

FERAL SWINE MANAGEMENT

USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services

&

Texas Department of Agriculture

TEXAS WILDLIFE SERVICES

COOPERATIVE EFFORT:

Texas Agrilife Extension Service



USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services



Texas Wildlife Damage
Management Association



Federal Authority

- ▣ Act of March 2, 1931- Authorizes the Secretary to conduct programs “to bring under control damage caused by wildlife species to agriculture, horticulture, forestry, animal husbandry, wild game animals, furbearing animals and birds...
- ▣ Authorizes cooperation with States, local jurisdictions, individuals, public and private agencies, organizations and institutions

Federal Authority

- ▣ Rural Development, Agriculture, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1988- expanded authority to include authority for nuisance mammals and birds and mammals and birds which are reservoirs for zoonotic diseases.

State Authority

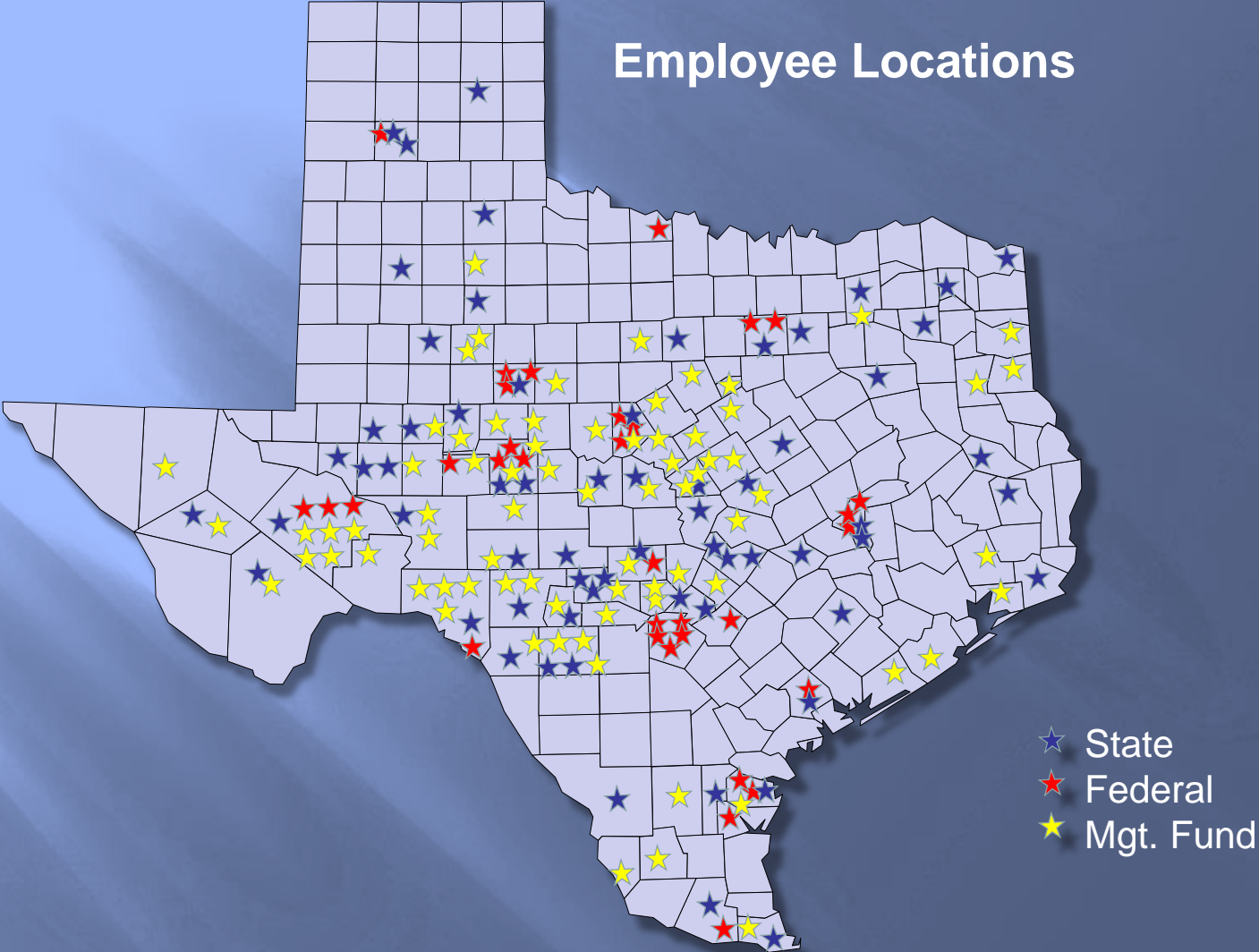
- ▣ Chapter 825 TCA, Subsection 825.001- “The state shall cooperate through the Texas A&M University System with the appropriate federal officers and agencies in controlling coyotes, mountain lions, bobcats, Russian boars...to protect livestock, food and feed supplies, crops and ranges.”

Other Agencies with Authority

- ▣ TDA, TAHC, TPWD, Soil and Water Districts, Municipalities
- ▣ USDA-APHIS-VS, USFWS, US Forest Service
- ▣ WS recognizes that landowners also have authority and responsibility for management on their property

TEXAS WILDLIFE SERVICES

Employee Locations

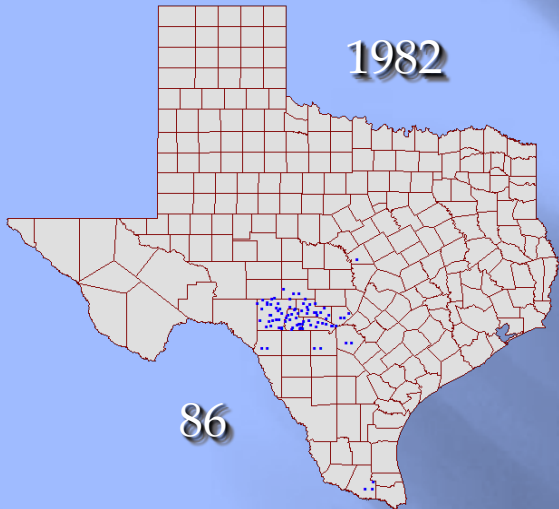


APHIS–WS–National Wildlife Research Center

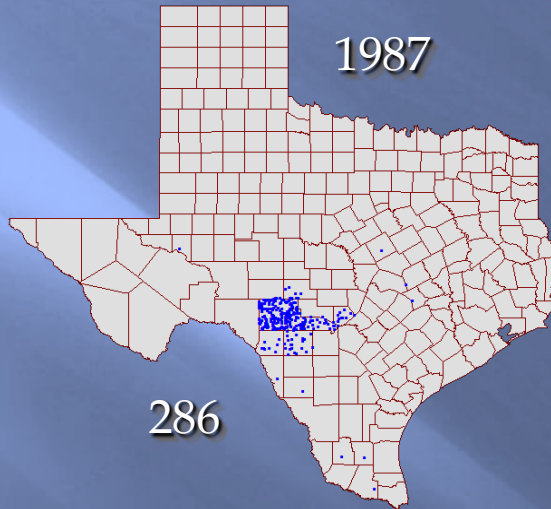
- ▣ Research arm of WS- located in Ft. Collins, CO
- ▣ Field Stations around the US
- ▣ Research program specific to feral hogs
- ▣ Research priorities- Control, Biology

Texas Wildlife Services Feral Hog Take

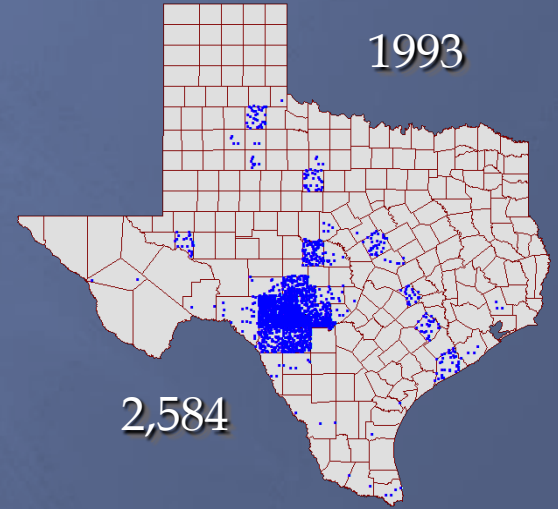
1982



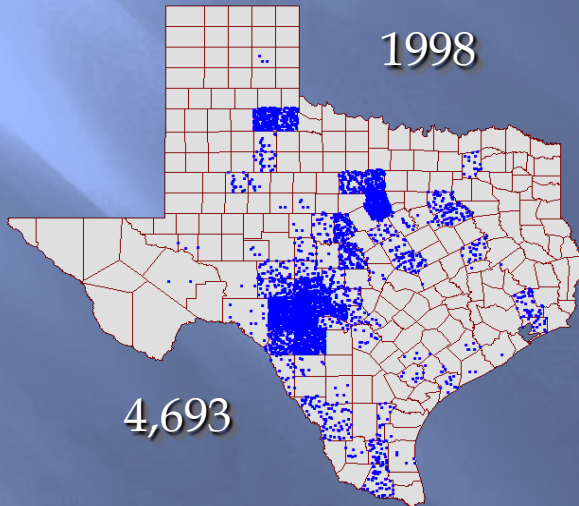
1987



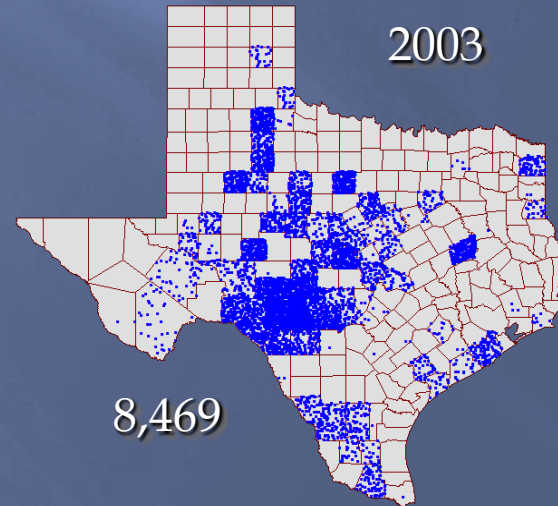
1993



1998



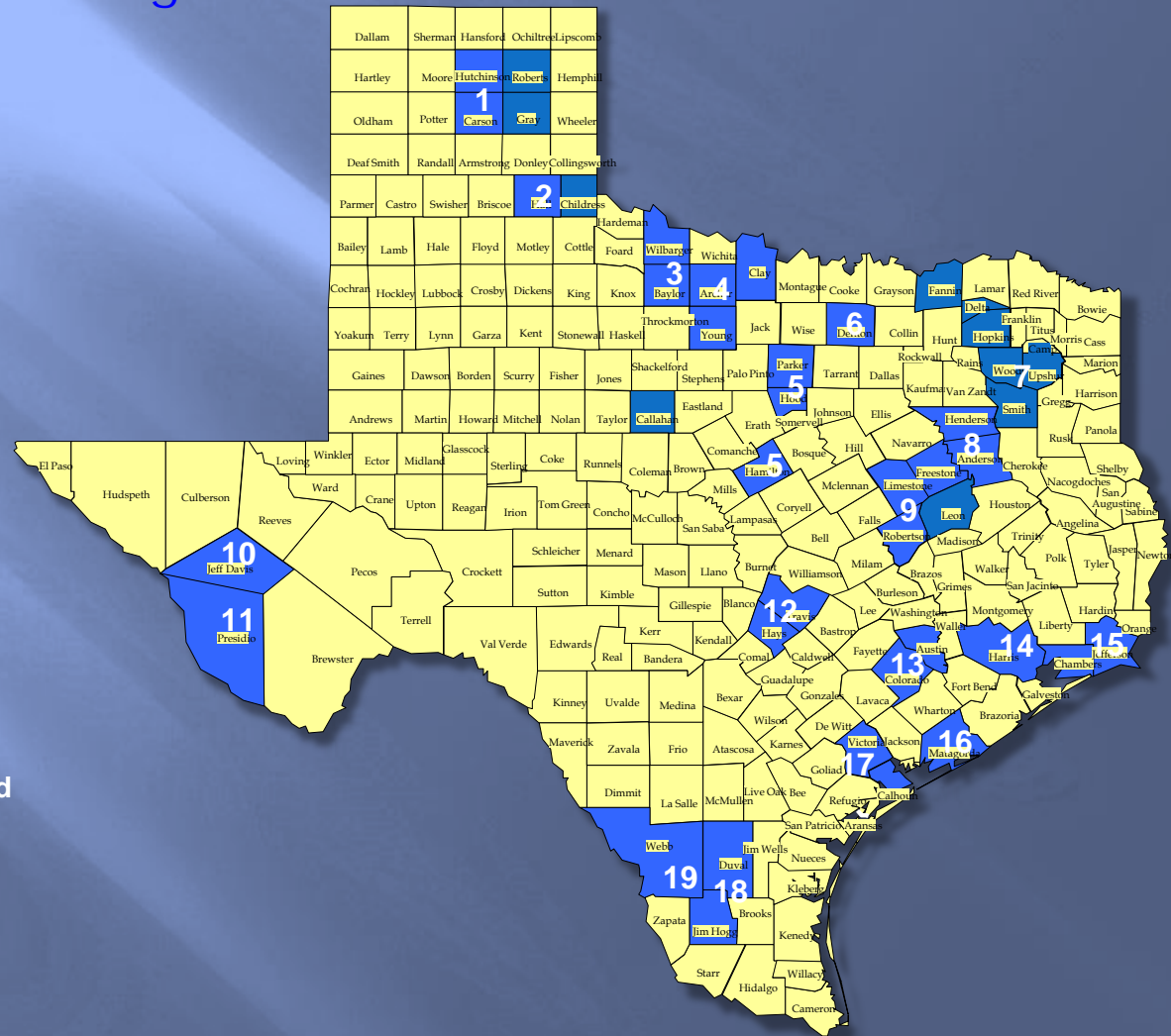
2003



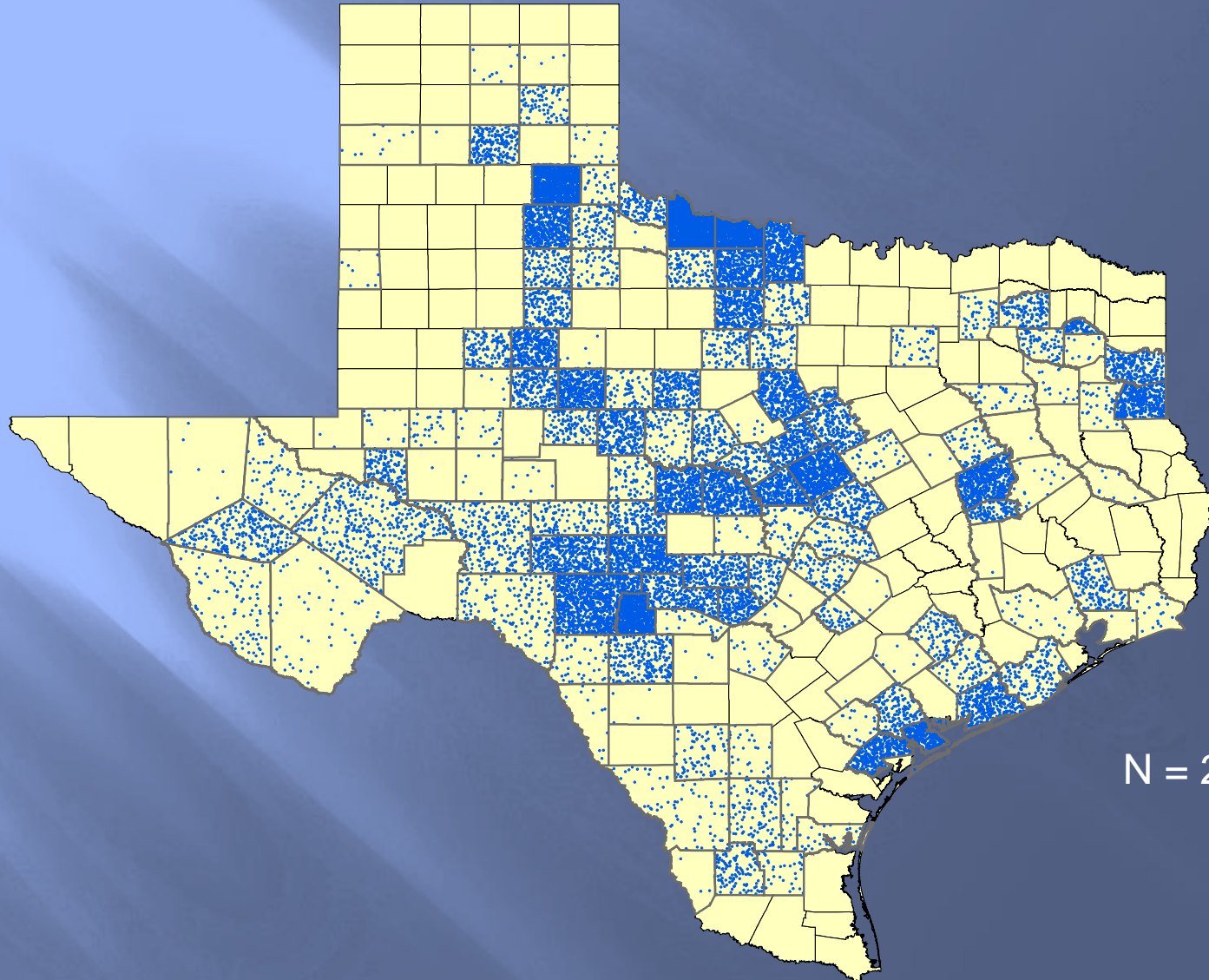
TEXAS WILDLIFE SERVICES

2008 – 2010 Feral Hog Projects

1. Pseudorabies
2. Peanuts
3. Wheat & Pseudorabies
4. Pasture & Rangeland
5. E. Coli
6. Public Parks & E.Coli
7. Corn, Milo, Pasture
8. Brucellosis, Watershed
9. Prairie Restoration
10. Rangeland & Riparian
11. E. Coli & Vegetables
12. Public Parks & E. Coli
13. Corn, Rice, Cattle & Native Prairie
14. Public Parks & E. Coli
15. Rice, Cattle Pasture, & Feed
16. Rice & Sea Turtle
17. Milo & Corn
18. Wildlife
19. Fencing Assoc. w/ Deer & Fever Tick

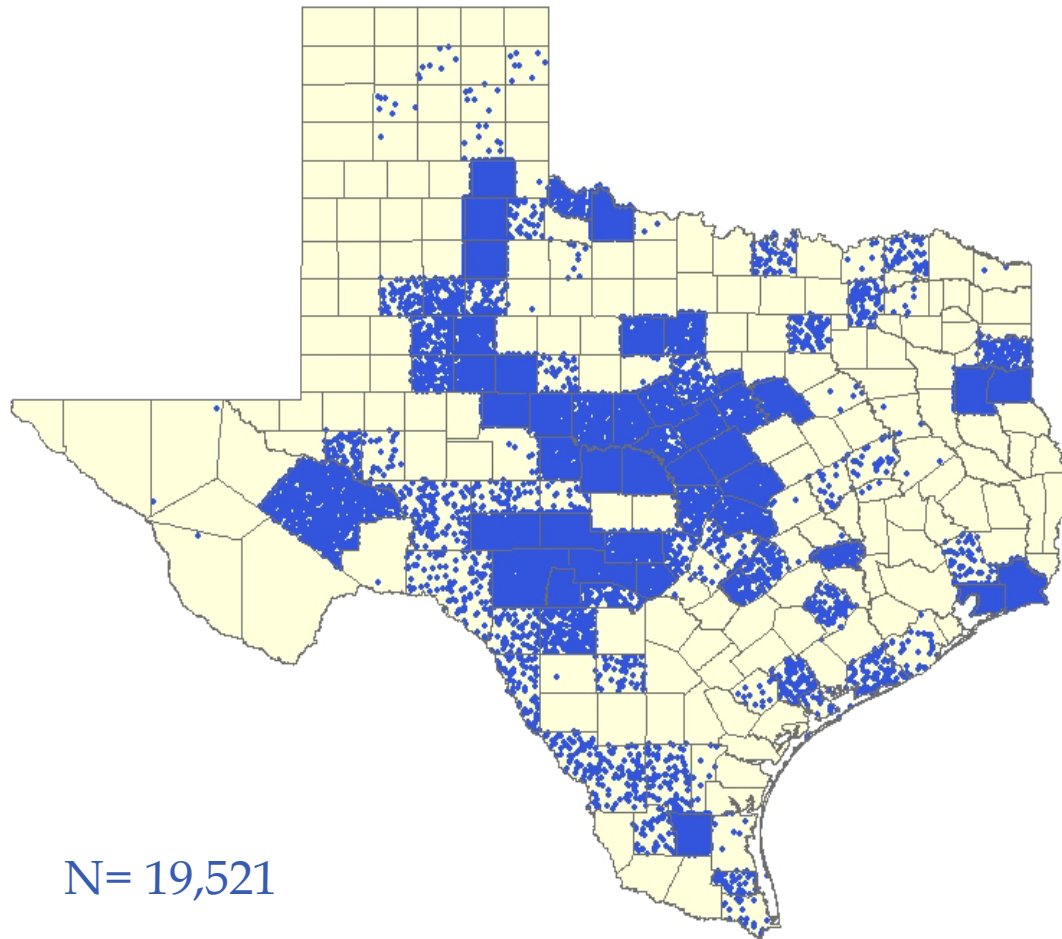


Feral Swine Take 2011



N = 24,746

Feral Swine Take 2013



Model population growth



FY 14 USDA Initiative

- ▣ House and Senate Committee Mark-up includes \$20M for feral hog control
- ▣ Federal EIS under development to guide work
- ▣ OMB expectations during budget process
- ▣ Partner expectations (NASDA, AFWA, NPPC)
- ▣ Some \$\$ to VS, IS
- ▣ Majority to control

Texas Initiatives

- ▣ WS working with Advisory Committee input to maximize dollars- look for cost share opportunities
- ▣ Texas A&M AgriLife Extension approach to enhance direct control
- ▣ Prioritize public resource protection (watersheds, animal health, endangered species)

Toxicant Development

- ▣ Sodium Nitrite- Patented by AU Researchers and AU Gov't.
- ▣ Agreement to pursue US Registration between USDA and AU
- ▣ US Research conducted to develop/prove delivery system
- ▣ Loss of facilities in AU and Kingsville
- ▣ Development of Facilities at Kerr WMA
- ▣ Pen Trials to begin Autumn '13 on 9 trial baits

Toxicant Development

- ▣ Continue to develop and test toxicants in pens
- ▣ Move to limited (<5 ac.) trials to develop GLP
- ▣ Apply for national EUP- some tests in TX
- ▣ Develop SOP's for labeling (esp. bears)
- ▣ Texas Emergency Use application
- ▣ Submission of Section 3 registration package
- ▣ Full registration

Fertility Control

- ▣ Currently none available
- ▣ Potentially problematic in potential meat animal
- ▣ Need high rate of efficacy (>80%) to effect negative population growth
- ▣ Auburn University working with protein segments to develop species specific method
- ▣ TAMU working with hog specific delivery system

Helicopter Hunting

- ▣ Market established overnight
- ▣ Landowners do not get effective control
- ▣ Take per hour drops- operators go somewhere else
- ▣ Provides incentive to maintain hogs
- ▣ Most effective method of control



Questions?