

July 2017



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Upcoming Dates

- ◆ WCMG Speaker Series; July 6, 2017
- ◆ Backyard Basics: Raising Chickens July 6, 2017
- ◆ Backyard Basics: Gardening July 13, 2017
- ◆ Backyard Basics: Canning July 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



With a lot of Patience you can grow Pineapples in Texas

By : Toni Thomas, WCMG

A friend gave me some pineapple plants she had started from tops. I wasn't sure what to do with them at first so I did some research. I learned pineapple plants can't take freezing temperatures which worked out great since I have a greenhouse. In some of my research, I discovered that some people grow them indoors. They make a nice looking plant that only grows 2 – 3 feet tall. The first year I had them, they were just nice plants. The next year, however, I was greeted with surprise one morning. Looking at the plants, I noticed something growing. That year I would have three pineapples growing. This is where patience comes into play, you see it takes 4 – 5 months for the fruit to ripen. It is fascinating to watch them grow and change over the months, but it's hard waiting for that fresh, sweet pineapple to be ready. My first pineapples weren't big but they were the sweetest I had ever eaten.



Pineapples when they first start growing



1 moth old, they begin blooming



2 months old, they start to look like pineapples



By 3 months they are getting bigger



At about 5 months they will start to ripen



Fully ripe and they smell so sweet

Once you have harvested the fruit, remove the top but don't throw it out. I have learned through trial and error the best way to get the tops to root. I let them sit inside for a two to three days to dry. You don't want them to sit more than three days. I then place them on top of a pot of soil. Work it around so it's level but don't bury it in the soil. Keep the soil damp but not too wet. In a few weeks your top should root and

Pineapples Continued...

begin growing. Here again is where the patience comes into play. It will take 2 – 3 years for that top to produce another fruit.

The plant that produced the fruit will die but before it does, it will put on “pups” or babies. If you remove the pups when they get bigger, the plant will produce more. I average 5 – 6 pups off of each plant before it dies.



Pups when they first start to grow

After the pups have grown bigger, they can be removed and placed in pots of their own or left to grow on the parent plant. The pups will take about three years before they are big enough to produce fruit.



I grow my plants in large pots. They are moved outdoors in the summer to a partially shaded area. The ones with fruit I leave indoors so that they are protected from animals that might also like fresh pineapple. They need fertilized three to four times a year and watered two to three times a week in summer, once a week in the winter.



In conclusion, yes it takes a long time to grow pineapples, but they wait is worth the reward!





Master Gardeners: News

The Waller County Master Gardeners are hosting a 5 week summer program for Youth ages 8-18 years old. The program will be held every Wednesday starting on June 14 and run until July 19 except July 5th. If you are interested in the having your youth attend please contact Stacie Villarreal for more information and to RSVP.

2018 Fruit and Nut Tree Sale Fundraiser - Save the Date! and New Location!

Planning is underway for the next Fruit and Nut Tree Sale Fundraiser. It will be Saturday, January 20, 2018 at the Waller County Fairgrounds in Hempstead. Stay tuned for more information on varieties, etc.



Summer Program



Every Wednesday starting June 14-July 19 (except July 5th)

Fieldstore
Community
Center

RSVP by June 9th

ALL kids ages 8
and up
welcome

Registrations fees have been paid for!

TOPICS
INCLUDE:

INSECTS

HERBS

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

PLANT CARE

AND MORE!



For more information please contact the Waller County Extension Office at 979-826-7651 or Stacie Villarreal at Stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu



Name that Plant? Bag- Pod Sesbania

Description

Bag-pod sesbania is an annual herb in the legume family that grows to 6 to 10 feet tall. The leaves consist of 20 to 40 alternate leaflets. Drooping spikes of yellowish to coral-colored flowers appear in late summer.

The beaked pods consist of two membranes, the outer one thick and the inner one papery. Each holds two or three seeds. The pods persist on the plant long after the leaves have fallen. The kidney-shaped seeds have a prominent hilum, or eye.

Habitat

These plants grow in the eastern half of Texas and extend eastward through the coastal states to North Carolina. They are usually found in well-drained sandy sites in wetter regions and in low sandy areas subject to flooding in drier regions.

Toxic Agent

Bag-pod sesbania contains sesbaimide, which is concentrated in the seed. Fresh green plants are unpalatable; only the mature dry seedpods and seeds are consumed. Animals pastured with the plant during the growing season are seldom poisoned, but naïve ruminants, especially goats and cattle, are often poisoned when they are introduced to the dried plants in the fall and winter. Clinical observations indicate that newly mature seeds are more toxic than those that have weathered on the plant. The seeds of bag-pod sesbania (*S. vesicaria*) seem to be more toxic than those of sennabeen (*S. drummondii*).

Signs of Livestock Ingestion

Signs of poisoning occur within 1 or 2 days after consumption and can include: depression, diarrhea, Weakness, Rapid heart rate, Labored breathing, and Death.

Death quickly follows the onset of clinical signs, which in many cases go unobserved. Seeds and/or seed fragments are routinely found in the rumen contents of animals that die from eating this plant.





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.

Waller County

Backyard Basics

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

Topics to include:

Backyard Chickens- July 6th
Home Friendly Gardening- July 13th
Easy Canning- July 20th

Waller County Community Center
6pm-8pm

To reserve a seat at all 3 programs the cost is \$30. For an individual program the cost is \$15.

Contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office to register.

846 6th Street, Hempstead, TX

979-826-7651

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

FOOD SAFETY RULES AND GAPs TRAINING FOR PRODUCERS

JULY 27, 2017

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
CARDEN-WALLER EXTENSION BUILDING
250 E.M. NORRIS ST, PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS 77446

- 8:30 AM Registration and Refreshments
9:00 AM Welcome and Introductions
9:30 AM Module 1: Introduction to Produce Safety
10:15 AM Module 2: Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training
11:15 AM *Break*
11:30 AM Module 3: Soil Amendments
12:15 PM *Lunch*
1:00 PM Module 4: Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use
1:45 PM Module 5: Agricultural Water – Part 1: Production Water
2:30 PM *Break*
2:45 PM Module 5: Agricultural Water – Part 2: Postharvest Water
3:45 PM Module 6: Postharvest Handling and Sanitation
4:45 PM Module 7: How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan
5:15 PM *Final Questions and Evaluations*
5:30 PM *Participants Adjourn*

Register online at <https://agriferegister.tamu.edu/ProduceSafety>

Register by phone: 979-845-2604

For questions or additional information, contact Dr. Joe Masabni at
jmasabni@ag.tamu.edu or 903.834.6191



PRAIRIE VIEW
A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Cooperative Extension Program

Produce Safety
ALLIANCE



The largest beef educational event in the country!

7+ CEU's offered

beefcattleshortcourse.com

The Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course (BCSC) is a three-day seminar that represents the culmination of knowledge from industry leaders and experts. Each year more than 1,500 beef producers attend the BCSC to expand their knowledge of the beef cattle industry and join in the discussion of the most current issues facing the producer. This industry gathering features the popular Cattleman's College, a general session with the nation's leading beef cattle experts, seminars, workshops and hands-on demonstrations.

Registration

Complete the registration form on page two or register online by Monday, July 31st to take advantage of the early registration rate of \$180. The price includes a ticket to the Aggie Prime Rib Dinner, breakfasts each morning, two lunches, a copy of the 600+ page proceedings and trade show admittance.

Diverse Trade Show

Come enjoy the BCSC trade show which includes over 140 beef industry exhibits from agribusinesses, associations, Extension, ag finance, computer software, livestock equipment and much more.

Customize Your Course

More than 20 concurrent sessions are offered including topics such as: animal health, nutrition, reproduction, breeding, genetics, selection, research, marketing and handling. Management sessions will cover business, forage, range, purebred cattle, and landowner issues. Sessions are designed for everyone, from the newest member of the industry to the most seasoned producer. Seven plus pest CEU's and 17 veterinarianian CEC's, along with BQA credits are offered.

Chance to win a \$10,000 livestock equipment package!



2017 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course Registration



Participant Information

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Pesticide Applicator

Email Address _____

License # _____

Fees & Options

Registration Fee: \$180.00 per person _____ x \$180.00 = _____

** Includes 3 daily breakfasts, 2 lunch tickets, 1 Prime Rib Dinner ticket, 1 proceedings, trade show admittance, refreshments and access to campus shuttle service.*

Late Fee (after July 31): \$40.00 per person _____ x \$40.00 = _____

Additional "Aggie Prime Rib Dinner" Tickets: \$30.00 each _____ x \$30.00 = _____

Additional Lunch Tickets (Mon & Tue): \$15.00 each _____ x \$15.00 = _____

Additional Bound or CD Proceedings: \$60.00 each _____ x \$60.00 = _____

TOTAL = _____

****Parking is not included with registration! Please see information below for instructions!****

Payment

Check (Payable to "Beef Cattle Short Course")

Credit Card (Fill out information below)

Cardholder Name _____

Credit Card Type _____

Card Number _____

Exp. Date (MM/YY) _____

Mail your Registration and Payment to:

Conference Services, Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course, 1232 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-1232

Fax your Registration and Payment to:

979.845.2519, Attn: Joani Groce

Parking: The three day pass for Lot 61 (MSC), Lot 74 (Rosenthal), and Lot 63 (Pearce Pavilion) can be purchased for a flat event rate of \$15 at <https://transport.tamu.edu/Account/Conference/parkingpermits.aspx>

Also, parking is available across the street from the MSC in the University Center Garage or Cain Garage for \$15 per day.

Cancellation Requests: Must be made in writing to Joani Groce. Refunds of seminar registrations fees (less administration fee of \$50) will be made if written notification is received no later than July 31, 2017.

After July 31, 2017 no refunds will be honored.

Questions: For registration questions call Joani Groce 979.845.8901. For program or trade show questions call Dr. Cleere's office at 979.845.6931 and speak to Paige Phillips or Jewel Smith.



Private Applicators Licenses Training

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>

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

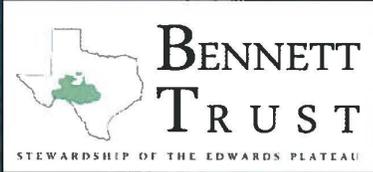
Dates & Times are subject to change

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.



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



SAVE THE DATE

46th South Central



Texas Cow-Calf Clinic

October 27, 2017

At the Washington County Fairgrounds in Brenham, TX.

For details or to get involved keep checking our
website at Washington.agrilife.org or

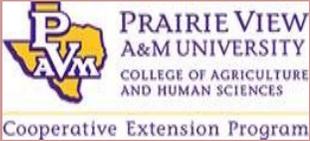
**Welcoming
Display Bulls
& Heifers!!**

Like us on Facebook:
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washingtoncountyextension](http://www.facebook.com/washingtoncountyextension)



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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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Vacant
CEP Extension Agent
Ag/Natural Resources

Dee Abrams
Office Manager
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Debbie Tiner
Assistant Office Manager
dgtiner@ag.tamu.edu

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