



WISE COUNTY AG NEWSLETTER

Staying Wise with AgriLife

July / August 2025

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Hello Folks,

Well, June the 24th was a tough day for all of Wise County, as a lot of folks attended the Memorial Service for Sophia and Nolan Christensen. Two amazing young people that were taken so early, in the prime of their life. If you attended, you heard a central theme in the service, which was their love for Jesus, family and friends! They both had personal relationships with Jesus which made the burden of losing them a little lighter! Nothing can bring them back to us, but we can rest assured by the witness that they demonstrated, that if you know Jesus personally, like they did, you will see them again one day in heaven! They are in their eternal heavenly home now, with their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!!! We continue to lift up the Christensen family in our daily prayers!

Another need for lots of prayers is all the folks involved in the flooding tragedy in the hill country, especially at Kerrville, Texas this past holiday weekend. The families that lost loved ones, the ones that are still waiting to hear some news about their loved ones, and all of the first responders and folks carrying out the search and rescue/recovery efforts. What a great job they are doing working in that harsh environment with water, debris, rocks, and rattlesnakes while searching for victims. We are so thankful for each and every person lending a hand in various ways. They are making a difference in the lives of many people! Please lift them all up in prayer each day for God's Strength and Comfort during this time!!!



Managing the Beef Cow Herd

Don't forget to sign up for this great educational program on Managing your Beef Cow Herd. There will be some great information from great speakers and some hands-on learning to boot. Dr. Ron Gill, Extension Livestock Specialist with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will be discussing the latest update and implications of the New World Screwworm. You will get a rib-eye steak lunch of a lifetime cooked to your liking by John Bitt Pruitts "From the Wagon." The deadline to register is Monday, July 14th. Cost is \$40 per person. To register, call the Wise County Extension office at (940) 627-3341.

We appreciate our program sponsors for their help and support to make this possible! A big "Hats Off" to: Ag Texas, National Trailer Source, NRS, Purina, Wise County Farm Bureau, and Zinpro.



MANAGING THE BEEF COW HERD



JULY 17, 2025 | 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM
NRS BREAK ROOM & BACK PATIO, \$40/PERSON
MARTY MORGAN, CEA, AG AND NATURAL RESOURCES
*Includes lunch. Make checks out to Wise County Livestock Committee.

HANDS-ON LEARNING:
BODY CONDITION SCORING & CATTLE HANDLING

DOOR PRIZES & RIBEYE STEAK LUNCH
COOKED CHUCKWAGON-STYLE BY JOHN BITT PRUITT (FROM THE WAGON!)

SPEAKERS
DR. RON GILL, EXTENSION LIVESTOCK SPECIALIST, TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE | **NEW WORLD SCREW WORM + SAFE CATTLE HANDLING**
BRYSON WILLIAMS, ZINPRO® | **PERFORMANCE TRACE MINERALS**
DENTON LOWE, NRS | **BODY CONDITION SCORING + PROTEIN SUPPLEMENTATION**



HERDS BIG & SMALL—LEARN HOW TO HANDLE THEM ALL!
TO REGISTER, CALL THE WISE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AT (940) 627-3341 BY MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025.

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the Wise County Extension Office at 940-627-3341 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.



PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

Save the Date

Cost is \$60
Includes Training Materials

2025 Training Dates
(1:00 - 5:00 pm)

**Class size is limited, so call and
save your spot.**

Class 1: Friday, January 10
Class 2: Friday, January 31
Class 3: Friday, March 7
Class 4: Friday, August 15
Class 5: Friday, September 19
Class 6: Friday, October 10

Class Information

- A four hour training that provides participants the needed information to take the private applicator license test.
- Private Pesticide Applicator Licenses are for agricultural producers and land owners who apply restricted use pesticides to their own property.
- Tests are administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture at one of their testing locations by PSI Exams. The nearest one to Wise County is Fort Worth. Instructions and forms for testing will be given at the end of the training.

**For more information
or to register, contact the
Wise County Extension office.**



Marty Morgan, CEA
(940) 627-3341



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206 S. State Street
Decatur, Texas 76234

<https://wise.agrilife.org/>

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Want to Burn Something in Wise County?

Please Follow these instructions below :

First - Call Wise County Fire Marshal's Office at 940-627-5870, Option 4, to check burn ban status.

Second - If Burning is allowed that day, then visit this link to fill out burn form.

<https://wisecountytexas.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=43>

Wise County Controlled Burn Log is important, so our officials know the fire is being controlled & contained. NOTE: Burning must be outside the corporate limits of a city or town except where the incorporated city or town has enacted ordinances which permit burning. If you live within city limits, please contact your city for more information.

Higher Taxes Threaten America's Food Supply:

<https://www.fb.org/market-intel/2025-tax-cliff-the-impact-of-the-tax-code>

Forage Fax: Weed of the Week - Carolina Horse Nettle

<https://foragefax.tamu.edu/weed-of-the-week-carolina-horse-nettle/>

Forage Fax: Grasshoppers:

<https://foragefax.tamu.edu/start-scouting-for-grasshoppers/>

Tropical storm season may bring drought-related issues this summer:

[https://www.beefmagazine.com/farm-business-management/tropical-storm-season-may-bring-drought-related-issues-this-summer?](https://www.beefmagazine.com/farm-business-management/tropical-storm-season-may-bring-drought-related-issues-this-summer?utm_rid=CPG02000003519660&utm_campaign=97790&utm_medium=email&elq2=6abdcfdd5ca248cd8ac09013f04b79a0&sp_eh=8308fcaadc83d8c4b5c4bd7affb2d52d78dc47ae85f6c2e6a243f1fa2b566135)

[utm_rid=CPG02000003519660&utm_campaign=97790&utm_medium=email&elq2=6abdcfdd5ca248cd8ac09013f04b79a0&sp_eh=8308fcaadc83d8c4b5c4bd7affb2d52d78dc47ae85f6c2e6a243f1fa2b566135](https://www.beefmagazine.com/farm-business-management/tropical-storm-season-may-bring-drought-related-issues-this-summer?utm_rid=CPG02000003519660&utm_campaign=97790&utm_medium=email&elq2=6abdcfdd5ca248cd8ac09013f04b79a0&sp_eh=8308fcaadc83d8c4b5c4bd7affb2d52d78dc47ae85f6c2e6a243f1fa2b566135)

Ag Based Calculators—for Fertilizers, limestone, sprayer Boom, and new recommendations:

<https://soiltesting.tamu.edu/ag-calculator/>



A New Approach to Deworming:

<https://www.drovers.com/news/beef-production/new-approach-deworming>

Beyond Barbed Wire: A Look At Virtual Fencing:

<https://www.drovers.com/news/beef-production/beyond-barbed-wire-look-virtual-fencing>

DTN Retail Fertilizer Trends-Urea Leads Fertilizer Prices Higher, 6/11/2025:

<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2025/06/11/urea-leads-fertilizer-prices-higher>

Resurrection Millet- A Plant That Revives After Severe Drought:

<https://www.morningagclips.com/resurrection-millet-a-plant-that-revives-after-severe-drought/>

Texas Cattle Market Summary - Cattle are High!!

<https://wise.agrilife.org/files/2025/07/Texas-Cattle-Market-Report-Summary-7-1-25.pdf>

ABC's of Forage Testing

- NDF Neutral Detergent Fiber is a test that uses water to dissolve highly soluble components such as sugars and carbohydrates and proteins from the forage. NDF is a measure of the structural fiber in the plant. It is an excellent predictor of consumption.
- ADF Acid Detergent Fiber is a measure of cellulose, lignin, silica, insoluble crude protein, and ash, which are the least digestible parts of the plant.
- CF Crude Fiber is a measure of total plant fiber.
- CP Crude Protein is an estimate of the amino acids/proteins in a hay/feed based on the total N in the material.
- DP Digestible Protein is an estimate of the animal available crude protein.
- DM Dry Matter is an oven dried weight or 0% moisture.
- DDM Digestible Dry Matter is the percentage of digestible dry matter
- TDN Total Digestible Nutrients is an estimate of the percent of total digestible nutrients. It is based on ADF of the quantity of available nutrients in the forage.



10 Signs a Tree in Your Yard Needs to Be Removed

Folks in Wise County have had to make some tough decisions over the past few years about their sick or dying trees damaged by adverse weather mainly stressed by the droughts of 22-24, and by the ice storm in February of 2021. I have looked at thousands of trees to help them make the call to give it more time, treat it with a fungicide or insecticide, or to cut it down and remove it. It's a hard choice to remove that big ole favorite tree in your yard that has been there forever and provided so much shade and give your place eye appeal. But many times this is the best option. With removal comes the expense to hire someone if you cannot do it yourself or if it is dangerously close to power lines or could harm your house if it fell on either. Many are older folks with limited income so it makes it tough to hire someone. If you need me to come take a look to help you decide what to do, I would be happy to do so. Many times, I can diagnose over the phone by sending me photos. Just give me a call and we'll decide what we need to do.

<https://wise.agrilife.org/files/2025/07/10-Signs-a-Tree-in-Your-Yard-Needs-to-Be-Removed.pdf>

What is Wrong with my St. Augustinegrass in my Yard?

St. Augustinegrass problems often stem from disease, pests, or improper care. Common issues include brown patch or gray leaf spot fungus, chinch bugs, White Grubs, and improper watering leading to yellowing or browning. Poor soil quality and excessive fertilizer can also contribute to decline, along with all the stress from the last few years of drought that stressed all our plants. This spring has been very wet contributing to all kinds of fungal diseases. I have big yellow patches that I have put everything under the sun on this spring, starting with Caravan G (granular fungus and insect control in one bag) then from fungicides like Bio Advanced Fungus control for Lawns-(dry and liquid), Scotts DiseaseEx granular, Propiconazole liquid. And as for different insecticides there are Scotts GrubEx, BioAdvanced 3-In-1 for Southern Lawns, BioAdvanced 24 Hour 10 -lb Grub killer, Bio Advanced Complete Insect Killer, Sevin Granules 20 -lb Lawn insect control. And fertilizers like performance Max, Milorganite, Ironite, and Texas Turf Lawn fert, all granular. But just as the Morgan luck would have it, every time I put something out it came a flood and washed it out of the yard and down the creek. So needless to say I wasted a lot of time, energy and money on my treasured St Augustine Lawn, and it still has yellow spots!. So, between the droughts, floods, and diseases it's been a real struggle this year! Lets hope it survives another summer and does better next spring!

For more information on St. Augustinegrass, go to: [St. Augustinegrass Lawn Management](#)



Wise County Horticulture Club



Welcome! Thank you for being a part of our club! We are a small Horticulture Club based out of Wise County. We meet every third Thursday of the month either at the Women's Building at the fairgrounds in Decatur or the Extension office in Decatur. We are like-minded plant people wanting to connect with fellow plant lovers. We try to have a vast variety of presenters for our club to offer you a wealth of knowledge to be confident to start your own garden! We hold an annual event 'A Garden Affair' to offer an opportunity for local vendors and speakers to showcase their passions and products. We hope to see you at the next meeting!

Next Meeting:

Thursday, August 21, 2025 from 6pm-7pm
Wise County Fairgrounds
3101 S. FM 51, Decatur, Tx 76234

Presley Goodner will be presenting on Mock AG ID. We hope to see you there!

Calendar of Events:

July 17th meeting - Women's Building
CLOSED SESSION BOARD MEETING

August 21st meeting - Women's Building
Presley Goodner: Mock AG ID Presentation

September 18th meeting - Women's Building
Texas Master Naturalist, Elm Fork Chapter: Entomology

October 16th meeting - Women's Building
Preparation for Garden Affair

October 18th - 'A GARDEN AFFAIR'

November 20th - Women's Building
Denton Master Gardeners: Garden Art

December 18th - Women's Building
Christmas Party



Please check our website at <https://wise.agrilife.org/> for more great information on these subjects above and other topics concerning Agriculture, Gardening and Horticulture. It's all located under the Ag and Natural Resources tab.

Also, under Upcoming Events, News, and Marty's Toolbox, you will find information on upcoming programs, Monthly Newsletters and Updates with relevant information and resources you may need.

Holler if you have any questions. I am here to help you.

If you have a topic that you would like covered in the next Wise County Ag Newsletter, let me know!

As always, feel free to call, email or stop by!



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