

Texas AgriLife Extension Service

Hopkins Dairy Notes



Herdman Short Course and Dairy Festival coming up! Dr. Mario Villarino Texas AgriLife Extension Service– Hopkins County

Special points of interest:

- Herdsman Short Course
- Hopkins County Dairy Show
- New project targeting Hispanic beginning farmers.
- Organic Milk Production in Texas: 2008.
- Know your weed: False indigo.
- Coming UP!



June is quickly coming up and I am still waiting for our May rain to happen. The “la niña” effect has certainly done major changes in our rain forecast. Just like the weather, the economic budget for this year and the next one is causing concerns at the county, state and federal levels. Texas AgriLife is trying to cope with these by creating a system of fee recovery. As you know, state funding is most likely going to be less than previous years, so a fee based program hopefully will create less of a stress in an already stressed economic environment. You will see from now on a small fee charge at registration on some events. I am optimistic that with your support we can work together to maintain our extension service functioning. In June we will have the 2011 Herdsman workshop in Sulphur Springs scheduled for June 8, 2011 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. This training will be both in English and Spanish, so if you are interested send your workers and come and join us for what looks to be a very good and interesting program (see more details in included flyer). Also, the Hopkins County Dairy Festival will host our 2011 dairy heifer show scheduled for June 18, 2011. Please join us to see youth dairy projects displayed in our own Hopkins County Arena!

Did you know: Texas Organic milk production is increasing

In 2008, Texas ranked 7th in milk production in the nation; however its organic production was 3rd in the nation. Although producers selling organic milk in Texas received nearly \$9.77 more per cwt., production per cow was reduced. Based on the number of cows and the total

pounds of milk produced, the annual production was calculated at 15,071 pounds of milk/cow from the organic herds compared to 21,040 pounds of milk/cow under conventional systems.

Source: NASS, USDA

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You can always check this and older newsletters by going to: [www. Hopkins-tx.edu/newsletters](http://www.Hopkins-tx.edu/newsletters)

Andale!

We have initiated a new program in Hopkins County in cooperation with Texas A&M University in Commerce known as beginner farmer and rancher program. The program is targeting Hispanic families located in Hopkins County interested in starting an agricultural business. If you know of a family interested in starting their own agricultural business please contact me at the extension office at 903-885-3443.

Identify your weeds: False Indigo



Common name: False Indigo
Control: Surmount 1.5-2 pints/acre
Follow herbicide restrictions.
Difficult to control.

Coming UP!:

- Herdsman Short Course, June 8, 2011 English and Spanish 9:30 to 2:30 pm.
- 74th Northeast Texas Dairy Show, June 18, 2011. Hopkins County Regional Civic Center, Entries close at 9:00 am. Show starts at 10:00 am.
- Tri-County Pesticide Applicator CEU's, November 2, 2011, Regional

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