

Jefferson County Agriculture Newsletter November 2018



Cooperative Extension Service

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Enjoy Fall Color in Kentucky Forests

If you've been waiting all year to see beautiful fall colors in Kentucky, it is almost time. Mid-October is the beginning of the brilliant fall tree color show in Kentucky. Actually, these brilliant colors have been there all along; they've been masked by a cloak of chlorophylls, green pigments vital to a tree's food-making process.

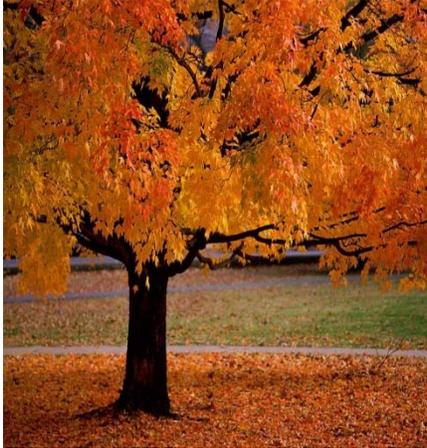
Trees use and replenish chlorophylls during the growing season. High replacement maintains green leaf color. As fall approaches, the green pigments are replaced at a slower rate due to complex environmental factors and the trees' genetic makeup. The dwindling supply of green pigments unmasks other pigments that were present all along, revealing the spectacular show of fall color.

We can enjoy a variety of fall colors because our diverse climate and soil composition enable many trees from northern and southern states to grow in Kentucky.

Various shades of red color are produced by black gum, pear, sumac, dogwood, maple, oak and sassafras trees. Those giving us a range of orange and yellow hues include yellow-poplar, birch, hickory and beech.



Since black gum and sumac trees shut down chlorophyll production early, they are the first to reveal fall color. Both change from green to red, leaf by leaf. No leaf seems to be all green or red at the same time, giving a spotty appearance throughout the trees.



You might be surprised to know that what actually makes leaves change color has less to do with “Jack Frost” and more to do with shorter days activating a kind of “chemical clock” telling the trees to shut down chlorophyll production and prepare for winter.

When the tree completely shuts down chlorophyll production, a layer at the base of the leaf forms. This abscission layer causes the leaf to fall off the branch, leaving only the bud with next year’s leaves and flowers to wait for the signal in the spring to bloom and grow.

For more information on fall tree color or other forestry topics, contact your Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service office.

Source: Billy Thomas, UK Extension Forester

Kentucky Gardens Need Attention in the Fall

Fall is a beautiful time in Kentucky gardens, but it can also be a messy time. Tree leaves turn from green to vibrant fall colors and then drop, creating big piles. Then there are the leaf and spent shoots from our flower beds.

The way you address our yard waste can have a significant impact on your gardens and on the environment. Gardeners commonly rake up and bag leaves to haul away to yard waste dumps.

This option, while tidy, uses a lot of energy, both yours and the energy to transport the leaves and mixed garden waste.

An alternative is to mulch leaves and yard waste. You could use the bountiful resource to enrich your lawn and garden, while creating less waste and air pollution.

A very simple technique with leaves is to rake them into a line and mow over them with your lawn mower.

The mower will chop the leaves into pieces small enough to fall between the blades of grass in your lawn. The chopped leaves will break down out of sight, provide nutrients to your lawn and improve the quality of your soil.



For larger items like spent flower stalks, composting is a simple, easy and environmentally friendly option.

Done properly, it produces no odor and provides a generous amount of nutrient-rich organic compost for your garden, which reduces or eliminates the need to buy fertilizer.

Composting also eliminates the need to transport garden waste, making composting a triple-win situation for your garden, wallet and the environment.

The speed of compost production is influenced by the size of the material placed in the bin, so the more you can chop up the garden debris, the quicker you will have usable compost. Many options for compost bin design and construction are well suited to any location and budget.

Using leaves as mulch has many benefits. The mulch helps retain moisture in the soil and insulates plants from extreme winter temperatures. The decomposed leaves become an excellent conditioner for warming spring soil, helping to attract worms and other beneficial microorganisms.

For more information on mulching and composting, contact Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service.

Source: Richard Durham, Extension Horticulture Specialist

Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Labs Provide Valuable Services

Kentucky has two veterinary labs that support the animal industries with diagnostic medical testing services -- the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab at the University of Kentucky in Lexington and Murray State University's Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville. Craig Carter is the director of the UK VDL, while Debbie Reed is the director of the BVC. Their goal is to provide services to improve the health of your animals.

The UK VDL and BVC are both full-service veterinary diagnostic labs, accredited for all animal species. Services range from diagnostic and regulatory testing to full necropsy (autopsy). If your farm experiences a disease problem in one or more animals or deaths, the UK VDL can run laboratory tests at the request of your veterinarian to help identify the cause. For more serious or puzzling health issues, you can request an epidemiological field investigation.

The UK VDL website, <http://vdl.uky.edu>, lists their fee schedule, what tests they offer, and other helpful information. Periodically, they notice an increase in certain diseases or syndromes and publish an animal health bulletin on their website.

For state and county information, you can follow the epidemiology information link from the main page, it will show you an interactive map of Kentucky. Simply scroll your cursor over your county, and you can see what diseases the labs have diagnosed in your county in the past 30, 60 or 90 days. It will not tell you addresses or farm names as they keep all identifying information strictly confidential; but it will tell you the types of diseases that currently are in your county and in surrounding counties. This will help you design a sound vaccination and preventive medicine program for your herd.

The BVC website is: <https://breathitt.murraystate.edu>.

With spring, many disease problems arise in cattle, some of which can be prevented by vaccination. For VDL detected a high deaths in cattle around awareness campaign encourage cattle their animals. As a



example, in 2006 the UK incidence of blackleg Eastern Kentucky. An was mounted to producers to vaccinate result, the incidence of the

disease, based on laboratory data, has been minimal ever since, saving the cattle industry an estimated \$500,000 each year.

Many vaccines are available on the market for use in cattle in the United States. Producers must base their decision of whether or not to use any of these products on the presence of a disease on a particular farm, the seasonality of disease, management and risk factors. The Kentucky's veterinary diagnostic labs can assist you and your veterinarian in vaccine selection by confirming digestive, neurological, respiratory, parasitic and other diseases on your premises.

The mission of the UK VDL is to develop and apply state-of-the-art diagnostic methodology to improve animal health and marketability, to protect the public health and to assist in the preservation of the human-animal bond through the principles of One Health. The UK VDL is fully accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

For more information on about using the labs' services, contact the Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service.

Source: Craig Carter, UK Veterinary Diagnostic Lab director

Adam Named UK Equine Outreach Veterinarian



Emma Adam has been named the equine outreach veterinarian for the University of Kentucky Department of Veterinary Science. She will begin July 1.

“I am very pleased to welcome Dr. Emma Adam to our program in this very important role. The purpose of this position is to enhance the overall outreach efforts of this department in terms of our teaching, service and research activities,” said David Horohov, department chair and Gluck Equine Research Center

director. “Dr. Adam is uniquely qualified for this position given her exceptional expertise in equine surgery and medicine as well as her research background.”

The position was created to provide a better link between the research and diagnostic laboratories and those we serve, said Nancy Cox, dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

“We expect a lot from this new position, and we have the perfect person in place to accomplish a new era of service to the veterinary and horseman community. We could not be more fortunate to have such a person as Dr. Emma Adam taking on this transformative position,” Cox said.

A native of Newmarket, England, Adam grew up on a commercial breeding farm and later worked for 10-time champion trainer Sir Michael Stoute. Adam has experience with many equine disciplines. She has worked on breeding, racing and athletic stock around the globe in Newmarket, England; Normandy, France; Melbourne, Australia and several locations in the United States.

“I’m very excited about the scope and possibilities of this position. This position is about forging links between the equine industry and the university, so everyone can leverage our combined resources and share knowledge,” Adam said. “As a clinician with firsthand experience of the demands of our profession and industry, I plan to be accessible and engaged in serving the industry and veterinary professionals.”

Adam earned her doctoral degree in UK’s Department of Veterinary Science. Her research in James MacLeod’s musculoskeletal science laboratory at the Gluck Center examined articular cartilage and asked fundamental questions about what gene expression patterns make articular cartilage so unique. She also compared the pattern with cells currently used in regenerative medicine. She earned her bachelor of veterinary medicine degree from Royal Veterinary College and her bachelor of science from King’s College.

She also did an internship at Colorado State University followed by an internal medicine residency at Texas A&M University and a surgery residency at University of Pennsylvania, New

Bolton Center. At the New Bolton Center she looked after 2006 Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro and was involved with many of his surgeries following the Preakness Stakes where he shattered his leg.

Adam is a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, American College of Veterinary Surgeons, American Association of Equine Practitioners and American Veterinary Medical Association.

The mission of the Department of Veterinary Science, a UK Ag Equine program in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, is to assure the health and viability of animal agriculture through teaching, discovery, research and service. For more information on the department, visit <http://vetsci.ca.uky.edu>.

The above article is from UK College of Agriculture, Food & Environment, News Topics
By: Jenny Evans, Lexington, KY, April 12, 2018, Emma Adam photo by: Milt Toby

Reduce Stress with Good Record Keeping

Record keeping may not be every farmer's favorite activity, and probably not the reason someone chooses farming as a career. With time, patience and a commitment to get it done, it can make your financial life a lot less stressful.

Record keeping doesn't have to be difficult. It's a way to keep track of things about your operation that will help you make better long-term decisions. You can use a ledger book or a computer—whatever helps you maintain consistency. Software programs can make your data more meaningful.



Software has become more user-friendly over time, and while it may not make the record keeping process fun, it could help you see the overall picture of your operation. Some programs track purchases and how you use each item on a particular enterprise or field. You'll be

able to keep track of repair and maintenance records for specific farm equipment and produce balance sheets, income statements and cash flow budgets.

For many livestock operations, a good time to start keeping records is when the veterinarian comes to check your animals. Vets usually charge per head, so that data can help you develop a list of animals that need attention. You can use the same data to develop health histories of your animals, which will lead to more informed exams and diagnosis in the future.

Make record keeping a team effort for your family. Sit down and work on the records and budget together. Perhaps one person can read the information while another person types it into the software program or writes it in the ledger book. Also, if you do a little bit each day and don't save it all up for the end of the year, you won't become overwhelmed.

If you've done the work throughout the year, year-end procedures can feel more satisfying. You can generate year-end reports with a few simple clicks and not have to sort through stacks of bills lying around the home or office.

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Agricultural Economics has several tools online that could help with budgeting and decision making. Visit <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/AgEcon/extbudgets.php> to see what is available.

For more information about record keeping and a variety of other farm management topics, contact Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service.

Sources: Steve Isaacs, Extension Agricultural Economist

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Marketing for All

Adaptable Marketing Training for Small Farms

Marketing Basics

We'll talk Product, Price, Place, and Promotion as well as key variables specialty crop marketers should consider.

Social Media Basics

This intro course shows how small businesses can use social media to reach new customers and learn about what their clients want.

Basics of Web Design

Designing simple professional online content is now possible for even the most computer illiterate among us. We touch on principles and tools to get you going.

Hands-On Visual Merchandizing

We take a show-don't-tell approach to learning about display design. Participants can brainstorm and discuss the merits of different designs in a hands-on workshop.

Market Signs That Work

Whether you are getting people to your market or business or trying to communicate with them once they've arrived, this workshop can help.

Identifying and Exploring New Markets

There are pros and cons to every market channel. Learn how to find and compare opportunities to grow your business.

Understanding and Using Analytics

Big companies collect BIG data. Learn how you can leverage their technology for your business.

Record Keeping for Specialty Crops

It's not the most exciting course on the list, but record keeping tells you how your business is doing. We focus on basics and making small changes for big results.

Using Price Data to Make More Money

Once you've figured your costs, how do you set your price? We show how to use CCD price data to make sure the price is right.

Value-Added Product Development

Value-added production is one of the big steps many of our producers take. We make sure you know the lay of the land before you get started.

Accepting More Than Just Cash

Customers don't always carry cash any more. We take a look at how and why you may want to think about taking plastic.



Each training lasts ~ 1 hour.

Mix & match topics to meet your group's needs.

To schedule: [email brett.wolff@uky.edu](mailto:brett.wolff@uky.edu) or [call 859-218-4384](tel:859-218-4384)

Be Sure to Check out Kentucky Proud

Kentucky Proud is the official state marketing program for agricultural products. There is no charge to joining. As a Kentucky Proud member, you can consult with Kentucky Department of Agriculture marketing specialists; apply for grants and cost share funds; buy promotional items at cost; display the Kentucky Proud logo; and take advantage of many more member benefits. Visit www.kyproud.com to find out more.

When you buy a product with the Kentucky Proud label, you are buying the freshest, most nutritious food possible. You are keeping your dollars close to home and you are helping a Kentucky farm family earn a living. Plus, you are reducing the miles that the food has to travel from the farm to your plate.

Source: www.kyproud.com

Below are some Agricultural links you might find useful:

Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality:

<http://www.uky.edu/bae/sites/www.uky.edu/bae/filesKentucky%20Agriculture%20Water%20Act%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

<https://kycattle.org>

[College of Ag](#)

[Agricultural Communication Services](#)

[Agricultural Information Center](#)

[KY Master Logger Program](#)

[KY Tobacco Research and Development Center](#)

[Division of Regulatory Services](#)



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