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## Upcoming Dates

- Soil Campaign 10/15-11/15/18
- Private Applicator Training 11/8/18
- Ag & Wildlife Valuation workshop 11/28/18
- Town & County Webinar-5 CEU- 12/13/18
- Starting in 2019- New/ Small Landowners series
- Tree Care Workshop TBA

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



# Ag Newsletter

November 2018

## *Few options to salvage late-season hay amid wet weather*

OVERTON – Warm-season grasses are plentiful in hay producing areas, but the rain that helped improve growing conditions following an extended period of drought is hurting their chances for more round bales, said a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson, AgriLife Extension forage specialist, Overton, said late-season rains created good growing conditions for warm-season grasses over the last 60 days following months of drought that left hay supplies low around the state. She said while grasses might be abundant in pastures and hay meadows, producers are having difficulty harvesting between rains. Corriher-Olson said many producers are counting on a final cutting, but weather conditions have been against them as the first freezing temperatures rapidly approach.

Producers would ideally make the final cutting now when the grass is green and before the first frost, which typically occurs Nov. 15 in East Texas, she said, but continuous rains over the last 60 days have allowed few opportunities for producers to harvest. “Accessing the pastures with equipment was a problem, but even once the ground dried out enough to get in, producers had to consider if there was a window between rains where the hay could be cut, cured and baled before another rain,” she said. “It’s been difficult, and producers need the hay.” Corriher-Olson said producing hay bales is heavily dependent on weather and there are risks associated with any decision when it comes to harvesting hay at this point in the season amid unfavorable weather conditions.

The best option is to move cattle onto the field for grazing if there is fencing and water is available. “Livestock are much better harvesters than we are with machines,” she said. “But grazing isn’t an option for a lot of producers because many East Texas hay meadows don’t have fences or water.” If hay is cut and remains on the ground when it rains, Corriher-Olson said it will begin to lose nutritive value due to leaching of non-structural carbohydrates. Rain can also shatter leaves off harvested forage and reduce both the crude protein and energy levels of the hay.

Harvesting hay after a frost is an option, she said. However, producers still need to be cautious of weather conditions. “With cooler temperatures and cloudy days, curing hay can be even more challenging,” she said. Extra forage can also be allowed to remain standing in the field for grazing, Corriher-Olson said. Maintaining some substantial Bermuda grass or Bahia grass stubble height could provide shade that could reduce volunteer ryegrass as well as other weed seed germination.

This might not provide 100 percent control, however competition can help reduce undesired plant growth, she said. Maintaining a higher stubble height can also be beneficial for the future growth of warm-season perennials. Higher stubble height means more substantial root structure to capture deeper soil moisture and nutrients.

“Cooler spring temperatures, drought, fall armyworms and late fall rains have added extra challenges for hay production, so late season utilization, whether harvesting, grazing or maintaining stubble, could impact forage production this year and next,” she said.



Puddles of water gather in low spots of a pasture west of Tyler. Rains have created soggy conditions for farmers trying to harvest warm-season grasses for hay before the first frost. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo by Adam Russell)



## Master Gardeners

The Annual Master Gardener Fruit & Nut Tree sale will be postponed until the Fall of 2019. Our goal is to align the time line with the Earth-kind recommendation set forth by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. We are sorry for any inconvenience this might cause you if you were expecting the preorders to be available. See flier for more details

New Intern classes are currently being finalized. If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener please contact the Extension Office and Ask to speak to a Master Gardener, 979-826-7651 ext.3068. The classes are scheduled for Thursdays at the Masonic Lodge in Hempstead from 9am to 4pm with a lunch break. The first class will start on Thursday, January 17. See flier for more details

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## Grimes & Waller Soil Campaign Ends Nov. 15th

The Annual Soil Testing Campaign in Waller County will run from October 15- November 15. This campaign is made possible through the support of the Waller County Extension Program Council and in cooperation with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Soil, Water, and Forge Testing Lab in College Station.

Soil sample bags and submittal forms for both the soil and forage testing campaign are available at: The Waller County Extension Service located at 846 6th St., Hempstead

All soil samples and forms must be returned to the Waller County Extension office to receive the discounted pricing. Full payment by check payable to the Extension Program Council or EPC is due when the samples are submitted to the Extension office. Extension office staff will deliver your samples to the testing lab. Sample results will be returned to the Extension office and then distributed.

### Soil Campaign

The Soil Testing Campaign offers agricultural producers the opportunity to have their soil tested to determine its current fertility and receive a recommendation to improve the fertility required to produce the best crop possible. This campaign is only intended for soil analysis on agricultural land used for grazing and/or hay production. Please do not submit lawn or garden soil samples.

The cost for a routine analysis will be \$8.00 and a routine analysis with micronutrients will cost \$15.00. In exchange for the reduced testing cost, some information regarding your agriculture land will be required. The information you will need to provide includes the amount of acres the sample represents, your planned fertilizer application for the coming year, what you are growing, and whether or not the soil has been sampled in the past three years.

## *Ag & Wildlife Valuation workshop on November 28th*

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office of Waller County will be hosting an Ag & Wildlife Valuation Workshop on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at the Waller County Community Center located at 21274 FM 1098 in Prairie View. Program Registration will begin at 9am with the first presentation. The program will have refreshments available.

Information to be covered includes what the Waller County Appraisal District looks for if you want ag or wildlife valuation on your property, followed by an introduction to wildlife valuation from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Other topics will include the NRCS programs and wildlife conservation easements. Presenters include Waller County Appraisal District, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Natural Resource Conservation Service and Katy Prairie Conservancy.

There is a \$15 charge for the program. To RSVP or if you have additional questions, please contact Waller County Extension Office at 979-826-7651. See Flier for details

### **5 Hour CEU Seminar– December 13th**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office of Waller County and District 9 Southeast Texas Agents will be host the 3rd Annual Southeast Texas Town & Country CEU Recertification Seminar on Thursday, December 13th at the Waller County Community Center located at 21274 FM 1098 in Prairie View. Program registration will begin at 7:30 am with the first presentation scheduled for 8:30 am with the final presentation ending about 3:00 pm. The entire seminar will be webinar based, so all speakers will be off site broadcasting. There will be several CEU credits given for Pesticide (TDA) and SPCB; TDA: 1-IPM, 1-Laws and Regs, 3-General, SPCB: 1-Weed, 1-Pest, 1-IPM, 1-Laws and Regs, 1-L&O.

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. Lunch will be provided with your registration fee. Please RSVP so we have a head count for the meal.

The program is \$50 before December 3rd, after December 3rd the fee will be \$70 for the program. Please make checks payable to Extension Program Council (EPC). To RSVP or if you have additional questions, please contact Waller County Extension Office at 979-826-7651.

## **Name that Plant? Common Perismmon, Eastern Persimmon**

### **Description**

Common persimmon is a shrub to small tree. A native, cool-season perennial, it is also known as eastern persimmon.

This plant has a characteristic leaf shape, bud scars and new buds. Its fruit has four to eight seeds that are very hard and enable this plant to invade pasture land. As it matures, the fruit is at first green, turning yellow to orange and finally purple to black when fully ripened. Common persimmon provides fair forage for wildlife.

### **Habitat**

Common persimmon grows on most types of soils from sand to shale and in muddy bottomlands in the eastern and central parts of Texas.





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  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

# Private Applicators Licenses Training

**When:** Thursday, February 15, 2018

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Thursday, August 23, 2018

Thursday, November 8, 2018

*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.

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

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# Waller County Soil Testing Campaign

## October 15 -November 15, 2018

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This campaign is open to all Cattle and Forage producers.  
Soil bags, campaign forms, and directions can be picked up at Waller County Extension Office.

All bags, forms and payment must be received by **November 15** at:

Waller County Extension Office  
846 6th St.  
Hempstead, Texas 77445

Please make checks payable to:  
**Extension Program Council or EPC**

Stacie Villarreal  
CEA- Agriculture/Natural Resources  
[Texas A&M AgriLife Extension](#)  
[Waller County](#)  
979-826-7651  
[stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu)

For more information contact us at 979-826-7651.



TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION

**Routine analysis:**  
**\$8.00**  
**Routine + micronutrients:**  
**\$15.00**

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# Waller County

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

# Ag & Wildlife Valuation

November 28th from 9am to noon



## Topics:

Waller County Appraisal District  
Introduction to Wildlife Valuation  
Wildlife Conservation Easements  
NRCS Programs

Waller County Community Center  
21274 FM 1098  
Prairie View, TX 77446



## Presenters:

Chris Barzilla, Waller County Chief Appraiser  
Becky Gurrola, Waller County Deputy Appraiser  
Stephanie Damron, Natural Resource Specialist, TPWD  
Carlos Pena, District Conservationist, NRCS  
Elisa Donovan, Katy Prairie Conservancy

RSVP by Nov. 26th

Cost \$15/person

Refreshments will be available



Contact the Waller County Extension Office to register or for more information.

846 6th St., Hempstead, TX 77445

979-826-7651

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



**Date: December 13, 2018**

**Time: 8:15am—3:00pm**

Registration begins at 7:30am

8:15-8:30 Welcome and Conference Instructions

8:30-9:30 Ants Impacting our Lives

*Dr. Paul Nester, Extension Entomologist: Retired Texas A&M  
AgriLife Extension*

8:30-9:30 Livestock Vector Education & Mgmt

*Dr. Lanny Dreesen, Extension Forestry Specialist Texas A&M  
AgriLife Extension Service*

11:00 –12:00 Aquatic Weed Control Techniques

*Dr. Todd Sink, Asst. Professor & Extension, Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension Service*

12:00-1:00 Lunch: Included in Registration fee

1:00-2:00 Pesticide License Update on Regulations

*Dr. Don Renchie, Assoc. Professor/Program Leader, Texas A&M  
AgriLife Extension Service*

2:00-3:00 Pesticide Labels and Calibration

*Dr. Matt Matocha, Extension Program Specialist, Texas A&M  
AgriLife Extension*

**Waller County Community  
Center  
21274 FM 1098  
Prairie View**

Registration is \$50 per person.

**RSVP'S MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
DECEMBER 3RD BY 5 PM**

**REGISTRATION MADE AFTER  
DECEMBER 3RD IS \$70 PER  
PERSON**

*Continuing Education Credits pending:*

**TDA-1 IPM, 1 Laws and Regs, 3  
General**

**SPCB-1 Weed, 1 Pest, 1 IPM, 1  
Laws and Regs, 1 L&O**

Please Register at: 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:  
Extension Program Council**

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. 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.

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Waller County Master Gardeners

# 2019 Fruit & Nut tree sale Moves to the **FALL**



**Fall is for Planting!**  
**Tree sale has a date change to FALL 2019**

## **WHY the move?**

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension and Earth-Kind® experts promote planting new trees in Fall, giving them a head start in Spring.

- **Warm soil & cooler air means happier trees.**  
Plants like to sink their roots into warmer soil.
- **Better drought tolerance.**  
Trees get an extra 3-4 months of root growth before facing hotter days. Deeper and better established roots help a tree tolerate drought.
- **Less insect pest and disease pressure.**  
Leaf chewers and leaf spotters are less active in the fall, making for less stressed trees, building better roots.

For more information check

Website: <https://txmg.org/wallermg/>

Facebook: Waller County Master Gardeners

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION



**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

**Like us on Facebook  
Waller County  
Extension Office**

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

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We have a Soil & Forage Probe that can be rented out to take samples. \$50 Deposit which is returned when the probe is brought back and not damaged. For more information or to check out one of these items please call the office.



*Help stray livestock get  
home safely*

**\$12  
each**

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

**Property  
Gate  
Signs**

Signs are available for Waller County residents signs are about 5"x20" in size.

Attaches to gates or fences where they are visible from the road.

Individualized for each producer with an assessing number and a place for a phone number, Ranch name, or Owners Name.



Sponsored by the Waller County Beef & Forage Committee  
Signs are available at Waller County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office  
846 6th St., Hempstead, TX 77445; 979-826-7651