

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION



Special  
COVID 19  
Update

The Hunt County Extension Office is currently closed to the public, but we are still available to assist you remotely. Simply call our office and leave a message or send us an email. Contact information is:

phone: 903-455-9885 Ext. 0

email: slallen@ag.tamu.edu

We have sadly had to cancel numerous upcoming programs and events. With that said, Social Distancing doesn't mean you have to stop learning! During this time we encourage you to join Texas AgriLife Extension from around the state in live educational events on facebook, through distance education programs, and on our facebook pages and websites! There are many useful programs being offered.

The Hunt County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension facebook page is [HERE](#) . We are posting opportunities for online classes and events as well as health and safety information. The COVID-19 AgriLife Extension web hub provides information and resources on the agency website. Visit <https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/coronavirus> for more on Health, Parenting & Child Activities, Food & Nutrition, Self-Reliance, Emergency Preparedness and more.

In this newsletter edition please find resources and opportunities for Ag Producers. If there is information you need, please reach out.

Stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Sara Allen

County Extension Agent - Ag/NR

Hunt County



[Hunt County Agrlife  
Extension Website](#)

## PESTICIDE APPLICATOR LICENSING AND CEU TRAININGS

At this time we still have our Pesticide Applicator CEU training scheduled for June 24, 2020 in Greenville at the Fletcher Warren Civic Center. We will notify of any changes to that date in this newsletter. In the meantime, watch for other CEU opportunities via distance learning from Hunt County AgriLife Extension and around the state via social media and our website.

The Texas Department of Agriculture has issued a Pesticide Applicator and Course Provider update relating to license renewals and continuing education trainings.  
[Find the specific information on the TDA website HERE.](#)

**For those who were needing to obtain a Pesticide Applicators license:  
All testing is suspended at this time. PSI has indicated that they will cease operations until at least April 13, 2020.  
In the meantime, training for a Private Applicator License can still be obtained by taking the training online for \$75. This includes all materials. The link to register for this online class is found [here](#).**



## Essential worker documentation for agriculture

The Texas Department of Agriculture has prepared a letter related to essential critical infrastructure worker travel authorization. Please use this letter and share as appropriate with agricultural and/or food production workers. Click on the image to be directed to the letter found on the TDA website.

## Landowner 101 ONLINE Session 1 APRIL 24 Details Forthcoming

Topics: Technical Assistance and Funding Resources  
Agriculture & Wildlife Property Tax Valuation  
· 8am-1pm, Online

## FREQUENTLY ASK QUESTIONS BROCHURE ON PETS/ANIMALS NOW AVAILABLE FROM TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Please see this link for the new FAQ brochure on pets/animals and Covid 19

[https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/TAHC\\_COVID19\\_FAQ.pdf](https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/TAHC_COVID19_FAQ.pdf)

## Explore Our Favorite Websites AGRILIFELEARN

Choose from a variety of online courses covering topics such as Basic Beef Cattle

Production, Herd Management, Beef Quality Assurance, Cattle Evaluation, TAMU Horse Judging and more. Many are offered free of charge!



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## ONLINE TEXAS AGRICULTURE SYMPOSIUM

The 2020 South Texas Agriculture Symposium: Advocating for Agriculture, presented by the **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service** in collaboration with the Texas Department of Agriculture, will be held from 8 a.m to 1 p.m. April 14.

Due to concerns with COVID-19, the program, sponsored by the Bexar County Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, will be conducted online. The cost is \$10 to participate.

Registration is through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Conference Services at <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ag> and will close at midnight April 12. Registrants will receive an email link April 13 that will enable them to join the symposium.

The only participation requirements are advance registration and access to a personal computer or laptop and internet access. The program offers two general Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units.

Symposium topics and AgriLife Extension presenters will be:

- The NOT Beef Burger, Joe Paschal, Ph.D., livestock specialist, Corpus Christi.
- Hemp Production Laws in Texas, Josh McGinty, Ph.D., agronomist, Corpus Christi.
- Update: New Range and Pasture Herbicides, Clayton.
- The Scoop on Glyphosate, McGinty.
- Cattle, Sheep or Goats? Fitting the Right Animal to Your Situation, Paschal.
- Path to the Plate and RanchTV.org, Dan Hale, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension associate director — agriculture and natural resources, College Station.
- Insect Update: Pesticide Safety and Environmental Health, Mark Matocha, Ph.D., agricultural and environmental safety specialist, College Station.
- Fertilizing: Options and Accurate Prescriptions, Jamie Foster, Ph.D., agronomy and biodiversity specialist, College Station.
- Cattle Fever Tick Update, Paschal.
- The Sustainability Movement, Clayton.

There will be time at the end of the program for attendees to ask presenters questions in their area of expertise.

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## DECISION AIDS FOR BEEF CATTLE PRODUCERS

With the volatility in the current cattle markets, If you are looking for some resources to help make sell/hold decisions on your animals, the **Department of Agricultural Economics (Link)** has a suite of decision aids to help compare potential economic outcomes.

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CAN TICKS AND MOSQUITOS SPREAD CORONA VIRUS?



At this time, there is no scientific evidence that COVID-19 is transmitted by mosquitoes and ticks, explained [Texas A&M AgriLife](#) experts.

"Ticks, like mosquitoes, are blood-feeding external parasites," said Pete Teel, Ph.D., Texas A&M University interim head for the [Department of Entomology](#) in the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#). "The viruses they are known to transmit to humans must survive and grow, or replicate, inside the tick as well as survive through tick developmental stages."

Mosquitoes, ticks and other blood-feeding arthropods are vectors of other viruses and pathogens.

"People still need to exercise caution and good judgment in avoiding bites," said Zach Adelman, professor in the Department of Entomology. "But there is no evidence that a coronavirus can survive being digested by a mosquito, let alone transmitted to another person."

Remember to wear appropriate clothing and insect repellent when spending time outdoors, as vector-borne diseases continue to pose a threat to public health, in addition to flu and COVID-19. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person including people who are in close contact with one another—within about six feet—and through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

The [World Health Organization](#) has also reported there is no information nor evidence, at this time, to suggest that that novel coronavirus could be transmitted by mosquitoes.

The [American Mosquito Control Association](#) is monitoring the situation.

For more information regarding the Coronavirus, visit Texas A&M AgriLife's [Disaster Education Network](#)

Sara Allen, County Extension Agent  
Ag/Natural Resources  
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