

# From the Field

“Improving the knowledge and skills of Victoria County’s farmers & ranchers”

From the Field

April, 2018

**Special points of interest:**

- Upcoming Brush Seminars
- Victoria County Crops Tour
- Dicamba Update
- Path to the Plate

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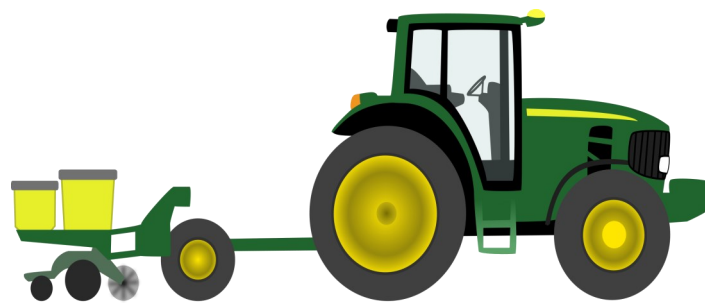
## 2018 set to be a good cropping year

Isn't it funny how different things can be from year to year in agriculture? Truly, you can go from a boom to bust harvest each year. So far, 2018 has proved to be a good year for moisture. We actually had some cold weather too and the cooler temperatures have lasted into mid-April. Predictions for the long term weather pattern are for a La Nina type year. La Nina means that the weather pattern is usually dryer than normal and warmer than normal. Also, we are less than 2 months away from another hurricane season. However, in the fields, farmers are just finishing planting most crops. Corn was planted a little later this year as we had our coldest weather of the year

in late February. Coupled with some very wet conditions made planting hit or miss for a little while. Lots of corn planted this season as farmers gamble with commodity prices. We were able to get a soybean variety test out and other result demonstrations for the Victoria County Crops Tour set for June 19th.

One thing is for sure, the wetter conditions have made for some WONDERFUL spring forages for livestock!

Hay supplies are still at a surplus even after heavy feeding this winter. Pastures are lush and cattle remain in good condition as cattle prices are holding steady or even ticking up just a bit. God created a brilliant display of wildflowers for us to enjoy too! Get outside and enjoy this wonderful spring before the heat that we know is coming is upon us. May God richly bless your harvest and family in every season.



## Upcoming Programs

**Brush Management Seminars, May 16th, 7:30AM, Bauer Exhibit Building, Port Lavaca, 5 CEU's, \$30/person**

**Victoria SWCD Brush Workshop, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Julie Wimberly Building in Goliad, at the Goliad Fair Grounds. Registration 7:00am. At least 5 CEUS, \$30/person.**

**Victoria County Crops Tour, June 19th, Herman Sons Hall, Dacosta, TX, 1:30PM, 3 CEU's, Cost—FREE due to several sponsors, One tour stop for several demonstrations. Meal and refreshments provided.**

**SAVE THE DATES! South Texas Farm & Ranch Show, October 24th & 25th, Victoria Community Center**

**Agricultural Law Seminar, November 29th, Victoria Educational Gardens Pavilion**

# Brush Management Day

**May 16, 2018**

**Bauer Exhibit Building, 186 Henry Barber Way, Port Lavaca**

**5 CEU Hours, 1– Laws & Regs, 1– Drift, 1– IPM, 2-General**

**Fee \$ 30 (includes lunch & training)**

7:30-8:00 am– Registration

Topics :

- Laws & Regulations
- Chemical Control– how & when to spray different species
- Mitigating drift
- Management of invasive grasses, KR Blue Stem & Tanglehead
- Sprayer Calibration



**RSVP by April 20 to 361-552-9747**

Gerri L. Kline  
CEA- AG/NR  
186 Henry Barber Way  
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361-552-9747

**TEXAS A&M**  
**AGRI LIFE**  
**EXTENSION**

Hosted by: Texas A&M AgriLife  
Extension, Calhoun County Beef  
Committee & Calhoun County  
Soil & Water Conservation  
District.

# Victoria County Crops Tour & Program

June 19, 2018

Hermann Sons Hall

DaCosta, Texas

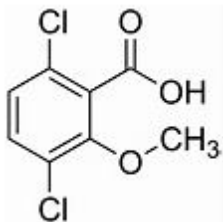
1:30PM

Cost: FREE

- *3 hours of CEU credit for Pesticide Applicator Recertification (1 IPM, 1 L&R, 1 General)*
- *Field Tour Stop and Indoor Program*
- *Sponsored Meal & Refreshments*

RSVP to Victoria County Extension Office prior to  
June 15th at 361-575-4581





## Update to Dicamba Usage for 2018 Cropping

Dicamba tolerant cotton and soybean varieties were brought to the market in 2015 and 2016, respectively, and were followed in 2017 by the newly registered dicamba herbicides formulated specifically to have lower volatility. Following a challenging launch in 2017 of these newly registered herbicides in some states, the EPA worked with companies registering the new dicamba formulations to make revisions to those product labels in an effort to reduce incidence of off-target movement during application. In mid-October, revised labels for XtendiMax® with VaporGrip® Technology, Fexapan Plus VaporGrip® Technology, and Engenia® herbicide were approved and released by the EPA and the corresponding companies, Monsanto, DuPont and BASF, respectively.

Notable revisions include the addition of new restrictions as well as clarifications to previous label language. New restrictions include the following:

Classification of these three products as Restricted Use Pesticides

Required record keeping of all applications for 2 years

Annual mandatory auxin-specific training for every person that will be applying the product to any crop. While restricted use classification and record keeping are currently in effect for these products in Texas, the mandatory auxin-specific training for all applicators is a new change that applies to not only those with an applicators license but also to those making applications under someone else's license. This requires awareness for all applicators to ensure their ability to use these herbicides in 2018 and in subsequent years.

Clarifications to label language include but are not limited to what qualifies as a "susceptible" or "sensitive" crop, requiring the use of downwind buffers, clarification around temperature inversions and restricting the application time to only include sunrise to sunset, tightening the windspeed window from 3-15mph down to 3-10mph, and amplifying the language on sprayer cleanout to prevent cross-contamination.

## What is Path to the Plate?

Path to the Plate is a research-based educational program that helps consumers understand how their food choices impact their health.

- It helps consumers understand how their food choices impact their well-being by making the connection between agriculture and health.
- By understanding more about the path their food takes to their plate - how it's grown and produced - consumers can make better food choices for themselves and their families.
- Using research-based information, Path to the Plate aims to dispel popular myths and misconceptions about food production practices.
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is committed to distributing university researched based information about food production systems.



Disclaimer—the information herein is for informational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Texas A&M AgriLife Service is implied. Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, age, genetic information or national origin.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361-575-4581 at least one week in advance of the program in order for arrangements to be made.



If you have name, address, phone, or email changes, please contact the office at:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service—Victoria County

**TEXAS A&M**  
**AGRILIFE**  
**EXTENSION**

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