June 2026 E-Harvest Newsletter

A Message from Commissioner Sid Miller

Howdy Neighbors! Welcome to Your E-Harvest Newsletter.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner

Schools across the Lone Star State used creative displays and fun activities to celebrate Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day in April. The Texas Department of Agriculture and I partnered with the Texas Association for School Nutrition to recognize some of the outstanding celebrations. There were 29 entries this year, far more than last year's inaugural contest, and after reviewing them, we named the following winners:

- **First Place:** McLeod ISD
- **Second Place:** Beeville ISD
- **Third Place:** Culberson County-Allamoore ISD

All the celebrations showed a true commitment to growing students' appreciation for local fruits and vegetables. The winning schools stood out for using their creativity to spark students' interest in eating healthy food and supporting local farmers. Thank you to everyone who celebrated Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day and remember, Texas Agriculture Matters!

Harvest of the Month

June's Harvest of the Month is peaches. This recipe from the **Healthy School Recipes** can be made with Texas products.

Farm Fresh Sharing - Recipes

This month's Farm Fresh Sharing features Garland ISD. Assistant Director of Nutrition and Menu Operations Craig Hempel shared this recipe for Harvest **Chicken Salad** with options including a **croissant sandwich** and a **lunch box with local hydroponic lettuce and tortilla chips**. Craig spoke about this recipe and the use of the lettuce purchased through The Common Market at their Grow the Table event in Dallas. Student feedback was positive and the chicken salad is now a menu staple.

As always, please ensure all recipes served are menu compliant.

For current grant opportunities, visit our **Funding Opportunities page**!

Farm Fresh Learning

Call for Recipes

TDA invites Texas school districts and childcare providers to submit go-to recipes they would like to share with TDA and E-Harvest readers. If you have recipes your students love that you'd like to share, **please submit them and a photo here**.

Farm Fresh Producer

Learning and Networking Opportunities

TDA has partnered with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension to provide FRESH TRAYS training sessions that give agricultural producers step-by-step guidance for expanding their markets to include selling to child nutrition programs. Producers can find FRESH TRAYS sessions **here**. The sessions are available at locations across the state.

Funding Opportunities

Find current funding opportunities for Texas farmers, ranchers, and producers by visiting TDA's **Grants & Services page**.

Texas Farm Fresh Network

TDA is excited to welcome the following producers to the Farm Fresh Network:

Pure Pastures LLC	Canyon Lake	Protein	Maggie Eubank	holler@purepasturestx.com

FARM FRESH
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Contact TDA

Email: FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov

Toll Free: (877) TEX-MEAL

Connect with Others

Texas Farm Fresh Network:

Use this tool to connect with Texas food companies that currently sell or are interested in selling to schools, childcare centers, adult care centers and summer meal programs. Company listings include contact information, product availability and distribution radius.

Funding Opportunities:

Financial support from organizations may help establish or advance local Farm Fresh initiatives. This list includes opportunities from TDA, USDA and other organizations.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

square meals

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