

**11475-A FM 1442
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: 409-882-7010
Fax: 409-745-9889**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Orange County Agriculture Newsletter

April-May-June 2016

Upcoming Events

April:

- **21st Cattle Herd Health:** 6:00 pm—8:00 pm; Dinner Provided; \$20.00
- **26th Bees & Gardens:** 6:00 pm—8:00 pm; \$12

May:

- **17th Horticulture Production:** 6:00 pm—8:00 pm; \$25
- **21st Beekeeping Workshops:** 2 sessions: 8:30 am—12:00 pm; \$20 & 1:00 pm—3:00 pm; \$20. Lunch Provided.

June:

- **25th Rainwater Harvesting:** 8:30 am; \$50 per person.

Meetings:

First Thursday of the month: Apiary Committee at Extension Office; 6pm

Second Thursday of the month: Master Gardener at Extension Office; 6pm



Word from your Ag Agent

Howdy Orange County! Spring has sprung in full swing! We have had a great deal of youth from Orange county represent us well at stock shows the past few months, started several new programs, and now we are getting ready to see what spring will bring for our gardens, pasture, and livestock.

This time of year we will have questions on Aphids, Ponds, and Weeds where we don't want them! So with that in mind I have added several topics to discuss those issues. Don't forget to share this newsletter, and check out all our Upcoming Programs!

- Have a question? Need a Soil sample? Call for a site visit from your Ag Agent!
- Need a plant, weed or bug identified? Email picture to Extension@co.orange.tx.us or Ashlee.krebs@ag.tamu.edu
- **Want to be receive the Ag Natural Resources Newsletter in 2016? Contact us to be put on the email list for 2016 for FREE!!!**

Farming and Ranching

Pasture Management

By Ashlee Krebs, CEA-AG/NR

Proper Pasture Management is not something new, but often something we push to the back burner. I am often called or emailed especially come summer for advice on what to do about the weeds growing in the pastures. Many times the reason behind pastures being taken over with weeds, lack of grass, or in general is because of the lack of preparation for our warm season grasses. Of course, the amount of rainfall we had this past year didn't help our efforts when applying fertilizers or seed.

By the First part of February a soil sample test needs to be done on the fields that you are intending to use. Next, once the results have come back you should apply the fertilizer recommendations. In addition to fertilizer, dragging the fields to spread the manure will also help put nitrogen and organic matter back into the ground. This is a practice that can happen year round. I also, will add that a pre-emergent pesticide could also be added especially if there was an issue last year.

Planting seed if need be should be done by mid March the latest. Of course, all this is at the mercy of the Mother Nature. Following this with rotational grazing will ensure the stock will continue to have grass through the warm season. This practice also helps against parasites as well. Over stocking/over grazing is another big problem I tend to see. Now, there is not a number of head per acre that I could confidentially give out due to the amount of variables that fall in place here in Orange County, but rather an individual basis.

In April we should start seeing the grasses come up, and sometimes we get the discolorations.... So here is a general rule of thumb for plants:

- Yellow of the leaves = Nitrogen deficiency
- Purple coloration of the leaves = Phosphorus deficiency
- Yellow spotting, or tops of plants/ tree = Potassium deficiency

This can happen because of leaching, or the nutrients being "washed away" if you will from rains. Also, you may see weeds come up, and if a pre-emergent was not used in February, then a good broadleaf herbicide should be used. Not all weeds are killed by a 2- 4-D, but a lot are. If you have question about what weeds are controlled or what herbicides to use contact the office. You need to make sure there is very minimal to no wind when applying any herbicides, pesticides or even fertilizers when applying them. Also, when in the control state, spring to fall, most weeds need to have good leafage for the herbicide to make contact and work properly.

Furthermore, during the summer you may have to add some fertilizer again. Especially, for those of you who are in the hay production business. This of course can be determined by soil sample test. Many of you may know what your ground runs traditionally.

If you need any consultation of your farm or ranch please do not hesitate to call, email: Ashlee.krebs@aq.tamu.edu, or stop by. A great resource for forages, pastures, and weeds is: <http://forages.tamu.edu/>



Farming and Ranching

Weed Management

Dupont has a new herbicide for bermudagrass pastures, [Pastora](#), which controls many broadleaf and grassy weeds. Among the many grassy weeds controlled are grassbur and johnsongrass. Be sure and check the label for all of the >100 species controlled.

NEW from Dow! The new broadleaf herbicide [Milestone](#) that does not require a pesticide applicators license and is not restricted for use in 2,4-D restricted counties.

Pond Management

Pond management just like pastures requires routine maintenance year round. I have attached the annual calendar below

<http://fisheries.tamu.edu/files/2013/10/TEXAS-FARM-POND-MANAGEMENT-CALENDAR1.pdf>

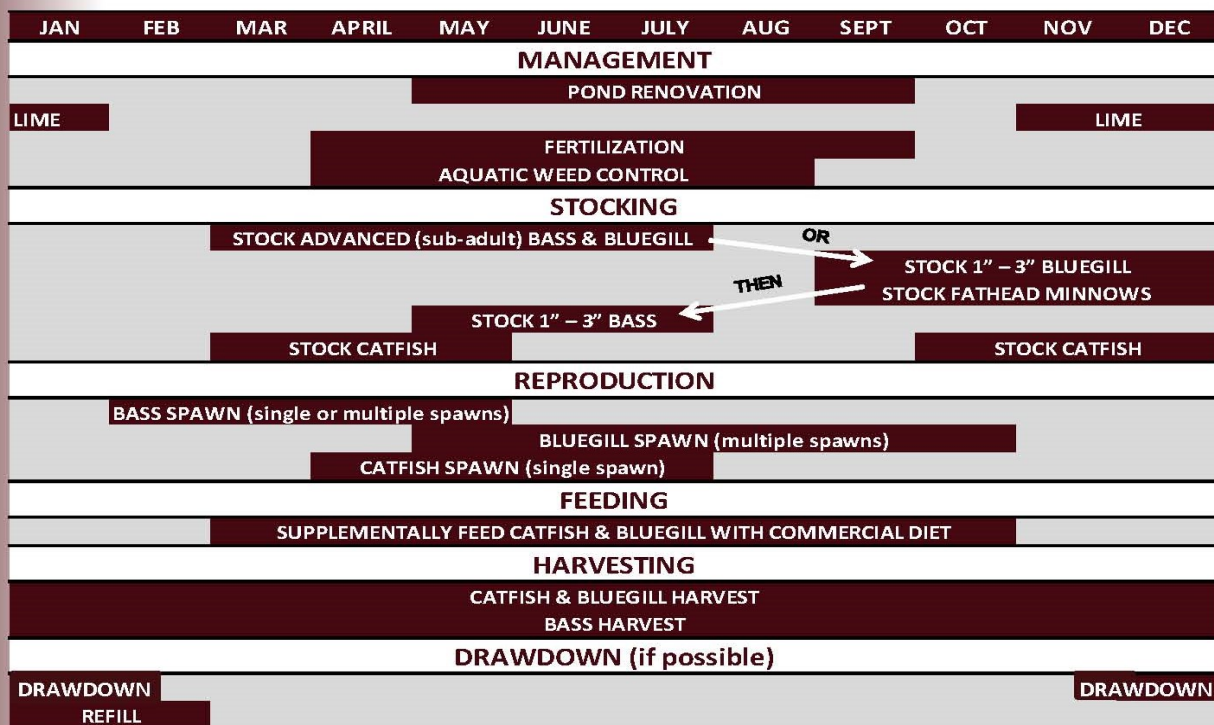
TEXAS FARM POND MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

Billy J. Higginbotham

Professor & Extension Wildlife & Fisheries
Specialist

Todd D. Sink

Assistant Professor & Extension Fisheries
Specialist



Landowner Series

\$25 per class

April 21-Cattle Herd Health, 6pm-8pm (1 CEU-general)

May 17-Horticulture Production, 6pm-8pm

June 25-Rainwater Harvesting, 8:30am, \$50/person

July 28-Bees, 6pm-8pm

October: TBA-Beef Symposium



Learn how to maintain a ranch or a farm.

This course will teach you the basics.

Call 409-882-7010 to sign up!

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

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

Lawn & Garden

Plants/Roses Recommended for Orange County

Howdy Orange County, I am often asked what plants grow best here. So this month I thought I would give you all some research based information. These plants roses and perennials were grown over a 3 year time frame, with very little to no help by man. These plants have been designated Earth-Kind, which means in easy terms... that they are friendly to our world. As always, if there is anything that I can help you with give us a call or stop by!

Most Recommended Roses for Orange County:

Innocenia Vigorosa ***	Flamingo Kolor Scape	Larissa	Felicitas
Lion's Fairy Tale	Lupo	Lemon Fizz	Mandarin Ice
Carefree Beauty	Cream Veranda	Milano Kolor Scape	

Most Recommended Plants/Flowers for Orange County:

Little Business Daylilly	'Goldsturm' Black-eyed Susan	'Kim's Knee High' Purple Cone Flower
Aromatic Aster	Flame Acanthus	Hot Lips Salvia
Mexican Mint Marigold	Mystic Spires Salvia	Prostrate Rosemary
Homestead Purple Verbena		Vivid Fall Obedient Plant

Aphids: Common problem we will see in our area!

Apply 2.5 Table spoons of Dawn Dish soap per 1 gallon of water spray every other day for 1 month to plants or trees, as well as the ground beneath, reapply if rain occurs, then twice a week for a month, then once a week. This should break the life cycle, and help prevent recurring infestations.

A method to trap the aphids is to use yellow plastic cups, turned upside down and stuck onto 16 inch tall, broom-stick-sized sticks, using a thumbtack. The sticks are pushed into the ground about a foot from the tomato plant. I coat the yellow plastic cup on the outside, with Tree Tanglefoot, a very sticky substance that doesn't wash off. The aphids are attracted to the color yellow, they fly onto the cups and the Tanglefoot catches them. (Don't substitute something else, Tree Tanglefoot is the only thing that doesn't wash off and keeps catching plants.



Lawn & Garden

Aphids in Texas



More than 250 species of aphids, often called “plant lice,” feed on agricultural and horticultural crops throughout the world, and several can be a problem in Texas landscapes. Many ornamental plants in Texas landscapes are suitable hosts for aphids, including bedding plants (especially chrysanthemums), ash, barberry, boxelder, crape myrtle, jasmine, flowering almond, gardenia, hibiscus, hydrangea, mountain ash, oaks, oleander, peach, pear, pecans, pines, roses, vegetables, and viburnum. Aphid infestations can build to severe levels very rapidly because these insects reproduce

very quickly. Infestations can be widespread or localized to just a few plants, and they may be worse in some years than in others.

Identification

Aphids are tiny true bugs with piercing, sucking mouthparts designed to suck the juices from plants. They are usually wingless and pear-shaped. You can recognize aphids easily by the pair of “cornicles” projecting from their hind ends – two tiny “tailpipes” that other soft-bodied insects. Aphids are soft-bodied and vary in shape and color depending on species and host plant.



Life Cycle

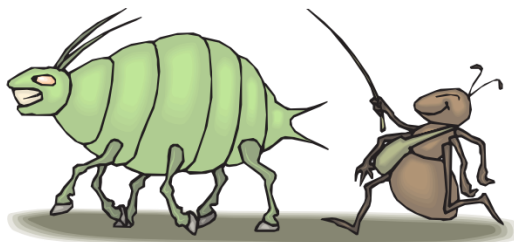
The aphid life cycle is unusual in that females can birth live young, and do so without mating. Aphids overwinter as eggs, from which wingless females hatch in spring. These females give rise quickly to the next generation of Amazon aphids, and the cycle continues throughout the growing season. As fall approaches, aphids begin producing some males with which they mate. Only then do the female aphids rely on traditional reproductive methods, laying eggs that will carry her genes through the winter months.

Damage to Plants

Aphids draw sap from plant tissue (phloem) using mouthparts adapted for piercing and sucking. Some aphids feed on foliage, while others feed on the twigs, limbs, branches, fruits, flowers, or roots of plants. Some species inject toxic salivary secretions into plants as they feed. If left unchecked, aphids can stunt plant growth, deform and discolor leaves and fruit, or cause galls to form on leaves, stems, and roots. Curled or yellowed leaves. Stunted growth. Blackening on foliage (sooty mold).

Monitoring Population Levels

Aphid populations are best monitored by routine (once or twice a week) visual inspections of plants that are potential hosts. Aphids can occur anywhere on the plants, but they are often found on the underside of the leaves or on the new growth. Yellow sticky cards, available from garden stores and nurseries, are effective tools for monitoring winged aphid populations, particularly in greenhouses.



Lawn & Garden

Common Species of Aphids in Texas Landscapes



Green Peach Aphid, *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer)

Also known as tobacco or spinach aphid, adults of this species are small, usually less than 1/8 inch long. The body varies in color from pink to green, sometimes with three darker stripes down the back, and the head supports long antennae and red eyes.

Habitat and food sources. The green peach aphid has a wide range of host plants, including peaches, vegetables, and ornamental crops (flowering and bedding plants including chrysanthemums)



Crape Myrtle Aphid, *Tinocallis kahawaluokalani* (Kirkaldy)

Habitat and food sources. This aphid specifically infests crape myrtle.



Oleander Aphid, *Aphis nerii* Boyer de Fonscolombe

This is a bright yellow aphid with black legs and cornicles.

Habitat and food sources. Host plants are restricted to oleander, **butterfly weed**, and milkweed.

Management Considerations

- Use a strong spray of water to knock aphids from sturdy plants.
- Attract beneficial insects to your garden. Most predatory insects will feast on aphids when they are present in high numbers. Avoid using broad spectrum pesticides that will kill beneficials along with pests.
- Don't over fertilize your plants. When you give your aphid-infested plants a nitrogen boost, you're actually boosting aphid reproduction and creating a bigger problem.
- Keep the garden free of weeds, and check for infested ornamentals near your vegetable garden that might harbor aphids.
- When possible, prune any heavily infested shoots from plants and destroy them, aphids and all.
- Apply Neem oil, horticultural soap, or horticultural oil when appropriate. These products work on contact, so repeat applications will be necessary. Be sure to get the undersides of leaves where aphids may be hiding.

**from "Aphids in the Texas Landscape" by Bastiaan M. Drees
Professor and Extension Entomologist, The Texas A&M University System and

**<http://www.almanac.com/content/aphids>

Master Gardener

Companion Planting Chart for Vegetables

Vegetable	Good Companions	Bad Companions
Asparagus	Basil, tomato, nasturtium, parsley, basil, dill, coriander, marigold, aster flower <i>(Parsley and marigolds repel asparagus beetles, solanine in tomatoes protect against asparagus beetles)</i>	Onion, garlic, potato,
Beans	Carrot, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber, celery, corn, marigold. <i>(Corn protects against wind, sun and provides climbing support. Squash has deep roots, beans are shallow and squash smothers weeds and provides a living mulch)</i> Cucumber, strawberries <i>(Particularly go well near dwarf beans)</i>	Chives, leek, garlic, onions, tomatoes, peppers
Broad Beans	Brassicas, carrot, celery, corn, lettuce, potato	Fennel
Beets	Broccoli, lettuce, onion, sage	Bean (pole and runner)
Broccoli	Celery, chamomile, mint, dill, rosemary <i>(Dill attracts beneficial wasps to help control pests including cabbageworms. Rosemary repels cabbage fly)</i>	Oregano, strawberry, tomato
Brussels Sprouts	Potato, thyme, dill	Strawberry, tomato
Cabbage	Beetroot, bush beans, celery, mint, onion, potato, oregano, dill, chamomile, sage <i>(Aromatic plants like onion, celery and herbs help keep cabbages pest free)</i>	Strawberry, tomato <i>(Although tomatoes and cabbages usually repel each other, the solanine in a few nearby tomatoes will help deter diamondback moth larva)</i>
Carrot	Bush beans, pole beans, lettuce, onion, garlic etc, parsley, rosemary, pea, radish, tomato <i>(Onion family plants, parsley and rosemary deter carrot rust fly)</i>	Dill, parsnip
Cauliflower	Peas, beans, celery, oregano <i>(Peas and beans help fix nitrogen to supply to cauliflowers)</i>	Nasturtium, potato, strawberry, tomato

Master Gardener

Vegetable	Good Companions	Bad Companions
Celery	Cabbage, cauliflower, leek, onion, spinach, tomato <i>(Leeks like similar high potash growing conditions as Celery and celeriac)</i>	Parsnip, potato
Chard (Swiss chard, silverbeet)	Cabbage, endive	
Corn	Beans, cucumber, melon, peas, pumpkin, potato, radish <i>(Peas and beans supply nitrogen)</i>	Tomato <i>(The same worm (tomato worm and corn earworm) likes both plants)</i>
Cucumber	Beans, peas, celery, lettuce, pea, radish, nasturtium, corn <i>(Nasturtium deters cucumber beetles and harbour beneficial spiders and beetles. Corn protects against bacterial wilt virus)</i>	Cauliflower, potato, basil and any strong aromatic herbs
Eggplant	Beans, capsicum, potato, spinach, peppers <i>(Beans repel Colorado potato beetle which attacks eggplant)</i>	
Kohlrabi	Onions, beets, lettuce <i>(Lettuce repels earth flies)</i>	Strawberries, tomatoes, pole beans
Leek	Carrot, celery, onions, strawberry <i>(Carrots deter leek moth. Celery and celeriac like similar high potash growing conditions as leeks)</i>	
Lettuce	Carrots, radishes, strawberry, cucumber	Beans, beetroot, parsley
Melon	Corn, radish	Potato
Onion	Broccoli, cabbage, carrots, lettuce, strawberry tomato, beets, tomatoes, summer savory	Beans, peas
Pea	Beans, carrot, corn, cucumber, radish, turnips, spinach, mint, potatoes	Onion family
Potato	Horseradish, beans, corn, cabbage, pea, eggplant <i>(Beans repel Colorado potato beetle. Horseradish protects against potato bugs and stimulates growth)</i>	Cucumber, tomato, Jerusalem artichokes, pumpkin, squash, sunflower, raspberries <i>(Cucumbers, tomatoes and raspberries attract</i>

Master Gardener

Vegetable	Good Companions	Bad Companions
Pumpkin	Corn, beans, peas, radish	Potato
Radish	Lettuce (<i>Repels earth flies</i>)	
Spinach	Strawberry, celery, cauliflower, eggplant, radish (<i>Leafminers prefer radish leaves rather than spinach</i>)	
Tomato	Asparagus, celery, NZ spinach, carrot, parsley, basil, marigold, garlic (<i>Garlic protects against red spiders</i>)	Corn, potato, kohlrabi, fennel, cabbage and other brassicas
Turnip	Peas	
Zucchini	Nasturtium, flowering herbs (<i>Flowers attract bees for pollination</i>)	

Source: <http://plantcaretoday.com>



The Orange County Master Gardener Association would like to thank:
 Shangri La Botanical Gardens & Nature Center;
 John Banken, Orange County Commissioner, Precinct 3;
 Orangefield ISD;
 Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service - Orange County;
 Ashlee Krebs, County Extension Agent, AG/NR;
 Our families and friends;
 AND the wonderful people of Orange County and surrounding communities who
 shopped our annual plant sale during this trying time.

Without your support, we could not have been as successful as we were this year.

Sheri Bethard
 Vice President & Plant Sale Coordinator

Interested in becoming a Master Gardener?



Here's your chance!

Orange County Master Gardener Training begins Thursday, June 2
Classes Will Be Held Each Thursday
June 2 – End of August

Some Saturdays will be required

Classes will be held at the
Orange County EXPO Center**
11475 FM 1442, Orangefield
(Exit 869S off IH10)

Fee For The Class is \$100

Class speakers will include:

Mike Beard - Creekwood Blueberry Farm
Mark/Mallory Frey - Frey's Landscaping
Debbie McHenry - Cottage Cuttings

For More Information Please Contact:

Sheri Bethard
Vice President - OCMGA
sheribethard@yahoo.com
409 882-7010

**Some exceptions for training courses in nearby locations for hands-on experience.



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

Bee Keeping in Orange County-Spring 2016

Spring is an active time for the honey bee, they are building their numbers, some are swarming, and all are out pollinating the home gardens. We desperately need our honey bees as they pollinate 35% of all our food, including the squash and cucumbers in our local gardens.

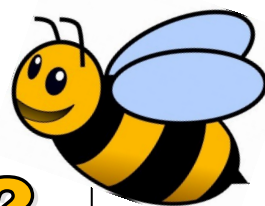
If you're a local bee keeper now is the time to inspect and check your hives, watch for signs of winter weakening and potential hive failure. Look for new swarm cells, if present you might consider splitting the hive, or at least watch for the pending swarm. If hives are full of bees, brood, honey you need to add supers or additional brood boxes to make room for the pending nectar flows. If you're a beginner bee keeper with questions contact the Agrilife office, they can put you in contact with a local bee keeper who can help answer your questions.

If you're not a bee keeper yet but are thinking about getting a hive watch for information on local classes and seminars. The Agrilife center has classes and provides half day informational sessions. Lamar Orange Extended Education office also offers classes.

If you have a swarm of bees move into your home or outbuilding and need to have them removed contact the Agrilife office as they can get you in contact with a bee keeper who can recover the bees without killing them.

-Orange County Apiary Sub-Committee

Have bees?
Need them removed?
Have Questions?
Don't hesitate to call
409-882-7010.



Bee Keeping

Gardens for pollinators:

- Plant a large diversity of plants and trees
- Natives, herbs and heirloom plants are best
- Plant things that bloom at different times of the year
- Plant a block of bee plants (5-7 plants) as bees are attracted to large groups of flowers
- Avoid pesticides to establish beneficial insects in your garden and to prevent harm to pollinators
- Leave dead wood and brush piles in the garden area as well as bare land that hasn't been tilled to provide shelter for brush and ground nesting native bees.

Below is a list of common plants we have as well as a gallery of flowers that are great for bees and butterflies.

Holly	Bluebonnet	Pears	Turnips	Blackberries
Pines	Goldenrod	Apples	Peas	Raspberries
Dogwood	Petunia	Peaches	Runner beans	Logan berry
Elm	Roses	Kiwi	Broad beans	Cranberry
Tallow	Sassafras	Kale	Corgettes	Currants
Birch	Sunflowers	Cherries	Cucumbers	Avocado
Redbud	Cosmos	Passion Fruit	Squashes	Macademia Nut
Cedar	Lavender	Apricots	Pumpkins	Almonds
Clover	Sages	Melons	Gourds	
Plum	Lilies	Plums	Tomatoes	
Blueberry	Salvia	Onions	Peppers	
Strawberry	Daisy	Carrots	Aubergines	

<https://www.wildflower.org/expert/show.php?id=6723>

<http://www.klru.org/ctg/resource/attracting-bees-to-your-yard-and-garden/>

<http://traviscountybeekeepers.org/honey-bees-101/bee-friendly-gardening/>



Agarita
Mahonia trifoliolata
Wildflower.org



Giant spiderwort
Tradescantia gigantea
Flickr.com



Texas bluebonnet
Lupinus texensis
Bluebonnetlove.com

Bee and butterfly friendly plants gallery continued:



Butterflyweed
Asclepias tuberosa
Commons.wikimedia.org



Texas redbud
Cercis canadensis var. *texensis*
Www.Ci.lubbock.tx.us



Texas lantana
Lantana urticoides
Wildflower.org



Hinckley's golden columbine
Aquilegia chrysantha var. *hinckleyana*
Plant-and-flower-guide.com



Pink evening primrose
Oenothera speciosa
Npsot.org



Zexmenia
Wedelia acapulcensis var. *hispida*
Westongardens.com



Gray goldenrod
Solidago nemoralis
Tynnativeplants.wordpress.com



Aromatic aster
Symphyotrichum oblongifolium
Prairiemoon.com



Texas kidneywood
Eysenhardtia texana
Wildflower.org



Bees & Gardens

Couples Welcome!

April 26, 2016

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

\$12

Topics

Benefits of Bees
Bee Friendly Plants
History of Bees

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Office
11475-A FM 1442
Orange, TX 77632

TEXAS A&M
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To register and for any questions
call: 409-882-7010

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Rainwater Harvesting



June 25, 2016

8:30 am registration

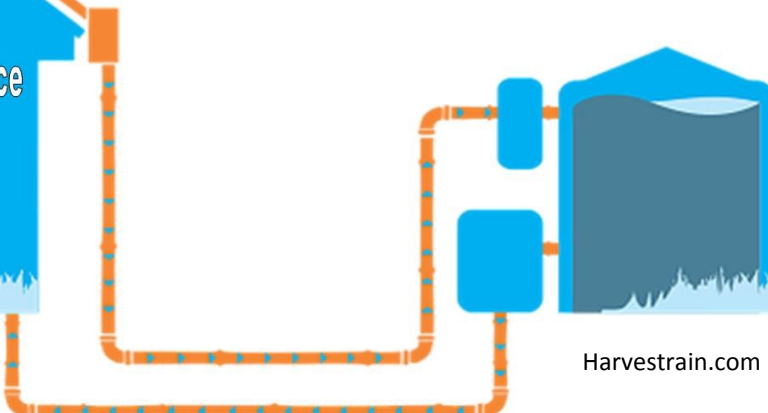
9:00 start

\$50 per person

Call 409-882-7010 to register

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Office
11475 FM 1442, Orange
409-882-7010

TEXAS A&M
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Harvestrain.com

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Beekeeping Workshops

May 21, 2016

Lunch Provided

\$20 per Session

Call 409-882-7010 to register



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office

11475 FM 1442, Orange

409-882-7010

Session 1

8:30: Registration

9:00 am—12:00 pm

Hive Management

Building a Hive

Session 2

1:00 pm—3:00 pm

Swarms

Trap outs



TEXAS A&M
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Dry out before Rebuilding



After the flood waters recede and the clean up has been done, most folks want

to get back into their homes and start rebuilding. The problem is that wood that has been submerged in water has likely absorbed a large amount of water. Rebuilding too quickly after a flood can cause continuing problems such as mold growth, insect infestations, and deterioration of the wood and wall coverings.

Flood waters are not clean water; therefore, most porous building materials must be removed and replaced with new materials. The following steps should be followed:

- Open flooded walls, even if they appear undamaged, to prevent mold, odor, and structural decay later.
- Remove water from the structure as rapidly as possible. Ventilate.
- Remove baseboards, and cut holes in wallboard to drain uninsulated walls.
- Remove the interior surface of insulated walls to a point above water height, often 12–18 inches. Discard flooded drywall.
- Undamaged paneling may be propped open or reinstalled after cleaning.
- Remove and discard all wet fibrous insulation.
- Clean out mud. Wall studs and plates may be sprayed with disinfectant (1 cup bleach/gallon water) to kill any existing mold and fungi.
- Speed dry with dehumidifiers and fans.

- Leave walls open until they have thoroughly dried, which may take up to a month.
- Select replacement materials that will withstand future floods (such as rigid foam insulation, removable wainscoting, ceramic tile, etc.).

Just how long should you wait? It may take weeks for the wood to be adequately dry to close a wall. The drying time will vary depending on the initial moisture content and the drying conditions. You will need to test the studs with a wood moisture meter. Wood should have a moisture content of less than 15 percent before insulation, drywall, paneling, or other coverings are placed on the wood. If you are doing the work yourself, you may be able to borrow or rent a meter from a hardware store, lumberyard, or home inspector.

How can I dry things out?

Ventilation

Ventilation is usually the best way to dry things out and can remove several gallons of water per day. Provide cross-ventilation by placing a fan in a window or door with the fan blowing to the outdoors. Seal around the fan with cardboard or plywood so the fan can create a vacuum. Use fans to circulate air over the wet surfaces. Inside the house, face fans into corners or other hidden areas to force the moist air out.



Heat

Heat increases the moisture-holding ability of the air. If your heating system has been checked and is in working order, use it to heat the air. As wood gets drier, it may be helpful to heat the house for a few hours; then ventilate to exchange the moist air inside the house with dry air from the outside.

Dehumidifiers

If the outside air is humid, ventilation will not work. You will need to use a dehumidifier.

The house must be closed up so you will not be combating the outside humid air.



Dehumidifiers function most efficiently at warm temperatures. At 80 degrees and 60 percent relative humidity, most dehumidifiers will remove 1–2 pints of water per hour from the air. You can purchase a dehumidifier from home improvement centers, discount stores, and most places that sell appliances. If you are hiring the work to be done, the contractor should have a dehumidifier to remove moisture. Some rental businesses have dehumidifiers. It is important to either set up the dehumidifier so that it drains the water removed from the air into the sewer, or you must empty the bucket regularly.

Lawn Maintenance Guide

LATE MAY – JULY

If a vigorous, fast-growing lawn is desired, repeat the fertilizer application above or apply 34-0-0 (ammonium nitrate) at a rate of 3 lbs. Per 1000 square feet or 21-0-0 (ammonium sulfate) at a rate of 5 lbs. Per 1000 square feet. Water the lawn thoroughly after fertilizing.

Water the lawn as needed. Thoroughly soak to a depth of 4 – 6 inches to encourage a deep root system. Avoid frequent, shallow watering.

JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Watch for chinch bug infestation in the sunny parts of your lawn, especially around sidewalks and driveways. If chinch bug damage is observed, treat with Diazinon, Dursban, Aspon or Oftanol according to label directions. A disease called gray leaf spot can be a problem during these months in shaded locations. Daconil (chlorothalonil) is labeled for control of this disease.

JULY

Raise the mowing height to 2 ½ to 3 inches during summer.

Upcoming Events:

4/21/16: Cattle Herd Health: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm, \$20.00, Lunch Provided, Extension Office.

4/26/16: Bees and Gardens: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm, \$12, Extension Office

5/5/16: Food Handlers Classes: 6:00 pm, \$20, Extension Office

5/10/16: Senior Citizen Rally Day: 9:00 am—1:00 pm, Orange County Convention and Expo Center

5/17/16: Horticulture Production: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm, \$25

5/18/16-5/19/16: Certified Food Manager Course: 9:am—4pm, Extension Office

5/21/16: Beekeeping Workshops: 2 sessions: 8:30 am—12:00 pm, \$20; & 1:00 pm—3:00 pm, \$20. Lunch Provided, Extension Office

6/25/16: Rainwater Harvesting: 8:30 am, \$50 per person

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