



AGRICULTURE



APRIL 11 - 12, 2025

FARM • FAMILY • FOOD • FUN

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Assistance

Language access services AVAILABLE for PVAMU Extension Programs

PVAMU EXTENSION

Making Our Programs Accessible to All Texans

Our programs, services, and activities are open to all Texas residents, regardless of their English proficiency or communication disabilities. To ensure we reach everyone, we provide free translation and interpretation services and other language accommodations for those who contact our office in advance.

HOW IT WORKS

1

Request assistance

You contact your local extension agent with your language support needs.

2

We arrange assistance

The LEP Program Coordinator secures the appropriate services.

3

Materials are provided

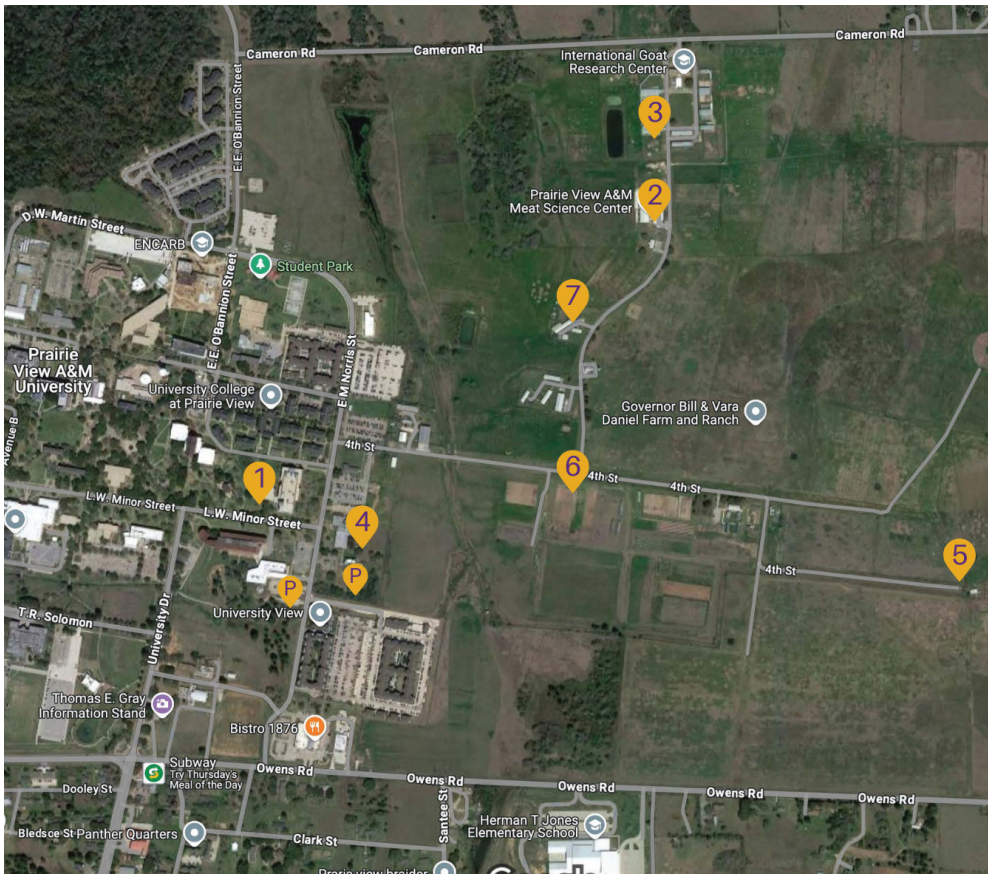
Services and translated materials are provided to the event manager.

4

Enjoy the event

You attend and enjoy the event knowing your request has been fulfilled!

FIELD DAY MAP



LEGEND

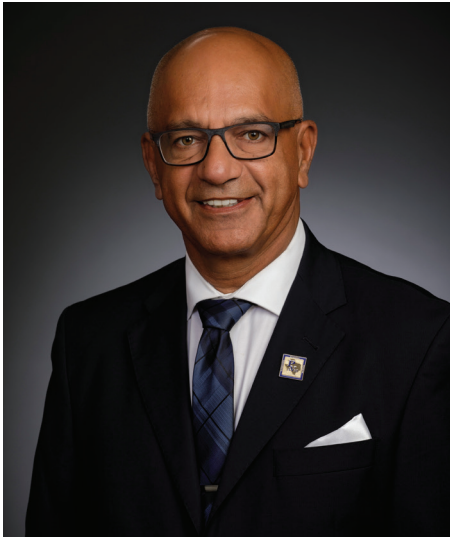
- 1 E. E. O'Banion Building
- 2 Meat Lab
- 3 Goat Research Center
- 4 Carden-Waller Extension Bldg
- 5 Beef Cattle Squeeze Chute
- 6 Farm Shop
- 7 Poultry Center
- P Parking (lots #13 and #14)





Excellence Lives Here

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Welcome to Agriculture Day on the Hill 2025
– Farm, Family, Food, and Fun!

As Dean and Director of Land-Grant Programs at PVAMU's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, I'm excited to have you join us today. We're proud to showcase our innovative work in academics, research, extension, and farming—all dedicated to addressing the challenges that affect our communities here in Texas.

Whether you're a student, educator, farmer, rancher, or community member, today's sessions will cover everything from plant and animal sciences to climate change, disaster preparedness, and much more. We hope this day sparks your imagination and deepens your understanding of how agriculture is at the heart of solving today's challenges.

Thank you for being here and contributing to this celebration of innovation and community!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard E. D'Souza".

Gerard E. D'Souza, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
Director of Land Grant Programs



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Welcome to Ag Day on the Hill 2025!

Your Ag Day Planning Committee—a dynamic team of faculty, researchers, agents, and volunteers from the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources—has put together an inspiring day filled with discovery, innovation, and fun.

As you explore our campus and the historic “Hill,” we invite you to experience the legacy and impact of Prairie View A&M University, a proud land-grant institution since 1876. From our 750-acre Research Farm & Ranch to the International Goat Research Center and the Meat Science Center for Innovation, our commitment to excellence in agriculture runs deep.

This year, we’re looking ahead with sessions focused on climate-smart agriculture, AI, and smart ag tech—proving that while we honor our roots, we’re always evolving.

Thanks for being part of this exciting day. Let’s celebrate how agriculture continues to drive progress—one farm, one family, one solution at a time.

Sincerely,
2025 Ag Day on the Hill Co-Chairs

FRIDAY AGENDA

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. **Registration & Check-In**

9:30 - 9:40 a.m. **Welcome & Greetings**

9:40 - 9:50 a.m. **Break into Groups**

GROUP 1:

SAY CHEESE!, May Hall *Learn how ag technology is used to improve the climate!*

Nutrition Fear Factor, May Hall *Is the fear of trying new foods a FACTOR for you? Find out here!*

GROUP 2:

Sizzle and Savor- Master the Art of Processed Meats, Meat Lab *A delicious adventure introduced by PVAMU meat science center, designed for aspiring meat scientists.*

Hay, Hay, Hay... and Soil, Farm *Explore the science of soil and hay!*

GROUP 3:

Air-mazing Growth, No Soil Needed!, CEP Outreach Room *Imagine growing plants without soil, right in the air! Join the fun and learn how to grow your fruits and veggies aeroponically!*

They are the G.O.A.T, Goat Demo Stall *Get up close and learn about our award winning dairy goats!*

GROUP 4:

Gardening with PVAMU Students, Student Garden area *Let's Get Growing! Learn from PVAMU students about growing a plant or two!*

Wellness in Houston Activity Center, Farm Shop *"What's Shaking" with PVAMU Wellness in Houston? Explore our mobile kitchen & other exciting activities!*

GROUP 5:

Veggie Bling Microgreens: Easy-Healthy-Profitable, Farm *Learn how ag technology is used to improve the climate!*

Exploring Careers in Agriculture, Room 114 *Are you ready to explore? Learn about ag careers using fun technology*

GROUP 6:

Beef'n it up, Cattle Pen w/ Trolley *Where's the beef? Right here on the campus of PVAMU. Learn more about our cattle herd and meet #1013.*

Egg Candling, Poultry Facility *Shhh. They're sleeping! Take a peek inside of an egg. Can you see the baby Chick?*

GROUP 7:

NextGEN, Ag Business Courtyard *Learn how YOU can shape the future of agriculture through technology and hands-on experiences with our NextGEN Team!*

Ask the Vet, CEP Outdoor area *Cats, dogs, cows and more! Learn more about the veterinary field from a professional veterinarian.*

11:50 a.m. - Noon **Transition to Carden-Waller Extension Building**

Noon - 12:30 p.m. **Closing and Program Evaluation**

12:30 - 1 p.m. **Lunch**

SATURDAY AGENDA

7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Registration/Light Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.

Welcome

Dr. Jacklyn Sanders, Dr. Erdogan Memili, Dr. Carolyn Williams

Greetings

Dr. Gerard D'Souza

8:45 - 9:35 a.m.

Keynote Speaker: Renita Marshall, D.V.M., M.S.

Vice Chancellor for Academics and Student Support-Associate Dean
College of Agricultural, Human and Environmental Sciences
Southern University Agricultural Research & Extension Center

9:35 - 10 a.m.

Poster Session: Researcher and Student Showcase, E. E. O'Banion

10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions #1

Wellness in Houston Community Baby Shower Workshop: Educational Sessions (10 a.m. - Noon)

Building Better Family Bonds: Teamwork Makes The Dream Work, CEP Seminar A

Goat Carcass Fabrication Demonstration, Meat Lab

Goat Management 101, Goat Demonstration Area

Artificial Insemination Demonstration with Beef Cattle, Beef Cattle Squeeze Chutte

Farm & Tractor Safety Session, CEP Demonstration Kitchen

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions #2

Wellness in Houston Community Baby Shower Workshop: Educational Sessions (10 a.m. - Noon)

Caregiving and Smart Senior Classes, CEP Seminar A

Food Safety/ Safe Food Handling, Farm Shop

PV Flux Tower Visit: Rising Technology for Smart Farming and Precision Agriculture, Flux Tower (FARM)

Utilization of Mushroom stems as a feed resource for sustainable poultry production, Poultry Center

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

BBQ Lunch/Door Prizes/Wellness in Houston Healthy Snacks/Exhibitors/Vendors

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

PVAMU CAFNR Resource & Health Fair

3:30

Closing

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Renita Marshall serves as the Vice-Chancellor for Academics and Student Support Services–Associate Dean for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences. In this role, she leads multidisciplinary programs that address sustainable agriculture, nutrition and health, family and youth development, and economic advancement—often in collaboration

with LSU AgCenter and other partners.

A veterinarian, researcher, and extension educator, Dr. Marshall is deeply committed to advancing agricultural education and innovation. She is the founding president of the National Association for Black Veterinarians and serves on several advisory and oversight committees, including the Louisiana Department of Agriculture’s emergency response team.

Dr. Marshall holds degrees from Southern University, Tuskegee University, and the University of Missouri-Columbia, with research expertise in livestock health and reproductive physiology. She is passionate about student mentorship, community outreach, and collaborative progress in agriculture.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Community Baby Shower Workshop, Wellness in Houston

The DSHS Community Baby Shower 2025 is a free event designed to support expecting and current families by providing essential health education and resources. Attendees can enjoy a variety of activities, including games, food, grab bags, and prize giveaways, while also engaging with vendors offering valuable family-oriented products and services. This community-focused event aims to empower parents and caregivers with knowledge and support to ensure the health and well-being of their children. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with experts, gain useful parenting insights, and celebrate new and growing families in a welcoming and fun environment!

Building Better Family Bonds: Teamwork Makes The Dream Work, Ida Carter

Discover how teamwork can enhance your family's harmony and cooperation. Learn practical strategies to improve collaboration, support each other, and solve problems together. Reflect on what truly matters to your family by identifying and celebrating core values. Unleash your creativity by designing a unique family shield that symbolizes these values. This fun and collaborative activity allows each family member to contribute their ideas and artistic talents. The family shield will serve as a visual reminder of your shared values and the strength of your family bond.

Goat Carcass Fabrication Demonstration, Dr. Lea Kinman

This interactive and educational session will provide attendees with a firsthand look at the art and science of goat carcass fabrication, a critical skill in meat processing and production. Led by industry experts and meat science professionals, the demonstration will break down the step-by-step process of fabricating a goat carcass into retail cuts, highlighting techniques used in butchery, portioning, and maximizing carcass utilization.

Goat Management 101, Dr. Andres Cervantes & PV Show Team

Raising goats can be a rewarding venture, but proper management is essential for maintaining a healthy, productive herd. This Goat Management 101 session at PVAMU 2025 Ag Day on the Hill will provide foundational knowledge and practical strategies for successful goat production and management. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced producer, this session will cover key aspects of goat health, nutrition, housing, breeding, and disease prevention.

Beef Cattle Artificial Insemination Demonstration, Damion Turner & Dwight Rhodes

Reproductive efficiency is a key factor in maximizing productivity and profitability in the beef cattle industry. This hands-on Beef Cattle Artificial Insemination (AI) Demonstration will showcase the latest techniques in artificial insemination as a means for reproductive management for beef cattle producers. This session will feature a live demonstration, providing attendees with a step-by-step guide to AI procedures while emphasizing best AI practices. This session will offer valuable insights into how AI technology can help enhance herd genetics, improve calving success, and increase overall production efficiency in modern beef operations.

Food Safety & Safe Food Handling, Bria Cooper

Ensuring food safety is essential for protecting public health and preventing foodborne illnesses. This informative session will focus on the fundamentals of food safety and best practices for safe food handling. Participants will learn about common foodborne pathogens, proper food storage techniques, cross-contamination prevention, and the importance of personal hygiene in food preparation.

Led by food safety experts, the session will provide practical demonstrations on temperature control, sanitation protocols, and safe food handling from farm to table. Whether you are a consumer, food producer, or industry professional, this session will equip you with the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure food remains safe at every stage of production and consumption.

Farm & Tractor Safety, James Smith & Kenneth Garfield

Farm machinery plays a crucial role in modern agriculture, but proper safety practices are essential to prevent accidents and injuries. This hands-on session will provide a comprehensive Tractor and Farm Equipment Safety Demonstration, focusing on best practices for operating, maintaining, and working around heavy agricultural machinery. Participants will gain practical insights into safe tractor operation, hitching and unhitching implements, and the importance of wearing appropriate protective gear. The session will also emphasize safety precautions for youth, new operators, and farmworkers, ensuring that all attendees walk away with valuable knowledge on minimizing risks in the field. This demonstration is highly recommended for farmers, ranchers, students, and agricultural professionals looking to enhance their farm safety practices and promote a safer working environment in agriculture.

PV Flux Tower Visit: Rising Technology for Smart Farming and Precision Agriculture, Dr. Ram Ray & Belay Mengistie

This engaging session provides a unique opportunity to explore cutting-edge climate-smart technologies that are revolutionizing modern agriculture. Participants will visit the PV Flux Tower, a sophisticated research installation designed to measure and analyze greenhouse gas emissions, soil health, and environmental variables across diverse agroecosystems. The session will highlight innovative experiments that assess the impact of various soil amendment methods on carbon sequestration, soil fertility, and overall ecosystem sustainability. Participants will have the chance to engage with experts who will discuss the practical applications of flux tower research in improving farm productivity and environmental stewardship.

This session is ideal for farmers, researchers, extension professionals, and students interested in the intersection of technology, sustainability, and agriculture's future.

Utilization Of Mushroom Stems As A Feed Resource For Sustainable Poultry Production, Dr. Jayant Lohakare

Edible mushrooms are good source of protein, complex carbohydrates such as beta-glycans, chitin, vitamins, fat and minerals. While harvesting the mushrooms, stems are removed and combined with other damaged mushrooms that account for 6-10% of the total mushroom produced daily and discarded in landfill causing environmental pollution. As the mushroom industry continues to expand, the industry will generate large amounts of mushroom stems and hence, there is urgent need to develop methods to utilize them to high-value product such as protein feed thereby benefit our mushroom producers and poultry producers. This workshop will tell producers how to grow mushrooms and then utilize stems as a poultry feed. Research results with layers using mushroom stems as feed resource will also be shared with producers.

PVAMU CAFNR Resource & Health Fair

The PVAMU CAFNR Resource & Health Fair is a dynamic and interactive event designed to connect attendees with valuable health, wellness, and agricultural resources. As part of PVAMU 2025 Ag Day on the Hill, this fair will bring together experts, organizations, and community partners to provide essential information and services aimed at promoting healthy living, sustainable agriculture, and rural development.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore a variety of resource booths, health screenings, and educational exhibits covering topics such as nutrition, physical wellness, mental health, financial literacy, and agricultural business development. Whether you are a student, farmer, entrepreneur, or community member, this event offers something for everyone. Don't miss this chance to invest in your health, future, and community!

GENERAL INFORMATION: COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES



The College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CAFNR) operates in the **land-grant tradition** of providing teaching, research, and service through its **academics, research, and extension** components.



ACADEMICS

At Prairie View A&M University, we take pride in our panther's academic success in their field of study. We offer courses that encourage our students to have a well-rounded degree plan that includes hands-on experience. Whether in the food lab, meat lab, or on the farm, students will engage in experiential learning using different skill sets that best suit their career path.

Students will journey through their studies of animals, food and soil sciences, environmental resources, and business practices to immerse themselves in the world of Agriculture. Students who major in Human Nutrition and Foods will acquire the skills needed for careers in dietetics, nutrition, or health professions in graduate and professional studies.



RESEARCH

The PVAMU Agricultural Research Center (PARC) is the research component of the College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. Research within the unit addresses five systems: Animal Systems, Plant Systems, Food Systems, Natural Resources and Environmental Systems, Social Systems and Allied Research. PARC also includes the International Goat Research Center (IGRC), Integrated Food Security Research Center (IFSRC), Meat Science Center, Poultry Center, and Gov. Bill and Vara Daniel Farm and Ranch.



EXTENSION

The PVAMU Extension Program is operated through the Prairie View A&M University Land Grant in partnership with the federal, state, and local governments. The mission of PVAMU Extension is to respond to the needs of underserved Texans through learning opportunities that empower families, promote agriculture, strengthen communities, and foster leadership development in youth.

PVAMU Extension educators or agents translate science for the public, engage the public to act, prepare people for a better life, provide rapid response in disasters, develop partnerships, and connect people online. PVAMU Extension is in 56 counties with an expansive community of volunteers who assist in extending programs under training and direction from Extension agents. The strength of Extension is county-based education in Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, Community and Economic Development, and Family and Community Health.



**PRAIRIE VIEW
A&M UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF NURSING

In partnership with Ag Day on "The Hill" and The Texas Department of State Health Services

We are hosting a **FREE**

COMMUNITY *Baby Shower Workshop*

For Moms and Families To-Be and Existing Families

GRAB-BAGS • GAMES • FOOD • PRIZES • WORKSHOPS • VENDORS

Topics • Safe Sleep • Injury Prevention • Breastfeeding 101



Saturday, April 12, 2025



10 a.m. - Noon



**Carden-Waller Cooperative Extension Building
250 E M Norris St. Prairie View, TX 77445**



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



**SCAN ME TO
REGISTER**



VENDORS/EXHIBITORS

Texans Recovering Together

Wellness in Houston

PVAMU Livestock Club

PVAMU College of Nursing

USDA Farm Service Agency

Texas Department of Agriculture

Passion Garden

Texas Department of Agriculture (TOPS)

Boujee Sweet Trees

Alumni Booth

NextGen

PVAMU Student Garden Club

PVAMU Pre-Veterinary Club

Tricey's Wreaths & Things

South Project

Drone

COMMITTEE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated faculty, staff, and volunteers. Your time, energy, and enthusiasm brought this event to life. We appreciate your commitment to showcasing the power of agriculture and community.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Ashley James, MS, Extension

Jacklyn Sanders, Ph.D., Academics

Aruna Weerasooriya, Ph.D., Academics

Erdogan Memili, Ph.D., Research

SUB-COMMITTEES

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Kelley Redmon, Chair

TeneInger Abrom-Johnson, Co-Chair

Jacklyn Sanders, Co-Chair

FACULTY/STAFF ENGAGEMENT

Laura Carson, Chair

Erdogan Memili, Co-Chair

Aruna Weerasooriya, Co-Chair

REGISTRATION

Tekedra Pierre, Chair

Ebony Ohen, Co-Chair

Inez Simien, Co-Chair

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLICITY

Trevior Mays, Chair

Poppy Johnson, Co-Chair

FINANCE/PURCHASING/FOOD

Diane Willis, Chair

Elaine Shafer, Co-Chair

Michael Simms, Co-Chair

YOUTH/FAMILY DAY WORKSHOPS

Ashley James, Chair

Shawn Russell, Co-Chair

Peter Ampim, Co-Chair

FACILITIES

Caralita Solomon, Chair

Monica Brown, Co-Chair

Trissy McCoy, Co-Chair

EXHIBITORS/VENDORS

Chandra Adams, Chair

Erika Jones, Co-Chair

Stedman Douglas, Co-Chair

ALUMNI, SUPPORTERS, AND STAKEHOLDERS

Alfred Parks, Chair

Horace Hodge, Co-Chair

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT/ WELLNESS IN HOUSTON

Ericka Abrams, Chair

Jennifer Garza, Co-Chair

Ashley Aborisade, Co-Chair

Clara Cofield, Co-Chair

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Sachin Gadekar, Chair

Angela Moore, Co-Chair

Cynthia Pierfax, Co-Chair

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Ashwani Srivastava, Chair

Josh Rieger, Co-Chair

Ryan Harris, Co-Chair



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