

Austin County Ag Newsletter

June 2023

Austin County Hay Show Rules & Guidelines

The Beef & Forage Committee of Austin County is encouraging beef cattle producers to turn in a sample of their hay for analysis at this year's Austin County Hay Show. In the coming months, hay samples will be accepted at different locations throughout Austin County. The analysis will be done by the Texas A&M Forage testing lab. Results will be available after the Annual Fall Forage Seminar at the Austin County Fairgrounds on October 6th or mailed directly to the producer following the program. Each location will have entry forms and directions for collecting samples. Collection boxes will be provided. In addition, the analysis is offered free of charge to anyone growing or feeding hay to live-stock.

The analysis will give producers very useful information about the quality of the hay they are feeding to their livestock, and the test will help them determine what additional level of supplement may be needed during the winter. The test will show the crude protein level, total digestibility, and acid detergent fiber (ratio of leaf to stem). The testing campaign and Hay Show is open to any hay producer from Austin or surrounding counties.

Hay Show Rules and Guidelines have now been released! Visit <u>https://austin.agrilife.org/hay-show/</u> for a complete list of the Rules, Guidelines and Forms for 2023.

Hay classes for this year's show will be:

- 1) Improved (Hybrid) Bermudagrass (Except T-85) (e.g., Coastal, Jiggs, Alicia)
- 2) Other Bermudagrasses (e.g., Common Bermudagrass, Tifton 85)
- 3) Warm Season Annual Grasses (e.g., Rice Straw, Hay Grazer, Sudan Crosses, Sorghum Alum)
- 4) Other Warm Season Perennial Grasses (e.g., Eastern Gamagrass, Bluestem, Johnsongrass, Kleingrass, Bahiagrass)
- 5) Cool Season Grasses (e.g., Wheat, Oats, Cereal Rye, Ryegrass)
- 6) Legumes (e.g., Clover, Peanut, Cowpea)
- 7) Legume/Grass Mixtures (e.g., Rye/Clover, Oats/Vetch)
- 8) *New this year* All Other Mixed Grasses (e.g., Bermudagrass/Bahia, Bermudagrass/Johnsongrass)

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

• July 4th: Austin County Extension Office — CLOSED for Independence Day

- August 1st-31st: Collection of Hay Samples for Austin County Hay Show
- August 4th: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- August 18th: New Landowner-Bees & Trees-Immaculate Conception German Catholic Church Parish Hall, Industry, 1:00 pm
- August 25th: Fall Horticulture Program American Legion Post #442, Sealy, 12:30 pm
- September 15th: New Landowner Horticulture Fayette County, 1:00 pm
- September 19th: Lunch-n-Learn Series Plumerias Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 11:50 am
- October 6th: Fall Forage Program American Legion Hall Austin County Fair Grounds, Bellville, 8am
- October 9th-16th: Austin County Extension Office CLOSED for Austin County Fair-Our Staff will be at the Fair
- October 16th: Wine Show American Legion Hall Austin County Fair Grounds, Bellville, 10 am
- October 17th: Lunch-n-Learn Series-Wonderful World of Bees-Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 11:50 am
- October 20th: New Landowner Wildlife Management & Native Prairie Restoration Colorado County, 1:00 pm
- November 1st-30th: Collection of Soil Samples for Pasture Soil Campaign
- November 3rd: Private Applicator Training Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- November 17th: New Landowner Emerging Issues Washington County, 1:00 pm

Multi-County New Landowners Series 2023

The Multi-County New Landowner Education program is a series of eight informational meetings/seminars/ field days designed to make new landowners in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, & Washington Counties aware of what types of agricultural enterprises are best for their property. Participants in the program will hear from experts in various fields of agriculture concerning the best management practices that they can implement 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, 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 profitable, and possibly what opportunities they have to serve the community.

Programs will be held on the third Friday of the months of August through November. Each month's meeting will be held at a different location in one of the four participating counties. The meetings will begin at 1:30 pm with registration and last until 5pm. The cost for the program is \$20.00 per person per meeting. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for pesticide applicators will be offered as they are applicable. A great selection of refreshments will be provided at each session. The remaining programs for 2023 are:

- August 18th Bees and Trees for Homeowners
- September 15th Horticulture Production Fruit Trees, Pecans, and Grapes for Landowners
- October 20th Wildlife Management and Native Prairie Restoration
- November 17th Emerging Issues

<u> August Program – Bees & Trees for Homeowners – Immaculate Conception Catholic Church-Parish Hall</u>

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity!

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 Bell-ville, 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 the bounty.

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Lunch-N-Learn Series 2023

Bluebonnet Master Gardeners of Austin County are pleased to present the 2023 "Lunch-N-Learn" series hosted on the third Tuesday of each month from January-May and September-October. The overall series features 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 promptly at 12:00 pm and concluding by 12:55 pm. 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. Registration is not required but is encouraged.

Our remaining series dates and topics are as follows:

- Tuesday, September 19th Plumerias
- Tuesday, October 17th Wonderful World of the Honeybee

Home Grown Vegetable Contest Winners

The Home Grown Vegetable Contest was held on Saturday, June 10th at Linseisen's Feed & Supply in Bellville. Along with the contest there was an educational program on Different Types of Fertilizers & When to Fertilize What, presented by Shelby Dovzak from Nelson's Plant Food.

We would like to thank our Sponsor Linseisen's Feed & Supply hosting the event and Nelson's Plant Food for their wonderful speaker. The Austin County Horticulture Committee donated the gift certificates for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place Best of Show.

This year's winners were:

1st Best of Show: Jean L. Priem (Tomatoes-slicers)

2nd Best of Show: Faye Beery (Blueberries)

3rd Best of Show: Faye Beery (Anaheim Peppers)

Best Tomato-Snackers

1st: Jean L. Priem 2nd: Freddie E

3rd: Mark Zapalac

Best Tomato-Slicers

1st: Jean L. Priem 2nd: Sherry Kutch 3rd: Freddie Engelbrecht

Biggest Tomato 1st: Sherry Kutch

Best All Other Peppers

1st: Faye Beery 2nd: Freddie Engelbrecht 3rd: Freddie Engelbrecht

<u>Best Gourd</u>

1st: Carrell Wendt

Best Beans/Peas 1st: Randy Petter 2nd: Adrienne Petter

<u>Best Potato</u> 1st: Freddie Engelbrecht

Best Fruit/Berries

1st: Faye Beery (Blueberries)



2nd: Faye Beery (Peaches)

<u>Most Unique Vegetable/Fruit</u>

1st: Carrell Wendt (Gourd)

2nd: Sherry Hutch (Spoon Tomatoes)

3rd: Freddie Engelbrecht (Double Tomato)

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who participated. There was a total of 18 entries. If you would like to enter in the Vegetable Contest next year, please visit <u>https://austin.agrilife.org/agriculture/</u>acvegcontest/.

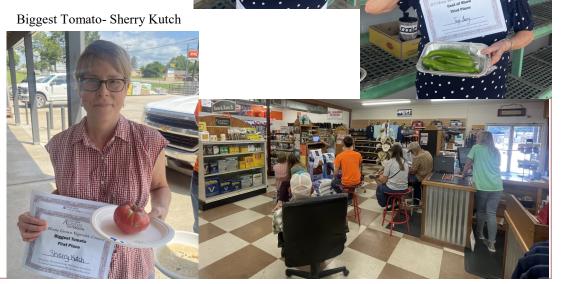


1st Best of Show: Jean L. Priem (Tomatoes-slicers)

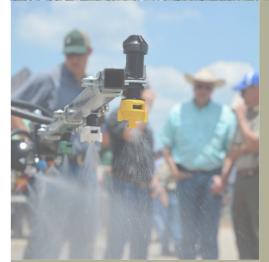


2nd Best of Show: Faye Beery (Blueberries)

3rd Best of Show: Faye Beery (Anaheim Peppers)



Private Applicator Licenses Irainings 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-



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.

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.



Fall Horticulture EXTENSION Seminar

August 25, 2023

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

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

Topics:

EXAS A&N

- Berries: Blue, Black, and Red
- Native Pollinators
- How Native Plants Can Increase **Biodiversity in Your Landscape**

Speakers:

- Stephan Janak, Extension Program Specialist
- Master Naturalists from Gideon Lincecum Chapter
- John Williamson, Bluebonnet Master Gardener

RSVP by: August 23, 2023 Please call Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Austin County at 979-865-2072



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.





2023 AUSTIN COUNTY LUNCH N LEARN SERIES

HOSTED BY: 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

February 21st

January 17th

Roses

Elisabeth Eickhoff, Master Rosarian

Garden Stretches: Stop the Ache before you rake

Michelle Wright, Austin County CEA

March 21st

Composting

Mary Karish, Waller County Master Gardener

April 18th

Gopher & Moles

Mole B.R. Koehler, Bluebonnet Master Gopher Gardener

May 16th

Orchids

TBD

September 19th

Plumerias

Faye Beery, Bluebonnet Master Gardener

October 17th

Wonderful World of the Honeybee

Tom Shaughnessy, Local Beekeeper

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED BUT IS ENCOURAGED. TO REGISTER CALL THE OFFICE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT HTTP://AUSTIN.AGRILIFE.ORG



QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL: TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE OF AUSTIN COUNTY AT 979-865-2072

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 ACRILIFE 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 TEXS 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



Drop Off Locations:

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

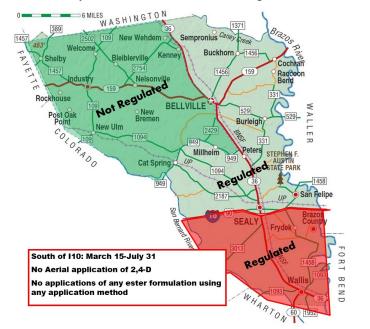
Feral hogs can be harvested until funds are depleted. All feral hog MUST be harvested in Austin County.

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,

- 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





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

Sincerelv.

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.