South Texas Water Screening (Atascosa, Dimmit, Frio, LaSalle and Zavala Counties)

SCS-2004-

**Well Water Quality Screening Result Sheet**

Name: Date: Address: City, State Zip:

The results of the fecal coliform and nitrate screening conducted on your water sample recently at our office are as follows:

Bacteria detected:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fecal Coliform Bacteria Detected:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hydrocarbon:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nitrate Concentration (ppm): Salinity (TDS) Concentration (ppm):

This coliform procedure is a screening process. If the results were positive for the presence of bacteria form in your sample, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), for a list of Texas laboratories certified by National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) for drinking water testing. The list is available on the web:

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/compliance/compliance\_support/qa/txnelap\_lab\_list.pdf

The nitrate screening results indicate the concentration of nitrates in parts per million (ppm) present in your water sample. The US-EPA has set a primary maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate-nitrogen at 10 ppm. This is the maximum level of nitrate-nitrogen that the EPA has determined that an individual can safely ingest. This EPA standard is primarily directed at pregnant women and infants less than one year old. Since our lab is mobile, we add an additional level of safety of 2 ppm and use 8 ppm as our action level. If your screening result is below 8 ppm, no further action is required at this time. However, if your result is above 8 ppm, contact one of the NELAC Labs.

The salinity screening result indicates the concentration of Total Dissolved Salts (TDS) in parts per million (ppm) present in your water sample. The US-EPA has set a secondary maximum contaminant level for TDS at 500 ppm. Secondary drinking water standards differ from primary standards. Primary standards deal with contaminants that affect human health. Secondary standards deal with contaminant that affect the aesthetic quality of the water (i.e. color, taste, clarity). Those on low sodium diets may need to be concerned with TDS levels in their drinking water. Waters with high salinity values can also adversely impact plants (when used for irrigation) and livestock (when used for consumption).

# Guide for plants in ppm:

0-175 Excellent; no risk to plants 175-525 Good; not for sensitive plants

525-1,400 Permissible; not for low salt tolerant plants 1,400-2,100 Doubtful; damage to high salt tolerant plants

> 2,100 Unsuitable

# Guide for livestock in ppm:

0-3,000 Okay for all livestock

3,000-4,999 Satisfactory; may result in temporary refusal and diarrhea

4,999-6,999 Reasonably safe; not for pregnant/lactating animals

6,999-10,000 Risky to young, pregnant/lactating animals and animals under heat stress or water loss

> 10,000 Unsuitable for all livestock



***Please note, this event only screened your water sample for bacteria, nitrate-nitrogen, salinity concentrations and Hydrocarbons using mobile lab techniques*.**

For additional information see our website at: water.tamu.edu or soilcrop.tamu.edu

Thank you for participating in this water-screening program. For more information regarding the protection of your drinking water quality or any other question please contact the **Zavala County** office of Texas AgriLife Extension Service by telephoning **830-569-0034**

**Russ Pulfer County Extension Agent Ag & Nr ZavalaCounty**

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