

EXTENSION

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Educational programs for 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.

Agriculture & Natural Resources

- Agent Baugh had three result demonstrations for the Spring growing season planned. A “Planting Date Study” mixed with a “Seed Population Study” began in late April and ended in June. Due to the drought, none of the cotton emerged until the late light rain in mid-June.
- Biologicals are increasing in grain crop importance; Agent Baugh had four grain sorghum fields identified to use baculovirus insecticides for control of sorghum head worms. Due to the drought, the insect population was very low.
- Agent Baugh also planted an area-wide cotton variety trial with eight varieties that is still going strong. In addition to the field trials, Agent Baugh had 74 field visits dealing with abandonment, PGR use, fertility, weed control, drift and late aphids. Appointments are now being made for harvest aid planning and implementation.
- Agent Scott held a “Backyard Poultry Production” program with 18 homeowners attending.

Family & Community Health

- A two-day food manager training course was held in Lubbock on August 8-9, 2023 to provide a certification for area food service managers. Sixteen participants attended the training which was sponsored by TAMU AgriLife Extension and co-taught by area Agents Edwards, Aljoe, Lostroh, Snowden and Lowe.
- “A Matter of Balance” is an evidence-based fall risk reduction program which teaches strategies to reduce fear of falling and increase activity levels. The 8-week program was implemented by Agent Aljoe at Raider Ranch Assisted Living Facility reaching seven participants in May and June.
- “Master of Memory” was presented by Agent Aljoe to residents of Homestead Apartments in August. The six-lesson series encourages participants to recognize that they can impact their memory function, evaluate their own memory function and understand the factors that affect their memory function.
- Agents Bozeman, Reid and Edwards collaborated with the South Plains Food Bank to conduct the educational series “Cultivate, Cook and Create” based on the “Learn, Grow, Eat and Go” curriculum from June to August, reaching 44 youth graduates.
- Agent Bozeman presented “Growing and Nourishing Healthy Communities” at the Maggie Trejo Senior Center, Mae Simmons Senior Center, Lubbock Senior Center, Homestead Senior Apartments and Copper Rawlings Senior Center this summer. Agents Bozeman and Reid also supervised two Texas Tech University Summer Interns.

4-H & Youth Development

- Agent Scott validated 260 4-H and FFA steers (the most of any county in the state of Texas); and also conducted validations for lambs, goats, swine and heifers to show at the State Fair of Texas.
- Agent Scott held an Outdoor Education meeting to teach 4-H’ers about fishing and lake health with 85 youth attending; a summer Youth Fishing Tournament was also held for 38 District 2 4-H’ers.
- Agent Scott held an Ag Tour this summer for 20 area teachers to supplement their classroom teaching resources related to Agriculture.
- Four Lubbock County 4-H’ers were awarded the Texas 4-H Gold Star Award at the Annual County 4-H Achievement Banquet held in August. Gold Star recipients were: Madison Chaloupka, Stone Beach, Brier Griffis and Jacob Everitt. Over 200 recognitions were presented to youth, adults and individuals associated with the Lubbock County 4-H program at the Banquet which was held at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture. South Plains Fair scholarships totaling \$1,500 were also presented to graduating seniors Bax Edwards, Jacob Everitt and David Kendrick.
- Forty-eight Lubbock County 4-H’ers submitted recordbooks for County Judging, with thirty-two advancing to District Judging and six advancing to State Judging. Winning their categories at State 4-H Recordbook Judging were Brynlee Edwards, Madison Chaloupka and Aaron Chaloupka. Brynlee Edwards was also selected to attend National 4-H Congress held in Atlanta Georgia in November.
- Twelve Lubbock County 4-H’ers, three parent/volunteer leaders and Agents Alexander and Edwards participated in the 2nd Capital 4-H Citizenship Tour to Washington, D.C. in July. The group toured the Smithsonian’s, the Holocaust Museum, Mount Vernon, Arlington Cemetery, the Night Monument Tour, the US Botanic Garden, Ford Theatre, the National Zoo and the Capital. Participants also met with Congressman Jodey Arrington.

Staff Involvement

- Lubbock County staff continue to present week day radio programs on 105.7 reaching approximately 35,000 listeners, providing them with the latest information about the Lubbock County Extension program and opportunities available.
- Vine to Wine was a multi-disciplinary event held on August 28, 2023 at the Adelphos Cellars, sponsored by the TAMU AgriLife Extension Service and the Leadership Advisory Board (LAB). The purpose was to provide education on this growing industry in Lubbock County. LAB members Jenci Thoma and Will Turner assisted with the event. Forty-one participants enjoyed a glass of wine, wine and cheese pairings, a vineyard tour and learning from the vineyard manager, the cellar owner and Daniel Hillin, Viticulture Specialist.