

Biography
Dale A. Fritz, Ph.D.
District Extension Administrator

Dr. Dale Fritz serves as a District Extension Administrator for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, a position he has held for the past 21 years. In this role, he provides leadership for the supervision and management of County Extension personnel in the 18 counties of Southeast Extension District 9. He is also responsible for program development and the recruiting, hiring, orientation, training, and performance appraisal for 74 Extension Agents.

Dr. Fritz also provides administrative oversight of the County Extension Directors in Fort Bend and Harris Counties, and the County Extension Budgets in Southeast Extension District 9. To most effectively impact Extension programming, Dr. Fritz coordinates with the Southeast Regional Program Leaders to identify program direction, acquire resources for program enhancement, and set priorities for resource allocation. He also interfaces with county and state elected officials and key leaders to highlight the District's many educational programs.

Dr. Fritz began his AgriLife Extension career in 1979 as a County Extension Agent in Fayette County. He subsequently served as an agent in Brazos, Tarrant, and McLennan Counties. In this role, he was responsible for development and implementation of educational programs, media relations, management of the County Extension Budget, program coordination, and interpretation of program accomplishments. His major programming areas included 4-H management and projects, beef cattle and forages, field crops, horse, horticulture, rural-urban relations, agribusiness development and community development.

Dr. Fritz' high level of performance has earned him two AgriLife Extension Superior Service Awards, one for Administrative Leadership and one for media relations. He also earned the Epsilon Sigma Phi Award for Administrative Leadership on the State, Southern Region, and National levels, and the State Visionary Leadership Award.

Dr. Fritz grew up on a small farm near Brenham, Texas where his family produced cotton, corn, hay, beef cattle, and swine. He was active in 4-H and FFA and completed swine and beef cattle projects and served as a member of the FFA Quiz teams and Livestock Judging teams. His accomplishments in FFA helped him to earn the Star Greenhand Award, Chapter Farmer Degree, and Lone Star Farmer Degree. He also played Little League baseball.

Dr. Fritz graduated from Brenham High School and began his studies at Blinn College. He then transferred to Texas A&M University and completed his Bachelor of Science

Degree in Animal Science. He paid his own way through college by working in the warehouse of Brenham Wholesale Grocery Company and by raising feeder pigs. He was the first in his family to graduate from college.

Dr. Fritz continued his education while employed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and earned a Master of Science Degree in Animal Science and a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Agricultural Education, both from Texas A&M University.

Dr. Fritz met the love of his life, Lisa Roby, while working together in Fayette County, they were married in April, 1982. They are the proud parents of daughter Lauren and her husband Anthony of Kingwood and son Gregory of Bryan. Their children were active participants of 4-H at the County, District and State levels and graduated from Texas A&M University. His wife is a graduate of Auburn University, which has brought about an interesting rivalry since Texas A&M joined the SEC. He and his family are active members of Peace Lutheran Church of College Station.

Dr. Fritz continues his involvement in production agriculture by maintaining a cow herd on his farm near Snook and on the home place near Brenham. He is a member of Producers Cooperative Association and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association.

Dr. Fritz has served on numerous committees during his tenure with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. His current appointments include the County Extension Agent On-Boarding Review Committee, the County Extension Agent and Mid-Manager Performance Appraisal Review Committee, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Beef Quiz Bowl Committee. He is also a Charter Lifetime Member of the Texas 4-H Friends and Alumni Association, National and Texas Association of Extension 4-H Agents, Epsilon Sigma Phi - Alpha Zeta Chapter, and Texas A&M University Former Student Association.