

2023

Well, it didn't take long to add up the yearly rainfall total, it didn't take long to add up last year's either of 21.68 inches. For some locations however there were reports of 29.0" in Weesatche, 31.7" in Schroeder, and 34.96" in the south east corner of the county. The rainfall data below is from Goliad which had the lowest report of 18.62" in the county. So it was really spotty, and to prove that there was a mix of reports from the Berclair area, one with 19.9" and the other 31.77". The entire report can be viewed at the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District's website.

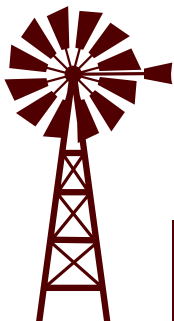
Also it didn't take long to write the yearly report, because it mirrored the previous year in many ways. But there were some differences.

Commodity prices came down this year as did input prices slightly and inflation finally ticked down from 2022. The commodity prices being lower can be good and bad, as y'all well know.

The good part is that cattle were high, high. The CME Feeder Cattle Index started the year with a low of \$1.82, and rose sharply throughout the year topping out at \$2.52, before closing the year at \$2.22. We were being dealt a hand that no one could lose until Mother Nature got involved. The problem was that most producers were not able to take full advantage of the near record prices, weaning their calves earlier and culling, from the previous year as well. NASS finally lowered the estimate of cow and calves in the county to 41,000 after three years in a row at 42,000.

continued

Table 1. GCGCD 2023 rainfall, Goliad, TX (TX-GD-17)	MONTH												
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	TOTAL
Recorded	1.21	0.18	0.66	3.88	4.58	1.0	1.69	0.63	1.43	0.69	0.75	1.92	18.62
Average	2.7	1.3	2.6	2.5	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.0	5.4	2.8	2.6	2.2	35.9
% of Norm	45%	14%	25%	155%	124%	30%	44%	21%	26%	25%	29%	87%	52%
Departure	-1.49	-1.12	-1.94	1.38	0.88	-2.3	-2.11	-2.37	-3.97	-2.11	-1.85	-0.28	-17.28
Acc RF	1.21	1.39	2.05	5.93	10.51	11.51	13.2	13.83	15.26	15.95	16.7	18.62	
Acc Norm	2.7	4.0	6.6	9.1	12.8	16.1	19.9	22.9	28.3	31.1	33.7	35.9	
% Acc Norm	45%	35%	31%	65%	82%	71%	66%	60%	54%	51%	50%	52%	
Departure	-1.49	-2.61	-4.55	-3.17	-2.29	-4.59	-6.7	-9.07	-13.04	-15.15	-17.0	-17.28	
ACC RF	=	accumulated rainfall					72 year rainfall average						
ACC NORM	=	accumulated normal rainfall					(1952-2023)		35.75"				



Goliad County Agricultural Newsletter

Jan ★ Feb ★ Mar ★ Apr

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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.

Texas producers who have a valid agricultural and timber registration number for sales tax exemptions should have renewed those numbers by December 31, 2023.

Texas farmers, ranchers, and timber producers are exempt from paying sales taxes on products used in the course of their agricultural or timber production.

Qualifying activities include farming, ranching, fiber production, timber production (including contract logging), operating feedlots or fish farms, bee keeping, custom harvesting, crop dusting, growing plants for commercial nurseries, veterinary businesses making farm or ranch calls, FFA or 4-H projects, and those teaching an agricultural course. Activities that do not qualify for a sales tax exemption include rodeos, horse boarding, training, racing, and trail rides, hunting and fishing operations, those with companion animals, wildlife management and conservation, and kennels and other animal boarding businesses. For more detail, [click here](#).

Qualifying products that receive the tax exemption can be found in Texas Tax Code 151.316 and 151.3162. These include animals, feed, seeds, machinery and equipment exclusively used on the farm or ranch, forage, certain personal property, and more.

The numbers expire every four years and must be renewed. All agricultural and timber registration numbers in Texas will expire on December 31, so producers should act now to renew their numbers. In order to do so, producers may call the Comptroller's Office at 1-844-247-3639 or can visit the Comptroller's website.

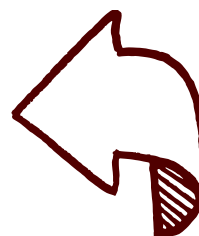
Additionally, many agricultural retailers like feed stores or equipment dealerships keep exemption certificates on file, which will also need to be updated to continue receiving the sales tax exemption on qualifying products.




I greatly encourage new landowners or those inheriting land to take the Generation Next: Our Turn to Ranch online course.

This 12-week course is instructor-led (myself and Annette Cayard, program coordinator) with many Extension Specialists, outside organizations, and mentor ranchers included as lesson instructors. Topics include starting an ag business, tax and insurance needs, financial management, basic land management and resources, ag law and leases, and transition planning among others. Each week a new topic is opened. Participants may complete the lesson and activity at any time, day or night, and can always work on past lessons. This is often a game-changer for those who are lost on what direction to take their land or want to get their dreams down on paper. It also has created much open dialog between owner generations and given new landowners the right questions to ask when starting.

The next course starts on January 29, 2024, but the time to register is now! More information about the course, including the link to register, can be found at GenerationNext.tamu.edu.



	Texas Agriculture or Timber Registration
	Registration Number: 11-22222222222222
Name:	Your Name
DBA, Farm or Ranch Name:	
DBA	
VALID 01/01/2012 THRU 12/31/2015	

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), in cooperation with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, will be hosting a free Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection Event in Nueces County on January 31, 2024. The event will run from 8 a.m. to noon at the Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds in Robstown.

The collection is a drive-up service, and those dropping off can remain inside their vehicle. Pesticides need to be in their original containers, even if the label is not present. If the container is damaged, place it into a larger chemical resistant container.

Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds
1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd
Robstown, TX 78380
Wednesday, January 31st
8 a.m. - Noon

Accepted items include outdated, discontinued, or unwanted: pesticides; insecticides; herbicides; fungicides; rodenticides; nematicides; growth regulators; and treated seed.

Items not accepted include dioxins (2,4-5T, Silvex, TCDD, etc.); explosive ordinances and ammunition; empty totes; fertilizers; fumigant canisters; household hazardous waste; methyl-bromide cylinders; motor oil; paint; pesticide rinsate; phostoxins; propane or butane cylinders; radioactive substances; and tires.

For questions or more information contact:
TDA Austin Headquarters at (512) 463-7622
TDA San Juan Regional Office at (956) 787-8866

For more information on the Texas Pesticide Waste Collection Program, please visit
PesticideCollection@TexasAgriculture.gov



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Entomology

AgriLife Extension Entomology Resources—
Factsheets, Guides & Personnel

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Entomology provides over 30 personnel, over a hundred insect fact sheets, and guides, and other resources including insect identification services to the public.

The main page for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is:

<https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu>

There you can find:

- individual insect fact sheets
- insect management guides for major crops
- publications
- entomology personnel
- insect identification procedures (usually digital images first).

A key link for many Texas clientele is contacting local, regional, or state Extension entomologists. While online on the above webpage, click on "Personnel", receive
<https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu/people/>

This will list faculty and IPM agents across Texas. If you are not sure who to contact, pick the one that looks like the best fit, and make contact. If they need to refer you, they will be able to recommend the right colleague.



TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

That makes sense that producers had culled their herds deeper than they wanted to due to the lack of available forage. Fortunately, we did see historic packer cow prices at \$0.85 per pound with some to as high as \$1.00. Packer bulls probably averaged above \$1.00 per pound. If range conditions could have rebounded and produced those high weaning weights it would have been a record year.

After two years of drought hay stockpiles were low, and they depleted quickly after early supplementation still in the growing season. To make matters worse the hay season was meager with some producers only getting one cutting resorting to having to graze out the second, if there was one to be had. Purchasing some was often the only recourse, but also a chore to even locate hay that was for sale. Adding in the transportation costs with bale prices averaging around \$85 per bale, made this an even more costly proposition. The hay that was made was of really high quality. The Tri Co Hay show average relative feed value was 100.57, which was a record for this three-year show.

Commercial products and trade names are mentioned for information purposes only. No guarantee or endorsement by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is intended or implied.

On the row crop scene things were better than 2022 but the prices received at harvest were sharply lower. We saw 3,084 acres of corn planted, most of which was harvested and brought around \$5.17 per bushel. 3,146 acres of milo was planted, up about 1,000 acres from 2022, and just a little below our average yield at 3,000 pounds per acre fetching \$8.53 per cwt. Cotton acres were down to 1,317 acres but again, we saw better than expected yields at 1.5 bales to an acre on average which brought \$0.74 per pound.

So what took so long to get this January newsletter out if it was so easy to edit 2022's newsletter? Autosaving documents could save one considerable time and effort in the future.

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



Sincerely,

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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.