

LOST PINES COUNTY AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER



THE FALL SEASON

Dakota Kempken

November is here, and with it the winding down of most agricultural production. Fruit and nut trees are storing nutrients for winter dormancy, and most cultivated fields have already been harvested. As we make our way into the holiday season, make sure to take measures to stay ready for the next growing season, such as stocking up on hay for livestock and testing soil nutrient content when it comes due.

THINGS TO KNOW

WARM TEMPERATURES AND MOISTURE BRING FUNGAL INFECTIONS

We might be well into fall, but that does not mean everything is going dormant. A relatively warm early fall mixed with high moisture and humidity seen over the past couple weeks are encouraging the spread of fungal diseases among trees and woody brush all over the county, particularly in oak and pine trees.



Figure 1 Hypoxylon Canker Mat

Normally, trees are able to fight off infection naturally with their immune system. However physical damage and environmental stressors, such as freeze damage and drought stress (both of which have occurred alongside each other over the last few years), can weaken a tree's immune system and make it prone to infection. Common symptoms of fungal infections are patterned discoloration of leaves, leakage of sap, and fungal mats underneath the bark, depending on type of infection. If you suspect a tree to be infected, treat with copper-based fungicides and prune off infected limbs, however the tree may be

beyond saving depending on the stage of infection.

Prevention is the most effective means of fungal control. Ensure deep watering during dry summer months to prevent drought stress. Do not store wood from infected trees near healthy ones. Always clean/sterilize pruning equipment between trees. On vital trees, make regular preventative fungicide treatments.

TESTING CAMPAIGN RESULTS ARE IN

If you submitted a soil, forage, or water sample to the Extension office during our testing campaign last month, the results are in. Be on the lookout for your test results coming in through the mail. If you need any help interpreting your results, please call the office at 512-581-7186 or shoot me an email.

**AUCTION BARN
REPORTS**

**Giddings Livestock
Auction**

November 14th, 2022

Steers

Weight	Avg	High
150 - 300	171	225
300 - 400	185	237.50
400 - 500	170	232.50
500 - 600	155	177.50
600 - 700	146	165
700 - 800	121	146

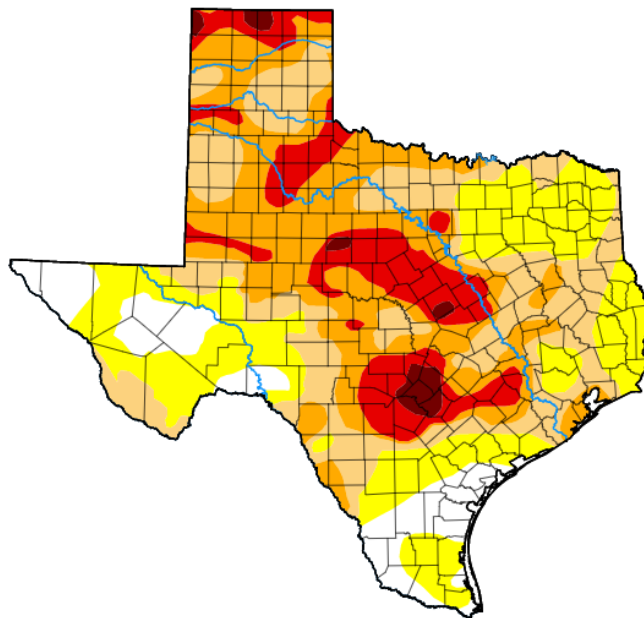
Heifers

150 - 300	162	200
300 - 400	158	200
400 - 500	156	180
500 - 600	141	180
600 - 700	135	170
700 - 800	118	139

FARMERS ALMANAC PREDICTS A POTENTIALLY DRY WINTER

It is good to see the increase in moisture going into the fall, as it will help give seasonal plants a bit more boost before going into dormancy. However, we are still not out of the drought yet. There are predictions that the drought will continue through the winter and going into next spring, with winter temperatures being colder than normal. The cold temperatures may bode well for fruit production as they would be more likely to receive the necessary chill hours, especially during mid-to-late winter in January and February.

TEXAS DROUGHT MONITOR UPDATE



Map released: Thurs. November 10, 2022

Data valid: November 8, 2022 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):
Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

AROUND THE COUNTY

AUCTION BARN REPORTS

Gonzales Livestock Market

November 12th, 2022

Steers

Weight	Price
150 - 300	232.00 - 235.00
300 - 400	227.00 - 230.00
400 - 500	196.00 - 212.00
500 - 600	181.00 - 189.00
600 - 700	148.00 - 172.00
700 - 800	139.00 - 143.00

Heifers

150 - 300	180.00 - 183.00
300 - 400	170.00 - 175.00
400 - 500	167.00 - 169.00
500 - 600	145.00 - 161.00
600 - 700	134.00 - 141.00

Yearling Bulls

700 - 900	80.00 - 95.00
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Stocker Cows

	750.00 - 2,300.00
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Cow/calf pairs

	850.00 - 1,900.00
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ANNUAL BASTROP-FAYETTE COUNTY AG PRODUCERS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 8TH

The Annual Bastrop-Fayette County Ag Producers Conference will be held on Thursday, December 8th at the Smithville Veterans of Foreign Wars Event Hall in Smithville. **5 CEU's** are proposed and are awaiting approval from Texas Department of Agriculture, and lunch will be provided. Featured topics will include:

- Parasite management in beef cattle
- Post-drought forage management
- Picolinic Acid Chemistry training
- Invasive Grass Management
- Aquatic vegetation management

Doors open at 8:00am and the program will begin at 8:30. Registration fees will be \$40 if pre-registering, or \$50 after the registration deadline. The deadline to register is **Friday, December 2nd**.

To pre-register, please call the Bastrop County Extension office at 512-581-7186. Payments can be delivered in person to the Extension office. 901 Pecan St. Bastrop Tx 78602.

Bastrop County 4-H Members to Compete at District 10 4-H Fall Roundup

Please wish our Bastrop County 4-H'ers good luck and safe travels as they compete in District 10 4-H Fall Roundup competitions at the end of this month!