

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Medina County

1506 Ave M

Hondo, TX 78861

Phone: 830-741-6180





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CWD COLLECTION UPDATE

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been found in captive raised white-tailed deer in Medina County. In response, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is greatly increasing surveillance for the disease in captive and free-ranging white-tailed deer in the area. Currently, TPWD is asking for voluntary submission of hunter harvested deer for CWD sampling. If voluntary sampling is not intense enough, TPWD will have to consider mandatory testing of hunter harvested deer. Due to the negative impact mandatory testing could have on local businesses and land values, we must ensure that a voluntary effort is successful. We are asking you to commit to providing hunter harvested deer for CWD sampling. Please contact the office of Medina County Judge Schuchart to sign up at 830-741-6021.

Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance Update As of October 24, 2016

CWD surveillance efforts have been under way since March 1, 2016. Statewide CWD sampling goals for the 2016-17 collection year are to collect approximately 6,735 samples, and all samples within the CWD designated zones. Wildlife Division staff are collecting CWD samples from a variety of locations which include, road kill deer, locker plants and deer processors, private ranches, WMA and State Parks, and check stations. The first sample reported for this season was collected on March 1, 2016 and was a Roadkill deer. Exotic species which have been sampled include axis deer, fallow deer, red stag, sika, and elk. A total of 732 CWD samples have been collected to date which is approximately 10.87% of the statewide goal of 6,735 samples.

Current CWD sample count for the surveillance zone in Medina County is 82 samples. Per Medina County Wildlife Biologist Matt Reidy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| Oct. 22nd - Heifer Validations | Nov. 14th - Bandera County Wildlife & Predator Workshop |
| Oct. 23rd - Kerr County Hay Show | Nov. 16th thru Nov. 18th - Major Show Sign Up |
| Oct. 29th - South Texas Field Day | Nov. 20th - Swine Validations (Hondo) |
| Nov. 2nd - Ft. Worth Stock Show Sign Up | Nov. 24th thru Nov. 25th - Thanksgiving Holiday
(Office Closed) |
| Nov. 3rd - Range, Forage & Feral Hog Seminar | Dec. 5th - Rabbit Showmanship Workshop |
| Nov. 3th thru Nov. 5th - TBA Annual Conference
(Modern Beekeeping) | Dec. 6th - Cattle & Poultry Showmanship Workshop |
| Nov. 7th - Ranch Gathering | Dec. 6th - Hill Country District Pecan Show & Central
Texas Regional Show |
| Nov. 11th - Veteran's Day (Office Closed) | Dec. 7th - Lamb & Goat Showmanship Workshop |
| Nov. 12th - Swine Validations (MV, Natalia & Devine) | |

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION **NOVEMBER 3, 2016** TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

LUNCH & LEARN

Cost
\$15
Lunch Provided

Location
Uvalde County Fairplex
Leona Room



RSVP
Uvalde County Extension Office
(830) 278-6661
Samantha Korzekwa

AGENDA

11:45 Registration Opens

Noon to 1pm

- * Meet your County Agent, Wildlife Specialist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Biologist and Texas Game Wardens
- * CWD with David Rios- Wildlife Biologist for TPWD
- * Zoonotic Diseases with Maureen Frank- Extension Wildlife Specialist
- * Conclusion and Questions

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Bandera County
2886 HWY 16N
Bandera, TX 78003
(830) 796-7755
(830) 796-8121 FAX



Bandera Co. Wildlife Habitat and Predator Workshop
November 14, 2016

Mansfield Park, 2886 HWY 16N Bandera, TX

Pre-registration: Required

Cost: \$15 pre-registration (\$20 at the door)

5 Hours TDA CEU's for Commercial, Non-Commercial & Private Applicants
(2 hours General, 2 hours IPM, 1 hour Laws and Regulations.)

- 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Rangeland Plant ID – Kason Haby, NRCS
- 10:00 a.m. Brush and Weed Management Options – Dr. Robert Lyons, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
- 11:00 a.m. Predator Hunting Laws & Restrictions – Mark McQueary, TPWD Game Warden
- 12:00 Lunch – Chicken Fried Steaks
- 1:00 p.m. Predators and Predator Trapping – Jude Sandoval, Texas Wildlife Services
- 2:00 p.m. Predator Trap Demonstration – Texas Wildlife Services
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn

Please **PRE-REGISTER** by 5:00 PM **November 9, 2016** with the Bandera County Extension Office at 2886 HWY 16N Bandera, TX 78003, (830) 796-7755 or at Bandera-TX@ag.tamu.edu to ensure an accurate count for the meal and handouts.



Tolfenpro® Insecticide Ear Tag Recall



What Is Happening with Tolfenpro® Insecticide Ear Tag?

Out of an abundance of caution, Bayer Animal Health is initiating a voluntary product recall for Tolfenpro Insecticide Ear Tags. As a distributor or seller of Tolfenpro, Bayer has provided some answers for questions you may encounter from your customers or clients during this recall. Please contact your local Bayer sales representative for more detailed information.

- Q: Why is Tolfenpro being recalled?
A: Bayer has decided to voluntarily issue a recall of Tolfenpro based on early reports of some cattle experiencing eye irritation that may be linked to the product. We understand the livelihoods of ranchers depend on the health and safety of cattle. Bayer made the choice to issue the voluntary recall and take appropriate corrective measures.
- Q: What is causing the irritation in the cattle's eyes?
A: At this time, Bayer is collecting information and investigating the potential causes of the eye irritation. Previous licensing and field studies did not show indication of eye irritation in the study populations.
- Q: If producers have tagged their cattle with Tolfenpro, what should they do?
A: If producers notice any eye irritation in cattle that have been tagged with Tolfenpro, they should remove the tags immediately and report the adverse event to Bayer at 800-255-6826. If producers have not noticed any eye irritation, they can leave the tags in animals that have already been tagged, as directed by the product label. However, if producers are not comfortable leaving Tolfenpro ear tags in animals they need to report that they are removing the tags to Bayer at 800-255-6826.
- Any unused tags should not be applied to cattle. Please contact your distributor to arrange for exchange of an alternative Bayer ear tag product.
- Q: What should veterinarians and dealers do with Tolfenpro they have on shelves?
A: Veterinarians and dealers should contact the distributor or sales representative to arrange for exchange of an alternative Bayer ear tag product. They also can contact Bayer directly regarding the return of product by calling the Customer Service department at 800-633-3796.
- Q: What should distributors do with Tolfenpro they have on shelves?



- A: Distributors should contact the Customer Service department at Bayer regarding the return of product by calling 800-633-3796.
- Q: What is Bayer doing to correct the issue with Tolfenpro?
A: Bayer voluntarily issued the recall of Tolfenpro to ensure the health and safety of cattle. Bayer is collecting information and investigating the potential causes of the eye irritation in cattle, as well as offering to exchange any Tolfenpro tags with an alternative Bayer ear tag.
- Q: When should we expect to see Tolfenpro back on the market?
A: At this time, we are investigating the potential causes of the eye irritation in cattle. Until that cause can be determined, we are suspending sale of Tolfenpro to ensure the health and safety of the animals.
- Q: If Tolfenpro is causing this issue in cattle, is there any risk to humans or other animals on my operation?
A: When handling Tolfenpro, you should follow the personal protection equipment requirements outlined on the product label.
- Q: Does this impact any other Bayer ear tag or insecticide products?
A: No.
- Q: How can producers control flies this season if they had planned on using Tolfenpro?
A: Bayer offers several other ear tag options, including Corathon®, CyLence Ultra® Insecticide Cattle Ear Tag and Patriot™ Insecticide Cattle Ear Tag. Producers also can consider other insecticide options, such as the line of pour ons, sprays, cattle dusts and Rabon Oral Larvicide™.

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Bayer (reg'd), the Bayer Cross (reg'd), Tolfenpro®, Corathon®, CyLence Ultra®, Patriot™ and Rabon™ are trademarks of Bayer.

2016 TBA Annual Conference

November 3-5th, 2016
 Bell County Expo Center (Belton- Texas)
www.bellcountyexpo.com

Overcoming Obstacles in Modern Beekeeping

Thursday November 3rd

Mike Palmer

~~Sustainable Apiary Workshop~~
 French Hill Apiaries – St. Albans City, Vermont
 Texas Master Beekeepers Fall Testing
tais@tam.u.edu

Honey Contest winner receives \$50 and 1st Place Blue Ribbon!

Photo Contest winner will be used for the cover of next year's TBA brochure!

Friday November 4th

Opening Ceremonies begin at 8:00 am
 Honey/Photo Contest entries begin
 Sessions begin – 8:30 with Keynote Address by Mike Palmer
 Session with multiple speakers throughout the day on various topics
 7:00 pm Queen's Auction and Queen's Quiz Bowl

Saturday November 5th

TBA President-Chris Moore Introduction 8:00 am
 Sessions begin – 8:15 with Mike Palmer
 Sessions all day featuring multiple speakers on a variety of topics
 6:30 pm – Reception and Awards Banquet and Queen's Auction
 ~Great Food – Great Fun – Great Cause~

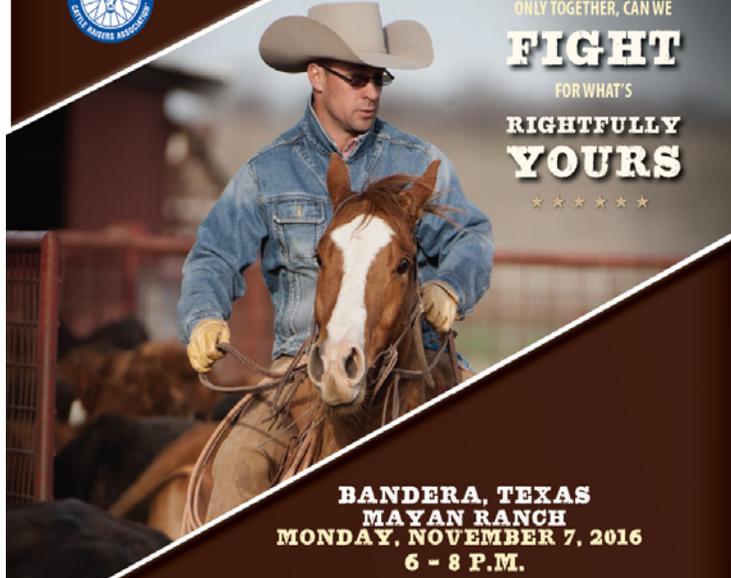
Onsite Vendors selling the latest innovations in beekeeping as well as basic supplies!

Discount accommodations if booked prior to October 17th – La Quinta Inn & Suites (254)939-2772
 Conference \$80 for TBA member individual, \$130 family (non-member pricing also available)
 Luncheon and Banquet tickets purchased separately upon registration
Online registration Open Now thru October 22nd
 Register early for discount pricing - At the door tickets available
<http://www.texasbeekeepers.org/annual-convention-2016>

RANCH GATHERING



★★★★★
 ONLY TOGETHER, CAN WE
FIGHT
 FOR WHAT'S
RIGHTFULLY
YOURS
 ★★★★★



BANDERA, TEXAS
MAYAN RANCH
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016
6 - 8 P.M.

WHO: TSCRA Members and the local ranching community are welcome to attend
WHAT: Update on TSCRA activities and other issues facing ranchers
WHERE: Mayan Ranch
 350 Mayan Ranch Road • Bandera, TX 78003
WHEN: Monday, November 7, 2016 • 6 - 8 p.m.
HOW: Please RSVP to 800-242-7820 ext. 192 or rsvp@tscra.org

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

ENTO-052
 4/16



What Texans Need To Know About ZIKA VIRUS

Sonja L. Swiger, Assistant Professor and Extension Livestock/Veterinary Entomologist
 Michael Merchant, Professor and Extension Urban Entomologist

WHAT IS ZIKA?

Zika is a mosquito-transmitted disease caused by the Zika virus. This virus is not new, but from 2007 to 2014 the virus spread into new countries and perhaps became more dangerous to people. The illness caused by the Zika virus is usually mild compared to other mosquito-carried illnesses like dengue fever, West Nile virus, and chikungunya. Only one in five people infected with Zika will feel ill. These individuals typically develop mild symptoms that include fever, joint pain, red itchy eyes (conjunctivitis) and rash. Symptoms typically occur 2 to 7 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. Symptoms in some individuals may be more severe. The association between Zika and Guillain-Barre syndrome (a type of paralysis) is under investigation.

Until recently, Zika was considered a mild disease with few lasting effects. However, public health officials are now concerned that pregnant women who contract Zika can pass the virus to their unborn babies, which may result in a birth defect known as microcephaly. Microcephaly is a condition where the fetal brain and head do not fully develop and reach normal size. Currently, there is no vaccine or preventive treatment for Zika, nor is there a cure for microcephaly. For more information about the effects of Zika on humans, see <https://vitalrecord.tamhsc.edu/zika360/>.

How Do I GET ZIKA?

A person gets Zika from the bite of an infected mosquito. In turn, mosquitoes get the virus when they bite a person who is infected with the Zika virus. The best carrier (vector) of the Zika virus is the yellow fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*. The Asian tiger mosquito,

Aedes albopictus, can also carry the Zika virus. The degree to which *Aedes albopictus* may be contributing to Zika transmission in the Americas is unknown. Both these mosquitoes are common in Texas, and may be found in the same communities.

Since 2002, the most important mosquito-transmitted disease in Texas has been West Nile virus. West Nile virus is carried by a different mosquito, the southern house mosquito, *Culex quinquefasciatus*.

Unlike the *Culex* mosquitoes which fly only at night, *Aedes* mosquitoes are active throughout the day and into the evening. For this reason, it is critical to protect against mosquito bites both day and night.

Under certain circumstances, Zika can also be transmitted sexually from men to women. To date, this is the only way local transmission of Zika is known to have occurred in the United States. In countries where mosquitoes spread Zika, sexual transmission of the virus is relatively less common. For this reason, the US Centers for Disease Control recently recommended that women with confirmed cases of Zika, or who have experienced symptoms of the virus, wait at least eight weeks after the start of their symptoms before trying to get pregnant. Additionally, men with confirmed cases of Zika, or who have had symptoms of the virus, are now advised to wait at least six months after their symptoms begin before having unprotected sex. These recommendations are based on current knowledge of how long the Zika virus remains active in the body and in semen.



Aedes albopictus feeding

Any container capable of holding water for 8 to 10 days can produce dozens or hundreds of mosquitoes a day.



SHOULD I BE WORRIED ABOUT ZIKA?

As of March 2016, the Zika virus has not been locally transmitted by mosquitoes to humans in Texas. Currently, the risk of Zika infection in Texas appears negligible. During the winter and early spring, the principal risk is for travelers to areas where Zika is active. However, local transmission of Zika might be possible during the active mosquito season (average daily temperatures above 75 degrees F) and more people return to the State while infected. This risk is expected to remain low for most of Texas. Your local health department, the Texas Department of State Health Services, and the local media are good sources for changes in the risk of Zika in your area. The most current information on Zika in Texas is at: <http://texaszika.org/>.

STOPPING ZIKA

There are two steps you can take to reduce your risk of getting Zika or West Nile virus from a mosquito. First, you can make your home environment less likely to breed mosquitoes. Second, you can reduce your risk of a mosquito bite by dressing appropriately and wearing mosquito repellent when you are outdoors.

All mosquitoes require bacteria-laden water in which to breed. *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes breed in small water- and debris-filled containers like bottles and cans, buckets and wheel barrows, tarps, gutters, birdbaths, flower pot dishes, and tires. Any container that can hold water for 8 to 10 days can produce dozens to hundreds of mosquitoes a day. Clean rainwater or irrigation water that fills a container with organic material (leaf debris, grass clippings, etc.) takes about four days to produce enough bacteria to sustain mosquito breeding. Because the mosquitoes that carry Zika fly less than 200 meters from their larval breeding site, most of the biting mosquitoes in your backyard come from containers in your or your close neighbor's

yard. Again, the first step to stopping Zika is to fill or eliminate any water containers around your home. For more information about mosquitoes and how to check your yard for mosquito breeding sites, visit <http://mosquitosafari.tamu.edu>.

Mosquitoes can bite any time you are outdoors—even for short trips to water the garden or pull weeds. Anyone staying outdoors for extended periods in mosquito-infested areas should wear long sleeves, long pants and light-colored, loose fitting clothing to prevent mosquitoes from biting. Skin applied repellents can also provide good protection for 2 to 12 hours. DEET, picaridin, and IR-3535 are some of the better repellents for exposed skin; however, for shorter exposure times many other effective products are available. For more information about choosing a repellent, see the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's repellent calculator: <http://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-insect-repellent-right-you>

PRECAUTIONS FOR TRAVELERS

Texas' proximity to Mexico and other Latin American countries where Zika is common, make it one of the highest risk areas for Zika in the United States. Anyone traveling to and from areas where the Zika virus is present should take special precautions to avoid getting the virus or spreading it to others. This includes avoiding mosquito infested areas, wearing long sleeved shirts and long pants when in mosquito prone areas, and using a good repellent.

In addition to being careful to avoid Zika when traveling, it's important to avoid passing on the Zika virus when you return home. Even travelers who feel well can pass on the Zika virus. Eighty percent of those who get Zika will not know they have been infected. To minimize this risk, returning travelers should wear repellent for at least a week to avoid the possibility of introducing the virus to your community.

For more information and links to resources: <http://preventingzika.org/>

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service

AgrilifeExtension.tamu.edu
 More Extension publications can be found at AgrilifeBookstore.org

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New

Private Applicator Training

(For Private Applicators License)



Manuals and Training will cost \$60.00

Please **RSVP** with the Uvalde County Extension office at 830-591-9046.

When: Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Where: Uvalde County Fairplex (Leona Room)
215 Veterans Lane
Uvalde, TX 78801

Donuts and Coffee will be provided.

This is not a class for CEU Hours, but rather is specifically for persons seeking a Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator license. You are encouraged to review and study the TDA Pesticide Laws and Regulations manual and the Private Applicator Manual before the training.

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.

Texas Gulf Coast Grape Growers:

Vineyards that began the season with a dormant spray of Lime Sulfur and have sprayed timely fungicides 4-5 times are likely showing no to minimal symptoms of fungal disease right now. If this is not you, don't give up and don't hesitate to contact me to discuss options that may be available.

This wet, humid growing season has created an enormous amount of fungal disease pressure to the grape clusters and the grapevines. In a "normal" year, our grapevines are threatened with black rot, phomopsis, downy mildew, and anthracnose. Fungal fruiting bodies, when not treated, explode with spores infecting leaves, shoots, berries, and the rachis. Once an infection reaches the rachis and/or berries, the entire clusters can be lost to disease.

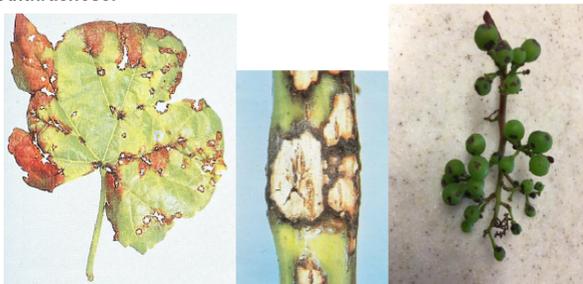


Black rot and downy mildew on clusters

Heightened disease pressure calls for use of fungicides at their maximum label rate. The instructions and rates on pesticide labels are the result of years of research. So, when the appropriate chemical is used in a timely manner according to the label instructions, **the product works**. Liquid pesticides, measured in fluid ounces, are decidedly easier to accurately measure. The label rate for dry pesticides is listed by dry weight. Manufacturers of granular or powder pesticides often provide their own specific measuring tool. This tool should be used only with its corresponding product since each product has a different dry weight. Your agriculture chemical salesperson should offer or at least have access to the appropriate measuring tool.

Additionally, an open canopy allows better coverage of timely fungicide sprays. Excess shoots and leaves can block fungicide sprays, air and sunlight. Shoot positioning and the removal of excess shoots and leaves allow air and sunlight to penetrate the microclimate surrounding the clusters. We are fighting diseases that take advantage of berries with damaged or compromised grape berry skin, whether from Grape Berry Moth, wind, hail, or mechanical damage. Preventative, timely sprays are always cheaper and more successful than attempting to fix disease symptoms.

Here is a look at some current problems that attack leaves, shoots, and clusters:
Anthracnose:



Black Rot:



Downy Mildew on Blanc Du Bois:



Downy Mildew on Lenoir/Black Spanish:



And last, but definitely not least! MARK YOUR CALENDER...

2016 Black Spanish/Lenoir Symposium, Taming the Beast

Friday - May 20, 2016

Cat Spring Agricultural Society Hall
13035 Hall Road, Cat Spring, TX 78933
\$75 pay at the door, RSVP to Fran Pontasch

Winemaking Topics

- Lenoir By Choice
- Signature Estate Port
- Slightly Sweet Lenoir
- 100% Dry Lenoir
- Evolution of Premium Lenoir Wine

Viticulture Topics

- Managing Canopy & Growth for Quality Fruit
- Optimizing Harvest Chemistry



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
TEXAS PECAN PEST
MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



Bill Ree, Extension Program Specialist III - IPM (Pecan)
P.O. Box 2150, Bryan, TX 77806-2150
Ph: 979-846-6800
Email: w-ree@tamu.edu
<http://pecan.ipmPIPE.org>
September 16, 2016 #16-11

TEXAS PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION
4348 Carter Creek, Suite 101 Bryan, TX 77802
Ph: 979-846-3285; Fax: 979-846-1752
Email: pecans@tpga.org
www.tpga.org

LAST NETTER FOR 2016
This will be the last newsletter for 2016 but I'll start back up next March. If you change your email address and would like to continue to receive this letter please send me a note so I can make the change.

Wishing everyone a successful harvest!
TPGA MARKETING NEWSLETTER
If you would like to keep up with harvest activities across the pecan belt and international, plus the latest on market prices then TPGA has a deal for you.

The Pecan Newsletter is a weekly guide to grower prices and crop status through the harvest season, and covers the pecan crop across the United States and Mexico. The newsletter is released at the end of each week from the middle of September until the middle of January. It costs \$85 per season for the newsletter by email and \$95 per season by mail.

Call the Pecan South office at 979-846-3285 or email pecans@tpga.org for more information or to subscribe to the Pecan Newsletter.

Extension website has links to publications, websites and videos on this serious health issue.

<http://www.texasinsects.org/zika-virus-information.html>

STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS/EVENTS
October 17-19, 2016
Western Pecan Production Shortcourse
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM
Pecans.nmsu.edu

2017
Feb. 24-26, 2017
Southeastern Pecan Growers Convention

June 22-23, 2017
TriState Pecan Conference
Contact: Steve Norman @ 318-448-3139
pecans@rosaliepecans.com

July 9-12, 2017
TPGA Annual Conference
Embassy Suites
Frisco, TX
Contact: TPGA 2 979-846-3285

INSECTS
Not a lot of activity on the pest management side at this time of year. Your primary crop threats at this time will be late emerging pecan weevil, third generation walnut caterpillar, stink bugs and wildlife. Female pecan weevils will oviposit in nuts up to shuck split so late maturing cultivars and/or natives will need to be protected.

One difficult question I deal with every fall is how late in the season can you justify controlling foliage feeding insects, a difficult question with lots of variables. Black pecan aphid, mites, yellow aphids and walnut caterpillar can all cause issues during the late season. As a general rule I think these insects should be controlled up through September.

When faced with making a late season treatment decision you need to look at: how much damage is already done, time of year, crop load, pest problem, average date of first frost, variety, amount of damage already observed. Other considerations are pre-harvest interval and grazing restrictions.

ZIKA VIRUS
Well there is not a day that goes by where you don't hear something about Zika virus on TV. Obviously Zika doesn't have anything to do with pecan production but it is important concern for those of us out in the orchards. If you would like more information on this disease the following Texas A&M AgriLife

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names are made with the understanding that no endorsement by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is implied.

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

Follow our County Website:

<http://medina.agrilife.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/MedinaCountyAgriculture>



I am currently seeking growers that has an area known to have root rot in cotton, with intent to plant cotton. Our AgriLife Researchers and the Medina County Extension Office would like to cooperate with a farmer to test chemicals and assist you to have a better harvest. Please contact me if you are willing to work with us.



2

Fertilizing Operations

Terra Renewal is a fertilizing operation near San Antonio. They have some information about material they land apply to farm sites in this area.

Any farmers that may have any interest in organic based food processing residuals being land applied at their farms using an operation of subsoil injection methods, may call John Pipkin with Terra Renewal at 479-264-5383.



Rolling with Bowling.....South Texas Field Crop and Pasture Entomology News and Views

Last week I had a few questions about applying Transform[®] (Dow AgroSciences) to cotton for fleahopper management. Currently, the EPA has not approved the Section 3 request for Transform (for use on cotton and other labeled crops). This means that purchases of Transform in 2016 cannot legally be applied to previously labeled crops (including cotton). Dow AgroSciences is working with the EPA to reinstate the section 3 label but it is unlikely that the Section 3 label will be approved before the end of the production season. **If you have carry-over product from 2015 it can be used on cotton (and other labeled crops).** Transform did receive a Section 18 approval from the EPA for use on sorghum against the sugarcane aphid. However, this label does not include other crops or crop pests.

Sorghum:

Much of the sorghum around the area is in late-vegetative growth to heading. Scouting activities are focusing on sugarcane aphid, sorghum midge, and sorghum headworm. Economic populations of sugarcane aphid are occurring in the Valley while light populations of headworm have recently been reported infesting sorghum in the Valley. I have not heard of any sorghum midge issues to date.

Although it is always wise to consider the entire complex of insects prior to making a management decision, I have always been of the opinion that a person should address the most limiting factor to production and deal with others if they arrive. If headworm and/or midge reach threshold and sugarcane aphid populations are not present to very light and the decision is to use a pyrethroid insecticide, then monitor the aphid population carefully. If their populations reach threshold then manage them appropriately to prevent economic damage. Another option would be to consider premium products such as the diamides (will not control midge) or products containing spinosin because they are less disruptive to non-target organisms that may limit population increases by sugarcane aphid. Just keep in mind that either of these options have no effect on sugarcane aphid nor will their use ensure that the sugarcane aphid will not reach an economic threshold. In short, there are numerous options and combinations of options to manage insects infesting foliage and/or sorghum heads and it is generally a matter of economics as to the best insecticide or combination of insecticides to protect production.



And what is going on with the sugarcane aphid? Sugarcane aphid populations in the Valley are increasing rapidly in some fields. A number of sorghum fields have been treated and many more will likely be treated before the season is finished. Scouting and timely insecticide applications have been successful in protecting yield from economic injury by the aphid. The sugarcane aphid in the Coastal Bend and Winter Garden regions is becoming easier to find in some field but its occurrence is hard to detect in most fields. It appears that there has been some local movement by the aphid from overwintering hosts into neighboring sorghum (local movement) but it also appears that there has been some longer distance movement as well.

Managing the the sugarcane aphid is no different from managing other crop pests. It involves an awareness of what is happening in each field and some knowledge of pest activity neighboring fields and in surrounding areas. Please be alert to sugarcane aphid activity by using detection techniques to monitor the aphid (keep an eye on johnsongrass on field edges) and weekly to twice weekly scouting once the aphid colonizes a field. Keep in mind that the sugarcane aphid reproduction potential peaks during periods of dry, hot, and humid conditions. The aphid in this environment can increase its populations to large numbers in a relatively short period of time. Insecticidal seed treatments have passed the point of protecting the crop from sugarcane aphid so watch your sorghum carefully to detect the aphid in the Coastal Bend and Wintergarden aphid. I suspect more sorghum fields to be sprayed for the aphid this year when compared to 2015 but scouting will limit the number of fields treated to only those at or above the economic threshold (50 to 125 aphids/leaf).

Just a reminder...The Section 18 for Transform restricts its use on sorghum 3 days prior to flowering until seed set. If your field is flowering you will need to apply another product if management is required for sugarcane aphid.



Odd Events: Although the cotton aphid is not an odd occurrence, its activity this year can be described as rare. Each year is different and, occasionally, a combination of factors results in odd occurrences. This has been one of those years. In April, I had a call about southern corn rootworm (SCR) infesting wheat in the Rolling Plains. A few weeks later I had a second report of SCR in wheat near San Antonio. This raised a few eyebrows but does not suggest a host shift to wheat. It is just another one of those freak occurrences that happen from time to time.

A second odd event was reported by Clyde Crumbly. He found millipedes feeding on the cotton cotyledons and young leaves. They were present in fairly large numbers in some fields and their presence was a little disconcerting. And like that...they are gone and we move on to other things to occupy our time. Some good and some not so good but there will always be new challenges that make life a little more interesting.

You can now follow south Texas insect and production news on Facebook and LinkedIn (Better Yield in the Field) and our website is coming together (<http://agrilife.org/sca/>). Check us out as we grow and expand our offerings.

Robert Bowling, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor and Agrilife Extension Entomology Specialist

Texas A&M Agrilife Research and Extension Center at Corpus Christi

10345 Hwy 44

Corpus Christi, TX 78406

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Hill Country Pecan Show

December 6th

Hill Country Youth Event Center

- Counties included are Kerr, Kendall, Bandera, Edwards, Kimble, Medina & Real including city homeowners & adjacent counties. Pecans exhibited must have been grown by exhibitor & must be of this year's current crop.
- Growers are limited to **one entry per division**.
- Native seedlings: There is no limit to the number of entries.
- Any alteration of pecan shells by marking, filing, or excessive polishing will be disqualifying the entry so treated. However, exhibitors are encouraged to remove all traces of husks and foreign matter from the shells.
- Containers: Bring pecans in a paper sack with your name, address, county & variety on a note card placed inside the sack.
- **Quantity: 40 nuts of each variety.**
- **Arrival Time:** Pecans can be brought to the Kerr County Extension Office **prior to December 1st.**

3775 Hwy. 27 Kerrville

8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.



Range, Forage & Feral Hog Seminar

November 3, 2016

Hill Country Youth Event Center

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

(registration beginning at 8 a.m.)

5 CEU's

- New range weed and brush control products
- Forage management including fertilization
- Management of various insect pests
- "CHOMP" Grant program overview
- Feral Hog hunting, trapping & transporting laws & regulations



**Registration fee: \$35 by Oct. 27th
\$45 after Oct. 27th**

(Registration will include lunch, refreshments & education materials)

Call 830-257-6568 to pre-register

Have ideas or a location for a program?

Please let me know if you have ideas for future programs, or if you would like for me to be part of a program you are trying to put on. I will be happy to work with you.

If you or someone you know has a good location to put on programs, please contact Derrick D. Drury by email or phone.

Email: derrick.drury@ag.tamu.edu Phone: 830-741-6180



Volunteers that serve on committees are the heart and soul of a strong Extension program. They are responsible for identifying, planning, implementing and evaluating educational programs.

Medina County is currently searching for volunteers to serve on the following committees. If interested, contact the office.

- Beef Cattle
- Hay Production
- Wildlife
- Row Crop
- Sheep and Goat
- Urban



E-mail Addresses

Due to increasing postage costs and in an effort to improve the timeliness of information distributed, we would like to develop an e-mail list of people interested in receiving our newsletter and other information electronically. If you have e-mail capabilities, please forward your address to the Extension office.

We will continue to send hard copies of the newsletter but would prefer to limit those in an effort to save money. Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated. Lastly, if your address has changed or if you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please contact our office at 830-741-6180.

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Special Interest Articles:

- Horn fly and Stable fly control
- Zika Virus
- New Ear Tag – RECALLED!
- Bovine Anaplasmosis

Insect Updates Horn fly Control for Cattle

Texas fly season is in full swing. Even as summer starts to wind down, the flies are not gone. Cattle can be seen swarming at flies all over the state and will continue until winter. The horn fly is a biting fly that causes considerable economic loss to cattle. In addition there are stable flies in the spring early summer, house flies that transmit disease pathogens to humans and animals, horse or deer flies, heel flies (or cattle grubs) and mosquitoes.

All can be of great concern and considerable nuisance. Efforts must be taken to control these flies to below threshold levels – horn flies 200/animal, stable flies 2-4/leg. Late season treatment for horn flies might be needed but could be very important. The available products for mid-season treatment include using pour-ons, the VetGun, dust bags and back rubbers, or sprays. Treatment should be administered according to the label.

Heel flies are managed by using dewormers regularly (once or twice a year). Mosquitoes are managed by eliminating breeding sites (standing water).



For more information go to <http://livestockvet.tamu.edu>



Individual Highlights:

- Insect Updates 1
- Pesticides 1
- Cattle Care 2
- Disease/Health 2
- Special Topics 3

Mosquitoes and Zika Virus – What you need to know

I know, I know, we have been hearing about Zika virus for months now but it is of concern until we see what is going to happen in the US.

Zika virus is not a new disease, it dates back to 1947, but it has stayed in Africa and Asia for decades. Increased human travel has been implicated for the reason we are now seeing outbreaks in the Western Hemisphere.

It is still unknown what will happen in the US. We do have the mosquito *Aedes aegypti*



(and have for hundreds of years) but we do not have local transmission of the virus pathogens. This means our native mosquitoes are not

carrying Zika pathogens. Zika is noted to be fairly mild for the 19% who have outward clinical symptoms. 80% will never know they are sick. There is a small 1% who get more severe symptoms and outcomes.

The largest concern is to unborn babies (in utero). Moms that become infected with Zika while pregnant or at conception risk a chance of the fetus developing microcephaly, or a small head, due to damaged brain cells.

So what can you do?

- Drain standing water
- Dress appropriately
- Defend with repellents
- Use screens

In addition, DO NOT travel to Zika endemic areas if you are pregnant or are planning to get pregnant.

If you do, wait 8 wks before getting pregnant and use repellents continually when you return to the US.

If you are a male and travel to Zika areas, have protected sex for 6 months (I) upon return to the US and use repellents. If your partner is pregnant, do not have unprotected sex for the entire duration of the pregnancy.

Unlike other mosquito transmitted diseases, Zika can be spread by men and women during sexual interaction. It can remain in the semen for a longer period of time than in the blood.

For more information on Zika and mosquito management visit <http://preventingzika.org> or www.texaszika.org

Photo credit to Dr. Gabriel Hamer, TAMU.

Pesticides Bayer's new insecticide ear tag – Tolfenpro RECALLED



The newly developed Bayer insecticide ear tag Tolfenpro has been voluntarily removed from the by the company. On Bayer's recall notice, they

suggest that many cattle that were using the Tolfenpro tags last year began to develop eye irritation.

I have heard that this irritation might be more extensive than is

being discussed. I will not make any speculation but if you used Tolfenpro ear tags last year and had any issues with the tag, please visit Bayer's website.

Cattle Care

Feeding drought-stressed crops to cattle

When drought conditions occur, farmers do what they can to salvage some value but it is important to consider the potential for nitrate toxicity.

All plants contain nitrates, but when plant growth is slowed because of drought or hail, nitrates have a potential to accumulate to high levels to cause losses, especially if high rates of nitrogen fertilizer have been applied.

If there is too high of intake of nitrates, toxic levels are absorbed into the bloodstream. At high

levels of nitrate, oxygen carrying capacity of the red blood cells is reduced.

These plants can still be fed to animals but the nitrate level needs to be known to make proper management decisions.

Minimize heat stress when working cattle

Although most do not work cattle in the summer heat, sometimes it is necessary. Heat and humidity are two deadly environmental conditions that producers need to be aware of.

Some summer handling tips:

- Only handle cattle in early mornings
- Cattle core temps peak 2 hrs after the environmental temp hits a daily high
- Make it short
- Don't move cattle great distances

- Work cattle in smaller groups
- Avoid overcrowding holding pens, alleys and working facilities
- Update facilities
- Shade and sprinkling systems installed in feedyards can greatly reduce the impacts of heat stress

Human & Animal Disease & Health

Fighting Pink Eye in Cattle

Pink eye can still be a concern even as the summer starts to wind down. Weaned calves can potentially lose up to 10% of their body weight as a result of pink eye.

In addition, the disease could lead to blindness and possibly even death due to starvation, thirst, and accidents due to loss of sight.

Pink eye is caused by several factors; the main cause is the bacteria, *Moraxella bovis*. An infected animal can have many subtypes of the bacteria making it difficult to treat.

Other factors can include UV light, tall foliage such as grass or weeds and dust which acts as a direct irritant.

Pink eye can be spread by flies feeding on the eye secretions and from the flies flying directly into the eyes. The feeding flies can pick up the bacteria and take it over to another animal and infect other animals.

Visible symptoms of pink eye occurring are discomfort, tears, straining to pen the eye, and possibly the eye staying shut.

One guaranteed sign is increased tearing and this is especially visible in light colored cattle.

Progressive pink eye develops an ulcer typically in the center of the eye and these can either heal or it builds up pressure on the inside of the eye form inflammation.

The biggest treatment option recommended is to work with a veterinarian and treating with antibiotics.

In addition a patch can be glued over the infected eye to minimize solar radiation exposure and other irritants to the eye. Also prevents flies from getting into the infected secretions.

There are several options for vaccines to control pink eye. Sometimes vaccines are given too close to when the animal becomes infected. It takes two doses and several weeks to build immunity.

Proper nutrition can assist in preventing pinkeye.

TAHC Passes Rules at Commission meeting in 2016

New rules for 2016 from the Texas Animal Health Commission.

Chapter 33, Fees, Repeat Lab & Herd Status/Certification Fees

TAHC was not renewed the authority to collect Laboratory fees (Rule 33.4) and Herd Status/Certification fees (Rule 33.5), therefore they must discontinue setting and collecting certain fees as of Sept 1.

Chapter 49, Equine, EIA Testing

This new section was added to require that a person or laboratory who performs an official Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) test in the State of Texas must meet and be in compliance with the requirements found in Title 9, CFR 75.4. "Approval of Laboratories, and Diagnostic or Research Facilities."

Chapter 41, Fever Ticks, Fever Tick Vaccine

The amendment to this Chapter was proposed in February to add the fever tick vaccine requirements for beef cattle in quarantine areas and will clarify the different requirements for dipping, treatment, and vaccination. This was passed see more below about the vaccine.

New website to highlight ag's preparation for 2017 antibiotics rules

Livestock groups have begun educating producers and consumers on the impending veterinary feed directive changes coming in January 2017.

The Animal Health Institute, National Pork Producers Council, National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the

Animal Agriculture Alliance launched a new website: www.togetherABX.com

The website was set up to provide information about the Food and Drug Administration's new policy changes for antibiotics used to keep food animals healthy.

"Farmers, veterinarians and the companies that make medicines for animals have collaborated with the FDA to implement guidelines that maximize animal health and well-being, while providing consumers with the safest food possible," said Alexander Mathews, President and CEO of the Animal Health Institute.

Watch for Anaplasmosis

Anaplasmosis has historically been most prevalent in the South, but recently when Kansas State University Extension planned a one-day seminar on the cattle disease, registration quickly filled and exceeded seating capacity. Anaplasmosis is being found more often in the Midwest and Plains states in that past few years.

Anaplasmosis, a tick-borne disease associated with the bacteria *Anaplasma marginale*, can spread by some biting insects such as flies and mechanically through the use of syringes, blood transfer.

In the past, the disease has been more prevalent in the Gulf Coast region and other wet, tick-friendly environments. More recently it has appeared and is causing economic losses in beef and dairy herds around the country include the Midwest and West.

Clinical signs, in adult cattle older than 2 yrs, tends to appear within 6 to 70 days following infection, with an average of 26 days.

Clinical signs include:

- Adult cows or bulls found dead in the pasture
- Lethargy
- Difficulty breathing (especially when moved)
- Aggressive behavior
- Abortion
- Icterus or jaundice
- Fever
- Weight loss
- Constipation

Special Topics of Interest

Bayer Buys Monsanto

Just announced on Sep 14, Bayer and Monsanto have signed "a definitive merger agreement" selling Monsanto to the German-based company for \$66 billion, or \$128 per share.

If and when approved by anti-trust regulators, the deal would create the world's biggest supplier of crop protection products and seed, dominating more than 30% of the market.

"We are pleased to announce the

combination of our two great organizations," Bayer CEO Werner Baumann said in the prepared release. "This represents a major step forward for our Crop Science business and reinforces Bayer's leadership position as a global innovation driven Life Science company with leadership positions in its core segments, delivering substantial value to shareholders, our customers, employees and society at large."

According to Baumann, "growers will

benefit from a broad set of solutions to meet their current and future needs, including enhanced solutions in seeds and traits, digital agriculture, and crop protection."

But there is concern from farmers, the National Farmers Union are the first to speak on this. They express concern that family farmers, ranchers and consumers are the ones that lose out by crippling competition, thus increasing prices and reducing innovation.

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Tackling the Cattle Fever Tick with Vaccine

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) is proud to announce the arrival of a new toll in fever tick eradication efforts.

A new fever tick vaccine will be used to reduce the risk of new fever tick infestations in quarantine areas such as the tick eradication quarantine area, or permanent quarantine zone, and in temporary preventative or control quarantine areas.

The first doses of the new vaccine were delivered to TAHC on May 17, 2016 and plans are

underway to hold producer meetings in the counties along the permanent quarantine zone to provide information on the effectiveness and use of the vaccine.

"There are numerous benefits of the fever tick vaccination, with the most significant being the potential to prevent the establishment of fever tick infestations on properties where cattle are being grazed. Additionally, the vaccine will be another tool aiding in more rapid eradication of fever ticks

on infested premises," said Dr. Andy Schwartz.

Vaccinating cattle on a property with fever ticks will help assure that ticks are eradicated as quickly as possible under established gathering, inspection, and treatment schedules.

While proper vaccine usage helps assure ticks are eradicated as soon as possible so quarantines can be lifted, it does not eliminate the need to do regular inspections.

New virus found in South Dakota – Influenza D

A new genus of influenza has been approved for naming, Influenza D. This virus was isolated in 2011 from a diseased pig but was later determined that cattle are the primary reservoir for influenza D.

This is the first influenza virus identified in cattle. The ultimate goal now is to determine whether influenza D, which has 50%

similarity to human influenza C, can cause problems in humans. Thus far the answer is no.

Influenza D is spread only through direct contact and the antibodies for this virus have been found in blood samples from sheep and goats, but it does not affect poultry.

"If the virus can undergo reassortment in combination with closely related human influenza virus, it may be able to form a new strain that could pose more of a threat to humans," Kaushik explained. Li noted, "We have much to learn about this new virus."

Feed groups ask for changes in VFD rule

The FDA's new veterinary feed directive (VFD) rule, which will be fully implemented in Jan 2017, requires that veterinarians, producers, and feed distributors maintain records of all VFD medicated feed orders for two years. The Feed groups recently asked FDA to relax on some requirements that are considered

unnecessary listed under Part 11, Electronic Records, Electronic Signatures requirements, listed under Title 21 in the Code of Federal Regulations. According to AFIA and NGFA, the computer systems and labor required to bring VFD record-keeping processes into compliance with Part 11 would be

extremely costly and burdensome.

The group says that, to the best of their knowledge, none of the feed-distributor members currently have systems that are Part 11 compliant.

FDA has recently exempted other programs from Part 11; they have 180 days to make a decision.

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