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## Feral hog population may drop off due to drought

Last Update: 9/24 12:15 am

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The end to the population explosion of feral hogs in Texas may be in sight. This invasive species of omnivore devastates property, land, crops, and entire ecosystems.



Scientists at Texas Tech's Institute for Environmental and Human Health are also researching diseases feral hogs carry and could transmit. Dr. Steve Presley says the drought may provide an opportunity to significantly decrease the hog population.

"In the fall when it starts cooling off and the vegetation starts dying then they get more active. With this drought we never did have an adequate green-up for cover. It's going to be interesting to see how it affects the pigs both in numbers and how aggressive they are to get to food stuffs," he said.

The Texas Department of Agriculture is offering grants to counties with the most feral hogs taken, and those with the most participants in hog abatement programs from October through December.

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