

VOL. 20 | AUGUST 2021

OUR BACKYARD

An agricultural newsletter by Hardin County AgriLife Extension



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From the Agent

Howdy!

I have some **BIG** news for Hardin County! We are hosting a Master Gardener Interest Meeting **THIS MONTH** for a Fall 2021 Master Gardener Group! Y'all have asked loud and clear for this in Hardin County and we are listening. I am so thrilled to try and get this off the ground.

I hope to see a lot of you there!

Katie A. Pace | Hardin County Extension Agent



HORTICULTURE CORNER

In the Garden

If it ever starts to dry out, be on the lookout for cinch bugs in your yard (they love the hot dry periods)

Start working on fall beds so they are ready to go

Get bulb plants going now for a fall bloom

Don't forget to protect your fig trees from wildlife wanting an easy meal

Native Texans



I think this year has successfully shown us all the low areas in our yards, or areas that have a lot of water run off in general. If you want to skip the hassle of trying to bring in material to build that area up, you should consider a rain garden! Rain gardens are designed to catch water and allow it time to penetrate the soil.

An excellent choice to start your rain garden off is the *Crinum americanum*, or Swamp Lily. Swamp Lily is much like our other species of Lily, originating from a bulb and reaching 2-3 feet tall, but it thrives in wet soils! They are generally disease and pest free since they are adapted to the Southeast Texas climate. There are also a host of different colors available to fit every want in your landscaping.

What should I plant this month?

Landscape Seed:

Snapdragons

Dianthus

Pansies

Calendulas

Transplant for Fall
Garden:

Broccoli

Eggplants

Cabbage

Cauliflower

Seed for Fall Garden:

Cantaloupe

Collards and Kale

Cucumber

Irish Potatoes


Summer Squash

PRODUCERS

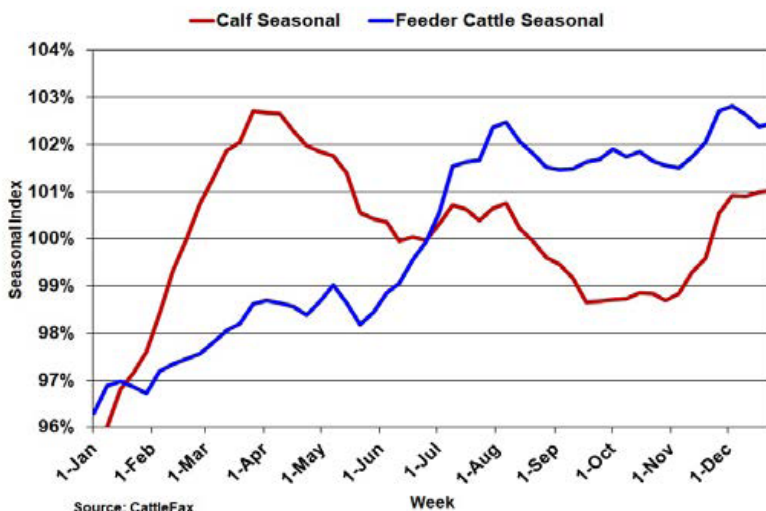
Coval



Cattle Market

MARKET PRICES		Current	Change vs Month Ago	Change vs Year Ago	
		(\$/cwt, U.S. avg)			
		550# Steers	173.40	5.91	18.24
		750# Steers	152.48	8.67	15.03
		Fed Steer	121.39	(1.53)	25.18
		Ut/Comm Cows	71.40	(0.19)	5.73
		Omaha Corn	6.37	(0.28)	3.08
		USDA Hay Forage	140.00	(3.00)	3.00

Calf and Feeder Cattle Cash Seasonal Pattern



What to do with the herd this month?

Plan winter grazing and feeding programs in advance- this year is going to look very different!

Schedule your pregnancy checks early

Make sure to remove bulls before mid-August or you will be calving in June

Start looking at herd sire options for next season

BQA Tip

Biosecurity is often an overlooked component of a good herd health program. A basic component of biosecurity is the isolation of new animals before introduced to the herd for at least 14-28 days.

When will she calve?

Aug 1-22 → May 10-31

Aug 23-31 → June 1-9



TPWD releases CWD emergency rule update

By Jennifer Whitlock

After the recent discovery of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in six deer-breeding facilities in Texas, an emergency rule was implemented on June 22 by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to restrict movement of deer from breeding facilities where CWD was previously detected.

Existing rules already prevent the movement of deer from sites directly linked to CWD-positive facilities, but the agency said further measures were necessary due to the immediate danger to the state's entire white-tailed and mule deer herd, as well as other cervids.

“This is a terribly unfortunate development that we are committed to addressing as proactively, comprehensively and expeditiously as possible. The health of our state’s free-ranging and captive deer herds, as well as affiliated hunting, wildlife and rural-based economies, are vitally important to Texas hunters, communities and landowners,” TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith said in a statement. “As such, our primary objectives are to enhance testing at sites that received deer from affected facilities and avoid the unintentional release of CWD-positive deer. Along with our partners at Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), we will continue to exercise great diligence and urgency with this ongoing investigation.”

When CWD was discovered in six deer-breeding facilities earlier this year, TPWD said five of the identified premises had “extensive direct or indirect epidemiological connectivity with each other and/or deer-breeding facilities and locations where breeder deer have been released.”

The five facilities were found to have connections with almost 300 other deer-breeding facilities across more than 90 counties, creating what TPWD called a “significant possibility” additional captive and free-ranging herds were exposed to CWD. It was recognized after two of those facilities likely had CWD present at least a year prior to discovery, causing concerns among stakeholders.

But in the original emergency rule filed in June, TPWD said they later identified a conflict in the definition of “exposed deer” and the definition of a “Tier 1 facility.”

That had the unintended consequence of not including all affected deer and breeding facilities epidemiologically connected to CWD-positive facilities. So, on July 19, the agency introduced a new emergency action to replace the June 22 filing.

Other changes included modifying the definition of “last known exposure,” the authorization of transfer of fawns to a nursing facility from a Trace or Tier 1 facility, clarification on CWD zone rules, and the option for deer breeders to request a customized epidemiological assessment and testing plan for each affected facility.

The rule change ensured every facility that has held or is currently holding an exposed deer that had been in a trace facility is classified as a Tier 1 facility. Now, an additional 28 deer-breeding facilities are subject to the provisions of the latest emergency rule.

“The department strongly believes vigilance is crucial to minimizing the severity of biological and economic impacts that could result from the current situation,” TPWD said. “Therefore, pending resolution of the current epidemiological uncertainty surrounding the spread of CWD from directly connected facilities, the department believes more rigorous testing at certain deer breeder facilities, in conjunction with mandatory testing of breeder deer prior to any release, is a wise and responsible course of action.”

In its filing, TPWD noted the immediate net effect of the updated emergency rule would reduce the number of Tier 1 facilities to 208 from 214. TPWD also said the number of Tier 1 facilities was expected to decline with the implementation of the updated emergency rule.

The original emergency rule expiration date of Oct. 19 still stands. TPWD said staff will present the rules to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission at an August commission meeting work session.

Upcoming Programs for *Hardin County*

Mental Health First Aid

Join the movement.

Sometimes first aid isn't a bandage, or CPR or calling 911. Sometimes, first aid is **YOU**.

Upcoming Class:

August 30, 2021

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

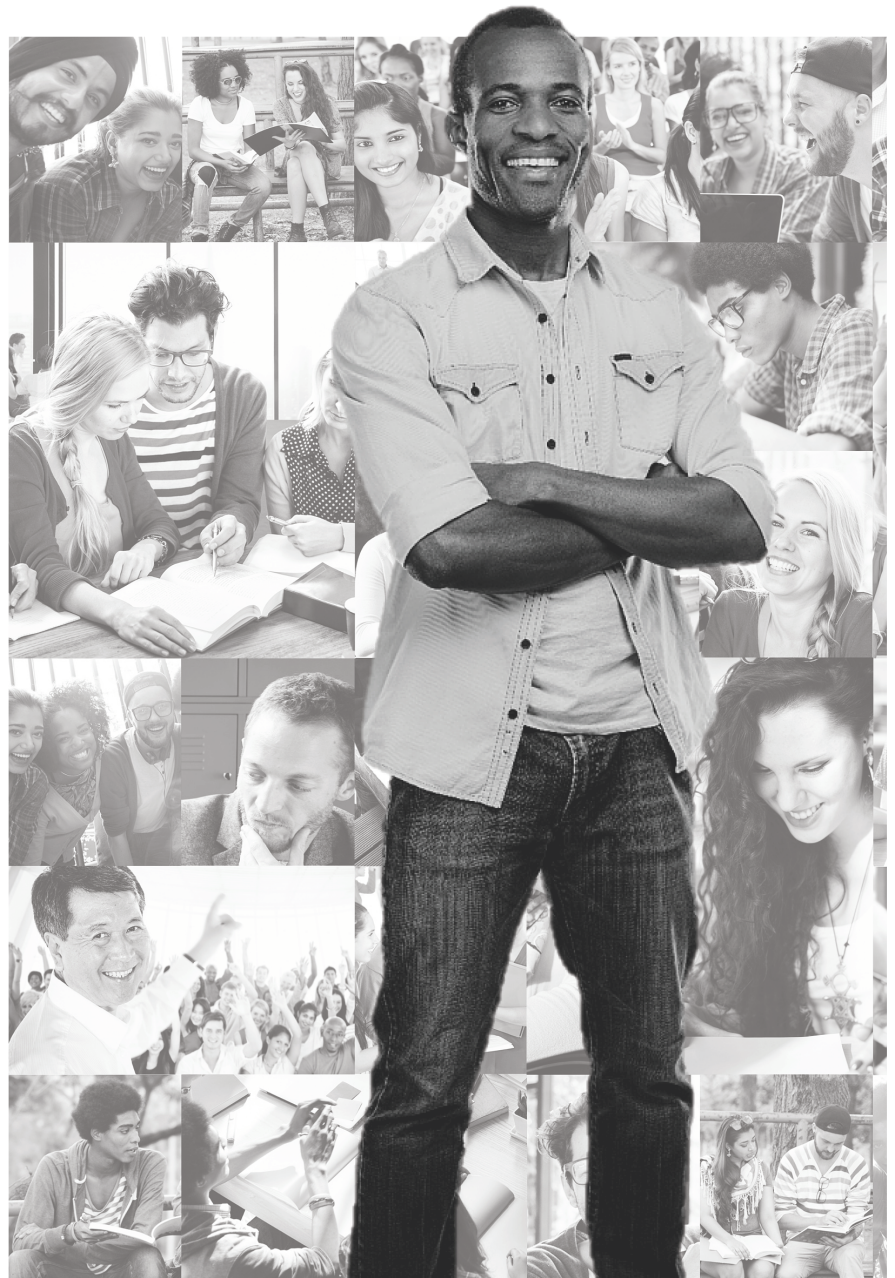
Fully Virtual Course

CONTACT: Extension Office
(409)246-5128

A person you know could be experiencing a mental health or substance use problem.

Learn an action plan to help.

You are more likely to encounter someone in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. Learn how to help a friend, family member, coworker or neighbor in need. Get trained in Mental Health First Aid.



Take a course. Save a life.
Strengthen your community.

For more information, contact your local County Extension Agent or visit www.MentalHealthFirstAid.org

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

By Popular Demand!
**HARDIN COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER
INTEREST MEETING**

Join us to discuss the
creation of a Fall 2021
Master Gardeners Group
in Hardin County

August 31, 2021 at 6:00 PM

**Hardin County Annex Lobby
1135 Redwood Kountze, TX**

Ag in the Evening Program Series 2021

Brought to you by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Offices of:
Houston County, Gregg County, Tyler County

June 8

Scouting for Insects in Forages

Zoom Meeting

https://agrilife.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJckd-CvrTMrGtNsAKiGe0rRh_T6NpWSiuRC

SPEAKER:
Dr. Vanessa Olson

July 13

Hay & Feed Testing Factors Affecting Quality

Zoom Meeting

<https://agrilife.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEud-mpqTIsGdOl4-zgL3PajdJ9QhG9N5eg>

SPEAKER:
Dr. Jason Banta

August 10

Winter Forage Options

Zoom Meeting

<https://agrilife.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0vfugqz0oH9CwqL4KIU8VU-khs6czG9B9k>

SPEAKER:
Dr. Vanessa Olson

September 14

Winter Feeding & Supplementation

Zoom Meeting

<https://agrilife.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJckduqhrD0oGN2xXxWqoWT-THYd4C6qG6fU>

SPEAKER:
Dr. Jason Banta

**All Programs
Start at 6pm
Click Zoom
Link to register**

**Click the links
to register for
each program**

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Anyone needing special assistance at an Extension Program should contact the Texas AgriLife Extension Office at 936.544.7502 at least one week prior to the program or event.



TEXAS HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE

Register Now

September 18, 2021

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

\$25 fee includes lunch

Hardin County Annex Building
1135 Redwood | Kountze | TX | 77625

For more information contact the Hardin County
Extension Office (409) 246-5128

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services are required to contact Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service five working days prior to the meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2021
8:00 AM- 12:00 PM

1135 REDWOOD
KOUNTZE, TX 77625

PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

**TRAINING
COST \$60**

The three and a half hour training will give participants the needed information to take the private applicator license test which is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Private Applicator License is for producers or land owners who wish to apply restricted use pesticides to their property.

**PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 20, 2021-
HARDIN COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AT (409) 246-5128**



**JOIN THE
TEAM!**

**Hardin County Youth Project
Show is looking for team
members to help make the 2021
show better than ever for the
youth of Hardin County!**

COME SEE US!

Third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM
Hardin County Annex Building
1135 Redwood
Kountze, TX 77625

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!

PO Box 610 | 1135 Redwood | Kountze, TX 77625

p: (409) 246-5128 | f: (409) 246-5201

<http://hardin.agrilife.org>

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