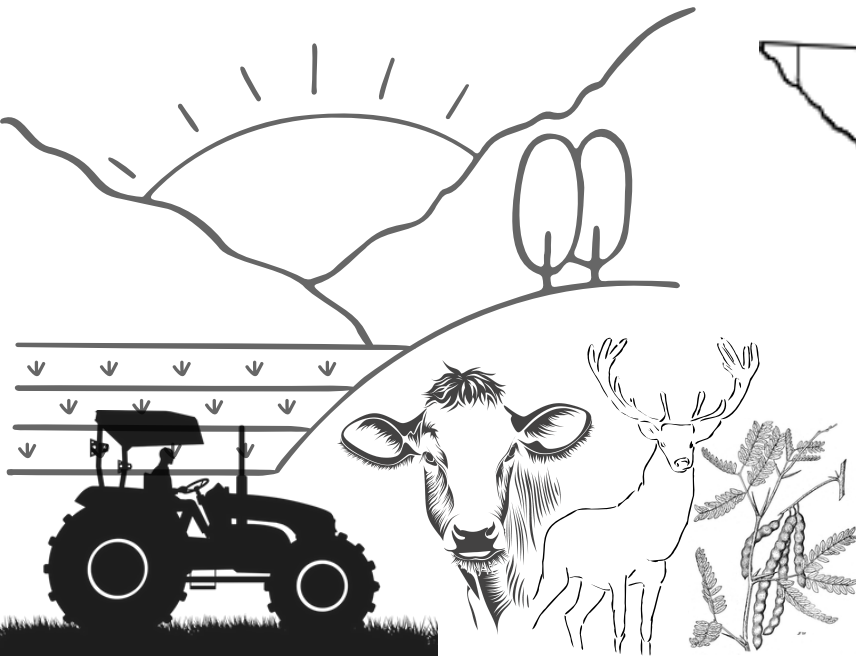


TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

# ZAVALA COUNTY

## AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

April 2024  
Newsletter



Texas A&M AgriLife is committed to providing safe and non-discriminatory learning, and work environments for all members of the AgriLife community. AgriLife provides equal opportunity in all programs, activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of 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.

Zavala County Office  
Office: (830) 374-2883  
zavala-tx@tamu.edu

Leslie Dominguez  
CEA- ANR  
(830) 374-2883  
leslie.dominguez@ag.tamu.edu

# ZAVALA COUNTY TEXAS COMMUNITY FUTURE FORUM

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

## You're invited to our TCFF event!

Join us to address issues within our county regarding Agriculture, Natural Resources, Family and Community Health, and Youth.

The purpose of this event is to identify relevant issues to assist agents in program development and problem solving.

\*Open to everyone in the community\*

**DATE: April 5, 2024**

**TIME: 6:00 PM**

**LOCATION: Crystal City Nutrition Center**

***PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 26, 2024***

830-374-2883

leslie.dominguez@ag.tamu.edu



*Zavala County*  
TEXAS

Educational Programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact Zavala County AgriLife Extension office at least a week in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.



TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

***PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING***

**Date:** April 15, 2024

**Time:** 9 AM- 12 PM

**Location:** AgriLife Conference Room  
217 N 1st Ave, Crystal City, TX

***PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 8, 2024***

830-374-2883

leslie.dominguez@ag.tamu.edu

The three-hour training will give participants the needed information to take the private applicator license test which is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Cost of the training is \$10.00; **Cash only please.**

You are encouraged to participate if you need a Private Pesticide Applicator License. The Private Pesticide Applicator License is required by TDA for a person who uses or supervises the use of restricted and/or state limited pesticides to produce agriculture commodities.

Educational Programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact Zavala County AgriLife Extension office at least a week in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.



# MULTI-COUNTY WATER WELL SCREENING

HOSTED BY: ATASCOSA, DIMMIT, FRIO, LA SALLE, MCMULLEN & ZAVALA COUNTIES

## *Have you tested your private Water well?*

Private water wells should be tested annually. The Multi-County Water Screening Program is sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Atascosa, Dimmit, Frio, McMullen, LaSalle, and Zavala counties. The offices are hosting a water well screening on April 17, 2024 to give area residents the opportunity to have their well water tested. The cost is \$15.00 per sample.

Samples will be collected on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Well owners may pick up a sample bag and instructions from their County Extension Office.

- Atascosa County AgriLife Extension Office, 25 E. 5th Street, Leming, TX 78050 | P: (830) 569-0034
- Dimmit County AgriLife Extension Office, 539 Industrial Blvd., Carrizo Springs, TX 78834 | P: (830) 876-4216
- Frio County AgriLife Extension Office, 400 S. Pecan Street, Pearsall, TX 78061 | P: (830) 505-7474
- McMullen County AgriLife Extension Office, 604 River Street, Tilden, TX 78072 | P: (361) 274-3323
- Zavala County AgriLife Extension Office, 221 N 1st Ave, Crystal City, TX 78839 | P: (830) 374-2883
- La Salle County AgriLife Extension Office, 119 S. Front Street, Cotulla, TX 78014 | P: (830) 483-5165

Results will be available on April 18, 2024, at your County Extension Office. There will be a virtual educational program to discuss water quality presented by Extension Specialist Joel Pigg.

### **Samples will be screened for:**

#### **Fecal Coliform Bacteria**

Presence indicates that feces (bodily waste from humans or animals) may have contaminated the water. Water contaminated with this bacteria is more likely to have pathogens present that can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea or other symptoms.

#### **Nitrates**

Levels above 10 ppm may cause infants, pregnant or lactating women, the elderly, and the immune-suppressed to be at risk for methemoglobinemia, a condition which inhibits the ability of blood to sufficient carry oxygen to tissues and cells.

#### **Salinity**

Measured by Total Dissolved Solids (TDS). Water with high TDS levels may leave deposits and have a salty taste. Using water with high TDS for irrigation may damage the soil or plants.

#### **Hydrocarbons**

Presence indicates that oil contamination has occurred





# WATER SCREENING RESULTS VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

*UNDERSTANDING WHAT IS IN YOUR DRINKING WATER  
& PROTECTING YOUR WELL HEAD*

HOSTED BY: FRIO, ATASCOSA, LA SALLE, MCMULLEN, DIMMIT, & ZAVALA COUNTIES

**WHEN: Thursday, April 18, 2024.**

**WHERE: Via Zoom at 6:00p.m.**

**1 General  
CEU  
offered!**

**LINK: [HTTPS://AGRILIFE.ZOOM.US/J/94233265323?](https://agrilife.zoom.us/j/94233265323?pwd=T29SMGMOAEO2NDRZS3VTZONPQMDTQT09)  
PWD=T29SMGMOAEO2NDRZS3VTZONPQMDTQT09**

**TOPICS: Bacteria Contaminates, Saline Levels, Hydrocarbons, Nitrates, Recommendations for each positive element. Attendees will be able to understand what is in their drinking water and learn how to protect their well head.**

**SPEAKER- DR. JOEL PIGG, EXTENSION PROGRAM SPECIALIST, COLLEGE STATION, TX.**

**For More Information: Please call your County Extension Office, Frio- (830) 505-7474, Atascosa- (830) 569-0034, La Salle- (830) 483-5165, McMullen- (361) 274-3323, Dimmit- (830) 876-4216, Zavala- (830) 374-2883.**

Dimmit, Frio, Kinney, Medina, Uvalde and Zavala Counties Present

# Online Soil Education Workshop

Date: May 7, 2024

Time: 6 PM

Zoom Link:

[https://agrilife.zoom.us/j/91479481161?  
pwd=YjhGZE5wdzBvOC9JMjVPbVpBToFjQT09](https://agrilife.zoom.us/j/91479481161?pwd=YjhGZE5wdzBvOC9JMjVPbVpBToFjQT09)

Speaker: Dr. Jake Mowrer- Extension  
Associate Professor- Soil and Crop  
Sciences

Topics to be discussed:

- Proper sampling techniques
- Importance of soil sampling
- Results interpretation
- Choosing the right fertilizer
- Fertilizer calculator
- When and how to apply fertilizer

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# TEXAS BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE

## BQA TIPS



### The Importance of Hay Storage

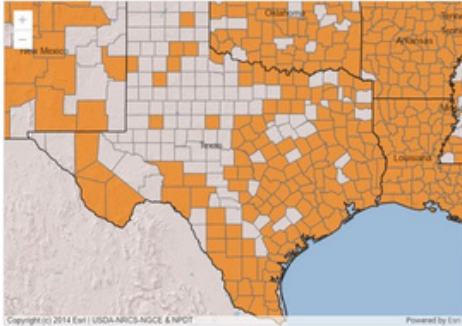
April 1, 2024  
Emily Lochner

Hay storage will impact how much hay is needed and the cost of the hay feeding program. Strategies to reduce storage loss will vary some based on annual rainfall.

In most environments, round bales stored outside should be stacked in long rows with the flat ends butted against each other. At least 3 feet should be left between rows to allow sunlight and wind to dry the bales out quicker after it rains. Hay should not be stacked under trees as this delays drying. Storage sites with well drain soils will help reduce loss on the bottom of bales.



# Districts 11 & 12 CEA's Rangeland Plant Identification March 2024



Distribution Map Credit: USDA Plants Database @ plants.usda.gov

## Sorrel

*Oxalis* species



### Sorrel Distribution

Sorrel species are found throughout most of Texas. There are ~10-12 species in TX. Some are native species and some are introduced.



#### Sorrel Species in South Texas

In South Texas, there are 5 common sorrel species.

1. Creeping Lady's Sorrel has small yellow flowers and the leaflets fold in on themselves.
2. Penny Leaf Wood Sorrel is the only *Oxalis* species in Texas with simple, non-clover-like, leaves.
3. Drummond's Wood Sorrel leaves are very narrow and it has purple flowers.
4. Narrow Leaf Shrubby Wood Sorrel has many leaflets- the leaves are pinnately compound.
5. Yellow Wood Sorrel is resistant to herbicides, such as 2,4-D, that can be effective to control other sorrel species- see link under management section for more details.

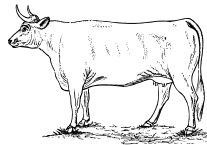
### Plant Identification Tips

Sorrel, or woodsorrel, species are small, clover-like plants. It is estimated that there are 10-12 different species that grow in Texas. Like clovers, the leaves are made up of three, heart-shaped leaflets. Unlike clover, sorrel species grow more upright, like a small bunch or bouquet of clover-like leaves. Sorrels are commonly referred to as a shamrock plant.

The small flowers are made up of five petals. Many sorrel species have yellow flowers, but some are different colors, such as purple.

Check out the [Neighborhood Plant Video on Sorrel](#)

#### Livestock & Wildlife Value



Sorrels provide forage for many wildlife species, including pollinators, birds, and mammals. In North America, sorrel is rarely a problem for livestock, but has been associated with livestock poisoning in Australia.



### Management

Some species of sorrels can become pests in gardens. Sorrels produce seeds in capsules that burst open, throwing the seeds away from the parent plant. Check out [this link](#) for management tips on pre-emergent and post emergent herbicides.

Parts of this article were derived from:

*Richardson & King. 2011. Plants of Deep South*

*Texas. Oxalis* species. USDA Plants Database.

**Stacy L. Hines, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Rangeland Habitat Management Specialist

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