

Concho County Ag News

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October 2010

PECAN MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

A Pecan Management Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at the Chester McCown orchard in Miles. Mr McCown is known state wide for his many varieties of high quality pecans. Pecans are a valuable crop for homeowners but do require some maintenance and upkeep throughout the years to keep trees healthy.

The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. with guest speaker, John Begnaud, retired Horticulture agent from Tom Green County, who will discuss pruning and thinning of pecan trees. Mr McCown will speak on variety selection of pecans and propagation. Rick Minzenmayer, IPM Extension Agent, will complete the workshop with discussion on protecting and winterizing pecan trees through the winter months.

A noon meal will then be served at the Miles Young Farmer Building beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m. Pesticide applicators in attendance will be given one hour of continuing education units in integrated pest management.

Please contact the Concho County Extension Office at 732-4304 or the Runnels County Extension office at 365-2219 to register for the event or for more information. The group will meet at the Miles Young Farmer Building at 8:55 a.m. to travel to the orchard in Miles if persons would like to follow.

REGIONAL BEEF CATTLE WORKSHOP

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a free regional beef cattle health and marketing workshop from 1-5 p.m. on Oct. 6 at Producers Livestock Auction at 1131 N. Bell Street in San Angelo.

This will be a very informative day for owners of small and large beef herds in the Concho Valley. There are a lot of decisions to be made regarding beef cattle herd management, health and marketing. Producers will be equipped with the knowledge they need to address those concerns during this workshop.

Topics and speakers will include:

- Trichomoniasis Infection in Cattle, Scott Porter, Boehringer Ingelheim representative from New Braunfels.
- Bovine Virus Diarrhea - Persistent Infection Basics, Neal Odom, IDEXX Laboratories representative from Wellington.
- Beef Herd Health Schedule and Vaccination Scheduling, Dr. Rick Machen, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist, Uvalde.
- Buyers' Value of Health and Condition of Calves at Livestock Auctions, Bill Thompson, AgriLife Extension economist, San Angelo.
- Value of Your Cull Cows, John Cross with Lone Star Beef of San Angelo.
- Buyers' Value of Beef Cattle Characteristics at Livestock Auctions, Thompson.

The workshop is being conducted by the AgriLife Extension offices in Tom Green, Runnels, Sterling, Coke, Concho, Irion and Schleicher counties.

A hamburger supper sponsored by IDEXX Laboratories and Boehringer Ingelheim will follow the program with donations benefitting the District 7 Texas County Agricultural Agents Association.

Those planning to attend should RSVP by Oct. 4 by contacting the Concho County Extension Office at 325-732-4304 or m-palmer@tamu.edu

WOOL and MOHAIR LAB NAMED for BILL SIMS

A longtime West Texas sheep and goat industry leader was recently recognized with the renaming of a wool and mohair research laboratory and with the creation of an endowment to help support it.

1. The newly named Bill Sims Wool and Mohair Research Laboratory is located at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at San Angelo. The endowment is the Bill Sims Wool and Mohair Research Foundation Fund. The interest from the fund, with an initial target goal of \$25,000, will be used to pay a student worker or to purchase equipment for the lab.

Sims is a rancher, former county AgriLife Extension agent, past executive director of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association and a retired Texas state senator. He was instrumental in getting the research laboratory equipment moved to Texas after a U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service laboratory closed in Albany, California in 1983, said Dr. Chris Lupton, the AgriLife Research scientist who has headed the lab since its San Angelo opening.

Sims continued his support by also helping to secure funding to house and operate the facility at San Angelo, according to Lupton.

Lupton said San Angeloans Pierce Miller, past president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association and the American Sheep Industry Association, State Representative Drew Darby, and Dr. John Walker, AgriLife director of research at the center, all helped secure the authority needed to make

the name change, which became official during ceremonies held during the Center's Annual Sheep and Goat Field Day on Sept. 2.

Lupton said the laboratory started operations in San Angelo in 1985 to address specific needs in the national sheep and goat, wool and mohair research programs. It is one of only four in the nation, he said.

Those wishing to contribute to the Bill Sims Wool and Mohair Research Foundation Fund may do so by sending checks payable to: San Angelo Area Foundation with Bill Sims Wool and Mohair Research Foundation Fund on the memo line.

Mail checks to: San Angelo Area Foundation 2201 Sherwood Way, Suite 205 San Angelo, TX 76901

SMALL GRAIN VARIETY TRIAL RESULTS

Results from the 2010 Small Grain Forage and Grain Trials can be found online at:

<http://concho-tx.tamu.edu/>

Goto Publications > Crops

The state-wide 2010 Wheat and Oat Variety Trial Results are also available on-line and can be found at:

<http://varietytesting.tamu.edu/wheat>

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