

Biological control needed for fire ants—Kubiak

AUSTIN — "Trying to destroy fire ants with Amdro is like trying to kill an elephant with a .44-caliber gun," State Representative Dan Kubiak (D-Rockdale) said today.

Kubiak, Chairman of the Select Committee on Fire Ants, said Amdro was at best a stop-gap measure that might provide temporary relief. "The fire ant spread has reached epidemic proportions and there is currently no known remedy to totally destroy them," Kubiak said.

The fire ant has spread across more than 100 counties in Texas. Birds, bees, livestock, earthworms, and humans are susceptible to attack. Fire ants, which can travel up to 30 miles per year, also have caused tremendous property damage.

"Fire ants started out a problem primarily in the rural area. However, infestations have been found in many large cities," Kubiak added. "This is a problem of great magnitude for all affected areas," he stated.

"I believe that the key to destroying the fire ant on a permanent basis is a coordinated, concerted effort by all of the nine states that are infested," Kubiak said. He also added that a buffer zone around the infested areas should be found to try and prevent additional spreading.

"Once the buffer zone has been formed, hopefully the ants can be contained until a permanent solution can be found," Kubiak added.

Kubiak added that, in his opinion, biological controls will be the best solution. "We need to find the natural enemies and predators of the fire ant," Kubiak said.

Kubiak said his subcommittee will be visiting infested areas of the state



Dan Kubiak inspects a fire ant mound in Central Texas.

to allow everyone an opportunity to testify about the problem.

People using Amdro should carefully follow instructions on its application. The chemical should be used in very small amounts, sprinkled around the mound so as not to

Improved Wildlife Habitat

Control brush to improve deer, dove, quail, turkey and other wildlife?

"Yes," says Connie M. Fair, District Conservationist with the USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Columbus.

According to Fair, there are over 391,000 acres of range and pastureland in the

Pink Ladies To Furnish Room; Buying Ten More B.P. Cuffs

The Eagle Lake Community Hospital Auxiliary (Pink Ladies) met Wednesday morning, March 8th, in the hospital conference room at 9:30 for a business meeting with fifteen present.

The Pink Ladies unanimously voted to furnish a double room in the new addition to the hospital and to buy ten blood pressure cuffs for each of the new beds.

The ladies also voted to have a new yearbook compiled and elected to have a noon salad luncheon in the

stock," he continues. Fair offered some tips on items to keep in mind when planning brush control. When both livestock and wildlife use the same land, ranchers have to compromise between the needs of both kinds of animals when planning brush management. The idea is to control enough brush to increase food production for livestock and leave enough browse and cover for wildlife.

Leaving twenty-five to thirty-five percent of the land in brush will keep a large number of deer and other wild animals, if the brush is arranged in the right patterns. The size of areas left in brush depends on the topography and how tall and thick the woody plants are. If the brush is left with more cover near the ground or in an open stand, uncleared areas have to be larger than when the brush is thick at heights less than five feet. Flat country usually needs larger areas left in brush than hilly or rolling country. Areas must be large enough to contain browse for food and thick enough to let wildlife hide. Cleared areas

Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District which his office serves that are invaded by noxious woody plants so thick that growth of good food plants for wildlife is limited. "Selective brush clearing with many small, natural looking openings allows sunlight to reach the ground surface and removes the competition for moisture so better food plants can grow. More available food means wildlife is healthy and can increase in numbers," Fair says. "The openings also grow more grass for live-

Christ Episcopal Parish Hall on Thursday, April 22nd at which time the election of officers will be held.

All members, active and inactive, and interested persons are invited and urged to attend this luncheon, said the president, Eunice Franks. Officers ask that all members, active and inactive, pay their dues at this time or as soon as possible so that all names can be listed in the new year book. Mrs. R. L. Lange, second vice-president, will accept their membership fees at any time or the fees can be left at the hospital gift shop.

The membership consists of thirty-two active members, eighteen inactive, and three life members.

Wouldn't you like to light up your life as well as others by being a volunteer? Thanks are extended to Mrs. Mable Wren, a past president of the Auxiliary, for donating two pinafors that she is no longer using due to health reasons.

DPS Trooper Applicants Can Substitute Training

Colonel Jim Adams, Department of Public Safety director, announces that "effective with the June recruit class, DPS trooper candidates may substitute law enforcement-related experience for the current educational requirement of 60 college hours. Thus, applicants with two years of commissioned law enforcement experience or two years of honorable active military service would be eligible for a waiver of the two-year college requirement. Likewise, one year of such qualifying experience could be substituted for one year of college work."

Colonel Adams said the DPS hopes to recruit 208 new troopers this year, including the 92 who presently are in training.

Recruits live in the DPS law enforcement academy in Austin during the 18-week training course. The starting monthly salary for recruits is \$1,228. Upon graduation, the officers are paid \$1,347 per month plus allowances for uniforms and equipment. These salaries will increase September 1, 1982.



Coffee beans are actually the pits of a red, cherrylike fruit.

must not be so wide that cover is too far away. As a rule of thumb, brush should not be less than 300 feet wide and cleared areas should not be more than 1,000 feet wide.

Many types of wildlife exist besides the few we think of most often, such as deer, turkey, quail and dove. The ecological roles of predatory animals, furbearers and others are not understood by most people; therefore they do not consider them important.

Habitat management for some of these other important, yet less publicized, types of wildlife should be part of any brush management program. Trees and underbrush should always be kept along streams and bottomlands to provide protective cover, den sites and fruit and berry production for these animals.

The Soil Conservation Service has technicians available to help plan and apply a brush management program that recognizes and meets the needs of all wildlife. The Columbus Field Office serves this area. It is located at 816 Spring Street in Columbus.

16-Year-Old Boy Arrested Here To Get Jury Trial

Evidence relative to the arrest of a sixteen-year-old Eagle Lake Black youth on charges of burglary of the Eagle Lake Middle School Pub. Sch. and also for entry of Carter's Place in Eagle Lake was presented by Eagle Lake Chief of Police Earl Winebrenner in county juvenile court, with County Judge Lester Cranek presiding, last Wednesday afternoon. After evidence gathered on fingerprints obtained at the Eagle Lake Middle School was presented, Judge Cranek approved a request by the youth's attorney for a jury trial in the ELMS entry.

Trial of the juvenile has been set for 9 a.m. Thursday, March 18th and will be a jury trial of a case involving a juvenile.

The case will be held in Juvenile Court in Columbus and jurors will, after hearing evidence, be asked to determine if the juvenile should or should not be institutionalized in a state boy's school while he remains of juvenile age, stated Chief Winebrenner.

Not Difficult To File Own Return Says IRS

Many taxpayers who are planning to fill in their own federal income tax returns this year may be surprised to find it not as difficult as they thought, especially if they're planning on filing the shorter 1040A form. The following questions and answers have been provided by the Internal Revenue Service to assist taxpayers in this effort.

Q: Exactly what do I need to complete my own income tax return?

A: You'll need your tax package, which contains your forms, instructions, and the tax table and rate schedules; also, your personal tax records. Included should be any IRS Forms W-2, "Wage and Tax Statement," any IRS Forms 1099 for interest and dividend income, and receipts and cancelled checks if you're itemizing deductions. Be sure to check and see if you qualify for any of the tax credits, such as the Child Care Credit, Energy Credit, and Earned Income Credit, as well as special tax benefits for the elderly. If you have more than one job, make sure you have a W-2 form from each employer. Having a copy of last year's

return can also be helpful.

Q: Where can I get detailed information on how to do my own return?

A: The instructions in your tax package explain every item on your tax form. But if you need additional information, the IRS has over 90 publications free for the asking. Just use the order form in your tax package or simply write the IRS.

Q: When I finish filling out the form, should I do anything else besides mail it?

A: Yes, check your math and make sure you list all the information accurately and on the correct lines. Remember, all returns must be signed in ink, and if you're filing a joint return, both you and your spouse must sign. Be sure to attach all schedules and the appropriate copy of all W-2 forms, and if you're filing a photocopy of a return, make sure you sign after you make the copy since each signature must be an original. Finally, use the peel-off label and pre-addressed envelope which comes with your tax package. The label has your name, address, and Social Security number printed on it, and speeds processing time. If any of the information on your label is incorrect, just make the corrections on the label itself. And finally, make sure the envelope includes the correct postage; otherwise, the Postal Service will not deliver it.

Attend Wedding
Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Seaholm and son Cam were in Alvin Friday evening to attend the wedding of a nephew, Richard Scott Watkins, and Miss Kimberly DelBello in the South Park Baptist Church. Scott is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Watkins of Alvin. Mrs. Seaholm is the sister of Mrs. Seaholm.

On Saturday they enjoyed the Houston Pat School Show and rodeo as guests of Bud Seaholm, on the occasion of Mrs. Seaholm's birthday. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. John Seaholm and children and Miss Marie Given.

Contributions To Eagle Lake Community Hospital Addition

Donations and pledges given toward the addition to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital as of the current date will be listed weekly in this column:

Mrs. Anna Mae Schulenburg
Mr. and Mrs. Willard Shuart
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Harrison
Mrs. Griff E. Thomas, Jr.
Mrs. C. H. Matthews
Eagle Lake Community Hospital
Auxiliary (Pink Ladies)

Donations or pledges may be made to W. H. (Bill) Harrison, Sr., board member and chairman of the executive committee, or may be left at The First National Bank or at the hospital.

Time To Fertilize Fish Ponds

(By Soil Conservation Service)
This is the time of year to consider needed fish pond fertilization. The Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District assists landowners with information concerning this fish pond management practice.

Commercial fertilizers are often used for the purpose of controlling undesirable waterweeds and to promote fish growth. Fertilizer will cause the rapid growth of plankton which helps control undesirable waterweeds by inhibiting penetration of sunlight and, thereby

shading out many undesirable aquatic plants. It also will cause rapid phytoplankton bloom (floating microscopic plants) which is the starting point in the natural food cycle for fish.

The nutrients required by these water plants are the same as those required by plants which grow in soil; namely nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. To assure a continuous supply of a minimum amount of these nutrients, applications of fertilizer must be reported.

When Water Warms
Make the initial application of fertilizer in the spring when the water temperature reaches 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Use approximately a ratio of 10 pounds of phosphorus, and two pounds of potassium per pound of surface area. Continue this application at two

week intervals until a green color is established so that a white object cannot be seen 18 inches below the water surface. Continue to maintain this color during entire growing season until water temperatures decrease below 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

Fertilizer may be applied by broadcasting over the water surface or by placing whole bags around the edges of the pond. These bags should be slit to allow wave action to distribute the dissolved nutrients. If plankton blooms become too heavy in hot weather, fertilization should be discontinued as this could cause fish kill resulting from oxygen deficiency.

For efficient use of fertilizer, muddy waters should not be fertilized. Also, ponds should not be fertilized with an already established aquatic weed problem until the weed is brought under control, then proper application of fertilizer will help control the weeds.

For additional information, contact the Soil Conservation Service office at 316 Spring Street in Columbus or call 732-2773.

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Mobile Homes No Longer Motor Vehicles

State Comptroller Bob Bullock has good news for mobile home dwellers—their homes are no longer considered motor vehicles under Texas state law.

Bullock said, "The last legislature changed that law and beginning March 1, we will no longer collect motor vehicle taxes on these homes."

Bullock said people who buy a mobile home will obtain a "document of title" from the Texas Department of Labor and Standards instead of registering it as a motor

vehicle and obtaining a "certificate of title" from the Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

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Texas Cotton Farmers To Reduce Crop

Most Texas cotton farmers will likely participate in the 15 percent acreage reduction program recently announced by the Secretary of Agriculture.

While participation is voluntary, farmers must comply if they wish to be eligible for target price protection and Commodity Credit Corporation loans on their 1982 cotton crop. And that's incentive enough.

"Cotton farmers in Texas as well as in other states really have little choice but to participate in the program," believes Dr. Carl Anderson, cotton marketing economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System.

"Farmers are faced with a poor price outlook for this year's crop due to surplus cotton supplies," he says. "So they really need the price protection offered by the program, especially with current prices hovering near the loan rate."

Cotton farmers are getting their first deficiency payments in history on their 1981 crop because the average market price fell below the target price of 70.87 cents a pound. The target price for the '82 crop will be 71 cents a pound, and farmers will likely get another deficiency payment unless something happens to strengthen the market, notes the economist.

The '82 loan rate will be 57.06 cents for Base Grade 41-1 Staple 34, Mike 35-49 Upland cotton.

Cotton farmers can obtain additional information about specific provisions of the acreage reduction program from their local ASCS offices, says Anderson.

All-New Ice Follies, Holiday On Ice At Summit

The most impressive cast of international ice skating talents ever assembled in a professional ice show will appear in Houston at the Summit when the all-new 46th Edition of Ice Follies and Holiday On Ice Combined Shows opens Tuesday, March 23.

Produced by Irvin Feld and Kenneth Feld, the lavish family entertainment spectacular will present nine dazzling performances through Sunday, March 28.

Tickets for the all-new 46th Edition of Ice Follies and Holiday On Ice Combined Shows are on sale at the Summit Box Office, all Montgomery Ward stores, all Sound Warehouse stores, and all Joske's stores. For group discount information call (713) 627-9470.

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Many Attend General Hardware And Feed Co. Open House Sat.

General Hardware & Feed Company of Eagle Lake hosted a large number of area residents for a grand opening celebration last Saturday and awarded a number of valuable prizes at the conclusion of the grand opening event. General Hardware & Feed Co. is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Billy Lee of Houston and managed by Bob Hudson. The firm is located in renovated facilities which formerly housed Hudson Hardware which prior to that was Universal Supply Co., Inc.

Delicious barbecued beef and sausage and trimmings and drinks were served during the afternoon and many enjoyed the refreshments and viewing the facilities of the store. General Hardware & Feed is now the dealer for Purina feeds and feed supplies. Representatives of Ralston-Purina assisted the Lees and Hudson in staging the event.

At five p.m. prizes were awarded to the following: Purina dog feeding bowls to E. M. Burger, Jerry W. Williams, Margo Pritchard, David Luera, Judy Estlinbaum, Roger Saens, Mrs. V. J. Kana, Ronnie Miller, V. J. Kana, R. L. Davis, Bennie Miller and Bobby Hopkins; a bath mat went to Danny Morales; a flower pot set to John R. Alley;

Also, a chain saw to Yolanda Munoz; a grass and weed trimmer to Joe Koudelka; water hose to Brian Smith; an electric drill to Erna Stern; a floating lantern and battery to Mrs. O. L. Mill; and a steak knife set to Bennie Moss.

The store owners and manager extended thanks to all who came by for a visit during the grand opening and for expressions of best wishes on the grand opening of the business.

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John and Mary in Sacred Concert

Presented by Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance at The First Baptist Church
Friday, March 12, 1982
7:30 P.M.

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