

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District



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Meet Sid! I've hidden him inside this Newsletter. The first person to find him and post it on the Kerr County SWCD's Facebook page gets a prize!

~Missie Dreiss, Kerr County SWCD District Technician



UPDATED Kerr County SHOW SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 16, 2021

8AM Ag Mechanic Projects arrive 9AM Judge Ag Mech Show

Sunday, January 17, 2021

8-10AM - Breeding Sheep arrive 11AM -Judge Breeding Sheep

12PM - Steers & Heifers arrive

Monday, January 18, 2021

8AM - Judge Kerr County Steers- Heifers show 30 min after Steers

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

10AM - Market Lambs & Meat Goats arrive

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

8AM - Judge Kerr County Market Lambs

11Am - Judge Kerr County Meat Goats

Thursday, January 21, 2021

9AM - Market Swine & Breeding Gilts arrive

Friday, January 22, 2021

8AM - Judge Market Swine

Saturday, January 23, 2021

1:00 PM - Kerr County Livestock Show Premium Auction

(All animals will be taken home after their show is over. No animals will be floored)



KERR CO. SWCD NEWS



Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District January 2021 Volume 11, Issue 1



Which shall it be - "More Acres to the bite...or more bites to the acre?"

In order to make sound stocking rate decisions, a complete inventory of the rangeland is necessary.

The rangeland inventory should include all available resources in each pasture throughout the entire operating unit. Total acres vs. grazable acres, forage production per acre and water supply and distribution should be determined in combination with the condition of existing structures such as fences and water supply facilities. Once this inventory is completed it will serve as a basis for present and future management decisions.

Many land managers have an idea of how much forage they have, but a systematic approach can improve decisions, evaluations, and reduce possible damage to the forage resource during dry periods.

Range inventories serve many purposes. It provides and accurate estimate of available consumable forage. The inventory can also indicate rangeland health as well as range trend for each ecological site. Inventories of livestock water supplies are necessary to ensure adequate storage and improve grazing distribution. Each pasture should have de-

pendable sources of supplying water as well as adequate storage for the maximum potential number of animals grazing in each pasture at any one time.

Stocking Conservatively

Stocking conservatively is critical in managing for drought conditions. By adjusting stocking rates to current forage production during the year, a rancher can insure that the number of animals grazed will not harm the range resource. Ranchers who do not graze conservatively or adjust stocking rates in relation to current forage production will continue to damage their rangeland, animal, and financial resources which will increase their risk.

For information on NRCS programs and services in Kerr county, give Soil Conservationist, Nathan Orsak or Rangeland Specialist Christian Hopkins a call at

(830) 896-4911x3

Helping People Help the Land





District Directors:

Zone 1

Jack Thorn, Vice-Chairman

Zone 3

Paula Russ

Zone 4

David Symm, Secretary

Zone 5

Jack Clarke, III, Chairman

District Clerk

Denise Griffin

District Technician

Missie Dreiss



Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Resource Team Leader

Cole Jacoby

Programs Assistant (Farm Bill)

Katy Meador

Soil Conservationists

Nathan Orsac

Rangeland Specialist

Christian Hopkins

OFFICE HOURS:

NRCS 8:00-4:30 Mon-Fri

SWCD 9:00-3:00 Tues-Thurs

(830)896-4911x3



FARM SERVICE AGENCY May 2020



Overview

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides payments to eligible livestock owners and contract growers who have covered livestock and who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage (native and improved pasture land with permanent vegetative cover or certain crops planted specifically for grazing) that have suffered a loss of grazed forage due to a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county.

LFP also provides payments to eligible livestock owners or contract growers that have covered livestock and who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage on rangeland managed by a federal agency if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited by the federal agency from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland due to a qualifying fire.



The qualifying drought and qualifying grazing losses, and/or notification of prohibition to graze Federal land due to fire, must have occurred in the grazing period and crop year.

LFP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

For More Information on this program or to download the full factsheet, visit farmers.gov or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/service-center-locator.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Kerr County SWCD Scholarship Program

Honoring Mr. Buck Menges

Deadline for applications Wednesday, March 31st

Do you have a graduating senior interested in pursuing a career in agriculture?

The Kerr County SWCD offers a **\$2,000 Scholarship** for students that reside in or attend/ attended school in Kerr County. Download the application from our website today!

www.kerrcountyswcd.com



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Ag Pesticide Applicator and Course Provider Update

2021 Covid 19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic

During the Covid 19 pandemic and the rise of positive cases across the state, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is extending this exemption of agriculture Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements. To address the CEU's and licensure requirements for Ag Pesticide applicators, the TDA will work with the ag pesticide applicators and CEU course providers of Texas during this critical time. Licensed applicators with expiring licenses or needing CEU's will be allowed to renew their license even if they have not met their CEU requirement for their current licensing period through December 31, 2021. Due to the restrictions of meetings in place by the Governor and many cities, many CEU events have been canceled. The TDA will work to insure all the state's pesticide applicators are able to acquire their licenses and required continuing education courses in a safe and effective manner during this time frame. Once the restrictions have been lifted and courses are scheduled again, applicators will be required to obtain their required CEUs for their respective license classification for each licensing period. By allowing a CEU exemption, this will allow the applicators to maintain their ability to perform pesticide applications for pests, weeds, insects etc., without disrupting daily business functions. Applicators are encouraged to complete online courses even if online courses were completed the previous licensing period.

PRIVATE APPLICATORS

For licenses expiring in 2021 ONLY: The TDA will also exempt private applicators from the TDA Rule 7.24 (v) (5). This rule does not allow a private applicator to acquire more than 10 CEUs through correspondence courses. During this quarantine time frame, private applicators will be allowed to acquire ALL of their CEUs through correspondence courses (online). Private applicators are required to obtain 15 CEUs per 5-year licensing period.

For more information please visit www.texasagriculture.org





Conference

Friday, May 7, 2021 8:00am - 4:00pm

Hill Country Youth Event Center ~ 3785 Hwy. 27 Kerrville, TX 78028

\$30.00 Early Bird Special ends April 2nd ~ \$45.00 At The Gate 5 CEU's (Pesticide Lic.) 7 hours A.T (Master Naturalists)

Please make checks payable to Kerr County SWCD and Mail to: 2104 Memorial Blvd. Ste. 103, Kerrville, TX 78028

Date and Number of CEU's / A.T are subject to change due to COVID-19