

Top of the Windmill News

Fall 2021



Kerr County AgriLife Extension Service
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By: Justin Klinksiek CEA-Ag/NR

Calendar of Events

Oct 27-Nov 11 - Native Tree Sale

Nov. 18 - Gillespie County Agrilife
Workshop (5 CEU's)

Dec. 8 - Hill Country District
Pecan Show



Welcome & Introduction

Howdy! My name is Justin Klinksiek, and I am the new County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Kerr County. I grew up right next door in Bandera County. I was actively involved in 4-H growing up showing sheep and goats, livestock judging,



county council, and community service. I graduated from Bandera High School in 2013 and moved to San Angelo to attend Angelo State University. At my time at Angelo State, I was involved in collegiate FFA, Block & Bridle Club, and Delta Tau Alpha (Agriculture Honor Society). I began my AgriLife career at the San Angelo Research and Extension Center working on Animal Breeding and Genetics Research in cattle, sheep, and goats. I graduated in Spring of 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and a Minor in Range and Wildlife Management. After graduation I moved to Brady Texas and

accepted the McCulloch County Extension Agent position. While in McCulloch County I was 4-H Coordinator. I worked with all aspects of the county 4-H program including livestock projects, livestock judging, wool judging, livestock skill-a-thon, 4-H clubs, county council, and much more. My agriculture focus was on beef cattle and sheep production, rangeland management, and small grains production. In May of 2019 my beautiful wife, Destiny, and I got married. In the summer of 2019 I graduated with a Master of Science in Agriculture Science, with a focus in Adult Education and Rangeland Management, from Texas A&M University Kingsville. After four amazing years in Brady, we decided we wanted to move home to the Texas Hill Country in Kerrville. Destiny and I welcomed our first son, Kason, in January of 2021. We are excited to be a part of the community and put down roots in Kerr County. I am personally excited to work with agriculture producers, homeowners, and the youth of Kerr County.

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Commercial products and trade names are used for information purposes only.*



NATIVE TREE SALE



2104 MEMORIAL BOULEVARD, SUITE 103 KERRVILLE, TEXAS 78028
 830-896-4911 x 3 FAX: 844-496-8002
missie@kerrcountyswcd.com

\$35

Orders Due: Thursday, November 11, 2021

\$35

Pick Up Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Trees are native species in 5 gallon pots.

Customer Name: _____ Phone: _____

<u>Species Available</u>	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Species Available</u>	<u>Qty.</u>
American Smoke Tree	<i>sold out</i>	Soapberry, Western	<i>sold out</i>
Anacacho Orchid	_____	Sumac, Prairie Flame Leaf	_____
Arroyo Sweetwood	_____	Cedar Elm <i>limited</i>	_____
Dessert Willow, Bubba	_____	Native Pecan	<i>sold out</i>
Eve's Necklace	_____	Montezuma Cypress	<i>sold out</i>
Goldenball Lead Tree	_____	Oak, Burr <i>limited</i>	_____
Mexican Buckeye	_____	Oak, Chinguapin	_____
Mexican Plum	<i>sold out</i>	Oak, Lacey	<i>sold out</i>
Possumhaw (Female)	<i>sold out</i>	Oak, Live	_____
Redbud, Mexican	<i>sold out</i>	Oak, Monterrey	_____
Redbud, Texas	<i>sold out</i>	Big Tooth Maple only available in 15 gal pots \$145	_____

Total # of Trees _____ @ \$35.00 \$ _____

of Big Tooth Maples in 15 gal. pots _____ @ \$145 \$ _____

Enclosed Check # _____

If paying by C.C. add a 5% Service Charge \$ _____

Total Charged to CC \$ _____

NOV 18
8 AM - 3 PM

GILLESPIE COUNTY AGRILIFE ~5 HOUR CEU COURSE~

*Discussing lawn care and management practices,
rodent/bird management, and more related topics.*

This course is offered to Structural/Ag Non-Commercial and Commercial
Pesticide Applicator license holders.

(Open to Private Applicators as well if CEU's are needed)

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

For more information, please call the
Extension Office at (830) 997-3452

COST: \$75/PERSON

Cash or check only
(checks payable to Gillespie ANR Committee).
Payment is requested ahead of
time.



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Hill Country District Pecan Show

With the cooler weather here many homeowners and commercial growers are anxiously awaiting the Hill Country District Pecan Show set for December 8th, 2021, at the Kerr County AgriLife Extension Office. Growers throughout the Hill Country appear to be having a good crop this year and should have plenty of pecans for this year's shows. Each year pecan growers from the Hill Country area, Bandera, Kendall, Kerr and Real counties collect and enter their pecan entries to compete for awards, recognition and advancement to the Central Texas Regional Show. Growers will compete for ribbons and plaques with the Champion Commercial, Classic and Native all receiving plaques. Growers from this area may enter one entry of each improved variety and as many native entries as they like. Each entry must consist of 45 nuts of one variety and must be grown by the exhibitor and from this year's crop. What makes a good sample? Good pecan entries are uniform in color, shape and size, free of disease and insect markings with very little discoloration or white at the end of the pecans. Pecans should be free of splits or cracking to insure a good sample. Pecans may not be altered by marking, filing or excessive polishing, which will disqualify the entry. Each entry will be selected based on a random sampling of 10 nuts selected from the entry. The 10 nuts are then weighed in shell, shelled and a kernel weight is then taken. Based on the size of the nuts, percent edible kernel, color and appearance the nuts are placed. If you would like to compete in this year's Hill Country District Pecan Show please bring your pecans to the Kerr County Extension Office, located at 3775 Highway 27, no later than Tuesday, November 30th. Questions can be directed to 830-257-6568.



Fall Turfgrass Maintenance

As we finish up the month of October and move into the cooler months of November and December, we must keep some turfgrass management thoughts in mind. In November and December, we need to mow if necessary to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering. Apply post emergent herbicides for winter annuals such as blue grass, chickweed, henbit, etc., or for cool season perennial weeds. Remember to turn off irrigation during winter months when temperatures are cool, and the lawn is not actively growing (dormant).



Common winter annual grasses in lawns include annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*) and rescuegrass. Applying a pre-emergence herbicide in the fall is less common, but in lawns with a history of these weeds, certain pre-emergent herbicides listed in Table 1 can be applied from mid- August

Table 1. Pre-emergence herbicides for use in bermudagrass lawns.

Herbicide	Pre/post/ Emergent	Controls	Notes	Found In
corn gluten meal	Pre	grasses	An organic product. May not be as effective as options listed below.	Maize Weed Preventer, many others
dithiopyr	Pre	grasses, some broadleaves	Will control crabgrass plants shortly after they germinate. Can be applied up to a few weeks after crabgrass germination.	Bonide crabgrass preventer, many others
pendimethalin	Pre	grasses, some broadleaves	May stain concrete and brick pavers. Sweep product from hardscapes immediately after application or be careful when applying in these areas.	Scotts Halts Crabgrass Preventer, Pre-M, many others
prodiamine	Pre	grasses, some broadleaves	May stain concrete and brick pavers. Sweep product from hardscapes immediately after application or use caution when applying in these areas.	Barricade
isoxaben	Pre	broadleaves	Will not control grassy weeds such as crabgrass or annual bluegrass.	Gallery, Fertilome Broadleaf Weed Control with Gallery

to mid-September. Even if you apply a pre-emergence herbicide in the spring to control summer annual weeds, you must treat again in the fall to control winter annual weeds. Do not apply a pre-emergent if you are planning to overseed with ryegrass in the fall.

Perennial grassy weeds

It is difficult to control perennial grassy weeds such as dallisgrass or bluestem (*Bothriochloa* species). Post-emergence herbicides available in retail stores for controlling grassy weeds mostly target crabgrass. Small infestations of perennial grassy weeds can be removed by hand.

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However, be sure to remove the entire clump and the underground rhizomes, or it will regrow. For large plants, you may need a shovel to completely remove them and backfill the hole with topsoil.

Table 2. Post-emergence herbicides for use in bermudagrass lawns.

Herbicide	Controls	Notes	Found in
2,4-D	broadleaves	Will not control clovers.	Weed-B-Gon, weed-n-feed products, many others
carfentrazone	broadleaves	Provides a quick "burn down" on broadleaf weeds but not grasses.	Usually mixed with other herbicides.
dicamba	broadleaves	Can be absorbed through roots; do not apply near shallow-rooted trees. Usually combined with 2,4-D to increase weed control of clovers.	Weed-B-Gon, weed-n-feed products, many others
imazaquin	sedges	Provides good control of yellow and purple nutsedge.	Image Kills Nutsedge
MCPA	broadleaves	Usually combined with 2,4-D to increase weed control	Weed-B-Gon, weed-n-feed products, many others
mecroprop-p (MCP)	broadleaves	Usually combined with 2,4-D to increase weed control	Weed-B-Gon, weed-n-feed products, many others
metsulfuron	broadleaves	Can be absorbed through roots; do not apply near shallow-rooted trees. Excellent control of many broadleaf weeds, limited control of others. Will take 2 to 3 weeks before weed dies.	Certain Scotts Bonus S products. Scotts Spot Weed Control for Southern Lawns
penoxsulam	broadleaves	Will take 2 to 3 weeks before weeds die. May not control larger weeds when applied alone	Fertilome Dollarweed Control
quinclorac	certain grasses, clovers	Will provide crabgrass control. Also provides excellent clover control. Do not apply to St. Augustinegrass.	Products that mention crabgrass control. Usually mixed with 2,4-D and other broadleaf herbicides
sulfentrazone	yellow nutsedge, broadleaves	Will control yellow nutsedge but controls purple nutsedge poorly.	Ortho Nutsedge Control, Bonide Sedge Ender
triclopyr	broadleaves	Controls clovers better than 2,4-D, MCPA, or MCP. Will cause bermudagrass injury if applied alone. Use only when part of combination product. Check the label to make sure it can be applied to bermudagrass.	Bonide Chickweed Killer, many others



Managing Fall Calving Season

Prepartum nutrition

Most cows lose some weight during calving and lactation. Despite that, those in good body condition (high body condition score, or BCS) can lose some weight and still re-breed, provided the weight loss is not more than 1/2 pound per day. Animals without adequate fat cover will still provide milk, but they may not re-breed, especially if they are in poor body condition and are late calvers as well.



Therefore, one of the most critical things a manager can do is to ensure that cows calve in a BCS of at least 5 or 6 and that weight loss after calving is not dramatic. Managers should evaluate cattle for body condition score 2 to 4 months before the calving season begins. Then there will be time to determine the type and quantity of supplemental feed needed and time for the cattle to respond to supplementation with improved body condition. Supplementing cows to obtain body condition scores higher than 6 is not usually desirable, either from an economic or physiological standpoint, although if they achieve higher levels of condition from a high-quality forage diet, fertility usually is not reduced.

Nutrient management

Body Condition Score (BCS)/ Calving Time	Risk of Re-Breeding Failure
BCS 5-6, Early Calver	Low Risk
BCS 5-6, Late Calver	Low to Moderate Risk (depending on nutrition level postpartum)
BCS 4, Early Calver	Moderate Risk (depending on nutrition level postpartum)
BCS 4 or less	High Risk
BCWS 1, 2, 3	High Risk

Nutrient requirements vary widely throughout the year. For example, at lactation, protein requirements are double what they were earlier in the year. The challenge is that nutrients, either from forage or supplement, are delivered to a herd and not to individual animals. In other words, all cows in the pasture get the same opportunity to consume feed and forage and all are fed in the same way. Supplementation is much more effective in herds with managed calving seasons because all animals are at or near a similar stage of production and have very similar nutrient requirements. Thus, supplemental feed can be accurately and effectively delivered. Managed calving seasons make it easier to time the breeding period, when nutrient requirements are greatest, to coincide with the period of best seasonal forage quality. For example, if March, April and May are the months when green, growing forage is most likely to be available, then the breeding season should coincide with those months. That means calving should occur in December, January and February.

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Herd health management

Many vaccinations are best administered at specific stages of production so that the maximum immune response can be realized. With controlled breeding seasons, all cows can be worked and vaccinated at the same time and will achieve the desired level of immunity when it is needed. Their calves, which will be of similar ages, also can be worked together and vaccinated in a timely manner.



Fertility management

Non-pregnant (open) and sub-fertile cattle should be identified and culled to improve herd fertility. Failure to do this will eliminate the possibility of having high pregnancy rates, regardless of how long the breeding period may last. When there is a defined bull removal date, pregnancy testing can be done to find and cull cows that fail to get pregnant. But with year-round or extended breeding/calving periods, sub-fertile cattle often go unrecognized. They may have calves, but no one really knows how often. A defined bull removal date (calving season) forces the culling of sub-fertile cows because they will either calve late, or not at all.



Choosing a calving season

It is generally best to breed when forage quality is best. Across most of Texas this usually means spring breeding (with winter or early spring calving). Sometimes winter breeding (with fall calving) is desirable if cool-season forages are available and/or it is cost-effective to market fall-born calves. If calving occurs in the fall without adequate cool-season forage (or high-quality hay), supplemental feed costs will be high. Breeding cows in the

summer is not recommended in most regions of Texas because heat stress lowers the fertility of both cows and bulls. Exceptions to this rule may be found in certain areas of Far West Texas or the Panhandle, or for producers whose markets dictate that calves be born at a certain time of year (for example, if they are producing club calves).



