

PRODUCERS

COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Spring 2020 Saturday Ag Class Schedule!

Starting Time: 10am!

No fees, no reservations! Simply an information-packed hour with qualified experts in their field! We'll gather in the Conference Room next to the feed dock (unless otherwise noted). Be sure to check out the Producers Facebook page and Producers website for updated information on Saturday Classes!

February 15th 'Rose Care for Spectacular Blooms'

Mr. Andrew Barocco, Director of Breeding & Production Manager, The Antique Rose Emporium

This class has perfect timing! It's time to prune your roses and set the stage for a spectacular spring & summer! Mr. Barocco will bring his wealth of rose knowledge and help us prepare and start the spring for a successful growing and blooming season. He will cover rose selection, planting, care and maintenance. We will have roses available for Mr. Barocco to demonstrate pruning techniques, not to mention a great selection to compare and ponder!

February 22nd 'Show Poultry 201: Taking it to the Next Level'

Mr. Dale Hyatt, Poultry Science Center, Texas A&M University & Multi-Level Poultry Judge

This is a must for anyone that shows or is interested in showing broilers or turkeys. The last few years Producers Cooperative has been offering a poultry show class that focused on receiving birds, general health and feeding. This year we would like to "Take it to the Next Level" and offer our Show Poultry 201 class. We, along with our experts, will focus on culling and selecting birds as you finish your project. We will, as always, cover the important aspects of raising show broilers and turkeys. This class will be held on our garden center patio for live demonstrations and hands-on experiences. Mark your calendars!

February 29th 'So What is a Pre-Conditioning Cattle Sale?'

Kodi Burdette, Producers Cooperative Association

There has been an increasing number of pre-conditioning cattle sales popping up in the Brazos Valley, but not everyone is familiar with the process. We will cover: Why would I pre-condition my calves? Who can participate in these programs? What are the pros and cons? Is this program for me? How do I feed and vaccinate for this program? We will bring you information and discuss the tools and processes involved. We will also have a guest panel to answer your questions.

March 7th **'Brood Cow Nutrition Management'**

Dr. Jon DeClerck, Beef Consulting Nutritionist, Purina Animal Nutrition

Understanding the production cycle of the cow and her changing nutritional requirements is imperative to a successful and profitable cattle operation. Brood cow nutrition requirements differ throughout the production cycle. Dr. DeClerck will discuss the nutrition requirements over an average production cycle (postpartum, lactation and pregnant, gestation & pre-calving) and different stress scenarios- heifer, first-calf heifer, bred cow, lactating cow with calf, post-weaning, breeding season and more. Not every herd has the same calving season and the weather isn't the same from year to year, stressing the importance of understanding the nutritional requirements of your brood cows throughout their production cycle and what role variable stresses play.

March 14th **'Bee-Keeping Basics'**

Mr. Chris Barnes, Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association

Bee Keeping continues to grow in popularity in the Brazos Valley. It is a fascinating pursuit, a great hobby, excellent youth project and produces delicious rewards! There is a very active local Beekeepers Association that helps support those who want to learn more or grow their own hives. This class is geared toward beginning beekeepers, but veterans with questions are welcome too.

March 21st **'Strategic Deworming for your Livestock Herd'**

Mr. Todd Huebner, Boehringer-Ingelheim

Preventive health care is an important component of your livestock management practice. As parasites evolve, so has deworming. Setting our herd goals and understanding the facts will help us develop a system that will be sustainable for generations. It all starts with the right products and the right time for the right reasons. Mr. Huebner share his 20+ years of experience as he guides us through the facts of deworming, as well as introduce and share new research and animal health technology.

March 28th **'Pasture Weed Identification & Control Methods'**

Dr. Scott A Nolte, Ph. D., State Extension Weed Specialist Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Controlling pasture weeds is one of the single most important things you can do to increase the amount of grass you have for your livestock. While we have an abundance of tools (restricted & non-restricted use) that we can use to control both broadleaf and grassy weeds, achieving success is often about weed identification, product selection, rates, timing and proper application. This is a big topic for a one-hour class, but Dr. Nolte can give you general guidelines to follow to increase your success rate. You are welcome to bring plant samples for identification! Please keep your sample fresh and hydrated!

April 4th **'Toxic Pasture Plants of the Brazos Valley'**

Dr. Catherine Barr, Diagnostic Vegetation Management Program Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Dr. Barr is a board-certified toxicologist with over 20 years in diagnostic experience in toxicology at TVMDL. She is an expert in regional toxic plants, mycotoxins, other feed/forage-related toxins and their effects on livestock. She will help us identify potentially toxic plants in the pasture, discuss toxic plant management practices and bring it all together as she draws on her wealth of collaborations with large and small practitioners.

April 11th **'Aquatic Vegetation Management'**

Brittany Chesser, Aquatic Vegetation Management Program Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Ms. Chesser is the Lead Diagnostic Scientist at the TAMU Aquatic Diagnostics Laboratory. This program will cover the basics of why aquatic vegetation needs to be controlled, when aquatic plants become a problem, identifying aquatic plant species, how to select and appropriate herbicide, biological or physical control method, and how to apply control options. Bring your aquatic plants for identification! But keep them hydrated in a pond water filled container with a lid!

April 18th **'Agronomy Educational & Product Showcase'**

Mark McMath & Jason Whitfield, Agronomists, Producers Cooperative Association

SPECIAL MORNING OF CLASSES (8:30 AM-12:00 PM) Join the Producers Cooperative Agronomy Team as they bring you a morning filled with industry and product updates! Specific classes and CEUs will be announced!

April 25th **'Estate Planning and Land Succession & Transfer'**

Ginger Bosse, CPA, Seidel Schroeder

Ms. Bosse is a Certified Public Accountant with an extensive background, knowledge base and passion for agriculture. She grew up on a working cattle ranch in the Brazos Valley and understands the challenges and questions that farmers and ranchers are faced with today. Ms. Bosse will cover property ownership, taxes, estate planning and succession planning for your farm or ranch. She asks that you bring your questions for the Q&A section of the class- this is everyone's favorite part!

May 2nd **'Keeping Horses Safe from Toxic Plants'**

Dr. Leslie Easterwood, Equine Veterinarian & Professor, Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

Performance horses to pleasure horses, keeping them safe and away from harmful plants and food is always a priority. Dr. Leslie Easterwood, clinical assistant professor, will cover what to look for in your fields that could potentially be dangerous for your horses. Texas is home to some of the most toxic plants to equine. Dr. Easterwood will cover good equine practices to keep your horses safe at chow time and identify signs that a horse has eaten a poisonous plant.