

HARRISON COUNTY
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION OFFICE
AUGUST AG/NR NEWSLETTER 2021



Hello
August!

AgriLife Extension Offers Online Preserving Your Harvest Series in August

With more people venturing into growing their own food after the 2020 pandemic, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is offering new home gardeners a three-part series of online classes in August on how to preserve their food beyond the harvest.

The Preserving Your Harvest Online Canning Classes will be from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Aug. 9, Aug. 10 and Aug. 12. Those interested in attending should preregister at

<https://preservingyourharvest.eventbrite.com>. The fee is \$15 for all three classes, with an additional \$2.55 Eventbrite fee.

“We were excited last year when we first offered this course to have 80 people attend, and we expect even more this year,” said Felice Acker, AgriLife Extension family and community health agent, Castro County. “This way of preserving your food was almost a lost art, and we want to make sure everyone new to the process knows how to do so properly.”

Preserving Your Harvest classes

The class schedule and topics are:

Aug. 9 – Introduction to canning – the why and how to can produce. This session will cover the science and safety and equipment used.

Aug. 10 – Water bath basics. This will be a discussion on what foods are safe and basic steps, with videos showing how to water bath jam/jelly, salsa and pickles.

Aug. 12 – Pressure canning basics. Participants will learn to preserve low-acid foods such as vegetables, meats, soups and more.



Black-eyed peas are one of the items discussed during the Preserving Your Harvest class. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo)



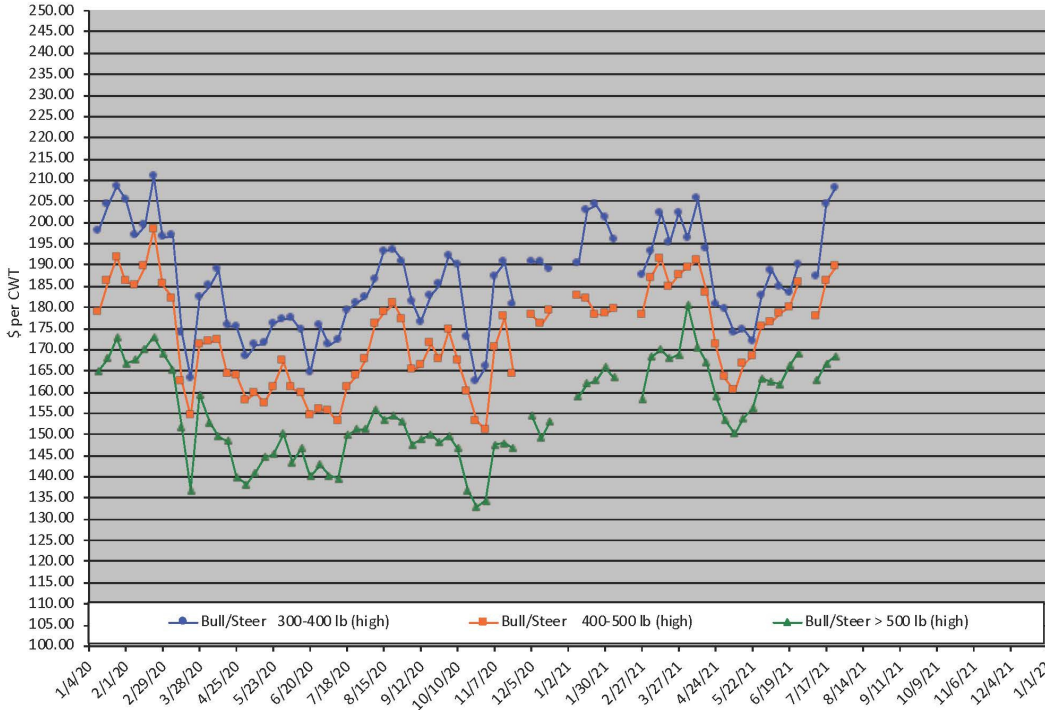
Cattle Price Trends

Calf Price Trends

Trend of the Highest Price Reported for Various Weight Calves, Average of 6 East & Central Texas Livestock Auctions

For a weekly email copy of this chart please subscribe at <http://beeffax.tamu.edu> or contact a Texas A&M AgriLife County Extension Agent

Chart created by Dr. Jason Banta, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

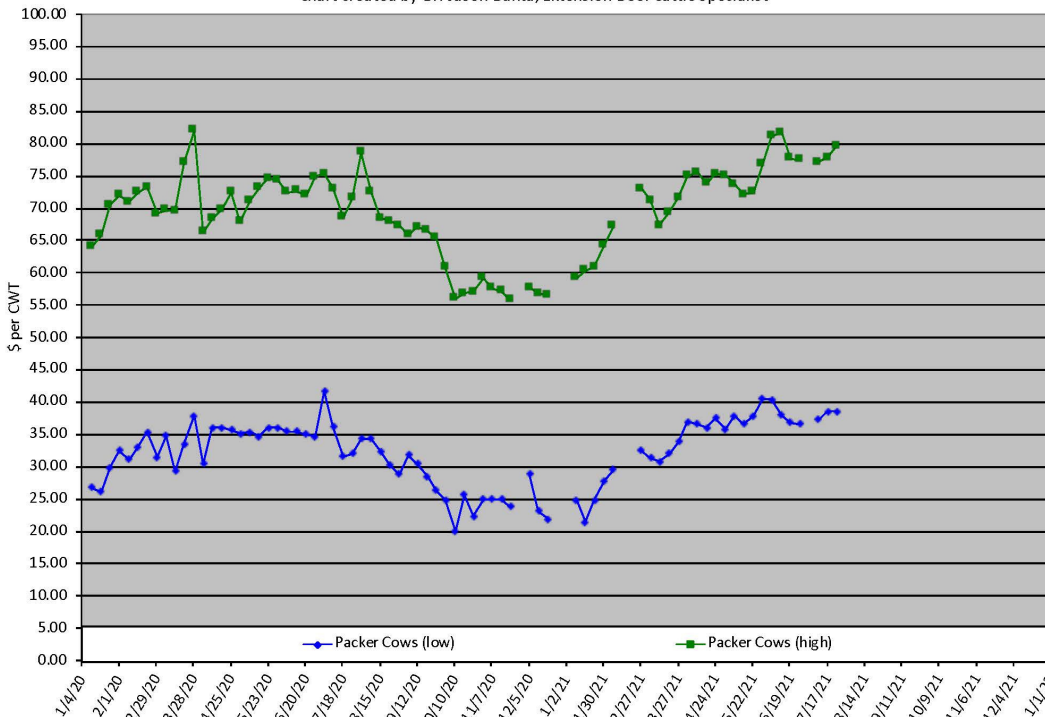


Packer Cow Price Trends

Trend of High and Low Prices Reported for Packer Cows, Average of 6 East & Central Texas Livestock Auctions

For a weekly email copy of this chart please subscribe at <http://beeffax.tamu.edu> or contact a Texas A&M AgriLife County Extension Agent

Chart created by Dr. Jason Banta, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist



Cattle price trends for the week ending 7/24/21. The graphs show the average of the highest prices reported for 6 livestock auction markets located in East and Central Texas.

Herbicide Applications During Dry, Hot Months

Invasive brush can decrease forage productivity for livestock or decrease brush diversity valuable for wildlife habitat. Most ranchers find themselves constantly considering options for brush management, weighing not only the cost and effectiveness, but also when they can find the time to complete the treatments. As temperatures continue to climb across the state and the chances of rainfall seem to be weakening, it's important to consider the effect this will have on any herbicide applications.

Treating weeds or brush with a leaf spray application when temperatures are as high as they have been lately will usually result in poor control for several reasons. Plants likely have slowed down their growth and will not move the herbicide down to the roots to control the plant as readily during this time. Additionally, insect damage during this time of year also decreases the amount of leaf available to take in the herbicide. Finally, hot temperatures make leaves waxier; a trait used by plants to retain moisture, but will decrease the herbicides' ability to get into the leaf. The next leaf spray season will be this fall (October) when it is recommended to treat plants such as huisache, Macartney rose, and Chinese tallowtree.

If you find yourself willing to brave the heat, what herbicide applications could you do during these hot months? Stem spray applications and cut-stump treatments may be done most any time during the year. Stem sprays involve spraying each stem of a brush plant, all the way around, about 12-18" high. This treatment is best on trees with three or less stems because more stems increases the opportunity to miss one of those buds underneath the ground and allow the plant to regrow! The mix for the stem spray method is simple: 25% triclopyr (such as Remedy Ultra) and 75% diesel. This should be applied in a straight stream directed right onto the stem. Plants must be left alone for one full year before removing the 'skeleton' or burning the pasture.

An alternative treatment is the cut-stump method. While this method requires more labor upfront, it is essential 100% effective if done correctly! The tree should be removed as low and flat as possible without any dirt or saw dust left on the remaining cut surface. This could be done with a shear, chainsaw, loppers, or a brush cutter (weedeater with a brush cutter attachment). A mixture of 15% triclopyr (such as Remedy Ultra) and 85% diesel will be applied onto the entire cut surface and any remaining stem. This treatment can be done any time of year, so keep in mind that December may provide more favorable weather for those doing the cutting!

When spraying with high temperatures, time your applications for early in the morning when temperatures are not as high. Never spray when temperatures exceed 90 degrees. Some herbicides (such as Remedy Ultra) are especially susceptible to volatilization, so care should be taken to protect desirable plants from accidental movement of the herbicide. Be sure to drink lots of water and take frequent breaks. No huisache tree is worth risking your health!

ARMY WORMS

Management. Fall armyworm outbreaks in pastures and hay fields often occur following a rain which apparently creates favorable conditions for eggs and small larvae to survive in large numbers. Hay fields with a dense canopy and vigorous plant growth are often more susceptible to armyworm infestations than less intensely fertilized and managed fields. Irrigated fields are also susceptible to fall armyworm infestations, especially during drought conditions. Infestations that develop in volunteer wheat and weedy grasses in ditches and around fields can be a source of armyworms that can move into adjacent crops.

Look for fall armyworm larvae feeding in the crop canopy during the late evening and early morning and during cool, cloudy weather. During hot days, look for armyworms low in the canopy and on the soil surface where they hide under loose soil and fallen leaves. Kneeling on the ground and parting the grass can reveal armyworms. A sweep net is very effective for sampling hay fields for fall armyworms. When fields are wet with dew or rain, armyworms can be detected by walking through the field with rubber boots as the worms will stick to the boots. Small larvae chew the green layer from the leaves, creating a “windowpane” effect and later notch the edges of leaves. Look for this feeding damage and if detected, look more closely to assess the infestation.

The key to managing fall armyworms is frequent inspection of fields to detect infestations before they have caused economic damage. **Once larvae are more than ¾ inch long, the quantity of foliage they eat increases dramatically. During their final 2-3 days of feeding, armyworms eat 80% of the total foliage consumed during their entire development.**

The density of armyworms sufficient to justify insecticide treatment depends on the stage of crop growth and value of the crop. Seedling plants can tolerate fewer armyworms than established plants. Infestations of more than 2-3 armyworms (1/2 inch or longer) per square foot may justify an insecticide application. If practical, apply insecticides early in the morning or late in the evening when armyworm larvae are most active and therefore most likely to come into contact with the insecticide spray.

If the field is near harvest, an early harvest, rather than an insecticide treatment, is an option. Once the field is cut, most of the armyworm will die due to lack of food and exposure to high temperatures. In some cases, armyworms can move into an adjacent field and continue to feed.



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION



Harrison Co.

Extension Fest. 2021

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 8:00AM-3:00PM

DOWNTOWN MARSHALL, TX

EVENTS TO INCLUDE:

5K & COLOR FUN RUN

9/11 MEMORIAL, FREE FACE PAINTING, "PASS ALONG" BULB SALE (MASTER GARDENERS), BULL PLOP, FARMER'S MARKET, DUNK BOOTH, COTTON CANDY, GAMES, FREE KIDS PLANTING EVENT, FOOD TRUCKS, GIVE-A-WAYS, COOKIE DECORATING, DWI SIMULATORS, WATER EROSION TRAILER, EDUCATIONAL AG TRAILER, TOUCH A TRUCK, SUGAR SHACK, FUNDRAISERS, EDUCATION, MUSIC & FAMILY FUN!!!

We are pleased to invite you to our first-ever Harrison County Extension Festival. The Harrison County Extension Office is a hub for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. We work hand in hand with educators and specialists to make sure everyone in our county is as successful as possible when it comes to agriculture, natural resources and family/community health. Our mission, as a member of the state's land-grant system, is to enrich Texas with comprehensive agricultural and life science knowledge and services to restore connections among people, agriculture, food, science and the economy.

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, gender identity, or any other classification protected by federal, state, or

Are We Being Invaded by Aliens?

It's true, but they may not be the kind of aliens that you traditionally think of. These alien species are plants or animals that do not originate in the area or region in which they are found. It's not that they come from another planet, but from a different country, state or even region of our state. If a species was not historically found living in a particular area where it is now found, then it is considered an alien. Alien species are also called **non-native, introduced** or **exotic organisms**. Native species are those that occur naturally in a region or habitat. The introduction of alien plants can potentially have a negative economic and environmental impact on the landscape, but not always. When an introduced plant species causes negative economic and environmental impact on the landscape and to human health, then it is called an **invasive species**.

Examples of non-native invasive plants growing out of control are Chinese tallowtree, Japanese honeysuckle, Chinese and European privet, Chinaberry, Japanese climbing fern, kudzu, salt cedar and giant reed; however, there are many others.

Understanding the importance of native, non-native and invasive species is very important. Trees and other vegetation growing in yards, on private and public land, on school campuses, along roadways, and in the community are significantly influenced by our activities. An alien species doesn't become a problem until it begins to out-compete the native species, thereby displacing it from its home. This is when an alien species becomes an invasive.

Learn to recognize the plants that have potential to harmfully impact trees and other vegetation in your community. It is possible to bring unique seeds back from a trip, plant them in your yard, and contribute to or be the one responsible for that plant invading and wiping out the other trees or vegetation in your neighborhood, state, or region. It can and unfortunately does happen. Be wise in your choices.

For more information, visit www.texasinvasives.org.



TEXAS A&M

FOREST SERVICE



Panola
& Harrison County
Soil and Water
Conservation Districts

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

HARRISON/PANOLA WILDLIFE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

This event is brought to you by:

Harrison & Panola Soil and Water Conservation Districts

**FREE
EVENT**



Guest Speaker:
Dr. Aaron Sumrall
CEA Ag/NR Matagorda County,
PHD in Wildlife Ecology &
featured in wildlife
documentaries throughout
several foreign countries.

Enjoy Door Prizes,
Catfish Dinner,
Vendors, Game Law
updates by Game
Warden Darrin
Peeples, Wild Hogs,
Trapping techniques
& White Tail Deer
Management
covered by Dr. Aaron
Sumrall.

**Vendors and Exhibits Open at 5PM
Catfish Dinner and Program Starts at 6PM**



SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 | RSVP 903-935-8413

MARSHALL CIVIC CENTER

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, gender identity, or any other classification protected by federal, state, or local law and

Annual East Texas Regional Forage Conference

SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

**GOLD HALL
101 ELM ST
HALLSVILLE, TEXAS
8:15am to 3:30 pm**

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

**3 CEU's
(2 General & 1 IPM)**

- 8:15 A.M. **Registration**
- 9:00 A.M. **Spraying Plan (Pre-Emergence, Early Season Control, Late season Control, & Winter Pasture Weed Control)**—
Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Texas A&M Extension Associate Professor and Forage Extension Specialist, Overton, TX
- 10:00 A.M. **Pesticide Adjuvants 101** —
Shane Colston—Precision Laboratories
- 11:00 A.M. **Break**
- 11:15 A.M. **Hay Storage & Forage Testing-**
Stephen Gowin, County Extension Agent—Agriculture & Natural Resources, Rains County
- 12:15 P.M. **Lunch** - Sponsored By Legacy Ag Credit, ACA
- 1:00 P.M. **Internal and External IPM**
Dr. Thomas Hairgrove, Associate Professor & Extension livestock & food systems coordinator—College Station, TX
- 2:00 P.M. **Break**
- 2:15 P.M. **How to Lease Land-**
Tiffany Dowell—Lashmett, Agriculture Law Specialist, Department of Agricultural Economics

**\$20.00 Per
Person
(Payable at door)**



Gregg County

**Kristy Marjason
Crop Agent**

SweetPro
PREMIUM FEED SUPPLEMENTS

RSVP is Mandatory to your respective Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service County Office by August 27, 2021 in order to guarantee admittance.

**SPONSORED BY TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE -
GREGG, HARRISON, PANOLA, RUSK, & UPSHUR COUNTIES**

Gregg: 903-236-8429

Harrison: 903-935-8413

Panola: 903-693-0300 Ext. 160

Rusk: 903-657-0376

Upshur: 903-843-4019

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

STAY IN TOUCH

HARRISON COUNTY
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