

Austin County Ag Newsletter

May 2022

Feathers, Furs, and Farming—Plant Diversity

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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Austin and Colorado Counties are partnering with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to host a Feathers, Furs, and Farming program on May 13, 2022. The focus of this program will center around Plant Diversity. Topics covered will include Achieving Wildlife Management Goals with Livestock Grazing, Plant Identification, What To Send For Identification, and a Plant Quiz to test your knowledge. If you have a plant you would like to be identified, please make sure to bring a fresh sample with you the day of the program.

If you are seeking TDA hours, 2 General CEU will be available to private pesticide applicators who attend the event. The event will be held at the American Legion Post #442 located at 1630 Meyer St., Sealy, Texas 77474. Registration will be from 1:00 -1:30 pm, with the program beginning at 1:30 pm and concluding at 5:00 pm. Cost of attendance is \$15.00 per person or \$20.00 per couple.

If you have any questions, please call the Austin County Extension Office at 979-865-2072, the Colorado County Extension Office at 979-732-2082, or TPWD Wildlife Biologist for Austin County at 832-595-8999, or TPWD Wildlife Biologist for Colorado County at 979-732-3458.

See Flier on page 6

SAVE THE DATE—AUSTIN COUNTY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION



SAVE THE DATE:

The 72nd Annual meeting of the Austin County Livestock Association will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at the Cat Spring Agricultural Hall in Cat Spring, Texas.

The Association, along with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County, is offering a CEU program with a presentation on Pesticide Laws & Regulation and Selection and Management of Introduced and Native Grasses. The presenters will be Cammie Johnson, Texas Department of Agriculture, Inspector and Dr. Jamie Foster, Associate Professor and Forage Agronomist with Texas A&M AgriLife Research. Two CEU's will be offered for this program, 1 General and 1 L&R.

Registration for the CEU program will be from 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm with the program from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The Annual meeting will follow with registration starting at 5:30 pm.

The Association has been committed to awarding scholarships to outstanding youth in Austin County who plan to enroll in college and major in agriculture. The Association also helps support other agricultural related activities. The fee is \$20.00 which includes membership dues in the Austin County Livestock Association. Also included in the payment of your dues is one meal at the Annual meeting and coverage for a \$500.00 reward for recovery of livestock stolen from you. More information to come.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

- May 3rd: Feral Hog Control Cat Spring Ag Hall, Cat Spring, 6:00 pm (1 CEU)
- May 6th: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- May 7th: Woman in Agriculture Workshop Wharton County Fairgrounds, Wharton, 9:00 am
- May 13th: Feathers, Furs & Farming Plant Diversity American Legion Post, Sealy, 1:00 pm (2 CEUs)
- May 17th: Lunch N Learn by Bluebonnet Master Gardeners Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 12:00 pm
- May 20th: New Landowners Series Pond Management, Washington County, 1:00 pm (2 CEU's)
- June 2nd: Austin County Livestock Association Annual Mtg—Cat Spring Ag Society, Cat Spring, 2:30 pm (2 CEUs)
- 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

Woman In Agriculture Workshop

Prairie View A&M University College of Agriculture and Human Sciences (CAHS) Cooperative Extension Program (CEP) will lead a "Women in Agriculture Workshop" in Wharton County on Saturday, May 7, 2022, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event aims to empower women in agriculture by discussing several topics, including drought and conservation programs through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), marketing strategies, forage quality techniques, cattle stress management, and more. Guests will hear from Clint Taylor, PVAMU Research Cattle Manager, Terren Moore of Moore Farms & Insurance, Cheramie Viator of Lazy 3 Cattle, David Daniels from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and many more.

CEP is partnering with Agriculture and Natural Resources (AgNR), Small Farm Institute (SFI), and the

Prairie View A&M University College of Agriculture and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to luman Sciences (CAHS) Cooperative Extension Program host this event as part of the small farm outreach programs.

The workshop is free, and a light breakfast and lunch will be provided for attendees. There will also be raffles throughout the day for guests. The workshop will occur at the Wharton County Fairgrounds, located at 6036 FM 961 Rd, in Wharton, TX 77488. Please contact Braxton Mitchell, Wharton/Austin County Extension Agent, for more information at 979-532- 3310, email bjmitchell@pvamu.edu.

Event: Women In Agriculture Workshop

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2022

Time: 9am-4pm CT

Place: Wharton County Fairgrounds

Register: Women In Agriculture Workshop

See Flier on Page 5

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 gardeners 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:

Tuesday, May 17, 2022:

Herbs, by Phoebe Lake, owner of New Leaf Nursery

Tuesday, June 21, 2022:

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 https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/

See Flier on Page 7

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 in 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.

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 10

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 live-stock 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 May and 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.

May 20th – Pond Management – Construction, Aquatic Weed Control, and Stocking

August 19th – Horticulture Production – Fruit Trees, Pecans, and Grapes for Landowners

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

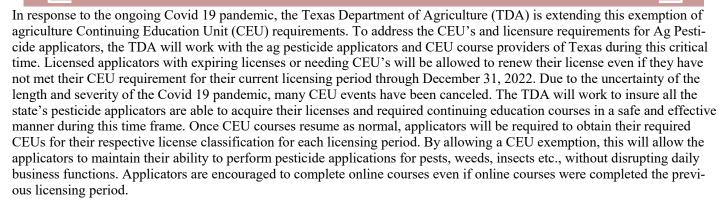
October 21st – Wildlife Management and Native Prairie Restoration

November 18th – Bees and Trees for Homeowners

The May meeting for the 2022 series will take place on *Friday, May 20, 2022*, at the Washington County Expo Sales Facility located at 1305 East Blue Bell Road in Brenham. This session will provide the opportunity for attendees to learn about factors to consider when identifying a site for and constructing a new pond, aquatic vegetation management and control, fish stocking rates, and pond ecology. This is a great opportunity to network with other new landowners and learn about resources that can be of great assistance to you in establishing and/or managing a pond for your property. *Also, if you have a pond weed you would like identified please bring it and we will be glad to identify it for you. Any plant sample needs to be as fresh as possible, include leaves and roots, and flower (if applicable).* Two CEU (1 IPM; 1 Gen) will be available for licensed pesticide applicators. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity!

Registration materials and more information can also be found on our website, https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo

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.

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.







Natural Resources Conservation Service

SMALL FARM OUTREACH PROGRAMS

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE WORKSHOP

Wharton County Fairgrounds 6036 FM 961 Rd, Wharton, TX 77488

Topics

- USDA Drought & Conservation Programs
- Ag Marketing Strategies
- Forage Quality Techniques
- Stress Management in Cattle
- AND MORE!

Guest Speakers

- Clint Taylor, PVAMU Research Cattle Manager
 Vance Mitchell, Mitchell Cattle Company
 - Rachel Cutrer, Ranch House Designs
 - Terren Moore, Moore Farms & Insurance
 - Cheramie Viator, Lazy 3 Cattle
 - David Daniels, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)



"Empowering Women Through Agriculture"

Saturday
May 7, 2022
9AM – 4PM
(Sign-In at 8:30)

FREE ADMISSION & LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

<u>REGISTER</u> HERE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Braxton Mitchell, Wharton/Austin County Extension Agent (979)532-3310 • bjmitchell@pvamu.edu

The Cooperative Extension Program does not discriminate against anyone regardless of their race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, framily/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity. Persons who require communication in a language other than English or with a disability who require alternative means of communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact Ms. Belinda Lowis at 936-261-3585 in advance.







This Month: All About Plant Diversity

FEATHERS, FURS, AND FARMING

May 13, 2022

Registration 1:00pm-1:30pm

Program 1:30-5:00pm

\$15/Person \$20/Couple

American Legion

1630 Meyer St. Sealy, TX 77474

Laramie Kettler 979-732-2082 Colorado County

Stacie Villarreal 979-865-2072 Austin County

Mark Lange 979-732-3458 Colorado County

Jon McLeod 832-595-8999 Austin/Ft. Bend County

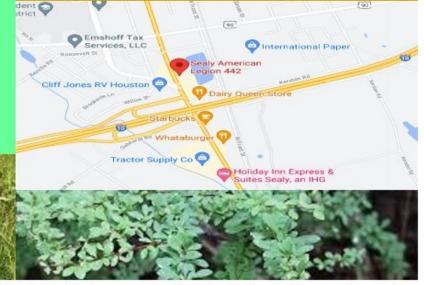
TOPICS 2 CEU's - General

Achieving Wildlife Management Goals with Livestock Grazing

Plant Identification

Plant Quiz

If you have a plant you would like identified please bring a fresh sample.



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

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

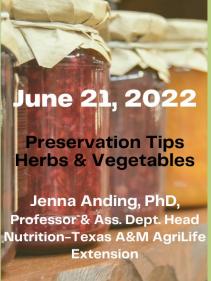
> Bring your own lunch Light Refreshments provided

Registration: 11:50am - 12pm

Program: 12pm -1pm









QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL:
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE
EXTENSION SERVICE OF AUSTIN



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.



CEUs Pond Management

(1 IPM; 1 GEN) 2022 Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series



Washington County Expo Sales Facility

1305 East Blue Bell Road Brenham, Texas 77833

Registration 1:00-1:30 pm Program 1:30-5:00 pm \$20/Person

To register online visit: https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo

Topics to be covered:

Pond Construction Aquatic Vegetation Management Stocking Your Pond - Do's and Don'ts

If you have a pond weed you would like identified bring a FRESH sample with you; include leaves, flowers, stem if possible.



For more information please contact:

Stacie Villarreal **Austin County** (979)865-2072Austin.AgriLife.org

Laramie Kettler Colorado County (979) 732 - 2082Colorado.AgriLife.org

Scott Willey Fayette County (979) 968-5831 Fayette.AgriLife.org

<u>Kara Matheney</u> **Washington County** (979) 277-6212 ext. 2 Washington.AgriLife.org





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. 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 Austin County Extension Office at (979) 865-2072 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.



Jebonnet Master Gardener Associati



2022 Kidds Kann

Space is limited!

Vashington County May 31st - June 2nd

Colorado County June 14th - 16th

Fayette County June 21st - 23rd

June 28th - June 30th **Austin County**

Topics Include:

Agril.ife Extension Austin County

Austin Co. Extension Ag Building

Organic Gardening Mulches & Compost Erosion Control .Cricket Races .Insect ID .Recycling

Colorado Co. Extension 316 Spring Street Columbus, Texas AgriLife Extension Colorado County Ag Building Washington Co. Expo 1305 E. Blue Bell Rd. Agril.ife Extension Brenham, Texas Washington County Sales Facility

Fayette County AgriLife Extension Fayette Co. Extensio Ag Building

800 E. Wendt Street Bellville, Texas

Per Child \$30.00 Deadline to Register Friday, May 20, 2022

Excellent 4-H Recordbook

Activity

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kids ages Open to

10-13!

12:00 p.m.

979-277-6212 ext. 2

Kara Matheney Scott Willey

Vashington County

Colorado County Austin County

8:00 a.m.

or more information contact your local County Extension Agent.

979-865-2072 979-732-2082 979-968-5831

Stacie Villarreal aramie Kettler

https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/kidskamp/

To Register and Pay Online visit:

king a 8 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. 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) 277-6212 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.



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



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 PROCRAM FOR ASSISTANCE.
EMEMBERS OF TEXAS ARM ACRILIFE WILL PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN PROCRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, EDUCATION, AND EMPLOYMENT TO ALL PERSONS RECARDLESS OF ACE. COLOR, SEX. RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, DISABILITY, CENETIC INFORMATION, VETERAN STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY AND WILL STRIVE TO

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.