

# Sammy D. Gavito

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## Accomplishments

- Twenty six years of experience in cattle, goats, agriculture and horticulture
- Seventeen years in profitable commercial landscaping
- Appointed Department Chair, Agriculture Technology within 1 year of hire
- Developed, researched and delivered 2 new courses for the Agriculture Technology program
- Enhanced the training material delivered in 3 courses already a part of the program
- Have received positive reviews from students each year commending our program for the additional courses and the enhancements made
- Developed the only competitive shooting sports range complex south of San Antonio

## Professional Experience

**Department Chair, Agriculture Technology– Texas State Technical College, Harlingen, Texas, August 15, 2014 to Present**

- Added the following courses to the TSTC Agriculture Technology curriculum
  - Horticulture, Spring 2015
  - Wildlife Management, Fall 2015
  - Shop Skills, Fall 2015
- Enhanced the training material for 3 courses: Animal Reproduction, Feeds and Feeding and Animal Science
- Work closely with the leaders of our TSTC Agriculture Advisory Board throughout the year to jointly anticipate student needs and develop new programs to meet those needs
- Maintain a working relationship with Texas A&M at Kingsville to continue with the articulation agreement
- Oversee department staff and attend monthly and other leadership meetings with TSTC Division Chairs and the Division Director

**Instructor, Agriculture Technology- Texas State Technical College, Harlingen, Texas, August 1, 2013 to Present**

- Teach college-level Agriculture courses
- Team with other instructors to develop and implement curriculum
- Work with students and provide advice on their studies and career goals
- Teach classes that prepare our students for work after TSTC or to continue their education in a Bachelor's program at Texas A&M at Kingsville or another university

**County Extension Agent, Agriculture and 4-H- Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service, Duval County, Benavides, Texas, June 1, 2001 to July 31, 2013.**

- Provide information and advice to the community regarding beef cattle production, range management, wildlife management, hay production, pesticide applications and rain water harvesting
- Developed clinics and other education for families and youth involved in the 4-H program including clinics for steers, heifers, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits, poultry, horsemanship, shooting sports, wildlife, chess and golf
- Partnered with adult volunteers, local schools, parks and wildlife personnel, ranch managers and biologists to educate the community and assist the families and youth with their projects

- Partnered with Duval County local government to develop a competitive shooting sports range and complex for use by the 4-H community and local law enforcement. Sports included in the range were: Archery, Rifle, and Shotgun

**Owner, Sam's Nursery and Landscaping, Brownsville, Texas, January 1983- May 31, 2001**

- Profitable commercial and non-commercial company with 12 full time employees
- Retail sales of nursery plants to the general public
- Plant propagation, specializing in ornamental plants
- Landscape design including selection and installation of plants, turf and water gardens
- Lawn maintenance for both commercial and non-commercial clients

**Owner, Meat Goat and Cattle Ranching, Benavides, Texas, January 1990 to Present**

- Bred, raised and sold goats for meat and 4-H projects
- Bred, raised and sold registered and commercial Simbrah and Beefmaster cattle

## **Education**

- Master of Science in Agriculture Science- Texas A&M University at Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas, December 2006
- Bachelor of Science in Plant Science- Texas A&I University at Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas, December 1982

## **Memberships and Credentials**

- Current: Texas Parks and Wildlife Hunter Education Instructor, Spring 2015
- Non- Expiring: Certification in Cattle Palpation Technique from Bovine Elite, College Station, Texas
- Non-Expiring: Certification in Artificial Insemination in Cattle from Bovine Elite, College Station, Texas
- Past: Non-commercial Political Pesticide Applicator License
- Past President of the Rio Grande Valley Simbrah/Simmental Association
- Former member of the Live Oak Beefmaster Association
- Past member of the American Boar Goat Association

## **Workshops Taught**

- Internal Parasites of Cattle, Ranch Seminar, Benavides, Texas
- Deer Food Plots in South Texas, Ranch Seminar, Alice, Texas
- Deer Food Plots in South Texas, Ranch Seminar, Benavides, Texas
- Basics of Getting into Nature Tourism, Ranch Seminar, Hebbronville, Texas
- Interpreting Hay Show Results, Hay Show Program, Benavides, Texas

## **Workshops and Programs Developed and Implemented**

- Internal Parasites Determination through Microscope Observations of Fecal Matter, Goat Ranch Seminar, Benavides, Texas
- White-Tailed Deer Management Workshops, Benavides, Texas
- Beef Cattle Workshops, Benavides and Hebbronville, Texas
- Hay Show Program, Benavides and Alice, Texas
- Youth Wildlife Programs, Benavides, Texas

## Courses Approved to Teach

- AGAH 1401 Animal Science: An introductory survey of the scientific principles and applied practices related to livestock production. Topics include genetics, animal breeding and selection, anatomy and physiology, nutrition, reproduction, health and marketing of livestock and livestock products.
- AGAH 1347 Animal Reproduction: Study of organs, functions, endocrinology and common management practices related to reproduction
- AGAH 2413 Principles of Feeds and Feeding: Study of the role and application of feed nutrients and additives. Topics include comparative aspects of digestion, absorption, and metabolism of nutrients. Emphasis on identification of nutrient requirements and formulation of dietary feeding regimens.
- AGCR 2305 Entomology: Study of morphology, physiology, and classification of the common insect orders and related arthropods with an emphasis on species of economic or biological importance. Emphasis on integrated pest management concepts and proper use of pesticides.
- AGMG 1344 Agriculture Records Management: Examination of the principles of agriculture records and bookkeeping with emphasis on utilization and interpretation of farm and ranch accounts.
- AGCR 1341 Forage and Pasture: Study of production and management of forage crops and pastures including establishment, fertilization, weed control, grazing systems, hay, seed production and harvesting.
- AGCR 2313 Soil and Water Conservation Management: Study of physical and chemical soil deterioration and loss, water conservation, and principles for protection and maintenance of these resources. Topics include plant/water relationships, water conservation methods, basic terrace engineering principles, sediment loss and land use plans.
- WMGT 1305 Principles of Wildlife Management: History of wildlife management based on its economic and ecological impact. Includes basic wildlife and habitat management techniques and discussion of threatened and endangered species.
- HALT 2307 Horticulture Food Crops: A study of commercial and home cultivated food crops including various vegetables, fruits and nuts. Topics address planting, maintenance, harvest and storage of various crops.