

“Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” (South Texas) Training Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services

Advanced Training Program Purpose and information:

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” program is designed to provide advanced training and resources whereby Master Gardeners can obtain specialization in areas that support or expand designated educational programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services.

To become a certified “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit”, Master Gardeners are required to attend the “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” training and subsequently meet service requirements described below. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within her/his local county programs.

“Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” training will be comprised of high-quality training including the culture varieties disease and insect problems, training and pruning for stone fruits, berries, grapes, pecans, pome fruits, figs, pomegranates, and citrus. Basic propagation will also be taught.

Participation requirements:

To be eligible for the “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” training, an individual must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener certification, or be an employee of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Master Gardener applicants must be approved by their local County Extension Agent.

Position Description and Service Requirements:

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” is charged to increase awareness, provide training in home fruit production on a home/neighborhood/community level. Training activities during the course will empower the Master Gardener to complete these service requirements.

Service requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Attending the “Advanced Master Gardener: Home Fruit” training
- Volunteering 20 hours above and beyond the county’s current volunteer obligation within one year of the advanced training
- Serving as a local “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” resource in the Extension program
- Assisting in educating Master Gardeners, interns, and the public in home fruit production
- Increasing client awareness of fruit and nut trees through presentations, training, and mass media efforts (i.e. radio, newspaper, social media, television, and newsletters)
- Submitting a completed “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” Training Volunteer Report Form as directed
- Optional: Submitting TMGA reimbursement paperwork

Advanced Training recognition and certification:

Upon completion of the “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” training and service requirements, the Master Gardener will be awarded an “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit” certificate and lapel pin.

Resources available to the “Advanced Master Gardener – Home Fruit”:

- Advanced training on home fruit production and networking with presenters
- Educational materials on home fruit production
- Direct access to the Texas A&M Extension Services Program Specialists