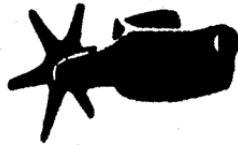


# TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
Service,  
Walker County

## Agricultural Education Events & News Update (October 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 –

- October 9<sup>th</sup> \*Bees as Pollinators – Huntsville, TX
- October 11<sup>th</sup> Walker Co Fall Hay Evaluation –Huntsville, TX (CEUs)
- October 11<sup>th</sup> \*Backyard Composting – Huntsville, TX
- October 16<sup>th</sup>\*Butterfly Gardening – Huntsville, TX
- October 20<sup>th</sup> \*Fall Plant Sale & Butterfly Festival – Huntsville, TX
- October 25<sup>th</sup> Cow Country Congress –Crockett, TX (CEUs)
- November 1<sup>st</sup> Water Quality/Land Management Workshop – Huntsville, TX (CEUs)

\*See the Walker Co Extension Web Site (events page) for additional program information

<http://walker.agrilife.org/>

## Walker County Fall Hay Evaluation

Event Date: 10/11/2012 Thursday (6:30 PM- 3 PM)

\*At the Walker County Storm Shelter  
(455 Highway 75 N. Huntsville, TX)

Thankfully our spring moisture allowed us to actually produce some hay here in Walker County this year. The Walker County



Extension Livestock & Pasture Committee will be holding the 2012 Fall Hay Evaluation to allow producers the opportunity of have their hay tested for quality analysis. Knowing the quality of your hay provides you with information on how to correctly utilize the product and meet the needs of your livestock.

Thanks to our program cooperators and sponsors; Walker County Farm Bureau, American Plant Food & Silveus Insurance Group, we will be able to offer this educational program **and a RIBEYE STEAK DINNER for \$5.00 per attendee.**

Hay Testing  
Sponsored by:



Meal &  
Producer  
Recognition  
Cosponsored  
by:



- **CALL IN YOUR HAY  
EVALUATION RSVP!  
BY OCT 9<sup>TH</sup>  
(936) 435-2426**

*Hay Evaluation Cont...*

Educational program topics scheduled to be reviewed during the Hay Evaluation include: Winter Pasture Options (production & management), Farm Service Agency Program Opportunities, and Rangeland Insurance.

CEU's will be provided for TDA Pesticide Applicators. **RSVP is required for meal planning, please contact the Walker County Extension Office (936) 435-2426 by October 9<sup>th</sup> to save your seat.**

**Houston County: Cow Country Congress**

Event Date: 10/25/2012 (7:30 AM- until midafternoon)

**\*At the Porth Ag Arena (1100 Edmiston Drive, Crockett, TX)**

Cow Country Congress is an annual multi-county event supported by Extension Beef & forage Committees from our area. The 2012 Cow Country Congress will include a variety of information to assist the active beef & forage producer with management information related to our current beef industry situation.

Educational topics include: Winter Pastures & Fall Army Worms, Hay Products, Cattle Value, Body Condition Scores, and Low Stress Handling of Cattle. Speakers for the 2012 Cow Country Congress include; Dr. Jason Cleere, Dr. Vanessa Corriher, and Dr. Ron Gill.



*Cow Country Congress Cont...*

RSVP by October 16, for meal planning purposes. Registration is \$20.00 per person (includes a **STEAK** Lunch). 2 CEU hours (1 IPM & 1 General) will be available.

This program is an annual educational event supported by the Extension Beef & Forage Committees in: Anderson, Freestone, Houston, Leon, Madison, Polk, Trinity, and Walker Counties.

**Walker County: Water Quality/Land Management Workshop**

Event Date: 11/01/12 (Thursday) 8:00 AM - NOON

**\*At the Walker County Storm Shelter, 455 State Hwy 75 North, Huntsville TX**

CORSICANA/ATHENS/HUNTSVILLE – Trinity Waters, a landowner organization based in the Trinity River basin, and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are hosting a series of workshops for landowners and other interested stakeholders in the region.

The Trinity River basin watershed area provides water resources for about 40 percent of the state's population, including the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex.

With significant population growth expected in the Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston metro areas, current water quality issues and an increasing demand for clean water will place greater pressure on natural resources of the Trinity River basin, said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert.

“The first round of workshops is intended to raise awareness of water and land management issues in the basin among interested members of the public,” said Blake Alldredge, AgriLife Extension associate and education and outreach coordinator for the Building Partnerships for Cooperative Conservation in the Trinity River Basin project.

### *Water Quality cont...*

Alldredge said continuing education units would be available for attendees of the first round of workshops to be held Sept. – Nov. The no-cost, half-day workshops will address water resource protection and improvement. Times and locations for the initial workshops are: Nov. 1 from 8 am – noon, Walker County Storm Shelter, 455 State Highway 75 North, Huntsville.

According to the Trinity Waters organization, about 40 percent of Texans get their water from the Trinity River and widespread habitat loss throughout the basin has led to reduced wildlife populations, particularly grassland birds.

“Private landowners own the majority of the land in the middle Trinity basin, so providing them with the information and resources they need to accomplish conservation goals within the basin is critical,” Alldredge said. “Quality land management links common goals in livestock, wildlife and water management.”

Coordinators said the initial set of workshops will give participants a better understanding of basic water quality and watershed principles, as well as the strategies state and local organizations use to improve and protect water resources.

“Participants in these first workshops will also hear from personnel with the Trinity River Authority who will explain how effective watershed management practices can benefit society as a whole,” Alldredge said. “The programs will also involve discussion by an area landowner who has employed various conservation practices and, as a result, has improved cattle production and increased income from developing wildlife recreational opportunities.”

Those interested in attending any of these workshops should contact Alldredge at 979-845-0916 or [balldredge@tamu.edu](mailto:balldredge@tamu.edu) to RSVP and reserve a spot. To RSVP electronically, go to <http://naturalresourcestraining.tamu.edu/schedule/> and look for “Cooperative Conservation in the Trinity River Basin” and the date and location of the workshop.



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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 A&M AgriLife Extension Service is implied.

*Reggie Lepley*

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