

# Brazos County Agriculture News and Events

By Chadd Caperton

Brazos County Extension Agent- Ag and Natural Resources

## August 2023

Greetings from the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension office!



“In the heat of the sun, the ocean is the boiler and condenser of a gigantic steam engine, a weather engine that governs crops, floods, droughts, frosts, hurricanes.”

— Jacques-Yves Cousteau

“Who covers the heavens with clouds,  
Who provides rain for the earth,  
Who makes grass to grow on the mountains.” - **Psalm 147:8**

## Upcoming Events

- **5 CEU Program**
  - **Brazos County, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**
  - **Visit with Vendors**
  - **Door Prizes available**
  - **Lunch included**
  - **Register by calling 979-823-0129**

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Check out our Website

<https://brazos.agrilife.org/>

## See the detailed flyers below!

Brazos County Office  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
4153 County Park Court| Bryan, Texas 77802

Tel. 979.823.8129 | Fax. 979.775.3768 | <http://brazos.agrilife.org>

*Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating*

# Stockpiling Bermudagrass or Bahiagrass

Posted on [August 4, 2023](#) by [vanessa.corriher](#)

Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson

Forage Extension Specialist

Soil & Crop Sciences

Overton, TX

A different winter feeding approach, other than hay, could be the use of standing or stockpiled warm season perennials (such as bermudagrass or bahiagrass). These forages are allowed to accumulate in the field for grazing during fall and early winter. Stockpiled bermudagrass can provide the required nutrition for dry, pregnant cows through January if the appropriate procedure is followed. Producers should plan on providing approximately 45 to 60 days of grazing with the dormant bermudagrass. In most instances, stockpiled bermudagrass should be used up by January. Once the stockpiled bermudagrass is completely grazed, a shift to another winter feeding option (cool season forages and/or hay).

Adequate moisture combined with the appropriate fertility program is required to produce the desired bermudagrass quantity and nutritive value. If fertilizer is not applied after cutting or grazing in August, producers may still take advantage of accumulated forage during the fall. There will not be as much forage accumulated and forage nutritive value will be lower. The forage, however, may still be utilized, providing appropriate supplementation is provided. If adequate moisture is not received during September, October and November, little bermudagrass will be produced and grazing initiation may be delayed.



*Stockpiled Bermudagrass (photo courtesy of Dr. Jason Banta)*

**Steps to stockpile bermudagrass/bahiagrass include:**

1. Graze pasture to a 2-3" stubble height or harvest the final cutting of hay in preparation for fertilization approximately 8 weeks prior to first anticipated frost.
2. Apply 60 to 75 lbs of Nitrogen and phosphorus and potassium based on soil test recommendations.
3. Defer pastures from grazing and allow forage to accumulate until frost or forage is needed.
4. Initiate grazing in response to the need for hay supplementation.
5. When stockpiled forage is completely grazed, it will be time to start traditional hay feeding program or initiate grazing cool season forages.
6. Be sure to provide free choice mineral supplement to cattle and monitor body condition of the cattle.

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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

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## Grasshoppers!

Posted on [July 14, 2023](#) by [vanessa.corriher](#)

Vanessa Corriher-Olson

Forage Extension Specialist

Soil & Crop Sciences

Overton, TX

There are about 150 species of grasshoppers in the state of Texas, but 90% of the damage to crops, gardens, trees, and pastures is caused by just 5 species.



*Grasshoppers resting on a weed*

**Grasshoppers** deposit their eggs 1/2 to 2 inches below the soil surface in pod-like structures. Each egg pod consists of 20 to 120 eggs. Egg pods are very resistant to cold and can easily survive the winter if the soil is not disturbed. Grasshoppers deposit eggs in fallow fields, ditches, fencerows, and weedy areas, as well as in crop fields and hay fields.

Eggs begin hatching in late April or early May; hatching peaks about mid-June. If spring weather is cool and dry, hatching may be delayed until July. Young grasshoppers are called nymphs. They look like adults, but are smaller and do not have wings. Nymphs go through 5 to 6 developmental stages and become adults in 40 to 60 days, depending on weather and food supplies.

The adult grasshoppers deposit eggs from late July through the fall. Usually only one generation of grasshoppers is produced each year.

Producers should start watching for grasshoppers early in the season and begin control measures while grasshoppers are still nymphs. Smaller grasshoppers are more susceptible to insecticides than larger ones.

#### **CONTROL OPTIONS:**

**Cultural Control:** Controlling summer weeds reduces available feed for newly hatching nymphs as well as making it easier for birds to prey on grasshoppers.

**Chemical Control:** Grasshoppers are susceptible to many insecticides. The length of control will depend on the residual activity of the insecticides and the frequency of treatment. Controlling grasshoppers over a large area will reduce the numbers present which can re-

infest a treated area. Remember, smaller grasshoppers are more susceptible to insecticides than larger ones.

**Insecticides that can be used on pastures and hayfields:**

**ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW ALL LABEL INSTRUCTIONS ON PESTICIDES!**

Mustang Max (9.6% zeta-cypermethrin)

Karate Z (lambda cyhalothrin): Do not harvest for hay until 7 days after application

Baythroid XL (beta-cyfluthrin)

Dimilin 2L: Dimilin must be applied when grasshoppers are about 1/4 inch. Dimilin is not effective on adults. (generics now available)

Sevin 4F, Sevin XLR, Sevin 80S, generic Carbaryl: 14 day waiting period before grazing or harvesting

Tombstone Helios (cyfluthrin)

Multiple products (examples include Lambda-Cy, Grizzly Z, Kendo, etc.; lambda-cyhalothrin)

Vantacor (chlorantraniliprole): For optimum control, apply to nymphs.

Coragen (chlorantraniliprole)

Besiege (chlorantraniliprole + lambda-cyhalothrin): labeled for grasshoppers and armyworms.

**Other Resources:**

[Grasshoppers and Their Control](#)

[Herbicide and insecticide cost per acre spreadsheet](#)

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[← Herbicide Applications During Dry, Hot Months](#)



## BRAZOS COUNTY CEU CONFERENCE

**5 CEU's**

September 22, 2023 8:00AM - 2:00PM

### Pesticide Applicator Recertification

Registration begins at 7:30am

#### TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Ant Control Options for Landowners & Homeowners - 1 General CEU
- Pest and Disease Identification for Common Trees & Control Measures for Landowners - 1 General CEU
- Picolinic Acid Herbicide Training (separate course #) - 1 L&R CEU
- Aquatic Weed Identification & Control Options for Landowners - 1 IPM CEU
- Pesticide Laws & Regulations Review - 1 L&R CEU

#### SPONSORED BY:



**Brazos Beef & Forage Committee**

**Sept. 22, 2023**

Brazos County Extension Office  
4153 County Park Court  
Bryan, TX 77802

**Pre-Registration Required**  
**\$50 before Sept. 15**  
**\$60 after Sept. 15**  
**Deadline 9-19-2023**

**Includes Lunch**

**To register:**

**Call: 979-823-0129**

**Email: [brazosag@gmail.com](mailto:brazosag@gmail.com)**

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, services, or special accommodations in order to participate in this event are encouraged to contact the Extension office at (979) 823-0129 1 week before the event to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

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TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

Walker County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Presents

*Soil*  
**TESTING DRIVE**  
**& PROGRAM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE

936-435-2426

**\$10**

Drop off samples  
by September 8th,  
2023 to have them  
tested at NO cost!



Results, Dinner, &  
Soil Health Program

**OCTOBER  
3RD**

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