



2025



Texas New Fruit Grower's Conference

October 9-10, 2025- Fort Worth, Texas



The Texas New Fruit Grower's Conference is a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension event aimed at educating new and prospective fruit growers through classroom instruction, experiential learning, and peer-to-peer networking.

Event 1: Getting Started Class: Considering an orchard for the first time? Never planted a fruit tree? We have you covered! Texas is a challenging and unique climate for fruit production, but our half-day "Getting Started Class" will set you on the proper path to success. When: Thursday, October 9th, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm; Tarrant County AgriLife Extension Office, 200 Taylor, Suite 500, Fort Worth, TX, 76196. Program: *Site and resource evaluation for new fruit orchards*-Stephen Janak; *Fruit orchard establishment*-Larry Stein; *Budgeting time resources- what it takes to start and manage an orchard*-Jacy Lewis; *Disease & insect threats to successful fruit production*—Monte Nesbitt; *Developing an orchard IPM philosophy*—Kyle Slusher; *Deciding what to grow: major production & marketing considerations*—Tim Hartmann

Event 2: Tree-to-Plate Networking Lunch: Enjoy an array of fresh fruit and diverse fruit-centric culinary products, while exchanging fruit growing & marketing ideas with other fruit growers from around the state. Thursday, 12:00 to 2:30 pm.



Event 3: Live-Action Lab: Our team has tremendous experience with fruit and vineyard orchard management that new fruit growers need to see in action. Our afternoon "college laboratory" session will get you up close and personal with How-To demonstrations on: tree/vine planting, training & pruning practices, fertilizer application, irrigation, and pest management. This 3pm to 6pm session will be held at the Tarrant County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Facility.

Event 4: Fast Forward Fruit Tour: Experience the possibilities of being a commercial fruit grower by seeing and hearing what other new fruit growers have done to establish and grow a fruit-centric business in the North Texas area. Our Friday morning conference tour is planned to visit Goober Bub's Orchard & Bakery, Justin, Texas. Friday, October 10th, 8:30 am to Noon.

Conference Registration Fee:
\$130 per person; \$65 AgriLife Employees



For More Information: Contact Monte Nesbitt, (979) 321-7028; Email: monte.nesbitt@ag.tamu.edu or the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Tarrant County Extension Office 817-884-1945.

Registration: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/hort-ev-051>