

KLEBERG-KENEDY AGRICULTURE



Second Quarter
Vol. 1

June 2015

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension
Kleberg-Kenedy County
729 E. Yoakum
P.O. Box 1119
Kingsville, TX 78364
Phone: 361-595-8566
Fax: 361-592-7741

Frank Escobedo
County Extension Agent-Ag/NR
f-escobedo@tam.u.edu

Mark your Calendar!

*Kleberg
County
Crop Tour*

June 24th

See page 5
For more details

As producers start
rebuilding or ex-
panding their herd
remember to have
your bulls tested
for

Trichomoniasis

Fun Fact

The Mediterranean Diet—It's not Meat-Free

by Beef Cattle Browsing TAMU Animal Science

Several research studies have shown the Mediterranean Diet can help with problems associated with the heart, diabetes, and hypertension. There is no one Mediterranean diet, but they are generally characterized by higher than typical amounts of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, beans, nuts, olive oil, fish, and little if any red meat. However, a recent report by the 2015 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee found that red and processed meats are higher in most Mediterranean-style diets than in some other diets recommended to improve health, such as DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) and the USDA Dietary Guidelines. More evidence is accumulating that no diet is a miracle and that red meat and animal fats are not as harmful as many once thought and, unfortunately, still do, including some "experts."

<http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines/2015-scientific-report/>

Texas Sugarcane Aphid News
<http://txscan.blogspot.com>

Kingsville Farmers Market

Fourth Saturday of each month
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Next market date is June 27th

Located at the downtown pavilion 325 N. 6th Street
For information and vendor applications please visit our website
www.kingsvilletexasfarmersmarket.com



From the files of

Veterinary Entomology

Cattle Care

Vaccination and parasite control

Vaccination will not protect your herd or checkbook without proper parasite control and nutrition. Christine Navarre, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVIM, of LSU, says she “won’t even talk about vaccination until we’ve addressed parasite control and nutrition. Without managing those two issues, they may not get all they can out of a vaccination program. UC-Davis lists parasites as one of the common causes of vaccine failure. A healthy immune response is necessary for vaccine to be effective. “The timing of parasite control is so important that I try to time vaccinations to when parasite control is necessary, NOT the other way around,” Navarre says. “I want to know that timing for parasite control is right because it is more critical than timing for vaccination in many herds.”

Effective parasite treatment and monitoring

With the onset of spring, cow-calf and stocker operators need to begin planning their control programs for internal parasites. A trial conducted by Merck Animal Health included the treatment of over 600 stocker steers with a combination of Safe-Guard (fenbendazole) and generic ivermectin prior to turnout on Mississippi pastures. This treatment achieved 99% reduction in parasites shed, monitored with fecal egg counts. Follow up treatments with Safe-Guard range cubes were provided at days 28 and 56. Treatment cost was \$5.40/head and gains were \$53/head (23 lbs./head). It was also noted that even in arid Western regions, ranchers can see a 20 lbs. gain in average weaning weights with proper deworming programs.



Extra Lean Ground Beef now certified heart-healthy

In February it was announced that the American Heart Association has certified Extra Lean Ground Beef (96% lean, 4% fat) and will now be recognized with the Heart-Check mark.

This brings the extra lean beef recognized items to a total of 8:

Extra Lean Ground Beef

Bottom Round Steak

Sirloin Tip Steak

Top Sirloin Petite Roast, Boneless

Top Sirloin Strips

Top Sirloin Filet

Top Sirloin Kabob

Top Sirloin Steak, Boneless, Center Cut

“Beef has many nutritional benefits and having the American Heart Association certify yet another beef cut empowers consumers to feel good about including beef in their diet, not only for its great taste but for its nutritional value,” said Jo Stanko, a cow-calf operator from Steamboat, CO, and vice chair for the Checkoff’s nutrition and health subcommittee.

Cotton Spin: What is the quality of the Chinese cotton reserves?

By Southwest Farmpress

The answers to the opening question are a) unknown, b) likely mixed, and c) good enough for you to still worry about. Of those answers, the first one is certain. The last two are my opinion, and I have an admitted bias for worrying. Here is the background. Between 2011 and 2013, the Chinese government bought up a lot of domestic cotton at prices above \$1.40 per pound and tucked it away in their government reserve. (They also put some foreign imports in the reserve, but most of it was domestic Chinese production.) Today some fifty million bales remain in that reserve. This cotton is out of circulation—for the time being. Separate studies by USDA and Texas Tech University suggest that the price effect of releasing bales from that stockpile range from dramatically weakening to mildly weakening, depending on how quickly the reserve inventory is whittled down over the next decade. The price weakness results from Chinese mills substituting old crop reserve bales for foreign imports.

The prediction of a price weakening supply response assumes that one bale can substitute perfectly for another. But of course it is more complicated than that. One key point is that if the quality of the cotton in the reserve is poor, then Chinese import demand will persist, or perhaps even improve, because quality foreign cotton will be needed to blend with inferior Chinese cotton. Among cotton analysts, the more bullish market opinions lately include a strong assumption that widespread inferior quality of the Chinese reserve cotton will keep Chinese import demand from declining – and perhaps even boost Chinese imports. I hope the bullish market opinion is correct. I have room for both hopefulness and worry because, as I noted at the beginning, the real answer is unknown. Nobody knows the range of quality of the Chinese reserve. I seriously doubt if the Chinese know. I know of no representative, random sample data of reserve cotton quality with which to make a reliable forecast of the average quality. The only observations we have are results of reserve auctions, and I would not consider those necessarily representative. There is no basis for judging whether the auctions were of their best, average, or worst quality cotton.

So, recognizing the considerable uncertainty, I will at least suggest the following: 1) if most domestic Chinese cotton comes from Xinjiang Province, then 3) probably a lot of the reserve cotton was produced in Xinjiang, which is an arid desert where the cotton is 100 percent irrigated. In many respects Xinjiang resembles the irrigated desert production of Arizona or the San Joaquin Valley. Like the Far West U.S., I would expect the cotton in Xinjiang to have relatively more stable quality, certainly in comparison to other Chinese regions, and perhaps even compared to Texas cotton. I am thinking mainly about color grades since it doesn't rain much in Xinjiang, but perhaps also other environmentally influenced fiber qualities like micronaire—and perhaps uniformity. Other fiber qualities are more influenced by genetics, and I am in no position to make judgments about that. So my final suggestion then is that before the fact there is little reason to suspect that at least half (i.e., the Xinjiang sourced cotton) of the Chinese reserve is of inferior quality. That brings the issue down to a numerical question. If only half of the Chinese reserve is reasonable quality, that is enough to significantly substitute for foreign imports and weaken your market price. And that is enough to worry about.

Range Management/Rebuilding the Herd



Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Time : 9:00 A.M.

Where: Extension Office (729 E. Yoakum)

Cost: \$10/person (pay at the door)

RSVP: Please let us know if you are coming. 361-595-8566

2 CEU's offered: 1 general, 1 laws/regulations

Topics:

Plant identification, target specie timing of application (herbicide), new products (what's working), cost of rebuilding the herd, top things to plan for as you rebuild, what's binging the most money at the sale barn, how long will sale prices remain high.



2015 Kleberg County Crops Tour

Wednesday

JUNE 24, 2015

Registration
8:00 AM

Tour starts at
GULF COAST COOP

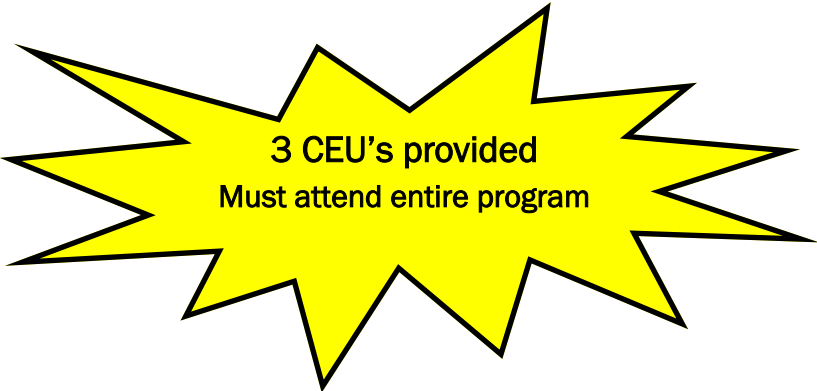
Tour ends at
Dick Kleberg Park

Crop Tour

- ◆ Grain Sorghum Varieties
- ◆ Cotton Varieties

Other Topics

- ◆ Weed Resistance to Herbicides
- ◆ Drones in Agriculture
- ◆ How to Judge Soil Health
- ◆ Entomology Scouting
- ◆ Farm Bill /Legislative Highlights
- ◆ FSA Updates
- ◆ Boll Weevil Updates



3 CEU's provided
Must attend entire program

FEE

(covers program costs):

\$10/person

Includes Lunch

Please RSVP

361-595-8566

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Frank Escobedo-CEA
Ag/Natural Resources

729 E. Yoakum
P.O. Box 1119
Kingsville, TX 78364
Phone: 361-595-8566

Email:
f-escobedo@tamu.edu

just so you know

Pesticide License Holders

Extension Service continues to be a leader in offering CEU opportunities to pesticide license holders. CEU offerings must adhere by TDA (Texas Department of Agriculture) standards and must meet criteria set by recertification guidelines. When attending local or out of town CEU programs, it is the sole responsibility of the applicator to sign-in, have their pesticide license number, complete the entire program course for the number of CEU's offered, and keep their certificate as required by TDA (typically one year after the renewal process).

The following is a list of recommendations/facts for license holders:

- ◆ **Where is your license:**
Carry copies of your license in your vehicle or take a picture of your license on your cell phone
- ◆ **When can I attend CEU programs:**
Start early, search TDA website for offerings, know your time frame and the type of license you hold, the longer you wait the more time and money it will cost. Remember, your lack of planning does not constitute an emergency on someone else.
- ◆ **How many CEU's do I need:**
Private Applicators require 15 CEU's every five years with a minimum of 2 CEU's in Laws and Regulations and 2 CEU's in IPM. A maximum of 10 CEU's may be earned through an approved internet or correspondence course.
Commercial/Non-Commercial Applicators require 5 CEU's per year with at least 1 CEU each from two of the following subjects: laws and regulations, integrated pest management or drift minimization. May earn all 5 CEU's through an approved internet or correspondence course, but only every other year.
- ◆ **If I take more CEU's than required can they be used for the next renewal cycle:**
No, CEU's cannot be carried over.
- ◆ **If I lose my CEU certificate, can I get a copy:**
It is the applicator's responsibility to keep track of their certificates. There is no recourse for lost certificates from the Extension Service. There is no single source for tracking individual certificates.
- ◆ **What happens if I don't receive a renewal notice from TDA:**
It is the responsibility of the applicator to keep track of their renewal /expiration deadline. Failure to receive a renewal notice from TDA for whatever reason (lost in the mail, change of address, etc.,) does not give an applicator an excuse or exemption.

From the Desk of Herb Schwertner,

Kleberg-Kenedy County Farm Service Agency, County Director

County Committee Election Nominations

The Kleberg-Kenedy County Farm Service Agency (FSA) is seeking persons as nominees for candidates that will run for a three-year term on the Farmer elected County Office Committee. Elections for one member to LAA-3 (Local Administrative Area) will be held December 7, 2015.

The election area (LAA-3) covers the southern portion of Kleberg County from FM-628 and Loyola Beach to the county line and includes Riviera and all of Kenedy County.

Nominations for electing a member to the FSA County Committee may be made at the Kleberg-Kenedy County FSA Office **no later than August 3, 2015**. Participation and nominees from producers and groups representing socially disadvantaged producers, minority, female, or underrepresented groups is encouraged.

The United States Secretary of Agriculture, and Texas FSA have placed a specific emphasis on seeking involvement in the County Committee process by socially disadvantaged individuals, minorities and women to insure the committees accurately reflect demographics of those communities they serve. However, nominations from **all** eligible voters are welcome because a successful election requires maximum participation from all eligible individuals.

A nominating petition must be signed by the nominee stating willingness to serve if elected. Nomination forms and fact sheets are available from the Farm Service Agency Office or on-line at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections>.

To be eligible to hold office candidates must have an interest in a farming or ranching operation and must reside in the LAA; be of legal voting age, eligible to vote in the LAA where they are a candidate or represent a legal entity that is eligible; and the candidate should have legal eligibility to hold public office. Nominations for the LAA may be made by any producer in the county.

To vote, a person/legal entity must be a legal voter and have an interest in a farm or ranch as owner, operator, tenant, or sharecropper. The voter shall be eligible to participate in any FSA program that is provided for by law, regardless of the status of funding. Eligible voters will vote from November 9 to December 7, 2014.

For **nomination forms** or more information about the County Office Committee and the election process, contact the Kleberg-Kenedy Farm Service Agency office at (361) 592-4349.



Odem-Edroy Location

From I-37 take exit 22. Head east on FM 234 for 1 mile and turn left on CR 1747 for 2.3 miles.

Tour Dates and Times:

Tuesday, June 16 – 2:00

Thursday, June 18 – 2:00

Friday, June 19 – 2:00

Please RSVP to Robert Lemon via email or telephone

979-324-7568

lemon2@dow.com

You're invited to an exclusive event – the 2015 Diamond Showcase

This exclusive event offers:

- A unique opportunity to interact with and learn from local industry experts on the latest technologies for crop protection, seeds, and traits;
- An interactive, field-based tour of the broad Dow AgroSciences crop protection, PhytoGen® cottonseed and Mycogen Seeds portfolios, including the Enlist™ Weed Control System; and
- An opportunity for one-on-one discussions on how to apply this information to your operation.

Be sure to save the date and look for a more detailed invitation in the near future.



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Please contact our office with name, address, phone number changes or to be added or removed from our mailing list.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

<http://kleberg.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 any AgriLife Extension event, are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office (361-595-8566) at least two weeks in advance of the program to see how reasonable accommodations can be made.

Beef Cattle Short Course

August 3-5, 2015

College Station, Texas

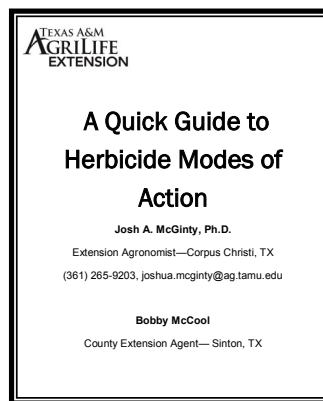
For more information

Phone 979-845-6931

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/people/cleere-jason/>

New Resource for producers/land owners

Josh McGinty (Agronomist) and Bobby McCool (San Patricio Agent) have put together a list of Herbicides with their Modes of Action. Please come by the Extension Office to pick of a copy or call and we will mail you a copy.



Private Pesticide Applicator Training

Date: Tuesday July 7, 2015

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Where: County Extension Office (729 E. Yoakum)

Cost: \$50.00 / person (due by deadline)

RSVP: No later than June 26, 2015 (361-595-8566)

**** Information on test scheduling & preparing will be provided****

