Top of the Windmill News

Spring 2022 2nd Edition

Kerr County AgriLife Extension Service
3775 Hwy. 27
Kerrville, TX 78028
(830) 257-6568
kerr@ag.tamu.edu
Kerr.agrilife.org

By: Justin Klinksiek CEA-Ag/NRAg/

Calendar of Events

April 9 - Hill Country Master Gardeners Blooms and Barrels Sale

April 13 - Hill Country Pecan Grafting Clinic (CEUs available)

April 14 - Kerr County Local Work Group Meeting

April 19 - 2022 Fish Restocking Program

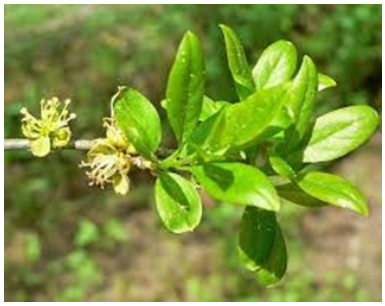
May 6 - Cow Pokes & Land Folks Conference (CEUs available)

May 10 - Private Applicator Training

May 24 - Kerr County Ranch Field Day

Plant of the Month: Elbow Bush (Foresteria pubescens)

By: Kent Ferguson



Elbowbush is a warm-season, perennial shrub found throughout the southern and western U.S. Usually found west of Interstate 35, it is commonly associated with mixed brush species of hackberry, sumac, juniper, and other wooded species.

Elbowbush is also known as Spring Herald, Stretch Berry, Devil's Elbow, and several additional local names.

The plant:

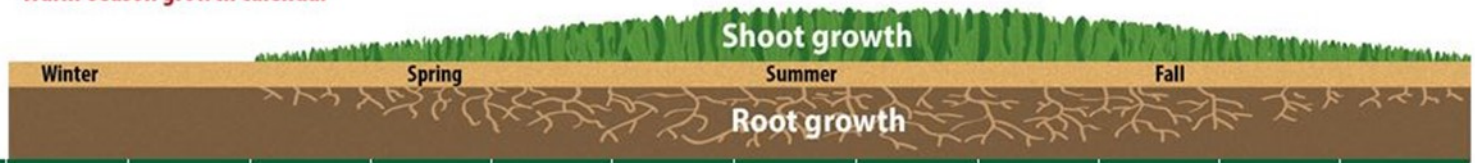
- Has long, downward curving branches, sometimes looping like a vine. The twigs are light gray, smooth, and aligned on opposite sides of the stem at 30- degree angles giving off and "elbow" appearance.
- Produces small, yellow flowers in late winter, which appear as short clusters on the previous year's branches before the leaves appear.
- Is dioecious, meaning a plant will only have male or female flowers, not both. It produces bluish black fleshy berries on the female plants, which ripen during the summer months.
- Has simple, opposite, deciduous leaves that are one half inch to nearly two inches long. They are dull green and vary from elliptical to oblong, with small-toothed edges, dull tipped points, and a rounded base.

Elbowbush provides desirable browse for goats, white-tailed deer, and other wildlife. The berries are consumed by many songbirds, turkeys, and small mammals. The plant's growth habit provides ideal cover for quail and nesting for Black-capped Vireo.

Cattle consume the plant on occasion. Early in the spring, crude protein levels can reach 21% before dropping to 10% in the fall.

Bermudagrass Home Lawn Management Calendar

Warm-season growth calendar



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Mowing	Mow if necessary to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering (p. 6)		Mow at 1-2" height weekly, or as frequently as required to prevent scalping. Observe the 1/3rd rule by never removing any more than 1/3rd of the leaf tissue at any one time (p. 3)								Mow if necessary to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering (p. 6)	
Irrigation	Turn off irrigation during winter months when temperatures are cool and the lawn is not actively growing (dormant) (p. 4)		Conduct an irrigation audit before turning on irrigation during the spring and summer (p. 4)		Irrigate only when necessary to prevent the onset of drought stress or to replace at least 60% of ET. Turn off the system during rainy periods or during early spring and late fall where ET rates are lower and natural rainfall is more likely to meet the lawn's needs. (p. 4)						Turn off irrigation during winter when temperatures are cool and the lawn is not actively growing (dormant) (p. 4)	
Fertilization				Do not make 1st fertilizer application until the lawn is actively growing and has been mowed 2 to 3 times (p. 6)		Apply 0.5 to 1 lb of N/1,000 ft² for a total of 1 to 4 applications during the growing season. Space fertilizer applications 4 to 8 weeks apart using a combination of quick and slow-release nitrogen (N). Apply other nutrients based on soil test results. Do not apply fertilizer during to drought stressed grass. (p. 5)					
Weed Control		Apply pre-emergence herbicides for crabgrass, goosegrass, and other summer annual weeds. Apply post-emergence herbicides for cool-season perennial weeds or winter annual weeds. Use caution during spring green-up as turfgrass injury may occur. (p. 6)			Apply post-emergence herbicides for summer annual weeds such as crabgrass, purslane, spurge, etc. or warm-season perennial weeds such as Virginia buttonweed before the onset of summer drought stress (p. 8)				Apply pre-emergence herbicides for annual bluegrass, chickweed, henbit, and other winter annual weeds. (p. 9)		Apply post-emergence herbicides for winter annuals such as annual bluegrass, chickweed, henbit, etc. or for cool-season perennial weeds. (p. 9)	
Insect Control				Scout for fire ants and apply insecticides if necessary using a combination of broadcasts, baits, and individual mound treatments. (p. 10)								
						Apply preventative grub products if necessary (p. 10)		Apply curative control for white grubs if necessary. Scout for fall armyworms. (p. 10)				
Disease Control				Scout for bermudagrass decline (aka, take-all root rot)								
				Scout for spring dead spot. It is not appropriate to apply fungicides for this disease at this time (fall applications are ideal) (p. 10)					Scout for large patch and apply fungicides before patches develop. Apply fungicides in areas with a history of spring dead spot. (p. 10)			
Aeration				Aerate if possible to relieve soil compaction, especially in newer lawns with limited organic matter accumulation or in lawns that receive moderate to heavy use. Aeration is best performed when there is adequate soil moisture so that the aeration tines remove a soil core effectively.								

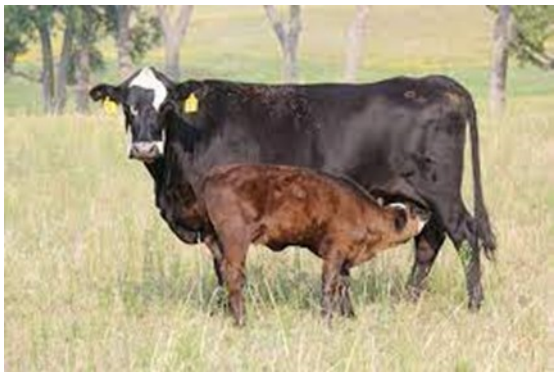
This calendar is intended only as a guide and practices herein may vary based on site and region.
Visit http://AggieTurf.tamu.edu for more information on turfgrass management practices, weed identification, and pest control.

Ag Pesticide Applicator and Course Provider Update 2022 Covid 19 (Coronavirus)

In response to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is extending this exemption of agriculture Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements. To address the CEU's and licensure requirements for Ag Pesticide applicators, the TDA will work with the ag pesticide applicators and CEU course providers of Texas during this critical time. Licensed applicators with expiring licenses or needing CEU's will be allowed to renew their license even if they have not met their CEU requirement for their current licensing period through December 31, 2022. Due to the uncertainty of the length and severity of the Covid 19 pandemic, many CEU events have been canceled. The TDA will work to insure all the state's pesticide applicators are able to acquire their licenses and required continuing education courses in a safe and effective manner during this time frame. Once CEU courses resume as normal, applicators will be required to obtain their required CEUs for their respective license classification for each licensing period. By allowing a CEU exemption, this will allow the applicators to maintain their ability to perform pesticide applications for pests, weeds, insects etc., without disrupting daily business functions. Applicators are encouraged to complete online courses even if online courses were completed the previous licensing period.

COMMERCIAL, NON-COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL POLITICAL APPLICATORS For licenses expiring in 2022 ONLY: TDA will exempt commercial, non-commercial and non-commercial political applicators who have taken online or correspondence courses within the last year. The TDA Rule 7.24 (t) (2) does not allow for online or correspondence courses to be taken 2 years consecutively. In light of the unusual circumstances due to Covid 19 (coronavirus), the TDA will allow online or correspondence courses to be taken in consecutive years. This exemption will be for the current 2022 licensing period. Commercial, non-commercial and non-commercial political pesticide applicators are required to obtain 5 CEUs per licensing period. PRIVATE APPLICATORS For licenses expiring in 2022 ONLY: The TDA will also exempt private applicators from the TDA Rule 7.24 (v) (5). This rule does not allow a private applicator to acquire more than 10 CEUs through correspondence courses. During this quarantine time frame, private applicators will be allowed to acquire ALL of their CEUs through correspondence courses (online). Private applicators are required to obtain 15 CEUs per 5- year licensing period.

Spring Calf Management Tips



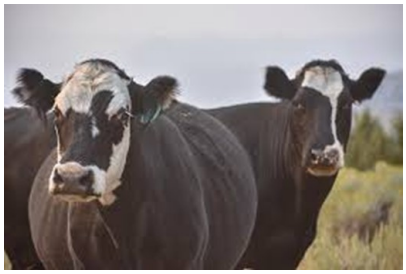
Texas is one of the few states that can go from the dead of winter to the beginning of summer in five days. Fortunately, the calves that are coming now in pastures throughout the bottom half of Texas will be the prime beneficiary of the better weather as will the green that is beginning to appear in pastures from the Sabine to the Rio Grande. Now is the time to consider a few economically beneficial calf management tips. First, when possible, your calves should be identified. A good ear tag will help you remember the birthdate and dam of the calf, and later at weaning and marketing, his growth rate and market value. Calves born early in the season weigh more at weaning (about 2-2.5 lbs. more per day of age) and calves that are born earlier are generally out of more adapted (and fertile) cows. Calf weight at weaning and marketing will assist you in deciding which cows are more productive and produce more valuable calves. Second, as soon after birth as possible, castrate bull calves that you are not intending to raise and dehorn all calves. Doing these practices at a very young age reduces the pain of the procedure and increases the speed of recovery. Castrated calves are more desired by the feeding industry and they bring more dollars per pound when marketed as their carcasses will quality grade higher and be more valuable. The downside to castration is the steer calves will weigh less at weaning than bull calves but using a calf growth implant when castrating will offset the loss of gain. Dehorning or disbudding will improve the appearance and uniformity of the calves and reduce the potential for injury to you and other animals. If genetically homozygous polled bulls or cows are used, dehorning will not be necessary. Finally, vaccinate your calves for the Blackleg or Clostridial diseases, especially if their dams have not been vaccinated and the calves are over a month old. This vaccination will protect calves from these “sudden death” diseases. All the commercial vaccines provide excellent immunity from these diseases and all calves should be vaccinated and boostered according to the label.

BQA Tip: Seek out Calm Cattle

Disposition is an important trait to all cattle producers. Temperamental cattle may not perform as well as calm animals, and are more likely to hurt someone, inure themselves, or damage facilities. Additionally, shrink will generally increase in high strung animals.

Seedstock producers should formally record and submit docility scores on all animals. Commercial producers should make note of any animals with docility concerns and not keep any of the progeny.

Consider evaluating animals in the alley by themselves or with just one or two others for the best temperament assessment.



Vulnerability Ratings of Native Plants to Deer Browsing in the Texas Hill Country

Steve Nelle, Biologist, NRCS

Explanation of Vulnerability Ratings: This listing of many Hill Country plants is intended to help provide basic knowledge of which plants species may be most vulnerable to heavy grazing and browsing by white-tailed deer in the region. Other animal species, such as goats, sheep and exotic wildlife also consume browse and forbs. In general, a plant that is highly preferred by white-tailed deer will also be highly preferred by these other ungulates. In many cases, a combination of deer and other animals coexist together, and the cumulative effect of all grazing and browsing must be considered. This list does not contain grasses and grass-like plants since these are generally not consumed by deer in large amounts and are not considered vulnerable to damage by deer grazing. This listing is based on the widely accepted fact that ungulates are selective in their feeding habits. Deer, sheep, goats and other similar animals exercise preference and selectivity in their feeding. Plants that are more palatable are selected before plants of lesser palatability. Where animal numbers are high, this selectivity, over time will result in the over-use of the more preferred species. This gives a competitive advantage to the less palatable plants that thrive at the expense of the more preferred species. Palatability in plants is somewhat subjective and is influenced by many factors including leaf size, leaf texture, tenderness and succulence, the presence of spines or thorns, and the presence of aversive chemical compounds in plants such as tannins, alkaloids and phenolics which give leaves an unpleasant taste. A human analogy may be the preference most people have for steak >> brisket >> hamburger >> bologna. As excessive leaf material is removed from plants repeatedly over the growing season, the health and vigor of that plant and root system begins to decline due to a lack of photosynthetic leaf surface. As plant vigor declines, plants begin to exhibit some visual signs of poor health. These include: smaller leaf size; fewer leaves; poor twig growth; hedging; browse lines; dead twigs and branches, increased susceptibility to insect and disease damage; increased susceptibility to drought; poor flowering; poor seed production; limited seedling establishment; inadequate recruitment; and premature death. If some plant species are dying without replacing themselves in the plant community, this will result in the eventual loss of that species at the local level. If this continues over a large area over a long period of time, it can cause drastic changes in plant communities, and the simplification of species diversity. Landowners and managers who are interested in maintaining or restoring high native plant diversity can use these listings to help interpret what has happened on their land. If Class I and Class II plants are rare or absent, or if they are growing only in the protective cover of brush piles or thorny plants, it is a sure indication of too many animals. Significant reductions in deer, exotics, sheep or goats is needed to help reverse the trend and begin to allow the preferred plants to improve in vigor, and eventually spread and increase. In some cases, deer proof fencing may be needed to maintain appropriately low deer numbers. Definitions of Vulnerability Classes Class I Plants are those which are considered to be the most

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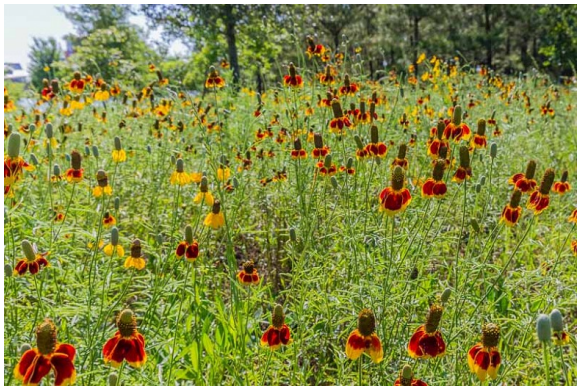

palatable to deer, and highly preferred. Deer will seek these plants and graze or browse them to a much greater degree than their abundance in the plant community. Due to this preference, these plants are the most vulnerable to damage and death due to excessive use by deer. These plants are generally not reproducing well in areas with high deer numbers. Even where deer numbers are moderate, grazing and browsing on these species will often be severe. Old and mature plants may be present in varying amounts, but young plants are uncommon to non existent. Class II Plants are somewhat less preferred than Class I Plants, and somewhat more preferred than Class III Plants. Across much of the Hill Country where deer numbers are high, these plants exhibit heavy use and show the signs of poor vigor. Where deer numbers are moderate, these plants will often be in good vigor. In many cases, where Class I plants are absent or rare, Class II plants become the most preferred by default. Class III Plants are generally not considered to be preferred in comparison to Class I and Class II plants. Therefore, these plants are not as vulnerable to grazing and browsing by deer. The abundance of these plants on many ranges indicates that they are generally faring well, even in the presence of high deer populations. Nevertheless, under very high deer populations and in the absence of many Class I and Class II plants, these Class III can become heavily grazed or browsed and subject to poor vigor. Class IV Plants are the least palatable plants of the region. Deer do eat these plants, especially when other more preferred plants are in short supply, but seldom will they graze or browse these plants to the point of causing damage. Because they are the least preferred and least severely browsed, these plants are often the ones that reproduce most successfully and may become over-abundant.

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Class I – Highly Vulnerable Perennial Forbs

Winecup	Dayflower	Showy menodora	Texas nightshade	Spiderwort
Snakeherb -	Bloodberry	Prairie acacia	Heath aster	Nodviolet
Primroses	Gauras	Penstemons	Green lilly	Illinois bundleflower
Four-o'clocks	Texas milkweed	Big red sage		Rain lilly

Class II – Somewhat Vulnerable Perennial Forbs

Engelmanndaisy	Knotweed leafflower	Bladderpod sida	Carlowrightia	Prairie clover
Bushsunflower	Milkwort	Snoutbean	Texas bindweed	Wild onion
Maxmillian sunflower-	Tall goldenrod	Ruellia	Chalkhill woolywhite	Neptunia
Velvet bundleflower	Ground cherry	Wood sorrell	Trailing ratany	Sensitivebriar
Passion flower	Angel trumpet	Low menodora	Prairie paintbrush	Turk's cap
Hairy tubetongue	Sweet gaillardia	Rock daisy	Thyrallis	Skeletonplant
Milk pea	Scurf pea	Morning glory	Westen indigo	Dutchman's pipe
				Larkspur

Class III – Low Vulnerable Perennial Forbs

Orange zexmenia	Dutchman's britches	Daleas	Verbenas	Field ragweed
Fleabane	Evolvulus	Mexican sagewort	Bladderpods	False ragweed
Tall bush clover	Noseburn	Pennyroyal	Crow poison	Wild mercury
Lazy daisy	Spreading sida	Perennial spurges	Greenthread	Copperleaf
Wild buckwheat	Indian mallow	Stickly selloa	Spiny happlopappus	Puccoon
Chicktheif mentzelia	Globemallow	Flame flower	Western ragweed	Windflower
Rock lettuce	Whitlowort	Bluets	Dwarf aster	Snapdragon vine
Gayfeather	Sunflower goldeneye	Spiderling	Twinevine	

Class IV – Very Low Vulnerable Perennial Forbs

Mealycup sage	Dogweed	Milkweeds (most)	Silverleaf nightshade	Horsenettle
Queen's delight	Goldaster	Broom snakeweed	Prairie coneflower	Curlycup gumweed
Ratear coldenia	Plains zinnia	Desert holly	Horehound	Frostweed
Threadleaf groundsel	Spikemoss	Twinleaf senna	Germander	Tetraclea
Tetraneuris	Dogbane	Lindheimer senna	Buffalogourd	Frogfruit
Grassland croton	Leatherweed croton	Milkvines	Texas salvia	White snakeroot
False nightshade	Skullcap	Milfoil	Ferns	Rushpea

Class I – Highly Vulnerable Woody Plants

Kidneywood	Spanish oak	Texas mulberry	White honeysuckle	Littleleaf leadtree
Carolina buckthorn	Mountain mahogany	Rusty blackhaw	Texas sophora	Inland ceanothus
Shrubby boneset	Hawthorne	Possumhaw	Blanco crabapple	Elms
Snowbells	Mock orange	Black willow	Cottonwood	Bigtooth maple
Madrone				

Class II – Somewhat Vulnerable Woody Plants

Hackberry	Netleaf forestiera	Elbowbush	Ephedra	Bois d'arc
Roemer acacia	Western soapberry	Grapevine	Bumelia	Redbud
Virginia creeper	Old mans's beard	Greenbriar	Wild plum	Black cherry
Carolina snailseed	Cypress	Blackjack oak	SW bernardia	Roughleaf dogwood
Lacey oak	Chinquapin oak	Bur oak	Elderberry	

Class III - Low Vulnerable Woody Plants

Live oak	Flameleaf sumac	Littleleaf sumac	Button bush	Hogplum
Shin oaks	Skunkbush sumac	Feather dalea	Silktassel	Prairie baccharis
Post oak	Evergreen sumac	Ivy treebine	Bush croton	Peachbrush
Black dalea	Poison ivy	Indigobush amorpha	Dewberry	Sycamore

Class IV – Very Low Vulnerable Woody Plants

Redberry cedar	Algerita	Mesquite	Lotebush	Condalia
Blueberry cedar	Persimmon	Cenizo	Mountain laurel	Pricklypear
Javelinabush	Catclaw acacia	Catclaw mimosa	Whitebrush	Sacahiste
Yucca	Mexican buckeye	Fragrant mimosa	Little walnut	Wafer ash
Tasajillo	Wolfberry	Willow baccharis	Pecan	Pricklyash

Hill Country

Texas Master Gardeners

Blooms & Barrels Sale

Saturday, April 9, 2022

Begins at 9 am until 1 pm

(OR SOLD OUT)

PLANTS

Native - Adapted - Ornamentals

Herbs -Vegetables

RAIN BARRELS

55 gallon capacity

50% Rebate for Kerr County Residents available from UGRA

All Sales on 4/09/22 are Tax Exempt

BYOW—Bring Your Own Wagon

if you'd like!

Cash or Check Only (ATM available)

Hill Country Youth Event Center – Ag Barn

3785 Hwy 27 East, Kerrville

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Hill Country Master Gardeners

830-257-6568

www.hillcountrymastergardeners.org

Texas Master Gardener – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

CEU's

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Hill Country Pecan Grafting Clinic

RESCHEDULED: Wednesday April 13, 2022

William Rector's Orchard
1425 Harper Rd Kerrville TX 78028
10:00-12:00

- Come out and learn about Pecan Tree Grafting & Pecan Tree Pest Management with Dr. Larry Stein, Horticulture Specialist with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

- **Registration Fee: $20**
- **Please RSVP to the Kerr County Extension Office by Friday April 8th.**
- For more information or to RSVP please contact Justin Klinksiek at the Kerr County AgriLife Extension Office at 830-257-6568

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

KERR COUNTY LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETING

Your input is needed! Help determine natural resource priorities and criteria for USDA-NRCS conservation and programs planning for the upcoming fiscal year.

You are invited to:

- ✓ Help shape plans and priorities future projects.
- ✓ Identify where the best investments can be made to address natural resource issues
- ✓ Review the work that has already been done in the county, and
- ✓ Share your vision for what the county will look like when these natural resource concerns have been addressed.

WHERE: Hill Country Youth Event Center 3785 Hwy. 27 Kerrville, TX 78028

DATE: April 14, 2022

TIME: 11:30am

For more information contact:
Cole Jacoby (830) 896-4911x3

Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov

TEXAS STATE Soil & Water CONSERVATION BOARD

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

KERR COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2104 MEMORIAL BOULEVARD, SUITE 103 KERRVILLE, TEXAS 78028
830-896-4911 x 3 FAX: 844-496-8002
missie@kerrcountyswcd.com

2022 Spring Fish Restocking Order Form

Orders Due Tuesday, April 19th Delivery Thursday, April 21 at 11:30am in Parking Lot

Name & Address: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Bass Hybrid (Fla. X Texas)	2-4"	_____	@	$2.85 / ea.	_____
Catfish Hybrid (grows 30% faster)	5-7"	_____	@	$0.95 / ea.	_____
Catfish Channel (improved)	4-6"	_____	@	$0.65 / ea.	_____
Copper Nose Bluegill	3-5"	_____	@	$0.75/ea.	_____
Hybrid Sun Perch or Bluegill	3-5"	_____	@	$0.85 ea.	_____
Red Ear Perch	2-4"	_____	@	$0.85/ ea.	_____
Crappie	2-4"	_____	@	$1.35 ea.	
Fathead Minnow		_____	@	$39 /1000	_____
Golden Shiners Minnow		_____	@	$79 /1000	_____

Subtotal _____

Shipping & Handling Fee (Add 15% to subtotal) _____

Total _____

We also have Triploid Grass Carp! Permit required & Special Order

SUGGGESTED STOCKING RATES

BASS: 1-acre new lake: 400 medium (spawners) copper nose bluegill, 4,000 fathead minnow, 1,000 golden shiner minnows -200 small bass or 100 medium bass.

BASS: 1- acre old lake: 600 medium (spawners) copper nose bluegill, 6,000 fathead minnows, 2,000 golden shiner minnows, and 200 red ear perch.

CATFISH: 1- acre lake **fed** - 1,000 (4"-6") catfish, 800 medium perch, 8,000 fathead minnows.

CATFISH: 1-acre **non fed** - 300 catfish - (4"-6"), 400 medium perch, 4,000 fathead minnows.

Make payments to Kerr Co. SWCD

Proceeds from this fish sale will go to the Buck Menges Memorial Scholarship Fund. This allows us to award scholarships to graduating seniors in Kerr County who plan to major in agriculture.

SAVE THE DATE!

COW POKES AND LAND FOLKS CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022, 8 AM to 4 PM

Hill County Youth Event Center

$30.00 Early Bird Special - $45 At the Gate

CEU's for Pesticide Licenses Available

Visit: www.kerrcountyswcd.com for agenda and sponsorship/vendor information

Private Applicator Training

Tuesday May 10, 2022
Hill Country Youth Event Center
3785 HWY 27 Kerrville TX, 78028
Registration 8:30-9:00 Training 9:00-2:00

- This program will provide the necessary training and study materials that are required to obtain a Texas Private Applicators License.
- **Registration fee: $60 (This includes cost of all study materials and lunch)**
- **Pre-Register to the Kerr County Extension Office by May 4th for study materials to be ordered in time**
- For more information or to RSVP please contact the Kerr County AgriLife Extension Office at 830-257-6568.

Kerr County Ranch Field Day

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

2 CEU's

Live Cattle Handling

Cattle Preg Test Demo

Catered Lunch

TOPICS

Proper Weaning Techniques in Cattle, Sheep & Goats

Impacts of Proper Grazing & Overgrazing

Benefits of Pregnancy Testing Livestock

Parasite Control in Livestock

Demonstrations

Live Cattle Handling

Morgan Livestock Mobile Corral

Idexx Alertys Preg Test

Rainfall Simulator

HOSTED BY
Kerr County Agrilife Extension

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Tuesday, May 24

Hill Country Youth Event Center

3785 HWY 27 Kerrville Tx

Registration 8:00-8:30

Program 8:30-3:00

Program Cost $40

RSVP To Extension Office by May 19

830-257-6568

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
JUSTIN KLINKSIEK, CEA-ANR
830-257-6568
justin.klinksiek@ag.tamu.edu