

Listed below are upcoming educational events offered by Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension Service:

- ◆ Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series – Fence Building & Equipment Demonstration – October 17, 2014
- ◆ South Central Texas Cow/Calf Clinic – Washington County Fairgrounds – October 24, 2014
Commercial Heifer is Grand Door Prize
- ◆ Lunch to Learn Gardening Series, Earthkind Part II – Fayette County Agricultural Building – November 6, 2014
- ◆ Ag Conference – Smithville American Legion Hall – November 7, 2014 **(6 CEUs)**
- ◆ Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series – Livestock Production – November 21, 2014
- ◆ Upcoming Farm Bill Decision Tool Meetings (**Listed Below**)

Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series Continues – October 17th – 2 CEUs

The October program of the Multi-County New Landowners Educational Series will focus on fence building and equipment demonstrations. The program is set for Friday, October 17, 2014 at the Washington County Fairgrounds VIP Building at 1305 E Blue Bell Road in Brenham, Texas. This session will feature a classroom presentation on fencing options, basic fencing techniques, and provide several hands-on demonstrations. The event will begin at 1:00 with registration and the program to follow. The standard registration fee of \$20 applies and can be paid at the door.

This October session is sure to be a dynamic and interesting session that will have value to landowners who are interested in or are in the process of making renovations to existing fences and considering putting up new fences. Please give us a call at (979) 968-5831 to reserve your place at this upcoming program.

The Multi-County New Landowner Education program is a series of 9 informational meetings, seminars, and 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 certain fields of agriculture about 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

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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.

The program is held on the third Friday of the months of January through 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 1:30 pm. And will last between 4 and 5 hours depending on the topic and possible tour stops. The cost for the program series is \$100.00 per person or \$150.00 per couple for all nine meetings or \$20.00 per person per meeting. CEU's for pesticide applicators will be offered as they are applicable, and refreshments will be served at each program session. Participants will receive a notebook full of timely and useful information.

For more information, a map, or a registration form, you can contact the Fayette County Extension Office at (979) 968-5831.

South Central Texas Cow/Calf Clinic – Washington County Fairgrounds – October 24, 2014

The 43rd Annual South Central Texas Cow-Calf Clinic and Trade Show will be held on **Friday, October 24, 2014** at the Washington County Fairgrounds Sales Facility in Brenham. Registration fee is \$20.00 per person, and registration will be from 7:15 am until 8:00 am. All area producers are encouraged to attend to receive information which will help them make sound management decisions in their beef cattle operations.

A great list of speakers has been prepared for you based on the recommendations of the area Beef and Forage Committee members from Austin, Brazos, Burleson, Fayette, Grimes, Harris, Lee, Waller, and Washington Counties. Dr. Jason Cleere and Doug Pierce will start the morning session with a presentation and demonstration on heifer selection and evaluation using a variety of breeds to look at. Dr. Steve Hammack will follow up their demonstration with a reminder about the basics of breed characteristics for the cattle in our area. After the conclusion of the genetics session we will turn the focus to the economics of buying vs raising replacement heifers with Dr. Levi Russell. Moving down the program we will transition to discussion on weed and brush control and fence line management with Jack LeClair and finally wrap up the series with a fencing demonstration by StaTite50, The 50 Year Fence.

Each year the Cow Calf Clinic is supported by numerous sponsors and trade show vendors who will have booths, equipment displays, and representatives on hand to visit with participants throughout the day. This year the Cow Calf Clinic is opening up the trade show to cattlemen that would like to bring in bulls or heifers for display. Anyone interested in the trade show can contact the Washington County AgriLife Extension Office for more information.

The Washington County Beef and Forage committee in conjunction with Texas Ag Finance have purchased a commercial heifer during the Washington County Fair Commercial Heifer Sale and will raffle her off as the GRAND DOOR PRIZE at the end of the day. Participants must be registered for the entire day and must be present to win!

After the meeting is adjourned trade show sponsors, participants, and speakers are invited to stick around for the social hour sponsored by Mike Hopkins Distributing and enjoy some Beer-Battered-Beef-Tips!

Cow-calf clinic participants who hold a private, commercial, or non-commercial pesticide applicators license will receive one hour of continuing education in the integrated pest management category and one hour in general. Beef cattle producers certified under the Texas Beef Quality Producer Program will receive beef quality credits for attending the clinic.

For additional information and to register for the South Central Texas Cow Calf Clinic, contact the Fayette County office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at (979) 968-5831.

Ag Conference – Smithville American Legion Hall – November 7, 2014 (6 CEUs)

The Bastrop/Fayette County Ag Conference will be held **November 7** at the American Legion Hall located at 145 American Legion Road in Smithville. A pre-registration fee of \$25 must be received at the Extension office in Bastrop County at 901 Pecan Street, Bastrop, Texas or in Fayette County at 255 Svoboda Lane, Rm 134 in La Grange *by November 5th*. Late registration at the door will be \$35 per person. Checks should be made payable to the Bastrop Ag. Fund (no cash will be accepted).

Topics of discussion will include Pest Management Around Farm Structures by Dr. Janis Reed; Fenceline Brush Management by Megan Clayton, Extension Range Specialist; Pesticide Laws & Regulations and Fenceline Issues and Complaints by Melissa Barton of Texas Department of Agriculture; Herbicide Tank Mixing and Calibration by Dr. Josh McGinty, Extension Agronomist; Herbicide Options for Winter Brush Control by Dr. Bob Lyons, Extension Range Specialist; and Pesticide Laws and Regulations by Perry Cervantes, Texas Department of Agriculture. A total of **6 pesticide applicator CEU credits have been approved from the Texas Department of Agriculture for this program (2 General, 2 Laws & Regulations, 2 IPM)**. Please call the Fayette County Extension Office at (979) 968-5831 if you have questions

Upcoming Farm Bill Decision Tool Meetings

Monday, October 27, Nordheim Shooting Club, North Broadway Street, Nordheim, TX

Tuesday, October 28, Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds, 1213 Terry Shamise Blvd., Robstown, TX

Wednesday, October 29 Burleson County Fairgrounds, 905 Highway 36 in Caldwell, Tx

Thursday, October 30, Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4310 Highway 36 South in Rosenberg, TX

Wednesday, November 5, Winnie – Stowell Community Building, 225 South Park Street in Winnie, TX

Times:

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Registration begins at 8:30 AM

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of DeWitt and Karnes counties and the Farm Service Agency of DeWitt/Karnes counties are hosting a Farm Bill meeting on Monday, October 27, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. at the Nordheim Shooting Club, located at the end of Broadway Street in Nordheim, TX. The meeting is free and open to the public. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

The guest speakers and program topics include: “Farm Service Agency General Overview” – Grady Kelley, DeWitt/Karnes FSA Director; “Explanation of Relevant Changes to Ag Policy in the 2014 Farm Bill” – Dr. Levi Russell, Extension Economist; and “Demonstration of the Texas A&M AFPC Decision Aid” – Mac Young, Extension Program Specialist. This part of the program will demonstrate the online decision-making tools that are available to producers to help make important enrollment decisions regarding the Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. Learning more about ARC and PLC is extremely important for producers who must make a one-time decision about base and yield updates as well as ARC or PLC election and enrollment decisions. The Extension Specialists and FSA Director will be able to answer any questions on ARC and PLC policy and procedure.

The program will conclude around 11:00 a.m. For more information about the meeting, please contact Anthony Netardus, DeWitt County Extension Agent at 361-275-0816 or Jared Alewine, Karnes County Extension Agent at 830-780-3906.

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 Fayette County Extension Office at (979)968-5831 two work days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

Scott Willey, M.S.

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