Thank you to our commodity session sponsors!

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Make plans to join us for the 2015 BIG Agricultural Tour to Maine (tentative)
September 21-25, 2015
Call 254-968-4144 for more details!
http://stephenville.tamu.edu/blackland-income-growth/tour-information/

Mid-Tex Farm & Ranch Show—General Exhibits Building
Tuesday & Wednesday
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m

Conference facilities are accessible for the physically disabled.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Blackland Income Growth
Extraco Events Center
4601 Bosque Blvd. Waco, Texas
(254) 776-1660
3-4 February 2015

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For more information, visit our website at http://stephenville.tamu.edu/blackland-income-growth/conference-information/

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Texas grain sorghum Board

Texas Wheat Producing Board & Association

Texas Lakes & Ponds

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West
2015 Blackland Income Growth Conference Schedule

Tuesday, February 3rd  B.I.G. Luncheon
Dr. Rudy Tarpley

Dr. Rudy Tarpley currently serves as Department Head for Agricultural and Consumer Science at Tarleton State University.

He grew up on a Simmental ranch in eastern New Mexico where he was very active in 4-H and FFA.

A graduate of New Mexico State University with a degree in Agricultural and Extension Education, he taught high school agriculture for five years before earning both Masters and Doctorate from Mississippi State University.

He has served on faculty at Texas Tech, Eastern New Mexico, and most recently Utah State, where he was named the College of Agriculture’s Student Advisor of the Year in 2007 and Teacher of the Year in 2008.

Dr. Tarpley is an avid enthusiast for agricultural education for youth, producers, and the general public.

Registration Fees:

Monday, February 2nd
- Healthy Cooking School - $20 preregistration, $25 at the door. Call 254 757-5180

Tuesday, February 3rd
- All Commodity Sessions - $80.00/lunch included.
- Registration begins at 8:00 am

Wednesday, February 4th
- Mid Tex Programs - $80.00/lunch included.
- Registration begins at 8:00 am.
- Big Recertification Program - $60.00 preregistration cost, lunch included. Call 254 757-5180 to preregister. $70.00 at door.
- Private Applicator Training - $75.00, lunch included. Preregister at 254 582-4022

Healthy Cooking School, Extraco Events Center, Creative Arts Building
6:00—8:00 pm
Live cooking demonstrations will teach how to prepare easy, nutritious, Mediterranean inspired meals for your family.

Tuesday, February 3rd Sessions
Registration begins 8:00 am

Beef Session, Creative Arts Building
9:00 - 11:45 am. 1.5 BQA Credits
- Real Market Facts – What Are Your Cattle Worth?, Brian Uptmore, West Auction Company
- Sire Selection Factors, Dr. Steve Hammack, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, Emeritus
- Evaluating $3000? Replacements, Dr. Ron Gill, Associate Department Head for Extension Animal Science
- Management Considerations to Reduce Hay Storage & Feeding Loss, Dr. Steve Hammack
- Wrap Up and Hot Topics—all speakers

Grain Session, General Exhibits Building
9:00—11:45 am. CEUs: 2 General
- Sugarcane Aphids, A New Pest of Sorghum and Update on Spidermites in Corn, Dr. Allen Knutson, Extension Entomologist
- Value of Variable Rate Technology; Current and Future Application, Dr. Ronnie Schnell, Extension State Cropping Systems Specialist
- New Developments in Wheat, Dr. Clark Neely, Grains and Oilseed Extension Specialist
- Alfaguard and At-36 Update, Dr. Thomas Isakeit, Extension Plant Pathologist
- Blackland Cotton and Grain Association Meeting immediately following the Cotton Session

Cotton Session, General Exhibits Building
2:00—4:00 pm. CEUs: 2 General
- Cotton Root Rot, Dr. Thomas Isakeit, Extension Plant Pathologist
- New Herbicide Resistant Technologies, Dr. Jonathan Siebert, Endlast Field Specialist, Dow AgroSciences and Doug Pustejovsky, District Sales Manager, Monsanto
- Panel Discussion of New Herbicide Resistant Technologies
- Variety and Technology Update, Dr. Gaylon Morgan, Extension Cotton Specialist
- Blackland Cotton and Grain Association Meeting

Rural Land Management Session, Extraco Hall
9:00—11:45 am.
- Landowner’s Rights and Responsibilities, Tiffany Dowell, Extension Specialist-Agriculture Law
- Ranching 101 and Adding To Your Property Value, Kent Ferguson
- Panel Discussion: Alternative Income Options for Small Landowners—Bee, Pecan, Fruit and Vegetable Production, other options

Horticulture Session, Back Porch Club
9:00—11:45 am.
- Producing Fruits, Nuts, and Grapes in the Texas Blacklands, Monte Neshit, Program Specialist-Pecan/Fruit/Citrus
- EarthKind® Practices and Principles, Tim Hartmann, Program Specialist-EarthKind® Horticulture
- Bee Management, John Talbert, Sabine Creek Honey

Wildlife Session, Extraco Hall
2:00—4:00 pm. CEUs: 1 General
- Pond Water Quality and Aquatic Plant Identification and Management, Dr. Todd Sink, Extension Fisheries Specialist
- Farm Pond Construction & Site Selection, Jeff Brister, Soil Conservationist, McLennan County NRCS

Forage Session, Creative Arts Building
2:00—5:00 pm. 1 CEU
- Is Your Hay Cut Right But Baled Wrong? James Rogers, Noble Foundation
- Considerations in Leasing Land, Tiffany Dowell, Extension Specialist-Agriculture Law
- Bermuda Grass Stem Maggot, Grasshopper and Sugar Cane Aphid Control, Dr. Sonja Swiger, Extension Entomologist
- Timing Applications of Fertilizer, Herbicides and Insecticides, Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olsen, Extension Forage Specialist

Horse Session, Back Porch Club
5:30 pm.
- Psychology of Training, Dr. Dennis Sigler, Extension Horse Specialist
- Hoof Management, Dr. Dennis Sigler
- Biosecurity/Disease Control, Dr. Michelle Coleman, Lecturer, Biomedical Sciences

Wednesday, February 4th Sessions
Private Applicator Training, Back Porch Club
8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Big Recertification Program, Creative Arts Building
8:30 - 3:00 pm 5 CEUs—1 L&R, 2 IPM, 2 General
- Identification and Control of Pests in Livestock Pastures, David Stichler, DuPont Crop Protection
- Identification and Control of Pests and Diseases in Row Crop Production, Dr. Ronnie Schnell, Extension State Cropping Systems Specialist
- Importance of Riparian Function and Managing Riparian Vegetation, Ricky Linex, Wildlife Biologist-NRCS
- **Noon Meal—Mid Tex Luncheon**
- Laws and Regulations, Dr. Don Renchie, Program Leader Agriculture and Environmental Safety
- Identification and Management of Plant Disease, Dr. Kevin Ong, Extension Plant Pathologist