

PRE-SUMMER 2022

AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

GILLESPIE COUNTY

UPCOMING EVENTS

***Beef & Range Field Day**

May 12

**Private Pesticide
Applicator Training**

May 18



***Farm Bureau Field Day**

June 16

Owning Your Piece of Texas

September 12

**Indicates that CEU's will be offered at event*

BEEF & RANGE FIELD DAY

THURSDAY

MAY 12, 2022



Call 830-997-3349 or
830-997-3452 for
more info!

Event will be held at the

**Gillespie County Fairgrounds
Fredericksburg, TX**

Meal Tickets Now Available!

\$15.00 each

Stop by

1906 N Llano St

or

38 Business Court

Fredericksburg, TX

3-4pm - First Program

4-4:45pm - Registration/Exhibits

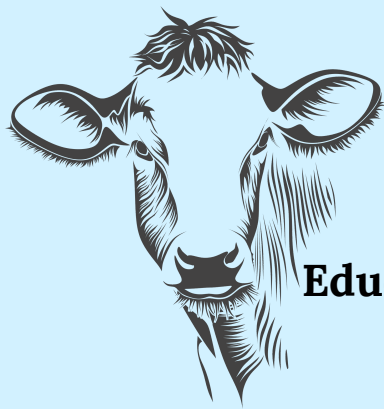
5pm - Meal

5:30-7:30pm Second Program

& Door Prizes!

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, EXHIBITS, MEAL, CEU'S, & DOOR PRIZES!

USDA Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Quail Forever, & Gillespie County AgriLife Extension



CEU's!

Beef & Range Field Day

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Gillespie County Fairgrounds, Fredericksburg, TX

Ticket Cost: \$15.00

Educational programs, exhibits, meal, CEU's, & door prizes!

Stop by the office & get your ticket!

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

8:30am - 12:30pm

RSVP by May 4!

38 Business Court, Fredericksburg, TX

Are you wanting to get your Private Applicator License? If so, we will be having a training for you! This training session is for individuals who do not have a Private Applicator License and need to purchase & utilize restricted chemicals. The class will take 3-4 hours to complete. Attending a training session is required before scheduling to take the exam. Email donna.maxwell@ag.tamu.edu to register.



**FARM
BUREAU**
GILLESPIE COUNTY

CEU's! *Farm Bureau Field Day
Thursday, June 16th!*

Educational program with a meal sponsored
by the Gillespie County Farm Bureau
More info to come!



Owning Your Piece of Texas - Fredericksburg, TX

Monday, September 12, 2022

9:00am - 3:00pm

38 Business Court, Fredericksburg, TX

Lunch & Handbook-Owning Your Piece of Texas, is included.

Topics include: Eminent Domain, Landowner Liability, Fence Law, Special Use Tax Valuation, & More!

Click [Here](#) to register or for more info.



AgriLife Photo

West Region fertilizer cost webinar set April 14

Event will focus on market, supply, management

The webinar "Fertilizer Cost: Market and Supply Outlook and Management Decisions for 2022" is set for April 14.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service event will be from 9-10 a.m. on the Zoom meeting platform.

There is no cost to attend but participants should preregister at <https://tx.ag/WRFertilizer22>.

Fertilizer cost, market issues

"Key aspects of this program will address the current fertilizer market and supply issues," said Robert Pritz, AgriLife Extension regional director, San Angelo. "Our presenters will also discuss production management strategies that producers can take to maximize efficiency."

The experts speaking at the webinar are Jake Mowrer, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension soil fertility specialist and Department of Crop and Soil Sciences associate professor, Bryan-College Station, and Toby Hlavinka, American Plant Food Corporation president and CEO, Galena Park.

The fertilizer webinar is one in an ongoing series of programs developed by AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agents to address the most pressing topics, concerns and questions of West Region farmers, ranchers and producers, Pritz said.



Nine Considerations to Guide 2022 Fertilizer Decisions **in Summer Crops**

Fertilizer prices across Texas have nearly doubled since this time last year. High natural gas prices and high commodity crop prices do not appear to explain fully the price increase for N, P, and other fertilizer nutrients. P fertilizers may have supply issues. Nitrogen fertilizers appear likewise. Transportation / distribution costs and delays have also contributed to the problem.

Also, according to Dr. Mark Welch, AgriLife Extension grains economist, College Station, high commodity prices often enable farm suppliers to justify raising prices on inputs. Depending on where you farm, where you purchase inputs, and how soon you will need them, these factors influence farmer fertilizer decisions.

To read the full article, please visit our website & click [HERE](#).

Dealing with Drought

During a drought, little can be done to increase forage pasture growth. Proper management can minimize impacts of drought on your operation when it does, and it will, occur. Careful management early in a drought can minimize long term stand damage and help maintain forage yields when rains do come. If pastures are managed properly during times of low moisture, the effects of drought will be less severe and pastures will rebound faster when precipitation is sufficient. Remember, management practices that minimize damage to pastures during drought are also the same for maintaining healthy pastures in a normal year.

Managing livestock: Reduce stocking rate if you believe forage supply will be limited. First, cull cows that are open, in poor condition, or have poor disposition. A veterinarian can palpate cows for pregnancy and check for health problems that warrant elimination from the herd. Cows that are not pregnant are difficult to justify feeding expensive hay. Moving cattle to leased grazing lands where forage is available is an option to move cattle from stressed pastures without selling off a portion of the herd. Another option is early weaning and sale of calves. This reduces the stocking pressure and reduces the nutrient requirement of the cows (reducing forage intake by 20%) because the heavy nutrient demand at lactation is stopped. The longer decisions to decrease livestock numbers are delayed the sooner the forage supply will be exhausted. Delaying the decision to reduce stocking during a drought accelerates financial losses of the livestock production enterprise.

Grazing management: Lack of moisture suppresses plant growth and retards root development. Allow 6-8 inches of new growth before allowing livestock to graze. A healthy pasture will have 3 to 6 inches of stubble. In severe drought, pastures may not reach this stubble height, so these pastures should be deferred until the time of dormancy (when nights are 55 degrees F for warm-season grass pastures) and then grazed to 3 -4 inch stubble height. Those pastures with little or no green growth are living off the roots and root mass has declined substantially. Roots must be replaced or bare areas will increase and invader grasses/weeds will prevail. In addition, overgrazing of plants removes the buds needed for re-growth. If insufficient stubble remains, water capture and infiltration is reduced. So, when it does rain again less water will enter the soil stores for plant growth. Stocking rates must be reduced on all types of forage. Fertilizer inputs should be reduced or stopped during periods of reduced precipitation, and rotational stocking should be considered to increase harvest efficiency, forage utilization, and flexibility of herd management.

Weed management: Do not apply herbicides during a drought. Plant mechanisms in response to a drought will prevent adequate entry of herbicides into plants and result in a high cost application with little control of the specific weed.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Please Note!

Our office will be closed on the following dates:

- Friday, April 15 - Good Friday
- Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day

Business Hours:

8:00a-12:00p & 1:00p-5:00p
(Currently closed from 12-1 for lunch)

GILLESPIE COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS

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Brad Roeder is the Ag & Natural Resources (ANR) Agent which encompasses hay production, wildlife management, predator control, farming, pest management, CEU's, livestock production, water conservation, brush management, and economic development. bwroeder@ag.tamu.edu

Beth McMahon is the Horticulture Agent who works alongside Gillespie County residents and business owners with plant and pest related inquiries. elizabeth.mcmahon@agnet.tamu.edu

Shea Nebgen is the Family and Community Health (FCH) Agent who provides programming in areas like nutrition, sewing, food safety, child safety seats, and healthy living. s-nebgen@tamu.edu

Emily Grant is the 4-H & Youth Development CEA which includes the Gillespie County 4-H program. Gillespie County 4-H members participate in showing/raising animals, food & nutrition, clothing/textiles, photography, livestock judging, BB Gun, archery, meat judging, robotics, gardening, entomology, and horse projects. emily.grant@ag.tamu.edu

Sydney Jones Boyer is the Assistant Extension Agent for Gillespie County. This includes working with the Ag & Natural Resources Agent, Horticulture Agent, Family & Community Health Agent, and 4-H & Youth Development Agent. sydney.jones@ag.tamu.edu

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