  

Interpretation

County Commissioner’s Court

Monday, September 12, 2016

10:00 a.m.

AgriLife Update (see below) David Graf, Ag/NR Agent

Report on Sustainable Resource Garden Project Dan Shelton and gardeners South Side Youth Senter

Ag/Natural Resource Report 

\*\***Ag Risk Management**- two marketing groups (15). Educational discussions on break even costs, risk mgt., key planning decisions.

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|  | **Grain Only** Per Acre 1600 A. | | **Dual Purpose Wheat** Per Acre 1,100 A. | | **Grazed Out** Per Acre 500 | | **Stocker Cattle** Per Head 800 1 | | **Total** 3,200 A. |
| Gross Revenue | $161.00 | $257,600 | $177.25 | $194,975 | $186.94 | $93,472 | $1,204.58 | $901,029 | $1,447,076 |
| Planned Returns Above Direct Costs: | ($16.58) | ($26,521) | ($16.58) | ($18,243) | $78.87 | $39,435 | ($105.28)\*\* | ($146,825) | ($152,154) |

\*\*these numbers were reduced to ($52.77) in July, 2016

\*\*Bi-weekly marketing newsletters on wheat, corn, cotton (90 on email list)

\*\*Wheat Variety Tour- discussion on 40 varieties, disease/weed control. (23)

\*\*Cattle Trails Wheat/Stocker Cattle Conference- marketing; production mgt; health care. (101)

\*\***Cattle Feeding/Costs Workshop**- training for spreadsheet on OSU CowCulator (this week)

\*\*Result Demos- 3rd year as part of a state wide quail study, by Rolling Plains Master Naturalists

- **Soil Moisture/Temp. study** with 3 probes in various wheat stubble; **cover crops**

- Wheat Variety Trial to plant this fall (40 varieties)

- **Winter Forage Trial** to plant this fall (oat, triticale, wheat)

\*\*Educational “1-pager” revised for clients: Mesquite Control; Water Primrose;

Horticulture Update

\*\*Site visits (30+)- Discuss issues and make recommendations: soil, forage sampling/testing; weed control; **tree/shrub disease issues**; herbicide damage; possible sink hole.

\*\*Office visits (20+); phone calls (100+)- Discuss issues and provide recommendations on:

**rodent control; weed control;** herbicide mgt; tree/shrub, pecan mgt; Kissing Bugs; ZIKA information.

\*\*Master Gardener’s educational booth at Farmers Market this summer (2800+ contacts)

Composting; vegetable gardening; adapted landscape plants; rainwater use; mulching; drip irrigation

**(6) 4-Hers helping as teen leaders**

\*\*Community service/Master Gardener Xeriscape garden at MPEC- cleanup and care

**(4) 4-Hers helping as teen leaders**

\*\*Result Demo- **Rose Rosette Virus-** 60 plants—10 varieties rating resistance/susceptibility

\*\*Result Demo- **Soil Moisture Sensors**- monitor amount and depth of water uptake (trees; lawns)

\*\***ZIKA** Mosquito Surveillance as part of state wide effort.

\*\*M.G. Intern class- 15 attend 16 in-depth classes (50 hours); plus volunteer 50 hours.

\*\*Educational “1-pager” revised for clients: Khaki Weed Control; Tree Borers

Sustainable Resource Garden Project Update

Volunteers (11) helping kids (828) learn: **planting,**care, watering with rainwater, nutrition. Also teaching: teamwork; “no effort, no food”; mother nature is at your mercy; **“growing my own food tastes good”.**

 

River Bend Nature Center 634

Central B&G Club 13

Notre Dame 21

Faith Refuge 40

S. Side Youth Senter 120

TOTAL 828

Youth Water SPLASH [throwing away a burger wastes 600 gal. water; landscape is 35% of water use]

Central Boys & Girls Club (52 kids) + **(5) 4-Hers as teen leaders**

Group discussions as a **“Water Board”** determining use for hospital, home, ball field, food, water reserve. Water conservation in home and landscape.

Summer 4-H Effort

2016 State Fair Livestock Validation and 2017 State Steer Validation - steers, heifers, lambs (20+)

State 4-H Roundup: 20 4-Her’s attended— Tres Hunter won State in Solo Performance

**64th Annual 4-H Banquet/Awards** (220)

Record Book judging (23) One advanced to state competion.

4-H Club Chartering - 8 Clubs

*Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, 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*