Tour #1
Harbour Livestock & Raley Family
Sheep Dogs

The Sheep and Goat tour will be to Harbour Livestock just west of Gatesville in Coryell County. They raise meat goats and southdown sheep that compete very well in all Texas major shows and across the United States. They produce about 400 wether goats per year to supply a wide variety of customers. Mike Harbour serves as an Ambassador for Honor Show Feeds and will provide some thoughts on feeding lamb and goat projects. Mike also serves as ProStaff for Weaver Leather products and you will likely see a good presence from Weaver at the event. Mike was an Extension Agent in Hood county for 7 ½ years so he knows and understands our role. Mike has a wife Connie and 2 boys, Tristan and Trey. We will see the Show Barn, Lambing/Kidding barn and facilities and learn how they manage so many at one time. Predator control and nutrition on the sheep and goat herd are a constant issue with the number of animals in 1 location as well.

Lunch will be provided at Harbour Livestock

After lunch we will travel to see a working sheep dog demonstration by EB Raley at their facility in Crawford. They raise, train and produce working sheep dogs for competitions as well as for producers. You will see how they train the dogs, their commands, different dogs and their working styles. EB and Francis restored the Texas Sheep Dog association in 1981 where Francis is still the secretary. They put on and also compete in the sheep dog trials at all the Texas Major Livestock Shows and ranch competitions. EB and his granddaughter, Bell County CEA 4-H Sheryl Raley, travel around the state putting on demonstrations and clinics at local fairs and shows. You might have seen the Raleys at the State Fair of Texas from 1990-2006 putting on sheep dog demonstrations in the Pan America Building or at the Scarborough Fair or Dallas Irish Festival. They also raise St. Croix hair sheep to use for their demonstrations.
Embry Cattle Company is a 650 acre ranch that started in 2010. This 150 head operation relies extensively on artificial insemination and the embryo transfer program to be competitive. Embry Cattle has raised numerous breed or reserve breed champion steers and class winners at all the Texas major shows, countless county champions and reserve champions.

TOUR TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Dr. John Nelson – (certified embryologist) - donor prep, recip prep, herd health, and IVF versus conventional flushing.
- Jeremy Price - (Integrated Breeders Service) - bull collection, bull prep and bull management.

Tour to discuss ranch genetics, look at the mature cow herd, bred heifers, yearling heifers, and bulls. Heifer retention, development facilities and cattle handling.
Tour #3

Horticulture

Baylor Athletic Fields
Sports Field Solutions will discuss management of artificial turf and natural grass, fertilization, irrigation, mowing, weed-insect-disease control, and equipment at Getterman Softball Field, Baylor Baseball Ballpark, Soccer Complex, Practice Fields and McLane Stadium.

The Texas Water Star Landscape Beds
The Texas Water Star Landscape Beds consist of 3-20 x 20 landscape beds: functional landscape, native landscape, and container landscape. All landscapes have two symmetrical sections with one section watered according to evapotranspiration and the other at half the rate.

Carleen Bright Arboretum
Lunch will be served at Carleen Bright Arboretum with McLennan County Master Gardeners on hand to answer questions and display the various landscape beds. The Carleen Bright Arboretum covers 16 acres, with over 8 acres devoted to botanical gardens. The “hidden jewel of Woodway” boasts a certified Monarch Way-station, pond with babbling waterfall, rose garden, two McLennan County Master Gardener demonstration gardens – the Texas Superstar Bed and Trailside Gardens – and much more.

Jobe's/Easy Gardener
We will finish our tour at Easy Gardener/Jobe's. Easy Gardener's portfolio of brands, consists of Easy Gardener, Jobe's, Jobe's Organics, Landmaster, Weedblock, Sunscreen, and Ross. Their brands are among the most recognized in the lawn & garden industry selling to the top 100 lawn & garden retailers in North America.