

# Agriculture Newsletter

COLORADO COUNTY

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

March 2020

## Pfeifer Begins Role as AgriLife Extension Disaster Assessment and Recovery Agent

Have you mitigated anything today? Although we might not realize it, many of our common routines help to protect us from unplanned hazards.

Mitigation is any action taken to lessen the severity of an undesirable event. If you secured your seat belt before taking your daily commute this morning, you were participating in the mitigation of a vehicle accident.

I recently started my position as a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent for Disaster Assessment and Recovery (DAR). In my role, I will be serving Washington, Austin, Fayette, and Colorado counties. My office is located in Brenham. My position, as well as the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Disaster Assessment and Recovery program is a new effort to help communities in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. A large part of my responsibilities in serving my four-county region will be to help to mitigate disasters through outreach and awareness. The DAR program is not meant to replace local emergency management coordinators and Texas Division of Emergency Management district coordinators, but to assist them as needed.

Our region of southeast Texas faces unique challenges when it comes to disaster mitigation, but I feel I am prepared to assist in these efforts through my personal, educational, and work experiences. I grew up in a rural setting just north of Seadrift, Texas. Our location on the gulf coast instilled in me an interest in emergency management especially as it applies to tropical weather's impact on agriculture. I was a ten-year member of Calhoun County 4-H and later went on to graduate from Texas A&M University-Kingsville with a bachelor's degree and Texas A&M University with a master's degree. I most recently was employed by the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) where I worked as a research associate. My wife Mallory and I have been married for two years and we are enjoying our life in the Brazos Valley.

I hope to travel throughout my four-county region often. I look forward to meeting everyone and hope to learn more about how we can work together to better mitigate our region for the unexpected. I would welcome the opportunity to come speak at any meetings or events within the area. Please feel free to reach out to me via email at [matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu) or phone at 979-277-6212.



Pictured: Matthew Pfeifer, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Disaster Assessment and Recovery Agent

## Upcoming Events

### Texas Master Naturalists—Gideon Lincecum Chapter—March Meeting

The Gideon Lincecum Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists invites you to join us in our next chapter meeting and/or training workshop as we learn more about the local native and migratory WATERFOWL in our area. There is no charge for this informative event.

Both the workshop and chapter meeting is open to the public.

Join us as we welcome Taylor Abshier, biologist with Ducks Unlimited Inc. Taylor will focus on waterfowl life cycle, "divers and dabblers", Texas native waterfowl, healthy wetland types and wetland management for wintering waterfowl. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about some of the birds in our area from one of the experts.

Tony graduated in 2015 from Texas A&M University Kingsville with a degree in Range and Wildlife Management. During his time with DU Taylor has worked to grow the Texas Prairie Wetland Project. Through stewarding relationships with ranchers, farmers, and private landowners along the Texas Gulf Coast he helps to create, restore, and enhance wetlands for breeding and wintering waterfowl. He also collaborates extensively with State, Federal, and non-government partners to continue to fund and deliver these critical habitats in an ever changing and developing landscape.

WHEN: Saturday, March 21, 2020 - Chapter Meeting 9:30AM to 11:00AM  
Workshop 11:00AM - 1:00PM

WHERE: Winedale Historical Complex  
3738 FM 2714  
Round Top, TX 78954

HOW MUCH: FREE

You are welcome to bring a lunch/snacks and drinks.

Questions? Email Chapter President Betsy Palkowski, [bpalkowsky@outlook.com](mailto:bpalkowsky@outlook.com)

Chapter Website: <https://txmn.org/glc/>

### Auxin Herbicide Trainings - Wharton/Matagorda Counties

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a series of Auxin Trainings for producers in the Wharton and Matagorda County area from February – April 2020. This special, annual training that was required for the past two years for the new dicamba formulations applied on tolerant cotton and soybean crops, will now be a one-hour training (in 2019 it was a 2-hour training). In addition to the EPA mandated dicamba applicator training, the Texas Department of Agriculture has added 2,4-D Choline formulations (Enlist Duo® and Enlist One) for use on 2,4-D tolerant crops to be included in the annual mandatory auxin trainings (this is our second consecutive year to include 2,4-D Choline in the annual Auxin Training). The 1 hour training will educate applicators on the requirements and practices for keeping these auxin herbicides on-target, and will satisfy the updated auxin herbicide specific training requirements. The training is not required for those using range and pasture labeled dicamba and/or 2,4-D products. The Auxin Specific Herbicide training is an annual training. Completion of the annual Auxin training is not required to purchase seed or chemistry, it is only required annually, prior to applying Engenia®, Xtendimax®, Fexapan®, Tavium®, EnlistOne® and/or EnlistDuo® herbicides.

March 6th	9-10 am	Wharton County Extension Office
March 19th	1-2 pm	Matagorda County Extension Office
March 26th	9-10 am	Wharton County Extension Office
April 9th	1-2 pm	Matagorda County Extension Office
April 16th	9-10 am	Wharton County Extension Office
April 23rd	1-2 pm	Matagorda County Extension Office

## **Colorado/Fayette Pecan Field Day**

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Offices of Colorado and Fayette Counties are pleased to announce the 2020 Colorado/Fayette Pecan Field Day. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at the Trefny Pecan Orchard located at 1045 Trefny Lane in Weimar. Registration will begin at 8:30 am with the program starting at 9:00 am and concluding at noon. Dr. Larry Stein (Associate Professor and Extension Horticulturist) will be the featured speaker for the program. 2 CEU's (1 General, 1 IPM), will be offered to private applicators. Please bring your lawn chairs for seating in the orchard. For more information please contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension offices at 979-732-2082 (Colorado County) or 979-968-5831 (Fayette County).

## **April Beef 706 Program**

April Beef 706 program April 7-8 in College Station on the Texas A&M Schedule  
Registration – <http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/Beef> or 979-845-2604

This is a flagship educational activity of the Animal Science Department and the Texas Beef Council entitled Beef 706. Each session of Beef 706 involves approximately 30-40 participants from various segments of the beef industry. They learn about the importance of producing a more consistent and high quality beef product through a series of hands-on lessons presented by various meat science faculty, staff and graduate students. For example, the participants are divided into groups, allowed to select live cattle (through video) and then follow those cattle through grading and a hands-on cutting session which allows the participants a chance to experience first-hand the differences encountered in carcass composition and meat quality and profitability. Their resulting information is then evaluated in terms of the value differences calculated between animals. Participants will see cattle value from market steer to fabricated boxed beef.

The Texas Beef Council pays for the majority of the course; therefore, you pay \$50 to register in a program that costs over \$500 per participant to conduct. Participants will provide transportation via buses while at the Beef 706 Program. The workshop will be held at the Kleberg Center and Rosenthal Center on the Texas A&M University Campus in College Station. There will not be parking available for your car on campus. *The deadline to register is April 1 and there is no walk-up registration.*

Bring a sweatshirt to wear in the cooler area of the Rosenthal Center. Must wear long pants and closed toe work shoes. You will not be able to wear watches and jewelry during the meat evaluation and fabrication portions of the program.

The registration fee includes meals listed on the program.

### *Hotel Block*

#### *Ramada College Station*

506 Earl Rudder Frwy. S., College Station, 979-846-0300

Group Name: Beef 706

\$79 plus tax (deadline for room block 3/20)

## **Austin County Beef Cattle Management Seminar**

The Austin County Beef and Forage Committee is hosting a Beef Cattle Management Seminar on March 20th at the Four County Auction Center (15900 TX HWY 159, Industry, 78944). Registration fee is \$20 per participant. Registration begins at 12:30 pm with the program running from 1:00-4:30 pm. 3 CEUs (1 IPM, 2 General) will be given to pesticide applicators. Topics covered include Brush Control: Yaupon and Dewberry, Importance of Calhhood Vaccinations, and Replacement Heifer Selection and Herd Management. For more information please call Austin County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office at 979-865-2072.



# Pond Management

2020 Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series

**March 20, 2020**

**Winedale Historical Complex  
Theater Barn  
3738 FM 2714  
Round Top, Texas 78954**

Registration 1:00-1:30 pm  
Program 1:30-5:00 pm  
\$20 / person  
Drinks and Refreshments Included

*Topics to be covered:*  
**Pond Construction  
Vegetation Management  
Pond Ecology  
Stocking Rates/Mgmt**

\*If you have a pond weed you would like identified bring a **FRESH** sample with you; include leaves, flowers, stem if possible.

**3 CEUs**  
(1 L&R; 1 Gen; 1 IPM)

**For More  
Information  
Please Contact:**

**Haylee Wolfford**  
Austin County  
(979)865-2072  
Austin.AgriLife.org

**Laramie Naumann**  
Colorado County  
(979) 732-2082  
Colorado.AgriLife.org

**Scott Willey**  
Fayette County  
(979) 968-5831  
Fayette.AgriLife.org

**Kara Matheney**  
Washington County  
(979) 277-6212  
Washington.AgriLife.org





**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](mailto:laramie.naumann@ag.tamu.edu)**

**979-732-2082**

**[colorado.agrilife.org](http://colorado.agrilife.org)**

*Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (979) 732-2082 ten (10) days prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.*

316 Spring St.  
Columbus, TX 78934



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