

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

Edwards County Newsletter

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May 2015

Special points of interest:

- May Water Well Management Workshop
- May 20th Ranchers Roundup
- Future 2015 Programs
- Horticulture Tips
- 4-H News

Water Well Management Workshop

On May 12th the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service In Edwards, Real, and Uvalde Counties will be partnering with the Real-Edwards Conservation And Reclamation District to provide a Water Well Management Workshop.

The Workshop will be held at the Conservation and Reclamation District Office, 106 E. 4th Street at 9:00 a.m.

Topics will include:

- Well Maintenance
- Abandoned Water Wells
- Water Quality and Treatment
- Water Screening

Registration Cost will be \$10, please register and pick up your "Whirl-Pak" screening bags by May 7th.

For more information, help with taking a water sample and to register, contact James Crockett, Edwards County at 830-683-4310, Laci Bostic, Real County at 830-232-6673, Austin Kirmer, Uvalde County at 830-278-6661

Future Programs

The following programs are tentative dates:

- May 12th: Water Well Management Workshop- Camp Wood
- May 20th- Ranchers Roundup- Sutton County Civic Center
- June 24th: Texas Well Owners Network Water Talk- Sutton County Civic Center
- June 26th: Private Pesticide Applicator Training- More information in the future

If you would like to be added to our e-mail or mailing list to receive updates on all future programs, please contact the extension office at 830-683-4310 or by e-mail at James.Crockett@ag.tamu.edu.



Horticulture:

The use of mulch in Texas is pretty much necessary, it will provide warmth for plants in the Winter and will keep soil cooler in the summer. Mulch will also help retain moisture, cutting down on water use. There are two commonly used mulches, Organic and Inorganic; Inorganic commonly includes plastic and non-plant materials, Organic can include compost, wood chips, or straw. Mulch is also a natural way to reduce the number of weeds in your garden, by providing a four inch layer of mulch you will greatly reduce the number of weeds in your garden. When applying Mulch in a vegetable garden your yield can be up to 50 percent higher than if not using any mulch.



Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

April 24th Predator Management Workshop



The Predator Management Workshop was a huge success, there were 75 people in attendance including volunteers and presenters. Topics covered included: Habitat Management and the impact a habitat can have on predators, Updates on Feral Swine Research being conducted at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area, and predator

problems that are currently being addressed in Edwards County. I would like to thank Ryan Schmidt, Edwards County TPWD biologist, John Kinsey, Kerr Wildlife Management Area Feral Swine Research, and Stan Cottle and Sam Epperson of the Edwards County Predator Management Association for helping with the program. I

would also like to thank Rusty Pipes and Carl Hyde for cooking the lunch that the Predator Management Association provided for us, along with everyone else who volunteered their time.



Ranchers Roundup– Enhancing Range and Livestock Production

Wednesday, May 20th at Sutton County Civic Center.

The timely rains have benefitted our rangelands and provided optimism. Yet there's always that concern that the rains will produce plants which are toxic to livestock. But it raises other questions.



With the fair range conditions and good markets, should I stock a little heavier?

Should I buy cows or raise replacement heifers?

How do I select cows that'll make money?

What's the sheep & goat market outlook?

The annual Ranchers RoundUp will address those questions.

Topics include: Beef Industry Update; Sheep & Goat Industry Outlook, Reducing Livestock Losses To Toxic Plants; Antibiotics & Hormones in Animal Production.

Speakers: Ron Gill– Extension Livestock Specialist; Morgan Russell – Extension Specialist, Range Management ;Benny Cox– Producers Livestock Auction; Rick Machen Extension Livestock Specialist.

Cost is \$10 per person . 3 CEU's offered (1 IPM, 2 General). Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the program starts at 9 a.m. RSVP by Monday May 18th . Call 325-387-3101 for registration or more information.

4-H News

State Fair Of Texas Validation

It is now time to start thinking about the State Fair of Texas, if you want to show an animal in the State Fair, tags need to be ordered soon. To be eligible to show in the State Fair, animals will need to be validated during the month of June.

Highway Cleanup

I would also like to thank every 4-H and FFA member that took part in the highway cleanups this month. We were able to clean our 4 miles of highway this month, great job.

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TRASH-OFF

APRIL 11, 2015