



May/June 2026

A note from Jenny

Jenny Pluhar, Executive Director, TXGLC

Much of Texas has gotten rain and some places are seeing more green forage than they have in years. The news of New World screwworm crossing the border certainly puts a damper on that to some extent, especially in South Texas. Best forage in years and the threat of quarantines on livestock movements. Sure does sting when cattle prices are so favorable.



I had a producer tell me that maybe this will be God's way of telling us that the land needs a rest to be healthy into the future. He said his family is using it as a season of rest, for the land AND the people, all while still making a profit. Could we be guilty of over stocking rangelands to try to take advantage of the favorable markets? Something to think about.

Our regional coalitions have had plenty of spring workshops from the far northeast to the far west, and they are on-going. This is your opportunity to have conversations with your neighbors and other ranchers in your region. Check out our [calendar](#) and [map](#), which is located at the bottom of this newsletter as well as our [website](#), to see which workshops might work best for you.

We'll be at TWA and TSGRA this summer. We will have an additional rainfall simulator to debut soon as well. Hope to see you out and about.

We've taken PB4P online!

Are you looking to enhance your understanding of rangeland management and sustainable practices? Make sure to check out our online course, **"Principles B4 Practices"**!

This self-paced course, developed by Texas Grazing Land Coalition, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and the Center for Grazinglands and Ranch Management is designed to equip you with the foundational knowledge and practical tools needed to effectively assess and care for your rangeland. Among the presenters are ranchers who employ the techniques you will learn and share their experiences with them.

What you'll gain from "Principles B4 Practices":

- **Master the Six Soil Health Principles:** Gain a deep understanding of the core principles that drive healthy soil rangeland ecosystems.
- **Effective Rangeland Assessment:** Learn how to evaluate and monitor your rangeland to make informed decisions and plan appropriate actions.
- **Grazing Management Expertise:** Discover and apply key grazing management practices that align with soil health principles.
- **Self-Paced Learning:** Complete the course at your own convenience, in approximately 1.5 hours.

Whether you're a seasoned rangeland manager or just starting your journey, "Principles B4 Practices" will provide you with invaluable insights to foster healthier, more productive rangeland.

This course is also available with Spanish captions. Ready to transform your approach to rangeland stewardship?



Register Now!
tx.ag/PB4P



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PRINCIPLES B4 PRACTICES

online course

A **FREE**, self-paced online course from Texas Grazing Land Coalition that equips rangeland stewards with essential knowledge in soil health, rangeland assessment, and grazing management practices proven to support resilient landscapes.

Available in both English and Spanish.

Funding for this project is provided by the USDA NRCS Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) (NR237442XXXXC015)



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PRINCIPIOS ANTES DE PRÁCTICAS

curso en línea

Un curso en línea **GRATUITO**, autodirigido, de la Coalición de Pastizales de Texas, que brinda a los administradores de pastizales el conocimiento esencial sobre salud del suelo, evaluación de pastizales y prácticas de manejo de pastoreo comprobadas para apoyar paisajes resilientes.

Disponible en inglés y español.

Financiamiento para este proyecto proporcionado por la Iniciativa de Conservación de Pastizales (GLCI) de USDA NRCS (NR237442XXXXC015).

This is Roemer



This is Roemer. He was named for a plant, Roemer's acacia, but he does not know that yet. Roemer likes dirt. It feels good in his chubby little hands. Roemer will probably become very familiar with dirt as his parents are pretty darn cool range ecologists and nerds about all things soil, plants and rangeland ecosystems. But for now, Roemer is just happy to get his hands in the dirt.

Roemer will come to appreciate that soil can be healthy and that the actions of the person(s) managing that soil will impact it's value. Healthy soil means healthy rangeland ecosystems capable of producing more forage for grazing animals, which leads inevitably to more profitability on the ranch. Profitable ranches mean the people are stable, healthy. Not perpetually stressed out hoping to survive or wondering if there will be a ranching operation to leave to the next generation. A rural community full of healthy profitable ranches supports healthy profitable businesses that are the lifeblood of many small towns in Texas. And, yes, it all starts with the soil.

Roemer does not know this yet, but rest assured he will. What would it take for more children to grow up with that kind of basic knowledge? 4-H and FFA, programs like Texas Section SRM's Youth Range Workshop, those are a good start, but they only touch a tiny fraction of youth in Texas. Come to think of it, soil is managed by a tiny fraction of people in Texas. When you further break it down into grazing lands: rangelands and pastures, that slice of people managing these incredibly important ecosystems gets even smaller.

Any opportunity we have to share this knowledge is something we must seize and capitalize upon. Recently Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Secretary of Health and Human Services, saw our rainfall simulator at the Regenerate America conference in Bandera, TX. He asked questions and commented that the demonstration was powerful. We posted that image on our facebook page and while we received a great many positive comments, we also received a fair number of negative, even vulgar comments. Rest assured, TXGLC will use that rainfall simulator to teach anyone from school children, ranchers, politicians, etc. Soil is not political. It is the foundation of societies across the planet. And we welcome the interest of anyone, be they in power politically or a few month-old babe with both

hands full of soil. If RFK Jr. left Bandera, Texas with a better understanding of basic soil health principles, we call that a win. All of us should.



Rebecca Tasker, Rancher Advocate for Grassroots Carbon, utilizing the Texas GLC Rainfall Simulator Trailer at the Regenerate America Conference held recently in Bandera. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. was in attendance and stopped specifically to see the rainfall simulator in action.

Let's get technical!

Have you been considering reaching out for technical assistance on your ranch? Not sure how to begin? What to ask? Technical assistance can be incredibly valuable. Our technical assistance specialists see a lot of country and many ranching operations. Often a fresh set of eyes can help you identify and isolate things which might need extra attention.

We pride ourselves on assessing soil health and grazing management principles and evaluating possible future focus. Assessing which practices will bring the most benefits to the operation and lead to more profitability. That's what we do. An initial visit can be as simple as showing our technical assistance specialist around and having a conversation about your property, your goals and what some possibilities might be for your unique situation.

Just last week, Kason Haby visited with Leacy Pryor and their ranch management team. The next day, I got this email from Leacy. "I'm Leacy Pryor, landowner doing Nueces riparian work and upland natives. Kason Haby consulted with us yesterday (5/28/2026). His assessment was extremely valuable, saving us precious resources. Kason's understanding of ecosystems and the pros, cons and unintended consequences of different management options is so impressive!"

She followed up with letting us know she was sending a donation as well.

Technical assistance is valuable, no doubt about it. Choosing practices, even when cost share is involved, can be very costly. Why not do all you can to make sure the impact to your bottom line is positive!



Kason Haby meeting the Pryor ranch management team offering valuable technical assistance for their operation (above). The Pryor Ranch is very dedicated to healthy riparian areas, as seen in the photo below on the banks of the Nueces River (below).



The answer is KNOW!

In order to speak the language, one must know the words. Similarly, on rangelands knowing which plants are growing in your pastures and how to manipulate them to meet your forage goals is crucial. Every month we will explore a new plant in our newsletter.



Scarlet globemallow

Sphaeralcea coccinea

Not really a scarlet color, but the deep orange blooms of Scarlet globemallow can be found throughout Texas and north through the west all the way up into Canada. It is hardy stuff, pushing through even severe drought.

It is one of the “good forbs” that is utilized by wildlife. Perhaps the favorite food of the pronghorn! Definitely worth having on your rangelands. It is common along roadways and areas where it seems nothing could, or should, be growing. Tough stuff.

The absolute coolest thing about Scarlet globemallow is the hairs, known as stellate hairs. They're star shaped. How on earth can a hair be star shaped, you ask? If you look straight down on a leaf of scarlett globemallow, the hairs branch at the top into a flat-topped kind of star looking shape - magnification helps, but should be visible to those with young eyes! I am sure there is a purpose to such a wondrous little feature, but I do not know what that might be.

We in the plant world have seemingly dozens of names to describe the various kinds of hairiness (pubescence) on plants. Everything from “bulbous based” to “strigate” (stiff) to “villous” (soft and almost shaggy). But stellate are not found on many plants.

I have never been able to successfully transplant Scarlet globemallow, but am attempting to germinate some seeds I collected. I suspect that in my native flower bed near the house, it might rebel against the easy living conditions and retreat to the edges of the tire tracks in the pasture.

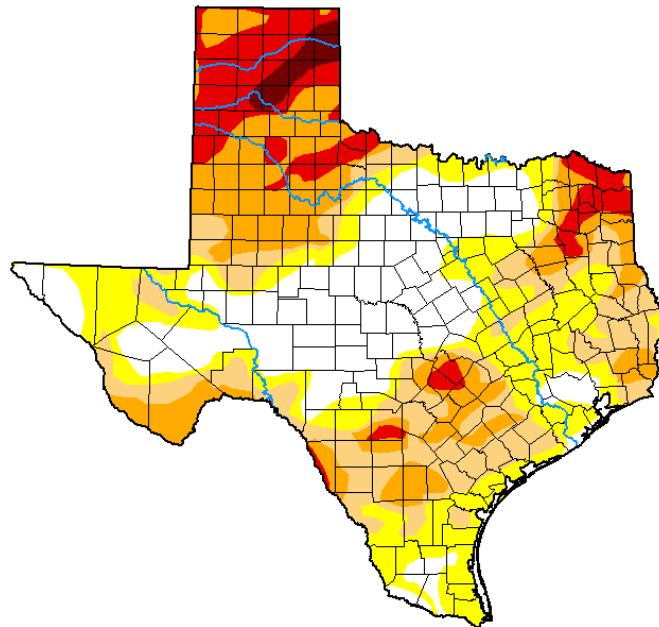


To view this and other [range plants of Texas](#), visit Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's Plants of Texas Rangelands Virtual Herbarium.

U.S. Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor Texas

June 2, 2026
(Released Thursday, Jun. 4, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Adam Allgood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Summary - Southern U.S.

Soaking rains overspread most of Texas during the week, promoting additional drought reductions, primarily across southern Texas and the Big Bend country. Rainfall also overspread eastern Oklahoma, but conditions worsened across the western half of the state which fared drier during the week. Along the lower Mississippi Valley, heavy rains, exceeding 6 inches in some locations, fell across northern Arkansas, promoting drought reduction. Soaking rains were less intense across Louisiana and Mississippi, but were still sufficient to promote substantial drought reduction at the tail end of a wet May. Although conditions have improved overall across the Southern Region, widespread D3 to D4 continues across northern Texas and western Oklahoma, and long term drought impacts to groundwater remain a concern heading into the summer months across the whole region.

[Click here to visit and view the U.S. Drought Monitor site.](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

West Texas Rangelands Newsletter

Do you love newsletters? We highly recommend the [TAMU Extension West Texas Rangelands](#) newsletter! Even if you don't live in West Texas, this newsletter is full of great information, upcoming events, and the

newest research coming out of Texas A&M and the worldwide rangeland community.

Sign up to receive their newsletter [here](#).



Upcoming events and opportunities

Texas GLC events can be found in red.

Range Management Seminar

Christoval, TX | June 12, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Texas Prescribed Fire Field Days: Bosque County

Clifton, TX | June 12, 2026

[More information here.](#)

TSSRM Youth Range Workshop

Junction, TX | June 21 - 26, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Northeast Texas GLC Field Tour - Pushmataha WMA

Clayton, OK | June 24, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Pasture/Rangeland Management Hands-On Learning

College Station/Bremond, TX | June 24 - 26, 2026

[More information here.](#)

TWA WildLife Convention

San Antonio, TX | July 9 - 11, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Oldham County Stocker Cattle Conference

Vega, TX | July 14, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Prescribed Fire School: Gatesville, TX

Gatesville, TX | June 15 - 17, 2026

[More information here.](#)

TSGRA Annual Convention

Fredericksburg, TX | July 16 - 17, 2026

[More information here.](#)

4th Annual Cattlemen's Workshop

Brady, TX | July 24, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Texas Prescribed Fire Webinar Series

Talking Fire: Smoke, Neighbors, and Public Perception

Virtual | July 28, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Southern Family Farmers & Food Systems Conference

San Marcos, TX | August 3 - 4, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Great Plains Fire Summit

Alva, OK | August 4 - 6, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Texas Prescribed Fire Webinar Series:

Prescribed Fire - Lessons Learned

Virtual | September 14, 2026

[More information here.](#)

2026 Range Exchange Webinar Series

Cut Stump & Stem Spray: Can We Take Diesel Out of the Mix?

Virtual | September 15, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Prescribed Fire School: College Station, TX

College Station, TX | September 14 - 16, 2026

[More information here.](#)

National Grazing Land Coalition Bus Tour: Grazing the Heartland

Sioux Falls, SD | September 23 - 24, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Texas Section Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

Abilene, TX | October 20 - 22, 2026

[More information here.](#)

2026 Range Exchange Webinar Series

Application Technology Research: Balancing Spray Drift Concerns and Herbicide Efficacy

Virtual | December 15, 2026

[More information here.](#)

Are you in need of technical assistance?

Ryan Walser (Albany area) and Kason Haby (Hondo area) are now joined by a new specialist, Shiner Webb (Abilene area, Resilient Ranch Project),

and are our Technical Assistance Specialists here at the Texas Grazing Land Coalition. They have had full careers in rangeland and grazing management and we are incredibly fortunate to have them on our team. You will likely see them at some of our outreach events and they are available to assist with conservation planning on your property. Their contact information is listed here and at the bottom of the newsletter. If you need technical assistance and do not live near them, please call us. We also collaborate with [Wildlife Habitat Federation](#) in matching technical assistance specialists to meet your unique needs. We can make arrangements to help you make the most out of the land you love!



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Love the Land - A Texas GLC Podcast

Did you know Texas GLC has a podcast? It's called [Love the Land](#), and you can find it wherever you get your podcasts.

If you have never listened to or subscribed to a podcast, they're like an on-demand radio show. Here's a "how to" tutorial:

1. Download a podcast app on your phone. If you have an iPhone, there is already one downloaded on your phone.
2. Open app. Use the search tool to find specific podcasts like "Love the Land" or categories like "agriculture."
3. Listen to a single podcast or subscribe and get new episodes added to your library any time they are released.
4. Love the Land podcasts are 30-45 minutes.



Regional Coalitions



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