

Citrus Show Accepting Entries Today

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service — Galveston County Office



PHOTO BY William M. Johnson



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Home citrus growers can enter their citrus for judging and display today from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension Office located in Carbide Park. The 2014 Upper Gulf Coast Citrus Show will be conducted at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 4.

California and Florida step aside . . . 'Tis the season for citrus in Texas, and at least some of it will be tagged with rosettes and blue ribbons at this year's Upper Gulf Coast Citrus Show.

Whether you are an enthusiastic citrus grower or just interested in viewing an array of locally grown citrus fruit, plan to attend the 2014 Upper Gulf Coast Citrus Show on Thursday, December 4.

The Citrus Show will be conducted at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension Office located in Carbide Park at 4102-B Main Street (FM 519) in La Marque. Based on prior year entries, 200 entries are expected to be on display at this year's show. Area residents may enter any type of citrus fruit in the show for judging. Each entry must be grown by the exhibitor and should

consist of three fruits that are as uniform as possible. Each entry must be bagged and clearly tagged with your name, address and telephone number. Also, indicate the type of fruit and variety. If the variety of fruit is not known or even if the type of fruit is not known, you may enter it and it will be identified.

Entries will be accepted at the Galveston County

Dr. William M. Johnson is a horticulturist with the Galveston County Office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Visit his website at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston>.

News column printed in the Galveston Daily News, The Post, and other Galveston County Newspapers.

AgriLife Extension Office today from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Rosettes and ribbons will be awarded to the best quality entries.

Citrus exhibits will be on public display on Thursday, December 4, from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. followed by an awards presentation at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:15 p.m., Monte Nesbitt, Texas A&M Extension Specialist in the Department of Horticultural Sciences at College Station, will provide a Power-Point presentation entitled "Growing Citrus on the Gulf Coast." Whether you already have considerable experience with growing citrus or are just considering growing citrus, this is a must-attend program.

December's Garden Checklist

COLD PROTECTION FOR PLANTS: Local meteorologists are forecasting surprisingly warm days to start out the month of December. But this is Texas so be prepared to provide protection to cold-sensitive plants when cold temperatures come into the forecast.

TRANSPLANT TREES AND SHRUBS: December through February is an excellent time to transplant trees and shrubs. Transplanting during the winter season allows the root system of transplants to become better established prior to spring growth and summer heat. This significantly reduces plant stress during the following summer.

PRUNING: Don't be in a hurry to prune woody plants. Very late December through early February is usually the best time to perform most winter pruning.

At a Glance

WHAT: *Growing Tomatoes from Seed*

DATE: Saturday, Dec. 6

TIME: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

SPEAKER: Master Gardener Ira Gervais

TOPICS: Variety selection including heirlooms, where to obtain seeds, planting and growing techniques, and insect and disease control

WHAT: *Herbs for the Garden*

DATE: Saturday, Dec. 6

TIME: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS: Master Gardener Cindy Croft

TOPICS: Herbs that perform well in Galveston County in addition to growing tips, lore, propagation and uses.

WHAT: *What Is a Galveston County Master Gardener?...It takes a village!*

DATE: Wednesday, Dec. 10

TIME: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS: Dr. William M. Johnson and a panel of Master Gardeners

TOPICS: Overview of the Galveston County Master Gardener program and how to become a Master Gardener.

All programs conducted at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension Office in Carbide Park (4102-B Main St., La Marque).

Visit <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston> for additional details. No fee but pre-registration is required (phone 281-534-3413, ext. 21; e-mail GALV3@wt.net).