

VOL. 10 | OCTOBER 2020

OUR BACKYARD

An agricultural newsletter by Hardin County AgriLife Extension



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From the Agent

Howdy!

As we reach the time of year where we are reminded to be thankful, today I am thankful for the small cold front we got it (I will take 90 over 100 any day). I am also extremely thankful for all of yall continuing to trust me to help find solutions to your problems.

We are slowly getting the go ahead to get back to programming, and I can give you the insider scoop. As long as everything goes as planned, we will be having a Texas Hunter Education Class come this October. More details to come. I am just so excited to see yall again and spend time with you !

Stay Safe,

Katie A. Pace | Hardin County Extension Agent



HORTICULTURE

CORNER

In the Garden

Watch out for cabbage loopers or cabbage worms, apply *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) to control

Replace plants lost due to summer hardships

October is for bulb buying! Stock up on fresh bulbs

As pine trees start to shed needles, use them to mulch around shrubs and new trees

Native Texans



If you love Hydrangeas like I do, you might have noticed how hard it is to get them to grow well from year to year here in East Texas. Enter Oakleaf Hydrangea, it might not have as big of blooms as the traditional, but they love East Texas.

Oakleaf Hydrangea is not exactly native to East Texas, but is native to the Deep South and that is close enough. It likes moist soils in areas that get afternoon shade. They can get kinda large, 6 feet high and 6 feet wide, so make sure you have room. You won't regret the beautiful fall color these big leaves give you!

What should I plant this month?

Transplant or Seed

Beets

Brussel Sprouts

Swiss Chard

Collards

Kale

Lettuce

Mustard Greens

Radish

Spinach

Turnip Greens

GOOD read

Avoid Spring Weeds for a Better Lawn

As soil temperatures cool, now is the time to plan for preemergence herbicide applications to eradicate common cool-season weeds like annual bluegrass and lawn burweed. Chrissie Segars, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension Turfgrass Specialist, said homeowners looking to improve the look and feel of their lawns by preventing annual weeds and burs should prepare to apply fall preemergence herbicides. Preemergence herbicides are designed to disrupt the germination and emergence of unfavorable plants.

Ridding Lawns of Weeds

Preemergence herbicide treatments in the fall can help rid your lawn of grassy weeds like annual bluegrass and rescue grass, and broadleaf weeds like henbit, chickweed, Carolina geranium and lawn burweed. Choosing the right herbicide can seem daunting, but AgriLife Extension has a number of publications dedicated to identifying weeds and herbicide selection, also never hesitate to call your county agent. Dr. Segars said preemergence active ingredients are important consideration for tackling unwanted weeds. Products will typically list a range of plants it will control whether perennial or annual and broadleaf plants or grasses. Preemergence herbicides are most effective on annual weeds, while other weeds must be controlled with post-emergence applications.

Preemergence Herbicide Application

AgriLife Extension recommends the fall preemergence herbicide regimen to begin when soil temperatures reach approximately 70 degrees. This recommendation is commonly based on annual bluegrass. This generally falls in September or October, but we all know how that varies. Don't get into the habit of relying on the same calendar date every year; that's why we have soil temperature recommendation. Conditions can be drastically different from year to year.

Some weeds will germinate later in the season but applying products in a timely manner builds up a preemergence program that stays ahead of weeds. Soil temperature probes, even probe-type meat thermometers, can help homeowners gauge application timing. There are weather-related websites and applications that monitor soil temperatures and even give updates via notification. Identifying which weeds you want to control is important for choosing the correct herbicide option, such as broadleaves and grasses or perennial and annual weeds. Dr. Segars recommends granular herbicides for homeowners due to ease of application. “For best results, we generally recommend at least one application of a preemergence herbicide in the spring and fall,” she said. “These two applications, if done properly, can greatly reduce the number of annual weeds in your yard. Herbicides aren’t 100% effective every time, especially if you have heavy rains following application or missed the desirable timing,” she said. “Having a mixture of a pre- and post-emergence product just ensures you catch any weeds that break through your original application while they are immature.” Watering in the preemergence herbicide immediately after application using some type of sprinkler system is recommended. Typically, granular preemergence products need one-quarter to one-half inch of water to dissolve properly, but always follow product label instructions.

Say NO to Weed and Feed

Weed and feeds are a common and popular product, but Segars does not recommend using them as a fall/winter turfgrass management tool. “We’re entering a time when warm-season grasses are slowing down in a lot of the state, and we don’t want to fertilize them too late, especially with nitrogen,” she said. “Putting nitrogen down promotes growth, and a quick freeze could cause damage.” Segars said the last nitrogen application should be no later than four to six weeks before the average date of the first frost.

Scout Now for Spring Preemergence Application

Now is a good time to scout for summer weeds like crabgrass and sandburs. Spring preemergence applications typically start when soil temperatures reach around 50-55 degrees, which can be January to March based on location and weather conditions. Make note of what weeds you have now, and prepare for spring preemergence application.

Upcoming Programs for *Nardin County*

All face-to-face programs have been canceled until further notice by the county or Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

The entire agency has been working together in an effort to bring you CEUs and great online programs! I have included just a few that might be of interest to you, but there are so many more coming up on agrilifeextension.tamu.edu

There are also many different programs on agrilifelearn.org



TDA has allowed AgriLife to create a completely online Texas Private Pesticide Applicator Training. This training is \$75 on the AgriLife Learn Portal agrilifelearn.tamu.edu



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

GARDENING ON THE GULF COAST



Join our Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Horticulture agents and specialists online as they discuss gardening in the Gulf Coast Region of Texas.

September 2020 Schedule

- September 2 - NO PROGRAM
- September 9 at 10:00am - Soil Amendments for Gardens & Raised Beds
 - by David Oates, AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Jefferson County
- September 16 at 10:00am -Turf Maintenance
 - by Michael Potter, AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Montgomery County
- September 23 at 10:00am - Herbs for the Coastal Garden
 - by Kevin Gibbs, AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Nueces County
- September 30 at 10:00am - Citrus Varieties
 - by Stephen Brueggerhoff, AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent in Brazoria County

Online via Microsoft Teams
[Register Here](#)

Registration Questions? Please email Lindsey Munyon at lindsey.munyon@ag.tamu.edu

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Providing Solutions

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Speakers:

Robert "Skip" Richter

- Organic Practices that Work

Vikram Baliga

- Multi-purpose Landscape Design

Tim Hartmann

- Fruit Production for the Home Landscape

CONCHO VALLEY MASTER GARDENER'S 9TH ANNUAL
FALL LANDSCAPING
SYMPOSIUM

Saturday September 12, 2020

Visit txmg.org/conchovalley to register
Deadline 4pm Friday, September 11

FMI call 325-659-6528

Location: Join online

Time: 9am - 12pm

Cost: Free



TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

SCHEDULE

The 2020
Master Marketer Seminar Series
will be conducted
online through Zoom
from 10am – 11:30am (CST).

September 29

“Intro to Futures & Options”
with Mark Welch

October 1

“Program Welcome”
with Mark Welch,
“Budget Resources”
with Samuel Zapata, and
“Marketing Plan” with Ed Usset

October 8

“Crop Insurance” with Steven Klose
and *“Policy”* with Bart Fischer

October 15

“Climate” with Elwynn Taylor

October 22

“Cotton” with John Robinson,
“Grain” with Mark Welch, and
“Livestock” with David Anderson

October 29

“Legal Issues”
with Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, and
“Tying It All Together”
with Darrell Holaday

Master Marketer 2020

The Master Marketer Seminar Series

Can you reduce risk and get more profit from your farm/
ranch operation? Since 1996 over 1,200 participants have
graduated from 30 Master Marketer programs.
Participants report increased financial returns to their
farming and ranching operations as well as increased
understanding of risk management concepts.

Due to the coronavirus, Master Marketer will be online
this fall, with sessions offered every Thursday in October.

Registration Information:

The “no-cost” required registration for this inaugural seminar
series will open online August 1 at
<https://agriferegister.tamu.edu/MasterMarketer>

More information on the Master Marketer Program can be
found at mastermarketer.tamu.edu or by contacting the
Extension Economist coordinators,
Samuel Zapata at
samuel.zapata@ag.tamu.edu and (956) 968-5581
& Mark Welch at
jmwelch@tamu.edu and (979) 845-8011

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Cotton Inc.-Texas State Support Committee,
Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Grain Sorghum Producers,
Texas Wheat Producers Board, and Capital Farm Credit*

For the most up to date
information and programming
efforts:

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- **Hardin AgriLife Extension**
- **Hardin County 4-H Youth
and Development**



YouTube

Hardin County 4-H

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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 Hardin County Extension Office at (409) 246-5128 two working days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

Get involved with Hardin County Extension

Please consider joining the Hardin County Agriculture Committee to provide leadership and suggestions for upcoming programming. You don't have to make a large time commitment, with as few as four meetings per year, but we would love to hear your ideas and for you to share input on your county!

Please contact the office to update your email address, or if you know someone that would like to be added to this list, at (409) 246-5128, or by email katie.pace@ag.tamu.edu. We also welcome suggestions for upcoming newsletters!

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<http://hardin.agrilife.org>

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