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Upcoming Dates

- ◆ Private Applicators Licenses Training: May 19, 2017
- ◆ WCMG Speaker Series; June 1, 2017
- ◆ Rookie Ranch Roundup 2.0 June 9, 2017
- ◆ WCMG Speaker Series; July 6, 2017
- ◆ Backyard Basics: July 6, 13, 20, 2017
- ◆ WCMG Speaker Series; Aug. 3, 2017
- ◆ Beef Cattle Short Course Aug. 7-9, 2017
- ◆ Private Applicators Licenses Training: Aug. 17, 2017
- ◆ Bennett Trust: Women's Conference Oct. 2-3, 2017
- ◆ South Central Cow Calf Clinic Oct. 27, 2017
- ◆ Private Applicators Licenses Training: Nov. 9, 2017

Check for fliers in the back of the newsletter for more information



Ag Newsletter

April/May 2017

Spring Management Tips for Cow Calf Producers

by: Joe Paschal, Livestock Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Spring is here and it is time to consider some management tips for the cowherd. With most of the calves on the ground, now is the time to begin planning to work this year's calves. Vaccination for Blackleg and other Clostridial diseases should be a priority. The Sudden Death diseases (including Blackleg) are the number one killer of calves and cows. In addition, castration of bull calves, implanting the steer calves, internal and external parasite control treatment, dehorning, and identifying all calves with an ear tag and a ranch or holding brand should be included.

Any heifers considered for replacements should be vaccinated for Brucellosis or Bang's disease between the ages of 4 and 12 months of age. Brucellosis causes abortion and was once a significant reproductive disease in the state. After many years of vaccination and testing, Texas is Brucellosis free, but I highly recommend continued vaccination of replacement heifers, both purebred and commercial. Your veterinarian will have to administer the brucellosis vaccine so you will have to schedule your calf working around an appointment with them.

Although I prefer knife cutting for castration, some prefer to use an elastic band to castrate calves. If you prefer to band your bull calves, I recommend a tetanus toxoid vaccination. Since the process of castration by banding takes a little longer and the wound caused by the band takes longer to heal, there is a greater risk for infection. Some of the Blackleg vaccines, especially some of the 8-way vaccines, contain tetanus. Check the label or vaccinate with a separate injection.

While planning for the calf working consider any cow work that might be done. If the calves are 3-4 months old, some early pregnancy checking could be conducted. In addition, there might be some vaccinations your veterinarian recommends and certainly horn fly control would be appreciated by your cows. It has been an early season for horn flies and a combination of both a "knock down" product like a pour-on and long term control like a fly tag should be used.

WCMG celebrate Earth Day at the Brookshire Municipal Water District's 4th Annual Water Festival

The Waller County Master Gardeners celebrated Earth Day by hosting a booth in the 4th Annual Brookshire Municipal Water District's Water Festival.

The Gardeners had the most attractive booth in the festival and receive a lot of attention from adults and children alike.

The WCMG booth had information hand-outs, garden based prizes to win and a very popular feature, building mini terrariums with several dozen children. The children had the options of planting corn or sunflowers into clear cups of soil. The soil was then moistened and cover in clear wrap secured with a rubber band so that the seeds could sprout while the children observed through the cups.

The WCMG even answered gardening questions from the Texas State Board of Plumbing Licensing!





Master Gardeners: Extension Garden

The Waller County Master Gardeners held a graduation April 8 for the latest group of Interns and Master Gardeners. The event took place at the Waller County Community Center in Prairie View.

After a business meeting where the graduating interns and new Master Gardeners were recognized, a potluck luncheon was enjoyed by all. Class members graduating as Master Gardeners were: Suzanne Anderson, Lea Ann Solberg, Soraya Rodriguez and Jennifer Vyoral.

Class Members graduating as Interns were: Gloria Boone, Teresa Dodds, Corliss Ondijo, Lillie Ruby, Toni Thomas, Cheryl Thomas, Sheri Smith, and Susan Normal. If you would like more information on the WCMG Please call the Extension Office.



Lillie Ruby, Suzanne Anderson, LeeAnn Solberg, Soraya Rodriguez, Jennifer Vyoral, Teresa Dodds, Susan Normal, Sheri Smith, Toni Thomas, Cheryl Thomas, Corliss Ondijo, Gloria Boone.

Inset, Suzanne Anderson, LeeAnn Solberg, Soraya Rodriguez and Jennifer Vyoral became Master Gardeners.

Photo by Deb Cates President of the Waller County Master Gardeners.

Name that Plant? Hairy Vetch

Description

Hairy vetch is an annual or biennial spreading herb with climbing stems growing up to 3 feet long. The leaves have long, soft hairs with 10 to 20 leaflets borne opposite each other and tendrils at the end. The flowers, borne in a dense one-sided spike, are violet and white to rose colored. The oblong pod has a beak-shaped tip, grows up to 1.25 inches long and opens at maturity.

Habitat

Hairy vetch has been widely introduced and cultivated with cereal grains as a cool-season forage in the eastern third of Texas. It has escaped in many areas, and dense stands are found along roadsides and in pastures where it has been allowed to seed. A native species, *Vicia leavenworthii*, which extends west to Schleicher County, is associated with cases of vetch poisoning in

rare instances where there was adequate fall and winter rainfall for abundant growth.

Toxic Agent

Neither the toxic agent nor the specific conditions in which poisoning develops are known. Poisoning invariably involves animals with black pigmented skin (Angus, Angus cross or Holstein cattle; black horses). Poisoning usually occurs after the plants begin to flower, but some cases have occurred in Central Texas when the plants were in the seedling stage with runners no more than 8 inches long. Years of uneventful grazing of vetch can pass between poisoning episodes.

Signs of Livestock Ingestion

The first clinical signs of affected animals appear similar to photosensitization, except that the lesions are on black skin. Clinical signs may include: Inflamed skin (head, neck and tail

head); Thickening of skin with granular tumors; Matting of hair and sloughing of skin; Diarrhea; Anorexia; Loss of weight; Death. The death rate of affected animals is high. They often die from kidney failure, as granulomas grow in the various internal or-





Rookie Rancher Roundup 2.0

Date: June 9, 2017

Time: 9:00am–1:00pm

Registration 8:30am

Fence Construction

*Nicholas Villarreal, Owner, Trails End Services,
LLC*

Cattle Thief

Brent Mast, Special Ranger, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association

Calving Do's & Don'ts

Joe Paschal, PhD, Professor & Extension Livestock Specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension

Cattle Market

David Anderson, Professor & Extension Economist for Texas AgriLife Extension

Cattle Handling and Penning

Ron Gill, PhD, Professor & Extension Livestock Specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension

Lunch Provided & Sponsored by: Champion Ranchers Construction

**Royal Ag Barn
34499 Royal Rd,
Pattison, TX**

Registration is \$20 per person

Students are \$5 (4-H/FFA)

RSVP'S MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 2, 2017 BY 5 PM

REGISTRATION MADE AFTER JUNE 2, 2017 IS \$25 PER PERSON

Please Register at the
Waller County Extension Office
846 6th Street
Hempstead, Texas 77445
979-826-7651

Please mail checks or bring money by before the event. Checks payable: to Beef & Forage

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CRC
Champion Ranchers
Construction



Waller County Master Gardeners 2017 Speaker Series

Free to the Public

Waller County Extension Office (WCEO)
846 6th St. in Hempstead, TX 77445 979-826-7651



Come for Coffee – Leave with Garden Ideas



Call the Extension Office to reserve your spot, space is limited.
All presentations start at 9AM, approximately 1 hour.

Date	Topic	Speakers
2/2/17 Thurs	Fire-Wise Landscaping	Mike and Connie Arden
3/2/17 Thurs	Planting Bog Gardens	Suzanne Milstead
5/4/17 Thurs	Garden Photography	Dr. Ron Billings
6/1/17 Thurs	Cactus/Succulents, Medicinal	Liliana Cracraft
7/6/17 Thurs	Worm Composting	Charlene Perry
8/3/17 Thurs	Food Forest Gardening	Michelle Ramotowski

More to be announced



Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aide service or accommodation in

order to participate in the event are encouraged to contact our office within 5 working days prior to the program. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



Workshop Information

This Workshop is designed to train Personnel in cities and municipalities that are in the field of mosquito abatement or are working on setting up a mosquito control program.

The workshop will educate personnel on mosquito identification, biology, ecology, control tactics, trap use, surveillance, virus testing, Zika and mosquito control.

Registration is
***No Charge**
Lunch Provided

Pesticide CEUs Offered:

5 Agriculture:

2 General, 2 IPM, 1 Laws/ Regulation

3 Structural:

1 General, 1 IPM, 1 Laws/ Regulation

Registered Sanitarian CE's and
Animal Control CE's

Vector Management Workshops 2017

Victoria—February 27th

Abilene—March 10th

Rosenberg—March 14th

Round Rock—March 20th

Grapevine—March 22nd

In Conjunction with Municipal Mosquito -

Small Fee will be charged

Tyler—April 7th

San Antonio—April 20th

Weslaco—April 27th

Lubbock—May 4th

Houston—May 11th

In conjunction with HCPHES

El Paso—June 15th

Register Online at

<http://livestockvetento.tamu.edu/2017-workshop/>

Or Call Heidi @ 254-968-4144

Contact Dr. Sonja Swiger at

slswiger@ag.tamu.edu

***No charge for workshop since funding is through a CDC grant focusing on mosquito management education.**

The members of 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, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.

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

SAVE THE DATES:
July 6th, 13th & 20th, 2017

Be on the lookout for location, time and pricing this summer!

Waller County Backyard Basics

Please join your Waller County AgriLife Extension team
& Master Gardeners for a THREE part educational series.

Topics to include:

*Home Friendly Gardening
Backyard Chickens
Easy Canning*



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ANIMAL SCIENCE
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

SAVE THE DATE!



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 - Current issues and technologies
 - Commercial and Purebred cattle
- 20+ sessions to choose from
- Live animal demonstrations
- CEU and BQA credits
- 100+ Trade Show exhibitors
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For more information contact us at:

(979) 845-6931

extansc@tamu.edu

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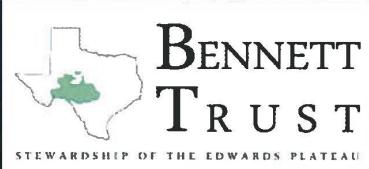
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MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

AUGUST 7 - 9, 2017





Bennett Trust Women's Conference

October 2-3, 2017

Location:

Inn on Barons Creek
308 S. Washington St.
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

Join us for an exclusive 2-day conference for women with property in the beautiful Edwards Plateau.



Conference

Conference includes presentations, discussions, and "behind the scenes" tour:

- History of the Hill Country
- Stewardship of Natural Resources
- Deer Management Fundamentals
- Becoming a Texas Master Naturalist
- Local Hill Country Ranch Tour

Conference attendees receive all meals, break refreshment items and field tour transportation. Come and join us as we discover the history and resource management of a very special region of Texas—the Edwards Plateau.

For more information and to register, please visit: BennettTrust.tamu.edu

THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR





Training-\$10

Books - \$40

(2 manuals)

**Please RSVP to
reserve your
spot, space is
limited.**

**Please mail
checks or bring
money by before
the Training.**

**Checks payable:
Extension
Program Council
Nonrefundable**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Waller County Office &
Cooperative Extension Program

846 6th Street
Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979-826-7651
Fax: 979-826-7654

<http://waller.agrilife.org>

TEXAS A&M
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Private Applicators Licenses Training

When: Friday, May 19, 2017

Thursday, August 17, 2017

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Trainings are from 1pm to 5pm

Check in/Registration starts 30 mins before

Dates & Times are subject to change

Where: Waller County Extension Office,

846 6th Street, Hempstead, TX 77445

The purpose of this training is to obtain a Private Applicator License from Texas Department of Agriculture. This license will enable the applicator to purchase and apply state limited use and federally restricted chemicals on his land or land he has control of for the purpose of production of agricultural commodities. All farm and ranch operators who do not have a Private Applicator's License to purchase "restricted use" pesticides (such as 2, 4-D, Grazon P+D, Tordon 22K, etc.) will need to attend this training.

If you are interested in obtaining a Private Applicator license, please contact the Waller County office at (979) 826-7651 to RSVP and to purchase the manuals.



Cooperative Extension Program

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Service
Waller County Office &
Cooperative Extension Program

846 6th Street
Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979-826-7651
Fax: 979-826-7654

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Waller County
Extension Office

We're on the web
<http://waller.agrilife.org/>

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Help stray livestock get home

Property
Gate Signs

\$12
each

OWNER/AGENT: _____
Waller County
Sheriff's Office 979-826-8282 #XXXX

Unclaimed livestock strays will be held in the custody of Waller County Civil Division a minimum of 18 days and a Notice of the impoundment may be posted on the public notice board at the county courthouse, posted on the website, posted on Facebook or advertised in the local newspaper once per week, for two consecutive weeks and the animal will be held an additional 3 days at the conclusion of the advertisement. In an effort to expedite locating the owner(s) of stray livestock, the Waller County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office, through the Beef & Forage is offering pasture gate signs to assist law enforcement in identification of landowners and operators.

These signs are available to the residents of Waller County for \$12.00 each and are about 5"x20" in size. They can be attached to gates or fences where they are visible from the road. The signs are durable and individualized for each producer with an assessing number and a place for a phone number, Ranch name, or Owners Name.

Please call Waller County Extension Office at 979-826-7651 or visit the Extension office at 846 6th Street in Hempstead, TX for further information or to purchase yours today.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Waller County Office &
Beef & Forage Committee

846 6th Street
Hempstead, TX 77445
Phone: 979-826-7651 / Fax: 979-826-7654



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