

Commissioner Sid Miller Supports Rural Mental Health  
Awareness ~ *Texas Department of Agriculture*

AUSTIN — Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller has united with country music artist Jenna Paulette to encourage rural Texans to make mental health a top priority. Texas farmers and ranchers face an increased risk for suicide and mental health challenges. This is often due to social and geographical isolation, weather variability such as extreme droughts or flash floods, limited access to health services, and fluctuating commodity prices. The Texas Department of Agriculture's AgriStress Helpline provides 24/7 support to these individuals who are struggling and may need help.

"Even the toughest people need help sometimes," said Commissioner Miller. "Not only does the agriculture industry have some of the highest rates of fatalities and injuries across all age groups, but also some of the highest rates of suicide. TDA's AgriStress Helpline is a great resource for Texas farmers and ranchers to go to for support tailored specifically to the agriculture industry."

TDA's AgriStress Helpline is a free and confidential crisis and support line that anyone struggling with challenges can call or text 24/7. While there are a handful of agricultural resource and referral lines out there, this is the only crisis support line currently dedicated to agricultural, forestry, and fishing communities with interpretation services that are provided in 160 languages.

As a Texas rancher, Jenna Paulette knows mental health resources are crucial for Texas farmers and ranchers. Her new music video "You Ain't No Cowboy" depicts the struggles of a man who is wrestling with the demands and pressure of his daily life and seeks help. As the storyline continues, he works out his issues for the sake of his family and livelihood. Through her music video, Jenna Paulette aims to detach Hollywood's negative representation of the cowboy by redefining the image of a cowboy as hardworking, loyal, and loving. This narrative hits close to home for the country music singer, who has witnessed a loved one struggle with mental health firsthand.

"The power to change and have a full life is there for the taking, you're just a decision away from a redeemed life. This video is a call to action for those suffering and the end is a glimpse of hope into the life of a real man who is on the other side of adversity," said Jenna Paulette. "The cowboys in my world, including Ross, the love of my life, have overcome many challenges. Ross is 5 years sober and he plays the cowboy in the video. I met him after he beat his addiction. He made a conscious decision to take his life back and with grace and the strength of God, good men, and family around him he was able to do it."

"There is a stigma around stress and mental health in the agriculture community," Miller stated. "It's time we put an end to the notion of this shame and prioritize our mental health. I urge all Texans to invest in their overall well-being by reducing stress levels, staying active, eating healthful meals, and talking to someone if you have concerns or worries."

For additional information on TDA's AgriStress Helpline, please click [here](#).

To view "You Ain't No Cowboy," please click [Here](#) or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPNvutKgucY>

**Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events**

- November 1st-22nd: Collection of Soil Samples for Pasture Soil Campaign
- November 1st-27th: Collection of Pecans for the Pecan Show
- November 3rd: Private Applicator Training — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 1:00 pm
- **November 10th: Austin County Extension Office — CLOSED for Veterans Day (Observed)**
- November 17th: New Landowner — Emerging Issues — Washington County, 1:00 pm
- **November 23rd-24th: Austin County Extension Office — CLOSED for Thanksgiving**
- November 30th: Pecan Program/Awards — Austin County Extension Office, Bellville, 6:00 pm
- December 8th: 5 Hour CEU Conference — Four County Auction Center, Industry, 1:00 pm (5 CEUs, pending)
- December 15th: Feathers, Furs, Farming — Tax Valuation — Weimar Community Center, Weimar, 1:00 pm (2 CEUs)
- **December 25th-26th: Austin County Extension Office — CLOSED for Christmas**
- **December 29th: Austin County Extension Office — CLOSED for New Year's Eve**

## Soil Campaign November 1-22nd

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 in determining the amount and type 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 through November 22nd has been set as the time for all Austin County landowners to participate in the soil testing campaign for this year's hay meadows and pastureland. The Beef & Forage Committees of Austin and Colorado Counties are 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 micronutrients. 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 – Steinhäuser'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*

## Feathers, Furs, and Farming – Wildlife Tax Valuation

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 15, 2023. The focus of this program will center around Wildlife Tax Valuation. Topics covered will include Proposition 11, Wildlife Tax Valuation, Controlling Unwanted Brush, and Predator Control. Two general CEUs will be offered for TDA Pesticide Applicators.

The event will be held at the Weimar Civic Center located at 1754 IH-10, Weimar, TX 78962. Registration will be from 1:00 - 1:30 pm with the program beginning at 1:30 pm and concluding at 5 pm. Cost of attendance is \$15 per person or \$20 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, TPWD Wildlife Biologist for Colorado County at 979-732-3458, or TPWD Wildlife Biologist for Austin County at 832-595-8999.

*See Flier on Page 11*

## PECAN SHOW/AWARDS & PROGRAM

Do you have a pecan tree in your front or back yard? Not sure what variety it is? You do not need to own a pecan orchard to participate in the Annual Austin County Pecan Show. If you live in a neighboring county and your county does not host a pecan show, you are also eligible to enter the Austin County Pecan Show.

The Horticulture Committee of Austin County will host its Annual Pecan Show on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office located at 800 E Wendt St, Bellville. There will be a short educational program starting at 6 pm followed by an awards presentation. This year's Pecan Program will feature Dr. Monte Nesbitt, AgriLife Extension Horticulture Program Specialist. Dr. Nesbitt will be discussing the following topics: Processing Pecans-Field to Plate and Storage of Pecans. The educational and awards program is open and free to the public, even if you did not enter pecans into the show.

Entries for the show must be delivered to the AgriLife Extension Office during normal business hours, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, beginning Wednesday, November 1st until Monday, November 27th. All entries must be submitted by 4:00 pm on Monday, November 27th to be entered in the show.

Each entry must be in a brown paper bag (provided at the office) with a completed entry card. 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 or age limit. Entries will be accepted from residents of Austin County or surrounding counties that do 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 held in July. Pecans not being forwarded to the regional show may be picked up at the AgriLife Extension Office on Thursday, November 30th after the awards presentation.

For the Educational and Awards Program, we do encourage you to RSVP since we will be providing dinner. Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 28th.

*See Fliers on Page 6 & 9*

# Austin County Hay Show Results

**Grand Champion:** Kash Krueger (*Coastal Bermudagrass*)

**Reserve Champion:** Matt Waak (*Alicia*)

## 2023

### Coastal Bermudagrass

**1st:** Kash Krueger (*Coastal Bermudagrass*)

**2nd:** Matt Waak (*Alicia*)

### Other Bermudagrasses

**1st:** Dean Allred (*Tifton 85*)

### Warm Season Annual Grasses

**1st:** Matt Waak (*Hay Grazer-Jackpot*)

**2nd:** Scianna Farms (*Sorghum Alum*)

### Other Warm Season Perennial Grasses

**1st:** Kash Krueger (*Johnson grass*)

**2nd:** Patrick Klecka (*Bahia grass/Johnson grass*)

### Legumes/Grass Mixtures

**1st:** Mark Kmiec (*Rye grass/Austrian Winter Peas*)

**2nd:** Patrick Schmid (*Clover/Vetch, Wild Rye/  
Bermuda grass*)

### All Other Mixed Grasses

**1st:** Matt Waak (*Coastal Bermudagrass/Johnson grass*)

**2nd:** Matt Waak (*Bermuda/Johnson grass*)



## 2024 BLUEBONNET MASTER GARDENER INTERN CLASS

The Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association (BMGA) announces that registration is open for its 2024 Master Gardener Certification Training Class to be held in Brenham. The class is open to participants from Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington Counties, and will provide 50+ hours of gardening education from experts in various fields of horticulture.

This is a unique opportunity for individuals who are interested in horticulture and serving their community. Master Gardeners are trained in all facets of horticulture such as plant & soil science, entomology, plant pathology, fruit and vegetable gardening, and much more. Upon completion of their training, Master Gardeners are required to give at least 50 hours of volunteer service time in their local community to receive the title of “Master Gardener”.

The 2024 BMGA training class will be held every Wednesday, January 10 to April 24, 2024, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm, at the Washington County Expo Event Center, 1305 East Blue Bell Road, Brenham, TX 77833. Field trip days may run to 3:30 pm. The registration fee is \$200 per person, which includes the Master Gardener Handbook compiled by the Texas Master Gardener Association in conjunction with Texas A&M AgriLife horticulture specialists. Applications are available online at <https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/> or at local county AgriLife Extension Offices. Class size is limited, so to ensure a spot in the 2024 BMGA Training Class, application and payment must be submitted online or delivered to the Washington County AgriLife Extension Office as soon as possible.

Plan to attend the Master Gardener Open House and Lunch N Learn program on January 3, 2024, at the Washington County Expo Event Center. The Open House begins at 10:00 am. The topic “Roses 101” presented by staff from the Antique Rose Emporium will follow at noon.

Contact the Washington County Extension Office at (979) 277-6212, your local AgriLife Extension Office or visit the Bluebonnet Master Gardener website at <https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/> for more information about the Master Gardener program.

The Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association is a multi-county program designed to provide in-depth gardening education and volunteer opportunities in its four-county area.

*See Flier on page 12*



# Austin County Forage Contest Results 2023

**1st Place Team:** Bellville FFA

**2nd Place Team:** Rusk FFA

**3rd Place Team:** Flatonia FFA

*\*High Point Gradating Senior, receiving a \$1,00 Scholarship from the Austin County Beef & Forage Committee*

## Individual Placings

1st Place: Lauren Lassus, Bellville FFA\*

2nd Place: Paden Mulholland, Flatonia FFA

3rd Place: Kash Kruger, Bellville FFA

4th Place: Jack Luedeker, Bellville FFA

5th Place: Wesley Martin, Rusk FFA

6th Place: Jackson Kinney, Rusk FFA

7th Place: Jase Rau, Columbus FFA

8th Place: Grant Walling, Bellville FFA

9th Place: James Schumann, Bellville FFA

10th Place: Cooper Hollomon, Bellville FFA

**Thank you to our Belt Buckle Sponsor:  
Bo Brandt**



# Austin County Wine Show Results 2023

**Austin County Overall Grand Champion:** Keith Froebel, White-Dry-Blanc Du Bois

**Texas Overall Grand Champion:** Michael Goode, White-Sweet-Blanc Du Bois

**Texas Overall Reserve Champion:** Keith Froebel, White-Dry-Blanc Du Bois

## Red Wine-Dry

Gold- Tim Moudry (Pinot Noir)

Silver- Ruth Brooks (Black Spanish)

Bronze- Michael Goode (Lenoir)

## White Wine- Dry

Gold- Keith Froebel (Blanc Du Bois)

Silver- Michael Goode (Blanc Du Bois)

Bronze- Keith Froebel (Pinot Grigio)

## Fruit/Berry

Gold-Ron Tielke (Strawberry)

Silver- Henry Divin (Blackberry)

Bronze- Ron Tielke (Strawberry)

## Native Grapes/Mustang

Gold-Ron Tielke (Mustang)

Silver- Georgianne Schmid (Mustang)

Bronze- Archie Davis (Mustang)

## Red Wine-Sweet

Gold- Spencer Kloss (Reserve, Black Spanish)

Silver- Ron Tielke (Strawberry)

Bronze- Spencer Kloss (Vintage, Black Spanish)

## White Wine- Sweet

Gold- Michael Goode (Blanc Du Bois)

Silver- David Fleming (Blanc Du Bois)

Bronze- Jill & David Lawton (Blanc Du Bois)

## Dessert/Port/Sherry Style

Gold-Tim Moudry (Blackberry)

Silver- N/A

Bronze- N/A

## Blush

Gold-Jacob Muras (Camminare Noir)

Silver- Jacob Muras (VC 38 Red Hybrid)

Bronze-David Fleming (Blush 2021-Blanc Du Bois)

Bronze-David Fleming (Blush 2023-Blanc Du Bois)



# Austin & Colorado County Soil Testing Campaign

## November 1-22, 2023

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 22nd!

**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.

**TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION**



# Austin County Pecan Show

*Sponsored by: The Horticulture Committee of Austin County*

**Entry Deadline: Monday, November 27, 2023, 4pm**

**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 4pm on Monday, November 27th.  
**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 and bags can be picked up at the Extension office or forms printed off website ([austin.agrilife.org](https://austin.agrilife.org)).*
- Entries are limited to one entry of each named variety per person
- Pecans must be from 2023 Crop
- No entry fee, Open to all Ages

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

***Results will be available at the Pecan Program on 11/30/2023***

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



# Private Applicator Licenses Trainings for 2024

Friday, January 26th

Friday, May 10th

Friday, August 2nd

Friday, November 1st

*Training is from 1pm to 5pm*

*Check in/Registration starts 15 mins prior,  
Please do not arrive more than 15 mins before the class.*

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

*You may bring your own refreshments*

## *Prices:*

*Training-\$10*

*Books-\$50*

*(2 manuals)*

**Cash or Check only!**

**Please bring exact change**

**Checks payable to:**

**Extension Program Council  
(EPC)**

**Nonrefundable**

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

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



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.

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  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION



**1  
CEU  
(1 GEN)**

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION

# Emerging Issues

2023 Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series

**November 17, 2023**

## Washington County Expo VIP Building

1125 Old Independence 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>



Scan Here to Register

**For more information please contact:**

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

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

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

Kara Matheney  
Washington County  
(979) 277-6212 ext. 2  
Washington.AgrLife.org



NATURAL TEXAS



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.





# Pecan Program & Pecan Show Awards

*Sponsored by: Horticulture Committee of Austin County*

**Thursday, November 30, 2023**

**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/Speaker:

- Processing Pecans: From Field to Plate
- Storage of Pecans
  - Monte Nesbitt, PhD, Agrilife Extension Horticulture Program Specialist
- Awards Program

Please RSVP by: November 28th

For more information please visit the Austin County Extension Office website: [austin.agrilife.org](http://austin.agrilife.org) or contact the office: 979-865-2072



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 5 Hr CEU Conference

5 CEU's  
TDA approved  
(1- L&R, 1- IPM,  
3 General)

## Friday, December 8, 2023

**Registration: 12:30pm**

**Program: 1pm-6:30pm**

**\$50 per person**

**Four County Auction Center**

**11942 HWY 159**

**Industry, TX 78944**

*Dinner & refreshments are provided*

### Topics:

- Pesticide Laws & Regulations Update
- Marketing Update
- Value of your Forage
- Pond Management- Weed Control
- External and Internal Parasites in Cattle

### Speakers:

Dr. Don Renchie, Dr. David Anderson, Dr. Joe Pascal,  
Brittany Chessier, and Doug Pierce

**RSVP by: December 5th**

**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>**



**TEXAS A&M  
AGRILIFE  
EXTENSION**

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.





This Month:  
**ALL ABOUT**  
Wildlife Tax  
Valuation

# FEATHERS, FURS, AND FARMING

**December 15, 2023**

Registration 1:00pm-  
1:30pm

Program 1:30-5:00pm

**\$15/Person**

**\$20/Couple**

**Weimar Civic Center**

1754 IH-10  
Weimar, TX 78962

**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

**Prop 11**

**Wildlife Tax Valuation**

**Controlling Unwanted Brush**

**Predator Control**

**2 General CEU's for TDA Private  
Applicators**



*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*





# Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association 2024 Training Class

## Course Outline

- Welcome, Interns
- Earth-Kind
- Landscaping
- Plant
- Development
- Plant Propagation
- Soil Characteristics
- Soil Improvements
- Water
- Ornamental Plants
- Lawn Care
- Vegetables and Herbs
- Fruit Trees, Berries & Pecans
- Landscape Design
- Integrated Pest
- Management
- Diseases
- Insects
- Weeds

## Training Classes each Wednesday January 10th - April 24th

Final Evaluation Tuesday April 23rd

**8:30 AM -12:30 PM**

*Field Trip classes are 8:30 to 3:00 PM*

## Washington County Expo Event Center

1305 East Blue Bell Road  
Brenham, Texas 77833

**\$200/Person includes 50+ hours of gardening education!**

The Master Gardener program is a unique opportunity for individuals interested in horticulture and in serving their community. Upon completion of 50 hours of class time, trainees must complete 50 hours of volunteer service in their local community to receive the title of "Master Gardener"

For more information on the Master Gardener program, contact the Extension office at (979) 277-6212 or visit the Bluebonnet Master Gardener Website at:

<https://txmg.org/bluebonnet>

## Washington County Open House - Expo Event Center

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024**

**10:00 AM – 11:30 PM**

**Followed by: Lunch N Learn Program at 12:00 noon**



Scan QR Code



The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to a persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Court of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting Office at (979) 277-6212 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made. are encouraged to contact the County Extension.





# 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**

## **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.*





## AGRICULTURE & TIMBER SALES TAX EXEMPTION EXPIRATION UPDATE

All Ag/Timber numbers currently held will expire on December 31, 2023. You must renew your number to continue to claim an exemption on qualifying agriculture and timber purchases made after that date. The Comptroller's Office mailed out renewal letters during the month of August 2023 to the mailing address on file. You may renew your Ag/Timber number at that time.

Ag/Timber Numbers must be renewed every four years, regardless of when the number was first issued. Renewed and new Ag/Timber Numbers expire Dec. 31, 2023.

You must enter the expiration date on the exemption certificate you give to retailers on your qualifying purchases. If you already have an exemption certificate on file that includes your Ag/Timber Number, you can add the expiration date to the exemption certificate and initial it for the retailer's records.

For more information please contact the Texas Comptroller's Office online at <https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/ag-timber/> or by phone at 1-800-252-5555.

## AUSTIN COUNTY HOG BOUNTY

The Austin County Feral Hog Bounty is still going on! The Bounty program is offered with the support of the Austin County Commissioners Court. 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 completed when dropping off the ears to collect the bounty.

*See Flier on Page 13*



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

Sincerely,

**Stacie M. Villarreal**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

County Extension Agent- Agriculture & Natural Resources - Austin County

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

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

Phone: 979-865-2072

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

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

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (979) 865-2072 ten (10) days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.