



Randall County Ag News TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

MONTHLY SNAPSHOT OF AGRICULTURE IN RANDALL COUNTY

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July 2022 Edition

News and Views Straight From the County Agent's Desk

Howdy! Grace Wolfington, a WTAMU student from Wisconsin has been serving as our intern since May. We have had her involved in all phases of Extension work including all summer livestock validation and processing, 4-H Camps and Record Book Judging as well as assisting conducting result demonstrations. This photo was taken during an recent District Ag. Agent Training at Bamert Seed Company in Panhandle, Texas Her final day is August 5, her plans are to complete her undergraduate degree in May and start her masters next fall. We have enjoyed hosting Grace this summer and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors!



Current Crop Conditions

Overview: For the past 12 months the common topic has been the severe drought conditions. Although some recent light showers have been received most have been extremely spotty. According to the National Weather Service as of July 22, 2022 Randall County has only received a total of 6.74 inches of moisture for the entire year. This compares to a total of 12.74 inches received in 2021 for the same time period.

Corn/Silage: It's been tough and water demands have had an hard time catching up. Both corn and silage fields are expected to be harvested a good 20-30 days earlier this summer. This is contributed to much slower growth due to drought resulting in a much faster dry down and more rapid harvest ready. Both corn and silage yields are expected to be much lower this season.

Cotton: Crop growth and development has been slow this season. This is definitely a result of the late start in planting coupled with the extreme dry conditions. Irrigated acres are trying to hang on and most nearly all dryland fields have been lost due to high winds, hail, or lack of rainfall. Both cotton acres and yields are expected to be much lower this harvest season.

Sorghum: Much of the same story here. Irrigated acres continue to be maturing well. Most are closely approaching the boot stage. Sorghum yields will be below average during upcoming fall harvest as well.

Wheat: Very few wheat acres were harvested throughout Randall County this June. And for those producers that did their yields were nothing to brag about. Dryland yields averaged 10 bushels per acre at best and irrigated average was around 20 bushels per acre.

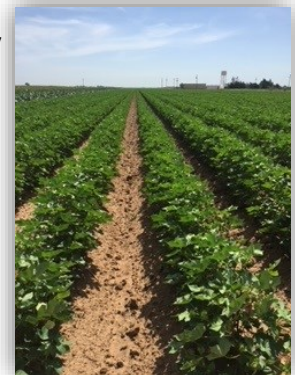
Range/Pasture: Has suffered from drought stress all summer long providing very little grazing opportunity. The current drought conditions, high cost of feed, limited availability and expense of hay has forced many cow/calf producers to sale their cows.

Cotton Growth Regulators (PGR) Applications

The following information is provided by Kerry Siders Texas A&M AgriLife Extension IPM Agent Hockley County Levelland, Texas

During this time of the cotton growing season many producers begin to question the need to apply PGR's.

The following is a rule of thumb guide to assist cotton producers in making PGR decisions.



Categorization of Cotton Variety Growth Potential:
Low, Moderate, and High PGR (mepiquat chloride) rates based on growth potential:

- **Low** – the last week of June to first week July (before 1/3 grown square) if average node length is greater than 1" apply 4 oz.; check every two weeks and apply 4-8 oz. if top 4 internode length average exceeds 1.5" until mid August (total accumulation of 0-28 oz. possible)
- **Moderate** – at matchhead square apply 8 oz; two weeks later apply 12 oz.; and 2-3 weeks later apply 16 oz. (total accumulation of 36 oz.).
- **High** – at matchhead square apply 8 oz; two weeks later apply 16 oz.; and 2-3 weeks later apply 24 oz. (total accumulation of 48 oz. or legal maximum). The above are suggestions for use.

REMEMBER always read and follow label directions

Top Wheat Variety Picks List

The following information is provided by Dr. Jourdan Bell, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agronomist– Amarillo, Texas

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, in collaboration with our wheat breeding program colleagues in Texas A&M AgriLife Research, offer this list of wheat varieties for producers. Wheat Picks are based on a minimum of three years of data.

Picks are not necessarily the numerical top yielders. The following criteria are also considered:

- Milling and baking quality
- Important disease resistance traits (leaf or stripe rust, wheat streak mosaic virus)
- Insect resistance (greenbugs, wheat curl mite, and Hessian fly)
- Standability. These important varietal traits enable a producer to better manage potential risk.



2022-2023 Top Wheat Variety

Dryland	Lim. Irrigation	Full Irrigation
TAM 113	TAM 114	TAM 114
TAM 115	TAM 115	TAM 115
TAM 205	TAM 205	TAM 205
WB4792	WB4792	WB4792
----	Canvas	Canvas
----	CP 7869	CP 7869

Texas A&M AgriLife North Region Ranch to Retail Podcast

The North Region Texas A&M AgriLife Extension continues to bring you the North Region Ranch to Retail Podcast episodes. There are currently over 20 outstanding podcast episodes highlighting various experts in the field of timely agricultural information pertaining to crop and beef cattle production. Throughout this summer we have been focusing on a series of topic's pertaining to *Beef Cattle Drought Management Strategies*. The podcast are easy to access, simply go to the following link.

<https://agrifilenorthregionag.libsyn.com/>

The latest (3) episodes have been highlighted below for your review. Each one is designed with a *play/stop/pause* format and are about 45 minutes in length.

Episode #19 Recorded June 20, 2022

Making decisions based on drought that relates to marketing females to meet your available long-term forage goals was the focus of this discussion. This was the first of a series of 3 on-line discussions focusing on drought. Dr. Jason Smith and Dr. Justin Benavidez led the discussion and did an outstanding job of looking at all potential decisions. They also discussed economic implications and resources available for use in making decisions

Episode #20 Recorded June 29, 2022

Mason Carter and Dr. Jason Smith discuss what to expect from future FDA antimicrobial regulations including procedures producers can take to be prepared and products that will be impacted.

Episode #21 Recorded July, 7 2022

Dr. Jason Smith discussed implications of "Early Weaning as a Drought Strategy". Topics include: Minimizing Risk of Production Failures which includes reproduction failure and loss of revenue, Extending Grazing Time for animals, and Capturing Calf Value. Dr. Smith also discussed health programs for both calves and cows. Dr. Justin Benavidez went into great detail in comparing weaning at 120 days and typical weaning of 210 days. He discusses how he set up the comparisons.

45th Annual Randall County Crop Tour 8:30a.m.Tuesday August 30 Kuhlman Extension Center

- ⇒ The attached flyer provides complete agenda . All participants attend at **NO COST!**
- ⇒ A total of **(3 CEU's)** will be provided for all Private Applicator License holders.
- ⇒ Please RSVP your attendance by calling the Extension Office or at the link indicated on the flyer
- ⇒ Registration Deadline Fri. August 26





45th Annual Randall County Ag Day & Crops Tour

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Randall County

Kuhlman Extension Center
200 North Brown Rd. Canyon, Texas 79015

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

3 C.E.U.'s Available (3-General Category)

Please RSVP Your Attendance by calling (806) 468-5543 or at
this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/zddRbasDMT>
on or before 5:00 p.m. Friday August 26

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**Palo Duro Soil and
Water Conservation
District No. 147**

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Morning Session

- 8:30 a.m.** Registration: *Donuts & Coffee Sponsored by Plains Land Bank*
- 9:00 a.m.** Dr. Jourdan Bell, **2022 Top Wheat Variety Picks**
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agronomist Amarillo, Tx
- 9:45 a.m.** BREAK/VIEW Exhibits
- 10:00 a.m.** Dr. Jason Smith, **Top 3 Drought Management Decisions for Cow/Calf Producers**
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Beef Cattle Specialist Amarillo, Tx
- 10:45 a.m.** BREAK/VIEW Exhibits
- 11:00 a.m.** Dr. Justin Benavidez, **Beef Cattle & Commodity Price Trends and Future Outlook**
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Economist Amarillo, Tx
- 11:30 a.m.** **2022-2023 Producer Assistance Programs/Crop & Livestock Insurance**
Mark Tucker, *District 2 Director, FSA Muleshoe, Tx*
Eddie Womack, *County Executive Director, FSA Swisher County*
Rachel Myers, *Myers Crop Insurance, Claude, Tx*
Katy Bourman & Kaeli Hales, *Ag. Specialist Insurance, Hereford, Tx*
- 12:15 p.m.** LUNCH: Featured Guest Speaker; Charles Perry, State Senator &
Chairman of Senate Committee on Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs
"Water Policies & Impact for Ag. Producers"



Afternoon Tours

- 1:30 p.m.** **Stop #1: Depart for Adams Farm (7 miles south of Canyon); AgriLife**
Extension Sorghum Variety Study Featuring 30 Varieties, Drone Images/Video Recordings
- 3:30 p.m.** **Stop #2: WTAMU Campus Meats LAB** Dr. Ty Lawrence & Dr. Loni Lucherk,
Professors of Animal Science WTAMU; LIVE Beef Carcas Quality Demonstration & Evaluation
- 5:30pm** Conclude

Thank You to the following Major Tour Sponsors:

Happy Bank- COST RECOVERY FEE & NOON MEAL

Palo Duro Soil and Water Conservation District & Plains Land Bank- BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

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The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

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Return Service Requested

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