

Bought land with ag valuation?

The tax break doesn't transfer automatically.

The old owner's approval usually ends at the sale. The new owner must file their own application with the county appraisal district by April 30. If you're buying land that's been on ag valuation, here's what you need to know.

Application deadline: April 30 each year. File between January 1 and April 30. If the county appraisal district gets your written request before April 30, they may extend you up to 60 more days for good cause.

The 2026 HB 1244 exception: If the land stays in the same use (like leased to the same rancher) and is managed by the same people, you may have up to one year after the transfer to file, with no penalty. This is new law (effective January 1, 2026).

5 of the last 7 years: To qualify for ag valuation, the land must have been used for agriculture in at least 5 of the preceding 7 years.

What you need to file:

• Deed copy and closing date • Property ID • Current use (cattle, hay, timber, etc.) • Any operator lease

Three paths forward:

1. Keep ag: File with the county using the same use. You can lease the land. **2. Switch to wildlife:** File a wildlife plan and Form 50-129 (works while ag-valued). **3. Beekeeping:** Commercial bees on 5–20 acres; county sets hive count.

Contact your county appraisal district:

County	District Name	Phone
Polk	Polk Central Appraisal District	(936) 327-2174
San Jacinto	San Jacinto County Appraisal District	(936) 653-1450
Trinity	Trinity County Appraisal District	(936) 642-1502
Tyler	Tyler County Appraisal District	(409) 283-3736
Walker	Walker County Appraisal District	(936) 295-0402
Angelina	Angelina County Appraisal District	(936) 634-8456

Keep My Acres prepares the paperwork from plain questions. \$69 new-owner ag application • \$199 wildlife plan package

You review, sign, and file the documents yourself. The appraisal district makes the final call.

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General information only. Not legal, tax, or biological advice. The appraisal district makes the final determination on all applications.

Provided by: _____