



Texas AgriLife Extension Service,
Walker County

Agricultural Education Events & News Update

(Electronic Edition, April 2012)

This email newsletter is an effort to keep you informed of upcoming agricultural educational events and related activities in the Walker County area. There are a number of larger regional programs mentioned in this month's newsletter in addition to local events.

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Walker County Agriculture

***Educational Programs (Upcoming):**

Pond Management Following the Drought (Huntsville TX)

Event Date: 4/30/2012

7:15 PM

***At the Walker County Extension Office** (102 Tam Road & Hwy 75 N)

The dry weather experienced in 2012 created havoc conditions with most privately owned ponds and lakes in Texas. Many landowners embraced the situation as an opportunity to renovate and repair their water impoundments. Following the dry conditions, many ponds have refilled and are now in need of restocking or other management practices to get them back to the level of productivity which the landowner desires.

On Monday April 30th, Dr. Michael Masser, Extension State Fisheries Specialist will be at the Walker County Extension Office to present a host of information which you as a pond/lake manager can utilize to get your ponds and fish populations back to where they can be.

Information presented during the program will include:

- Pond/Lake fertility management
- Stocking recommendations
- Aquatic weeds & other management concerns
- Fish population evaluation/harvest recommendations

Cost of this program is \$10.00 per participant. CEU credit will be provided for TDA Pesticide Applicators. Contact the Walker Co Texas AgriLife Extension Office for additional information – RSVP requested. Program sponsored by the Walker Co Livestock & Pasture Committee.

Farm Planning –Big Picture

Event Date: May 3rd & 10th, 2012

The Montgomery County, Texas AgriLife Extension Office will be hosting this two week program. The first session will be held at the Montgomery Co Extension Office and the second at a ranch in Montgomery Co. Topics are to include: renovating drought stressed pastures, fertility needs, developing a farm plan, fencing systems, cost share



opportunities, grazing systems, water pipe and troughs, weed control, and rainwater harvesting. The short course begins at 5:30 PM each evening. Registration fee is \$20.00 per participant to cover refreshments and handouts. Contact the Montgomery Co Extension Office for more information or to RSVP 936-539-7822.

Feral Predator Seminar

Event Date: 5/11/2012

8:30 AM until 12 Noon. Please RSVP with the Grimes County Extension Office by May 4th at 936-873-3907. Cost is \$20.00 per participant on or before May 4th or \$30.00 at the door. 3 CEUs (IPM & Gen)

Topics: Coyote control, Diseases, Feral Hog Update. Speaker for this seminar is Dr. Aaron Sumrall, San Jacinto County Extension Agent-Ag/NR.

Beef 101

Event Date: 5/15/2012

Through input from trade association representatives and others involved in various segments of the meat/food industries, Texas A&M University Meat Science Extension has developed targeted programs for retailers, food service distributors, restaurateurs, the meat industry and association/information representatives designed to transfer technology, or provide educational assistance where needed.

Beef 101 is a three-day intensive hands-on program designed for anyone who has an interest in expanding their knowledge of the total beef industry. This is the leading education program for basic information about the beef industry provided anywhere in the U.S. The workshop, which has been conducted for the past 20 years in the Texas A&M University Department of Animal Science facilities and is currently offered three times yearly.

A maximum of 40 participants per session are accepted in order for maximum hands-on participation and interaction with faculty, staff and graduate student instructors. The Beef 101 workshop begins with evaluation of beef cattle to learn about how cattle are raised, fed and handled. Participants also estimate cattle parameters that will later be measured on beef carcasses. Later, participants learn about the procedures for beef carcass grading and the various premium programs now being applied to many carcasses. The consistently most positive rated activity associated with Beef 101 is conducted on the second day of the workshop.

Participants are given a unique opportunity to team up in small numbers with an instructor to cut an entire side of beef into component parts. Beef anatomy, beef cut

identification and component part yields and values are discussed at length during and after the day-long laboratory activity.

To round out the beef continuum from beef cattle to beef cuts to the plate, a thorough discussion of beef palatability including sampling various cuts will demonstrate how various cuts, grades and technologies may affect the eating experience of beef consumers.

Participants in former Beef 101 classes include representatives from state beef councils, national or international beef and meat associations, major communication/advertising groups, many food companies (foodservice, retail, distributors, packers), governmental agencies as well as personnel from a number of foreign countries.

This program will be held on campus at Texas A&M University, College Station. Participation fee is \$450 per person. For more information about the workshop, please contact Davey Griffin (979-845-3935 or dgriff@tamu.edu). For questions about registration or payment, please contact Extension Conference Services (979-845-2604 or agriliferegister@tamu.edu).

Grassfed Beef Conference

Event Date: 5/30-31/2012

Texas AgriLife Extension Service hosted its first conference focused on grassfed beef production in June 2011 and judging by the comments from the 60+ participants, it was a huge success. If you missed that learning opportunity and want to learn more about grassfed beef production, mark your calendar for May 30-31, 2012 to be in College Station for this year's Grassfed Beef Conference.

We're excited about the interest among participants and the outstanding lineup of speakers that will come together for this information-sharing opportunity. As we (hopefully) emerge from the severe drought of 2011, now is the time to re-evaluate forage and beef production systems.

Here's a quick preview of the agenda:

- Overview of the US Beef Industry
- Handling Cattle for Wholesome Beef
- Defining natural, grassfed and organic
- Carcass Fabrication...a live demonstration
- Growing forage – the fundamentals
- Consumers...and their expectations
- Cattle types suited for grassfed beef
- A Taste of Texas Beef
- Forage-based nutrition for cattle

- Marketing a Unique Product
- Preventative herd health
- Economics and Sustainability

For more information about this conference, please contact Rick Machen (rmachen@ag.tamu.edu or 830-591-6837). For questions about registration or payment, please contact Extension Conference Services (agriliferegister@tamu.edu or 979-845-2604). Fee for the conference is \$250 (through May 15), \$300 after May 15. \$125 for Students. Program fee includes 2 lunches, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner and refreshments during the day.

Native Grass Pastures –Establishment/Management

Event Date: 5/31/2012 (6:00 PM)

***At the Walker County Extension Office** (Hwy 75 N & Tam Road)

With the popularity of wildlife management in our area and the cost of fertilizer escalating, native grass pastures are becoming more of an interest for many landowners. Potential loss of previously established warm season grasses is also a contributing factor to a number of landowners exploring the native grass topic.

Establishment of native grasses can often be difficult in that success requires proper tools and a dedicated sequence of events to be provided by the land manager. Selection of the proper grass species to match a particular location is often the first step. While spring planting is often preferred for many grass species, there is much indication that fall may be an optimal time to establish many of our native grasses.

This presentation by Dr. Larry Redmon, Extension State Forage Specialist will explore the process of a successful fall establishment of native grass pastures. Topics for this presentation will include:

- **Grass Selection to Match Location**
- **Growth Characteristics**
- **Establishment Process & Equipment Needed**
- **Management Requirements**

Cost of this program is \$10.00 per participant. CEU credit will be provided for TDA Pesticide Applicators. Contact the Walker Co Texas AgriLife Extension Office (936) 435-2426 for additional information – RSVP requested. Program sponsored by the Walker Co Livestock & Pasture Committee.

Informational Topics:

Walker County Forage Update:

FYI

If you have been wondering just how good the quality of your cool-season forages was this year, we have some collected data which you may find of interest. Those of you who attended the Forage Field Day held February 22, 2012 at Robert Bruner's A Bar pasture will be able to put a quality/production value with the pastures you saw on that day.



Forage samples were collected immediately following the February field day. The oat field planting (upper two enclosed photos) was randomly collected and air dried to determine pounds of air dried forage per acre. The result of this harvest was **5,886.73 lbs. per acre (or 2.94 Tons per acre) of dried forage**.



Two forage samples were sent to the TAMU Soil & Forage Testing Lab for % Crude Protein analysis. Results of these tests are as follows:

Oats **24.9 % Crude Protein**

Ryegrass **30.2 % Crude Protein**

Since we collected harvested production tonnage data on the Oat field, we can take the calculations one step further and determine that the Oat field planting was producing **1,465.79 lbs. of protein per acre** at that time (late February 2012).

*Due to time constraints, we did not collect tonnage samples from the ryegrass; however, if we were to assume that the ryegrass was producing the same volume of plant material as the oats (somewhat possible –see photo at right), then the ryegrass planting would have been producing **1,777.79 lbs of protein per acre** at that particular time. In reality the ryegrass probably wasn't up to that tonnage (at that time); however, it got there and more due to a longer production season.



Pond & lake management:

Pond management topics continue to be a hot button item here at the Walker County Extension Office. Due to the number of phone calls received this past month, we are leaving the following links in the newsletter for your review. (*Be sure to see the information earlier in this newsletter regarding the educational program scheduled for April 30th.*) The following links are provided to allow you the opportunity to review information which may be of interest to you this spring.

Pond Management Calendar

http://wildlife.tamu.edu/files/2010/04/3_Pond_MGMT_Calendar.pdf

Pond Fertilization

http://wildlife.tamu.edu/files/2010/04/3_Pond_Fertilization.pdf

Aquatic Weed Identification & Control Recommendations

<http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/>

(MORE)Pasture Recommendations: 2012

Last month we discussed the need to moderately fertilize our warm season forage grasses rather than try to maximize production due to the stressed condition of the grass.

This month, I want to mention the importance of removing the cool-season grasses and forages as soon as possible. This is important due to the needs of our warm-season grasses for sunlight reaching the soil to promote either regrowth or germination.

A number of years back (around 2000 or so) we had cool season production that lasted a little longer than normal and a number of pasture managers lost their warm season grasses due to the lack of sunlight on the ground and cooler soil temperatures. This year is shaping up to be a somewhat similar situation with extreme cool-season production due to a variety of items.

Why did our cool season forages do so well this past season? A few items lined up to make the 2011-2012 winter and following spring very conducive to forage production. These things were:

- Little rain during the warm season growing period in 2011 meant that we had a lot of bare ground or very little cover to prevent sunlight from reaching the ground.
- Very little to no cool-season weed competition during the early cool-season growing period.
- And thankfully, we did receive rain and ample amounts of it at the critical time for our cool season forages.

The next issue that we are foreseeing is due to the large number of cattle sold because of the drought; many of our pastures may not be “cleaned up” as usual by grazing. Without a graze down, and with \$4.00 gallon diesel fuel many landowners may be tempted to just leave the cool-season forages in place. Drought weakened perennial grass will not be able to overcome a

late start on their spring growth. Also, at a recent meeting discussing the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) a comment was made regarding the concern of our cool season forages becoming a hazard for late spring - summer grass fires once they dry and die in place. If you aren't actively grazing or haying the field, you need to get the cool season grass off the field soon.

Replanting & Reestablishing Forage

If you are looking to replant or reestablish, you will want to take a look at the AgriLife Research & Extension website out of Stephenville that explores many of our warm season annual or perennial grasses (natives & improved grasses).

<http://stephenville.tamu.edu/topics/forages/forage-species/>

***Here is a useful conversion:** Many of the vegetatively propagated grasses are rated by bushel... and most people sell them by the bale..

A normal size bale 15"X18"X36" = 4.48 bushels

Yard & Lawn Weeds:

Everybody has them this year. For the same reasons our cool season forages did so well, the winter and early spring weeds are out in force. The one turfgrass weed that we are seeing the most is, Lawn Burweed (aka. Spurweed or Carpet Burweed). Although the "book" calls this a cool-season annual, it has persisted through the summer here for a number of years.

When selecting a herbicide control, make sure that the product of choice is compatible with the grass species you desire to keep and that you are meeting the application guidelines on the herbicide label.
The following information was written several years ago by Richard Duble, Turfgrass Specialist.

Carpet burweed or lawn burweed (*Soliva* spp.), a cool season annual introduced from South America, has become a nuisance on golf courses, athletic fields, parks and lawns throughout much of Texas and the Southwest. The weed becomes a real nuisance when the seed matures in the spring because the sharply pointed spines on the seed can easily pierce the skin. Burweed becomes a deterrent to the use of athletic fields, parks and playgrounds in the spring when the seed mature. On golf courses, burweed invades even the most closely mowed putting greens as well as fairways, tees and roughs.



Description. Burweed is a small, low-growing annual plant. In an unmowed site, it only reaches 2 inches in height (*FYI-I've seen it 3-4 inches in height*) and the individual plants may spread out to about 6 inches in diameter. Leaves are pinnately divided giving the plant a feathery appearance. The seed enclosures are flattened, callous structures terminating in teeth on spines.

Burweed emerges in early fall and matures in the spring. The vegetative part of the plant dries up in May and the seeds remain to germinate the next fall. Populations of the weed may become so high that plants cover the ground like a carpet-thus, the name "carpet burweed." Where grassy weeds such as annual bluegrass are eliminated by the use of preemerge herbicides, populations of burweed increase dramatically in following years.

Control. Like most broadleaf weeds, burweed is easily controlled in the seedling stage with hormone-type herbicides. Products containing 2,4-D, MCPP and dicamba will control burweed in the seedling stage.

Preemerge herbicides are generally not effective for burweed control. In fact, burweed populations increase where preemerge herbicides reduce the competition.

Reforestation Assistance Available for Wildfire-damaged Lands

COLLEGE STATION, Texas – The Farm Service Agency will begin accepting applications April 9 from landowners seeking funding assistance to restore wildfire-damaged lands.

Owners of nonindustrial private forestland in 16 Texas counties may be eligible for assistance if their property was damaged by wildfire last year. Those counties include Anderson, Bastrop, Cass, Cherokee, Gregg, Grimes, Harrison, Houston, Leon, Marion, Nacogdoches, Rusk, Smith, Trinity, Upshur and Walker.

Landowners may receive up to a 75 percent cost share for implementing approved Emergency Forest Restoration Program conservation practices. Approved procedures include prescribed burning, riparian forest buffer, firebreak establishment, tree planting, site preparation and forest stand improvement.

"This is an opportunity for those landowners who suffered tremendous losses due to wildfires last year to begin the process of re-establishing their forestlands," said Shane Harrington, staff forester and Farm Bill coordinator for Texas Forest Service.

Texas Forest Service was designated by the Farm Service Agency as the technical service provider to assist landowners with writing reforestation plans and implementing the FSA-approved practices.

Landowners interested in participating in the Emergency Forest Restoration Program should submit an application to their local Farm Service Agency office by April 29. Once

an application is deemed eligible to receive funding, a Texas Forest Service forester will begin working directly with the landowner to re-establish their forestlands.

Landowners interested in learning more about the funding program can visit the [Farm Service Agency's website](#) or [contact their local Texas Forest Service office](#).

2012 Statewide Artificial Insemination & Pregnancy Determination Schools

In order to provide practical and relevant education and service to ranchers, Texas AgriLife Extension works closely with industry groups to offer educational programs in artificial insemination (AI) and pregnancy determination in cattle.

In addition to the actual, hands-on training using live cattle in these two techniques, participants will devote half of their time to classroom instruction in herd management.

Topics covered include:

- anatomy and physiology of reproduction,
- principles and techniques of artificial insemination,
- management application and techniques of pregnancy determination,
- semen handling and thawing,
- estrous synchronization,
- selection and time of the breeding season to optimize fertility,
- successful feeding and mineral programs for the breeding her,
- genetic selection and record keeping programs,
- replacement heifer development and management,
- management to avoid calving problems, and
- herd health programs.

Participants are given a comprehensive manual on AI technique and management. School curriculum time also is devoted to other subjects, and participants are given an introduction to the Texas Beef Cattle Management Handbook with information on securing a personal copy.

To be eligible for training in pregnancy determination, participants must have had previous AI training or be concurrently enrolled in AI training. Training received from any of the major AI companies or a college/university course will satisfy this requirement.

Prices for the specialized training are variable and depend upon the choice of the sponsoring company:

- AI and pregnancy determination (taken concurrently from either company) - \$700
- Artificial insemination (taken alone – Bovine Elite, LLC) - \$400

The registration fees are necessary to defray the expenses associated with the technical training. Registration normally begins at 8:00 a.m. on the first morning of the school except for weekend schools which start at 6:00 p.m. on Friday. All participants must complete a practical examination in each technique on the last afternoon of the school. It is imperative that participants contact the school coordinator at least two weeks in advance, since schools not having the minimum number of participants may be canceled.

Advance registration is requested and can be obtained by contacting the appropriate coordinator at one of the following phone numbers or Web sites. All companies require a deposit with advanced registration which will be applied to the full registration amount.

American Breeders Service

Vernon Fredrich (940.727.1056) - fbsvern@ntin.net

Max Payne (806.669.4284) - mkpayne@wildblue.net

Bovine Elite, LLC

Carl Rugg

979.693.0388

<http://www.bovine-elite.com/aipalp.asp>

The schedule below indicates the schools that have been scheduled for 2012. The date, location (town/city), and sponsoring company are listed. The exact location for the school should be obtained from the respective clinic coordinator.

Location	Company	Date
College Station	Bovine Elite, LLC	May 8-11, 2012
College Station	Bovine Elite, LLC	June 5-8, 2012
Gainesville	American Breeders Srvc	June 19-20, 2012*
College Station	Bovine Elite, LLC	July 10-13, 2012
College Station	Bovine Elite, LLC	Sept. 11-14, 2012
Clarendon	American Breeders Srvc	Oct. 1-4, 2012**
College Station	Bovine Elite, LLC	Oct. 16-19, 2012
College Station	Bovine Elite, LLC	Nov. 13-16, 2012

Texas Pesticide Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (TPDES) –

*This information was shared during our Pesticide Recertification CEU program on Friday, January 13, 2012. How this affects the “average” pesticide applicator: If you apply pesticides **“to, over, or near waters of the US”** you need to be familiar and up to date on this permit situation and have the appropriate Self Certification Form on file along with your pesticide records. You are required to keep these application records for 3 years. Please read carefully & see the links below to determine your Status/Permitting/NOI (Notice of Intent) Compliance needs.

Information provided by: Dr. Don Renchie

Many of you have heard about a new Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requirement/regulation relating to pesticide applications to, over, or near water. The regulation is the result of federal court decisions which place pesticide applications and use under not only the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), but also under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

TCEQ and other state environmental protection agencies nationwide (including Puerto Rico, Guam and Samoa) had until October 31, 2011 to develop or adopt a Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (PDES) permit. TCEQ worked with stakeholders and EPA to develop an acceptable permit for Texans from all pesticide user communities (agriculture, structural pest management, governmental/political subdivisions, and consumer/homeowner..) to comply with without much financial burden.

There are **five sites of pesticide application to aquatic environments** which have thresholds requiring operators to file a “Notice of Intent” (NOI) with TCEQ ten days prior to the application. A NOI is good for 1 year.

Operators are defined by TCEQ as individuals responsible for the site where pesticides will be applied. They can be an applicator (commercial or noncommercial), an entity (city or county), or an organization (homeowners association...) or an individual (farmer, rancher, or homeowner...).

1. Applications made to control **“Mosquitoes and Other Flying Insect Pests”** where the treatment area is greater than 6,400 contiguous acres and containing waters of the U.S. will require the “Operator” to submit a NOI ten days prior to the application.

2 a. Applications made to control **“Aquatic Weeds and Algae” In Water** where the treatment area exceeds 100 contiguous surface acres will require the operator to submit a NOI ten days prior to the application.

2b. Applications made to control **“Aquatic Weeds and Algae” At Water’s Edge** where the treatment area exceeds 200 contiguous linear miles will need to file a NOI ten days prior to the application.

3a. Applications made to control ***“Aquatic Nuisance Animals”*** (undesirable fish, lamprey eels...) **In Water** where the treatment area exceeds 100 contiguous surface acres will need to file a NOI ten days prior to the application.

3b. Applications made to control ***“Aquatic Nuisance Animals” At Water’s Edge*** where the treatment area exceeds 200 contiguous linear miles will need to file a NOI ten days prior to the application.

4. Applications made **Over Forest Canopies** for ***“Forest Canopy Pest Control”*** where the treatment area exceeds 6,400 contiguous acres and containing waters of the U.S. will need to file a NOI ten days prior to the application.

5. Applications made for ***“Area Wide”*** pest control where the treatment area exceeds 6,400 contiguous acres and containing waters of the U.S. will need to file a NOI ten days prior to the application.

There are three levels of compliance, each based on application site and access, type of entity making the pesticide application, and the size or distance of the application to, over, or near waters of the U.S.

Level I has two subcategories (**Level IA and Level IB**). The operator must insure applicators have TDA licenses for the application of restricted use or state limited-use pesticides and regulated herbicides. In addition, **Level IA** operators (applicators) must submit a written or electronic **NOI** along with the appropriate fee(s) ten days before they commence any applications in a ***“Pest Management Area (PMA)”***. Annually they must file certain information for all pesticide applications to, over, or near waters of the U.S. with TCEQ.

Level IB operators (applicators) do not pay ***“NOI”*** fees, but they must submit a ***“Self Certification Letter”*** to the nearest TCEQ Regional Office ten days before they commence any applications to, over, or near waters of the U.S. If they use restricted use or state-limited use pesticides, the applicator must be licensed with TDA. No annual reports are required. However, if an adverse incident occurs, the applicator must report the event to TCEQ within 24 hours.

Level II and Level III are not subcategorized and have no financial or reporting implications for any affected operators (applicators). If restricted use or state-limited-use pesticides or regulated herbicides are applied, the applicator must have the appropriate TDA license. If an adverse incident occurs, the applicator must report the event to TCEQ within 24 hours.

All operators (applicators), including homeowners must keep records of all applications of pesticides to, over, or near waters of the U.S. regardless of threshold limitations for three years.

Links to referenced or relevant items discussed above:

TPDES Information & Forms (posted / linked at the Extension Ag & Environment Safety Web Page)

Texas Agricultural & Timber Exemption Number Online Application

http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/agriculture/get_ready_texas.html

When is the Number Needed?

Beginning Jan. 1, 2012, a person claiming an exemption from sales tax on the purchase of certain items used in the production of agricultural and timber products is required to have a Texas Agriculture and Timber Exemption Registration Number (Ag/Timber Number).

Apply Online

The online application has two parts. The first is to register through “MyCPA”, which creates a secure online identification for you. Once registered, “MyCPA” will take you directly to the application, which should take about 10 minutes to complete. You will receive an ag/timber number on completion – no signature is required.

What You Need Before You Begin:

- In addition to basic information about your operation, such as **business name**, **description** and **address**, you will need your **Social Security number** (for internal use only). Businesses registered with the Texas Secretary of State (SOS) will need to provide the **file number** as well.

Activities that DO NOT qualify and are not eligible for a registration number

- home gardening;
- horse racing, boarding or training;
- trail rides and zoos;
- florists or similar retailers who maintain plants prior to sale;
- wildlife management and conservation;
- hunting and fishing operations, including aerial hunting;
- predator control and/or wildlife/livestock;
- censuses or surveys;
- commercial fishing; and
- companion animal (pet) breeding and kennels.

Who DOES qualify for a registration number?

A person, including a non-Texas resident, engaged in the production of agricultural or timber products for sale in the regular course of business is eligible for a registration number. This number can be used to claim an exemption from Texas sales tax on the purchase of qualifying items. Included for eligibility for registration numbers are persons in these groups:

- farmers and ranchers who raise agricultural products to sell to others;
- persons engaged in aquaculture and apiculture; (i.e. commercial fish farms or bee keepers);
- custom harvesters;
- persons engaged in agricultural aircraft operations, as defined by 14 C.F.R. Section 137.3 (crop dusting);
- commercial nurseries engaged in fostering growth of plants for sale (i.e., growing stock from seed or cuttings, replanting seedlings in larger containers); and,
- timber producers, including contract lumberjacks.

2012 Wildlife for Lunch Webinar Series

<https://texas-wildlife.webex.com> to log on to the live webinars.

For more information contact:

Courtney Brittain

Texas Wildlife Association

Education Program Coordinator

2800 NE Loop 410, Ste. 105

San Antonio, TX 78218

(210) 826-2904 ext. 122

cbrittain@texas-wildlife.org

May 17 -**Integrating Cattle and Wildlife on Small Acreage**, Larry Pierce

June 21 -**Ranch Photography for Fun and Profit**, John Martin

July 19 -**West Texas Wildlife Management**, Louis Harveson

August 16 -**Rainwater Harvesting**, Billy Kniffen

September 20 -**Deer Nutritional Requirements and Implications for Management**, Dave Hewitt

October 18 -**Native Prairie Restoration**, Forrest Smith

November 15 -**Endangered Species Management**, Brian Hays

December 20 -**Forestry Management for Wildlife**, Chris Comer

2012 Range Management Webinar Series

<http://naturalresourcewebinars.tamu.edu/> to log on to the live webinars. CEU credit will be available for a fee, there is no charge to view the webinar without CEU credit.

12 Noon, April 5 –**Integrating Fire and Herbicides**: presented by Dr. Jim Ansley. Two of the most important tools for brush management are the use of prescribed fire and application of herbicides. Often they are thought of as separate stand-alone treatments but many times they are most effective when used together as part of a long-term brush management plan. This webinar will present some of the options for such a combined treatment approach and will point out the strengths and weaknesses of each strategy. 1 hour CEU credit available if desired.

12 Noon, May 10 –**Mesquite Ecology and Management**: presented by Dr. Bob Lyons. 1 hour CEU credit available if desired.

12 Noon, June 7 –**External and Internal Parasite ID and Control Methods in Livestock**: presented by Dr. Joe Paschal. 1 hour CEU credit available if desired.

Archived presentations available for viewing:

Weed Management: What to Look for this Spring

Brush Sculpting for Wildlife

Brush management: What to Do and Not Do in a Drought

Drought Resources Available Online (...I know it's been raining lately)

The Drought of 2011 has been devastating ecologically and economically to Texas, Oklahoma, and parts of other surrounding states. The Texas AgriLife Extension Service estimates that in Texas alone, agricultural drought losses have reached a record \$5.2 billion. In response to this crisis, drought resources have been made available online to help folks know how to best manage



their land, water, livestock, wildlife, and plant resources. Tips on how to manage your lawn and home water use are also available. Below are links to some of these various websites.

Texas Water Resources Institute -
[2011 Drought Resources](#)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept -
[Drought Survival Kit](#)

Texas AgriLife Extension Service -
[Drought Information and Resources](#)

If you have questions or would like more information regarding Extension Educational Programs, call us at (936) 435-2426.

Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Educational program and need specialized services. Notification of at least two weeks in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas AgriLife Extension Service is implied.

Reggie Lepley

Reggie Lepley,
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Walker County
(936) 435-2426