

WINKLER/LOVING COUNTY
Ag/NR & 4H
NEWSLETTER
August 2013

4-H

4-H Kickoff Party

August 25, 2013

6:30 p.m.

Wink Expo

We will attempt to have internet access so that people will have the opportunity to register for 4-H during the Kickoff Party. You will need a credit/debit card in order to pay the 4-H Participation fee of \$20 that is in affect prior to October 31. Activities this year will include introductions to 4-H Archery, Market Livestock Projects, and 4-H Rocketry. The 4-H Club Officer Election will take place prior to the serving of the meal and the Winkler-Loving Livestock Association will also conduct their election for board members. The Winkler-Loving Livestock Association is again providing the hamburgers free of charge for anyone in attendance. We ask that families whose last name begins with A-M bring a dessert, and N-Z bring a side dish.

Winkler-Loving Stock Show UPDATE!!!

The Winkler-Loving Livestock Association has amended the **minimum Market Hog Weight**. The new minimum weight for a hog entered in the 2014 Winkler-Loving County Livestock Show will be **220 lbs.**, with the maximum remaining the same at 270 lbs. Hogs that typically fit these weight marks will be born between July 7, 2013 and July 28, 2013. If you have had problems meeting weight in previous years, I recommend that you purchase hogs born in the beginning of July. There are no guarantees that a hog born between these dates will make weight, and that hogs born after will not make weight. There are a number of factors that can affect a market hog gaining weight, but traditionally you want the hog to be born 6 months prior to the show they are competing in.

Market Lambs and Goats

You should have already begun searching for your lamb and goat projects for the 2014 show season. There are a number of sales held throughout the summer months that offer a lot of quality animals. If you have a free weekend and want to go to a sale to purchase an animal I can help you locate a number of sales on almost any weekend. If you have any questions or need help finding and selecting a project, feel free to call me at the office.

San Antonio Stock Show UPDATE!

Market Lamb Weight has changed. The minimum for Market Lambs is 100 lbs. and the maximum is 175 lbs. They have also added a Wether Dam show this year in which ewe lambs and ewes can now be exhibited.

Rainwater Harvesting Workshop

August 20, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

Winkler-Loving County AgriLife Extension Office 307 S. Poplar, Kermit, TX

Information will be provided on how to construct a rainwater harvesting unit, from design to calculating the appropriate size of tank(s) to maximize water harvesting. The cost of the program will be \$10 per person at the door. Participants will have to provide their own drinks and food for the program.

Livestock

With the rain that our area was so blessed to have received, there is a lot of forage in the pastures that could possibly go to waste with the small number of cattle remaining on the range. For some producers this provides the opportunity to run some stocker calves and perhaps make a profit on the forage that has grown in the pastures. We would all like to see the conditions remain like this forever, but it is very unlikely that these conditions will persist for a long period of time. With such few cattle remaining, a lot of forage in this situation will waste away and die in the pastures. In the same breath it may be more beneficial for some producers to hold on to excess forage for the dry times, and it may not be feasible to run stocker calves and make a profit with so much of the state receiving rainfall. I'm not trying to "reinvent the wheel", but to provide a thought for producers to consider in the management scheme of their land.

For more information on any events or other information, feel free to call the office 432.586.2593, e mail cesettle@ag.tamu.edu, or stop by the office- 307 S. Poplar St., Kermit, TX.

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