

Agriculture Newsletter



COLORADO COUNTY

April 2020

The Old Adage - April Showers Bring May Flowers

Hello everyone,

I hope this monthly edition of our newsletter finds you well. Spring has come with an abundance of sunshine, some refreshing rain showers and a little cooler temperatures to ease us into the heat of the upcoming summer. Row crops are being planted within the county, and family gardens are getting started for the year.

This time of year is all about new growth. Whether we know it or not it seems like we are all growing in one way or another. With the recent arrival of COVID-19, it seems like we as people are growing and adapting in more ways than we could have originally imagined. Now I know that you are hearing enough about COVID-19 on the evening news, local papers, and Facebook. Because of the way that Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is adapting to the challenges ahead to protect the people within our communities there is important information for me to share.

At this time any programs or face-to-face meetings scheduled through April 17th have been postponed, including our annual Colorado/Fayette County Pecan Field Day. We do intend to reschedule these events as best as we can as soon as we can. Additionally we are complying with social distancing recommendations. You may find that at this time, that the site visits I make will be extremely minimal if at all, for your safety and mine. However, thanks to technology if you are experiencing a problem I would highly recommend taking a high quality photo and emailing it to me at laramie.naumann@ag.tamu.edu and I will do my best to help you find a solution from a distance. During this time I will still be working from the office so you are welcome to call like you normally would.

As I have information that is applicable to you I will diligently share either on my weekly radio show, our county Facebook page (Colorado County Agriculture - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension) or through an email blast. If you still currently receive your newsletters via mail and would like to be added to our email list please call our office and Peggy will get your information to add to our list.

One last tidbit that I will share. Should our county be designated as shelter in place there is an essential worker travel form that can be downloaded from the Texas Department of Agriculture website <https://www.texasagriculture.gov/NewsEvents/COVID19CoronavirusResponsePage.aspx> for those working in the agricultural industry. The form is subject to change, so please visit the TDA website should you need it.

While it is good to keep ourselves aware of the developing situation, at some point it's healthy to stop feeding yourself information and let your mind focus on other things that are in no way related to COVID-19. I dropped an activity on page 3 of this newsletter. I hope you enjoy it! Strive to learn something new each day, work with your hands, and savor the sunshine.

Best Regards,

Laramie Naumann

Resources for You

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension <https://agriflifeextension.tamu.edu/>

- Find timely information in a plethora of areas ranging from production agriculture, backyard gardening, to health and wellness.
- For resources related to COVID-19 <https://agriflifeextension.tamu.edu/coronavirus/>
- Follow us on social media:
- AgriLife Extension Twitter: @txextension
AgriLife Extension Facebook: @agriflifeextension
AgriLife Extension Instagram: @txextension
Aggie Horticulture Facebook: For weekly informational horticulture videos at 1 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Texas Agriculture Law Blog <https://agriflife.org/texasaglaw/home/>

- Stay up to date on legal issues impacting Texas agriculture. You can view Tiffany's most recent publication *Eminent Domain in Texas: A Landowner's Guide (March 2020)*, and read up on current rulings including the most recent Texas Supreme Court Ruling in a Spider Bite Case!

Signs of Springtime



Have you seen this guy on the left? If so you've found a tent caterpillar. These caterpillars form the webs we find in limbs of trees that protect these larvae as they develop. In their adult form they are brown and yellowish moths with a wingspan of about 1 inch. The damage these caterpillars make on trees/shrubs is localized to the webbing. For more information on these guys check out <https://agriflifeextension.tamu.edu/library/gardening/tent-caterpillars/>. Photo courtesy of Bart Drees.

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

- ⇒ **AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK.**
- ⇒ **COVER YOUR COUGH OR SNEEZE WITH A TISSUE, THEN THROW THE TISSUE IN THE TRASH.**
- ⇒ **AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH.**
- ⇒ **CLEAN AND DISINFECT FREQUENTLY TOUCHED SURFACES.**
- ⇒ **STAY HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK, EXCEPT TO GET MEDICAL CARE.**
- ⇒ **WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN WITH SOAP AND WATER FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS.**

***INFORMATION COURTESY OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES.
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [DSHS.TEXAS.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus)**

A Snapshot of Agriculture

Look for the words below hidden in the puzzle. Words can be found forwards, backwards, and diagonal. Enjoy!

B F Z C Y N D M D J S T U D O K E G L T M D S J Q
W Z G B N L A V M N N R F G W J F O E I L H M B T
C K I G B W U R U E A G O X G U I C H L H K B K Y
D O H V L N K Q M X A L C T L T L C U R K N X L L
P D M D X A O E W R U L E G A Y D I U R T Y C I I
P R V P P S G W D P D X I G A N L O V E X S Y V O
C C O K O A D E L X J I M K N I I H I A F M Y E S
Y O T T N S N L J J D A K D G A W L P H O U E S V
H M M A A I T R E T A W D N U O R G L N T F R T H
O B M Z N T L I C I B K A C E D Y E O O E O U O I
R I O G Y U I K N N Y U X E A Z P R S E P V T C Q
T N O Y X M F O V G D H K R M Y G U D S Z R L K B
I E Y O K P D P N P M I Y D L A E L J J L Y U V Y
C E T A V I T L U C G O K C E W O I W L I C C G N
U T D O R K L G W G U U A T S T X G N H A S I R I
L T X D R Q T M F V H V M G G H G R C W T Q T O W
T F E R T I L I Z E R O R K Q S H I P E U I I S D
U R O W C R O P S D U J N D L Q G R W U Z L V S Y
R T O G C H H J A Z Y Q Z Z P W S A V E W U Q B R
E S E E V E L F C N W G H A G O R G B V H A Y S Z
Z G U F G Z E P P M E J J I K D R T M E Q H X E G
S Z I X U T X T X Z Z P F O S A E P K V E R D P Z
D P K N Z Y T G P T O P R H P E K I N Y W W I R P
H J P W P M O H S E I O I J D H Q N T H Z P K W D
T H N Q G C K A H U G P C C F N T C S S L M H A P

AGRONOMY
COMBINE
COMPOSTING
CULTIVATE
FEEDLOT
FERTILIZER
GARDENING

GROUNDWATER
HORTICULTURE
LEVEES
LIVESTOCK
MANAGEMENT
POLLINATORS
RANGELAND

ROTATION
ROWCROPS
SOIL
STEWARDSHIP
VITICULTURE
WILDLIFE
YIELDS

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Laramie Naumann

County Extension Agent—Ag/Natural Resources—Colorado County

laramie.naumann@ag.tamu.edu

979-732-2082

colorado.agrilife.org

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