

Titus County

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Ag & Natural Resources Newsletter

October 2019

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Callie Zoeller

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Test your hay with cow condition in mind

Dr. Jason Banta, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Beef Cattle Specialist

Regardless of whether you are buying hay or feeding the hay you raised, it's a good idea to test the hay to determine what, if any, supplementation will be needed based on the body condition score and nutrient requirements of your cows.

Oversupplementing reduces profitability, and under supplementing can lead to lower cow body condition scores, reduced pregnancy rates and, ultimately, fewer calves to sell.

It is best to let the hay cure for at least a week before taking samples. When collecting hay samples, randomly sample approximately 10% of the bales from each cutting or load using a hay probe and be sure to make a composite for each cutting.

Just as an example, if you made three cuttings of hay, you would want to develop a composite for each cutting and then send those three composites to the lab.

At minimum, hay should be analyzed for crude protein (CP) and total digestible nutrients (TDN); TDN is one way to describe the energy content of the hay. While the CP content is important, a good estimate of TDN is as important and, in most cases, more important than CP. This is where hay testing gets a little more complicated because TDN can't be measured directly.

Two common methods used to estimate TDN are a regression equation that includes acid detergent fiber (ADF) or both ADF and CP, and a summative equation. Simply speaking, the summative equation calculates TDN by estimating the energy available from the CP fraction, neutral detergent fiber (NDF) fraction, non-fiber carbohydrates (NFC) fraction and crude fat fraction of the plant.

I won't bore you with all the reasons why, but as a ruminant nutritionist I strongly recommend estimating TDN with summative equation.

Two labs that calculate TDN using summative equations are the Dairy One Forage Lab in New York and Cumberland Valley Analytical Services in Pennsylvania. Additionally, both of these labs offer in vitro and NIR estimates of digestible NDF. The NDF fraction represents the largest source of energy in most hay samples, and digestibility can vary considerably among samples.

Before sending samples to a testing lab, always visit with the ruminant nutritionist or industry professional who will help develop your supplementation program to determine what lab the nutritionist recommends and what tests are appropriate for your samples.

This is important because the appropriate tests may change depending on the forage sample being analyzed.

Article by Dr. Jason Banta, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Published in Progressive Cattle Magazine, Issue 9, September 2019

Bring your TDA license # for 1 general
CEU



2019 Titus County Hay Show & Forage Program

Friday, October 25, 2019

8:00 am -12:00 pm

at the Titus County Extension Office

\$20 Registration

RSVP for a lunch count by October 21

**Entries Due to Titus County Extension Office by
September 30**

Judge and Featured Speaker—Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Forage Specialist

Program followed by Titus County Hay Show Results and lunch provided by
Lone Star Ag Credit

*This will be a great opportunity for producers to have hay samples analyzed for
nutritive value & learn how to produce quality hay*

Producers may enter hay samples for FREE

Hay Show Divisions:

Warm Season Perennial Grasses

Warm Season Annual Grasses

Cool Season Annual Grasses

Cool or Warm Season Legumes

Haylage

Mixed

Contact the Titus Co. Extension Office for more info at (903)-572-5201

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race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender
identity."*

Asian woolly hackberry aphids

Callie Zoeller

The Titus County Extension Office has received several calls and concerns regarding white ‘snowflake like’ bugs drifting through the air and found within lawns. These insects are Asian woolly hackberry aphids, an introduced woolly aphid that infests Chinese hackberry trees and other *Celtis* species.

One of the first noticeable signs of an infestation is the sticky honeydew they produce often found on your backyard patio furniture or even vehicles. Woolly aphids, like other aphid species, penetrate the leaf veins and feed on the phloem of the tree. In doing so, they excrete an excess of phloem in the form of honeydew, the sticky, sugary solution that is often found on the surface of fallen leaves around the tree. You may also notice a black sooty mold that forms on honeydew coated surfaces.

Control of the Asian woolly hackberry aphid can be challenging on large shade trees. This aphid is predominantly a pest due to the amount of honeydew that is produced. Some natural predators include lady beetles, syrphid fly larvae and green lacewings.

For infested trees that are within reach, treatment options include insecticidal contact sprays. For large trees that are out of reach, a systemic insecticide such as a soil drench can be effective. Look for active ingredients imidacloprid or dinotefuran and make sure to always follow label directions. Systemic insecticides will take some time to become effective and these applications should be made in late winter to early spring. No treatments should be made in the fall because hackberry leaves will naturally drop soon.

For more information, <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74111.html>



Photo from Mt. Pleasant on
September 3



Photo from UC IPM Jack Kelly Clark

Save the date!

Northeast Texas Pesticide Seminar

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Mount Pleasant Civic Center

1800 N. Jefferson Ave. Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455

*****5 CEUs for TDA Pesticide License (Pending Approval)*****

Bring your TDA License with you

\$30 with lunch provided

Renew your Agricultural/Timber Exemption

Your current Ag/Timber number expires on Dec. 31, 2019. You must renew your number in order to continue to claim an exemption on your qualifying agricultural and timber purchases made after that date. The Comptroller's office has mailed renewal information to affected taxpayers. Renewals can be completed over the phone by calling 844-AGRENEW (844-247-3639) or [online](#) thru the Ag/Timber Registrations/Renewals eSystem using your Web-File number, which is included in your renewal letter.

Some Insecticides labeled for fall armyworm in pasture, grasses, and hay. 2019.

Fortunately we have not seen many Fall armyworms in 2019. With cooler weather and hopefully more rainfall on the way, below is an insecticide chart just in case. Full article: <https://foragefax.tamu.edu/files/2019/07/Armyworm-Fact-Sheet-2019.pdf>

Active Ingredient	Insecticide	Pre-grazing interval (days)	Pre-harvest interval for hay (days)	Remarks
beta-cyfluthrin	Baythroid	0	0	Restricted Use
carbaryl	Sevin 4F, Sevin 80S, Carbaryl 4L, Sevin XLR Plus	14	14	General use
chlorantraniliprole	Prevathon, Coragen	0	0	General use
Chlorantraniliprole + lambda-cyhalothrin	Besiege	0	7	Restricted Use
cyfluthrin	Tombstone	0	0	Restricted Use
diflubenzuron	Dimilin 2L	None listed	1	Restricted Use; apply at egg hatch and when larvae are less than 1/2 inch
gamma-cyhalothrin	Declare	0	7	Restricted Use
lambda-cyhalothrin	Warrior II, karate, Lambda-Cy	0	7 for hay, 0 for forage	Restricted Use
malathion	Malathion 57EC	0	0	General use
methoxyfenozide	Intrepid 2F	0	7	General Use. Apply when first signs of feeding occur
spinosad	Tracer, Blackhawk, Entrust	Allow spray to dry	3 days, 0 days for forage	General use; target small larvae or egg hatch
zeta-cypermethrin	Mustang Maxx	Allow spray to dry	0	Restricted Use



2020

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Master Gardener Training

Training is for those individuals interested in
special horticulture training (50 hours)
and volunteering (50 hours) by sharing horticultural-related
information to your community.

**Tuesday & Thursday,
January 7—March 3, 2020
6:00-9:00 PM**

**Titus County Extension Office
1708 Industrial Rd. Mt. Pleasant, TX**

**\$160 individual
pre-registration, \$185 after
November 15, 2019**

**\$300 couple
pre-registration, \$330 after
November 15, 2019**

Registration includes hands-on instruction,
Texas Master Gardener Handbook, volunteer screening and a soil test

Limited to first 20 applicants

**For more information, contact the Titus County-Texas
A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 903-572-5201 or
txmg.org/cbmj**



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Titus County-Texas A&M AgriLife Extension



If you would like to be added on the Ag Email list to receive an electronic version of this newsletter as well as timely ag program updates, please email callie.zoeller@ag.tamu.edu or call the Titus County Extension Office at 903.572.5201

If you have a news article topic you would like to see addressed, please let me know.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Callie Zoeller'.

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