

AgriLife Extension
South Region



Texas A&M System

South
District
12



Making a Difference... ...in Live Oak County

District Extension Newsletter for Commissioners' Courts in South Texas



Dale Rankin

Agriculture &
Natural Resources



Sonya R. Meier

Family & Consumer
Sciences

Dear Court Members,
In 2007, Texas Cooperative Extension celebrated the 100th anniversary of the County Extension Agent and of the Texas 4-H Program. In 2008, we launched a new initiative that included a name change to AgriLife Extension. I want to thank you for your continued support of Extension and its many programs. I hope you find this newsletter helpful in updating you about the difference that Extension education is making in Live Oak County and the public benefits these differences mean economically, socially, and environmentally to the community. We feel strongly that these preventive, educational approaches to community issues provide present and long term value to the County and its residents. Again, thank you for your support and please call whenever we may be of service.

Dr. Ruben J. Saldaña
District Extension Administrator

Agriculture & Natural Resources

Educational programs planned, implemented and evaluated by the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Ag./Natural Resources committee included: Private Applicators Pesticide Training, Advanced Beef, Pasture and Range Short Course, Crop Tour, Brush Management, and a Beef Cattle Management Series (Herd Health Seminar, Reproduction Management, Advanced Animal Breeding, and Assisting at Calving). These programs addressed the local needs of Area Producers and were attended by over **150** local and area producers and interested clientele. Beef Cattle Management, Pesticide Testing Training, Crop Tour, Brush Management, and Soil Fertility.



THE TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH &
EXTENSION CENTER AT WESLACO

Dr. Ruben J. Saldaña
District Administrator
2401 E. Highway 83
Weslaco, Texas 78596
956.968.5581
rjsaldana@ag.tamu.edu
<http://southexas.tamu.edu>

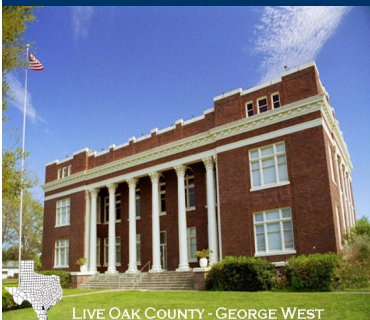
**2008
Educational Outreach**

Education in Group Settings	
Number of Sessions	87
Number Contacts	2,806
Hrs Instruction	11,952

Visit us at:
<http://Live Oak-tx.tamu.edu>

2008 4-H Enrollment

Club Members	291
Total Enrollment	291



Community Development

Work has been coordinated in 2008 with local municipalities, school districts, Cities of George West & Three Rivers, Soil & Water Conservation and Chamber of Commerce addressing environmental, pesticide safety, beautification of Community, Vocational & Technical Training in Public Schools, youth development and other issues identified during the Texas Community Futures Forum. These programs have been implemented in an effort to address the critical issues and improve local quality of life. I am also involved with the GWISD Site Base Committee that helps address issues on education.

4-H & Youth Development

Youth Programs in Live Oak County are as follows: Livestock Projects, Photography, Food/Nutrition, Clothing and Textiles, Wildlife, Outdoors, Veterinarian Science, Entomology, Leadership, & Community Service. A total of 291 4-H youth members have enrolled in 2008. We held an annual "County Camp" this summer. Over 65 youth attended and participated in various activities such as arts & crafts, stick horse rodeo, making peach cobbler on a camp fire, and leadership activities. Every year 4-H youth are involved in numerous community service projects, such as Driscoll Children's Benefit Auction where 4-H youth bring items to sell at the Local Livestock Auction. We have raised over \$100,000 in the last four years for this benefit auction. We use the county camp as a 4-H recruitment in Live Oak County.



A state sheep & goat training for 4-H Master Volunteers was hosted in Live Oak County by Terry Lee and AgriLife Extension. It trained over 60 volunteers from across the state on about youth projects in the sheep and goat project area. Pictured is Dr. Frank Craddock, Sheep & Goat Specialist from San Angelo.