

Agriculture Newsletter

COLORADO COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2023

Things to Know about Insects before the 2023 Growing Season

Dr. Dalton Ludwick
Assistant Professor & Extension Entomologist

Rice stink bug

Populations were substantially lower for most of the Coastal Bend this year as we experienced drought which then reduced their food sources. Following the growing season, most of us have received enough rainfall to support plant growth and development, including many of the grass species in the environment. We expect that this sudden moisture will aid rice stink bug populations to rebound to levels more similar to 2021 or even prior seasons.

Pyrethroid resistance is an ongoing issue for much of the Coastal Bend with greater levels of resistance detected in the southern reaches of District 11. Two Section 2(ee) bulletins have been issued for products containing dimethoate and more are anticipated. My lab will collect rice stink bug populations for one more season in 2023 to finalize our report on the pest in addition to field trials.

Pest thresholds

Thresholds for insects feeding on grain sorghum heads have been updated for the 2023 growing season to reflect more accurate analyses. These thresholds will be published in the 2023 version of the Sorghum Insect Management Guide on AgriLife Learn. In addition, we continue to update the cotton fleahopper thresholds as more data from new years and sites are collected and analyzed. Thresholds will be dynamic to reflect crop potential, crop value, and control costs.

Bt resistance

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to discuss the management programs for lepidopteran pests in corn and cotton with the product registrations (e.g., Bayer, Syngenta, Corteva). This process continues to take longer than expected and no new updates have been provided in the last few months. I anticipate that a new framework will be launched just before the 2023 growing season. In the meantime, growers and consultants should inspect all cotton for bollworms with greatest efforts in conventional through two-gene cotton.”



“Rice stink bug adult. Image by Pat Porter, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service”



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Entomology

ENTOMOLOGY.TAMU.EDU



Home Lawn Care

In partnership with Friends of
the Weimar Public Library

March 10, 2023

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Weimar Public Library

1 Jackson Square

Weimar, TX 78962

RSVP to Weimar Library

979-725-6608

The Friends of the Weimar Library and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office of Colorado County are pleased to announce an upcoming program scheduled for March 10, 2023. County Extension Agent Laramie Kettler will present on Home Lawn Care, at the Weimar Public Library located at 1 Jackson Square in Weimar. The program will begin at 10 am and conclude by 12 noon. The presentation will cover common lawn species, lawn management in a calendar year, disease identification and targeting lawn pests. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP to the Weimar Public Library at 979-725-6608. There is no cost for this program.

2
CEUs
(1 IPM; 1 GEN)

Pond Management

2023 Multi-County New Landowner Educational Series

March 17, 2023

Weimar Civic Center

1754 IH-10

Weimar, Texas 78962

Registration 1:00-1:30 pm

Program 1:30-5:00 pm

\$20/Person

To register online visit:

<https://washington.agrilife.org/nlo>

Topics to be covered:

Pond Construction

Aquatic Vegetation Management

Stocking Your Pond - Do's and Don'ts

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



For more information please contact:

Stacie Villarreal
Austin County
(979) 865-2072
Austin.Agrilife.org

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(979) 732-2082
Colorado.Agrilife.org

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(979) 277-6212 ext. 2
Washington.Agrilife.org



TEXAS *Casual*
COTTAGES
By PARTNERS IN BUILDING

Colorado County *Household* Hazardous Waste & Reusable Materials Collection Day

Saturday, March 18, 2023

Colorado County Fairgrounds & Ag Complex
1164 Crossroads Blvd.
(Hwy 71 and Crossroads Blvd.)
Columbus, Texas

Drop Off from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



Guidelines

- *Products in original containers
- *Properly seal and close containers
- *No mixing or consolidating products
- *Transport in trunk or bed of vehicle
- **Remain in your vehicle* and allow staff to remove product from your vehicle

What to Bring:

Home Chemicals:

- ☐ Household chemicals and cleaners
- ☐ Residential products Labeled "caution", "warning" or "poison"
- ☐ Aerosols
- ☐ Camp Stove Propane Bottles
- ☐ Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- ☐ Paints, Stains, & Varnishes
- ☐ Lead-Acid & Rechargeable Batteries
- ☐ Used Auto oil, filters, anti-freeze, transmission and brake fluid
- ☐ Pool Chemicals
- ☐ Lawn & Garden Chemicals

Recyclables:

- ☐ Plastics
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Aluminum
- ☐ Passenger Tires (up to 24", no rims)
- ☐ Electronics (computer components, cell phones, TV's under 27")

What **NOT** to Bring:

- ☐ No Glass
- ☐ No Dioxins
- ☐ No containers >5 gallons
- ☐ No Explosives or Ammunition
- ☐ No Medical & Pharmaceutical Items
- ☐ No Large Gas or Propane Cylinders
- ☐ No Tires over 24" with rims
- ☐ No Industrial, Commercial, or Business Waste
- ☐ No Wooden console TV's or TV's exceeding 27"
- ☐ No Roofing Tiles
- ☐ No Household Debris
- ☐ No lawnmowers, weed eaters, furniture

Event made possible through the Houston-Galveston Area Council and the TCEQ





SAVE THE DATE

BLUEBONNET MASTER GARDENER ANNUAL PLANT SALE

PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS SUPPORT THE FOUR COUNTIES
(AUSTIN, COLORADO, FAYETTE, AND WASHINGTON)
WITH GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR
SCHOLARSHIPS EACH YEAR, COMMUNITY GARDENS,
FREE-TO-THE-PUBLIC "LUNCH & LEARNS", AND OTHER
LOCAL ACTIVITIES.



SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2023

SALE STARTS AT 9AM
ENDS AT 5PM OR SOLD OUT

SEALY HISTORICAL PARK, 211
EAST MAIN STREET, SEALY.

QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL:
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE
EXTENSION SERVICE OF AUSTIN
COUNTY AT 979-865-2072

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO REQUIRE AN AUXILIARY AID, SERVICE OR ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS ACTIVITY ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE IN AUSTIN COUNTY AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM FOR ASSISTANCE. 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.

Colorado County Lunch - N - Learn Series 2023

Bring your lunch and learn.

Light refreshments; coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

It's Free!

Registration:

11:50am - 12:05pm

Program:

12:05pm - 12:55pm

No Pre-Registration Required

County
Services
Building

305 Radio Lane
Columbus,
Texas 78934

January 18

Spring
Garden
Planning

March 15

Blooming
Plants for
Landscape

February 15

Soil Testing
Composting

April 19

Controlling
Garden Pests

May 17

Plant
Propagation

Questions?

Texas A&M Agrilife
Extension Service of
Colorado County
(979) 732-2082



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. 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 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

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

Sincerely,



Laramie Kettler

County Extension Agent—Ag/Natural Resources—Colorado County

laramie.kettler@ag.tamu.edu

979-732-2082

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.