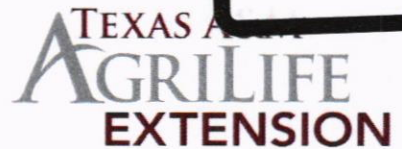




Prepared by:
Johanna Hicks – Extension Family & Community Health Agent



Quarterly Update – March 23, 2020

Hot topics:

- After attending a session at the East Region Lone Star Health Summit, I reported at the recent Extension Leadership Luncheon that teen vaping is causing major health issues among youth as young as middle school. Sulphur Springs High School has confiscated numerous vaping devices from students. They are often disguised as flash drives, make-up compacts, hoodie strings, and hidden in other products.
- COVID 19 is a major nationwide concern. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension administration is sending daily updates and resources for Extension staff to share. We are directing folks to <https://texashelp.tamu.edu/> (Extension Disaster Network) and the CDC website, along with local authorities (Judge Newsom and Andy Ensley.)
- I served on a task force to design a pattern for face masks for local medical staff due to the shortage of masks. Wendi Armstrong has put together a social media group for construction and distribution of the masks and as of Sunday, March 22, 125 masks had been completed. The group was on NBC news.
- Social media posts: I will be publishing daily posts on updates from our State Extension admin, as well as activities that parents and caregivers can do with their children, including science experiments, cooking projects, and other topics.

Educational efforts:

- Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes series: the first two sessions were held before Extension was instructed to cancel all face-to-face programs and events. With the remaining three sessions, I will be providing the classes via Teams – an on-line format. Handouts and other supplemental materials will be mailed to the participants.
- Newspaper columns and social media posts on Hopkins County Family & Community Health Facebook page continue to receive positive feedback. Topics have been timely and seem to be reaching a specific need.

Recognition:

- 2020 Extension Educator of the Year
- 2020 Communications Written Media Award for newspaper column titled, "It's Not Gone – Just Renamed!"
Both of these to be awarded at the Texas Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences Conference in Lubbock, July 2020.
- These, plus two additional awards have been forwarded to the national level.

Extension staffing: Our district and state administrations are working with skeleton staff and recommended that counties follow suit. We have worked out a schedule for each Hopkins County Extension staff member for in-office and alternate work locations. We just learned that Dallas County residents, where our District Office is located, have been ordered to shelter in place.

2020 NETLA Show 4-H Participants & Awards

Showmanship Winners

Mika Gray- Intermediate Steer Showmanship
 Ramsey Ragan- Junior Lamb Showmanship
 Micah Flemens- Senior Poultry Showmanship

Champion Honors

Rolando Massey- Reserve Champion Steer
 Ryan Ragan- Reserve Champion Lamb
 Micah Flemens- Reserve Champion Poultry

Sale of Champions Participants

Tayden Horton	Isaac Ray	Penelope Deterding
Rolando Massey	Roman Massey	Ethan George
Yuri Avdibegovic	Hannah Bledsoe	Kinsley McCormack
Miley McCormack	Kannon Gibson	Kollyn Gibson
Anderson Grimes	Aiken Grimes	Jackson Lundell
Cameron Endsley	Addilyn Moore	Harper Hodges
Abigail Davis	Jacy Barnett	Valerie Flecker
Ayden Fhylabn Ortiz	Alexa Mendez	Cross Phillips
Aspen Mayhew	Destiny Lackey	Anndi Jones
Jadi Jones	Kate Monk	Maggie Flemens
Micah Flemens	McKenna Post	Maddox Potts
Rhye Caudle	Kaden Mabe	Emma Eddins
Madeline DonJuan	Adrian DonJuan	Maddi Skaggs
Dodge Chamness	Brooks Burgin	Chloe Willis
Cole Willis	Madison Kellogg	Ryan Ragan
Ramsey Ragan	Reese Ragan	Rayne Stovall
Mika Gray	Bayler Boatman	Brett Boatman
Seth Johns	Samantha Smith	

Out of 53 4-H Participants we had 36 make the Sale of Champions on Saturday!!

Prepared by Jessica Taylor, Assistant CEA, Hopkins County
 903-885-3443
 jessica.taylor@ag.tamu.edu

Texas Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN)

TexasHelp.tamu.edu

[Home](#) » [Hot Topics](#) » [Coronavirus Information & Resources](#)

Coronavirus Information & Resources

Sources: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and [DSHS.texas.gov](https://www.dshs.texas.gov)

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in monitoring the new coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) that is an outbreak of respiratory illness worldwide. The novel (new) coronavirus was first identified in Wu Hubei Province, China. The first case in the United States was announced on January 21, 2020. Through ongoing investigations to learn more.

Health

About Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- [Latest Situation Summary](#)
- [About 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)](#)
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- [Symptoms & Complications](#)
 - [Coronavirus Symptoms \(pdf\) \(Spanish\)](#)
 - [Stop the Spread of Germs \(pdf\) \(Spanish\) \(Chinese\)](#)
 - [CDC Coronavirus Self-Checker](#)
- [How it Spreads](#)
- [Prevention & Treatment](#)
- [Share Facts, Not Fear](#)
- [What To Do If You Are Sick](#)
- [Caring for Yourself at Home \(pdf\)](#)
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Hopkins County Agriculture and Natural Resources Update

Dairy Judging Ft Worth Livestock Show

Veterinary Science Sessions (Monthly)

Sulphur Springs ISD and Cumby ISD

Council meeting (4-H)

Zoom Record Book Training

Private Applicator Training (12)

Planning meetings for New Landowner Trainings (4)

Attending diversity training with AgriLife Extension

NETLA show

NETBIO task force meetings (3)

Teams Trainings

Small Acreage Training (1) NLO

Leadership Advisory Board Meeting (Lunch)

13 Press releases (multiple subjects)

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Helping Texans Better Their Lives

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By Dr. Mario A. Villarino, County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Hopkins County, Texas.

Relevance: Livestock and forage production is a **3.9 billion dollars** industry in the Central Region. Livestock and forage enterprises are affected by climate and market variability. Hopkins County currently has more than 100,000 head of cattle with 27,000 head of those been dairy cattle. Due to environmental requirements of federal and state authorities, Hopkins County dairy operators must maintain environmental requirements for operation as part of the DOPA region.

Response: This plan collaborated with dairy (Dairy Farmers of America, Southwest Dairy Museum) and beef organizations (NETBIO) to determine and conduct educational efforts needed for the successful operation of livestock farms and ranches. Texas livestock and forage producers and related agribusinesses effectively evaluate and adopt research-based technology applications and best management practices for sustainable and profitable livestock management systems. Livestock producers improve knowledge of production and management systems to improve quality, profitability, and sustainability.

- This plan was targeted to 350 beef producers, 150 private applicators, 60 dairy producers and 60 landowner seeking private applicator accreditation. A component of consumer awareness of beef consumption was included (1,200 attendees).

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Hopkins County developed the following educational programs to educate beef and dairy producers on specific aspects of animal science.

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- 36 News Articles and 2 Newsletters highlighting Pesticide Private Applicators relevant information
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Programs were marketed through all available means of mass communications with area and local outlets. Partnerships between Texas Parks and Wildlife, NRCS, Farm Service Agency, Farm Bureau

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and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Specialist were utilized to aid in planning and implementing specific educational efforts.

Results:


A retrospective post survey was utilized to measure knowledge gained and adoptions of best practices. A total of 75 of 115 (65%) (Beef Up Program) participants completed the retrospective post survey instrument.

- 69% (52/75) of respondents plan to take actions or make changes based on the information presented in this program.
- 92% (69/75) of the respondents anticipate economic benefit as a direct result of what they learned from this program.
- 86% (65/75) of the respondents said that the information and programs provided by extension were quite or extremely valuable for them.
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- 76% (66/86) of participants indicated that the information provided by Extension was extremely valuable.

Acknowledgements: Special thanks to the all the presenters for their time and expertise. In addition, appreciation is expressed to NETBIO and Farm Bureau committees for their guidance and support of Extension programming within the county.

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Livestock Production	
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EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE
Providing Solutions

Helping Texans Better Their Lives

2019 4-H Hopkins County Agricultural Plan

Developed by Dr. Mario A. Villarino, County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources Hopkins County, Texas and Jessica Taylor, Assistant Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Hopkins County.

Relevance: 4-H Agriculture and Natural Resources projects are an important component of the county 4-H program in Texas. Currently, sixty three percent of Texas 4-H members are enrolled in a livestock project. These projects provide youth with subject matter education, as well as valuable learning experiences, character education and leadership skills. Adult volunteer engagement is critical to administer the program and expand outreach. The development of youth volunteers as ambassadors for agriculture and natural resources will educate and recruit other youth to the project. Today youth are further removed from farming. Many do not understand the importance of agriculture and how it impacts their daily lives. This plan included a Science of Agriculture (Ag Literacy/Awareness) program component to target elementary students (grades 4) and teachers in Hopkins County and provides the following educational components: Educational support materials for Science of Agriculture including Ag Day/Ag Fair field trip and information about 4-H opportunities for the participants and parents. Water conservation/protection awareness will be also included. Hopkins County will utilize 4-H Livestock Project Coalitions to provide direction and support for the programs and events conducted. The programs and events provided support unities for 4-Hers to develop or improve their leadership skills and other life skills. Volunteer recruitment, training, and utilization will be an important component of the plan. This plan involved 200 youth and 60 volunteers in projects and 900 in curriculum enrichment component in Ag/NR 4-H projects.

Response: 12 Veterinary Science Sessions (Monthly) (12 participants), 2 State Heifer Validation, NETLA Steer Validation, 6 Coalition Meetings, NETLA Swine Validation (Nov), District Dairy Judging Contest (Jan), District Livestock Judging (April), HC 4-H Round Up (36 participants), NETLA project visits (36), NETLA Junior Livestock Show (Feb)(330 exhibitors), Ag in the Classroom (Oct)(900 youth, 80 adults), Goat Clipping Clinic (Feb) (4 youth), Goat and Lamb Showmanship Clinic (10 youth), Shot Gun District Competition (May) (110 youth), Poultry Clinic (Nov) (25 youth), NETLA Dairy Show (June) (12 youth).

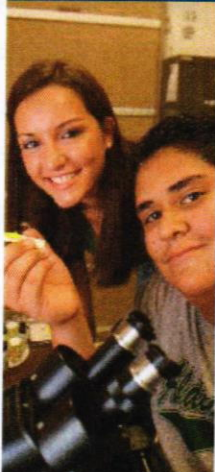
Results: A specific pre and post test was conducted in a statistically significant subsample (50 students) in a randomly selected 4th grade school class in Hopkins County, with post test results as follows:

- 63% (40/64) indicated a better understanding of the connection between agriculture and health.
- 84% (53/63) have a better understanding of the path food takes to get to their plate.
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Impact: Agriculture and Natural Resource Projects in Texas remained a cornerstone for youth programs in 4-H. Hopkins County is no exception. More than 50 livestock projects and numerous public speaking and educational presentations were based on agriculture and natural resources. The Hopkins County Extension Office would like to recognize the multiple organizations supporting curriculum enrichment experiences and Hopkins Rains Farm Bureau for their support, leadership and commitment to our youth in Hopkins County during the 2018 Ag in the Classroom.

VALUE

Science of Agriculture



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension "Science of Agriculture" programs teach youth about the role agriculture plays in the world and in their lives. Through their participation in these programs, youth become better educated voters and consumers.

Helping Texans Better Their Lives

2019 Hopkins County Water Conservation

By Dr. Mario Villarino, County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Hopkins County Texas.

Relevance: Water quality and conservation have emerged as predominant issues across Texas as indicated through local input, elected officials/legislative actions, and numerous other indicators. Water for domestic and agricultural use is becoming increasingly limited in Texas. The steady influx of new people presents challenges to continued water availability. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) projects that by 2060, an estimated population of 46.3 million will reside in Texas and require approximately 22 million acre feet of water per year. TWDB also projects an annual shortfall of some 7 million-acre feet of water given existing infrastructure.

Response: Volunteer committees will assist in the planning of educational event. Educational activities included classroom instruction which was conducted by teachers, volunteers, or the agent. The volunteer committee will primarily be involved in the planning of the Water Day/Fair which follows the completion of classroom instruction. Tasks in which volunteers were involved include lining up speakers, serving as a speaker, assisting with bus unloading/loading, meal preparation and serving (for students and speakers), contacting the local media, donors, and more. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Hopkins County developed the following educational programs to educate our community on specific aspects of water conservation.

- Tomato Grafting (February) (30 participants)
- Homeowner Maintenance of Aerobic Treatment Units (2 trainings) (April, August) (40 participants)
- Native Plants training and sale (April) (20 participants)
- Grassland Tour Day for Youth (April) (25 participants)
- Kids Camp Water Conservation Session (June) (40 participants)
- Ag in the Classroom Water Erosion (October) (900 participants)
- Fall Dairyman Conference (October) (25 participants)
- 4 Press releases related to water conservation

Results: A retrospective post survey was utilized to measure knowledge gained and adoptions of best practices. A total of 13 of 14 (65%) (Fall Dairyman Conference) participants completed the retrospective post survey instrument.

- 23% of respondents plan to take actions or make changes based on the information from this activity.
- 45% of respondents anticipate benefiting economically as a direct result of what they learned from this Extension activity.
- 85% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the information being what they expected.
- 92% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the information beings accurate.
- 92% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the relevance of the examples used.

A retrospective post survey was utilized to measure knowledge gained and adoptions of best practices. A total of 39 participants completed the retrospective post survey instrument (Ag in the Classroom-water erosion portion).

- 71.8 (28/39) of respondents were able to recognize erosion as the removal of soil by water or wind.
- 85% (33/39) of respondents are aware of water limitations on earth.
- 72% (28/39) of respondents recognize that water conservation should be practiced by everyone.
- 69% (27/39) of respondents recognize that water returns to the clouds through evaporation.
- 41% (16/39) of respondents recognize soil, oil and pesticides as water pollutants when runoff into water.
- 54% (21/39) of respondents recognize that water that falls onto the land and drains to a common places is called a watershed.

Acknowledgements: Special thanks to the all the presenters for their time and expertise. In addition, appreciation is expressed to The Hopkins County Master Gardeners and Farm Bureau committees for their guidance and support of Extension programming within the county.

Helping Texans Better Their Lives

2019 Hopkins County Livestock and Forage Education (Trainings, tours and field days)

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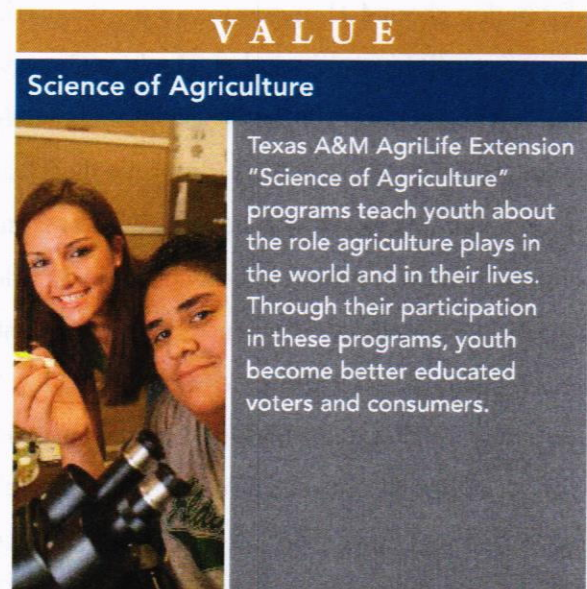
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2019 Hopkins County Water Conservation

By Dr. Mario Villarino, County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Hopkins County Texas.

Relevance: Water quality and conservation have emerged as predominant issues across Texas as indicated through local input, elected officials/legislative actions, and numerous other indicators. Water for domestic and agricultural use is becoming increasingly limited in Texas. The steady influx of new people presents challenges to continued water availability. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) projects that by 2060, an estimated population of 46.3 million will reside in Texas and require approximately 22 million acre feet of water per year. TWDB also projects an annual shortfall of some 7 million-acre feet of water given existing infrastructure.

Response: Volunteer committees will assist in the planning of educational event. Educational activities included classroom instruction which was conducted by teachers, volunteers, or the agent. The volunteer committee will primarily be involved in the planning of the Water Day/Fair which follows the completion of classroom instruction. Tasks in which volunteers were involved include lining up speakers, serving as a speaker, assisting with bus unloading/loading, meal preparation and serving (for students and speakers), contacting the local media, donors, and more. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Hopkins County developed the following educational programs to educate our community on specific aspects of water conservation.

- Tomato Grafting (February) (30 participants)
- Homeowner Maintenance of Aerobic Treatment Units (2 trainings) (April, August) (40 participants)
- Native Plants training and sale (April) (20 participants)
- Grassland Tour Day for Youth (April) (25 participants)
- Kids Camp Water Conservation Session (June) (40 participants)
- Ag in the Classroom Water Erosion (October) (900 participants)
- Fall Dairyman Conference (October) (25 participants)
- 4 Press releases related to water conservation

Results: A retrospective post survey was utilized to measure knowledge gained and adoptions of best practices. A total of 13 of 14 (65%) (Fall Dairyman Conference) participants completed the retrospective post survey instrument.

- 23% of respondents plan to take actions or make changes based on the information from this activity.
- 45% of respondents anticipate benefiting economically as a direct result of what they learned from this Extension activity.
- 85% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the information being what they expected.
- 92% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the information being accurate.
- 92% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the relevance of the examples used.

A retrospective post survey was utilized to measure knowledge gained and adoptions of best practices. A total of 39 participants completed the retrospective post survey instrument (Ag in the Classroom-water erosion portion).

- 71.8 (28/39) of respondents were able to recognize erosion as the removal of soil by water or wind.
- 85% (33/39) of respondents are aware of water limitations on earth.
- 72% (28/39) of respondents recognize that water conservation should be practiced by everyone.
- 69% (27/39) of respondents recognize that water returns to the clouds through evaporation.
- 41% (16/39) of respondents recognize soil, oil and pesticides as water pollutants when runoff into water.
- 54% (21/39) of respondents recognize that water that falls onto the land and drains to a common place is called a watershed.

Acknowledgements: Special thanks to all the presenters for their time and expertise. In addition, appreciation is expressed to The Hopkins County Master Gardeners and Farm Bureau committees for their guidance and support of Extension programming within the county.