

LOST PINES COUNTY AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

July 2023



INTENSE SUMMER HEAT CONTINUES

Dakota Kempken

The intense summer heat can not only put a lot of stress on us, but also on agriculture. Without much in the way of the nice spring rains we saw a few months ago, the high temperatures can put significant stress on crops, forage, and livestock. Make sure to take measures to reduce heat stress by keeping crops and forage adequately irrigated, and livestock have free access to clean water and plenty of shade.

JOIN THE BASTROP COUNTY AG/HORT COMMITTEE

Do you have an investment or want to make a difference in Bastrop County's Agricultural and natural resource industries? The Bastrop County Agriculture and Horticulture Committee would like to extend an invitation to you to become a part of this important organization!

Made up of fellow Bastrop County producers and stakeholders, the Bastrop County Ag/Hort Committee helps guide education and outreach efforts that will help producers and landowners make the most out of their agriculture operations/natural resource management endeavors.

If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact me at Dakota.kempken@ag.tamu.edu

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2023 BEEF CATTLE SHORT COURSE

Registration is open for the 69th annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course to be held August 7th through 9th in College Station! This is a great opportunity for both new and long-time beef producers and will cover a host of information concerning the Texas beef industry, as well as opportunities for a number of pesticide CEU's for licensed applicators. This event can be attended both in-person, and online if you are unable to make the trip.



For more information, please visit <https://beefcattleshortcourse.com/> to learn more and register for the event. I hope to see you there!

MANAGING HEAT STRESS IN LIVESTOCK

Extremely high temperatures are putting a heavy burden on livestock producers. Heat stress can cause multiple problems on livestock operations, including a drop in performance and adverse health effects. Livestock producers can at least take steps to mitigate heat stress:

- Make sure livestock have ample shade. Standing in direct sunlight can make it feel up to 15 degrees warmer than it actually is compared to in the shade.
- Alter livestock working schedules to early mornings. Stress caused from human handling will elevate their body temperature. Working at a time of day when it is

coolest can help reduce the effects of heat stress. When working livestock, make sure handling is as low-stress as possible.

- Provide plenty of water.

WEED OF THE MONTH – JOHNSON GRASS

An extremely common grass weed that plagues a wide range of agriculture and natural resource industries. This is a warm season perennial grass that bares a strong resemblance to cultivated sorghum. They are commonly found in disturbed areas, roadsides, and in pastures. They grow erect from 3 to 6 feet tall and can spread from seed and rhizomes. The seedhead is a large, open panicle often with a purplish tint. Johnsongrass leaves have a large white midrib and a smooth, glossy appearance. Stems are smooth with no hairs. When grazed under stress, they release free cyanide and can induce prussic acid poisoning unless previously cut or mowed.



Control:

It can be difficult to control Johnson Grass because of its spreading nature. However chemical application can knock them back.

Herbicides labeled for Johnson Grass:

- Outrider
- Pastora
- Roundup

GRASSHOPPERS

Vanessa Olsen - Extension Forage Specialist



There are about 150 species of grasshoppers in the state of Texas, but 90% of the damage to crops, gardens, trees, and pastures is caused by just 5 species.

Grasshoppers deposit their eggs 1/2 to 2 inches below the soil surface in pod-like structures. Each egg pod consists of 20 to 120 eggs. Egg pods are very resistant to cold and can easily survive the winter if the soil is not disturbed.

Grasshoppers deposit eggs in fallow fields, ditches, fencerows, and weedy areas, as well as in crop fields and hay fields.

Eggs begin hatching in late April or early May; hatching peaks about mid-June. If spring weather is cool and dry, hatching may be delayed until July. Young grasshoppers are called nymphs. They look like adults, but are smaller and do not have wings. Nymphs go through 5 to 6 developmental stages and become adults in 40 to 60 days, depending on weather and food supplies.

The adult grasshoppers deposit eggs from late July through the fall. Usually only one generation of grasshoppers is produced each year.

Flatonía Livestock Commission

July 17th, 2023

Wt	Rng	Avg
Steers		
100 -199	155.00-312.00	266.00
200 -299	120.00-320.00	257.39
300 -399	107.00-307.00	235.92
400 -499	100.00-282.00	226.64
500 -599	70.00-244.00	216.80
600 -699	154.00-237.00	206.43
700 -799	166.00-229.00	199.00
800 -899	130.00-205.00	174.80
900-999	183.00	183.00
Heifers		
100 -199	250.00-280.00	265.67
200 -299	187.00-287.00	237.70
300 -399	114.00-270.00	207.89
400 -499	111.00-245.00	201.39
500 -599	60.00-242.00	196.70
600 -699	150.00-213.00	190.18
700 -799	50.00-200.00	172.06
800 -899	159.00-188.00	172.33
900-999	130.00-150.00	140.00

Producers should start watching for grasshoppers early in the season and begin control measures while grasshoppers are still nymphs. Smaller grasshoppers are more susceptible to insecticides than larger ones.

CONTROL OPTIONS:

Cultural Control: Controlling summer weeds reduces available feed for newly hatching nymphs as well as making it easier for birds to prey on grasshoppers.

Chemical Control: Grasshoppers are susceptible to many insecticides. The length of control will depend on the residual activity of the insecticides and the frequency of treatment. Controlling grasshoppers over a large area will reduce the numbers present which can re-infest a treated area. Remember, smaller grasshoppers are more susceptible to insecticides than larger ones.

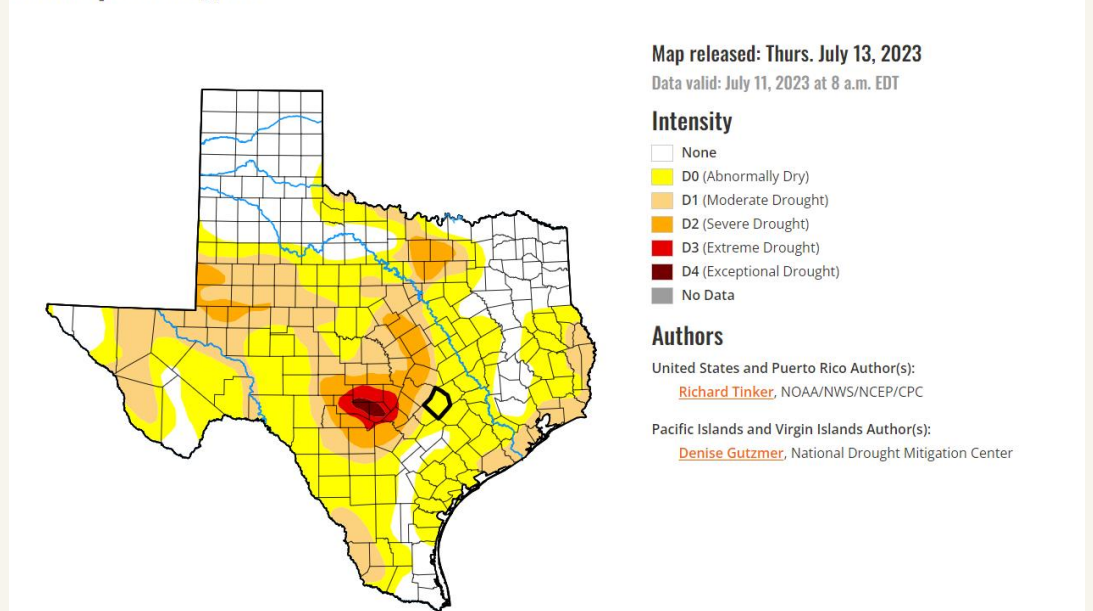
Insecticides that can be used on pastures and hayfields:

- Mustang Max (9.6% zeta-cypermethrin)
- Karate Z (lambda cyhalothrin): Do not harvest for hay until 7 days after application
- Baythroid XL (beta-cyfluthrin)
- Dimilin 2L: Dimilin must be applied when grasshoppers are about 1/4 inch. Dimilin is not effective on adults. (generics now available)
- Sevin 4F, Sevin XLR, Sevin 80S, generic Carbaryl: 14 day waiting period before grazing or harvesting

TEXAS DROUGHT MONITOR UPDATE

Bastrop County, TX

[Home](#) / Bastrop County, TX



**Giddings Livestock
Commission**

July 17th, 2023



Drought Management Conference

Managing Grazing Land After Droughts

Thursday, August 17th

BALFSA Show Barn at Mayfest Park
(801 American Legion Dr.
Bastrop, Tx 78602)

Registration begins at 8:00am

3 General CEU's Offered

- Managing Soil Health to promote water Retention
- Post-Drought Grazing Management
- Control of Water-Intensive Brush



\$15 at the door

Please RSVP by August 9th

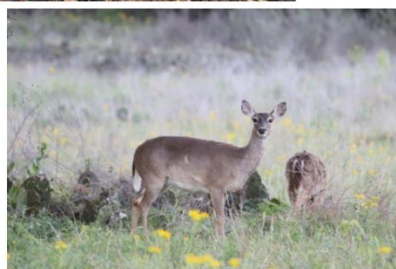
For any questions or to RSVP,
please call 512-581-7186

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Wt	Avg	High
Steers		
150-300	270	305
300-400	260	305
400-500	235	267.50
500-600	224	262.50
600-700	214	232.50
700-800	186	227.50
Heifers		
150-300	265	300
300-400	230	272.50
400-500	221	285
500-600	213	270
600-700	202	265
700-800	185	230
Yearling bulls		
700-850	185-230	
850-1000	135-202.50	
Packer cows		
Top	100-115	
Med.	75-85	
Thin	30-70	

Managing your Piece of Texas New Landowners' Conference

Learning How to Make the Most of New Property



- How to Make your Land Productive
- Understanding Ag and Wildlife Tax Valuation
- Wildlife Habitat Management on Small Acreage
- Property Rights Laws and Lease Agreements

**Registration Fee: \$10 Before
August 8th**
\$20 After August 8th

Tuesday, August 15th

Registration at 8:30am

American Legion Post 533

3003 Loop 150. Bastrop, Tx
78602

**Please register with Bastrop
County Extension**

904 Pecan St. Bastrop Tx 78602

**Or mail payment with name
and contact info to:**

PO Box 650. Bastrop, Tx 78602

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AROUND THE COUNTY

Gonzales Livestock Market

July 22nd, 2023

Wt	\$ Range
Steers	
150-300	315-320
300-400	280-298
400-500	253-275
500-600	233-245
600-700	222-225
700-800	219-221
Yearling bulls	
700-900	95-145
Heifers	
150-300	265-285
300-400	247-255
400-500	228-235
500-600	221-224
600-700	195-215
Stocker Cows	
750-1,700	
Cow-Calf pairs	
1,100-1,800	

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 17TH

Recovering from the recent drought can be a challenge for livestock producers, especially concerning grazing land. Learning how to manage rangeland and pasture after drought events can help livestock producers be better prepared for future droughts.

With the help of Extension Specialist Dr. Larry Redmon and USDA NRCS educators, his morning conference will provide producers with the knowledge to better prepare their grazing land for drought events through promoting water retention in soils, forage and grazing management, and control of water intensive brush. **3 General CEU's** will be awarded to licensed pesticide applicators and lunch will be provided. Registration will be **\$15 at the door**. Please RSVP by August 9th. To RSVP or learn more, please contact the Bastrop Extension Office at 512-581-7186.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATIONS: SMALL ACREAGE LIVESTOCK 101 ON JULY 31st

Whether you are interested in self-sustainability or trying to obtain an Ag Tax valuation, raising livestock suitable to smaller acreage can be greatly beneficial for homeowners and landowners. This program will provide an introduction to alternative livestock production that do well in spacious yards and small acreage, such as poultry, goats, rabbits, and honeybees.

This program will be held on Monday, July 31st at 8:30 at the Mayfest Park Livestock Barn. Doors will open at 8:15am. Please RSVP by Friday, July 28th to ensure enough breakfast and materials can be provided.

NEW LANDOWNERS' CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 15TH

Bastrop county has seen a large influx of new landowners over the past few years, and one of the most common questions we get is what can I do on my property? This program will attempt to answer that, and provide useful information for established landowners.

Managing your Piece of Texas: New Landowners' Conference will be held on **Tuesday, August 15th** at the American Legion Post 533 hall in Bastrop, Tx, with check in beginning at 8:30am. **Registration for the event will be \$10 before August 8th**. After this date, a \$10 late fee will be added onto the original fee. Please pre-register by visiting the Extension office at 901 Pecan St. Bastrop, Tx 78602.