

# Austin County Ag Newsletter

**June 2022** 

# Home Grown Vegetable Contest



Do you think you have the best vegetables or the biggest tomato? The Horticulture Committee of Austin County & Linseisen's Feed & Supply are pleased to present the Home Grown Vegetable Contest and Program which will be hosted on Saturday, June 11th. Show off your prize-winning vegetables in your garden that you have grown!

The contest is open to the public, with no entry fee and no age limit! If you love to garden and grow vegetables, you can enter. Vegetable check in starts at 9am and will end at 10am at Linseisen's Feed located at 551 W. Main, Bellville. The judging will be closed to the public with awards presented no earlier than 11am. There will be free educational presentation offered at 10am, which will be held at the Bellville VFD meeting room located at 511 W Main, Bellville. The program will be on Different Types of Gardens, presented by Jeremy Peaches with Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program.

Only 1 entry per person in each of the main categories or where noted. No rotten or split tomatoes or other vegetables will be allowed or judged. All vegetables or fruit entered must be edible. Please make sure to have the correct number of samples per category when entering, otherwise, your entry will be disqualified.

See Flier on Page 5

### **AUSTIN COUNTY HOG BOUNTY**



Austin County Commissioners Court is offering a bounty on feral hogs, which has been in place since 2019. Participants will be awarded \$5 per feral hog harvested in Austin County, with biological evidence provided of harvest in the form of a pair of feral hog ears. Each pair must be placed in an individually sealed bag and dropped off to 1 of the 3 drop off locations. With the help of 3 local feed stores in the county, Steinhauser's in Sealy, Linseisen's Feed & Supply in Bellville, and Lindemann Store in Industry will serve as the drop off locations.

A limit of 20 pairs per household per month allowed. All feral hogs must be harvested in Austin County and signed paperwork must be filled out completely to collect money.

See Flier on Page 11

### **Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events**

- June 10th: Healthy Lawns & Healthy Waters Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- June 11th: Home Grown Vegetable Contest Linseisen's Feed/Bellville VFD, Bellville, 9:00 am
- June 21st: Lunch N Learn by Bluebonnet Master Gardeners Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 12:00 pm
- August 5th: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- August 9th: Mill Creek Partnership Meeting Washington County Sales Facility, Brenham, 5:30 pm
- August 19th: New Landowners Series-Fruit Trees, Pecans, Grapes Cat Spring Ag Hall, Cat Spring, 1:30 pm
- August 26th: Fall Horticulture Seminar American Legion, Sealy, 1:00 pm
- September 16th: New Landowners Series- Forage &/or Livestock Production Colorado County, 1:30 pm
- October 7th: Fall Forage Program Austin County Fairgrounds, Bellville, 9:00 am
- October 21st: New Landowners Series- Wildlife Mgt. & Native Prairie Restoration Fayette County, 1:30 pm
- November 3rd: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- November 18th: New Landowners Series- Bees and Trees for Homeowners Washington County, 1:30 pm

# Rainwater Harvesting & Turf Management Training -June 10

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's Healthy Lawns and Healthy Waters Program will host a residential rainwater harvesting and turf management training on June 10 for Austin and Washington Counties. The training is being offered in collaboration with the Mill Creek Watershed Partnerships and is hosted by the Austin & Washington County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

The free event will be from 1 p.m.-5 p.m., there will be an in-person and virtual option available. The in-person training will be at the AgriLife Extension Office of Austin County, 800 E. Wendt St., Bellville. An email with the virtual link will be sent the evening before to all virtual attendees.

Online registration is required at <a href="https://hlhw.tamu.edu/">https://hlhw.tamu.edu/</a> workshops/2022/june-10-mill-creek-watershed-austin-andwashington-counties/ or contact John Smith, AgriLife Extension program specialist, Bryan-College Station, at john.smith@ag.tamu.edu or 979-204-0573. Once attendees register for the event, updates, instructions to join the online meeting and materials related to the meeting will be sent via email.

"The Healthy Lawns and Healthy Waters Program aims to improve and protect surface water quality by enhancing awareness and knowledge of best management practices for residential landscapes," Smith said.

Becky Bowling, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension urban water specialist, Dallas, said attendees will learn about the design and installation of residential rainwater harvesting systems as well as appropriate turf and landscape species based on local conditions and other practices.

"Management practices such as using irrigation delivery equipment, interpreting soil test results and understanding nutrient applications can help reduce runoff and make efficient use of applied landscape irrigation water," Bowling said.

Dean Minchillo, AgriLife Extension program specialist in

Dallas, said proper fertilizer application and efficient water irrigation can protect and improve water quality in area creeks and collecting rainwater for lawn and landscape needs reduces stormwater runoff.

Evgenia Spears, watershed coordinator for the Mill Creek Watershed, will also discuss updates on Mill Creek watershed protection plan activities to improve and protect water quality in this watershed during the event.

Soil Testing Campaign

Participants can have their soil tested as part of the training. The soil sample bag and analysis are free to Healthy Lawns and Healthy Waters Program participants.

Residents can pick up a soil sample bag with sampling instructions and the Urban and Homeowner Soil Sample Information Form at the AgriLife Extension offices in Austin County at 800 East Wendt St., Bellville, TX; or Washington County at 1305 East Blue Bell Road, Brenham, TX. Bags containing residents' soil samples should be returned to the location where they were obtained prior to or by one week after the meeting, or soil samples can be brought to the training. Please do not mail the soil sample to the lab.

Samples will be grouped into one submission and sent to the AgriLife Extension Soil, Water, and Forage Testing Lab in College Station for routine analysis, including micronutrients, pH, conductivity, nitrate-nitrogen, and other parameters.

The training will include information on how to understand soil test results and nutrient recommendations so residents can interpret results once the analysis is mailed to them.

Funding for the Healthy Lawns and Healthy Waters Program is provided in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreements (99614621, 99614624) to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The project is managed by the Texas Water Resources Institute, part of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, AgriLife Extension and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University.

# BMGA Spring Lunch-N-Learn Series Austin County



The Bluebonnet Master Gardeners of Austin County are pleased to present the 2022 "Lunch-N-Learn" series which will be hosted on the third Tuesday of each month, April-June and will continue in the Fall, current months are pending. The overall series will feature topics related to horticulture with homeowner and backyard gardeners in mind! Speakers are experts in their fields and practical gar- Tuesday, June 21, 2022: deners with great tips and information for everyone.

Programs are held in-person at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office of Austin County located at 800 E. Wendt Street in Bellville. Program registration will begin at 11:50am with the program beginning at 12:00pm and concluding about 1:00pm. At the conclusion of each session, the speaker and our Austin County Master Gardeners will be available to help answer gardening questions.

All Master Gardener Lunch-N-Learn programs are FREE and OPEN to the public and you are welcome to bring your own lunch and drink. We will have a few refreshments available as well.

Our Spring Series dates and topics will be as follows:

Preservation Tips of Herbs & Vegetables, by Dr. Jenna Anding, a Professor & Associate Department Head-Nutrition with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

For more information regarding Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association, please visit <a href="https://txmg.org/">https://txmg.org/</a> bluebonnet/

# Multi-County New Landowners Series 2022

The Multi-County New Landowner Education program is a series of 7 informational meetings, seminars, and field days designed to make new landowners in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington Counties aware of what types of agricultural enterprises are best for their property. Participants in the program will hear from experts in a variety of fields in agriculture about best management practices that can be implemented on their own property. This innovative program assists new landowners in understanding the concepts of rural living. Participants in the program are given exposure to ideas on raising livestock and horses, plant identification, fence building, applying pesticides, soil testing, stock pond management, pond construction, fruit and nut production, rainwater harvesting, turf management, and much more. The program also serves as a way for new residents of the four counties to network and meet new people in their communities, find out what can be done on their land, what operations can be successful, and possibly what opportunities they have to serve the community.

The programs will be held on the *third Friday of the months of August through November*. Each month's meeting will be held at different locations in one of the four counties. The meetings begin at 1:30pm and will last between 4 and 5 hours depending on the topic and possible tour stops. The cost for the program is \$20.00 per person per meeting. A great selection of refreshments will be provided at each session.

August 19<sup>th</sup> – Horticulture Production – Fruit Trees, Pecans, and Grapes for Landowners

September 16<sup>th</sup> – Forage &/or Livestock Production – Options for Small Acreage Operations

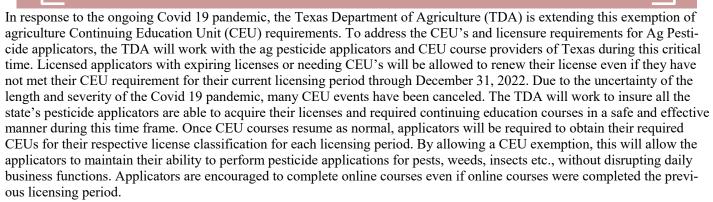
October 21<sup>st</sup> – Wildlife Management and Native Prairie Restoration

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** – Bees and Trees for Homeowners

The August meeting for the 2022 series will take place on *Friday, August 19, 2022*, at the Cat Spring Agriculture Hall located at 13035 hall Road in Cat Spring. This session will provide the opportunity for attendees to learn about fruit trees and pecan trees as well as starting a vineyard. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity!

Registration materials and more information can also be found on our website, <a href="https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo">https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo</a>

### RENEWAL UPDATE FOR 2022 APPLICATOR LICENSE HOLDERS



COMMERCIAL, NON-COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL POLITICAL APPLICATORS For licenses expiring in 2022 ONLY: TDA will exempt commercial, non-commercial and non-commercial political applicators who have taken online or correspondence courses within the last year. The TDA Rule 7.24 (t) (2) does not allow for online or correspondence courses to be taken 2 years consecutively. In light of the unusual circumstances due to Covid 19 (coronavirus), the TDA will allow online or correspondence courses to be taken in consecutive years. This exemption will be for the current 2022 licensing period. Commercial, non-commercial and non-commercial political pesticide applicators are required to obtain 5 CEUs per licensing period.

PRIVATE APPLICATORS For licenses expiring in 2022 ONLY: The TDA will also exempt private applicators from the TDA Rule 7.24 (v) (5). This rule does not allow a private applicator to acquire more than 10 CEUs through correspondence courses. During this quarantine time frame, private applicators will be allowed to acquire ALL of their CEUs through correspondence courses (online). Private applicators are required to obtain 15 CEUs per 5- year licensing period.



# Friday, June 10th

For Austin & Washington County Residents in Collaboration with the Mill Creek Watershed Partnership

In-Person

or Online

### **Austin County Extension Office**

800 E Wendt St., Bellville

Registration: 12:30

Program: 1-5pm

Free Program, Open to the Public

Attendees can submit a soil test, sample bags and forms may be picked up and dropped off at either the Austin County Extension office (800 E Wendt St., Bellville) or the Washington County Extension office (1305 E. Blue Bell Rd. Ste. 104., Brenham) prior to the program. Samples may also be brought in the day of the program.

# RSVP is Required!

John Smith, AgriLife Extension Program Specialist at john.smith@ag.tamu.edu or 979-204-0573



# **Topics**

- Residential Rainwater Harvesting
- Turf Management
- Understanding Soil Test Results

#### **Contact:**

John Smith, 979-204-0573, john.smith@ag.tamu.edu Dr. Becky Bowling, 972-952-9673 ext. 673, bgrubbs@tamu.edu Dean Minchillo, 972-231-5362, dean.minchillo@ag.tamu.edu Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson, 979-458-3562, vacorriher@ag.tamu.edu













# 2022 AUSTIN COUNTY

# HOME GROWN VEGETABLE CONTEST

SPONSORED BY:
AUSTIN COUNTY HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE
LINSEISEN'S FEED & SUPPLY

Saturday, June 11, 2022

Vegetable Check In-9AM-10AM Speaker-10AM Awards-11AM (no earlier)

Open to All Ages and FREE to the Public

Vegetable Drop off/Check in at: Linseinsen's Feed & Supply 551 W. Main, Bellville, TX

ATEXAS A&M
GRILIFE
EXTENSION

Educational Program & Awards at: Bellville VFD Meeting Room 511 W. Main, Bellville, TX

All Entries MUST be picked up by the closed of Business day for Linseinsen's





Vegetable	Category	Requirements
Tomato	Best	Group of Three-Must be ripe
Tomato	Biggest (By Weight)	Single - Must be ripe
Tomato	Unique	Single Tomato
Bell Pepper	Best	Group of Three (3)
All Other Peppers	Best	Group of Three (3)
Cucumber	Best	Group of Three (3)
Squash	Best	Group of Three (3)
Beans/Peas	Best	Group of Twelve (12)
Onion	Best	Group of Three (3)
Potato	Best	Group of Three (3)
Fruit/Berries	Best	Fruit (Group of Three) or Berries (Mini. 1/2 Pint)
All Others	Best	Vegetables/Melons
Best of Show	Best	All Entries Above

All entries MUST be grown by the exhibitor. All entries MUST be healthy and edible. One entry per exhibitor per category except on "All Others", "All Other Peppers", and "Fruits/Berries". Must still be different types of vegetables/Melons or Fruits/Berries.

QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL:
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE OF AUSTIN COUNTY AT 979-865-2072
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT HTTP://AUSTIN.AGRILIFE.ORG

DIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO REQUIRE AN AUXILIARY AID, SERVICE OR ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS ACTIVITY ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT
THE EXTENSION OFFICE IN AUSTIN COUNTY AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM FOR ASSISTANCE.
MEMBERS OF TEXAS A&M ACRILIFE WILL PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, EDUCATION, AND EMPLOYMENT TO ALL PERSONS RECARDLESS OF
CE, COLOR, SEX, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ACE, DISABILITY, CENETIC INFORMATION, VETERAN STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR CENDER IDENTITY AND WILL STRIVE TO

# 2022 AUSTIN COUNTY LUNCH N LEARN SERIES

#### BLUEBONNET MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

FREE to the Public

Austin County AgriLife Office 800 E Wendt St. Bellville, TX 77418

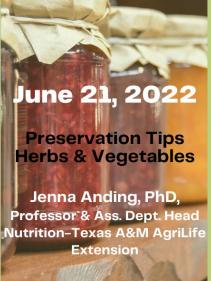
> Bring your own lunch Light Refreshments provided

Registration: 11:50am - 12pm

Program: 12pm -1pm









TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE
EXTENSION SERVICE OF AUSTIN
COUNTY AT 979-865-2072



Registration is not required but is encouraged. To register call the office or visit our website at http://austin.agrilife.org



INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO REQUIRE AN AUXILIARY AID, SERVICE OR ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS ACTIVITY ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE IN AUSTIN COUNTY AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM FOR ASSISTANCE. 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.

# 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/eventregistrations/



Friday, February 4, 2022
Friday, May 6, 2022
Friday, August 5, 2022
Thursday, November 3, 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

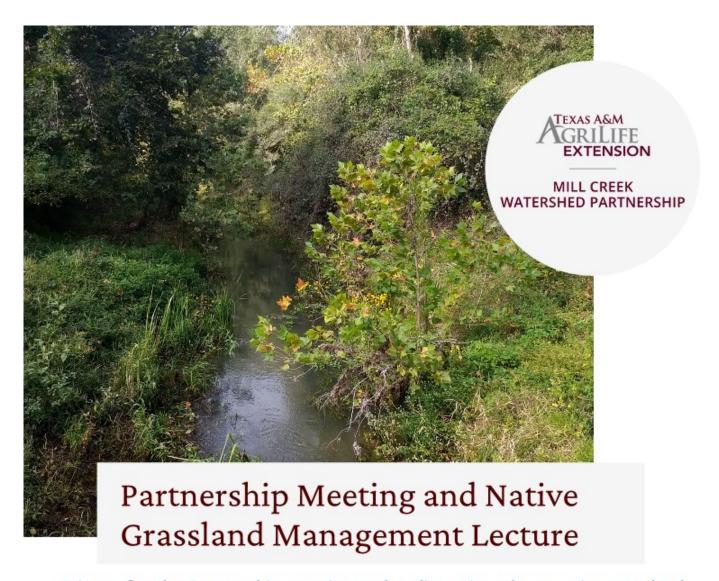
800 E Wendt St., Bellville, TX 77418

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 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.





Join us for the Partnership meeting and a discussion about native grassland restoration and erosion control practices with Dr. Bill Fox, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Rangeland, Wildlife & Fisheries Management Department at Texas A&M University.

# **AUGUST 9, 2022 AT 5:30 PM**

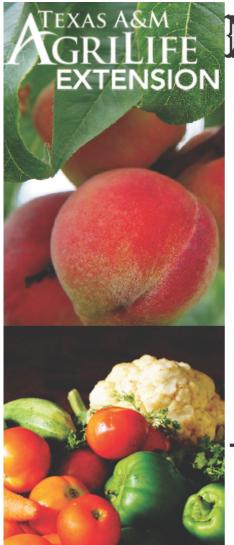
Washington County Expo Sales Facility (1305 East Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, TX 77833)

Pre-registration is required:

https://washington.agrilife.org/millcreek/

Funding for this effort is provided through a Clean Water Act§319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.





# Fall Horticulture Seminar

August 26, 2022

American Legion Post #442 1630 Meyer St., Sealy, TX 77474

Registration: 12:30pm
Program: 1:00pm-4:30pm
\$20/person or \$35/couples

# Topics:

- Citrus Tree Diseases & Pest
- Planting Wildflowers
- Propagation of plants

# Speakers:

- Larry Stein, PhD, Extension Program Specialist
- Master Naturalists from Gideon Lincecum Chapter
- Randy Albers, Bluebonnet Master Gardener

RSVP by: August 24, 2022
Please call Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service of Austin County

at 979-865-2072

A AMERICAN

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this activity are encouraged to contact the Extension Office in Austin County at least eight days prior to the program for assistance. 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.

# AGRILIFE EXTENSION

# Austin County Pecan Show

Sponsored by: The Horticulture Committee of Austin County

Entry Deadline: Monday, November 28, 2022, 5pm

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County 800 E Wendt St., Bellville, TX

# **Guidelines:**

- Entries must be delivered to the Extension Office during normal business hours (8am-12pm & 1pm-5pm) starting November 1st
- All entries must be submitted by 5pm on Monday, November 28th.
   No Late Entries Accepted!
- Each entry should have 50 uncracked pecans of the same variety, from the same tree
- Each entry MUST be in a brown paper bag labeled with entrant's name and entry form
  - Entry forms can be picked up at the Extension office or printed off the website (<u>austin.agrilife.org</u>)
- Entries are limited to one entry of each named variety per person
- Pecans must be from 2022 Crop
- No entry fee

\*All entries become property of the Austin County Horticulture Committee\*

Results will be available at the Pecan Program on 12/1/2022

For more information please visit the Austin County Extension Office website: <a href="https://austin.agrilife.org/agriculture/ac-pecan-show/">https://austin.agrilife.org/agriculture/ac-pecan-show/</a> or contact the office, 979-865-2072

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# Austin County Feral Hog Bounty Program

Sponsored by: Austin County Commissioners Court

# **Austin County Bounty Program:**

Subject to fund availability, participants will be awarded \$5 per feral hog harvested in Austin County. Biological evidence MUST be provided of harvest in form of a pair of feral hog ears. Each pair must be placed in an individually sealed bag and dropped off to 1 of the 3 drop off locations.



Only 20 pairs per household per month

\$5/pair of ears



- Steinhauser's (Sealy location ONLY)
- Linseisen's Feed & Supply (Bellville)
- Lindemann Store (Industry)

Feral hogs can be harvested until funds are depleted. All feral hog MUST be harvested in Austin County.

### SPRAY PERMITS REQUIRED FOR A PORTION OF AUSTIN COUNTY

As a reminder to anyone that will be using state limited use or state restricted use herbicides in Austin County, a permit to apply these herbicides must be obtained through the Texas Department of Agriculture if you plan on spraying in certain portions of the county. The following areas of Austin County must acquire a permit as is specified in the Texas Agricultural code, chapter 75,

- 1) Only that portion of Austin County lying east and south of the line beginning at the point where State Highway 36 crosses the north county line, thence southerly along Highway 36 to FM 949; thence westwardly along FM 949 to the San Bernard River is regulated by the Act, Subchapter G and regulations adopted thereunder.
- 2) Between March 15 and July 31, in that portion of Austin County lying south of Interstate Highway 10, the following restrictions on the use of 2,4-D formulations shall apply:
  - (A) the application by aircraft is prohibited
  - (B) the use of all ester formulations by any method is prohibited.

Permits may be obtained from the Texas AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County at (979) 865-2072. Forms can also be obtained by contacting the Texas Department of Agriculture Gulf Coast Regional Office in Houston at (713) 921-8200.



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

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.