

Quail Population Concerns

- Quail populations have declined across Texas over the past few decades.
- Although there is likely a host of contributing factors, the fundamental reason for quail population decline is loss of habitat.
- Stabilizing quail populations, or reversing the decline, will take a coordinated, long-term effort to conserve Texas grasslands.

AgriLife Extension's Response

- The *Quail Appreciation Days* (QuAD) series is one component of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's Reversing the Decline of Quail Initiative. Other components currently being implemented include a series of research projects; a large-scale demonstration effort called the *Texas Quail Index*; and *QuailMasters*, a series of continuing education workshops for serious "students of quail."
- The QuAD are six-hour, hands-on workshops for land managers to increase their knowledge of quail management and conservation. This field-based

event gives participants access to researchers who are performing quail-concentrated studies. It also gives them access to properties in their area where quail-management techniques are being implemented.

- The program features workshops to educate land managers in such areas as quail conservation status, quail habitat needs, quail anatomy and biology, locally applicable management practices and habitat assessment techniques on the host property, brush management and livestock grazing practices, and predation-control techniques.

Economic Impact

- The economic benefit of the *Quail Appreciation Days* series was measured by the total number of acres that the participants manage for quail as well as their estimated per-acre economic benefit from attending the program.
- In 2015, program participants managed 1.1 million acres for quail and estimated an average economic benefit of \$5.59 per acre, which equates to a total of \$7.9 million.

