

2019 Agricultural Classes and Requirements

Category	Definition	Minimum Acreage	Other requirements
Irrigated Crop	Lands which are cultivated on a regular basis for the production of adapted cultivated and close growing crops for harvest. The moisture needs are met by artificially watering on a systematic basis.	10 Acres	Consisting of: Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum, or other standing grains.
Dry Crop	Lands which are cultivated on a regular basis for the production of adapted cultivated and close growing crops for harvest, but which are not artificially watered.	10 Acres	Consisting of: Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum, or other standing grains.
Improved Pasture	Lands which have increased forage production or carrying capacities above the native surroundings due to the improvement of the land through the use of seeding, fertilizing, tending, cut, bailed, and other methods of improvement. These lands may or may not be artificially watered.	10 Acres	Consist of: Common Bermuda grass, hybrid Bermuda grass, Johnson grass, Old World Bluestems, Crabgrass, Fescue, Dallisgrass, and Bahia Grass.
Native Pasture	Lands used for grazing by qualifying livestock and wildlife on which the majority of the grasses and plants are native to the land. Native and natural vegetation, unmanaged except for weed control, cutting and bailing.	10 Acres	Consist of: Meadow Dropseed, Annual Threeland, Longspike Tridens, Little Bluestem, Switchgrass, Indian Grass, Big Bluestems, Sideoats gama, Buffalo Grass, Texas Wintergrass, Paspalams, Panciums, and White Tridens
Hay Production	Using both improved and native grasses.	10 Acres	Degree of intensity: Requires a minimum of 2,000 lbs of hay production per acre per year for Native grasses and 4,000 lbs per year for Improved.
Irrigated Orchards	Water supplied by direct delivery system.	3 Acres	14 Native (non-orchard setting) or 70 Improved (traditional orchard) productive fruit bearing trees with a 25 ft spacing or 27 Improved (traditional orchard) productive fruit bearing trees with a 40 ft spacing = 1 acre of orchard
Non-Irrigated Orchards	Water supplied by natural rainfall and runoff.	3 Acres	14 Native (non-orchard setting) or 70 Improved (traditional orchard) productive fruit bearing trees with a 25 ft spacing or 27 Improved (traditional orchard) productive fruit bearing trees with a 40 ft spacing = 1 acre of orchard
Bees	Texas Property Tax Code Section 23.51: The use of land to raise or keep bees for pollination or for the production of human food or other tangible products having a commercial value.	No less than 5 Acres, No more than 20 Acres	Minimum of 6 colonies (hives) on first 5 acres. For each additional 2.5 acres one additional hive is required.
Vineyards	A plantation of grapevines, typically producing grapes used in winemaking.	3 Acres	Minimum of 454 vines in a setting of 8ft spacing per vine with 12 ft row spacing is required to equal one acre of vineyard

Land must be devoted to agricultural use 5 out of the last 7 years in order to meet the history requirement. If a property does not meet the history requirement, the property owner they may apply to begin history.

Wildlife Management

Wildlife Management	- Must have been in 1-d-1 ag - Must meet min acreage set by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for our region unless property is under certain deed restrictions, easements, threatened or endangered species	12.5 Acres individual or 16.6 Acres for Co-op	Can only be applied to land currently receiving agricultural appraisal. Approved wildlife plan prepared and signed by owner is required at time of conversion to wildlife management
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Animal Unit and Soil Type

Animal Unit	Cow, 1000 lb, dry	.92	Lamb, 1 year old	.15	Acre Requirements: Native Pasture, Sand 12.0 Acres per Animal Unit Native Pasture, Black 10.0 Acres per Animal Unit Improved Pasture, Sand 10.0 Acres per Animal Unit Improved Pasture, Black 8.0 Acres per Animal Unit
	Cow, 1000 lb, with calf	1.00	Goat, mature	.15	
	Bull, mature	1.35	Kid, 1 year old	.10	
	Cattle, 1 year old	.60	Mature Horse		
	Cattle, 2 year old	.80	(Breeders)	1.25	
	Sheep, mature	.20	Colt	.20	

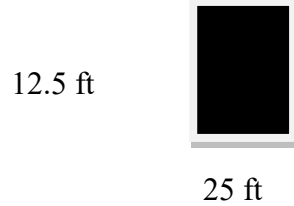
Raising livestock requires fences, proper management of land for long run forage, enough animal units to match land's carrying capacity, and a herd management procedure to get the animals to market.

Orchard Spacing

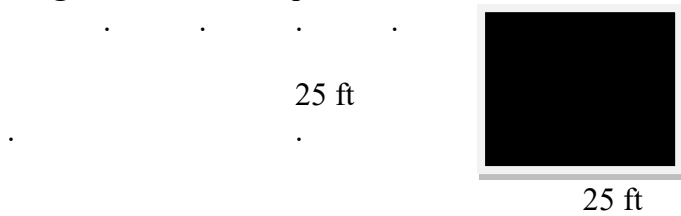
***** It is recommended that you double up on the amount of trees planted additional to come to the amount of trees listed above due to tree loss as one establishes the orchard *****

Figure 1 Pecan orchard design systems spacing diagram

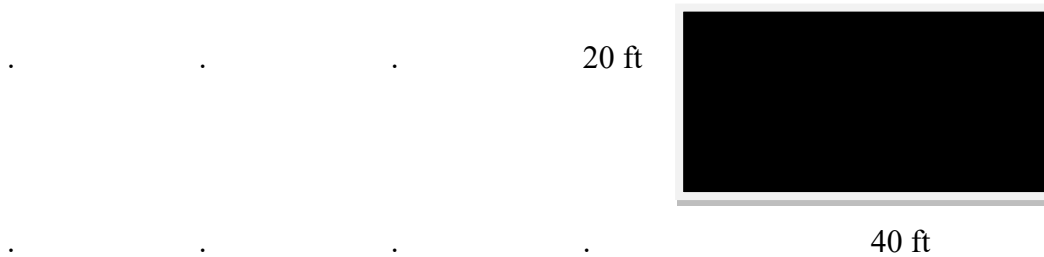
Initial planting a minimum of 140 trees with 12.5 x 25 ft spacing for an ultra-density **non-irrigated** orchard setup



Required spacing for mature orchard: A minimum of 70 trees with 25 ft x 25 ft spacing for a standard **non-irrigated** orchard setup



Initial planting a minimum of 55 trees with 20 ft x 40 ft spacing for an ultra-density **irrigated** orchard



Required spacing for mature orchard: A minimum of 27 trees with 40 ft x 40 ft spacing for an irrigated orchard

