Palo Pinto County Agriculture and Natural Resources Newsletter

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Making a Difference

Winter 2019

Palo Pinto County Extension Office

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Palo Pinto County 4-H and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Palo Pinto County

2019 Palo Pinto County - AG&NR In-Depth Plan Summary

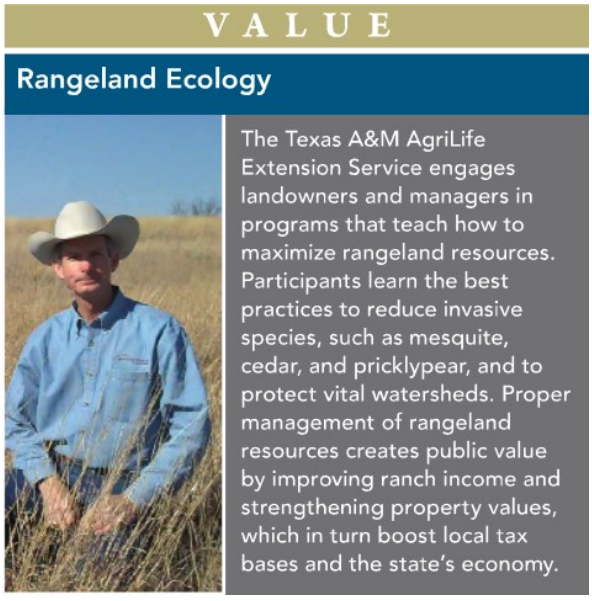
Jason Westbrook - Palo Pinto Ag & Natural Resource Agent

Relevance

Agriculture and Natural Resources accounts for $5,629,000 annually to the economy of Palo Pinto County. This information comes from the 2017 U.S. Census report. The economic viability of Palo Pinto County depends on this segment of industry. Agricultural and natural resource programming is planned through the County Agriculture Committee and delivered by the County Extension Agent and members of the committee. The issues solved within the committee driven programs have a future impact on management options available for Palo Pinto producers.

Response

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension and Palo Pinto County developed programs through the work of the Palo Pinto County Ag Committee and direct discussion with agricultural professionals. Programs were developed addressing the needs of pesticide management, well water testing, land management, beef quality assurance and beef cattle management. Demonstrations and applied research plots were developed within brush and prickly pear management as well as a necropsy of cattle injection sites. Program announcements to producers with agendas and supporting information are mailed prior to each meeting. Monthly Ag articles are circulated in newspapers to support issues that arise. Quarterly newsletters were distributed to area producers.



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- **January 16, 2020 -** Pesticide Workshop 5 CEU Program
  Palo Pinto Extension Office
  221 South 5th Ave., Palo Pinto
  Registration begins 8:00 a.m.
  Program starts 8:30 a.m.

- CEU Pesticide Workshop (90 attended)
- Water Well Testing Program (30 participated)
- Multi County Land Symposium (60 attended)
- Multi County BQA Program (65 producers)
- Multi County Beef NCTCC (35 producers)
- Demonstrations: Prickly Pear, Cedar Elm, & Cattle Necropsy (53 producers)
- Quarterly newsletter Jan, March, July, November (100 producers)
- Monthly newspaper articles (16,000 people)
- Landowner calls (34 calls)
- 3 PAC Meetings (8 members)

Programs were marketed through all means of mass media. Partnerships between the USDA Farm Service Agency, Texas Beef Council, NRCS, Farm Bureau, Capital Farm Credit, Animal Health Industries, Waldens Farm and Ranch and Texas A&M Agrilife Extension personnel were utilized to aid in planning and implementing all educational efforts.

Results

A retrospective post evaluation instrument was used at the Palo Pinto County Pesticide Workshop, Beef Quality Assurance and Land Management Symposium to measure percent increase in understanding and intentions to adopt specific program topics. 90% of producers attending programming responded to the surveys.

Program Content	Percentage Increase in Understanding
Products that can be used for grass bur control	79.4%
Strategies to control pecan tree pest	80.6%
Identification of pecan case bearer	74.6%
Handling impact on beef quality	99%
Importance of observing pesticides restrictions	96%
Knowledge of chemical control methods on ashe juniper.	89.7%
Understanding of biological control on ashe juniper.	89.7%

Practice or technology that could be adopted	Percent that will adopt
Use new technologies to control prickly pear and grass burs	90.0%
Use Texas A&M online resources to determine tree issues	71.2%
Use economics to manage brush and wildlife	85.7%
Use recommended chemical controls on ash juniper	77.8
Plan to give all injections according to BQA principles	97.0%

Overall Anticipated Economic benefit $4.86 per acre & $18 per head cattle

Acknowledgements: Palo Pinto Ag Committee, Animal Health International, Texas Beef Council, Capital Farm Credit, Farm Bureau and Walden Farm and Ranch

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Making a Difference

2019 Palo Pinto County- Horticulture In-Depth Plan Summary

Jason Westbrook- Palo Pinto County Ag & Natural Resource Agent

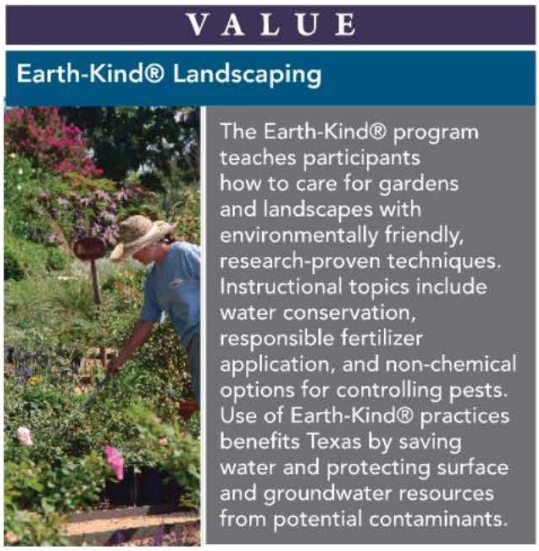
Relevance

Strong, healthy plants contribute to the Texas economy. In 2017, total horticulture and green industry sales, which includes growing, landscaping and retailing, exceeded $15.6 billion, up 8.7 percent from the prior year, according to a report by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. Each year the Extension office receives many phone calls regarding lawn and gardening questions. Horticulture is important in that it represents a large portion of one's property value. Palo Pinto County has a Master Gardeners program which serves as our Horticulture Committee in which many programs are developed. Quarterly newsletters and articles are distributed to support programs and issues that arise. Homeowner calls are made by the County Extension Agent to address the needs of the communities.

Response

The committee held numerous programs to address issues. These included vegetable gardening, lawn maintenance and Earthkind principles. Demonstrations included rose bush trimming and flower bed thinning. The committee also had several tours that included a wildlife management area, landscape area and pumpkin patch garden. A program was also developed by the committee on dragon flies and their preferred habitat. Care and maintenance of many County landscape projects are also managed by the committee. Topics were delivered by committee members as well as Extension specialist. Evaluations were distributed and data was collected.

- Vegetable gardening program (30 attended)
- Lawn Maintenance program (8 attended)
- Earthkind program (19 attended)
- Dragon Fly program (12 attended)
- Demos: Rose bush trimming, bed thinning (16 ind.)
- Tours: WMA, landscape, pumpkin patch (42 ind.)
- Quarterly Newsletters (125 sent)
- Quarterly News articles (6,000 sent)



- 10 PAC Meetings (15 Members)

Programs were marketed through all means of mass media. Partnerships between the Parker County Master Gardeners, Palo Pinto Master Gardeners, NRCS, Texas Parks and Wildlife and Texas A&M Agrilife Extension personnel were utilized to aid in planning and implementing all educational efforts.

Results

A retrospective post evaluation instrument was used at the Vegetable Gardening and Lawn Maintenance programs. The evaluation instrument was used to measure knowledge gained and adoption of specific program topics. 100% of the attendees responded to the surveys.

Percentage that increased knowledge

Program Content	**Percentage Increase in knowledge gained**
General water requirements for Bermuda, Zoysia and St. Augustine grasses	72.3%
Quick release and slow release Nitrogen and how they can be used in combination in the yard	83.3%
Fertilizer requirements based on species of grass	77.7%
Timing of weed chemicals for best success	66.7%
General disease control in vegetables	78.2%
Importance of solarization	82.3%
Importance of watering and fertilization on various vegetables	89.0%

Percentage Intentions to Adopt

Practice or Technology that Could Be Adopted	**Percent That definitely will adopt**
Willingness to adopt soil testing every 1-3 years	83.3%
Comprehensive approach to weed and disease control in lawns	83.3%
Organic practices in vegetable production	93.6%
Using compost and mulch in vegetable gardens	84.6%

Anticipated Economic Benefit for Vegetable program per attendee was calculated at $875 by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension.

Acknowledgements: Palo Pinto Master Gardeners, Parker County Master Gardeners, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, Pumpkin Patch Management, NRCS

Cedar Elm Demonstration Results

RESEARCH DATA SHEET — TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE/ CENTRAL DISTRICT VIII — 61819

2019 Palo Pinto County Cedar Elm

6/18/19 Date Started		32.6131 -98.3431 Location		Palo Pinto County
11:00-12:00 Spray Time	1 gal/plot 10GPA Spray Volume	WSW 9 mph Wind Speed and Direction		Variable Plot Size
GB CO2 ATV Application Method		77 F Soil Temperature	83 F Air Temperature	10 Ft Swath Width
 Soil Type	58 Relative Humidity	1-4 foot tall fully leaved Stage of Growth		22% Soil Moisture

Cedar elm

Sprayed Jackson, Westbrook & Murphey Comments	James Jackson 0679695 Licensed Applicator/License No.

Plot no.	Herbicide Formulation	Rate Oz/A	Material/ plot	TSV	6 WAT % Defoliation 7/24/19	3 MAT % Defoliation 9/24/19	12 MAT % Mortality	24 MAT % Mortality
1	GrazonNext HL Remedy Dyne-amic	24 32 4	70 mL 93 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	55%	75%		
2	Tordon 22K Remedy Dyneamic	32 32 4	93 mL 93 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	55%	75%		
3	Tordon 22K Remedy Sharpen Dyneamic	32 32 4 4	93 mL 93 mL 12 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	55%	75%		
4	MezaVue Dynamic	32 4	93 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	75%	95%		
5	MezaVue Remedy Dynamic	32 32 4	93 mL 93 mL 4 mL	10 GPA	75%	98%		
6	MezaVue Sharpen Dyneamic	32 4 4	93 mL 12 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	65%	70%		
7	Surmount Sharpen Dyneamic	64 4 4	187 mL 12 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	85%	98%		
8	PastureGard HL Sharpen Dyneamic	32 4 4	93 mL 12 mL 12 mL	10 GPA	75%	98%		