

>>> **AGRICULTURE NEWS** <<<

June 2025



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

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Preparing your land and livestock for inevitable drought conditions.

PLANNING FOR DROUGHT

TOXIC ALGAE SAFETY

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How to identify and prevent harmful cyanobacteria blooms in waterways.

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New factsheet for landowners with landlocked property.

LANDLOCKED PROPERTY

UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> **PAGE 5-10**

New World Screwworm update, drought stress on oak trees, 5hr CEU for private applicators, and more.



Planning for Drought

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Drought is an inevitable part of ranching in Texas, especially in Blanco County. While we can't control when the rain comes, we *can* control how we prepare. A thoughtful drought plan can ease financial pressure, support land recovery, and help maintain long-term sustainability.

Start with Clear Goals

Every drought plan should begin by identifying your long-term goals. Whether it's preserving the value of your land, protecting your breeding herd, or maintaining financial stability, having specific, measurable goals helps guide your decisions when tough choices must be made.

Know Your Resources and Options

Before drought hits, make a list of your available resources—extra hay, nearby pastures, and water sources. Being ready with alternatives can help you act quickly when conditions worsen.

Develop Flexible Plans

Each part of your operation, whether cattle, sheep, hay, or wildlife, should have its own drought strategy. Know your peak forage production periods and the months when rainfall is most critical. If moisture doesn't arrive on time, be ready to adjust. Reducing stock or supplementing feed early can help minimize long-term damage.

Monitor and Adjust as You Go

Once your plan is in motion, keep a close eye on conditions. Regularly check forage inventories and monitor trends. Document decisions and outcomes, so you can learn and improve your approach for the next time drought strikes.

Drought doesn't have to be devastating. With smart, flexible planning, landowners can make it through and even come out stronger. For more tools and resources on drought management, visit: blanco.agrilife.org/range-management/

Toxic Algae Safety

As summer temperatures rise, so does the risk of harmful cyanobacteria blooms, commonly known as blue-green algae. These blooms can pose serious health threats to people, pets, and livestock. Brittany Chesser, an aquatic vegetation management specialist with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, highlights that warm, nutrient-rich, and stagnant water creates ideal conditions for these toxic bacteria to thrive.

Recognizing a Bloom:

- Appear in various colors; green, blue, red, or purple
- A key indicator is the presence of dead fish or frogs
- Some blooms may not be visible

Health Risks:

- Symptoms range from skin irritation to severe liver or neurological damage
- Neurotoxins can cause rapid disorientation or death in pets

Prevention:

- Avoid disposing of grass clippings or leaf litter into bodies of water
- Refrain from fertilizing near ponds or lakes
- Implement nutrient management early to prevent bloom formation



Harmful cyanobacteria blooms can appear in many colors, including green, blue, red and more. While the appearance of a bloom can be varied, a tell-tale sign is the presence of dead aquatic life. (Brittany Chesser/Texas A&M AgriLife)



Landlocked Property

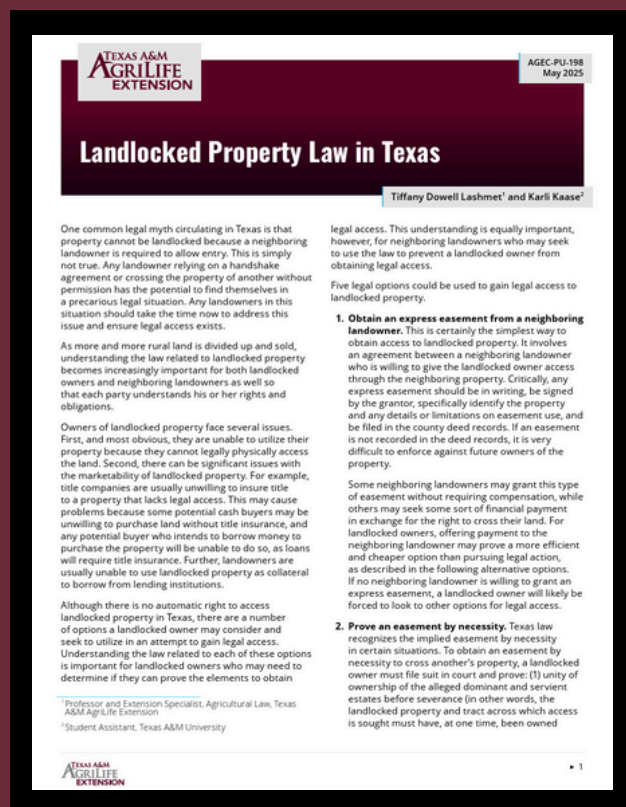
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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has released a new fact sheet to help landowners navigate the complexities of landlocked property, a common issue in rural Texas where a parcel lacks legal access to a public road.

Key Topics Covered:

- Definition and causes of landlocked property
- Texas laws on easements by necessity and implied easements
- Statutory remedies for landlocked landowners
- Practical tips for resolving access issues amicably
- Important considerations before purchasing rural land

For more information, you can access the full fact sheet by clicking the image below.



Upcoming Events



Speakers Include:



Dr. Sonja Swiger

Professor & Extension Specialist in
Entomology, AgriLife Extension



Dr. Philip Kaufmann

Professor & Department Head
for Entomology, AgriLife
Extension



Dr. Terry Hensley

Assistant Agency Director for
Diagnostic Services, TVMDL



Dr. Thomas Hairgrove

Professor & Extension
Specialist Veterinarian, AgriLife
Extension



T.R. Lansford

Deputy Executive
Director/Assistant State
Veterinarian, TAHC

LIVE EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR

New World Screwworm Update/Q&A

Registration : <http://tx.ag/NWSwebinar>

More Information:
tx.ag/NewWorldScrewworm

FREE

9 June, 2025 | 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm CST

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is an equal
opportunity employer and program provider.*

Questions about New World Screwworms?
[Click here](#) for a comprehensive collection of resources.

Trouble With Trees?

Let's talk about it.

Many oak trees are dead or dying. This discussion will help you understand whether your trees are showing symptoms of drought stress or oak wilt. This event is free to attend.

July 1, 2025 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Blanco County Community Resource Center
206 S US HWY 281 Johnson City, TX

Questions? Contact the AgriLife Extension
office at 830-868-7167



LIVING IN THE

Texas Hill Country

Live Webinar

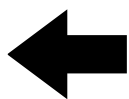
Every Tuesday starting July 1, 2025

12:15 - 1:00 PM

Streaming live on Living in the Texas Hill
Country Facebook page & group.

Get practical tips for managing
your land and livestock in the
Texas Hill Country.

This free, weekly 45-minute series,
led by AgriLife experts, is designed
for landowners with 5–50 acres
and focuses on practical solutions
tailored to our unique
environment.



Click here
to watch!

Questions?

830-868-7167

carley.howell@ag.tamu.edu

Land Management Workshop

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

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July 30, 2025

REGISTRATION 8:30-9:00

WORKSHOP 9:00-4:00

Blanco County Fairgrounds

619 US-281, JOHNSON

CITY, TX 78636

ENTRY FEE

\$35

Topics:

New World Screwworm

Insect control

Wildlife & pesticides

Unrestricted pesticides

Picolinic acid (for Invora use)

5hr CEU

For private applicator
license holders

1 GEN

3 IPM

1 Law & Reg

Lunch included.

\$5 discount for
families of same
household.



REGISTER BY JULY 14, 2025

CALL 830.868.7167 TO REGISTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

CARLEY.HOWELL@AG.TAMU.EDU

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
 EXTENSION
 —
 AQUAEXTENSION

Tuesday, June 17th
 6:00 to 7:30 PM

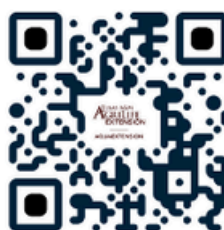
INNOVATIONS IN HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM PREVENTION

Stay ahead of the curve with this webinar showcasing the latest research from Texas A&M University AquaExtension. Over the past year, we have been conducting small-scale trials on an innovative product designed to prevent harmful algal blooms (HABs). **These blooms, that can be caused by blue-green algae and golden algae, can lead to livestock, companion animals, and/or fish kills, severely impacting the usability of your pond.**

In this 1-hour webinar we'll delve into the most recent findings from our research and discuss **practical applications for managing and mitigating HABs** in your aquatic systems. Learn how the findings from this research can possibly help safeguard your pond and improve its long-term functionality. **A 30-minute live Q&A session will follow the presentation.**

To register for this webinar, please visit the link below or scan the QR code.

<https://tx.ag/AlgalResearch>



\$35
1 CEU

\$35

Early Registration
 (ends 9/12/25)

\$45

Regular Registration

Habitat at Home

Bringing wildlife habitat and native
 landscapes to your home and land

Johnson City, TX

September 24, 2025

8am-3pm

Venue & Address:

Blanco County Fairgrounds
 619 Hwy 281, Johnson City, TX 78636

Program Agenda

8-8:30am	Registration
8:30-9am	Welcome & Introduction to Wildlife Management
9-10am	Land Resource Inventory and Habitat Suitability Assessment
10-10:15am	Break
10:15-11am	Species at Scales: What Wildlife Can You Manage on Your Size Property?
11-11:45am	Managing Wildlife Habitat Within Land-Use Restrictions
11:45-12:15pm	Lunch (provided with registration)
12:15-1pm	Choosing Scale-Appropriate Wildlife Management Practices
1-2:30pm	Building Wildlife Management Plans
2:30-3pm	Building Communities of Conservation

Agenda and presentation titles subject to change

Information:

This program is designed to walk homeowners and landowners through the process of implementing wildlife habitats for properties of various sizes. From the home pollinator garden to homesteads and rural working lands, this series will focus on identifying which species can be appropriately managed on your property, implementing habitat management in urban/rural areas, and building a wildlife management plan.

**Lunch and all course materials provided
 with registration**

Register Online



<https://tx.ag/2025habitatathome/>

Questions about the program should be sent to chase.brooke@ag.tamu.edu. Partial refunds can be requested up to 7 days from the start of the program.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas.



TEXAS
RREA
 RENEWABLE RESOURCES EXTENSION ACT

**OUR WORK MAKES
A DIFFERENCE.
IN THE LIVES OF TEXANS AND
ON THE ECONOMY.**

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION



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Agriculture & Natural Resources

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Contact: 830 868 7167

Extension programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other classification protected by federal, state or local law The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.