



**TOM GREEN COUNTY**  
**AGRICULTURE AND**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS**  
**April 30, 2020**

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**Upcoming Ag & Natural Resource Online Programs**

**COVID 19 - Sheep and Goat Market Update**

Dr. Reid Redden

April 30, 2020

3:00 pm

Register in advance for this

meeting: <https://agrilife.zoom.us/j/95571762863>

**West Region Pecan Management Series**

Cost \$10.00 for series

Registration Link: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/Pecan>

**West Region - Commercial Pecan Program – 1 CEU**

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April 23, 2020  
10:00 am  
Registration Required

**West Region – Homeowner Pecan Program – 1 CEU**

April 30, 2020  
10:00am  
Registration Required

**West Region Wheat Production Panel**

Cost: Free  
May 5, 2020  
10:00 am

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://agrilife.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkcu6orTloE9LN9A0vPDOiVQTVpqYeeX8W>

**West Region – Virtual Wheat Production Tour – 2 CEUs**

Cost \$10.00  
May 7, 2020  
11:00 am

Registration Required

Registration Link: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/Wheat>

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**Previously Recorded Ag & Natural Resources Online Programs**

**West Region Wheat Marketing Update: U.S. Market Outlook**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1KW6Q-Chao>

Speakers included:

Bill Thompson – Assistant Professor & Extension Economist – San Angelo  
Dr. Mark Welch – Associate Professor and Extension Economist – Grain

Marketing  
Mrs. Donna Hughes – Commodity Broker and Branch Manager with Daniels  
Trading

### **West Region - Beef Cattle Marketing Program**

Speakers included: Ken Jordan, Dr. David Anderson  
[West Region - Beef Cattle Marketing Program Recording](#)

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### **2020 Pecan Nut Casebearer Spray Calendar**

Today Allison Watkins, CEA-Horticulture for Tom Green Co., released her 2020 Pecan Nut Casebearer spray dates. Allison said, "From observations made in the Concho Valley, it appears that a good window for control sprays of the Pecan Nut Casebearer is May 10 through May 16. Since conditions can vary from county to county, *individual observations and egg counts are recommended as the best means of timing the application* and to keep informed of the need for a second spray." Allison also stated, "Each grower needs to scout and inspect trees to make the final decision and choose whether to spray or not. Light infestations of casebearers may indicate no spray is needed if there is a heavy crop set, while a light crop set would likely benefit from spraying.

Click the link for more information and a copy of Allison's [2020 Pecan Nut Casebearer Spray](#) newsletter complete with suggested insecticides for controlling pecan nut casebearer, walnut caterpillar and fall webworm. Click here for the [Managing Insect and Mite Pests of Commercial Pecans in Texas](#) publication.

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## COVID-19 Relief for Farmers, Ranchers

A recent Texas A&M publication identifies federal COVID-19 relief most applicable to agricultural producers. The Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University in College Station has developed a briefing paper that identifies provisions most applicable to agricultural producers in the three recent Congressional interventions to stimulate the economy and provide COVID-19 relief.

To access the news release: [COVID-19 Relief for Farmers, Ranchers](#)  
Click here for [The Agricultural & Food Policy Center](#) at Texas A&M University  
Click her for the briefing paper: [Initial COVID-19 Response for Agricultural Producers](#)

### CARES Act: Marketing Loan Changes

- Producers of eligible commodities now have up to 12 months (rather than the traditional 9 months) to repay their commodity loans.
- The maturity extension applies to nonrecourse loans for crop years 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- Eligible open loans must be in good standing with a maturity date of March 31, 2020, or later or new crop year (2019 or 2020) loans requested by September 30, 2020.
- All new loans requested by September 30, 2020, will have a maturity date 12 months following the date of approval.
- Eligible commodities include barley, chickpeas, (small and large), corn, cotton (upland and extra-long staple), dry peas, grain sorghum, honey, lentils, mohair, oats, peanuts, rice (long and medium grain), soybeans, unshorn pelts, wheat, wool (graded and nongraded); and other oilseeds, including canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard seed, rapeseed, safflower, sunflower seed, and sesame seed.

### CARES Act: Direct Assistance for Agriculture

- The Act provided **\$9.5 billion** "to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing support for agricultural producers impacted by coronavirus, including producers of specialty crops, producers that supply local food systems, including farmers markets, restaurants, and schools, and livestock producers, including dairy producers."
- Replenished the existing borrowing authority (\$30 billion) of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) by **\$14 billion** relative to June 2020 audit report.
- While Section 32 is a popular funding source for commodity purchases, Phase 2 (H.R. 6201) stipulated that "during fiscal year 2020, the Secretary of Agriculture may purchase commodities for emergency distribution in any area of the United States during a public health emergency designation" and the act provided "such sums as are necessary" to carry out the provision.

## Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP): Details

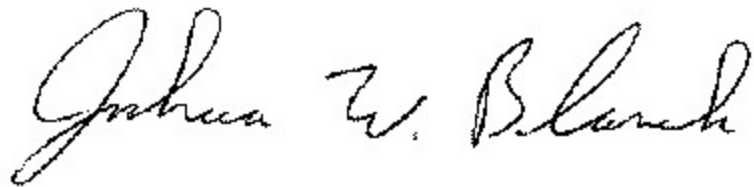
- On April 17, 2020, President Trump announced the creation of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) which will provide \$19 billion in aid.
  - \$16 billion in direct support to farmers and ranchers, and
  - \$3 billion in commodity purchases and distribution.
- Regarding the \$16 billion in direct support, USDA is expected to cover:
  - 85% of the loss on products marketed from January 1 to April 15 (for those commodities that experienced a 5% price decrease), and
  - 30% of expected losses after April 15 (timeframe still unclear).
- Payment limits are expected to be \$125,000 per crop and \$250,000 per individual or legal entity.
- The rule is expected to go to OMB for review this week with details becoming available after OMB review.

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## Best Management Practices for Deworming Sheep & Goats

Internal parasites are one of the biggest threats Texas sheep and goat raisers face. That and predators. The first half of this spring we had favorable conditions for parasite propagation and survival outside the host. Though the weather appears to be changing that doesn't mean you do or do not have treatable levels of internal parasites in your sheep or goat flock. One of the best ways to monitor internal parasite burden and make decisions if you need to treat is using fecal egg counts. Fecal egg counts are a practical, cost-effective diagnostic tool. Most licensed veterinarians provide this service for a small fee or you may do this at home with just a few material and equipment. For more information about fecal egg counts check out our publication [Monitoring Internal Parasite Infection in Small Ruminants](#).

If you need information on different classes of dewormers, how they work, and how to best use them when treating sheep and goats check out Dr. Reid Redden's YouTube video titled Best [Management Practices for Deworming Sheep and Goats](#).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua W. Blanek". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Joshua W. Blanek  
County Extension Agent -  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Tom Green County  
113 W. Beauregard Ave  
San Angelo, TX 76903  
325-659-6524

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**Our mailing address is:**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
Tom Green County Extension  
113 West Beauregard Ave  
San Angelo, TX 76903  
325-659-6524

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