



Texas AgriLife Extension Service,
Walker County

Agricultural Education Events & News Update

(July Edition 2012)

This newsletter is an effort to inform you of upcoming agricultural educational events and related activities in the Walker County area with upcoming preregistration requirements. There are also a couple of programs mentioned in this newsletter which while may be a little outside our immediate geographic area, include topics of interest to numerous landowners.

In This Issue:

Educational Programs –

- July 24th **Oil & Gas Leases –Huntsville, TX**
- July 27th **Small Scale Poultry Production –San Marcos, TX**
- August 6-8th **TAMU Beef Cattle Short Course –College Station, TX**
- August 10th **Prospective Wine Grower Workshop – Houston, TX**

Informational/Other Topics –

- **Are You Growing Citrus Plants?**
- **Walker County Animal Issues Committee Is Looking For Volunteers!**
- **Walker County Farmers Market Is OPEN!!**

***Educational Programs (Upcoming):**

Oil & Gas Leases: What Landowners Need to Know

Event Date: 7/24/2012 (7:00 PM)

***At the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce (1327 11th Street)**

Due to the continued oil & gas activity in our area, we would like to offer this educational information once again for our landowners. This has been an extremely popular topic and presentation with those who have participated in it previously.

Know what makes a fair lease. Learn about items which need to be agreed on prior to signing:

- *Responsibilities (both parties)*
- *Conditions*
- *Payment*
- *Operations*
- *Land and facilities modifications*

Guest Speaker:
Judon Fambrough,
Texas Real Estate Center
TX A&M University System



- *Access*
- *Use by others*
- *Arbitration procedure*
- *Obligations of heirs*
- *Other matters particular to the individual situation*

This program is Sponsored by the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee and supported by the Texas AgriLife Extension, Livestock & Pasture Committee. For more information contact the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce at 936-295-8113, or the Walker Co. Texas Cooperative Extension Office at 936-435-2426.

Small Scale Poultry Production

Event Date: 7/27/2012

***San Marcos, Texas (Embassy Suites San Marcos Hotel, Spa & Conference Center)**

This workshop will provide small-scale poultry producers and enthusiasts with information on poultry production for meat and eggs. Topics will include basic husbandry and management, breed selection, nutrition, disease prevention and treatment, incubation, pest control, and marketing rules and regulations.

Cost for attendance at this program is \$30 through July 22, \$40 after that date. For more information about the workshop, please contact Craig Coufal (ccoufal@poultry.tamu.edu or 979-845-4319). For questions about registration or payment, please contact Extension Conference Services (agriliferegister@tamu.edu or 979-845-2604).

Beef Cattle Short Course

Event Date: 8/6-8/2012

***At Texas A&M University**

COLLEGE STATION – The 58th annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course, conducted by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, is scheduled for Aug. 6-8 at Texas A&M University in College Station.

A variety of cattle production management topics will be presented at this year's short course including a weather outlook, said Dr. Jason Cleere, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist and conference coordinator.

“Our topics this year will fit right into what Texas beef producers are experiencing with forage management, beef cattle management and beef cattle marketing,” Cleere said. “The long-term cattle market outlook is one of many other topics that will be discussed in the 22 different cattleman’s college sessions at the short course.”

The general session will feature a virtual tour of a U.S. feedyard and U.S. beef packing plant, a presentation on what consumers want to know about raising beef, as well as challenges and opportunities for ranchers in the next 20 years. Sessions will be held at various locations on the Texas A&M campus with the main general sessions at Rudder Auditorium.

“Planning committee members from around the state have met with us and helped us put together another outstanding program,” he said. “The short course has become one of the largest and most comprehensive beef cattle educational programs in the U.S.”

The cattleman’s college portion of the three-day short course provides participants with an opportunity to choose workshops based on their level of production experience and the needs of their ranch, Cleere said.

“These concurrent workshops will feature information on introductory cattle production, management practices in the areas of forage, nutrition and reproduction, record keeping, brush-busting, cattle handling, landowner issues and much more,” he said.

In addition to classroom instruction on Aug. 6-7, participants can attend one of the popular demonstrations on the morning of Aug. 8.

“There will be demonstrations on chute-side calf working, cattle behavior, penning, selection and brush-busting,” Cleere said. “These provide an opportunity for ranchers to see beef cattle production practices put to use.

“The goal of the short course each year is to provide the most cutting-edge information that is needed by beef cattle producers, and this year is no exception.”

Participants can receive a Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator’s license during the short course and can earn at least seven pesticide continuing education units if they are already licensed, Cleere added.

An industry trade show will be held during the event, featuring more than 110 agricultural businesses and service exhibits.

Registration is \$160 per person and includes educational materials, a copy of the 600-page Beef Cattle Short Course proceedings, trade show admittance, admission to the prime rib dinner, lunches, breakfasts and daily refreshments.

Registration information and a tentative schedule will be mailed to previous participants in May, but can also be found on the short course website at <http://beef.tamu.edu>.

Producers can register online at <http://beef.tamu.edu> or contact Cleere's office at 979-845-6931.

Article by Blair Fannin

Prospective Wine Grower Workshop

Event Date: 8/10/2012 (9 AM- 3 PM)

***At the Harris County Extension Office (3033 Bear Creek Dr. Houston, TX)**

The Prospective Wine Grower Workshop was created by the Texas AgriLife Extension Viticulture team in order to educate those individuals considering planting a commercial vineyard. This one-day educational event consists of a series of presentations that provide an overview of the unique requirements and risks associated with establishment and operation of a commercial vineyard in Texas. The workshop is co-instructed by the Texas AgriLife Extension viticulture advisors.

Workshop topics include:

- Vineyard Economics
- Necessary Viticulture Expertise
- Vineyard Site Considerations
- Risk Factors
- Vineyard Labor Requirements

Cost for this program is \$150 for individuals, \$250 for couples (includes lunch) For more information about this workshop, please contact Fritz Westover (fawestover@ag.tamu.edu). For questions about registration or payment, please contact Extension Conference Services (agriliferegister@tamu.edu or 979-845-2604).

Informational/Other Topics:

Are You Growing Citrus Plants?

If you are, I would like to ask you for a few minutes of your time. We need your help!

I am working on a project with one of our Master Gardener volunteers to evaluate how extensively our horticultural enthusiasts in Walker County are involved in growing citrus.

We recognize that most individuals who grow citrus in Walker County are probably doing so as a small/fun/interesting addition to your normal horticultural activities. One

of the questions that we have been discussing is how widespread citrus culture may be in our community.

In addition to determining how many people have 1, 2 (or more) citrus plants, we would like to know which species you are growing (to determine what the popular citrus plants may be). We are also looking to see what kind of problems you may have been experiencing with your plantings. Have you had problems with freeze protection, insects, diseases, nutrition, or moisture?

If you can possibly spare a few minutes, I would like to ask you to give me a call to talk about your citrus plants. **You can contact me at (936) 435-2426.**

FYI: We are in the initial phases of planning a citrus workshop for fall 2012 to help our backyard citrus growers address some of the concerns that they may have about growing and caring for their plants.

Walker County Animal Issues Committee Is Looking for Volunteers

As we approach another Hurricane Season, the Walker County Animal Issues Committee is looking for additional volunteers. The Animal Issues Committee supports animal related efforts of the Walker County Office of Emergency Management during local emergency incidents. This group of dedicated individuals is always in need of additional help and would appreciate any assistance which you could provide.



Here in Walker County our Animal Issues Committee consists of both Small Animal and Large Animal groups. Our small animal group works with companion animals such as dogs, cats, birds etc. The large animal group works with livestock species such as horses, cattle, sheep, goats etc.

Each group is divided into teams which consist of members who work in the following areas:

- **Registration** (complete paper work to document animal ownership, log animals into and out of emergency shelters)
- **Facilities** (work to set up and maintain shelters during emergency incidents)
- **Transportation** (assist in the moving of animals)
- **Medical** (assist with medical needs of animals)
- **Feed** (assist with the feed support requirements during emergency incidents)



We have been involved in various animal related/impacting incidents in the past seven years starting with Hurricane Rita. Since then we worked during the hurricanes that have impacted our area, several floods, and a variety of other incidents which involved animals. During the 2011 wildfires here in Walker County, we sheltered both large animals and small animals.

We need additional volunteers to allow us to schedule volunteer periods during incidents when the committee group(s) has been activated by the Walker County Office of Emergency Management.

If you would like to be involved and provide your assistance to this group, we would like



you to contact us as we work on keeping our volunteer lists updated. Please contact the Extension Office and let us know which group you would like to work with (Small/Large Animals). We would also like to know which team you would be interested in working with. Many individuals have special training or talents, and even equipment (livestock

trailers for large animals, vans etc. for small animals) which could be utilized if needed. Additional information which you will be required to provide includes: Name, Mailing Address, Phone Contact Numbers (cell & land line), and Email Address.

If you are interested in helping us out, please call us at the Walker County Extension Office to sign up (936) 435-2426. Thank You.





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,
County Extension Agent –
Agriculture & Natural Resources
Walker County
(936) 435-2426

**Wednesdays &
Saturdays
through the
growing season!**
8:00 AM until Sell out

**Fresh Local
Produce:**

- Onions
- Squash
- Green Beans
- Potatoes
- Peppers
- Tomatoes
- Okra
- Dill
- Basil
- Other herbs &
vegetables

Selection varies
by date and
production/
weather

Visit Regularly!

2012

**Walker County
Farmers
Market**



At the
West Hill Mall

(Hwy 30)

Parking Lot