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# PRODUCER SPOTLIGHT



## Scott Clevenger Castro County

"The satisfaction of completing a growing season and it being successful leaves a feeling like no other."

Scott, a 3rd generation farmer and avid bowler has grown up in farming all of his life with his grandparents starting their farming careers in the 1940's. Crops Scott currently grows are cucumbers for Best Maid, corn, cotton, and grain sorghum. Scott also had cotton nurseries and grew sesame in his farming career. Being farming is his livelihood, Scott wants consumers to know farmers are not the enemy. "We eat the same food we grow and love the ground probably more than anyone." Farming is not always fun but the tough times keeps Scott and his family close and their prayer life strong. Some of the biggest hurdles Clevenger faces each year is the lack of the underground resources, inconsistent commodity prices and exploding input cost. Scotts biggest accomplishment? He's had great crops yields , God has blessed him family, and he is living the dream by raising his family on the farm. When asked what advice he would give to a new/young farmer, Scott said to do not live outside your means, don't spend money on big toys and lavish vacations before you can afford them. With a new growing season approaching, Scott is always looking to try new things. Gathering with friends, consultants, and chemical applicators daily to discuss a wide variety of topics allows everyone to change/keep up with the times and be successful on their farm.

Contact Me!

Got an idea, question, or  
comment?

Kristie Keys  
kristie.keys@ag.tamu.edu  
325-665-8790

# Soil Sampling

- Benefits
- Procedures

Soil is the basis of all life. Not only do soils play an important role in growing crops, it provides other important services like capturing runoff, absorbs and transforms chemical compounds and so much more. Our soils are growing food to feed a rapidly increasing world population. Soil sampling needs to be looked at as an investment not an expense. It's been shown in recent years that soils in the High Plains have over 100 lbs of residual N available that can be contributed to yield.

## Benefits

- optimize crop production
- protect the environment from runoff and leaching
- determine amount of organic carbon concentration
- reduce inputs of costly fertilizers
- determine pH level of soil that could lead to the binding or freeing of certain nutrients
- develop a basis for fertilizer applications through recommendations



## Procedures

- Contact me to let me know you are interested in soil testing
- Using USDA Web Soil Survey, I will determine the soil types on your field
- Discuss the depth interested in testing, 0-6 inches and/or 6+ inches
- Determine how much you will want to invest on soil sampling, (\$50, \$200 etc)
- Discuss what crops you intend to grow which will also help in determining depth
- Schedule your sampling
- I'll bring out my hydraulic soil sampler and take the samples for you & send them off
- Meet up when soil testing results come back to discuss next steps

# UPCOMING



**TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION**

## 2023 AG CONFERENCE

Tuesday January 17, 2023  
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Castro County Expo Building  
403 SE 4th St, Dimmitt

**ITINERARY AGENDA**

- 8:20AM Registration, Coffee & Donuts: Informal Round Table Discussion
- 8:30AM-8:45AM Welcome
- 8:45AM-9:40AM David Parker: Focused Water Management/Crop Acreage Allocator & Soil Moisture Sensors
- 9:45AM-10:40AM John Thobe: IPM Updates & Outlook
- 10:45AM-11:40AM Chadd Warminski: NRCS Programs
- 11:45AM-12:40PM Lunch
- 12:45PM-1:40PM Jourdan Bell: 2022 Race Trail Review, Forage Sorghum/Silage, Crop Rotations
- 1:45PM-2:40PM Jake Mower: Land Application of Manure and Interaction with Pesticides
- 2:40PM Evaluations & CEU Certificates
- 2:45PM-3:45PM Kristie Keys: Auxin Training

**REGISTRATION**

Sponsor/vendor tables available  
Contact Kristie Keys for more information @ 325-665-8790

Call the Extension office at 806-647-4115 or scan QR code to RSVP



AT NO COST!

Offering 3 CEU'S

## Castro County

Register by calling 806-647-4115  
or this link  
<https://forms.gle/HsRbPSSTaoZdh5Xb9>



**TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION**

## Mid-Plains AG EXPO

Friday, January 20, 2023  
Hale County Justice Center Assembly Room  
225 Broadway, Plainview, Texas 79072

- 8:00 - 8:30 Registration & Welcome
- 8:30 - 9:30 Advances in IPM and Impact of 2022 Research Results  
Blayne Reed, Extension Agent - IPM, Hale & Swisher Counties
- 9:30 - 10:30 Soil Health and Use of Cover Crops  
Katie Lewis, Assistant Professor, Lubbock Research & Extension Center
- 10:30 - 10:45 Break/Booth Visitation
- 10:45 - 11:45 Drift Minimization  
Kristie Keys, Extension Agent - Agronomy, Castro/Hale/Lamb County
- 11:45 - 12:45 LUNCH/Booth Visitation
- 12:45 - 1:35 Agronomy  
Dr. Craig Bednarz, Associate Professor, Amarillo Research & Extension Center
- 1:35 - 2:35 Status of Weed Control  
Dr. Peter Dotray, Professor, Lubbock Research & Extension Center
- 2:35 - 2:50 Break
- 2:50 - 3:40 Impacts on Forage Quality  
Dr. Andy Hart, Extension Agent - Ag/NR, Hale County  
Jason Wade, Extension Agent - Ag/NR, Swisher County
- 3:40 - 4:00 Surveys
- 4:00 - 5:00 Auxin Training  
Kristie Keys, Extension Agent - Agronomy, Castro/Hale/Lamb County

7 CEUs - 1 IPM, 4 General, 1 Drift, 1 Laws & Regulations (Auxin Training)

## Hale County

Register by calling 806-291-5270  
or this link  
<https://hale.agrilife.org/mid-plains-ag-expo/>

# *Mark Your Calendars*

## Feb 21- Soil Health Conference in Olton

Speakers Currently Committed:

- Jeremy Brown, Dawson Co. Producer
- Bob Whitney, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
- Katie Lewis, Texas A&M AgriLife Research
- Justin Benavidez, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
- David Parker, WTAMU & Texas A&M AgriLife Extension



<https://castro.agrilife.org/agronomy/>



<https://www.facebook.com/castrohalelambagronomy/>

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