

Articles of Interest

Shannon Dietz, Harris County Extension Agent, ANR



By Jennifer Whitlock
Field Editor

"Bull Reproductive Soundness May Be Affected By Frostbite"

In the wake of Winter Storm Uri, ranchers should consider conducting breeding soundness exams (BSEs) on bulls to determine if those animals were affected by frostbite.

[Click here to view the entire article.](#)



By Jennifer Whitlock
Field Editor

"Texas Hunter Ready For 2021 Spring Turkey Season"

Fruitful nesting seasons in 2019 and 2020 contribute to a promising outlook for this year's Texas spring turkey hunting season.

[Click here to view the entire article.](#)



Poison Hemlock is already up and growing!

- Victor Shelton, NRCS State
Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

"Spring Pasture Management Impacts Overall Production"

Yes, it's getting to be that time of year — new spring green growth! The cows start complaining about eating hay and bellowing when they hear my voice or even just see me. It's not that the hay is any less delectable, it's just not what they know is available across the fence. It's about like a kid walking by a candy store; the focus is on the treat.

[Click here to view the entire article](#)

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New animals should be quarantined for at least 30 days and better yet, 60 days before being introduced into the herd.

- Steve Boyles, OSU Extension Beef Specialist

"Biosecurity Considerations when Transitioning Newly Purchased Cattle Into The Herd"

The objective is to avoid new diseases introduced through replacement stock and airborne diseases. Typically, new animals are quarantined for at least 30 days and more typically for 60 days before being introduced into the herd. If on-site, the isolation area should be of some distance and downwind from other animals. Practicing all-in, all-out procedures will make it easier to clean and reduce opportunities by personnel to introduce contaminants to the main herd. Minimize cross-contamination of feeding/watering equipment. Here are some suggested procedures:

[Click here to view the entire article](#)



The online Back to the Basics Beef Cattle Series will offer classes from April to October. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo)

"Back To The Basics Series On Beef Cattle Production Offered Online"

BEXAR CO., Texas — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office for Bexar County will offer an online Back to the Basics Beef Cattle Series from April through October.

[Click here to view the entire article](#)



Even into early 2021, 43% of shoppers are buying more meat than pre-pandemic, with 68% buying a wider variety of meat types and cuts. (Photo by Mike Tinnion on Unsplash)

"Consumers Increase Meat Consumption During 2020"

WASHINGTON — The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way food consumers shop and eat, and meat reaped the benefits.

[Click here to view the entire article](#)

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To date, the series includes three short videos ranging in topics from feral swine damage to farms, ranches, and levee systems to archaeological sites, native wildlife, and natural resources. (USDAAPHIS, YouTube)

"New USDA Series Highlights Stories About Invasive Feral Swine"

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites you to watch the new video series—Feral Swine in America—which chronicles the impacts of feral swine damage on American livelihoods and ecosystems through personal stories. Listen to farmers, ranchers, land managers, conservationists, and others as they describe their experiences dealing with feral swine damage to agriculture and natural resources.

[Click here to view the entire article](#)



Remove protective covering once overnight freezing temperatures are no longer in the forecast.

"Plant Freeze Recovery Tips"

Now that the record-shattering cold has left Texas, you now may be turning your attention to the plants in your landscape and wondering what you should do for freeze recovery.

[Click here to view the entire article](#)



The leaves of this plant appear glossy due to the moist cold, but they are not damaged internally, and will recover just fine.



Prune out only broken stems or branches.

By Daphne Richards

Better Living for Texans

Lora Jorgensen, Harris County Extension Agent, BLT
Kristina Brown, Harris County Extension Agent, BLT



Simple Green Smoothie



Makes: 2 Servings

Total Cost: \$\$\$\$

Add kale or spinach to this fruit smoothie for a quick and delicious breakfast or snack.

Ingredients

- 1 cup kale or spinach
- 1 banana, medium
- 1 cup low fat milk (or optional coconut milk or almond milk)
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 apple, medium (cored and sliced)
- 1 cup frozen fruit (all one fruit or a combination of mixed frozen fruit)
- flax seeds, 1 Tablespoon (optional)
- chia seeds, 1 Tablespoon (optional)

Directions

1. In a blender, blend the kale or spinach and the liquid of your choice.
2. Add in the rest of the ingredients, blending after each item.
3. Serve and enjoy, cold.
4. Reserve the leftover smoothie in the refrigerator for later in the day or the next day.

Nutrition Information

Nutrients	Amount
Total Calories	299
Total Fat	4 g
Saturated Fat	2 g
Cholesterol	N/A
Sodium	156 mg
Carbohydrates	56 g
Dietary Fiber	7 g
Total Sugars	38 g
Added Sugars included	0 g
Protein	13 g
Vitamin D	1 mcg
Calcium	454 mg
Iron	2 mg
Potassium	1119 mg

MyPlate Food Groups



 Fruits	2 cups
 Vegetables	1/4 cups
 Dairy	1 cup

The Better Living for Texans (BLT) program provides research, and evidence-based nutrition, health, and wellness information to empower individuals, families, and communities to make positive changes for healthier lives. BLT helps people make better choices with their limited resources, by providing programs that are cost-free, and close to home. BLT is a cooperative endeavor among Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Health, and Human Services Commission, and USDA's Food and Nutrition Services, and has a presence in 205 Texas counties, providing educational programs to SNAP-participants and SNAP-eligible audiences. BLT programs help participants improve their ability to plan and prepare nutritious meals, become more physically active, stretch their food dollars, and prepare and store food safely. For more information on BLT programs, please contact the Harris County AgriLife Extension office at 713-274-0976.

HOME GROWN UPCOMING LECTURES

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

APRIL
MAY
JUNE **2021**



HOME GROWN LECTURE SERIES

04/01 **Southern Bulbs**

Paul Winski - Texas A&M AgriLife County
Extension Agent-Horticulture

04/15 **Sausage Making 101**

Shannon Dietz - Texas A&M AgriLife County
Extension Agent-Agriculture & Natural Resources

05/06 **Benefits of Bats**

Brandi Keller - Harris County Master Gardener
Program Coordinator

05/20 **Growing Fabulous Houseplants**

Paul Winski - Texas A&M AgriLife County
Extension Agent-Horticulture

06/03 **A Legen-Dairy Lecture**

Shannon Dietz - Texas A&M AgriLife County
Extension Agent-Agriculture & Natural Resources

06/17 **Art from the Garden**

Brandi Keller - Harris County Master Gardener
Program Coordinator



TO REGISTER FOR THIS FREE
EVENT,
PLEASE VISIT
[HTTPS://HOMEGROWN2021Q2.
EVENTBRITE.COM/](https://homegrown2021Q2.eventbrite.com/)

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.

Wellness Wednesdays May 2021



May 12, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

Talking Crawfish

May 26, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

All About the Grill

**Presented by: Shannon Dietz, Harris
County Ag & Natural Resources Agent**

To Register:

**[https://www.may2021
.eventbrite.com/](https://www.may2021.eventbrite.com/)**

**TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
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For more information, contact susan.hubert@ag.tamu.edu phone: 713-274-0968

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..

UPCOMING TRAINING CLASS

Private Pesticide Applicator's Training

May 20 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm \$60

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021
9:00AM - 1:00PM

9020 Airport Rd, Conroe

PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

Question:

What is a private applicator?

Answer:

A person who uses or supervises the use of restricted-use or state-limited-use pesticides or regulated herbicides to produce an agricultural commodity.

This course is for those who wish to obtain a Private Pesticide Applicator License with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

Along with the course, you will also receive the Texas Private Applicator Manual (B-1648) as well as the laws and regulations manual (B-5056). The manuals are utilized during the course, so they need to be purchased in advance.

At the conclusion of the course you will receive documentation to be used in securing a test date.

CONTACTS/SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITES

CONTACTS



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Social Media/Websites

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[Harris County AgriLife Website](#)

[Texas Department of Agriculture](#)



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