



## Walker County Agriculture Update

**Updated  
Information:  
November 2018**

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

### **Don't miss the Calving Assistance Workshop (next week).**

All beef cattle producers need this information and more importantly, this "skill set" in their personal tool box. This is one of those topics that proves to be highly beneficial for even the experienced hands to come back in for a refresher course occasionally. Think about it, when done properly you saved a calf and possibly a cow as well. What is that worth to you? As most of us know, some years it's not just one in the herd which has problems. Put a dollar figure on that and come to the workshop! Call in and reserve your seat!

### **There is always something else you need to know...**

I overlooked information regarding an opportunity for our forest landowners in my previous emailing. To correct this situation:

### **Funds Available for Forest Thinning Through Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Program**

Texas A&M Forest Service is now accepting applications for the 2018 Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) Prevention Program Thinning Cost-Share. Through this program eligible forest landowners can receive financial and technical assistance related to reducing the threat of future SPB infestations and outbreaks. Funds provided by USDA Forest Service-Region 8 and Forest Health Protection can assist landowners with conducting first thin operations in overly dense, pulpwood sized pine stands in 21 East Texas counties. "Our goal through this program is to reduce the potential for SPB attacks on our forests while simultaneously increasing tree growth and vigor" said Shane Harrington, Staff Forester College Station.

Since the inception of the SPB Prevention Program over 100,000 acres have been treated throughout East Texas. "This program has a successful history of assisting forest landowners reduce their potential for hosting future SPB attacks as well as increasing overall forest health and resiliency which is what sound forest management is about." said Harrington.

Eligible landowners may receive up to \$50.00 per acre (100-acre maximum) to assist in conducting first thin operations. The forested property must meet several criteria and be located within one of the 21 priority counties which include: **Angelina, Cass, Cherokee, Hardin, Harrison, Houston, Jasper, Liberty, Marion, Nacogdoches, Newton, Panola, Polk, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler and Walker**. Additionally, all approved thinning projects must be completed within 12 months of the approval date. Additional program criteria and requirements interested landowners can visit <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/SPB> or contact their local TFS office.

All applications are due by **December 31, 2018** and can be submitted to:  
Shane Harrington  
Program Manager  
Texas A&M Forest Service  
200 Technology Way, Ste. 1281  
College Station, TX 77845

Landowners can download an application and view program criteria by visiting <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/SPB>.

## Upcoming Events:

### **2019 Walker County Master Gardener Program Orientation**

**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**

**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. 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.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Town & Country CEU Recertification Seminar**

**December 13, 2018**

**Montgomery County AgriLife Extension Office**

**9020 Airport Rd, Conroe, TX 77303**

**Cost: Before December 4<sup>th</sup>, \$50.00 per person (includes lunch)**

**After December 4<sup>th</sup>, \$70.00 per person (includes lunch)**

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

**Pending CEU Hours TDA: (1.0 L&R, 1.0 IPM, 3.0 General)**

**Pending CEU Hours SPCB: (1.0 L&R, 1.0 IPM, 1.0 L&O, 1.0 Weed, 1.0 Pest)**

We invite you to join us for this Third Annual Southeast Texas Town and Country Recertification Seminar. This is a multi-county educational effort. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension strives to provide programs based on producer/ applicator needs. This year we have produced an educational program to provide a cross-section of information to assist producers/ applicators to gain valuable skills and techniques.

We have included special sessions for PCOs (ants update, landscape disease problems, herbicides, turfgrass selection.) We hope you can join us for this top notch, intensive day of training, specially designed to serve the diverse needs of the residents of Southeast Texas.

*Participants are not required to attend the entire conference to receive CEU credits for the sessions they attend.*

### **6 Hour CEU Pesticide Applicator Recertification Program**

**January 11, 2019**

**Walker County Storm Shelter**

**455 SH75 N, Huntsville, TX**

**Cost: \$40.00 per person (includes lunch)**

**RSVP by 01/08/19 to (936) 291-1901 ext. 3502**

**6 CEU Hours (2.0 L&R, 2.0 IPM, 2.0 General)**

The 2019 (6 Hour) CEU recertification will include topics such as: Aquatic Weed Control Systems Management & New Available Products, Predator & Wildlife Control Options for Pesticide Applicators, Turf Insects ID & Control, Control of Weeds in Pastures & Hay Meadows, Pesticide Laws & Regulations Update, and Laws & Regulations Compliance.

Check your calendar & reserve the date! Be sure to join us for the first educational event planned for 2019.

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