TEXAS A&M September 2023 EXTENSION

Atascosa County Ag Newsletter

Courtesy of: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office 25 E. 5th Street P.O. Box 379 Leming, TX 78050 830-569-0034 Atascosa.agrilife.org

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

Planting the Seeds of a Successful Hunt

AgriLife Extension wildlife Specialists encourage preparation for cool-season food plots Brought to us by AgriLife Today Sarah Fuller

As cicadas herald the dogs days of summer and triple-digit temperatures blanket the state, cool, quite mornings in a deer blind overlooking a food plot are a distant dream.

However, if you want to ensure mornings like this in the future, the time to begin preparing food plot is now, said Jacob Dykes, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service wildlife specialist, Corpus Christi.

Food plot benefits to wildlife

Dykes, assistant professor in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management, said warm- and cool-season food plots provide benefits beyond attracting white-tailed deer during hunting season. They also support other mammal and bird species during times when forage isn't abundant and create opportunities for wildlife viewing.

While game feeders dispensing corn or pelleted feed are a popular option in Texas Dykes said they don't offer the same benefits as food plots.

"Most feeds are imperfect in that they take a cookie-cutter approach to nutrition and are formulated for the average animal," Dykes said. "But wildlife are rarely average and have different nutritional needs based upon their stage of life.

"A food plot with different forages provides deer with the opportunity to choose what they need as they balance their nutrient requirements."

Eating vegetation may also have other benefits such as antimicrobial and antiparasitic properties, Dykes said.

Further, because food plots disperse deer over an area as opposed to concentrating them in a single spot, there is a reduced risk of disease transmission between animals.

Ensuring successful food plots from the ground up

While planting cool-season food plots in Texas typically takes place from September through October, preparation should begin sooner.

"My first recommendation is to always have your soil tested," Dykes said. "It doesn't matter how much you plan or how much fertilizer you use - if the soil pH isn't where it need to be, nutrients are not going to be available to the plants."

Soil pH measures the level of soil acidity or alkalinity and ideally should measure in the range of 6-7, Dykes said.

The AgriLife Extension Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory offers Texans a full suite of soil tests. In the case of food plots, the laboratory's routine soil analysis provides landowners with the information and subsequent recommendations needed to achieve ideal soil conditions.

Additionally, Dykes said landowners should take environmental conditions into consideration when establishing food plots.

"For example, if you know an area of your property is prone to flooding, that's not the best spot to plant your food plot," Dykes said.

It also helps to think like a deer when appraising potential plot locations.

"Deer want to cover they can use as an escape," Dykes said. "If you already know that deer are using a particular part of your property, my recommendation would be to simply place your food plot in that area."

Plot size and composition

Dykes said the most common question he receives regarding food plots relates to the size needed to be effective.

"I've planted plots that were one-tenth of an acre, and I've planted plots that were 25 acres," he said. "It just depends on the density of deer on your property and the resources you have available."

Dykes said if the deer population is high, they can completely devour a plot in a matter of days — especially if you plant a desired crop like soybeans.

While pre-mixed options are available from retailers, Dykes prefers ordering seeds separately and preparing the mix himself.

"Typically, all mixes contain ryegrass, which I am not a big fan of," Dykes said. "It's always going to be beautiful and green, and that's why it's included."

Dykes said ryegrass, not to be confused with cereal rye, contains less crude protein and is less palatable and digestible than other cool season options.

Because of its hardy nature, ryegrass can also out-compete other species in the seed mix and become an issue if it establishes on your property.

Aside from ryegrass, Dykes said plenty of options remain for cool-season crops including brassicas, clovers, winter peas and more.

"I really like the standard mix of a winter wheat, oats, crimson clover and arrow leaf clover," Dykes said.

Landowners can <u>access information</u> on seeding rates and planting depth for Dykes' recommended cool-season mix in a guide published by AgriLife Extension.

Thanks to the successional growth stages of this species mix, Dykes said the life of the food plot can be greatly extended and serve hunters through the spring turkey season.

That is, of course, if the plot receives sufficient moisture.

"Lack of rainfall is probably one of the biggest limiting factors for successful food plots in Texas," Dykes said. "I highly recommend food plots, but I always include the disclaimer that if it doesn't rain or receive supplemental water, the plants won't grow."

Breaking ground

After addressing any soil issues, Dykes advises a combination of herbicide and disking to remove existing vegetation and establish a good seed bed.

Fertilizer can also be applied at the time of seed dispersal.

This process typically takes place in the late summer to early fall when rain becomes more dependable. The timeframe also provides around two months for the food plots to germinate and attract whitetailed deer before the November general hunting season begins.

"I start watching the weather in mid-September," Dykes said. "If I see that the forecast includes rain the following week, I'll plant the seeds that weekend."

Challenges and management

Deer aren't the only wildlife attracted to newly established food plots. The rooting and foraging habits of feral hogs can destroy them.

"If you have a feral hog problem, you need to address that before you plant what essentially amounts to a buffet," Dykes said.

In order to reduce the impact of white-tailed deer on a newly established food plot, Dykes said the most common method is a two-tiered polywire electric fence. The inner tier of the fence perimeter typically consists of three to four strands of polywire with a strand of polytape forming the outer tier.

Dykes also recommends placing an exclusion cage within the plot.

The cage, which can be constructed using something as simple as chicken wire, prevents feeding in a single area. This untouched boundary sheds light on plant growth, as well as how heavily deer are browsing the plot.

"I've had cases where landowners think their food plots were doing poorly, but they were actually performing very well," Dykes said. "The deer were just coming through and mowing everything down."

In addition to annual food plots, Dykes said separate perennial plots comprised of durana or ladino clover are also beneficial.

"I love perennial plots because if you miss the opportunity to plant your annual food plot, the perennial plot will hopefully provide some forage to hunt over," Dykes said.

For landowners hoping to make an even longer-lasting impact, Dykes encourages the planting of trees beneficial to wildlife, such as oaks and common persimmon.

"It all comes down to creating beneficial habitat for the deer," Dykes said. "If you create good habitat on your land, they won't have a reason to leave."

Water Restrictions: Decide which Trees, Plants to Prioritize When Water is Limited

Texas A&M AgriLife's August Gardening Guide AgriLife Today by Susan Himes Most Texans are more than ready for an end to what seems like a never-ending heat wave. Your garden plants, trees and lawn most likely would echo that same sentiment if they could.

"Many of us are on water restrictions, meaning we can only water limited amounts," said Larry Stein, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service horticultural specialist, Uvalde, and professor in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Horticultural Sciences. "If you don't have enough water for our entire yard or garden, it's best to concentrate on the most valuable plants in your landscape, which is probably your trees."

But not all trees are created equal. The most established and deeply rooted the tree, the less water it will need to survive.

"The species of tree should be considered when determining which ones should be prioritized for resources," he said. "In Texas, long-lived trees such as oaks, pecans, and elms should be prioritized over ash or mulberry, etc. An as tree planted here only has a short lifespan anyway."

Stein said no one wants to hear that trees should go, but sacrificing some trees now may help other trees not just to survive when water is limited, but to thrive moving forward.

Look up at your trees' canopies to get an idea of which ones may need to go. There should be long branches and a full cylindrical canopy around the trunk. If not, it isn't getting the resources it needs. The fewer the trees, the more cylindrical your remaining canopies will be.

The edge of a tree's canopy, or drip line, and outward should dictate where you water the ground. Water should be concentrated at the drip line because it is where it is needed to reach the most effective roots.

During times of drought, established trees can probably get by on 1 to 2 gallons per inch of trunk diameter, once a week. A little bit of water is better than no water.



Mexican white oaks on the Texas A&M University campus illustrate how planting trees far enough apart helps them to have more cylindrical canopies and can help them survive drought or future water restrictions better.

A few inches of mulch around the drip line will help a tree retain moisture, and watering early morning and in the evening will prevent as much evaporation loss as possible. Using a hose, drip system or bubbler to water is more efficient than sprinklers.

"Trees can become competitors with each other for resources like water when they are too close together," Stein said. "Any trees within 10-15 feet of each other are competing for resources."

Keep the big landscape picture in mind when facing water restrictions



Hoses, drip lines and bubblers are better watering method than sprinklers when there are water restrictions and water need to be prioritized to specific yard areas. (Texas A&M AgriLife Photo by Michael Miller)

When deciding where water is best utilized, people should also consider the cost to replace a tree or plant and how long it would take to get them to the size they want. Mature trees add curb appeal and can raise the value of your home.

"Many trees really are the focal point or star of our yards and gardens," Stein said.

When planting new trees, people need to keep in mind to plant them far enough apart and consider the resources they will require and the size they may ultimately grow to be, he said.

Stein said things recently planted need special consideration when deciding where your water should

"The things you just planted, those are the most critical," he said. "Until new trees and plants have time to become established, they need water that first year. Even if folks have planted natives, without water those native plants can't survive."

Stein said Texans not under water restrictions should continue to maintain good water for ornamentals and summer blooming plants and evaluate the volume of water delivered from lawn sprinklers to ensure healthy, stress-free grass during the heat of the summer.

And for the rest of the state with restrictions or wells starting to dry up?

Based on the weather and the long-range forecast, Stein said the outlook is not good right now, so the bottom line is that drought tolerance may need to become part of your long-term decision-making process.

"Now is a good time to assess what plants aren't doing well and decide you may need to move on without them or replace them with something better suited to your region and conditions in the future," said Stein. "Decide what is thriving, struggling and what needs to be removed. Whatever summer took a toll on this year won't have it any easier next season."

He said Texas Superstar plants are good options.

Texas Superstar are plants that are highly recommended by AgriLife Extension for their ability to thrive in Texas. The Texas Superstar designation indicates that the plant has performed well for growers, is easy to propagate, widely available and reasonably priced.

Pride-of-Barbados and gold star Esperanza are two colorful Texas Superstar options that are blooming right now. Stein said a free, online Texas Superstar brochure is available that can be read and printed out for reference when shopping for plants.

"It isn't a question of if, but when rain will come," Stein said. "We just have to hang in there until then and start making future decisions for our yards that take into account Texas has heatwaves and droughts."

Keep the big landscape picture in mind when facing water restrictions

Stein said gardeners need to be on the lookout for pests like chinch bugs and should start preparing for fall. Here he offers his top tips for August.

Garden tips for August

Stein said gardeners need to be on the lookout for pests like chinch bugs and should start preparing for fall.

Here he offers his top tips for August.

Remove spent crops

Remove spent garden crops like squash, green beans, etc., to get ready for fall.

Protect pecans

Water is key this month for the fill of pecans; key pests include shuckworm, black aphids and pecan weevil.

Plan for cool-season garden produce



Gardeners need to continue to pick peppers and other warm season produce to encourage subsequent crops during the summer. (Texas A&M AgriLife Photo by Laura McKenzie)

By mid-to-late August many fall vegetable seeds and even small plants may be set out for later production. The young plants will need extra water and a little shade while they are becoming established. The result will be excellent cool season garden produce.

Prepare roses for fall

Shear roses for fall bloom; prune out dead canes and any weak, brushy growth. Cut back tall, vigorous bushes to about 30 inches. After pruning, apply fertilizer and water thoroughly.

Take action to encourage more blooms

Shear perennial shrubs like Salvia greggii for compact growth and more blooms; trim off faded flowers on crape myrtles and vitex to encourage later rebloom. Picking flowers frequently encourages most annuals and perennials to flower even more abundantly.



Now is the time to sow seeds like pansies that you want to plant in the fall. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Laura McKenzie)

Prune what is dead or diseased from trees

Prune out dead or diseased wood from trees and shrubs. Hold off on major pruning from now until midwinter. Severe pruning at this time will only stimulate tender new growth prior to frost. Oak trees can be pruned but make sure to still paint the wounds.

Sow cool-season flower seeds for fall

Sow seeds of snapdragons, dianthus, pansies, calendulas and other cool-season flowers in flats, or in well-prepared areas of the garden, for planting during midto-late fall.

Pick produce

Pick okra, peas and peppers often to maintain production. Take advantage of the crops that do well in the heat so you have produce through summer season

Don't procrastinate a new compost pile

Establish a new compost pile to accommodate the fall leaf accumulation if you have not already done so.

Maintaining Herd Performance During Drought

by Ron Gill, Ph.D., Professor and Extension Livestock Specialist, Texas A&M University

Drought always presents unique and difficult management situations. Most managers are caught somewhat by surprise by the size, scope and severity of drought. Getting off to a late start in managing through any drought would completely alter the normal approach to forage and nutritional management. Blanket statements about proper management strategies are completely inappropriate. Recommendations in this discussion will be based on the most common situations observed during drought.

The hardest thing to do is maintain herd performance when forage is limited in quality and quantity. Compounding that problem is the cost of supplemental feed and hay. Feeding through drought usually is not an economically viable option. For hay feeding to make economic sense cattle prices would have to be high. In most situations, the most economical option is to reduce herd size so supplemental forage will not have to be purchased or fed. Forage may still be available for grazing if destocking was carried out early enough. With early destocking, normal herd management practices will be sufficient. All forage will come from growing or standing forage. When the only option seems to be buying hay, then sell cows. Even though cow values are normally low during drought the best long-term economic scenario appears to be to liquidate at least a portion of the cow herd

Environmental/Stress Management

Managing through a drought requires implementing practices that help reduce stress. This includes nutritional and environmental factors which lead to increased energy requirements of cows and calves. Some things appear to be just common sense. Fencing off watering areas that become boggy will reduce energy required to maintain production. This only works when there are other sources of water available. Hauling water is an expense that cannot be supported for long. There is also the risk of having weaker cows bog down and die before they are discovered.

When water supplies are depleted it is time to liquidate. Minimize exposure to increased health risks by reducing access to stagnant watering areas. Allow cattle access to shade, normally a problem only on operations with a high percentage of "improved" pastures.

Manage cows to maintain a body condition score (BCS) of 4 or above on mature cows and 5 on two and three year old cows. Accomplish this by culling early and allowing cows to maintain condition on standing forage. Thin cows are more susceptible to pathogens and parasites. To take advantage of natural immunity and ability to withstand pathogens and parasites, cows must be in good physical condition. By taking advantage of natures little perks, health management practices can be kept to a minimum. The last thing a ranch needs is to battle a health problem in the middle of a drought.

Health Management

Continue to protect cows and calves against clostridial diseases such as blackleg. As cattle graze on shorter and shorter forage the chance of picking up soil born pathogens increase. Blackleg, leptospirosis and anthrax are just a few of the diseases that occur with greater frequency during drought. Check with veterinarians in the local area to get a history on diseases of concern. Chances of leptospirosis becoming a problem also increase as watering areas dry up. Cattle and wildlife are forced into more concentrated areas and the chance of spread between species increases.

Protect against the reproductive diseases, campylobacter fetus (vibrio), brucellosis, haemophilus somnus, trichomoniasis, IBR and BVD to name a few. Nutritional stress will affect reproductive performance. Failure to prevent diseases will only compound the problem. Once again, get with the local veterinarian with the broadest background in local problems. Even if the ranch has been through drought cycles before you may not have seen or heard about all the possible problems.

Parasites, both internal and external, need to be monitored and controlled as needed. When grass is short, due to drought, internal parasites may not be a problem. Parasites require moisture to reproduce and move up leaf tissue before they can be consumed. Many producers will deworm cows when they become thin just in case the cause is internal parasites. With the cost of deworming products today it would be best to have fecal exams performed on a random sample of cows before deciding to deworm the whole herd. Most often cows are thin due to poor quality and quantity of forage. When rainfall is received and pastures are short, start being concerned about parasites.

Carefully, monitor the herd and watch for signs of heel flies. Under very dry conditions the heel fly and resulting grubs may not be a problem. When heel fly activity is observed wait five weeks after the last observed activity to treat for the parasite. Treating earlier will not kill all developing grubs and treating later will only allow increased stress and weight loss on the cattle. Horn and face flies have been shown to decrease cow condition due to loss of 50 to 100 pounds and decrease weaning weights up to 50 pounds. Both of these flies need to be controlled. Do not compound nutritional stress with a manageable environmental stress. Flies can be controlled for \$2 to \$4 per cow. The potential decrease in weaning weight will more than pay for any fly control measures. Economic threshold level for horn flies is 300 flies per animal, above which cattle begin cutting into grazing time by fighting flies. This results in reduced milk production and a loss in body condition.

Nutritional Management

Strategies The key to successful forage management during drought is to cull and destock early enough and go deep enough to provide adequate forage for the remaining cow herd. To economically maintain cows they must be able to maintain body condition on standing forage without supplemental energy.

When destocking is initiated early fewer cows will have to be culled over the course of a drought. Culling strategies need to be in place well in advance of any drought. Initiate destocking at the slightest hint of dry weather during the growing season.

When destocking is initiated early fewer cows will have to be culled over the course of a drought. Culling strategies need to be in place well in advance of any drought. Initiate destocking at the slightest hint of dry weather during the growing season. A detailed account of destocking strategies are available in Destocking Strategies During Drought and will not be covered in depth here. Keep cows that are least susceptible to nutritional stress caused by poor forage conditions. This will be the mid-aged cows between 4 and 10 years of age. At lower body condition scores (BCS 3 and 4) cows of this age will average 35 and 20% higher conception rates than first and second calf cows, respectively, as shown in table 1.

Although older cows have a higher overall conception rate they also have the least potential for longevity in the herd. Another concern about keeping older cows is decreased milking ability. Decreased milking ability and lighter calves at weaning are reasons older cows have higher conception rates at any given BCS. If condition can be maintained on second-calf cows they can also be kept in the herd. Go ahead and sell replacement heifers and any other cow that will not wean a calf in this production year. If a place can be found to hold these cattle economically there may be justification for retaining ownership. Cull first-calf heifers next. There are two primary reasons. These two groups of cattle are normally the most expensive to develop and maintain and have the lowest production potential. When feed is expensive and cattle are cheap, cost can be reduced dramatically by moving these cattle.

Always manage the forage base to allow adequate consumption and efficient use of marginal precipitation. Cows need to consume forage at the rate of 2 to 3% of their body weight to have a chance of maintaining

Table 1. Body Condition Score at Palpation by Age Group (Parity)

Parity	BCS 3	BCS 4	BCS 5	BCS 6	BCS 7	All
1	40 %	50%	70%	82%	83%	63%
2	43%	79%	89%	100%	100%	77%
3-10	71%	86%	92%	97%	95%	91%
>10	100%	92%	97%	100%	100%	97%
All	54%	76%	89%	94%	94%	84%

(Wikse, Herd, 1995)

acceptable production and reproductive performance. When grass is not growing the only way to ensure adequate forage is to reduce demand through destocking. This will be a constant battle until the drought breaks, requiring constant monitoring and periodic adjusting to prevent decline in range condition and cow performance. Minerals will need to be provided to cattle during periods of drought. Most areas of Texas are deficient in phosphorus and some trace minerals. When it becomes necessary to cut cost, usually one of the first areas to receive the axe is the mineral program. Do not stop supplementing phosphorus! Phosphorus has a major impact on reproductive performance. If the urge to limit mineral costs overwhelms a rancher, trace minerals can be cut without devastating results on reproductive performance. This is certainly not a recommendation to cut trace mineral supplementation. A more economical source may be available. Do not substitute quality for price. If a supplement of equal quality can be found for less money, it might be alright to try.

If, or when, cows become protein or energy deficient supplementation will be required to maintain acceptable production. Manage nutrition to prevent mid-aged cows from dropping below BCS 4 during the production cycle. The last caution on nutritional management will center on selling cows to purchase forage for the remaining cows. This practice will leave a ranch broke and without cows in an extended drought.

Marketing

One common complaint heard at the coffee shop and sale barn concerns the rancher's inability to significantly influence market price for weaned calves. Although absolute value per pound is determined by demand, a producer has complete control over relative value of calves. Every calf produced should sell in the upper 50% of that days market. It is not feasible to always top the market. Cattle that top a market on any given sale day can change with one order being placed. The high price cattle may change from week to week, month to month and certainly year to year. Calves and yearlings that sell in the top half of a market have not changed for the past 20 years. Moderate to large framed, average muscled, crossbred calves with three-eights or less Brahman influence, no more than one-half Exotic and from one to three-quarter British influence have always been in demand. Producers can get caught on the fringes of these specifications from time to time as the market requirements change.

When a good return is desired, do not produce what the buyer does not want. Know the local market and produce for it. The calves described above can be produced anywhere in the state of Texas. There really is no excuse for producing cattle that are not in demand, other than personal bias. Cows not conforming to the formula stated above may be needed for environmental adaptability and production efficiency. If so, use complementary sires to produce the desired kind of calves. There is a need for purebred cattle that certainly do not fit the description of the ideal calf. These cattle are necessary to produce bulls and females for the commercial producer.

Cost Control

Most ranches do not intentionally waste money on production expenses. The same cannot be said about personal expenses. When times are tight, communication between family members and ranch employees needs to open up. Unfortunately, communication normally breaks down and closes up. Ranchers do not want the family or employees to know and/or worry about the financial stability of the ranch. Most underestimate both the family and employees resolve to survive during tough times.

Everyone should know what the situation is and input on ways to cut cost should be sincerely requested. Ideas should be carefully evaluated before implementing or discarding. Common strategies normally start by cutting back on expenses necessary to maintain production. The last place they are usually cut are on items that provide no income.

A Final Farewell

Dear readers of the Atascosa County Ag Newsletter, I would like to thank you for your support over the last 19 months. I hope that the information that I have shared has been helpful and sparked some interest in the field of agriculture, the Texas A&M AgriLife Service. As of September 1st I will be leaving Atascosa County where I have been the Assistant ANR Agent. I will be starting my Journey as the new Jim Wells County 4-H Extension Agent. I have enjoyed my time here and have gained so much knowledge for the county and its amazing farmers and ranchers that I have had the pleasure of working with. Thank you again for allowing me to learn from Atascosa County.

-Teresa Lopez

UPCOMING EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

SOUTH TEXAS PEANUT GROWERS ANNUAL TOUR

The 2023 South Texas Peanut Growers Annual Fall Tour will be held on Thursday September 28, 2023 in Pearsall at the Frio County Extension Office 400 S Pecan St Pearsall, Tx 78061. Registration will start at 8:30AM with the program starting at 9:00AM. There will be a \$10 Cash Only Charge. Lunch will be served at 12:30 PM. Topics to be covered will be Peanut Breeding Trails, Upcoming Releases, Peanut & General Weed Control/Problem Weeds and 2023 Peanut Variety Performance. 3 CEU's will be given. RSVP by September 27,2023 with the Frio County Office at 830-505-7474 or Atascosa County Office at 830-569-0034

UNDERSTANDING CARBON CREDITS

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is hosting a Multi-County Educational Workshop on Understanding Carbon Credits, on September 29,2023 at the Atascosa County Gillespie Annex (25 E 5th Street Leming Tx 78050) Registration will begin at 9:30AM and the Program will run from 10:00AM-2:00PM. There is a \$15 registration fee. This program will cover What is Carbon, What is Carbon Credit Capture, What is the Need for it, and How does it Work, as well as much more! Please RSVP by September 22,2023 to the Atascosa County Office at 830-569-0034

SAVE THE DATES

The following dates our for upcoming educational opportunities that will be hosted as more information becomes a available it will be shared

October 11-12 Multi County Water Screening

December 12 Preparing for the Spring CEU Program



PRODUCTION

Cow-Calf operations produce cattle for the stocker market, feedlot operations or other breeding herds (purebred operations). A purebred operation raises registered or purebred animals.

Stocker operations are where calves go after being weaned from their mothers. They stay here until they weigh as much as 900 pounds, and then they are sent to the feedlot.

Feedlot operations, calves are raised until they weigh 900 to 1,400 pounds. While in the feedlot cattle are provided a readily digestible and high-energy diet. Cattle typically only spend 4-6 months in a feedlot, and are allowed about 300-800 square feet of area per head.

OTHER USES FOR BEEF CATTLE

There are many products that are made from beef other than meat. We call these products, by-products or co-products, and they can include edible and inedible products.

Common edible co-products include chewing-gum, some candy and gelatin which can be used to make ice cream and marshmallows.

Some inedible co-products may include leather, glue, crayons, footballs, candles and paint brushes.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Three ounces of lean beef (about the size of a deck of cards)

Contains nearly half of the daily value of protein.

Has 7 grams of fat, 3 grams of saturated fat and 75 mg of cholesterol.

Is considered "nutrient-dense" and contains protein, iron, zinc and B -Vitamins.

May help you maintain a healthy weight, build muscle and fuel a healthy and active lifestyle.

GET IN TOUCH









Atascosa County AgriLife **Extension** 25 E 5th St **PO Box 379** Leming, Tx, 78050 https://atascosa.agrilife.org/ atascosa-tx@tamu.edu 830--569-0034



2023

South Texas Peanut Growers Annual Peanut Tour

THURSDAY, September 28, 2023

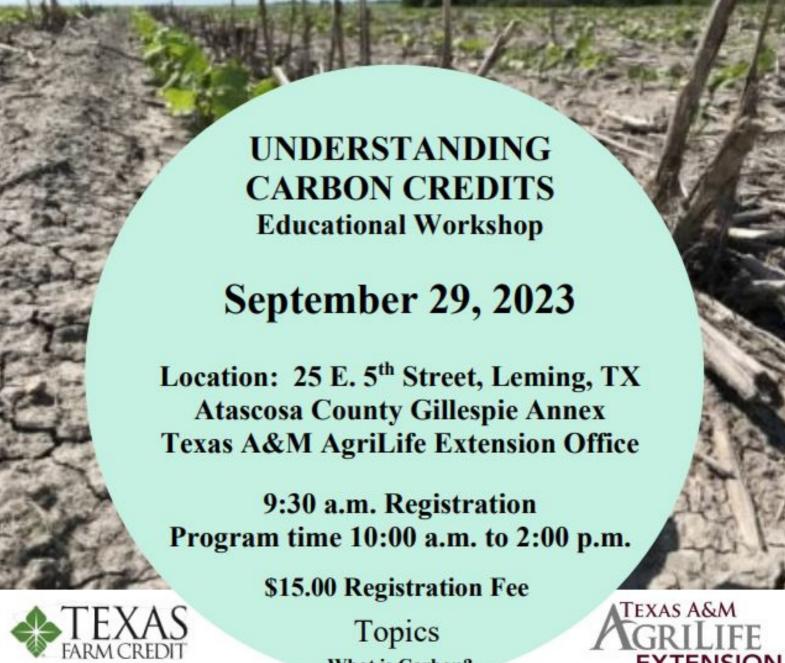
Frio County Extension Office 400 S. Pecan St. Pearsall, Texas 78061

PROGRAM:

- Registration will start at 8:30AM & the program will begin at 9:00AM.
- Topics to be covered include 2023 Texas A&M AgriLife Peanut Breeding Trials & Upcoming Releases, Peanut & General Weed Control/Problem Weeds, and 2023 Peanut Variety Performance.
- 3 Continuing Education Units (CEU's) will be given with a \$10.00 (Cash Only) fee towards your Texas Department of Agriculture Private Pesticide Applicator License.
- Lunch will be served at 12:30PM.

*(Individuals with disabilities, who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any of the mentioned activities, are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at 830-505-7474 at least 12 days before all programs for assistance).

*Please RSVP by Sept. 27, 2023 with Brianna Gonzales, Frio County Extension Agent at (830) 505-7474 or Dale Rankin, Atascosa County Extension Agent at (830) 569-0034.



What is Carbon?

What is Carbon Credit Capture, What is the Need For It, and How Does It Work? Current Carbon Credit Policies/ Laws

Legal Consideration of Soil Carbon Leasing and Contracts Farmer/ Rancher/ Rangeland Discussion on Carbon Credit What does a contract look like and what is the length of a basic contract?

For more information, contact:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Atascosa County at 830-569-0034

RSVP by September 22, 2023

We request that you contact the Atascosa County Extension Service eight (8) days prior to the event or as soon as possible to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you require. 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.

Multicounty Water Well Screening Day



HAVE YOU TESTED YOUR PRIVATE WATER WELL?

Private water wells should be tested annually. The Multi-County Water Screening Program is sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Atascosa, Dimmit, Frio, McMullen, LaSalle, and Zavala counties.

The offices are hosting a water well screening on **October 11**, **2023** to give area residents the opportunity to have their well water tested. **The cost is \$15.00 per sample.**

Samples will be collected on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Well owners may pick up a sample bag and instructions from their County Extension Office.

- Atascosa County AgriLife Extension Office, 25 E. 5th Street Leming, TX 78050
- Dimmit County AgriLife Extension Office, 539 Industrial Blvd., Carrizo Springs TX 78834
- Frio County AgriLife Extension Office, 400 S. Pecan Street, Pearsall, TX 78061
- La Salle County AgriLife Extension Office, 119 S. Front Street Cotulla, TX 78014
- McMullen County AgriLife Extension Office, 604 River Street, Tilden, TX 78072
- Zavala County AgriLife Extension Office, 221 N 1st Ave, Crystal City, TX 78839

Results from the water screening will be available **October 12, 2023** for pick up at your local county extension office. The screening is presented by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Samples screened for:

FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

Presence indicates that feces (bodily waste from humans or animals) may have contaminated the water. Water contaminated with bacteria is more likely to have pathogens present that can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, or other symptoms.

NITRATES

Levels above 10 ppm may cause infants, pregnant, or lactating women, the elderly, and the immune-suppressed to be at risk for methemoglobinemia, a condition which inhibits the ability of blood to sufficiently carry oxygen to tissues and cells.

SALINITY

Measured by Total Dissolved Solids (TDS). Water with high TDS levels may leave deposits and have a salty taste. Using water with high TDS for irrigation may damage the soil and plants.

HYDROCARBONS

Presence indicates that oil contamination has occurred.



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regard to race, color, sex,
disability, religion, age, or national
origin.