

# LOST PINES COUNTY AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

October 2024



## HEAT AND DRY WEATHER PROLONGS CHANCES OF FIRE

Dakota Kempken

The persistent high temperatures and dry weather are still creating excellent chances for wildfires, so until things cool down and we can get some much needed moisture again, please be mindful with equipment and anything that could create a spark.

## THINGS TO KNOW

# BASTROP COUNTY FERAL HOG CAMPAIGN IS BACK ON

Beginning now until funds run out, Bastrop County will pay county residents \$5 per feral hog tail collected and dropped off at an approved collection site, listed below.

Alternatively, feral hogs can be live captured and sold to a Texas Animal Health Commission approved feral hog holding facility, and the sale receipt can be submitted in place of tails. A list of approved holding facilities can be found here: [https://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal\\_health/swine/pdf/FeralSwineFacilities.pdf](https://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/swine/pdf/FeralSwineFacilities.pdf)

Where to submit feral hog tails:

- Smith Supply Co.
  - 764 West Loop 230. Smithville
- Elgin General Store
  - 1155 Dildy Dr. Elgin
- Paige Tractor Co.
  - 4409 Hwy 290 east. Paige

### IMPORTANT RULES:

- Feral hogs must be harvested in Bastrop County using lawful methods
- Feral hogs **CANNOT** be purchased from another individual to participate in the bounty
- Feral hogs harvested must be from a **WILD** population. Feral hogs **CANNOT** be bred/raised for the purpose of participating in the bounty.
- Tails submitted for the bounty must be harvested **DURING THE TIMEFRAME OF THE BOUNTY**. Tails collected prior to October 1st **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**.

Feral hog tails can be submitted for payout in the bounty until funds are depleted. At which point, the bounty will conclude for the year.

# SOIL, WATER, AND FORAGE TESTING CAMPAIGN BEGINS NOW

The annual Bastrop/Fayette County soil, water, and forage testing campaign begins today, October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 30<sup>th</sup>. During the campaign period, select forage, soil, and AgriLife/Aqua Water tests will be offered at a discounted rate. Tests will be submitted at the same time at the end of the campaign period, except for the Aqua bacteriology test. Aqua water tests must be submitted the same day as collection. Please submit bacteriology tests by noon on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

# WEED OF THE MONTH: WESTERN RAGWEED

Western Ragweed is a native, perennial plant found all over much of Texas, and a nuisance weed for growers and folks who suffer from seasonal allergies. Ragweed is a rhizomous plant that grows a stout, multi-branched stem that can reach up to 6 feet tall. Leaves are thick and hairy, 2-5 inches long, and typically narrow with serrated edges. The seedhead sprouts from the top of the central stem and resembles grain.

Ragweed can be difficult to deal with due to its rhizomous growth, however prevention is the easiest way to handle ragweed populations. Ragweed grows on disturbed sites and declining rangelands, so keeping preferred forage dense and healthy can help prevent ragweed from germinating or spreading from controlled populations.



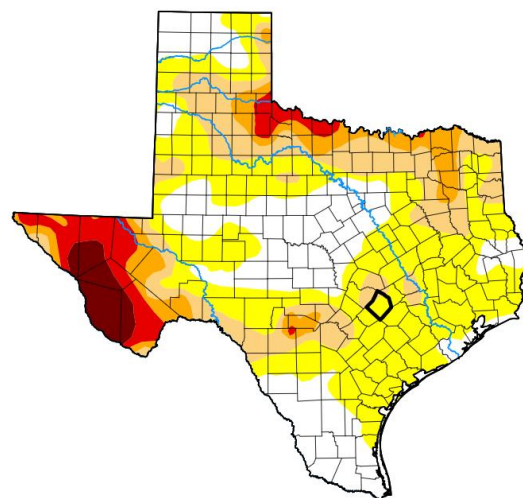
Herbicides listed for Western Ragweed:

- Triclopyr + fluroxypyr: PasturGard HL
- 2,4-D: GrazonNext HL, Grazon P+D
- Picloram + fluroxypyr: Surmount

## TEXAS DROUGHT MONITOR UPDATE

Bastrop County, TX

[Home](#) / [Bastrop County, TX](#)



Map released: Thurs. October 3, 2024

Data valid: October 1, 2024 at 8 a.m. EDT

### 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):

[Richard Tinker](#), NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Denise Gutzmer](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

## Need soil, forage, or well water tested? AgriLife can help!

- Select forage, soil, and water tests will be offered at a discounted rate\*
- October 9th through October 30th
- Contact the Bastrop County AgriLife Extension office for details
  - 512-581-7186



\*Only select tests offered at a discount. Tests will be mailed out weekly. Water bacteriology tests must be submitted the same day as collection on certain days. Bacteriology samples accepted by noon on October 16th, 28th, 29th, and 30th.

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.  
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating*

# AUCTION BARN REPORTS

## Giddings Livestock Commission – October 7th

| Weight          | Steers        |                 | Heifers |       |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------|-------|
|                 | Avg           | High            | Avg     | High  |
| 150 – 300       | \$290         | \$350           | \$263   | \$400 |
| 300 – 400       | \$283         | \$335           | \$264   | \$310 |
| 400 – 500       | \$250         | \$277.50        | \$235   | \$300 |
| 500 – 600       | \$237         | \$262.50        | \$219   | \$310 |
| 600 – 700       | \$221         | \$245           | \$210   | \$235 |
| 700 – 800       | \$210         | \$227           | \$200   | \$215 |
| Packer bulls    |               |                 |         |       |
|                 | Top           | \$150 – 160     |         |       |
|                 | Medium        | \$135 – 145     |         |       |
| Stocker Females |               |                 |         |       |
|                 | Stocker pairs | \$1,625 – 2,550 |         |       |
|                 | Bred cows     | \$1,000 – 2,500 |         |       |
| Packer Cows     |               |                 |         |       |
|                 | Top           | \$120 – 138     |         |       |
|                 | Medium        | \$105 – 119     |         |       |
|                 | Thin          | \$70 – 100      |         |       |

## Lockhart Auction – October 3rd

| Weight    | Steers         | Heifers         |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|
| <300      | \$210 – 510    | \$180 – 560     |
| 300 – 400 | \$180 – 335    | \$170 – 300     |
| 400 – 500 | \$180 – 335    | \$170 – 280     |
| >500      | \$150 – 280    | \$160 – 280     |
|           | Packer Cows    | \$65 – 134      |
|           | Packer Bulls   | \$115 – 158     |
|           | Stocker Cows   | \$860 – 2,250   |
|           | Cow/Calf Pairs | \$1,500 – 2,350 |

## Gonzales Livestock Market – October 5th

| Weight    | Steers         | Heifers         |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|
| 150 – 300 | \$325 – 410    | \$275 – 375     |
| 300 – 400 | \$275 – 335    | \$240 – 285     |
| 400 – 500 | \$245 – 295    | \$215 – 245     |
| 500 – 600 | \$220 – 265    | \$210 – 235     |
| 600 – 700 | \$210 – 241    | \$200 – 216     |
| 700 – 800 | \$210 – 220    | ---             |
|           | Yearling Bulls | \$165 – 190     |
|           | Stocker Cows   | \$900 – 2,050   |
|           | Pairs          | \$1,500 – 3,200 |

# 2024 BASTROP/FAYETTE AG CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 1ST, 2024

## 5 CEU's Offered

- Pesticide Drift Management - 1 Drift
- Aquatic Vegetation Management - 1 IPM
- Mesquite and Yaupon Control - 1 Gen.
- Feral Hog Control - 1 Laws & Regs
- Picolinic Acid Chemistry Training - 1 Laws & Regs

**Registration begins at 8:30am. Program begins at 9:00am**



## Smithville Veterans of Foreign Wars

557 NW Loop 230  
Smithville, Tx 78957

For more information, contact  
Bastrop County Extension:  
512-581-7186 or  
dakota.kempken@ag.tamu.edu

## Pre-Registration: \$40

\$10 late fee after Friday, Oct. 25th.

Paid to:  
Fayette County Extension office  
255 Svoboda Ln #134. La Grange, Tx 78945  
or  
Bastrop County Extension Office  
15 American Legion Dr. Ste. 109. Bastrop,  
Tx 78602

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

## **FALL AG PRODUCERS CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 1ST**

The annual Bastrop/Fayette County Fall Ag Producers Conference is coming back to Smithville on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at the Smithville Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1309, 557 NW Loop 230. Smithville, tx 78957. Five Continuing Education Units (CEU's) will be issued to pesticide applicator license holders that attend, including:

- Pesticide drift mitigation – 1 drift
- Aquatic vegetation management – 1 Integrated Pest Management
- Mesquite and Yaupon control – 1 general
- Chemical feral hog control – 1 Laws and Regulations
- Picolinic acid chemistry training – 1 Laws and Regulations

Doors open for registration at 8:30am, and lunch will be provided. To ensure enough seats and plates can be provided, a pre-registration fee of \$40 is due to the Bastrop County Extension Office (15 American Legion Dr. Ste. 109. Bastrop, Tx 78602) by Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. A \$10 late fee will be charged to registrations after the 25<sup>th</sup>/at the door. Payments can be made out via check (payable to Bastrop County Ag Demonstration Fund), Cash, or via Eventbrite by scanning the QR code with your smartphone camera. Please make sure cash payments are **exact change only**.



Link to the event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-bastropfayette-county-ag-producers-conference-tickets-1037062791727>

## **1-D-1 OPEN SPACE AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP ON OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>**

Ag use and open space tax valuations can be confusing for landowners interested in pursuing property tax relief. If you have questions about maintaining a 1-D-1 open space appraisal or want to know how to manage your property for wildlife, Bastrop AgriLife Extension, along with Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Bastrop Central Appraisal District, will be hosting a 1-D-1 Open Space and Wildlife Management workshop on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Bastrop County Extension Office (15 American Legion Dr. Doors open for check-in at 8:30am. For more information, please see the attached flyer or contact the extension office at 512-581-7186 or [Dakota.kempken@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Dakota.kempken@ag.tamu.edu).



# WILDLIFE AND OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

**Friday, October 25th**

- About 1-D-1 Open Space appraisal
- Maintaining your 1-D-1 Open Space valuation:
  - Habitat Management
  - Wildlife Population Management
  - Predator Control
  - Supplemental Water



**Bastrop County Community Center**  
 15 American Legion Dr. Bastrop, Tx

Doors open at 8:30am. Program starts at 9:00am.  
 Please RSVP by Monday, October 21st!

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Bastrop County AgriLife Extension at 512-581-7186!

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