

HARRISON COUNTY  
AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

**SEPTEMBER**

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TEXAS A&M  
**AGRILIFE**  
EXTENSION

# Stockpiling Bermudagrass or Bahiagrass

A different winter feeding approach, other than hay, could be the use of standing or stockpiled warm season perennials (such as bermudagrass or bahiagrass). These forages are allowed to accumulate in the field for grazing during fall and early winter. Stockpiled bermudagrass can provide the required nutrition for dry, pregnant cows through January if the appropriate procedure is followed. Producers should plan on providing approximately 45 to 60 days of grazing with the dormant bermudagrass. In most instances, stockpiled bermudagrass should be used up by January. Once the stockpiled bermudagrass is completely grazed, a shift to another winter feeding option (cool season forages and/or hay).

Adequate moisture combined with the appropriate fertility program is required to produce the desired bermudagrass quantity and nutritive value. If fertilizer is not applied after cutting or grazing in August, producers may still take advantage of accumulated forage during the fall. There will not be as much forage accumulated and forage nutritive value will be lower. The forage, however, may still be utilized, providing appropriate supplementation is provided. If adequate moisture is not received during September, October and November, little bermudagrass will be produced and grazing initiation may be delayed.

Steps to stockpile bermudagrass/bahiagrass include:

1. Graze pasture to a 2-3" stubble height or harvest the final cutting of hay in preparation for fertilization approximately 8 weeks prior to first anticipated frost.
2. Apply 60 to 75 lbs of Nitrogen and phosphorus and potassium based on soil test recommendations.
3. Defer pastures from grazing and allow forage to accumulate until frost or forage is needed.
4. Initiate grazing in response to the need for hay supplementation.
5. When stockpiled forage is completely grazed, it will be time to start traditional hay feeding program or initiate grazing cool season forages.
6. Be sure to provide free choice mineral supplement to cattle and monitor body condition of the cattle.

***Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson***  
***Forage Extension Specialist***

***[foragefax.tamu.edu](http://foragefax.tamu.edu)***



## **Use of Net Feed Intake (NFI) to Improve Feed Efficiency in Beef Cattle**

### **• Objectives**

- To examine the relationships between NFI and performance traits in growing cattle
- To determine if observed differences in NFI were associated with differences in ultrasound measures of carcass composition
- To identify physiological measures that are predictive of NFI
- 

**Approach:** Historically, the beef industry has not attempted to select cattle for improved feed efficiency because of the difficulty and expense of measuring feed intake in cattle, and because the traditional measure of feed efficiency (feed-to-gain ratio) is inversely related genetically to growth and size. Net feed intake is a new feed efficiency trait that quantifies genetic variation in feed intake beyond that related to differences in growth and body weight. Similar to a golf score, an animal with a negative NFI is more efficient because it eats less feed than expected, whereas a positive-NFI animal is less efficient because it eats more feed than expected.

Individual feed intake of growing steers (Study 1; N = 180) and bulls (Study 2; N = 60) were measured using electronic gate feeders, and NFI determined as actual intake minus expected intake from multiple linear regression analysis. Performance traits and ultrasound measures of carcass composition were measured and blood samples collected to measure various metabolites and hormones.

**Results to Date:** Net feed intake was not correlated with body weight or ADG but was positively correlated with feed intake and feed conversion ratio (FCR). In the first study, steers identified as having low NFI (more efficient) had similar body weights and ADG, but ate 17% less feed and had 19% lower FCR compared to steers with high NFI (less efficient). The high NFI steers had greater back fat thickness, but similar ribeye areas compared to low NFI steers, suggesting that low NFI steers were slightly leaner. These results demonstrate that NFI is an alternative measure of feed efficiency that may provide opportunities to identify more efficient cattle independent of growth traits, and it should be investigated further for increasing U.S. beef cattle production efficiency.



## Head to the county clerk's office

All livestock brands must be registered at the county clerk's office in every county where the owner has livestock, according to Texas Agriculture Code. The registration will require identifying the brand itself, along with the location where the brand or other identifying information is placed on the animal.

Brand holders will have a six-month period, through Feb. 28, to renew their brand registration in each county where they have livestock, Lashmet said. If they fail to renew their registration in that time frame, then the brand will essentially be up for grabs, and anyone will be able to select and register the brand in his or her name.

There may be different procedures for the renewal at different county clerk's offices, so brand holders should contact the applicable offices to find out the best way to complete the renewal of the registration. Fees for the renewal also vary by county, and more information can be obtained from county clerks across the state.

Once producers renew their brands, the brands will be in place until Aug. 30, 2031. The use of a brand or mark that is not registered with the county clerk will constitute a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine up to \$500, according to the Texas Agriculture Code.





Panola  
& Harrison County  
Soil and Water  
Conservation Districts

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
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**

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**SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 | RSVP 903-935-8413**

**MARSHALL CIVIC CENTER**

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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*



# NEW PROVISIONS OF TEXAS FARM ANIMAL LIABILITY ACT GO INTO EFFECT SEPT. 1

## **Texas livestock owners must now post signs to get legal protection**

Anyone who owns livestock in Texas, including horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, fowl and honey bees in a managed colony, need to be aware of key changes to the Texas Farm Animal Liability Act that will be effective Sept. 1, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agricultural law expert.

New signs must be posted to get Texas Farm Animal Liability Act legal protection beginning Sept. 1. The Texas Legislature passed and Gov. Greg Abbott signed House Bill 365, making important changes to the Texas Farm Animal Liability Act, said Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, AgriLife Extension agriculture law specialist, Amarillo.

Lashmet spoke at the recent Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course on the Texas A&M University campus and said AgriLife Extension agents across the state have been getting calls for more information on House Bill 365.

The Texas Farm Liability Act was initially passed in 1996, but a Texas Supreme Court case in 2020 essentially ruled the act did not apply to injuries on working farms and ranches, Lashmet said.

The Texas Legislature came back with House Bill 365 to ensure it does apply to those entities, clearly outlining all activities, species and situations that are covered. In addition to ensuring applicability to working ranches, the amendments also added bees as a covered species and made clear that the act does apply to injured employees and independent contractors as well.

### **Protection is not automatic**

Previously, a sign was required only for farm animal professionals, but farm and ranch owners and lessees must also now hang a sign at or near their arena, corral or stable to get the statute's protections.

"While livestock owners have enjoyed the Farm Animal Liability Act's protection for years, House Bill 365 made important changes to expand the scope of the Act in response to a Texas Supreme Court decision last year," she said. "In doing so, there is a new signage requirement that producers need to be aware of and take action on."

The required language has been slightly modified by the new bill and must read as follows effective Sept. 1:

#### *Warning*

*Under Texas law (chapter 87, civil practice and remedies code), a farm animal professional or farm owner or lessee is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in farm animal activities, including an employee or independent contractor, resulting from the inherent risks of farm animal activities.*

"Because injuries happen around farm animals, even when a person takes precautions, having the Farm Animal Liability Act as an available defense is important for all livestock owners across Texas," Lashmet said.

Texas Farm Bureau and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association will have signs available, she said, or individuals can make their own.

**Table 3. Average minimum temperatures for Texas gardening zones.**

Texas gardening zone	USDA Hardiness Zone	Average minimum temperature
Zone I	Zone 6	-10–0°F
Zone II	Zone 7	0–10°F
Zone III	Zone 8	10–20°F
Zone IV	Zone 9A	20–25°F
Zone V	Zone 9B	25–30°F

**Table 1. Average planting dates for fall vegetables in various growing regions of Texas.**

Vegetables	Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V
Beans, snap bush	Jul 15	Aug 1	Sep 1	Sep 10	Oct 1
Beans, Lima bush	Jul 15	Jul 25	Aug 20	Sep 1	Sep 15
Beets	Aug 15	Sep 1	Oct 15	Nov 1	Dec 15
Broccoli	Jul 15	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 1
Brussels sprouts	Jul 15	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 1
Cabbage	Jul 15	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 1
Carrots	Jul 15	Aug 15	Nov 10	Nov 20	Dec 15
Cauliflower	Jul 15	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 1
Chard, Swiss	Aug 1	Aug 15	Oct 1	Oct 20	Dec 15
Collards	Aug 1	Aug 15	Oct 10	Oct 20	Dec 15
Corn, sweet	Jul 1	Aug 10	Aug 20	Sep 10	Sep 20
Cucumber	Jul 15	Aug 1	Sep 1	Sep 10	Oct 1
Eggplant	Jul 1	Jun 15	Jul 1	Jul 10	Aug 1
Garlic (cloves)	Jul	Aug	Oct	Nov	Dec
Kohlrabi	Aug 15	Sep 1	Sep 10	Oct 1	Nov 1
Lettuce, leaf	Sep 1	Sep 15	Oct 10	Nov 1	Dec 1
Mustard	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 1	Dec 1	Dec 15
Onion (seed)	Not recommended	Not recommended	Nov 1	Dec 1	Dec 15
Parsley	Sep 15	Oct 1	Oct 10	Nov 1	Dec 1
Peas, southern	Jun 15	Jul 1	Aug 1	Aug 15	Sep 1
Pepper	Jun 1	Jun 15	Jul 1	Jul 15	Aug 1
Potato	Not recommended	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Not recommended
Pumpkin	Jun 1	Jul 1	Aug 1	Aug 10	Sep 1
Radish	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 25	Dec 1	Dec 15
Spinach	Aug 15	Sep 1	Nov 15	Dec 1	Dec 15
Squash, summer	Aug 1	Aug 15	Sep 10	Oct 1	Oct 10
Squash, winter	Jun 15	Jul 1	Aug 10	Sep 1	Sep 10
Tomato	Jun 1	Jun 15	Jul 1	Jul 10	Aug 1
Turnip	Sep 1	Oct 15	Nov 1	Dec 1	Dec 15



**Figure 1. Gardening regions of Texas.**

### Tips for a successful fall harvest

- Plan for adequate sunlight.
- Give roots and fruits the most sun.
- Use leafy greens in sun or in slightly shadier garden areas.
- Amend your soil with compost.
- Choose regionally adapted plants.
- Visit your county AgriLife Extension office for more help.



# Best Varieties for Texas Gardens

<b>Asparagus</b>	Jersey Giant, Jersey Knight
<b>Beans</b>	<i>Snap:</i> Blue Lake, Derby, Roma II, Topcrop <i>Pinto:</i> Arapaho, Dwarf Horticultural <i>Lima:</i> Henderson Bush, Jackson Wonder, King of the Garden
<b>Beets</b>	Detroit Dark Red, Ruby Queen
<b>Broccoli</b>	Green Magic, Packman, Premium Crop
<b>Cabbage</b>	Bravo, Market Prize, Rio Verde
<b>Carrots</b>	Imperator 58, Nantes Half Long, Red Core Chantenay
<b>Cauliflower</b>	Snow Crown, Snowball Y Improved
<b>Chinese cabbage</b>	Jade Pagoda, Michihili
<b>Cucumbers</b>	<i>Slicers:</i> Dasher II, Poinsett 76, Sweet Slice, Sweet Success <i>Pickling:</i> Calypso, Carolina, County Fair 87
<b>Eggplant</b>	Black Beauty, Black Magic, California White, Early Long Purple
<b>Oriental eggplant</b>	Ichiban, Millionaire, Pingtong Long
<b>Garlic</b>	California Early, California White, Elephant Garlic
<b>Greens</b>	<i>Collards:</i> Blue Max, Georgia Southern <i>Swiss Chard:</i> Bright Lights, Lucullus, Ruby
<b>Kale</b>	Dwarf Blue Curled Vates, Green Curled, Nero di Toscano
<b>Lettuce</b>	<i>Crisphead or Iceberg:</i> Mission <i>Looseleaf:</i> Red Sails, Salad Bowl <i>Butterhead or Bibb:</i> Buttercrunch, Esmeralda, Summer Bibb <i>Romaine:</i> Paris Island, Winter Density
<b>Melons</b>	<i>Cantaloupe:</i> Caravelle, Minnesota Midget, Mission, Primo <i>Honeydew:</i> Sweet Delight, TAM Dew
<b>Mustard</b>	Tendergreen, Southern Giant Curl
<b>Okra</b>	Cajun Delight, Clemson Spineless, Emerald, Lee
<b>Onions</b>	<i>Bulb:</i> Candy (Long Day), Early Grano 502 (Short Day), Granex (Short Day), Texas 1015 Y (Short Day) <i>Green:</i> Evergreen Long White, White Spear
<b>Pepper</b>	<i>Bell:</i> Big Bertha, Camelot, Jupiter <i>Hot:</i> Hot Jalapeño, TAM Hidalgo Serrano <i>Sweet jalapeño-shaped:</i> TAM Mild Jalapeño
<b>Potatoes</b>	<i>Irish: Red:</i> Norland, Purple Viking, Red LaSoda <i>Irish: White:</i> Kennebec <i>Sweet:</i> Beauregard, Centennial, Jewel
<b>Pumpkin</b>	<i>Large:</i> Big Max, Connecticut Field <i>Medium:</i> Bumpkin, Howden, Jack O'Lantern <i>Small:</i> Jack-Be-Little, Lady Godiva, Munchkin
<b>Radish</b>	Champion, White Icicle
<b>Southern peas</b>	<i>Purple hull:</i> Texas Pink Eye <i>Cream:</i> Texas Cream 8, Zipper Cream <i>Black eye:</i> California #5 <i>Crowder:</i> Mississippi Silver
<b>Spinach</b>	Bloomsdale, Early Hybrid, Melody
<b>Squash</b>	<i>Summer:</i> Burpee's Butterstick, Dixie, Multipik <i>Zucchini:</i> Black Magic, Eight Ball Tigress, Gold Rush <i>Winter:</i> Butternut types, Cushaw, Royal (Acorn)
<b>Sweet corn</b>	Kandy Korn (se), Silver Queen (white, su), Summer Sweet (sh2), Sweet G-90 (bicolor, su)
<b>Tomatillo</b>	<i>Tomatillo:</i> De Milpa (Purple), Goldie (Yellow), Toma Verde
<b>Tomatoes</b>	<i>Medium 4–11 oz:</i> Amelia, Better Bush, Celebrity <i>Small &lt;3 oz:</i> Cherry Grande, Gold Nugget, Juliet <i>Paste:</i> Roma, Viva Italia
<b>Turnips</b>	Tokyo Cross, White Lady
<b>Watermelon</b>	<i>Standard:</i> Jamboree, Petite Sweet, Supersweet <i>Seedless:</i> Gem Dandy, Summersweet 5244, Tri X-313



*Stay in touch*

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