

WISE COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT

Agricultural Guidelines / Stocking & Density Rates

LIVESTOCK

1 Animal Unit (AU) Per 5-10 Acres of Improved Pasture Land (P1)
Per 15-25 Acres of Native Pasture Land (P2)

ANIMAL UNIT (AU)

- 2 - 500 Pound Calves = 1 animal unit
- 1 - Cow & Calf = 1 animal unit
- 1 - Bull = 1 ½ animal unit
- 1 - Horse = 1 animal unit
- 5 - Sheep or goats = 1 animal unit
- 2 - Miniature horses or donkeys = 1 animal unit

Chickens and Pigs can qualify depending on how they are being used.

Ag will only be granted on the area(s) that adequate fencing provides for confinement. Adequate fencing is defined as fencing capable of containing livestock for more than a temporary period. Hot wire fencing and panels can be used to maintain temporary livestock control, but permanent fencing will be required to continue the exemption. And under no circumstance will imaginary non existing barrier qualify.

TREES

10-15 Scattered Pecan trees for 1 acre

15-20 Fruit Trees for one acre

QUALIFICATIONS FOR AGRICULTURE APPRAISAL

1. Property must have been used for 5 out of the past 7 years for Ag use.
2. The land must be used to the degree and intensity that it can carry.
3. There must be intent to show profit from the land.
4. **BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012 THE MINIMUM ACREAGE REQUIREMENT MUST BE OVER 5.00 ACRES FOR AGRICULTURE APPRAISAL. WILDLIFE MINIMUM ACREAGE OVER 14.30 ACRES.**

If you have further questions please contact the office at:

400 East Bus 380 DECATUR, TEXAS 76234

PHONE (940)627-3081

WEBSITE: isouthwestdata.com/WISE

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Degree of Intensity for Beekeeping

Beekeeping is an agricultural use and shall qualify for agricultural productivity valuation if used for pollination or for the production of human food or other tangible products having a commercial value. (Section 23.51 (2) Texas Property Tax Code)

ACREAGE REQUIREMENT: The State of Texas has set a minimum of 5.00 acres and a maximum of 20.00 acres to qualify beekeeping as an agricultural use.

DEGREE OF INTENSITY: Our degree of intensity standard is set at a minimum of six colonies (hives) and 5.00 acres. The minimum degree of intensity was established using Section 131.001 of the Texas Agricultural Code's definition of an apiary (collection of bees), which is a place where six or more colonies of bees or nuclei (small mass of bees and combs of brood used in forming a new colony) of bees are kept. A colony is the hive and its equipment and appurtenances including bees, comb, honey, and pollen and brood.

For each additional 2.50 acres of land one additional colony (hive) is required. Any additional acreage (above 5.00 acre minimum) less than 2.50 acres would not require an additional colony (hive). For example 20.00 acres would require 12 colonies (hives). Six colonies (hives) on the first 5.00 acres and six additional on the 15.00 acres.

When property owners initially qualify for agricultural appraisal they must show proof of history for the agricultural / beekeeping operation for any of the five preceding seven years. One way to confirm this is to ask for export, import or intra-state permits, which are required by the Texas Apiary Inspection Service to transport hives.