriLife Extension Office**

**102 Tam Road, Huntsville, TX 77320**

**Cost: \$10.00 per person**

**RSVP to (936) 435-2426**

It has been several years since we have offered this workshop. Experienced ranchers can always use a “refresher course” and new beef producers should really have this knowledge in their personal toolbox. Join us for this workshop to learn the proper methods and timing for assisting cattle during difficult calving. We will demonstrate the method and proper use of tools which you need to know.

## **Other Local Events:**

### **TU-MILE Sportsman’s Association Banquet**

**August 17, 2018**

**Walker County Fairgrounds**

**6:00 PM**

This locally based organization has been an outstanding supporter of the 4-H & Youth Shooting Sports program and our outdoor education/wildlife activities. The TU-MILE Sportsman’s Association has donated to numerous 4-H programs in our area. Walker County is fortunate to be one of those counties. Additionally, the association is planning to provide five \$1,000.00 scholarships to graduating high school seniors. This year’s banquet will include youth events, special raffles, gun giveaways and much more. Admission tickets are: Kids 8 & under (free), Ages 8-18 (\$25), Adults (\$65), Couples (\$120). For more information, or to purchase tickets please contact Jody Crawford (936) 714-3499. Your banquet ticket provides you a membership in the association.

### **TU-MILE Sportsman’s Association Seed Program**

Members of the association are eligible to receive seed purchasing assistance for wildlife food plots. This program provides 20% (up to \$50.00) assistance program per member redeemable at local feed suppliers. Read more about cool season forages and food plots later in this newsletter.

### **Texas Farm Bureau, Young Farmer & Rancher Fall Tour**

**September 7-9, 2018**

**Huntsville, TX (Hampton Inn & Suites)**

This is a fantastic opportunity for Farm Bureau members 35 and under. This tour will headquarter out of Huntsville, Texas and will travel around our area of the state exploring diverse agricultural enterprises. The YF&R Fall Tour provides opportunities to:

- Learn about the diverse agricultural industry Texas offers.
- Learn about agriculture indigenous to the Huntsville Texas area.
- Develop a network with other young producers from across the state.

- Fellowship with one another and make new friends.
- Expose young people to Texas Farm Bureau and the Young Farmer and Rancher Activities.

Three different packages are available:

Package A - \$375 Includes all functions listed above for Two People (Sharing a room)

Package B - \$275 Includes all functions listed above for One Person (private room)

Package C - \$100 Includes all functions listed above for an Individual or Couple (NO HOTEL)

Registration must be completed **online by the member**. The online instructions, flyer and link to register for the tour are available at: <http://texasfarmbureau.org/yfr> **The deadline for registration is Wednesday, August 15.** Registration forms need to be submitted online no later than this date to allow for making appropriate bus, room and meal arrangements.

## Out of County Events:

### TX A&M Beef Cattle Short Course

August 6-8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

8:00 AM until (depending on day)

Rudder Tower (Joe Rouff Boulevard, College Station, TX)

**Cost: Participant/\$210.00 person (3 daily lunches, 1 Prime Rib Dinner/Monday, proceedings, tradeshow admittance, refreshments & access to campus shuttle service provided/CEU's offered within selected tracks), parking permits are an additional \$15.00.**

Registration/More Info:

<https://events.tamu.edu/EmsRegics/64th%20Annual%20TAMU%20Beef%20Cattle%20Short%20Course>

Today the highly respected TAM Beef Cattle Short Course is nationally and internationally recognized as the largest attended beef cattle educational program of its type in the world. It has gained the respect from organizations, associations, Land Grant universities and agencies alike as the focal point for beef cattle educational information.

The Cattleman's College features more than 20 concurrent sessions. Topics include animal health, nutrition, reproduction, breeding, genetics, selection, research, marketing and handling. Management sessions will cover business, forage, range, and purebred cattle. Topics such as landowner issues and fence building will be featured at this BCSC.

Sessions are designed for everyone, from the newest member of the industry to the most seasoned producer. Several pesticide CEUs, veterinarian CECs and BQA credits are available to attendees. Additionally, over 150 agriculture related businesses and trade show exhibitors annually attend the course and attest to the fact that it is the most highly attended activity of its kind anywhere in the United States. Annually over 1,700 participants attend the Beef Cattle Short Course to gain valuable knowledge about beef cattle production.

New for 2018: This year's program will include a **Ranch Horse Workshop**, Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM-2:30 PM, registration is included for all Beef Cattle Short Course participants (or) \$50.00 at the door for non-participants. This will be held at Thomas Hildebrand Equine Complex (3240 F&B Road, College Station, TX). Morning lectures will include Equine Nutrition, Hay & Pasture Management, Routine Health Maintenance. Afternoon activities will be in the arena with Jeff Williams of Post, TX. Jeff has been starting colts for clients that include the Haythorn Ranch, King Ranch, Beggs Ranch, Matador Ranch, Espuela Ranch, and the Muleshoe Ranch for over 20 years.

### Ranchers Leasing Workshop

Friday, September 7, 2018

12:00 – 4:00 PM

The Brazos Center (College Station, TX)

Cost: FREE (Includes Lunch!)

To register contact Tiffany Lashmet, (806) 677-5681 or [tdowell@tamu.edu](mailto:tdowell@tamu.edu)

I get calls, regularly. What do I need to include in my lease agreement? Do you have a sample pasture lease? If you need this type information you do not want to miss this workshop. I highly recommend attending. Participation will allow you to hear what the experts have to say about formulating an effective and useful lease document. This educational program is running with a 100% YES, I would recommend to a friend evaluation...

- Focused specifically on grazing, hunting, and livestock leases.
- Half-day seminar, participants will be able to ask questions, interact with attorneys and economists.
- All participants receive their own copy of the Ranchers' Agricultural Leasing Handbook, which contains checklists and sample lease language.

**Keep this date ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

**2018 Cow Country Congress**

**October 19, 2018.**

**Triple Son Farms, Leon County, TX**

This ranching location raises some exceptionally high quality F1 Brahman/Angus cross cattle. You don't want to miss the 2018 Cow Country Congress! Look for yourself and see what the excitement is about:

<http://www.triplesonfarms.com>

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