

April 16, 2015

VOL XV NO 2

5/2 Spring Field Day	Hernandez Farms	No charge
5/15 Sugarcane Aphid Turn Row	Hernandez Farms	\$10
5/28 Grassfed Beef Conference	College Station	\$250
8/3 Beef Cattle Short Course	College Station	\$180

Sugarcane Aphid

Turn Row Meeting

May 15

\$10 and 2 CEU(s)



HOGOUT Results

2014

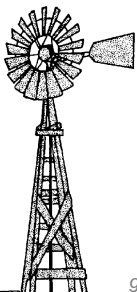
6th place

\$25,000



The Goliad County Crops Committee is offering a Turn Row Meeting scheduled for Friday, May 15 at Hernandez Farms off Irby Road. The meeting will start with registration at 8:30 a.m. in the field with the program starting at 9:00 am. We will have coffee and donuts during the registration period. Dr. Robert Bowling's, Extension Entomologist presentation will provide a review of sugarcane aphid biology and direct and indirect damage to sorghum. The presentation will also provide an update on sugarcane aphid activity, insecticides available (registered and those with a section 18), as well as projects and demos for the upcoming season. Dr. Bowling is developing a scouting card that will be made available at the meeting. This new aphid pest has infested grain sorghum and produces large amounts of honeydew, which chokes combines and causes loss of grain. Growers lost up to 50 percent of grain sorghum yield in infested fields. We will be offering 2 hours of CEU(s) in the IPM category at this most important meeting, planned and conducted by the Crops Committee.

The Directors of the WMA with the approval of the Goliad County Commissioners' Court entered the 2014 HOG OUT County Challenge (the Texas Department of Agriculture feral hog abatement program). Grants were awarded to the top counties with the most hogs removed and highest participation in the program. The county only turned in 251 certified hog kills, but had 252 attend our annual banquet which was enough to receive 6th place and garnered \$25,000. The grant proposal was to continue our pig bounty. To claim your \$5 bounty you must bring a pig tail to our office. Bounties will be paid until all budgeted funds have been allocated (5000 hogs) or until the end of the grant period December of this year. Statewide only 3761 feral hogs were certified killed and 2300 attended educational programs during the HOGOUT period which may have contributed to our good fortune. Texas has an estimated 2 million feral hogs, more than any other state. They cause about \$400 million annually in damages according to some estimates.



Goliad County Agricultural Newsletter

May ★ Jun ★ Jul ★ Aug

Goliad County Extension Office
Franklin Street Courthouse Annex
329 West Franklin
Goliad, TX 77963

Tel. 361.645.8204
Fax. 361.645.2427

Grassfed Beef

May 28-29

College Station

\$250

A Conference for
beef producers and
consumers

BCSC

Aug 3-5

College Station

\$180

Texas A&M
**Beef Cattle
Short Course**

This is the announcement of 2015 Grassfed Beef Conference to be held at Texas A&M in College Station, Thursday May 28th and 29th. This is our 4th grassfed conference and we usually get between 75-100 folks in attendance and I think that Rick Machen, the coordinator, has done an excellent job addressing sustainability while addressing pros and the cons of grass fed beef production in true Extension fashion.

Cost is \$250 through May 15 and \$300 after. Three continuing education credits will be offered to Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide applicators license holders. To register online, visit <https://agriferegister.tamu.edu/> or call 979-845-2604.

Private Applicator Training

NOW ONLINE!

campus.extension.org



If you are seeking to obtain a Private Applicators license you may now complete the Texas Department of Agriculture required training via an online course. A new interactive training tool is now available to help potential applicators complete this required training via the internet. This course maintains the high training standards found at an advertised in-person course, but at your convenience. The training covers 11 topics, including Integrated Pest Management, reading and understanding pesticide labels, pesticide record keeping, recognizing pests and pest damage, and an updated pollinator protection module. At the conclusion of the course, after trainees pass a review exam, they will receive a certificate of completion and an electronic version of the D-1411 which they will then submit to TDA. The cost of the online course is \$75, which includes the shipping and handling fees for the training manuals.

The Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course (BCSC) is the largest beef educational event in the country. It is a three day seminar that represents the culmination of knowledge from industry leaders and experts. Each year more than 1,300 beef producers and enthusiasts attend the BCSC to expand their knowledge of the beef cattle industry and join in the discussion of the most current issues facing the producer. This industry gathering features the popular Cattleman's College, a general session with the nation's leading beef cattle experts, seminars, workshops and hands-on demonstrations. You can register starting May 1 online or by mail. Monday night includes the famous Aggie Prime Rib Dinner.

Pesticide Applicator

BARCODES



Next time you come to one of our programs, you might think we are copycatting our Low-e's Pay and Save. "Attention Customers—no waiting at the registration table!" You've all been there - the guy in front of you going through his wallet, looking for his little white card for the number.

*It's a yellow card, they changed it in '94.
But I'm one of those certified ones.*

Yes sir, I know.

*I just used it to buy a jug of Clear Pasture.
You don't need a license to buy that product.
Hold my pink sprinkled donut so I can look.
Sprinkles are for winners (under breath)
Could you just look it up for me on the line?
There, it's right there stuck to the back of
that Southwestern Bell calling card!
Do you need the client # or license #?
Coffee is getting cold!*

But it is all about to change.

COMPOSTING

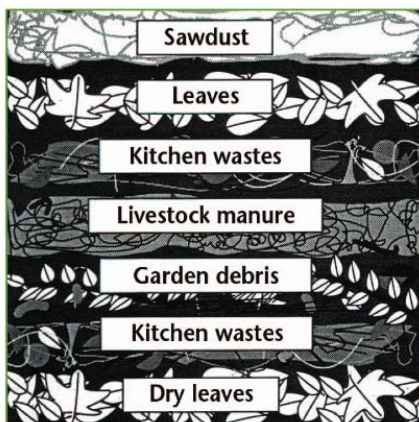
If we composted many of the things we throw away, such as kitchen scraps, grass clippings, leaves and other landscape debris, we could divert 20 to 30 percent of the trash currently going into landfills. By composting these materials, we can reduce the amount of waste we generate and produce organic matter and nutrients for our garden, landscape and yard.

For decomposition to occur, these elements and conditions are essential:

- Organic material
- Microorganisms
- Air
- Water
- Nitrogen

The size of the material in the compost pile greatly influences the amount of time it takes for it to break down. The smaller the item, the faster microorganisms can break it down. Microorganisms need a favorable environment, which includes air, water, and nitrogen. Air is the only part that cannot be added in excess. Turning the pile often will provide an ample amount of air and speed the composition process. If there is too little air in the compost pile because of compaction, anaerobic decomposition occurs, producing an odor like that of rotting eggs.

After the compost area has rested for a few months, turn the soil. It is ready to be used for planting.



Spring Field Day

May 2

Hernandez Farms

8:30 am

The Goliad County Wildlife Management Association has partnered with the Goliad County Soil and Water Conservation District for our annual Spring Field Day, Saturday, May 2nd at Luis Hernandez Farms, Irby Road ranch. The tour will start with registration at 8:30 a.m. in the field located one mile once you turn onto Irby Rd, from Riverdale Road near Riverdale. We will have coffee and kolaches while we wait for all participants to arrive. The field day should conclude mid morning.

The main focus of the program will be converting land from a 1-D-1 designation for your *ad valorem* tax exemption, to a wildlife exemption. We will have scheduled our Chief Appraiser for Goliad County, Richard Miller to discuss the ins and outs of Property Tax Laws in Texas. Josh Turner, our TPWD Biologist will discuss how to formulate a Wildlife Management Plan for your property. We will also have on hand our USDA Troubleshooter, John Calentine discussing predator control which is one of seven approved practices to propagate and sustain the breeding, migrating, and wintering of an indigenous wildlife population. "Since no wildlife management technique is appropriate for all situations, you must develop the most effective method for each unique situation, that requires an appraisal of resource potential; clearly stated goals; and a practical assessment of potential alternatives", according to Misti Thompson, our Natural Resource Conservation District Conservationist who will also be on the program.

We will be offering 2 hours of CEU(s) for your applicator license. There is no cost for the program. Thanks to this year's sponsor, the Goliad County Soil and Water Conservation District and thanks also to planning efforts of the WMA with this year's field day.

Goliad, TX 77963

329 West Franklin

Franklin Street Courthouse Annex



AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES INFORMATION

If you need any special accommodation, please contact Brian Yanta at 361-645-8204 10 days prior so we can consider your request.

If you have any special dietary needs, please contact Brian Yanta at 361-645-8204 10 days prior to the event.

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Goliad Ag Newsletter on the Web

<http://goliad.agrilife.org/newsletters/>

We have provided helpful web links to those e-newsletter subscribers.

Also e-newsletters arrive a few days before this paper one does. If you would like to receive the electronic version just let me know.



I hope you find this information useful. If I can assist you in any way please contact me!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian D. Yanta".

