Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Amarillo

http://amarillo.tamu.edu

Major Focus:
The broad mission of the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Amarillo, a unit of The Texas A&M System, is to serve the citizens of Texas, the nation and world through research, education and service, which create vital economic, environmental and societal benefits. Our programs in the Panhandle will achieve and maintain pre-eminence in Texas and nearby states in cattle feedlot nutrition; water and air quality for concentrated animal feeding operations; wheat breeding and genetics; precision agriculture; integrated crop and livestock production systems; irrigation water management; crop physiology; plant pathology; and integrated pest management for grain crops.

Mission:
Improve the quality of life for people and communities of the region through research and educational programs that improve productivity, quality, marketability, safety and profitability of agricultural products while sustaining or enhancing environmental quality and stewardship of natural resources. Investigate, discover, develop, evaluate and apply technology to sustain livestock and crop production in the Texas Panhandle and beyond.

Research Programs:
The Research Program objectives at AgriLife Research-Amarillo include:
- Beef Cattle Nutrition and Health
- Small Grains Improvement;
- Environmental Quality and Natural Resource;
- Pest Management and Plant Stress.
- Cropping Systems and Bioenergy Crops.

Special Initiatives:
Agricultural Air Quality
Cropping Systems
Cattle Feeding with Distiller’s Grains
Ogallala Aquifer

Collaborators:
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, Amarillo
West Texas A&M University, Canyon
USDA-ARS, Bushland
Consortium for Cattle Feeding & Environmental Sciences
Southern Great Plains Dairy Consortium

Resident Director:
Dr. John M. Sweeten
6500 Amarillo Boulevard West
Amarillo, TX 79106-1796
Phone: (806) 677-5600
Fax: (806) 677-5644
E-mail: j-sweeten@tamu.edu

Research Funding (FY 2009):
$2.8 million—Research
$2.0 million grants (5-year average)

Personnel:
78 full-time employees (Research 58, Extension 20)
26 graduate and undergraduate students

Established:
Since 1887, Texas AgriLife Research has been an integral part of the Texas A&M System. AgriLife Research is the state’s only agency dedicated to research and technology development in food, agriculture and natural resources. There are 13 AgriLife Research and Extension centers serving the specific research needs of each region and for urban and agricultural citizens across the state. The center in Amarillo was established in 1977.

Facilities:
Amarillo—25,300-square-foot urban complex of offices, laboratories and educational amenities on 21 acres.
Bushland—164 acres of pasture and crop lands, co-located within 1,600 acres of the USDA-Agricultural Research Service laboratory complex, established in 1938, with shared facilities, including:
- Experimental cattle feedlot (400-head capacity);
- Wheat improvement and greenhouse complex; and facilities for research in agronomy, crop stress physiology, plant pathology, entomology and biological control studies, and irrigation water management;
- James Bush Research Farm (640 acres of irrigated and dryland crop and range lands).
Etter—North Plains Research Field (320 acres leased from the North Plains Ground Water Conservation District, including:
- Irrigated crop land for water use efficiency and management; and production technology evaluations.