



"Professionals  
For Texas Agriculture"

# Texas Ag Line

Official Publication of the Texas Ag Industries Association ★ 145 West Travis La Grange, Texas 78945 979-968-5602

## Summer Meeting at Horseshoe Bay

Family! Summer! Lake LBJ! Good Food! Good friends! New friends!

Bring the family and join Texas Ag Industries Association for a fun filled, working summer meeting at the Horseshoe Bay Resort in Horseshoe Bay, Texas near Marble Falls, August 5-7. TAIA has also rented a covered Marina area for Brandenberger Steaks on Wednesday night. Pools, tennis, beautiful covered areas just to relax, and numerous other activities are available. There are also boat and jet ski rentals if you want to go out and fish or play on the lake. Go to [hsbresort.com](http://hsbresort.com) to see what amenities the resort has to offer. The boat races are in Marble Falls the weekend following our meeting. If you wish stay for the weekend, book early. If you are bringing the family or friends, Horseshoe Bay has one and two bedroom Paseos that would house your group. The deadline to book your lodging at the group rate is July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The room rate is \$149 plus a \$13 resort fee but taxes for the stay are only 6% as opposed to the normal tax rate since it is a privately owned resort. Please call 877-611-0112 for reservations as soon as possible. Mention you are with Texas Ag Industries to receive the group rate or go to [txag.net](http://txag.net) for a link to book a room online. Space will go quickly before the beginning of school and with the boat races coming.

Many thanks to sponsors who make the summer meeting a great outing and check the list on page 8. Sponsor and registration forms are available at [txag.net](http://txag.net). Please join us.

## Fertilizer Legislation

I guess we call it the legislative preseason preparing for the Eighty-Fourth Texas Legislative Session. It is strange to see a draft bill and hearings being held six months before the next session. I think we are now on the fifth draft of the bill concerning the storage of ammonium nitrate. One of our goals is to ensure the bill addresses only ammonium nitrate and does not bleed over to other fertilizers or agricultural chemical products. At the April Spring Board Meeting, the board decided to use Winstead PC to help draft legislation and interpret changes as other drafts of the bill are released. Prior to the last hearing, a new draft bill was presented causing several concerns. One concern was using the fire protection standards established by the National Fire Protection Association. First, using a national fire code in a Texas bill is a somewhat strange and second the Fire Association can change the code at any time making the requirements a moving target. The next concern was the civil penalties. Who could enforce them and who was allowed to file suits against the dealer? We testified against both of these issues and through phone conversations with Chairman Pickett, I feel both of these concerns will be addressed. Our next challenge is to see what language will be in the next draft, and the real test will be what the final bill will say when it is filed. Then we will have to see what changes will be made during the session and what other bills will be filed. In reality, we just finished the first half of the first inning and they are coming up to bat. We need your support to ensure this is a good workable bill for those who want to sell ammonium nitrate and make sure the focus remains on ammonium nitrate and does not affect the rest of the products we sell.

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**Texas Ag Industries Association**  
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Vol. 91, Num 1. -----Spring, 2014

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Jimmy Schultz-----Chairman  
Darin Hofferichter -----Vice Chairman  
Charlie Grymes----- Sec./Treas.  
Scott Piercy----- Imm. Past Chair.  
Randy Stephens----- Exec.Comm.  
Howard West----- Exec.Comm.  
Noble Laminack ----- Exec.Comm.

### STAFF

Donnie Dippel ----- President & Editor  
Governmental Affairs and Marketing  
Provided by CHB Consulting, Inc. Staff

The *Texas Ag Line* is published by  
CHB Consulting, Inc. for the Texas  
Ag Industries Assn.

## Chairman's Comments

Going back through the TAIA archives I ran across an article written in 2005 asking for input and support concerning restrictions that "ARE" going to be placed on Ammonium Nitrate. Nine years later we again are having those discussions that will not only restrict use but will very likely have the affect of prohibiting agricultural use of ammonium nitrate in the State of Texas. TAIA has taken a leading role in working with Congress in drafting legislation that will be narrow enough in focus to not be detrimental to our other crop protection and crop nutrient offerings as an industry. Donnie has continued to work tirelessly in these efforts. Our Association has funded to the limit of our abilities the necessary monies to initiate this process but we are going to need additional funding from Industry to complete this effort. I strongly believe that whatever Congress does in Texas will serve as landmark legislation that the rest of the nation will adopt in some form. We will be soliciting help to fund this effort and request that all our membership take serious considerations in support of what TAIA is attempting to accomplish.

On a much more positive note I am so looking forward to our Summer Meeting at Horseshoe Bay Resort on August 5th thru 7th. It will be a great meeting at a great resort and we have already had a good response; bring your family, your friends will already be there. I think our summer meeting is one of our more important meetings as it sets the tone and future direction of our Association through the work of our various committee meetings. All committees are open to new members and this is a

great way to get involved. And yes, there will be play time. On Wednesday night we will be served the legendary Brandenberger steaks at a covered Marina nearby. There are pools, tennis, golf, hiking trails, boat and jet skis and many other activities available or just come to relax. Make plans to attend, I will see you there.

Jimmy Schulz



## President's Comments

I hope everyone is having a great summer and receiving the welcomed rains that we have been experiencing all over the state. Everywhere I have traveled the crops look really healthy and the pastures are green. It has been a totally different year than we have seen in the last several. That difference has also been true on governmental issues. The work being done on bills and the hearings being held are something we do not see in the off season; it almost like being in a legislative session which is still six months away. Chairman Jimmy Schulz's Austin driving skills have greatly improved with all the trips he has made to the Capital. If this spring and summer indicate what the next session will bring, the session is going to be very interesting. In the last several months we have received calls from companies receiving tickets or warnings for not having license plates on their pull type fertilizer spreaders both dry and liquid and anhydrous nurse tanks. Calls have also been received about the DPS saying the fixed augers on fertilizer tenders are illegal. Scott Piercy and I visited the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) about standard permits for polyphosphate blenders. After we questioned their emission standards to obtain a standard permit, they have decided to go back and re-evaluate protocol that has changed within the agency without an official rule change. We have also been working with the Attorney General's Office concerning the release of our Tier II reports to Al Jazeera for facilities handling ammonium nitrate or anhydrous ammonia.

There are numerous situations occurring in our industry, so we should have very interesting topics to discuss at the Summer Meeting. It appears we will have great attendance. It is always a pleasant surprise when the hotel calls to let you know your block is full, and they have to increase the number of rooms in that block. The Summer Meeting is a very important allowing us to determine our focus for the coming year. Trust me we get a lot of work done, but it is not all work- we have a lot of fun. If you have not registered please do so and join us to help improve YOUR association.

Donnie Dippel

# Spring Newsletter New Members

## Individuals

Austin Tinsley / Tanner Cook – ADAMA  
Ed Cranson - JR Simplot Co.  
Tyler Painter - Nichino America  
Eric Burton - Better Harvest  
Walt Esser - Wilbur-Ellis Co.

## Allied

CoBank - Cody White  
Garrco Products - Preston Merritt

## Dealers/Distributors

CGB Fertilizer - Thad Reimar

## News From The Industry Rusty Shoulders Recuperates

Rusty Shoulders with Texhoma Wheat Growers is continuing to make great progress in his recuperation after having a stroke in May. Please continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers as he works toward his full recovery.

## Jim Standfield Joins Poole Chemical

Jim Standfield has joined the Poole Chemical sales team working out of Sapulpa, OK. Jim can be reached by phone at (888) 649-4888 or by email at [jstandfield@poolechemical.com](mailto:jstandfield@poolechemical.com)

## Wylie Announces New Locations

Wylie is excited to announce we are now the exclusive Case IH and New Holland Agricultural dealers in the Rio Grande Valley including Case IH self-propelled sprayers in Brownsville, Texas and Raymondville, Texas. From new and used equipment, service, and electronics, we have everything you need to make your operation productive and profitable. The former Pioneer Equipment in Mission, TX has been absorbed by our Wylie Sprayer Center in Edinburg to form Wylie Implement and Spray Center, Edinburg (800-514-9381).



## TAIA President Keynote Speaker

Donnie Dippel, TAIA President, will be the keynote speaker at the 2014 Safety School hosted by ASMARK in Bloomington, Illinois, August 19 -20. The Safety School is held in conjunction with the Magie show that runs from August 19- August 21. The Magie show has over 100 companies included in this outstanding Midwest Ag Industries Exposition showcasing their agriculture technology. The presentation will bring the work TAIA does in Texas to a national forum.

# Open Record Request For Tier II Reports

You might have heard in the news about the Attorney General's Office refusing to release our Tier II Reports. TAlA met with the Attorney General's Staff and asked them to not release the Tier II Reports. I applauded them on their decision not to release the reports, but since that decision was made it has become a political issue. Below is a memo sent to me by the Attorney General's Office informing us about the laws on releasing information to the public under the Texas Community Right-To-Know Law.

Advisory to members

Much has been written and said about a recent open records decision by the Office of the Attorney General regarding Tier II reports being available en masse from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). In order to provide our members with the clearest and most up-to-date information, I wanted to write to you and let you know that the law has not changed and the open records decision DOES NOT change any regulation our members are under.

Under the Texas Community Right-to-Know Act, chemical facilities are required to disclose information concerning hazardous chemicals to the general public within 10 days of receiving a written request. There is no change to that provision of state law. Specifically, facilities must provide their existing workplace chemical lists under Texas law. Any failure to do so carries with it penalties to be assessed by the Texas Department of State Health Services under Chapter 505 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

Citizen requests for information made directly to chemical facilities do not fall within the Texas Public Information Act and our members or any other facility operator cannot refuse to provide the reports to the general public or the media by using the attorney general ruling as an example.

Any questions concerning the procedures involved providing direct citizen access to the workplace chemicals lists should be directed to the Texas Department of State Health Services at 1-800-452-2791 or <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/tiertwo/default.shtm>.

Points to remember:

- Facility chemical lists and Tier II reports must be provided by businesses
- Facilities have 10 days to provide reports after receiving written requests
- Questions about providing reports should be directed to DSHS
- No change in the law has taken place

## License Plates On Fertilizer Spreaders?

The last several months I have been receiving phone calls from members getting citations for not having license plates on pull type fertilizer applicators both liquid and dry and anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks. Much of this is coming from a bill passed last session to move the Motor Vehicle Registration (TMVR) section out of the Department Public Safety (DPS) and make it separate agency. DPS has always classed these types of equipment as implements of husbandry and have not required them to be licensed. There are certain requirements for implements of husbandry like having a slow moving decal, not allowing them to be pulled after dark, and not exceeding the twenty-five miles per hour speed limit. After several conference calls and taking staff of TMVR to see these types of equipment, they still felt they should be licensed. Their interpretation is if the box or tank can be removed from the frame and the frame could be used as a trailer it must have a license plate. My argument is that when a box or tank is removed and the frame is used for a trailer then it is to be licensed, but until that is done it is an implement of husbandry. Fortunately, our friends at DPS are still considering the equipment implements of husbandry and have offered to help rewrite the implements of husbandry law to help clear up this misinterpretation. Until the law is clarified, they plan not to issue any more tickets or warnings. There have also been several fertilizer tenders stopped and told that the augers extending out the back are illegal. Again DPS has helped clear this up with their officers. If you have a piece of equipment stopped and ticketed or warned, please let me know so we can get this cleared up. The DPS office has told me several times , there are always new officers and officers , who have not seen this type of equipment, moving to new locations Those new or relocated officers sometime feel this equipment is illegally on the road without a license.

# Regional Meetings in the Works

It is time to make plans for the regional meetings. The season begins with Lubbock on September 10th at the Scottish Rite Temple for perhaps the last time before we move to a new site. The South Texas Regional Meeting follows at the fantastic Caesar Kleberg Center site on September 18th. The South Texas Meeting hosts more college students than other sites through Texas A & M at Kingsville. October 9th will be the Salado meeting with a more intimate room location in the Bell County Expo Center and a unique opportunity for thirty people to attend a Professional Applicator Training the following day in a covered area at the Expo Center. For the thirty attendees who come to any TAIA Regional Meeting and the applicator training, three years recertification credit will be issued through TDA. Registration for the Professional Applicator Training is completed by going to [asmak.org](http://asmak.org) and clicking on the Compass Services logo and then clicking on the Signature Training Courses. Salado is followed by El Campo at the El Campo Civic Center on October 23rd, and we finish the meetings with Dumas at Amarillo College in Dumas on November 13th.

Please join us for these meetings at a site or sites convenient for you. The committees work hard to find speakers of interest to you after examining the previous year's surveys or listening to suggestions of new issues. Thank the sponsors, most of whom support the meetings each year, and consider having your company become a sponsor. We will see you at one or more meetings and appreciate your attendance and participation.

Fill out the sponsor registration form included or go to [txag.net](http://txag.net) to become a sponsor or register for a meeting.

**The sponsors thus far include:**

**A & L Plains Ag Labs**

**CPS**

**Dow AgroSciences**

**DuPont**

**Equipment Supply**

**Fast2Grow**

**Gowan USA**

**Heartland Tank Services, Inc.**

**Helena Chemical Company**

**Intrepid Potash**

**Koch Agronomic Services, LLC**

**Martin Resources**

**Mosaic**

**Nachurs**

**Nichino America Inc.**

**Poole Chemical Co.**

**PotashCorp**

**Sanders**

**Servi-Tech Laboratories**

**Syngenta**

**Valent**

**Warren Cat**

**Wilbur-Ellis**



# Texas Ag Industries Association 2014 Regional Meeting Sponsorship and Display Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsorship Cost and Registration Fee

- TAIA Member \$400.00       Nonmember \$500.00

**Sponsorship includes a meeting registration for each of the five regional meetings.**

### Location

### Sponsor Representative

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lubbock - Scottish Rite Temple - Wed., Sept. 10              | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> South Texas - Kingsville - Kleburg Center - Thurs., Sept. 18 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salado - Bell County Expo Center - Thurs., Oct. 9            | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> El Campo - El Campo Civic Center - Thurs., Oct. 23           | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dumas - Amarillo College - Thurs., Nov. 13                   | _____ |

### Payment Options ( You can also register and pay online at txag.net )

- Payment enclosed (Make check payable to TAIA)  
 Please invoice me  
 Use Credit Card (Charged as "CHB Consulting, Inc.")

Type of card    MC    Visa    AMEX    Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Customer Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**  
**TAIA**  
**145 W. Travis**  
**La Grange, TX 78945**

**Fax To:**  
**979-968-5624**

**Questions:**  
**979-968-5602**  
**or**  
**txag.net**

## Scholarship Winners Awarded

Four young men and ladies were awarded the Gary Fitzgerald Scholarships in the increased amount of two thousand dollars for 2014 and one young lady was honored as the first recipient of the Kim Coker Memorial Scholarship.

Dylan Kostroun is the son of Jerry and Angele Kostroun. Jerry is a manager at the Taft CPS location. Dylan will attend Texas A & M and has been accepted into the College of Agriculture Entomology Department majoring in Forensic and Investigative Sciences.



Charlie Hurdt is the son of Cody and Karen Hurdt. Cody is employed by DuPont. Cody's plans include a major in Agriculture Leadership and Development and a minor in Business Administration at Texas A & M University.

Jonathan Hlavinka is the son of Jason and Linda Hlavinka. Linda has been with Helena Chemical for 16 years. Jonathan will be attending Texas A&M University Blinn TEAM and pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration with a degree in Supply Chain Management.



Katie Kehl is the daughter of Kris and Dina Kehl. Kris is employed by Archer Daniels Midland. Katie's goals include an OSU undergraduate degree in Animal Science and then working to attend vet school with a focus in large animal specialization.

Celia Grymes was awarded the Kim Coker Scholarship. Charlie works for DuPont Ag Products. Celia is the daughter of Charlie and Lorissa Grymes and will pursue a degree in business from Texas A & M University.



If you did not receive scholarship monies, please apply again for 2015. All applicants should take pride in their excellent accomplishments and challenging goals. TAIA sends congratulations to the excellent field of applicants who will influence the future for all of us in many positive ways.

### Scholarship Raffle Sponsors

**Agrium U. S. Inc.**  
**Bayer CropScience**  
**Crop Production Services**  
**DuPont Ag Products**

**Helena Chemical Company**  
**Intrepid Potash**  
**Mosaic Company**  
**Poole Chemical**

**PotashCorp**  
**Simplot Grower Solutions**  
**Syngenta**  
**Wilbur-Ellis Company**

## 2014 Summer Meeting Sponsors

<b>A &amp; L Plains Ag Labs</b>	<b>Koch Agronomic Services, LLC</b>
<b>ADAMA</b>	<b>Nachurs</b>
<b>Agrium</b>	<b>Martin Resources</b>
<b>AgXplore International, Inc.</b>	<b>MK Minerals</b>
<b>American Plant Food</b>	<b>Monsanto</b>
<b>AMVAC</b>	<b>Mosaic</b>
<b>ASMARK</b>	<b>Murray Equipment Co.</b>
<b>BASF</b>	<b>Nachurs</b>
<b>Bayer Crop Science</b>	<b>NuFarm Americas Inc.</b>
<b>Capital Farm Credit</b>	<b>ORO AGRI</b>
<b>CNI (Chem Nut)</b>	<b>Poole Chemical</b>
<b>CHS</b>	<b>PotashCorp</b>
<b>Crop Production Services</b>	<b>Sanders</b>
<b>Dow AgroSciences</b>	<b>Servi-Tech Laboratories</b>
<b>DuPont</b>	<b>Simplot Grower Solutions</b>
<b>El Dorado Chemical</b>	<b>Syngenta</b>
<b>Equalizer</b>	<b>Terral Seed</b>
<b>Gowan USA</b>	<b>Tessengerlo Kerley Inc.</b>
<b>Heartland Tank Services</b>	<b>UPI</b>
<b>Helena Chemical</b>	<b>Warren Cat</b>
<b>Intrepid Potash</b>	<b>Wilbur-Ellis</b>
	<b>Winstead PC</b>

# TAIA Leadership

## 2014 Officers

### Chairman

Jimmy Schulz, Sanders, El Campo

### Vice Chairman

Darin Hofferichter, Wilbur-Ellis Co., China Springs

### Secretary/Treasurer

Charlie Grymes, DuPont Ag Products, Inez

### Immediate Past Chairman

Scott Piercy, Poole Chemical Co., Lubbock

### Executive Committee Member

Randy Stephens, SureGrow, Comanche

### Executive Committee Member

Howard West, Simplot, Hempstead

### Executive Committee Member

Noble Laminack, Bayer CropScience, San Angelo



## 2014 Board of Directors

### Dealer / Distributors

Alan Pitts, Lubbock

Darin Hofferichter, Wilbur-Ellis Co., China Springs

Brad Locke, Crop Production Services, College Station

Tony Savage, Helena Chemical Co., Bardwell

Jimmy Schulz, United Agricultural Cooperative, El Campo

Randy Stephens, SureGrow, Comanche

Ryan Garner, Sanders

Howard West, Simplot, Hempstead

Alex Dye, Transammonia, Inc., Flower Mound

### Manufacturers

James Hopkins, Agrium U.S. Inc, Canyon

Mark Newman, Mosaic Co., Amarillo

Scott Rieckhoff, Syngenta, Georgetown

Billy Wood, Martin Resources, Plainview

Zachary Adams, Intrepid Potash, Denver

Charlie Grymes, DuPont Ag Products, Inez

Noble Laminack, Bayer CropScience, San Angelo

Larry Unruh, American Plant Food, Galena Park

Bart Hunt, PotashCorp., Shawnee KS

### Allied Industries

Matt Murphree, Heartland Tank Services Inc, San Marcos

Doug Heck, Warren Cat, Lubbock

## 2014 Committee Leaders

### Administration Committee

Ch: Tommy Brandenberger, Simplot Gower Solutions, Hallettsville

Co: Scott Piercy, Poole Chemical Co., Lubbock

### Communications Committee

Ch: Doug Heck, Warren Cat, Wolfforth

Co: James Nichols, SureGrow Ag Prod., Tyler

### Conference Committee

Ch: Alan Pitts, Lubbock

Co: Noble Laminack, Bayer CropScience, San Angelo

### Governmental Affairs Committee

Ch: Randy Stephens, SureGrow Ag Prod., Comanche

Co: Tony Savage, Helena, Bardwell

### Membership/Marketing Committee

Ch: Ken Mull, Agrium Advanced Technologies, Lubbock

Co: Darin Hofferichter, Wilbur Ellis, Waco

### Nominating Committee

Ch: Scott Piercy, Poole Chemical Co., Lubbock

Co: John Oppelt, BP Biofuels, Castroville

### Regulatory Committee

Ch: Larry Unruh, American Plant Food, Galena Park

Co: File Guzman, CPS, College Station

### Regional Committees

#### Dumas Regional Meeting Committee

Ch: David Reinart, Better Harvest, Inc. Dumas

Co: Tim Robertson, CPS, Dumas

#### El Campo Regional Meeting Committee

Ch: Leon Blackwelder, American Plant Food, Liberty

Co: Jimmy Schulz, United Ag. Coop, Inc., El Campo

#### Lubbock Regional Meeting Committee

Ch: Justin Bellar, Wilbur-Ellis Co., Littlefield

Co: Katie Parrish, Dow AgroSciences, Lubbock

#### Rio Grande Valley Regional Meeting Committee

Ch: Juan Zamora, Wilbur-Ellis Co., Edinburg

Co: Rick Hernandez, Bayer CropScience, Edinburg

#### Salado Regional Meeting Committee

Ch: Justin Allen, Sanders, Rosebud

Co: David King, Nichino America, San Antonio

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145 West Travis  
La Grange, TX 78945

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# Calendar of Events

August 1

CCA Exam  
La Grange, TX

August 5th -7th

TAIA Summer Meeting  
Horseshoe Bay Resort

September 10th

Lubbock Regional Meeting  
Scottish Rite Temple

September 18th

South Texas Regional Meeting  
Ceasar Kleberg Center  
Kingsville, TX

October 9

Salado Regional Meeting  
Bell County Expo Center  
Belton, TX

October 10

Professional Applicator Training  
Bell County Expo Center  
Belton, TX

October 23

El Campo Regional Meeting  
El Campo Civic Center

November 13

Dumas Regional Meeting  
Amarillo College

December 10 - 11

Plant Protection Conference  
Brazos Center, Bryan, TX

January 20 - 22, 2015

TAIA Annual Conference  
Crowne Plaza Addison, TX