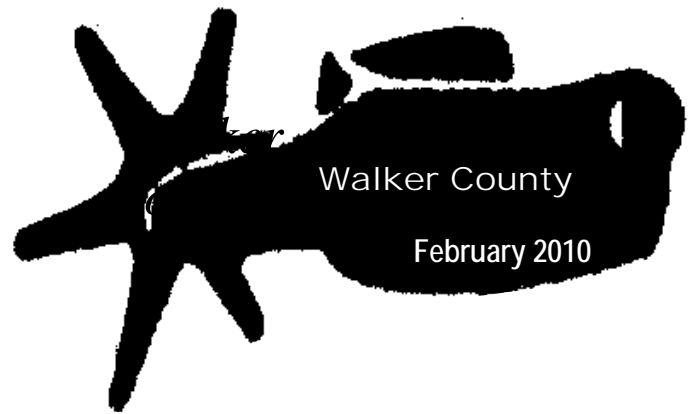


AGRICULTURAL Program Update



2010 New Farmer & Rancher Landowner Workshops!

Last years New Farmer & Rancher Workshops were a **HUGE SUCCESS!**

Our first 2010 New Farmer & Rancher installment will be a **Home Vegetable Production and Preservation Workshop** to be held on March 5th (Friday) at the Walker County Storm Shelter/H.E.A.R.T.S. Museum Complex. If you have considered growing your own vegetables for home use or possibly getting into the business of vegetable production, you will want to attend this workshop. Participants will learn important facts about vegetable production in the Walker County area, plus recommended practices and tricks of the trade for being a successful gardener. We will carry this workshop one step further and talk about safely storing and preserving the bounty of your garden for later enjoyment.

Additional workshop offerings for 2010 will include:

Beef Cattle Taxation, Marketing & Health Workshop

March 19th (Friday)

Farm Safety & Spray Equipment Workshop

April 30th (Friday)

Grazing Management Workshop

May 14th (Friday)

See the workshop flyers in this newsletter for additional information!



- *Equine Management Workshops (see page 2)*
- *Grassbur control option (see page 2)*
- *Beef Cattle Browsing (see page 2)*
- *Vegetable Production Workshop (see page 3)*
- *Beef Cattle Workshop (see page 4)*
- *Farm Safety & Spray Equipment Workshop (see page 5)*
- *Grazing Management Workshop (see page 6)*
- *Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale (see page 7)*
- *Pesticide Applicator Class & Testing Session (see page 8)*

**New Landowner
Workshops will provide up to 7
Hours of TDA Pesticide
Applicator Credit!**

Two Horse Owners Workshops scheduled at TAMU –February 2010

Mare/Foal Management Workshop

Mare owners seeking information on broodmare management and raising foals will have an opportunity to attend a one-day program focusing on just that at the 12th Annual Mare/Foal Workshop on Wednesday, February 24th, 2010 at Texas A&M University.

The workshop will be held at the Louis Pearce Pavilion. This workshop will present information regarding Herd Health and Immunizations, Foal Health, Feeding Broodmares and Foals, The Estrous Cycle, Parturition and Sign of Foaling and Genetic Related Disorders.

This one-day workshop is designed for mare owners. It is not intended to be a breeders school and will focus much more on mare management than on breeding procedures. The information should be useful for the mare owner, regardless of the number of mares they own or manage.

Horse Management 101 Workshop

Horse owners seeking information on basic horse management will have an opportunity to attend a day-long program focusing on just that at the 7th Horse Management 101 Workshop on February 25th, 2010 at Texas A&M University.

This workshop will be held at the Louis Pearce Pavilion on the campus of Texas A&M University. This workshop will present information regarding General Health Care and Immunizations, First Aid, General Nutrition, Hay and Feed Storage, Concerns for Small Acreage Owners, Equine Genetics and Managing the Geriatric Horse.

This one-day workshop is designed for individuals that are seeking more information to better care for their horses. Additionally, this workshop is a tremendous opportunity for individuals to attend and obtain more information prior to getting a horse.

Instruction for both programs will be provided by equine faculty from both the Equine Science Section of the Animal Science Department and the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

You must pre-register to attend the workshops. Registration includes printed materials, light breakfast and noon meal. Programs begins at 8:00 a.m. with registration. The cost for each Equine Owner Education Workshop is \$50.00/workshop and online registration will be accepted through February 15, 2010. Late online registration is \$60.00/workshop and will be accepted from February 16 through February 19, 2010. Registration at the door is \$70.00/workshop. A light breakfast, lunch and printed materials will be provided. For more information, contact Dr. Brett D. Scott at (979) 845-1562, or email him at bdscott@ag.tamu.edu. For registration information, please visit AgriLife Extension Conference Services at <http://agrilifevents.tamu.edu>

influenced breeds as well as British breeds. Treatment incidence for BRD was 20% in GP1 and 24% in GP2. In both groups, cattle treated for BRD or IPD had significantly lower fat cover and numerical Yield Grade. There was a tendency for treatment in GP1 to lower percent Choice. Mechanical estimate of tenderness was significantly lower in GP2 treated for BRD, but not in GP1. These results agree with most previous research that respiratory and other sickness results in adverse effects on carcass merit. (U. S. Meat Animal Research Center; J. Animal Sci. 88:491)

Prowl H2O Supplemental Label Information

If you are having problems with field sandbur (grassbur) in your pastures or hay meadows –this information will be of interest to you. BASF has received a supplemental label allowing application to **dormant** bermudagrass pasture and hay meadows for control of grassbur and other weed species (numerous annual grasses and small seeded broadleaf weeds) listed on the full label.

This label expires on December 31, 2010

Label details to note:

- Rate: 1.1 - 4.2 qts/ac; maximum of 4.2 qts per year
- Timing: Anytime during winter dormancy and prior to weed germination
- Methods: Ground, chemigation, and air
- PHI: 60 days prior to harvest for hay; 45 days prior to grazing/harvest for forage
- Pastures and hay meadows (no rangeland)
- Bermudagrass varieties: All, but must be an established stand (have gone through at least one cutting)
- Target: field sandbur; annual grass and broadleaf weeds
- Activation: 1" of precipitation ideal prior to weed germination

Beef Cattle Browsing

Dr. Stephen Hammack, Professor & Extension Beef Cattle Specialist Emeritus

WHERE DID EUROPEAN CATTLE COME FROM?

Scientists at 15 research entities from around the world collaborated on a study of 48 breeds of cattle using genomic techniques. It was concluded that European cattle arose in the Fertile Crescent, sometimes called the Cradle of Civilization, in parts of what is now Israel, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. From there movement was through Turkey, the Balkans, and Italy, dispersing through Central Europe and France and then to the British Isles. A second route appeared to be from Africa or the Fertile Crescent across the sea to the Iberian Peninsula. The authors speculated that knowledge of the evolution of breeds could lead to a better understanding of their genetic relationships. For instance, it would be helpful to know if breeds that excel in marbling are closely related or not. If not, different approaches could be needed in using genomic methods to improve marbling in all cattle. (Proc. of Nat. Acad. of Sciences 106:44 and Univ. of Missouri press release)

EFFECT OF DISEASE ON CARCASS TRAITS

The effects of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) and overall incidence of pathogenic diseases (IPD) on carcass traits were investigated. Two groups were studied. The first (GP1) included 642 crossbred steers involving seven British and Continental breeds. The second (GP2) included 621 crossbred steers involving tropically-adapted *Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*-

Vegetable Production, Harvesting, & Preservation Workshop

Friday- March 5, 2010

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Produce, Harvest and Preserve
your own vegetables at home.

Participants can learn the
latest recommendations and
practices plus we will offer 2
Hours of CEU credit for TDA

Pesticide Applicators.

*Program will be held as part of the Walker
County New Farmers & Ranchers
Workshop Series.*

Learn Recommended Practices to Improve Your
Home Gardening Efforts:

- Soil & Fertility Management
- Vegetable Varieties
- Pest & Disease Control Options
- Food Safety & Preservation

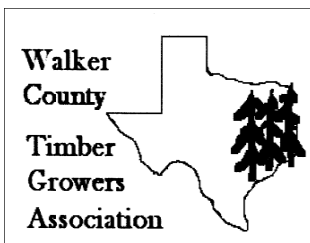
**Join Us for this "PRO-Garden" session
With the Walker Co
Master Gardeners!**



For more information and
RSVP, please call
936-435-2426

Location of meeting :
Walker County Storm Shelter
Facility
(455 SH 75 N)

**2 Hours TDA Pesticide Applicator
Credit will be offered!**



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,

Beef Cattle Taxation, Marketing & Health Workshop

Friday- March 19, 2010

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Learn about taxation issues, promotion & marketing requirements of your beef product. Additionally, 1 Hour of L&R CEU credit will be offered for TDA Pesticide Applicators.

Program will be held as part of the Walker County New Farmers & Ranchers Workshop Series.

Business tools and information to help you manage your beef cattle enterprises:

- *Information Regarding Taxation of Breeding Cattle Operations*
- *Beef Checkoff Update*
- *Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicator Laws & Regulations Update*
- *Texas Animal Health Commission: Rules & Regulations for Selling Bulls & Herd Health Management Issues*



For more information and RSVP, please call
936-435-2426

Location of meeting :
**Walker County Storm
Shelter Facility**
(455 SH 75 N)

**1 Hour TX Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Applicator
Laws & Regulations Credit!**



**Walker County Soil and Water
Conservation District #453**



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,

Farm Safety & Spray Equipment Workshop

Friday- April 30, 2010

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

For more information and
RSVP, please call

936-435-2426

Location of meeting :

Walker County Storm Shelter
Facility

2 Hours TDA Pesticide Applicator

Credit will be offered!

Gather information on
equipment to meet your
farming & ranching needs.
Learn how to safely operate
and calibrate common farm
spray equipment. We will
offer 2 Hours of CEU credit for
TDA Pesticide Applicators.

*Program will be held as part of the
Walker County New Farmers &
Ranchers Workshop Series.*



Walker County Soil and Water

Conservation District #453



Tips and information on utilizing typical farm spray equipment:

- Spray Rig Selection –Features, Construction, Chemical Compatibility, & Size Considerations.
- Calibration of Spray Equipment
- Pesticide Application Safety Issues & Concerns.
- Sun & Skin Cancer safety.

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.



Grazing Management Workshop

Friday- May 14, 2010
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Beef Cattle Producers can learn to
utilize tools & techniques
to support grazing
management systems.

*Program will be held as part
of the Walker County New
Farmers & Ranchers
Workshop Series.*



For more information and
RSVP, please call
936-435-2426

Location of meeting :
Walker County Storm Shelter
Facility
(455 SH 75 N)

2 Hours TX Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Applicator
Credit!



Walker County Soil and Water
Conservation District #453



Registration Fee:
\$25.00 with Book
\$10.00 without Book

Participants wishing to
receive a copy of "Grazing
Land Stewardship" -A
Manual for Texas
Landowners, must RSVP
prior to program to insure
availability.

Learn about management tools to help you manage
quality grazing forages for your livestock:

- Evaluating pasture & range conditions
- Measurement & Inventory of grazing resources
- Adjusting stocking rates & herd management to
match forage availability
- Get your reproduction program in sync with
your forage production
- Determine grazing land health
- Monitoring of forage quality
- Evaluation of water location & grazing distribution

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.



**Walker County
Master Gardeners
Invite You To Our**

Spring Plant Sale

**Saturday, March 13, 2010
8:00 AM until 2:00 PM
at the Master Gardener Greenhouse**

**Featuring: Vegetables, Roses , Perennials, Natives,
and much more.**

**Visit our Demonstration Garden and attend
the pre-sale seminars at the Extension Office.**

**February 27, 2010
10:00AM—2:00 PM**



**All proceeds from plant sale will be used to benefit
Master Gardener community activities and educational projects.
For more information, please call (936) 435-2426
or visit our website at www.walkercountymastergardener.org**

Time for a New Beginning!



**Located at the corner of Highway 75 North and Tam Road.
Approximately 2 miles north of the Pilot Truck Stop on Highway 75.**

Pesticide Licensing Class & Testing -February 24th, 2010

Agricultural producers who need to obtain a Texas Department of Agriculture –Private Pesticide Applicator License will want to sign up for our next Pesticide Licensing Class. This class is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 2010. We will begin at 8:30 AM with the class session which will run until about Noon. Following a brief lunch break, we will reconvene at approximately 1:00 PM for the TDA testing session.

If you would like to sign up for this class, please contact the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Walker County at (936) 435-2426. **Enrollment in the class is required.** The class fee, including the required study guide and worksheets is \$30.00 per person.

Participants meeting successful testing requirements will be required to submit \$60.00 to the Texas Department of Agriculture for their Private Applicator licensing fee. This license will be valid for 5 years to the date of issuance. At the end of 5 years, each license holder will be required to have participated in 15 hours of CEU course work with 2 hours of Laws & Regs and 2 hours of Integrated Pest Management credit.

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.

If you have questions or would like more information call us at (936) 435-2426.

Walker County Extension Office:
102 Tam Road Suite B, Huntsville Texas 77320
<http://walker-tx.tamu.edu>



Sincerely,

Reggie Lepley
County Extension Agent – Agriculture
Walker County

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Huntsville, Texas
Permit # 240

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
102 Tam Road Suite B
Huntsville, Texas 77320