



Walker County Agriculture Update

December 2021

Greetings from the Walker
County, Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension office!

Is it that time of year again? Where did these bugs come from???

Likely you have been inundated with numbers of armor plated multi legged worm looking critters wandering into your house. I have had my share lately and if you are in the same situation, what you are seeing are millipedes.



In looking for information to share with you on this topic, Wizzy Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Program Specialist has provided some great insight into millipedes: Millipedes are members of the subphylum Myriapoda, which means many legs. These creatures live in humid, moist environments and can commonly be found in soil, in leaf litter, or under rocks or wood.

They do not transmit diseases to plants, animals, or humans. These arthropods (they are not insects) are more of a nuisance than a destructive pest. Millipedes are capable of occasionally damaging seedling plants by feeding on stems and leaves.

The millipede body is cylindrical instead of flattened. Each body segment has two pairs of legs. Millipedes in Texas are typically brownish but can vary from red to yellow to orange. Millipedes often curl into a spiral to protect themselves when they are disturbed.

Millipedes can live over 10 years. They lay eggs singly or in small groups in the soil. These arthropods prefer cool, moist environments such as mulch, leaf litter, or compost piles.

Millipedes are not poisonous but have glands that produce a smelly fluid that can be irritating, especially if rubbed in the eyes. After handling millipedes, wash your hands with soap and water until the odor is completely gone. Millipedes feed primarily on decaying organic matter; some eat other animals. Many millipedes may move into a home after heavy rainfall or during drought. However, they tend to die quickly because of lack of moisture and food.

*For information on control options of both millipedes and centipedes, forward to the end of this newsletter.

Featured Upcoming Events:

6th Annual Town & Country CEU

5-Hour CEU Recertification Seminar (live video feed)

(Thursday) December 9, 2021

8:30 AM until 3:00 PM

Walker County Texas A&M AgriLife Office (102 Tam Road, Huntsville, TX 77340)

\$50.00 per person by December 2nd (Or) \$70.00 per person after December 2nd – Contact the Walker County AgriLife Extension Office (936) 435-2426 for registration form. Make checks payable to: Livestock & Pasture Committee.

Schedule: Check-in and refreshments, 7:30 - 8:15 a.m., Program, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(5 CEU's pending approval)

Livestock Vector Control & Housefly Management, Dr. Sonja Swiger, Extension Specialist, Stephenville Center, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

1 TDA IPM, 1 SPCS Pest

Weed Control in Pasture & Hay Meadows, Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Extension Forage Specialist, Overton Center, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

1 TDA General, 1 SPCS General

Laws & Regulations, Brad Tullis, Inspector, Texas Department of Agriculture

1 TDA L/R, 1 SPCS General

Pesticide Labels & Sprayer Calibration, Dr. Matt Matocha, Extension Program Specialist, Soil & Crop Sciences, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

1 TDA L/R, 1 SPCS General

Managing Soil Fertility for Weed Control

Dr. Tony Provin, Extension Specialist, Soil & Crop Sciences, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

1 TDA General, 1 SPCS Lawn/Ornamental

Racehorse Training Facility Tour

& AgriLife Extension Annual Meeting

(Tuesday) December 14th, 2021

9:30 am – 11:30 am

Diamond G Venue & Training Stables (84 Stewart Rd, New Waverly, TX 77358)

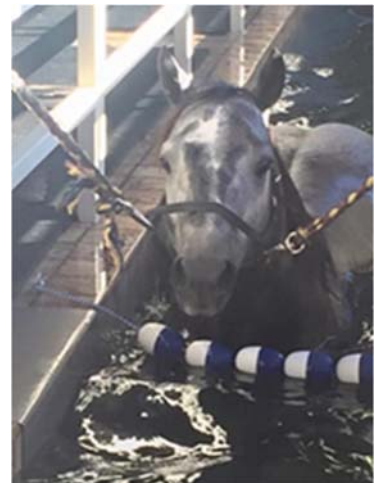
Cost FREE!

RSVP: Requested before Noon Dec 13 online at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/walker-county-agrilife-extension-annual-meeting-tickets-212701896097>

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Walker County *invites you to attend our Extension Annual Meeting as we tour the Diamond G horse racing stables at New Waverly, Texas.*

This tour will be hosted at the incomparable Diamond G Venue and horse training facility. <https://www.diamondgvenue.com>



Join us to learn about the horse racing industry and how specialized training and management grow, develop, and train winning equine athletes!

Participants will receive firsthand insight into the growing Texas horse racing industry! Our tour will include information on how this unique horse enterprise began and the great accomplishments achieved by the Diamond G racing stable.

- Weather permitting you will view horses working on the track, including behind the scenes activity around the barns.
- Specialized horse therapy and conditioning equipment not often seen in our area such as the aqua treadmill will be available for discussion during the tour.

Bonus Topic: we will discuss how tourism and hospitality industry activities can co-exist with agricultural production enterprises.

Walker County Annual 5 Hour CEU Program

(Friday) January 7th, 2022

8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Walker County Storm Shelter (455 SH 75N, Huntsville, TX)

Cost \$40.00 per person (includes lunch)

Registration before Jan 4th to (936) 291-1901 ext 3502

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Walker County will be hosting a continuing education class for Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicators. This C.E.U. recertification class will be held on Friday, January 07, 2022, at the Walker County Storm Shelter, next to the HEARTS Veterans Museum on Highway 75 North in Huntsville. Cost for the program is \$40.00 and includes lunch.

Registration will begin at 7:00 AM and the program will conclude around 2:00 PM. A variety of agricultural topics and speakers are included in this annual educational program. Topics scheduled for the 2022 Pesticide Recertification event include items for all landowners in the Walker County area. Specific items to be discussed during the day include the following topics and speakers:

- **8:00 AM Forest Vegetation/Brush Control Options**, presented by Ben Pluckett, Texas Forest Service, District Forester I: Forest vegetation control utilizing available and effective intergration of management tools including herbicides, fire and mechanical means. This presentation will specifically incorporate intergrated pest management concepts as useful steps in the selection of tools for forest land managers.
- **9:00 AM Emerging Technology & Herbicides for Brush Control of Rangeland and Pasture**, presented by Dr. Megan Clayton, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Range Specialist: New technologies and herbicides developed for the management of unwanted brush species on rangelands and pastures, including MezaVue, Invora, DuraCor and Rezilon. Additionally, common best management practices for applying herbicides, both individual plant treatments and broadcast applications, will be reviewed. Strategies for determining the sites with highest return after management will also be discussed.
- **10:00 AM Aquatic Weed ID, Control, and Product Updates**, presented by Brittany Chesser, Extension Program Specialist I: Resources and tips for identification, management and control of aquatic weeds found in Texas. Practical aquatic application methods with emphasis on safe environmental utilization of ecosystem impacting chemicals. This presentation will feature integration of mechanical or physical management options with emphasis on options including integrated pest management control methods as appropriate for water quality protection.

Updated product information to include labels and application effectiveness of aquatic labeled herbicides.

- **11:00 AM: Forage Production Enhancement via Herbicides Management Tools**, presented by Dr. Larry Redmon, Professor and Extension Forage Specialist: Improving production and quality of our pasture and hay field forages with discussion of common pasture/hay field weed species and their recommended control options.
- Lunch from 12:00 –1:00 PM is included in program registration.
- **1:00 PM TDA Pesticide Laws & Regulation Updates**, presented by Dr. Don Rennie, Professor, Extension Program Leader and Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator: Updates of pesticide laws, regulations and relevant information affecting licensed and certified Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicators.

The program will conclude with the completion of program evaluations, and the C.E.U. Certificate Distribution at shortly after 2:00 PM. Participants will be eligible to receive (requested/pending TDA approval) 1.0 hours Laws & Regulations credit, 1.0 hours Integrated Pest Management credit, and 3.0 hours General credit.

Area and/or Online Upcoming Events:

Madison County 5 Hour CEU Program

Date: January 21, 2022.

Time: 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Location: Truman Kimbro Convention Center (111 W Trinity St., Madisonville, TX)

Cost: \$60.00 per person Includes lunch

Registration: by 1-14-22 to (936) 348-2234

5 Hours TDA CEU credit pending approval

Schedule: Check-in and refreshments, 7:30 - 8:15 a.m., Program, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(5 CEU's pending approval)

8:00 Welcome

8:05 Herbicide Updates and Application Options (1hr gen), Spencer Colten, Corteva Agriscience

9:05 Fire Ant Control in Residential, Pasture and Hay Production (1hr gen), Dr. Robert Puckett, Assistant Professor and Extension Entomologist

10:05 – Break

10:15 am Internal & External Parasite, Fly and Vector Control (1hr gen), Dr. Sonja Swiger Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

11:15 am Feral Hog Control Using New Net Corral Type Traps (1hr IPM), Dr. Aaron Sumrall, Director of Research and Outreach for Field Engine Wildlife Research and Management

12:15 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Herbicide Laws and Regulations Update (1hr L&R), Dr. Don Rennie, Professor & Extension Pesticide Safety Education Specialist

2:00 pm Adjourn (approx.)

Additional Items and Information of Note:

Control of Millipedes and Centipedes

To prevent millipedes and centipedes from coming indoors, move hiding sites—such as compost piles, firewood, and stones—away from the structure. Create a band of gravel or similar material between the

foundation of the home and any flower beds that touch the structure. If the flower beds against the home are mulched, occasionally turn the mulch to allow it to dry out.

Seal any accessible areas that may allow centipedes and millipedes to move into the home. Check the seals around doors and windows as well as pipe penetrations for any points of access. On structures with brick or stone facades, stuff the weep holes with copper mesh or steel wool. (Because steel wool will rust if it gets wet, do not use it on light-colored facades.) Make sure that crawl spaces or areas under the home are properly ventilated.

Perimeter sprays around a building's foundation may help keep centipedes and millipedes from moving indoors. Look for products with such active ingredients as cyfluthrin, deltamethrin, permethrin, bifenthrin, cypermethrin, or carbaryl.

Inside, treat cracks, crevices, baseboards, and other hiding places. Plant-derived pesticide formulations contain active ingredients such as d-limonene (citrus extract), rosemary oil, clove oil, thyme oil, or sesame oil. Other products available include active ingredients such as lambda-cyhalothrin, cypermethrin, permethrin, or bifenthrin. Treat wall voids with boric acid or diatomaceous earth.

Insecticide label clearances are subject to change, and changes may have occurred since this publication was created. The pesticide **user** is always responsible for the effects of pesticides on plants or household goods as well as problems caused by drift from their property to other properties or plants. Always read and carefully follow the label instructions.



Reggie Lepley

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