



Healthy Livestock Practices

These practices not only help improve livestock and crop production, but they also help improve the water quality in ponds, streams, and rivers in your area!

Cross Fencing



Fences installed inside a perimeter fence to divide a grazing area into separate paddocks

Benefits

- Help facilitate a prescribed grazing system through livestock movement
- Eliminate access to unsafe areas
- Allow non-grazed pastures time to recover

Prescribed Grazing



Managing vegetation harvest with grazing and/or browsing animals

Benefits

- Improves or maintains quantity/quality of forage for grazing animal productivity
- Improves or maintains species composition and vigor of plant communities

Feed, Salt, and Mineral Locations



The placement of feed, salt, or mineral locations off-stream as an attempt to improve grazing distribution and encourage livestock to move away from sensitive riparian areas

Benefits

- Decreases herd injuries associated with cattle climbing steep and unstable stream banks
- Increases grazing distribution
- Increases overall herd gain

Heavy Use Area Protection



The stabilization of areas frequently and intensively used by people, animals, or vehicles by establishing vegetation cover, surfacing with suitable materials, and/or installing needed structures

Benefits

- Reduces herd health risks associated with livestock standing in muddy areas, such as foot disease and injuries due to unstable footing
- Reduces accelerated soil erosion and maintains or improves soil condition

Watering Facilities



Devices (tanks, troughs or other watertight containers) for providing animal access to water

Benefits

- Increase productivity by decreasing livestock stress
- Improve livestock health by providing clean, safe, dependable drinking water.
- Improve the distribution of grazing by providing alternative water sources

Shade Structures



Structures that provide an alternative shade source for livestock in a pasture

Benefits

- Provide protection for livestock from heat, wind, cold or rain
- Improve the distribution of grazing livestock to reduce overused areas

For more information or to become involved in improving the Tres Palacios watershed, please contact Michael Schramm: michael.schramm@ag.tamu.edu or visit: <http://matagordabasin.tamu.edu/tres-palacios/>

For more information on these practices and financial assistance, contact your local representatives today.

Wharton County

NRCS Service Center
9726 US 59 Road
Wharton, TX 77488
Phone: 979-532-0077

Soil and Water Conservation District
9726 US 59 Hwy, Suite 1002
Wharton, TX 77488
Phone: 979-532-0077

AgriLife Extension Agent
315 E Milam Street
Wharton, TX 77488
Phone: 979-532-3310

Matagorda County

NRCS Service Center
1006 Avenue F
Bay City, TX 77414
Phone: 979-245-1138 x 3

Soil and Water Conservation District
1006 Avenue F, Suite A1
Bay City, TX 77414
Phone: 979-245-1138

AgriLife Extension Agent
2200 7th Street
Bay City, TX 77414
Phone: 979-245-4100



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