



**"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

TAIA Prepares For Summer Meeting

The TAIA Summer Meeting is just a couple of weeks away and a lot of preparation is taking place to make this a very productive meeting. Benny Martinez, 2011 Board Chairman, has asked the board to work on topics for the committee meetings to help stimulate ideas for new programs and to expand our on-going projects. The Summer Meeting is one of the most important meetings we hold each year to help plan the direction our association will take for the next year. If you have any great ideas that you would like to have discussed at the Summer Meeting, share them with a board member or just bring them to Fredericksburg.

The 2011 Summer Meeting will be held at the Fredericksburg Inn and Suites in Fredericksburg, August 10 - 12. Registration will start on Wednesday at 4:00 PM with a welcome reception at 5:30 PM. Thursday is set aside for a full day of committee meetings. Thursday night's reception will include a cookout with renown chef Brandenberger barbecuing steaks. He will wet our appetites as he has done in the past with the aroma from his beans as they cook all day. Friday morning when the board meets everyone is encouraged to attend to hear committee reports and see how the board will move forward with the ideas presented.

Fredericksburg Inn and Suites has given TAIA a great room rate of seventy-nine dollars a night plus tax. Their phone number is 800-446-0202. All our meetings will be held in the pool area that the family can enjoy during the meeting. Fredericksburg is also known for its many shops and good food. There is also the Wildseed Farm just a couple of miles from Fredericksburg that is very interesting to visit. Do not forget all the wineries that are available in the area.

Update on NPDES Permits as They Move To the U.S. Senate for Consideration

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits House Bill HB 872 was passed out of the U.S. House by a margin of 292 -134. The bill falls under the Reduced Regulatory Burdens Act which was a great help in getting it passed out of the house. The bill has now moved to the Senate where it passed the Senate Ag Committee on June 21. It was extremely important that the bill receive bipartisan support in the committee and it did. It is hoped that the bill will move to the Senate floor in the next couple of weeks and receive the same bipartisan support it received in the Ag Committee. The only step after Senate approval is the President's signature.

EPA and the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality both continue to work on their regulations as if the permits will go into affect on October 31, 2011 after the six month delay expires that was given by the 6th Circuit Court.

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Chairman's Comments

Make plans to attend!

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Governmental Affairs and Marketing
Provided by CHB Consulting, Inc. Staff

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There are a variety of meetings that TAIA will be hosting in the next few months. One of the most important meetings is the Summer Meeting, scheduled for August 10-12 in Fredericksburg.

For those of you that have never attended the summer meeting, you don't know what you're missing! There are a variety of committee workgroups, including Regional, Marketing and Governmental Affairs, that assemble in order to make very important decisions for TAIA, but this is also a time that we get together to enjoy some friendships, fun and food. This is without a doubt, a Work hard, Play hard meeting.

If you are not part of a committee, this is not a problem, call Donnie and let him know what committee you would like to be a part of and he will gladly place your name on the list. I would like to encourage everyone who is interested in becoming a committee member to take on this roll. Different perspectives and open minds from an assortment of individuals produce improved and ample ideas for our future.

I would also like to take this time to remind you about all the Regional meetings throughout the remainder of the 2011 calendar year. These meetings not only provide a great avenue for acquiring CCA and TDA credits, but they also provide information on new technologies, techniques, and methods, that will keep you informed, updated, and at the top of your game.

So make plans to attend and participate. I look forward, and hope to see you in Fredericksburg!

Benny Martinez, Chairman of the Board

President's Comments

Hooray! The Eighty-Second Texas Legislative session has come and gone with only one special session. Passing a budget took up a lot of time while they searched to overcome a twenty billion dollar deficit. They were very proud to say they did it without any new taxes or a tax increase. Most of the state agencies took major budget cuts and then were told they have to cost recover the remainder of their budget by increasing or creating new fees. But the good news is we did not have a tax increase? The redistricting maps were passed out and can be reviewed on the Texas Legislature web site www.tlc.state.tx.us/redist/redist.htm. There was also a groundwater bill passed, SB 332, that defined who owned the ground water under your property. A sales tax bill, HB 268, was also passed that will require an agriculture producer to file for a sales tax exemption number. Requiring this exemption number will reduce fraud and abuse of a tax exemption that is important to legitimate agricultural producers. On the federal scene the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits Bill was passed by the House, the Senate Ag Committee and its next step is the full Senate. We hoped that this bill will be passed and signed by the President before the October 31, 2011 deadline.

2011 is starting out to be another great year for TAIA. The Summer Meeting is just around the corner and if the number of sponsorships is any indication, this will be great meeting. The Summer Meeting to me, is the most exciting meeting we have. The Summer Meeting gives members an opportunity to structure our association's activities for the coming year. It is also a time to relax, with family members and enjoy the fellowship of other members. Speaking of members, the membership is at 471 which is record high number, but we are not at our 500 goal. If you have not sent in your membership, please do so to help reach the 500 goal again this year. We have just completed a new section on the website that will allow you to register for meetings and pay with your credit card online. We ran a test for the Summer Meeting Registration, and it worked great. This service will be available for 2011 Regional Meetings and to pay your 2012 dues.

Donnie Dippel

TAIA Would Like to Welcome New Members

Individual Members

Adam Hixson / BASF
Suzy Davis / Brownfield Farmers Coop Station
Marc Fisher / Dow AgroScience
Ryan Jung / Farmers Coop of El Campo
Todd Whatley / Servi-Tech Laboratories
Dr. Peter Dotray / Texas Tech University
Ray Erwin / UPI

Allied Industry

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Sheila Gladstone / Ty Embrey

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NEWS FROM THE INDUSTRY

Cotton Production Meeting Invitation

Dow AgroSciences and PhytoGen Cotton Seed Co. would like to invite you to the PhytoGen Tailgate Tours. The tours are open to all growers, retailers, distributors, crop consultants and educators. We are planning for one meeting in Corpus Christi on July 21, 2011 and two meetings in Lubbock on September 22nd and 23rd, 2011. Anyone wishing to attend should register for the meeting by logging on to <http://events.signup4.com/Tailgate11>. For more information, contact your local Dow AgroSciences Representative. We hope to see you there.

CoreAgri Announces Mike Barry as National Sales Manager

ARROYO GRANDE, Calif. – April 4, 2011 – CoreAgri, LLC, a leading producer of specialty fertilizers as well as liquid and dry micronutrients, today announced its promotion of Mike Barry to National Sales Manager.

Mike Barry brings 30 plus years of experience to the CoreAgri Sales Team. Prior to accepting the promotion, Barry served as Vice President of CoreAgri. His new plans include an improved product focus with careful attention to providing customers more educational tools and product literature. Barry will guide CoreAgri's sales team while contributing to an enhanced web presence, product brochures and technical sheets.

"Mike is the most natural and well-respected fit for our company," said Mark Moore, President of CoreAgri. "Highly regarded within the company, and known for his expertise outside of CoreAgri, Mike is a wealth of information and eager to move our sales team in a positive direction to better fulfill our customers' needs."

"I'm excited to be in this new role and have already enjoyed traveling with the sales team to better learn their region and customer base," said Mike Barry. "One of my goals is to streamline our product offerings. We're trying to prepare for the future and be in a position to grow and provide optimum customer service." For more information, visit www.CoreAgri.com or call +1.805.201.9049.

Texas Plant and Soil Lab Makes Recommendation to Consultant on Crop Replanting

A consultant sent in a petiole/leaf sample for analysis, but the crop went through hail damage after the initial sample was pulled.

Here is what TPSL® recommended to this consultant – if his farmers want to take the risk:

1. **In either case:** Yes, petiole analysis would still be useful – whether they do or do not replant.

If they replant, the analysis from the previous crop will give them a head-start on fertilization measures that need to be taken for the new one.

If they try to salvage this crop, the analysis will tell them what they need to apply in addition to our recommendations below.

Continued on page 4

So book your room today and join us for a relaxing couple of days in Fredericksburg. You can go to www.txag.net to register for the meeting. Listed below are the sponsors that helped make this meeting possible.

TAIA Would Like to Thank the 2011 Summer

Meeting Sponsors

A&L Plains Ag Labs
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Dr. Vivien Allen Announces Retirement



Texas Tech's college of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources announce that longtime professor and leading agroecosystem research scientist Vivien Allen, the university's Thornton Distinguished Professor of Forage since 1995, would retire on August 31.

"I've had an incredible opportunity here to be part of finding positive ways to make changes," said Allen, who also has been honored as a Texas Tech Paul Whitfield Horn Professor.

Allen joined the CASNR faculty in 1995 where her research work has largely centered on forage and grazing animals. Allen earned her bachelor's degree in general agriculture from the University of Tennessee. Her master's and doctorate with majors in agronomy and animal science are from LSU. Honors for Allen include a special "Award of Illumination" from the American Forage and Grassland Council and the Society for Range Management.

Dr. Allen is to be applauded by the Texas Ag Industries Association for her contributions as an active participant in the regional meetings sharing her knowledge to educate members through many programs. Her presentations were always well received by the attendees, and we wish Dr. Allen the best in her retirement.

2. TPSSL®'s recommendations as to these particular fields **ONLY** – **this is not a universal formula!** : **Immediately apply by foliar feeding** a mixture of:

A surfactant.

3 – 5 lb/ac actual P2O5 (High P formula) – Orthophosphate preferred.

1 qt/ac Humic / Fulvic Acid

1 – 2 oz/ac (or label rate)

Multi- Hormones (PGR-IV type – auxins, cytokinins, gibberellins, etc.)

A fungicide (but only if necessary due to high moisture or humidity to prevent disease) following label rate.

OR INSTEAD OF A FUNGICIDE, Soil Inoculants (beneficial soil bacteria) as a foliar spray in addition to soil applications, have also been effective in suppressing disease. Even if a fungicide is applied, we highly recommend using a Soil Inoculant after fungicide applications to help re-establish a healthy microbial population.

This mix may need to be re-applied in 7 to 10 days. Close monitoring of plant nutritional levels and watching for signs of disease is essential. After the canopy (leaves) has been re-established and regular petiole (sap) tests indicate optimum levels of Nitrate and Phosphate, add 1 - 2 qt/ ac of Carbohydrates (Molasses) **with Surfactant** in water and apply as a foliar spray to slow vegetative growth and induce fruiting.

Weekly **ASK THE PLANT®** petiole (sap) analyses are very important in maintaining optimal plant nutritional balance.

While these recommendations are not universal, they do give you a good idea for a starting approach and overall method.

For more information go to texasplantandsoillab.com

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TAIA MEMBERS

Be sure to put the Regional
Meeting dates on your
calendar

Have you paid your 2011
dues?

Check out the website to
register for the Summer
Meeting

Calendar of Events

August 2 & 3, 2011
CCA Exam Training
La Grange & Lubbock

August 5, 2011
CCA Exam
La Grange

August 10 - 12, 2011
TAIA Summer Meeting
Fredericksburg

September 13, 2011
Lubbock Regional Meeting

September 14, 2011
West Texas Ag Chem Conference
Lubbock

September 27, 2011
Rio Grande Valley
Regional Meeting
Edinburg

October 11, 2011
Salado Regional Meeting
Belton

October 18, 2011
El Campo Regional Meeting

November 9, 2011
Dumas Regional Meeting

December 5 & 6, 2011
Texas Plant Protection
Conference
Bryan

January 17 - 19, 2012
TAIA Annual Conference
Addison