

## Austin County Pecan Show 2021 Results

The Austin County Pecan Show, which is a free contest for any resident who has a pecan tree, was judged on Thursday, December 2nd at the Austin County Extension office in Bellville, with Dr. Philip Shackelford as the judge. An educational program was held in conjunction with the awards presentation to educate attendees on How Pecans are Judged, Selecting the Pecans for Judging, Selecting Graft Wood, and the Pecan Calendar. Hosted by the Austin County Horticulture Committee & Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County. The pecans which placed 1st in their class will move on to the East Regional Pecan Show in January.

The results are as follows:

**Classic & New Variety Champion-** Luedeker Farms (Variety Seedling)

**Classic & New Variety Reserve Champion-** Ryan Klaus (Other Variety)

1st Place Other Varieties- Ryan Klaus (Fayette)

1st Place Prilop- Lois Steele

2nd Place Prilop- Industry Unite Methodist Church

3rd Place Prilop- Luedeker Farms

1st Place Success- Steve Short

1st place Variety Seedlings- Luedeker Farms (PG-N)

1st place Variety Seedlings- Luedeker Farms (Sandy)

**Native Champion-** George & Betty Thiel

**Native Reserve Champion-** Luedeker Farms

1st Place Lightest Pecan- Luedeker Farms

1st Place Natives- George & Betty Thiel

2nd Place Natives- Luedeker Farms

3rd Place Natives- Mike Klanke

1st Place Past State Champion- JL Spiess

1st Place Cheyenne- Michael DeWitt Hansen



### Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

- **December 23rd & 24th:** Extension Office will be Closed for the Christmas Holiday
- **December 31st:** Extension Office will be Closed for the New Year's Eve Holiday
- January 6th: Bluebonnet Master Gardener Open House — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 10:00 am
- January 13th: Bluebonnet Master Gardener Intern Training Starts — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 9:00 am
- February 4th: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- May 6th: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- August 5th: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- November 4th: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm

## LIVESTOCK BRAND REGISTRATIONS EXPIRED 8/31/2021, RENEWAL UNTIL 2/28/2022

Brand registration in Texas is required every 10 years. Brands (the actual brand and location), ear marks, and tattoos (if any are used for ownership) must be registered at the county clerk's office of each county in which a producer owns and runs livestock. Texas does not have a statewide brand registry database as do many western states, those are maintained by the county clerks in each county. Every 10 years, the state requires that brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which a livestock or beef cattle producer operates. All marks, brands, and tattoos that are currently registered with the county clerk indicate ownership (not individual identification) will expire after August 30, 2021. The renewal period runs from August 31, 2021 until February 28, 2022. Once registered (or re-registered) the brand, mark or tattoo will be good until August 30, 2031. Even if a brand or mark was recently registered, it must be registered again.



Any previously recorded marks, brands, or tattoos which have not been re-registered by February 28, 2022 will be considered unclaimed and eligible for registration by a new owner. Some counties have online registration, most require the owner to send in the renewal form. In Texas, the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association works with the Texas county clerks to provide a brand registration site and they have an excellent website to answer questions about brand registration, design, and use at: <http://www.tscrabrand.com/>.

Brands are very useful to determine proof of ownership in case of theft or in case of a natural disaster where livestock might be lost or commingled. It is against the law to use a brand or earmark that is not registered. Selection of a brand site needs to include consideration of size of the brand and potential damage to the hide. Lower hips and shoulders are better sites than high on the hip and shoulder, never brand over the back or ribs. Both fire and freeze brands are acceptable. Freeze brands should be used on red or black coat colored cattle.

## BLUEBONNET MASTER GARDENER OPEN HOUSE

If you are interested in learning more about the Bluebonnet Master Gardeners and what they do in the community, then please join us for our Open House at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office in Bellville on Thursday, January 6, 2022, from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm (Noon). For more information on the Master Gardener program, contact the Extension office at (979) 865-2072 or visit the Bluebonnet Master Gardener Website at <https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/>. See flier on page 3.



## REGISTRATION FOR TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST TRAINING IS NOW OPEN



The Gideon Lincecum Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists is pleased to offer its TMN training class for 2022. Our training classes begin January 22<sup>nd</sup>, with sessions being generally held on Saturdays. Class size will be limited to 20 so apply now! Please note that payment of fees secures your place in the class. Please visit our Training website at <https://txmn.org/glc/becoming-a-master-naturalist/glc-master-naturalist-training-application/>.

The mission of the Texas Master Naturalist Program is to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas. Our Chapter includes Lee, Washington, Austin, Fayette, and Colorado Counties.

To learn more about the Texas Master Naturalist program and the Gideon Lincecum Chapter, please visit our website at <https://txmn.org/glc/>. If you have additional questions, please email Ken English at [glctmnmkt@gmail.com](mailto:glctmnmkt@gmail.com).

## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) TESTING BY TPWD



The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Wildlife Biologists are currently conducting samplings of hunter-harvested and road-kill deer that are seen in the county. If you have harvested or see road-kill, please call the Wildlife Biologist so he can collect samples on the lymph nodes to test for CWD. It is critical to have these voluntary samples done to ensure that there are not any positive cases here in the area. The New TPWD Wildlife Biologist for Austin/Ft. Bend Counties– Jon McLeod, 832-451-2104 (cell) or 832-595-8999 (office).



# Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association OPEN HOUSE

**Thursday, January 6, 2022  
10:00am -12:00pm**

**Austin County Extension Office; 800 E Wendt St., Bellville**

The Master Gardener program is a unique opportunity for individuals who are interested in horticulture and serving their community. Master Gardeners are trained in all facets of horticulture such as plant & soil science, entomology, plant pathology, landscape design, vegetable gardening, and much more. Upon completion of at least 50 hours of class time to receive the title of "Master Gardener", trainees are required to complete 50 hours of volunteer service in their local community.

For more information on the Master Gardeners program, contact the Extension office at 979-865-8072 or visit the Bluebonnet Master Gardener Website at <https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/apply>

**The Master Gardener program offers education in the following areas:**

\*Water \*Landscape Design \*Earth-Kind Landscaping \*Ornamental Plants \*Integrated Pest Management \*Plant Development \*Lawn Care \*Diseases \*Plant Propagation  
\*Vegetables & Herbs \*Insects \*Soil Characteristics \*Weeds \*Soil Improvement  
\*Berries & Pecans

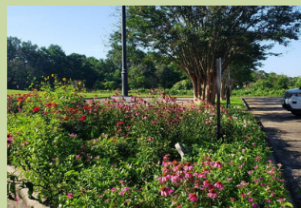
Training Classes every Thursday  
January 13th - April 21st\*

\*2 classes will be held on Wednesday\*  
(Feb. 16 & Apr. 6)

8:30am -12:30pm

Austin County Extension Office  
800 E Wendt St., Bellville

\$175 per person: includes over 50  
hours of gardening education!



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.



# Private Applicator Licenses Trainings for 2022



## *Prices:*

***Training-\$10***

***Books-\$40***

***(2 manuals)***

**Checks payable to:  
Extension Program  
Council (EPC)**

***Nonrefundable***

***Please RSVP to reserve  
your spot, space is limited***

**<http://austin.agrilife.org/event-registrations/>**



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Friday, February 4, 2022

Friday, May 6, 2022

Friday, August 5, 2022

Friday, November 4, 2022

*Training is from 1pm to 5pm*

*Check in/Registration starts 15 mins prior*

*\*Date & Time are subject to change\**

Trainings will be conducted at  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of  
Austin County located at  
800 E Wendt St., Bellville, TX 77418

The purpose of this training is to obtain a Private Applicator License from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). 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 Training, please contact the Austin County Extension office at (979) 865-2072 to purchase the manuals.

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION

## MILL CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2022

**Time:** 6 – 7 p.m.

**Location:** Austin County Extension Office  
(800 E. Wendt St., Bellville, TX 77418)

The Mill Creek Watershed Partnership will be hosting a public meeting to discuss local water quality issues and implementation of the Mill Creek Watershed Protection Plan. Stakeholders will be offered the opportunity to provide their input on the implementation efforts and project priorities for the year of 2022. Everyone is welcome to participate. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP if you plan to attend this meeting.

For any questions, please contact the Mill Creek Watershed Coordinator – Evgenia Spears at (979) 865-2862 or [millcreek@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:millcreek@ag.tamu.edu).

We look forward to seeing you at our Partnership meeting in February!



REGISTERING FOR A COUNTY PROGRAM?

[CLICK HERE](#)

**Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.**

Sincerely,

**Stacie M. Villarreal**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

County Extension Agent- Agriculture & Natural Resources - Austin County

1 East Main, Bellville, TX 77418 (*Mailing Address*)

800 E Wendt St, Bellville, TX 77418 (*Physical Address*)

Phone: 979-865-2072

[stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu)

[Austin.agrilife.org](http://Austin.agrilife.org)

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service 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. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (979) 865-2072 ten (10) days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.