

# Agriculture Newsletter

COLORADO COUNTY

JUNE 2022

## Digital Rice Selection Technology

Rice researchers at the [Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center at Beaumont](#) have begun a project that utilizes unmanned aerial vehicle, UAV, data to speed up rice cultivar selection and breeding.

The team will use UAVs to capture real-time images of rice crops, extract crop phenotypic traits from the images, and ultimately analyze that information to discover superior, high-yielding rice genotypes.

Yubin Yang, Ph.D., senior biosystems analyst at the Beaumont center, is directing the [Texas A&M AgriLife Research](#) project, which is funded by a three-year, \$650,000 grant from the [U.S. Department of Agriculture-National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#). The project seeks to bypass a major hurdle in data gathering – the labor-intensive and time-consuming process of manual field data collection using skilled labor.

Joining Yang on the project team are fellow AgriLife Research scientists Stanley Omar Samonte, Ph.D., hybrid rice breeder; Fugen Dou, Ph.D., crop nutrient management; Ted Wilson, Ph.D., center director and holder of the Jack B. Wendt Endowed Chair in Rice Breeding; Tanumoy Bera, Ph.D., post-doctoral research associate, all in the Texas A&M [Department of Soil and Crop Sciences](#); and Jing Zhang, Ph.D., associate professor in computer science, Lamar University, Beaumont.

Key research objectives include:

- Quantify key phenotypic traits of rice growth and development.
- Capture UAV images of rice genotypes at key rice growth stages.
- Develop advanced image processing algorithms to extract key phenological, morphological and architectural traits for key rice growth stages.
- Develop a digital rice selection system that screens for best-performing genotypes through data integration and multi-trait decision making.

*Article Courtesy of AgriLife Today <https://agrilifetoday.tamu.edu/2022/05/25/digital-rice-selection-technology/>*

## Mark Your Calendar

Our office will be closed on June 20th in observance of Juneteenth.

June 16th - Colorado County Row Crop Tour - 3 CEUs

June 28th - Eagle Lake Rice Field Day - 2 CEUs \*\*must attend field tour and evening program to receive both\*\*

June 29th - TDA Pesticide Waste Collection Event - Victoria



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## Colorado County Row Crop Tour

Tour includes two stops:

- Corn variety trial
- Cotton hybrid trial
- Concludes with a BBQ meal
- TDA Laws and Regulations Update Presentation

Sponsored by:  
Area Agri-businesses

Colorado County  
Row Crop Committee

Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension Service

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**Thursday, June 16,  
2022**

**Nada Community Center**

**Registration: 4:30 - 5:00 PM**

**Tour Departs @ 5:00 PM**

**3 CEUs  
will be offered\*\***

**\*\*In order to receive CEU Credits  
you MUST sign in at the Nada Com-  
munity Center and stay through the  
duration of the program**



*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*



# **48<sup>th</sup> Annual Eagle Lake Rice Field Day**

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**Tuesday, June 28, 2022**

**FIELD TOURS BEGIN AT 4:00 P.M.**

**Meal and Evening Program Following at the  
Eagle Lake Community Center**

**Keynote Speakers:**

**\*Dr. George Knapek  
Farm Policy Issues**

**\*Mr. Greg Baker  
Texas Department of Agriculture Laws and Regulations and  
Worker Protection Standards**

For Tickets and Information contact:  
Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Beaumont / Eagle Lake  
Wintermann Rice Research Station  
2963 FM 102  
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434  
(979) 234-3578





# UNWANTED AGRICULTURAL SURPLUS PESTICIDES?

DISPOSE OF THEM PROPERLY AT **NO COST** AND STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE

**Victoria County Pct #4 Yard, 226 Beck Road East, Inez, TX 77968**

## ACCEPTED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Outdated, discontinued or unwanted agricultural pesticides
- Insecticides
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Rodenticides
- Nematicides
- Growth Regulators
- Empty, Triple-Rinsed Plastic Pesticide Containers (55 gal. max)
- Empty or Partial Metal Drums

***PESTICIDES MUST BE KEPT IN ORIGINAL CONTAINERS, EVEN IF THE LABEL IS NOT PRESENT.***

***Unknown pesticides will be sampled and identified on site.***

Pesticide dealers and commercial businesses are not allowed to participate. For questions or additional information contact the Victoria County Extension Office at (361)575-4581, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Houston Regional Office at (713) 921-8200, or TDA Austin Headquarters at (512) 463-7622.

## MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTED:

- Explosive ordinances and ammunition
- Petroleum-Based Products
- Paints
- Medical Wastes
- Radioactive Substances
- Household Pesticides, Chemicals, and Waste
- Tires
- Fertilizers, Propane or Butane Cylinders
- Chlorinated Hydrocarbons
- Fumigant Canisters
- Used motor oil and other automobile fluids
- Auto Batteries
- Empty Totes
- Methyl-Bromide Cylinders
- Dioxins (2,4-5T, Silvex, TCDD, etc.)

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

**TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION**



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**

**CleanEarth**



**USAg**  
RECYCLING  
USAGRECYCLING.COM



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

Sincerely,



**Laramie Kettler**

**County Extension Agent—Ag/Natural Resources—Colorado County**

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**[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.*