

Austin County Ag Newsletter

November 2022

5 Hour CEU Conference

As a reminder to anyone with a TDA Private Applicator License, you need 15 Continuing Education Units (CEU) in order to re-certify every 5 years, 2 hours in Laws & Regulations and 2 hours in Integrated Pest Management, with 11 hours in the General Category. All TDA Commercial and Non-Commercial Applicator License holders need 5 CEUs every year to re-certify with 1 hour in Laws & Regulations, 1 hour in Integrated Pest Management, and 3 hours in the General Category.

Anyone needing hours should mark Friday, December 9, 2022, on their calendar. The Beef & Forage Committee of Austin County will be hosting a 5 Hour CEU Conference at Four County Auction Center located at 15900 TX-159 in Industry. Registration will take place at 12:30p.m., with the program starting at 1:00p.m. The registration fee is \$50.00. We encourage you to pre-register for the program, but walk-ins are welcome. Please call the Austin County Extension Office at 979-865-2072 or visit online at https://austin.agrilife.org/event-registrations/. Refreshments will be served during the conference as well as a meal at the conclusion of the program.

The Program topics will include Picolinic Acid Chemistry Training (PACT) from Dr. Megan Clayton, Pesticide Laws and Regulations Update from Gregory Baker, Improving Herbicide Application from Dr. Mark Matocha, Management of Pastures During & Following Drought from Dr. Larry Redmon, and Gopher & Mole Control Methods from B.R. Koehler and Joe Jimenez. There will be 5 CEU hours awarded, TDA approval for 2 L&R, 1 IPM, and 2 General units.

See Flier on Page 10

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AUSTIN COUNTY HOG BOUNTY

Austin County Commissioners Court is offering a bounty on feral hogs. 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 at 1 of the 3 drop off locations. Three 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 is allowed. All feral hogs must be harvested in Austin County & signed paperwork must be filled out completely to collect money.

See Flier on Page 11

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

- November 1st-28th: Austin County Pecan Show Entries may be dropped off at the Extension office
- November 1st-30th: Austin & Colorado County Soil Campaign, several locations
- November 11th: Austin County Extension Office—CLOSED for VETERANS DAY
- November 15th: Lunch n Learn Series-Citrus—Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 11:55 am
- November 18th: New Landowners Series- Bees and Trees for Homeowners Rankin Ag Complex, 1:30 pm
- November 24th-25th: Austin County Extension Office—CLOSED for THANKSGIVING
- November 28th: Austin County Pecan Show Entry DEADLINE
- December 1st: Austin County Pecan Program & Awards—Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 6:00 pm
- December 2nd: Feather, Furs, and Farming—Immaculate Conception Church, Industry 1:00pm
- December 9th: 5 HR CEU Conference—Four County Auction Center, Bellville, 1:00pm (5 CEUs approved)
- December 23rd-26th: Austin County Extension Office- CLOSED for CHRISTMAS
- December 30th: Austin County Extension Office- CLOSED for NEW YEAR'S EVE
- February 10th: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- February 24th: Small Farm & Vegetable Conference—American Legion, Sealy, 8:30am (5 CEUs pending TDA approval)
- May 5th: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm

Austin County Pecan Show Entries Due 11/28

The Annual Pecan Show will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2022, at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office located at 800 E Wendt St, Bellville, TX 77418. There will be a short educational program followed by an awards presentation.

Entries for this year's show must be delivered to the AgriLife Extension Office during normal business hours, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm (Noon) and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, beginning Tuesday, November 1st through Monday, November 28th. All entries must be submitted by 5:00 pm on Monday, November 28th to be entered in the show.

Each entry must be in a brown paper bag (provided at the office) with an entry card filled out. Individuals may make as many entries as they wish of different pecan varieties, and each entry must consist of 50 pecans of the same variety. There is no fee to enter. Anyone from Austin County may enter or anyone from a surrounding county that does not have a county pecan show.

Ten (10) pecans will be randomly selected by the Committee for judging. Included in the judging will be kernel weight percent, color, fill and blemishes. Top placing pecans from all entries that qualify will be forwarded on for judging at the regional pecan show and from there to the state contest.

See Fliers on Page 4 & Page 8

Soil Campaign November 1-30, 2022

Growing better quality hay and pasture grass is a major goal of all hay and livestock producers. Starting with a soil test is the most important step to determining the amount of fertilizer needed each year. Producers should consider soil testing as an investment in this year's hay and pasture because the correct amounts and timing of fertilization can greatly enhance hay quality and growth.

November 1st thru November 30th has been set as the time for all Austin & Colorado County landowners to participate in the soil testing campaign for this year's hay meadows and pastureland. The Beef & Forage Committee of Austin County is sponsoring the soil test drive and encouraging producers to participate. Soil samples submitted during this time frame will be \$8.00 for a routine analysis and \$15.00 for a routine analysis including micro-nutrients. Samples along with payment may be turned in to one of the following locations around Austin County: Bellville - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County (located at 800 E. Wendt St), Bellville Farm & Ranch and Linseisen's Feed & Supply Inc; Sealy - Steinhauser's; Cat Spring – Bernardo Farm & Ranch Supply; and Industry – Lindemann's Store. Soil sample bags and information forms for sampling are available at each of these locations.

See Flier on Page 5

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ENTRIES



Austin County Hay Show

Congratulations to all those producers that entered! We had a total of 37 samples turned in from Austin, Colorado, Waller, and Washington Counties. The overall winners and class winners were on display in the Ag Adventure building. Some of the entries were used during the Youth Forage Contest during the Fair. This would not be possible without your support! If you would like to enter the Austin County Hay Show next year,

please call 979-865-2072 or stop by the Austin County Extension office.

Austin County Wine Show

Congratulations to all the winemakers that entered! We had a total of 30 wines entered this year in eight categories from 3 different counties including Austin, Colorado, and Harris. If you would like to enter the Austin County Wine Show next year, please reach out to the Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association, or call or stop by the Austin County Extension office (979-865-2072). Participation is open to all non-commercial winemakers in the state.

Bluebonnet Master Gardener Lunch n Learn

The Bluebonnet Master Gardeners of Austin County are pleased to present the 2022 Fall "Lunch-N-Learn" series hosted on the third Tuesday of each month, September-November. The overall series has featured 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 begins at 11:50am with the program beginning at 12:00pm and concluding about 12:55pm. 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 Fall Series will conclude as follows:

• Tuesday, November 15, 2022; Citrus by Mary Karish, Waller County Master Gardener

For more information regarding Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association please visit https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/.

See Flier on Page 6

Feathers, Furs, & Farming- December 2nd

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services in Austin and Colorado Counties are partnering with Texas Parks and Wildlife to host a Feathers, Furs, and Farming program on December 2, 2022. The focus of this event is Managing Ponds Following Droughts. During this program we will discuss restocking a pond, managing the vegetation in & around ponds and maintenance during droughts The goal of this event is to help landowners understand what should be done following a drought to see the best results.

The event will be held at the Immaculate Conception German Catholic Church (Parish Hall) located at 15994 TX 159 in Industry. For those needing TDA Hours, 1 General CEU will be offered. Registration will be from 1:00-1:30pm with the program beginning at 1:30pm and concluding at 5pm. Cost of attendance is \$15 per person, or \$20 per couple.

See Flier on Page 9

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RENEWAL UPDATE FOR 2022 APPLICATOR LICENSE HOLDERS



In response to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is extending the exemption of agriculture Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements. To address the CEU's and licensure requirements for Ag Pesticide applicators, the TDA will work with the ag pesticide applicators and CEU course providers of Texas during this critical time. Licensed applicators with expiring licenses or needing CEU's will be allowed to renew their license even if they have not met their CEU requirement for their current licensing period through December 31, 2022. Due to the uncertainty of the length and severity of the Covid 19 pandemic, many CEU events have been canceled. The TDA will work to insure all the state's pesticide applicators are able to acquire their licenses and required continuing education courses in a safe and effective manner during this time frame. Once CEU courses resume as normal, applicators will be required to obtain their required CEUs for their respective license classification for each licensing period. By allowing a CEU exemption, the applicators maintain their ability to perform pesticide applications for pests, weeds, insects etc., without disrupting daily business functions. Applicators are encouraged to complete online courses even if online courses were completed the previous licensing period.

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. However, 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.

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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: https://austin.agrilife.org/agriculture/ac-pecan-show/ or contact the office, 979-865-2072



This campaign is open to all Livestock, Forage, and Row Crop Producers. Soil bags, campaign forms, and directions can be picked up at the Austin or Colorado County Extension Office and select feed stores in each county.

All bags, forms, and payment must be received by November 30th!

Please make checks payable to:

Austin County:

Austin County Beef & Forage Committee Colorado County:

Texas AgriLife Extension

Prices:

Routine Analysis: \$8*

Routine + Micro-nutrients: \$15*

*Form must be completely fill out out for the discount

Please contact your County Extension office for details on picking up and dropping off forms and samples.

Austin County Office- 979-865-2072 800 E Wendt St., Bellville



Austin County Locations:

- Extension office
- Bellville Farm & Ranch
- Linseisen's Feed & Supply Inc
- Steinhauser's
- Bernardo Farm & Ranch Supply
- Lindemann's Store

Other Locations in Colorado County

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.



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 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.



Bees & Trees for Homeowners



2022 Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series



Blinn College Rankin Ag Complex

1409Old Mill Creek Road Brenham, Texas 77833

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

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

Topics to be covered:

Bee Keeping Basics Trees for Texas Landowners



For more information please contact:

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

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

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

Kara Matheney **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 derivine. 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.



Pecan Program & Pecan Show Awards

Sponsored by: Horticulture Committee of Austin County

Thursday, December 1, 2022

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

Registration: 5:30pm
Program: 6pm-8pm
Awards: Following Program

FREE TO THE PUBLIC, Dinner provided

Topics/Speakers:

- Low Maintenance Pecan Growing for Homeowners
 - Stephen Brueggerhoff, Galveston County Extension Agent, Horticulture
- Pecan Varieties & Sizes
 - Stacie Villarreal, Austin County Extension Agent, Agriculture
- Awards Program

Please RSVP by: November 29th

For more information please visit the Austin County Extension Office website: austin.agrilife.org or contact the office: 979-865-2072

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GRILIFE





This Month:
All About
Managing Ponds
Following Droughts

FEATHERS, FURS, AND FARMING

December 2, 2022

Registration 1:00pm-1:30pm Program 1:30-5:00pm

> \$15/Person \$20/Couple

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (Parish Hall)

15994 TX-159 Industry, TX 78944

Laramie Kettler 979-732-2082

Stacie Villarreal 979-865-2072 Austin County

Mark Lange 979-732-3458 Colorado County

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

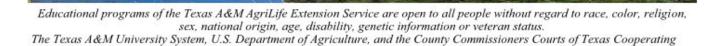
TOPICS 1 CEU - General

Restocking a pond following a drought

Management of vegetation in & around ponds during droughts

Construction of ponds/Maintenance during droughts





Austin County 5 Hr CEU Conference

5 CEU'S TDA approved (2- L&R, 1- IPM, 1 General)

Friday, December 9, 2022

Registration: 12:30pm

Program: 1pm-6:30pm

\$50 per person

Four County Auction Center

15900 TX HWY 159

Industry, TX 78944

Dinner is provided after program

Topics:

- Picolinic Acid Chemistry Training (PACT)
- Pesticide Laws & Regulations Update
- Improving Herbicide Application
- Management of Pastures During & Following Drought
- Gopher & Mole Control Methods

Speakers:

Dr. Megan Clayton, Gregory Baker, Dr. Mark Matocha,

Dr. Larry Redmon, B.R. Koehler & Joe Jimenez

RSVP by: December 6th
Please call Austin County Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service at 979-865-2072 to register
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.



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.

Private Applicator Licenses Trainings for 2023



Prices: Training-\$10 Books-\$50 (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/

Friday, February 10, 2023
Friday, May 5, 2023
Friday, August 4, 2023
Friday, November 3, 2023
Training is from 1pm to 5pm
Check in/Registration starts 15 mins prior
Date & Time are subject to change

Training 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 and need a different date, please contact the Austin County Extension office at (979) 865-2072 to purchase the manuals.

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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.

Austin County Wine Show Results 2022

Austin County Overall Grand Champion: Paul Darst, White-Sweet-Blanc Du Bois
Overall Grand Champion: Paul Darst, White-Sweet-Blanc Du Bois
Overall Reserve Grand Champion: Paul Darst, White-Dry- #2 Blanc Du Bois

Red Wine-Dry

Gold- Kelli Stark (Merlot) Silver- Tim Mou<mark>dr</mark>y (Sangiovese)

White Wine- Dry

Gold- Paul Darst (#2 Blanc Du Bois)
Silver- Paul Darst (#1 Blanc Du Bois)
Bronze- Kevin Lange (2021, Blanc Du Bois)

Fruit/Berry

Gold-Ron Tielke (Strawberry)
Silver- Ron Tielke (Peach)
Bronze- Ron Tielke (Pear)

Blush

Gold-Paul Darst (Blanc Du Blush)
Silver- Ron Tielke (Strawberry)
Bronze-Kevin Lange (2021, Blanc Du Bois/
Black Spanish)

Red Wine-Sweet

Gold- Kevin Lange (2021, Black Spanish) Silver- Ron Tielke (Strawberry) Bronze- Archie Davis(Black Spanish)

White Wine- Sweet

Gold- Paul Darst (Blanc Du Bois) Silver- Kevin Lange (2022, Blanc Du Bois/Sav Blanc)

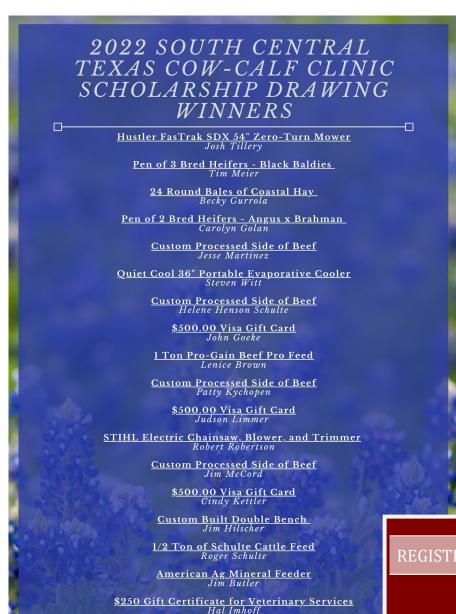
Dessert/Port/Sherry Style

Gold-Michael Goode (Lenoir)
Silver- Tim Moudry (Blackberry & Port)

Native Grapes/Mustang

Gold-Ron Tielke (Mustang)
Silver-Archie Davis (Mustang)
Bronze- Ron Tielke (Mustang)

Congratulations to our winners at this year's Austin County Wine Show



Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for the South Central Texas Cow-Calf Scholarship Drawing!

This year the scholarship committee was able to award \$24,000 in scholarships to 12 graduating seniors in our area!

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

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.