

# TVMA QUARTERLY CLIP

JUNE, 2006

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## 2006 CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We look forward to seeing you at our 2006 Annual Conference in **Kerrville, TX, on October 23-25, 2006!** We'll be at the **YO RANCH RESORT HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER**, 2033 Sidney Baker, Kerrville, TX 78028.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for any company or individual who desires to help TVMA defray the cost of the annual conference! Any support which is received helps TVMA support activities and programs throughout the year, which are important to vegetation managers in Texas.

Sponsors and supporters will receive special recognition and thanks during the Annual Conference, and a special listing in our TVMA web page and within our quarterly newsletter, the *TVMA Quarterly CLIP*.

This is an ideal opportunity for companies or individuals who want to support TVMA, but who do not wish to be an exhibitor and display their products, equipment or services to the attendees during 2006. However, this is also an ideal opportunity for exhibitors to provide additional support also.

We have several levels in which you could help. All sponsorship levels are shown on the 2006 registration forms which are available through the TVMA web site and are also available as an option if you choose to use TVMA's secure, on-line, credit card registration system.

**LCRA** has already committed to sponsoring the 2006 Scholarship Skeet Shooting Tournament by providing lunch, prizes and trophies. Thanks to **Craig Johnson and all the fine supporters at LCRA** for their long-time support of TVMA! Thanks also to **Robert Lane of Advanced Applicators** for providing TVMA Board Member shirts for the 2006 Conference!

Here are some of the sponsorship opportunities available to you this year:

Type	Description	Minimum Suggested Contribution
<b>Scholarship</b>	Golf Tournament Hole Sponsor	\$100
<b>Luncheon / Social</b>	Sponsor	\$3,000
	Co-Sponsor	\$1,500
	Supporter	\$1,000
<b>Breakfast / Break</b>	Sponsor	\$500
	Supporter	\$250



## PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE

The details for our 2006 Annual Conference are taking shape nicely. We had our last board meeting in Austin Texas on April 27, 2006 at the TX Dot office. Jim Crusier and his committee has signed a contract with the YO Ranch Resort Hotel and Conference Center in Kerrville.

On Monday, we will host the 2006 Scholarship Golf Tournament at "The Buckhorn" golf club in Comfort Texas. This is a great course with beautiful views and just a short distance down I-10 from Kerrville.

We'll tee off at 1:00 pm, but arrive a little early as TVMA will be furnishing lunch and you can hit a few practice balls on the range! Registration is \$75.

Monday afternoon also is when we'll be hosting the 2006 Sporting Clay /

Skeet Tournament at the Hill Country Shooting Sports Center in Kerrville. We'll shoot one round of sporting clays and one round of skeet. Registration is \$50.

On Monday evening, October 23, 2006, we will host a fun evening of fellowship and a great "Texas Hold 'Em" Tournament.

Tuesday kicks off the conference proper, and Vice President Jim Crusier has lined up some excellent speakers for us to hear. The draft agenda is available on the TVMA web page.

Remember that we try to recognize an outstanding contributor to the field of vegetation management in Texas with our annual "Lifetime Achievement" Award. If you know of a deserving person, please send a nomination letter to me or

to any TVMA board member.

As a chairperson of the nominating committee, it is my responsibility to encourage all members to run as candidates for upcoming positions. Being a member of the TVMA Board is a rewarding experience that really keeps you in tuned to the industry challenges. If you are interested in being a part of the TVMA let one of the board members know.

It's been a great year for TVMA, thanks to everyone's help!

Thank you for supporting the TVMA.

Ray Erwin.



Ray Erwin, BASF, TVMA's 2005-2006 President

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### TVMA BOARD MEETINGS!

- All TVMA Board meetings are open to any TVMA Member
- All TVMA members are encouraged to attend and participate
- Our next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, August 15, 2006, at the YO Ranch Resort & Conference Center, Kerrville, TX

## TEXAS HOLD 'EM



On Tuesday evening, October 24, 2006, be sure to join us in the Exhibit Hall for an evening of fun and competition to see who is the best Texas Hold'em player.

We'll start with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres in the Exhibit hall. At 6:00 pm, the tournament begins and we'll have room for 100 players!

Our Texas Hold'em tournament will be hosted by

a professional gaming company and the goal will be to declare a final winner by 9:00 pm!

Plan on joining us on Tuesday evening to play, watch, root on your favorite, and see who comes out on top!

## TVMA EVALUATES STUDENT ORAL AND POSTER SESSIONS

One of the many innovations being considered by Vice President Jim Cruser and the 2006 Program Committee is the inclusion of a session designed to encourage college-level undergraduate or graduate students to present a paper on research related to the vegetation management field.

College-level students will be offered a special registration rate regardless of whether they present a paper.

Students will be given the opportunity to present their work either via a "poster session" format where they are available to discuss

their work shown on a poster displayed at the conference, and/or an oral presentation of 15 minutes discussing the research and results to date.

We hope that this session will encourage students who hope to pursue a career in vegetation management to participate in the TVMA conference, meet and network with industry leaders, and present the latest results of their work.

The "Call for Papers" is posted on the TVMA web site at [www.tvma.net/06-callforpapers.htm](http://www.tvma.net/06-callforpapers.htm).

If you have any questions or need more information regarding this

session, please contact Vice President Jim Cruser, or Secretary-Editor Paul Northcutt for more information.

For complete information on how to submit a paper, contact Jim, Paul, or any TVMA leader, see the TVMA web page ([www.tvma.net](http://www.tvma.net)) or Page 7 of this newsletter.



## SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITIES IN KERRVILLE 2006

Each year, our Annual Program is the primary fund-raiser for the funds we use to award scholarships to deserving college-level students.

In 2006, TVMA will again award up to \$4,000 in scholarships to young men and women who are working toward a professional career in vegetation management.

**Rob Brooks, Dow Agro-Sciences**, is TVMA's able Scholarship Committee Chair and is available to answer all your questions about applying for the TVMA scholarship.

Scholarships are awarded based upon an [application form](#) submitted by the student which outlines the student's scholastic accomplishments, and the student's personal and civic accomplishments.

Complete details for our

2006 Scholarships can be found on the TVMA Scholarship web page at [www.tvma.net/scholarship.htm](http://www.tvma.net/scholarship.htm). If you know of an outstanding college student, please refer them to this site, or ask them to Rob Brooks.

To help raise funds this year, we will host a Scholarship Silent Auction, a Golf Tournament and a Sporting Clay / Skeet Shooting Tournament.

Currently, the tentative location for the 2006 Scholarship Golf Tournament is "The Buckhorn" golf club, 36 FM 473, Comfort, TX 78013. The phone number to the club is 830-995-5351, or toll-free to 866-746-2711. We'll tee off around 1:00 pm on Monday, October 23, 2006. Green fee is only \$75 and includes cart rental and range balls.

The Buckhorn's championship layout is situated to take perfect

advantage of the land's natural attributes—elevation changes, clear water creeks, stands of live oak, and of course, vista views.

Also this year, we are working toward having our Scholarship Sporting Clay /Skeet Shooting Tournament at the Hill Country Shooting Sports Center, 1886 Cypress Creek Road, Kerrville TX, phone 830-995-5118. **LCRA** and **Dow Agro-Sciences** are co-sponsoring this event.

This is an outstanding venue which includes a 6,000 square foot clubhouse with a pro shop and classrooms, a paved range road and rifle and pistol range. We'll shoot one round of sporting clays and one round of skeet and lunch will be furnished. We'll begin at 1:00 pm on Monday, October 23, 2006.

Register now for either of these events at [www.tvma.net/conference.htm](http://www.tvma.net/conference.htm).

## TVMA TO PREPARE ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION

During the April 2006 TVMA Board Meeting, the Board directed the preparation of a PowerPoint presentation on TVMA.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of the mission and goals of our Association. The presentation can be used to introduce students to the field of vegetation management, and to present information on our association to interested groups.

If you have any photographs which might illustrate some facet of vegetation management in Texas, please send them to Paul Northcutt, TVMA Secretary-Editor.

If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see included within the presentation, Paul would love to hear from you as well.

The presentation will eventually be posted on

the TVMA web site, and can be made available to members for use as well.



## BASF SHOWCASES QUALITY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SITE

No matter what industry we're in, it's our duty to help make this world a better place. For those of us who focus on vegetation management—be it conservation, restoration, distribution, application, forestry, wetlands, or any job that requires vegetation management—Quality Vegetation Management™ (QVM) will help us do that.

QVM is a set of principles that creates and sustains healthy habitats through professional, ethical and responsible practices. It's a way of thinking, a way of acting, and a core set of beliefs that guide vegetation management professionals every day.

But the impact of practicing QVM goes well beyond the vegetation man-

agement industry. It reaches into communities by welcoming their involvement in vegetation management decision-making. And it touches habitats by supporting vegetation management professionals who strive to always make positive environmental changes, protect endangered species, and restore and improve plant, animal and human habitats.

### Principles & Practices

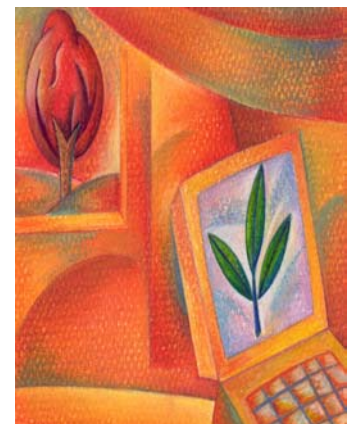
- Restore and improve plant, animal and human habitats
- Seek out and support professional certification and technical training
- Strive to always make a positive environmental change
- Apply herbicide responsi-

bly, using the appropriate amount to achieve the desired results

- Protect threatened and endangered species
- Support industry research and development
- Follow label recommendations.

BASF states that QVM is needed because the vegetation management industry has always struggled with an image problem, fueled by misinformed community and news groups that don't fully understand the science of herbicides and the benefits they provide.

For full details on BASF's QVM Program, see their web site at [www.vmanswers.com/content.aspx?pid=598](http://www.vmanswers.com/content.aspx?pid=598)



## 2006 PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE AGENDA

### Monday, October 23, 2006:

8:00 am	Lobby	Registration Opens
10:00 am–5:00 pm	Boone and Crockett	TDA Pesticide Applicators License Training Seminar, Rick Bennett
Noon–7:00 pm	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Exhibit Hall Set-Up
1:00 pm	Golf	The Buckhorn Golf Course, 36 FM 473, Comfort TX
1:00 pm	Skeet	Hill Country Shooting Sports Center, 1886 Cypress Creek Rd Kerrville TX

No evening activities planned

### Tuesday, October 24, 2006:

7:00 am	Lobby	Registration Opens
7:00 am–8:00 am	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am–Noon	Boone and Crockett	TDA Pesticide Applicators License Training Seminar, Rick Bennett
8:00 am–8:45 am	Live Oak	Opening General Session: Ray Erwin, 2005-2006 TVMA President, J Jim Cruser, 2005-2006 Vice President and 2006 Program Chair
8:45 am–9:30 am	Live Oak	Exhibitor Presentations
9:30 am–10:00 am	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Coffee Break
10:00 am–11:00 am	Live Oak	“Vegetation Management—the UAA Perspective,” Jim Orr, Asplundh Tree
11:00 am–Noon	Live Oak	“Drift Minimization,” Dennis Markwardt, Texas DOT
Noon–2:00 pm	Spanish Oak/Cypress	2006 Awards Banquet and TVMA Business Meeting, Ray Erwin, BASF
2:00 pm–5:00 pm	Boone and Crockett	TDA Pesticide Applicators License Training Seminar, Rick Bennett
2:00 pm–3:00 pm	Live Oak	“TDA Rules and Regulations,” Randy Rivera, TDA
3:00 pm–3:30 pm	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Coffee Break / Poster Session Viewing
3:30 pm–4:00 pm	Live Oak	“Wire & Fire: A Historical Perspective on Ecosystem Management in the Texas Hill Country,” Donnie Frels, TPWD
4:00 pm–4:30 pm	Live Oak	“Aquatic Vegetation & Herbicides,” Dr. Earl Chilton, TPWD
4:30 pm–5:00 pm	Live Oak	“Consortium Building,” Anne Beard, PNM
6:00 pm–9:00 pm	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Cash Bar, hors devours and “Texas Hold'em” Tournament

### Wednesday, October 25, 2006:

6:30 am–8:00 am	Guadalupe	TVMA Past President's Breakfast
7:00 am	Lobby	Registration Opens
7:00 am–8:00 am	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am–Noon	Boone and Crockett	TDA Pesticide Applicators Examination
8:00 am–9:00 am	Live Oak	Student Poster Session
9:00 am–9:30 am	Spanish Oak / Cypress	Coffee Break
9:30 am	Spanish Oak/Cypress	Exhibit Hall Closes
9:30 am–10:00 am	Live Oak	“Easements and Environmental Responsibilities,” Jennifer Leeper, LCRA
10:00 am–10:30 am	Live Oak	“NERC Vegetation Clearance Standards: One Utility's Perspective,” Lynn Grayson, AEP
10:30 am–11:00 am	Live Oak	“Oak Wilt in Texas,” Eric Copeland, TFS
11:00 am–11:30 AM	Live Oak	“Formosan Termites,” Karen Woodard, TFS
11:30 am–Noon	Live Oak	Closing Remarks, Jim Cruser, TVMA 2006-2007 President-Elect
Noon		Adjourn
Noon–2:00 pm	Guadalupe	TVMA Board of Directors Meeting

## GENERAL VM ITEMS OF INTEREST

### NERC:

NERC (North American Electric Reliability Council) adopted FAC-003 on February 7, 2006.

This standard applies to 200 kV or higher voltage transmission lines (and lower transmission lines determined to be critical to reliability by the Regional Reliability Councils) over which NERC has oversight.

This standard is intended to improve the reliability of the electric transmission systems by eliminating transmission outages from vegetation located on transmission rights-of-way and minimizing outages from vegetation located adjacent to the ROW, and maintaining safe clearances between transmission lines and vegetation.

The Standard, FAC-003-1 Transmission Vegetation Management Program and the Implementation Plan may be viewed at <http://www.nerc.com/~filez/standards/Vegetation-Management.html>

### California

The California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection has a Vegetation Management Plan designed as a cost-sharing program that focuses on the use of prescribed fire, and mechanical means, for addressing

wildland fire fuel hazards and other resource management issues on California State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands.

For more information on this program, see their web site at [http://www.fire.ca.gov/php/rsrsrc-mgt\\_vegetationmanagement.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/php/rsrsrc-mgt_vegetationmanagement.php)

### New Mexico

The New Mexico DOT adopted an Integrated Vegetation Management Program nearly ten years ago. NMDOT is committed to implementing the requires of Executive Order 00-22 which requires NM “executive agencies to manage infestations of plant species designed by the NMDA as a noxious weed..” and to providing timely noxious weed management in all right of ways.

For more information on the New Mexico IVM program, see their web site [www.nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=11412](http://www.nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=11412)

### Texas

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Inland Fisheries, has published “*Aquatic Vegetation Management in Texas: a Guidance Document.*”

This 69 page document is co-authored by Philip P Durocher, Director Inland Fisheries, and Dr. Earl Chilton

II, Habitat Enhancement.

Topics covered include: identifying vegetation species, identifying levels of concern, identifying possible prevention and treatment techniques and choosing the appropriate management method.

The publication can be accessed on the web at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd\\_pl\\_t3200\\_1066.pdf](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_pl_t3200_1066.pdf)

### Federal

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued the “Utility Vegetation Management Final Report.”

This report was commissioned to support the federal investigation of the August 14, 2003 Northeast Blackout.

This final report can be accessed through the web at [www.ferc.gov/cust-protect/moi/uvm-final-report.pdf](http://www.ferc.gov/cust-protect/moi/uvm-final-report.pdf)



*Do you know of a report, publication or resource which would be of interest to TVMA members?*

*Send an email to the TVMA Secretary-Editor providing the details on the item and specific instructions on where to access the information.*

## 2005-2006 PLATINUM SPONSOR!



**Craig Johnson**  
Area Supervisor,  
Line Maintenance Services



(830) 798-3152  
FAX: (830) 798-3190  
CELL: (512) 663-5238  
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5515 Hwy. 281 N. Marble Falls, TX 78654  
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## 2005-2006 GOLD SPONSOR!



**Ray Erwin**  
Vegetation Specialist  
Industrial Vegetation Products Group

BASF Corporation  
7307 Vista Ridge Lane  
Sachse, Texas 75048

Telephone (972) 429-5146  
Mobile (214) 850-0682  
Fax (972) 429-5087  
E-mail: [erwinc@basf.com](mailto:erwinc@basf.com)

## TVMA'S 2005-2006 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Your Current TVMA Leadership Team works hard to make this Association beneficial to the membership. If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact any of the following people:

**President:** Ray Erwin, BASF, 7307 Vista Ridge Ln, Sachse, TX 75048; Phone 972-429-5146; email [erwinc@basf.com](mailto:erwinc@basf.com)

**Vice President:** Jim Crusier, AEP Texas, PO Box 2121, Corpus Christi, TX 78401; Phone 361-881-5738 [jcruser@aep.com](mailto:jcruser@aep.com)

**Secretary-Editor:** Paul Northcutt, Telge Northcutt Training, LLC, 6402 Betty Cook Drive, Austin, TX 78723; Phone 512-933-9930; [pnorth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pnorth@sbcglobal.net)

**Treasurer:** Myron Rabalais, DuPont Vegetation Management, 21839 Blossom Brook Ln, Katy, TX 77450; Phone 281-828-1109 [myron.j.rabalais@usa.dupont.com](mailto:myron.j.rabalais@usa.dupont.com)

**Immediate Past President:** David Wall, XCEL Energy, PO Box 1261, Amarillo, TX 79170; Phone 806-457-6558; [david.p.wall@xcelenergy.com](mailto:david.p.wall@xcelenergy.com)

**Board of Directors:**

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TVMA says ***THANK YOU*** to this  
hard working group of  
***VOLUNTEERS!***

**TEXAS VEGETATION  
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

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**TVMA's next Board of Directors Meeting will be in Kerrville on August 15, 2006 All TVMA members are encouraged to attend.**

The meeting will be held at 9:00 am at the YO Ranch Resort and Conference Center, 2033 Sidney Baker Drive, Kerrville, TX. A map to the meeting location can be found on the "Leadership" page of the TVMA web site.

If you have an item you wish discussed by the TVMA Board, email your suggestion to the TVMA Secretary Editor, at pnorth@sbcglobal.net, or call TVMA at 512-933-9930.

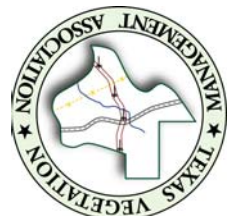
**L E A D E R S   I N   V E G E T A T I O N   M A N A G E M E N T**

TVMA strives to be the educational resource for professional vegetation managers within Texas.

Not only does TVMA host an annual conference, where you can hear outstanding technical presentations from experts across Texas and receive Continuing Education Units to maintain your applicators license, but we also host continuing education training workshops during the year at various locations around Texas.

Always check the web site at [www.tvma.net](http://www.tvma.net) for the latest training opportunity, or call the TVMA Secretary-Editor if you have any questions or comments about TVMA!

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