

**WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
IMPLEMENTATION ASSISTANCE IN THE  
RICHLAND & CHAMBERS CREEKS WATERSHED**

**Final Report  
Clean Water Act, Section 319(h) Non-Point Source Grant  
Contract # 00-7, 00-9 & 02-12D**

**ELLIS-PRAIRIE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**



**Lake Waxahachie**

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Waxahachie, Texas

TSSWCB Regional Office  
Dublin, Texas

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## INTRODUCTION

Richland and Chambers Creeks Watershed is located in Ellis, Hill, Johnson, Limestone, and Navarro counties. The drainage area comprises of approximately 1,261,299 acres. Of this amount 340,550 acres is located in the Ellis-Prairie Soil and Water Conservation District. Lake Waxahachie, Bardwell Reservoir, Richland Chambers Reservoir, and Navarro Mills are located within the Richland and Chambers Creeks Watershed. These lakes supply drinking water for approximately 1.6 million people in North Central Texas.

The Richland and Chambers Creeks Watershed area is an important farming area in North Central Texas. Major crops include, cotton, corn, grain sorghum, and wheat. Pasture grasses, especially improved bermudagrass, are important agronomic crops in this area.

Lake Waxahachie, Bardwell Reservoir, and Richland Chambers Reservoir were listed as threatened by atrazine on the 1999 State of Texas 303(d) list. Atrazine is an herbicide used in grain sorghum and corn production.

In November 2000, the Ellis-Prairie SWCD executed an agreement with the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board to develop and oversee conservation plan (Water Quality Management Plans – WQMP) development in the drainage area. The WQMPs utilized Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce Atrazine deposits in Lake Waxahachie, Bardwell Reservoir, and Richland Chambers Reservoir.

In December 2000, the Ellis-Prairie SWCD employed a technician to execute all components of the program. The duties of this technician included accepting applications for WQMPs development and assisting agricultural producers to install BMPs as outlined in the plans.

A goal was set to develop thirty WQMPs with producers in these drainage areas. Cost-share funds of \$300,000 were allocated to assist the producers to install BMPs. It became clear in October 2003 that producers needed additional time to complete all practices planned. The program was extended to August 31, 2005.

The Ellis-Prairie SWCD set the following priorities to fund applications for cost share assistance:

- High Priority - Cropland involved in a program of corn or grain sorghum production, or land that has a recent history of corn or grain sorghum production.
- Medium Priority – Other cropland or lands adjacent to or bordering High Priority cropland, and has run-off/erosion problems
- Low Priority – All other lands not identified.

BMPs designed to meet various conservation and water quality needs were made a part of the cost-share program. Such practices as waterways, terraces, grass establishment, critical area shaping, grade stabilization structures, filter strips and field borders were among those items made a part of the practice handbook. WQMPs also included integrated pest management and nutrient management, along with forage and hayland management plans. WQMPs were written to treat an entire farming unit.

## **PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

In November 1999, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) representatives met with the local SWCD board to discuss the North Central Texas Atrazine Remediation Program. It was determined that the program could start January 2001 and the SWCD could begin the hiring process for a planner/technician. A technician/planner was hired in December 2000.

The technician developed a list of potential applicants using Farm Service Agency (FSA) records to determine eligible producers. A total of 193 eligible farms were identified from FSA records. The local SWCD also development their list of eligible BMPs in February 2001 and sent the list to the TSSWCB for review and approval.

The first producers were contacted in March 2001.

## **PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The Richland and Chambers Creeks Watershed is in Blackland MLRA/Texas Blackland Prairie. Nearly all this area is in farms, but urban development is increasing. About 35 percent of the area is cropland, about 50 percent improved pasture or rangeland, and the remainder urban areas or narrow strips of woodland along streams.

The main agronomic crops grown in this area are cotton, corn, grain sorghum, small grain and sorghum used as hay crops. A trend toward using Roundup Ready crops has occurred in the last several years. The use of Roundup Ready crops has reduced acreages treated with Atrazine.

The Ellis-Prairie SWCD and the 319 technician identified 193 eligible farms in the treatment area. Letters were sent to this group in March 2001. Announcements were also printed in the Ellis County Farm Newsletter published by the USDA/ Farm Service Agency.

An Ellis County Crops Tour was conducted July 2001. During the tour producers viewed BMPs demonstrations and received information on the Atrazine Remediation Project. Another program was provided in conjunction with the Ellis County Fall Ag Update Meeting conducted November 2001. Subjects covered included available funding, cost share assistance to producers, WQMP concept, and Best Management Practices (BMPs). Approximately 100 producers attended each meeting.

Forty potential applications were received as a result of this effort. Thirty applicants were determined to be eligible and in the high priority category as prescribed by the SWCD. Twenty applicants developed WQMPs for their lands and the WQMPs were approved by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board.

A total of 112 applications were received thru March 2005. Seventy one applicants developed WQMPs for their lands and were approved by the TSSWCB. Twelve of those approved were withdrawn from the program. Thru the development of 71 WQMP's using BMP's such as waterways, grass establishment, critical area shaping, and grade stabilization structures, Ellis-Prairie SWCD reduced the sediment load in the Richland/Chambers Watershed by 18,836 tons per year

## **PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY TASK**

TASK 1: Program Coordination and Management.

Objective: Organize an integrated team among the multiple agencies and groups involved with the project to efficiently and effectively achieve project goals:

Subtask 1.1 Conduct semi-annual meetings with project participants to discuss technical assistance activities, project schedule, lines of responsibility, communication needs and other required tasks:

*The SWCD technician regularly met with program participants. A meeting was held to discuss new technology and review program progress.*

Subtask 1.2 Prepare quarterly and final reports:

*The SWCD technician has completed all quarterly reports. Materials were provided to committee and cooperators and participants as needed.*

TASK 2: Water Quality Education and Demonstration of BMPs to reduce Atrazine:

Objective: To promote the implementation of cost effective BMPs that introduce atrazine runoff by informing and educating corn and sorghum producers about appropriate BMPs. Efforts will be fully publicized.

Subtask 2.1 Cooperate with Ellis-Prairie SWCD to provide two education/training events describing methods for reducing Atrazine runoff:

*The SWCD technician conducted two meetings/workshops. The programs were conducted in cooperation with other State and Federal Agencies. Approximately 100 participants attended each program.*

Subtask 2.2 Select appropriate BMPs practices for reducing Atrazine runoff, and implement at least one demonstration each year of the practice:

*The SWCD technician arranged for demonstration of proper residue management and reduced tillage practices in the treatment area.*

### TASK 3: Development and Implementation of WQMPs

Objective: To encourage agricultural land owners to comply with State water quality laws through a traditional voluntary based incentive program and assistance the producers in developing and implementing WQMPs.

Subtask 3.1 The Ellis-Prairie SWCD will hire a technician to provide technical assistance to producers.

*A technician was hired in December 2000.*

Subtask 3.2 The SWCD will send out notification to land users informing them of the program.

*Letters were sent to producers in March 2001.*

Subtask 3.3 The SWCD technician and NRCS will provide land owners information on appropriate BMPs and will work with TSSWCB regional office in developing and implementing WQMPs:

*Seventy one WQMPs were developed and approved. Twelve of those approved withdrew from the project. The remaining fifty nine requested financial assistance and are implementing WQMPs.*

Subtask 3.4 The Ellis-Prairie technician will develop 30 WQMPs.

*Seventy-one WQMPs were developed and approved by TSSWCB regional office in Dublin.*

Subtask 3.5 TSSWCB will provide technical review and certification WQMPs:

*All seventy-one WQMPs were approved and determined to meet technical standards and meet program criteria.*

Subtask 3.6 Implementation schedules of WQMPs:

*All WQMPs have completed one or more practices. Forty nine producers have completed all practices in their plan.*

TASK 4: Inventory of land use practices and BMPs implemented in Ellis-Prairie SWCD.

Objective: To compile and document information on the amount and types of BMPs implemented through WQMPs, conservation plans and other USDA cost share programs.

Subtask 4.1 The SWCD and NRCS will compile information on the location, numbers, and types of BMPs implemented within the watershed each year.

*The compilations of practices are included in this report. A spreadsheet summary practice is also included.*

APPENDICES

Inventory of Cost-Shared BMPs

North Central Texas Remediation Project (Richland/Chambers Watershed)														
Inventory of Cost Shared BMPs for Ellis-Prairie SWCD Project 319														
WQMP #	Load Reduction	Pasture Hayland Planting	Range Seeding	Critical Area Planting	Filter Strips	Grassed Waterways	Terraces	Ponds	GSS	Brush Mgmt.	Nutrient & Pest Mgmt.	Contour Farming non c/s	Residue Mgmt. non c/s	Nutrient & Pest Mgmt. non c/s
	Tons	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.	Ft.	No.	No.	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.
	227	36						1			36			
	543	70						1		17	70		161	394
	270	89		1						15	89		130	206
	447	71									71		113	161
	275	17						1			17	94	118	118
	561	17						1	1		17	104	104	115
	34	8						2			8		95	151
	139	3		3	3			1		13	9	52	52	115
	485	53						2			53			98
	90	17									17			22
													53	103
	260	50									50			33
	426			1				2			1			118
	705	112									112			36
	600	84						2			84			135
	245		39								39			
														71
	106	9							1	9	9	63	63	11
	640	89									89			42
	175	41									41	156	156	15
	695	110									110			
	82	18									18			
	17	4									4			
	233	32		4							36			
	380	62									62			12
	58	9									9			20
	348	22									22			
	247	21									21			
	95													
	660		93								93			45
	421	70									70			67
	420	89									89			25
	540	58									58			
	874	95									95		69	66

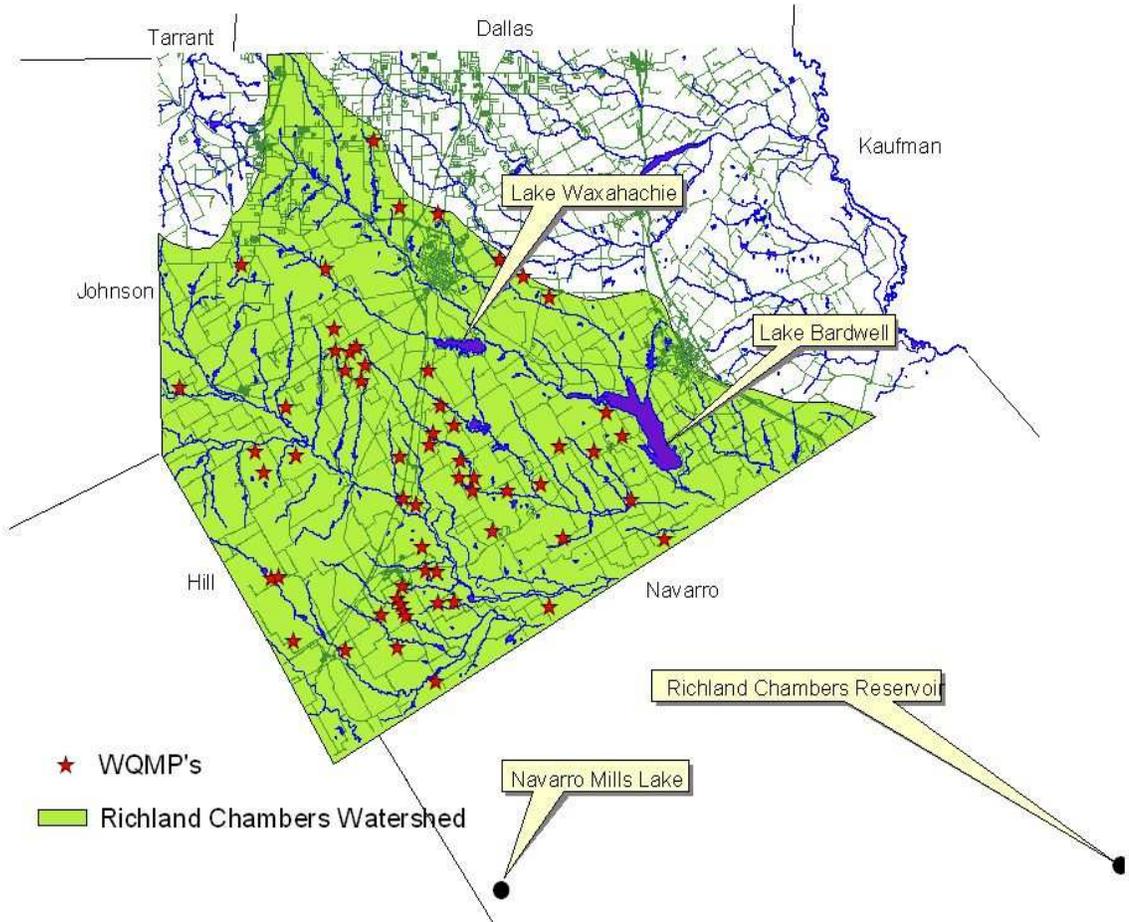
	1336	42									42			
	129	21									21			
	85	26									26			
	720	117									117	205	54	
	107	32									32			
	29	8									8			
	261											162	162	186
	83	25									25			
	284	28									28	112	212	
	328	63									63			16
	253	24				1			1		25	29	35	
	180	26									26			
	102	35									35			198
	580	131									131			11
	475	21									21	29	68	
	478	58		5						8	71			44
	208	19									19	61	75	
	115	22									22	34	67	
	57													
	160	21									21			
	183	30									30			
	820	94						1			94	14	114	
	167	32									32			
	234	17						1			17			13
	164	23							1		23			4
<b>Totals</b>	18836	2271	132	14	3	1	0	15	4	62	2428	631	1760	3276

\* Contract 61: Producer chose to complete practice without c/s assistance.

\* Contract 82: Producer will complete scheduled c/s practices thru EQIP.

\* Contract 102: Producer chose to complete practice without c/s assistance.

# Location of WQMP's



## Mailings to Producers

**Ellis-Prairie Soil & Water Conservation District**  
1822 FM 66, Suite 102  
Waxahachie, Tx. 75167  
(972) 937-2660 ext.117, FAX (972) 923-1702

March 12, 2001

RE: New Water Quality Conservation Program

Dear Producer ,

Ellis-Prairie Soil & Water Conservation District (EP-SWCD) has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) to provide technical assistance and financial assistance to producers in the Chambers and Richland Creeks watershed. As a landowner/operator in this area, you have an opportunity to promote, through a short-term contract, the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMP's) to reduce runoff of pesticides from cropland, control soil erosion, and improve water quality in the watershed.

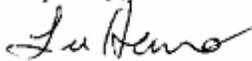
Highest priorities will be given to the implementation of cost effective pollution abatement practices such as :

- Conversion of Cropland to Grassland
- Terraces
- Grassed Waterways
- Critical Area Treatment
- Buffer Strips
- Erosion Control Structures

Because this program is short term and comes with financial assistance, we strongly urge those of you who are interested in applying to contact our office as soon as possible.

For more information about this new water quality conservation program, please contact Robin Medlock, Project Coordinator, at the Ellis-Prairie SWCD Office at 1822 FM 66, Suite 102, Waxahachie Tx. 75167 or call (972) 937-2660 ext.117.

Respectfully,



Lee Harris  
Chairman, Ellis-Prairie SWCD



**ELLIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE NEWS**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



**COUNTY COMMITTEE**

Lynn Wright, Chairman  
Joe C. Wilson, Vice Chairman  
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Patsy Houdek, Minority Advisor

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Mary Harrington    Frances Brown  
Amy Russell        Lori Wallis  
Jenny King         Laura Gooding  
Margaret Taylor    Shirley Colbert

Farm Service Agency  
Ellis County FSA Office



**DISTRICT 12**

Larry Eubank, County Executive Director  
John C Cowan, Farm Loan Manager

**OFFICE HOURS**

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Monday - Friday

**Regular Meeting Date**

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of  
each month - 8:30 am

**OFFICE ADDRESS**

1822 FM 66, Ste 100  
Waxahachie, TX 75167  
(972) 937 - 2660  
fax: (972) 937 - 5723

**MARCH 15, 2001**

**Sign-Up for 2001 Conservation Program  
Deadline Friday March 30, 2001**

**Attention Landowners in the Chambers and Richland Creek Watersheds!!!**  
The Richland - Chambers EQIP Priority Area has again been funded for 2001. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers in solving natural resource problems in targeted areas.

Conservation practices such as terracing, grass waterways, erosion control structures, gully shaping, vegetative buffers and cropland conversion to permanent grass will be given special emphasis in the Priority Area.

If you are within the Priority Area and needing major conservation work, we want to encourage you to apply for financial assistance this year. Don't wait until next year because the funding may not be available.

Lands outside the Priority Area with conservation problems will also be eligible for EQIP; however these applications compete with other Non-Priority Areas in the state for very limited funds.

**Note: All EQIP applications for this year must be received in the FSA office by Friday March 30, 2001. Producers who filed an application under the 2000 program and were not accepted are asked to contact the FSA office to determine if they need to reapply.**

For more information about EQIP, contact the USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service or the Farm Service Agency, 1822 FM 66 in Waxahachie or call (972) 937 - 2660. Producers are advised to visit both offices when filing an EQIP application.

**May 1 Certification Deadline for Small Grain  
Crop**

The deadline to report crop acreage is the earlier of

1. 15 days before harvest, or
2. The final reporting date for the specific crop

**The final reporting date for 2001 small grain acreage, such as wheat, oats, barley, and rye is Tuesday May 1, 2001.** Keep in mind that wheat for hay or silage will more likely be harvested prior to May 1, 2001. To remain eligible for **PRICE SUPPORT LOANS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP OR POP)**, acreage must be certified by the certification deadline to avoid paying late filing fees.

Certification is required for certain programs such as CRP, NAP, Price Support Loan Program and Loan Deficiency Program Payments. All fruits and vegetables planted on acreage enrolled in the Production Flexibility Contract must be certified. **REMEMBER, small grain acreage MUST BE CERTIFIED BY TUESDAY MAY 1, 2001.** This does include Wheat and Oats planted for grain, hay, or grazing.

**PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (972) 937-2660 FOR AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE YOU REPORT THESE ACREAGES.**

**2001 Final Planting Dates**

The 2001 Final Planting dates for Ellis County are:  
Corn - April 15, 2001      Grain Sorghum - April 30, 2001  
Cotton - May 31, 2001      Soybeans - June 25, 2001

**Sign-Up for Atrazine Remediation Project 319**

Sign - Ups for the "North Central Texas Remediation Project" in the Richland - Chambers Watershed District began on March 1, 2001 and will continue through April 30, 2001 at the Ellis - Prairie Soil and Water Conservation /USDA - NRCS office in Waxahachie. This project is designed to give cost sharing assistance for practices such as waterways, terraces, and filter strips which could help reduce the amount of pesticides reaching water supplies. This program known as the "319 Project" is available to

producers in the Richland - Chambers Creek Watershed. Priority for this program will be given, but not limited to corn and sorghum grain producers. This project is funded by the EPA and administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Ellis - Prairie Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Ellis - Prairie Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity organization and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, religion, sex,

national origin, or age. For any additional information please feel free to contact Robin Medlock at (972) 937-2660 extension 117 at the Ellis - Prairie Soil and Water Conservation/USDA - NRCS office, located at 1822 FM 66 Suite 102 Waxahachie, Texas.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-6000 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-6964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### UPDATING YIELDS FOR COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS

Producers electing to update yields for the purpose of calculating counter-cyclical payments will be required to provide the County Office with verifiable production records. It has been determined that Insurer listings and Loan Deficiency payment records are not sufficient for this purpose. Production commercially stored or disposed of off the farm may be documented with settlement sheets, gin bale listings, load summary sheets, warehouse receipts, warehouse ledgers or scales tickets and weight slips supported by a sales document. The documentation must include the producer's name, the commodity, the buyer's name, the transaction date, and the gross weight and net bushels. Production stored or used on the farm may be documented with FSA measurements, FSA appraisals, RMA appraisals, RMA measured production or farm records for seed used on the farm.

#### COMMODITY LOANS

Commodity loans are available to all farmers growing eligible commodities, regardless of PFC program participation. The Farm Bill changed the rules so that all farmers may apply for a low interest 9-month loan on 2002 crops stored on the farm in an eligible structure. This marketing tool is a great way to utilize some working capital while you wait for local prices to rise, pay off higher interest notes with low interest money, or purchase next years inputs at reduced rates. August's interest rate is 2.00%.

Ellis County loan rates are:

Hard wheat (Bu):	\$2.93
Soft wheat (Bu):	\$2.40
Oats (Bu):	\$1.44
Corn (Bu):	\$2.23
Sorghum (cwt.):	\$3.62
Soybeans (Bu):	\$4.85
Cotton (LB):	Not announced

#### LDP AND LOAN ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a LDP or commodity loan, you must:

- ◆ Certify your crop acres
- ◆ Have beneficial interest in the crop. This means you have title, risk, and control of the crop. If the crop is delivered to a buyer you have lost beneficial interest. If the buyer pays you for the crop, even if it hasn't moved from the farm, you have lost beneficial interest.
  - > Commodity loans require beneficial interest on the commodity until the loan is repaid.
  - > LDPs require beneficial interest at the time of the LDP request
- ◆ Actively apply an approved conservation plan
- ◆ Have a completed payment limitation form with FSA
- ◆ Sign a crop insurance waiver or purchased the minimum level of crop insurance

Payment Limitation for LDPs and market gains is \$75,000.

**NOTE: A PFC CONTRACT IS NO LONGER REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A LOAN OR LDP.**

The commodity must meet the following guidelines:

- ◆ Be in existence and in a storable condition
- ◆ Be merchantable for food or feed
- ◆ Be within acceptable moisture levels
- ◆ Not be substituted or purchased

Commodities stored in Unlicensed Facilities – Commodities are no longer required to be stored in a government-approved warehouse to receive a loan. Loans will be approved for grain stored at a warehouse/mill that is unlicensed by the State or unapproved by CCC. However, you must immediately redeem the loan with a commodity certificate.

#### SIGN-UP FOR ATRAZINE REMEDIATION PROJECT 319

Sign-up for the "North Central Texas Remediation Project" in the Richland-Chambers Watershed District will continue through October 31, 2002 at the Ellis – Prairie Soil and Water Conservation/USDA – NRCS office in Waxahachie. This project is designed to give cost sharing assistance for practices such as waterways, terraces, filter strips, and converting croplands to grass, which could help reduce the amount of pesticides reaching water supplies. This program known as the "319 Project" is available to producers in the Richland-Chambers Creek Watershed. Priority for this program will be given, but not limited to corn and sorghum grain producers. This project is funded by the EPA and administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Ellis – Prairie Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity organization and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, religion, sex, national origin, or age. For any additional information, please feel free to contact Myron Major at (972)-937-2660 extension 117 at the Ellis – Prairie Soil and Water Conservation/USDA – NRCS office, located at 1822 FM 66, Suite 102, Waxahachie, Texas.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency  
1822 FM 66, Suite 100  
Waxahachie, TX 75167

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

BULK RATE  
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WAXAHACHIE, TX

BMP's Demonstration/Workshops and 319 Project Updates



Texas Agricultural Extension Service

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

E-mail: ellis-tx@tamu.edu

701 South I-35, Suite 3 Waxahachie, Texas 75165 Phone: 972.923.5175 Fax 972.923.5184

*1 em*

July 10, 2001

Dear Ellis County Ag Producer:

The Ellis County Crops Tour will be Wednesday, July 25. Our tour will start at 8:00 - 8:30a.m. with registration coffee, and donuts at the Avalon Coop Gin on Hwy 34 in Avalon.

Our tour stops will include:

- Corn varieties - [REDACTED]
- Filter Strip Demonstration - [REDACTED]
- Cotton Varieties - [REDACTED]
- Cotton Seed Treatments - [REDACTED]
- Weed Control Herbicide Treatments - Expo Fairgrounds
- Lunch - Fried Fish
- Following Lunch - Update on Boll Weevil Eradication Program - Dr. Charles Allen

We will be awarding five (5) hours of CEU's and a free lunch to all who attend.

Sponsors for this tour are: Brenten Byers - Aventis, John Oppelt - Pioneer, Glenn Skrivanek - Helena Chemical Co., Rollin Heifrin - Resco Corporation, Glen Winsaur - Delta & Pine Lane Co., Ken Hilliard - BASF Corporation, Ricky McGraw - Ag Texas, Cleve Clark - Crop Insurance, Ralph Porter - Dow Agro Sciences, Scott Rodgers - Garst, Buddy Banks - MBS Seed.

We are looking forward to seeing you on July 25.

Respectfully,

Gary Stanford  
County Extension Agent-  
Agriculture  
Ellis County

Glen Moore  
Extension Agent-IPM  
Ellis/Navarro Counties

GS/jo

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.  
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

A member of The Texas A&M University System and its statewide Agriculture Program.

STOP 2

**Information for conservation stop on Ellis County Farm Tour ~July 25, 2001**

Stop 2 Conservation Buffer Demonstration

[REDACTED]  
Monty Gerner, NRCS, will talk about vegetative buffers to reduce runoff / improve water quality  
Robin Medlock, Ellis-Prairie Soil & Water Cons. Dist., will discuss Atrazine Remediation Project

Stop 2 Conservation Buffer Demonstration

Cooperator: [REDACTED]

This demonstration funded by a grant through USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program and sponsored locally by the Bluebonnet RC&D Area, Ellis-Prairie Soil and Water Conservation District, Syngenta (formerly the Novartis Corp.) and the USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service.

A 2.6-acre "filter strip" and a 2.4-acre "grassed waterway" were planted to coastal bermudagrass in February 2000. These strategically placed and managed grass strips effectively trap the movement of sediment, nutrients and pesticides within and from cropland fields to protect water quality.

These practices work best when integrated into a total resource management plan.

This farm is currently enrolled in the Mill Creek Special Project -Land Treatment Program. Conservation measures completed include a grade stabilization structure constructed downstream to control a headcut in the natural channel; critical area planting to shape and vegetate gullied area; and 26 acres of pasture/hayland planting.



E-mail: [ellis-tx@tamu.edu](mailto:ellis-tx@tamu.edu)  
701 South I-35, Suite 3 Waxahachie, Texas 75165 Phone: 972.923.5175 Fax 972.923.5184

November 2, 2001

Dear Ellis County Ag Producer:

Fall is here and the deer hunters are driving the deer crazy and it's time for our Fall Ag Update Meeting.

This year's update will be Thursday, November 15, at the KJT Hall, 1216 Paris Street in Ennis. Our Agenda will be:

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration \$10.00 per person  
Coffee & Donuts
- 9:00 - 10:00 Glen Moore - Distribution of Corn Hybrid & Cotton Variety Results,  
Boll Weevil Trapping 2001 & Grasshopper Forecast 2002
- 10:00 - 11:00 Robin Medlock - An Update on the Atrazine Residue Program
- 11:00 - 12:00 Dr. Don Renchie - Follow up on a Pesticide Complaint
- 12:00 - 12:30 Fried Catfish prepared by Helena Chemical Crew
- 12:30 - 1:30 Dr. Chris Sansone - Boll Weevil Eradication Experiences
- 1:30 - 2:30 Lindy Patton - Boll Weevil Eradication Program Details
- 2:30 - Complete paperwork and adjourn

This year's update will address current issues in Agriculture and your attendance will earn 5 CEU's for your applicator license renewal. The credits will be Laws & Regulations, IPM and General.

We are looking forward to seeing you on November 15. We know the food and the program will be excellent and hope you can be there.

Sincerely,

Gary Stanford  
County Extension Agent-  
Agriculture  
Ellis County

Glen Moore  
Extension Agent-IPM  
Ellis/Navarro Counties

GS/jo  
cc: Ron Woolley

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A & M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

WQMP # 038 – Pond Constructed to prevent erosion.

Before Treatment



After Treatment



WQMP # 010 – Eroded cropland prior to shaping and vegetating to Coastal Bermudagrass,



Field after treatment



WQMP # 112 – Construction of Grade Stabilization Structure to slow down the flow of water to prevent gully erosion and trap sediment.

Before Treatment



WQMP # 112 Pipe Installation





WQMP # 112 Completed GSS



WQMP # 100 Sprigging Operation



WQMP # 004 Hay production on cropland field sprigged to coastal bermuda



WQMP # 095 Cropland field prior to sprigging operation



WQMP # 095 Coastal Bermuda established



WQMP # 076

Cropland field converted to permanent grass bordering Chambers Creek



WQMP # 027 Pond constructed for livestock water in a cropland field converted to permanent grass.



## Ancillary WQMP Photos

Farmers are changing to no till and reduced tillage farming systems.



No-Till/Mulch Till Row Crop Planter



Field Cultivator a tillage tool used to maintain adequate residue and incorporate herbicides.



No-Till Drill



Residue Management

Development of genetically enhanced seed varieties such as roundup ready corn has helped reduce the need for atrazine.

Roundup Ready Corn  
Before Spraying



After Spraying



Roundup Ready Corn Free of Weeds



Terraces and residue management are used to control erosion

