

Jefferson County Agriculture Newsletter January 2019

 University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Cooperative Extension Service

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Can it be 2019? I hope each of you had a great holiday season with family and friends! These are the days when farmers and gardeners can barely get through the holidays because they have their minds on one thing – planting. Whether it's just thinking of getting out in the warmer weather or deciding what kinds of seeds you'll be planting, it's an exciting time of year. We look forward to helping you with any questions you may have. Please feel free to call or email me. 502-569-2344, pwlong@uky.edu

Jefferson County Extension Meetings and Programs Winter/Spring 2019 Dates and Location TBA

Backyard Stream Certification/Urban Stream Quality
Forest Macrofungi and Mushroom Cultivation
Industrial Hemp; Production and Marketing
Soil Testing for Lead; Precautions and Recommendations

DID YOU KNOW?

The global population is expected to **increase** to 9.7 billion by 2050, which means the world's farmers will have to grow about **70 percent** more food than what is now produced.

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Don't Give Firewood Insects a Winter Home!

Each time you bring a load of firewood inside this winter, you could be opening the door for wood-infesting insects to make your home their home. Most insects brought into the home on firewood are harmless, and you can greatly reduce their numbers by following a few simple steps from the entomology department at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

- When stacking wood outside, avoid stacking it directly on the ground. This will keep it from getting too wet and reduce the chances of infestation by such insects as termites and ants. (Individual termites and ants brought into the house will not start an infestation. However, a colony may exist in an old wood pile outdoors.)
- Don't stack firewood in or against the house or other buildings for long periods of time. Termite or carpenter ant problems can develop and cause more serious problems later.
- Older wood is most likely to be infested, so use it first. Avoid stacking new wood on top of old wood.
- Cover firewood during the summer and fall to keep it drier and to stop some insects from seeking it out as winter shelter.
- To dislodge insects before bringing firewood indoors, shake, jar or knock logs together sharply. Brush off any obvious webbing or cocoons.
- Bring in small amounts of firewood that can be used in a day or so. Keep it stacked in a cool area, such as a garage or on a porch, until it is to be used. When wood warms up, the creatures in or on it will become active.
- Do not treat firewood with insecticides. Not only is it unnecessary, it could be dangerous. When insecticide burns, it can produce noxious fumes.

For more information about pest control, contact the Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service.

Source: Lee Townsend, University of Kentucky Extension Entomologist

Conference to Take a Fresh approach to Alfalfa, Stored Forages



A producer cutting alfalfa. Photo courtesy of Chris Teutsch, UK forage extension specialist.
January 22, 2019 | By: Katie Pratt

Lexington, Ky., - The University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council will host the 38th Annual Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference. The daylong event will begin at 8 a.m. EST Feb. 21 at the Fayette County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

“Our goal is to help producers improve the efficiency and quality of all their hay, silage and baleage production. Throughout the day, we will share ways they can do that,” said Ray Smith, forage extension specialist in the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Event participants will hear presentations about economics, trends, quality and technology related to alfalfa and other high-quality forages. Presenters include specialists from the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment; Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service and the industry. Kentucky and Tennessee forage producers will also share how baleage works on their farms. Attendees can participate in the conference’s annual silent auction.

Conference organizers have applied for continuing education units for Certified Crop Advisers.

Registration is \$25 per person before Feb. 15. After that date, it is \$30 per person. To register for the event, go to <http://www.kyalfalfa.eventbrite.com>.

More information on the conference and directions to the convention center are available on the UK Forage Extension website at <http://forages.ca.uky.edu/>.

Contact: Ray Smith, 859-257-3358

Extension agents host 12th annual Pastures Please!!



Photo by Jimmy Henning

LEXINGTON, Ky., (Jan. 18, 2019) – University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs will host a Pastures Please!! pasture maintenance workshop from 5:30 to 8 p.m. EST Jan. 28 at the Mercer County Fairgrounds, The Stable, 560 Linden Ave., Harrodsburg. The event is free, and snacks will be provided prior to the event due to sponsorship by McCauley's and Thoroughbred Landscape Products.

Horse owners, farm owners and farm managers will have the opportunity to listen to several informative talks from forage experts, including how to manage weedy grasses

in grazed pastures; safe tall fescue varieties for all classes of horses; and using seed coating and other techniques to improve pasture establishment.

“Given the weather challenges and damage to our pastures from 2018, this is the perfect time to attend a meeting and begin thinking about what will be necessary to repair pastures and restore productivity as we look forward to spring pasture growth,” said Linda McClanahan, Mercer County agriculture and natural resources extension agent.

RSVP to your local county agent or to the Mercer County Extension office 859-734-4378 or dl_CES_Mercer@email.uky.edu. For more information about this or other UK Ag Equine Programs events, visit <http://www.ca.uky.edu/equine>.

UK Ag Equine Programs is part of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Writer: Holly Wiemers, 859-257-2226

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment through its land-grant mission, reaches across the commonwealth with teaching, research and extension to enhance the lives of Kentuckians.

Contact: Chris Teutsch, 270-365-7541, ext. 202, chris.teutsch@uky.edu; Ray Smith, 859-257-3358, raysmith1@uky.edu; Jimmy Henning, 859-218-0749, jimmy.henning@uky.edu

Writer: Katie Pratt, 859-257-8774

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Looking Forward to the Summer Vegetable Garden



Soon you'll be receiving seed catalogs for the 2019 Vegetable growing season. While listening to the cold wind blow outside, what a comfort it is to think about spring and summer and planning your garden.

To make the most of your garden, every aspiring gardener should follow seven steps to have a successful gardening season.

1. Plan your garden on paper before you begin.
2. Select a good gardening site that has full of sun for at least eight hours each day, relatively level, well-drained, close to a water source and not shaded.
3. Prepare the soil properly and add fertilizer and lime according to soil-test recommendations.
4. Plan only as large a garden as you can easily maintain. Beginning gardeners often overplant, and then they fail because they cannot keep up with the tasks required. You'll have to control weeds and pests, apply water when needed and harvest on time. Vegetables harvested at their peak are tasty, but when left on the plants too long, the flavor is simply the best.
5. Grow vegetables that will produce the maximum amount of food in the space available.
6. Plant during the correct season for the crop. Choose varieties recommended for your area.
7. Harvest vegetables at their proper stage of maturity. Store them promptly and properly if you do not use them immediately.

A well-planned and properly kept garden should produce 600 to 700 pounds of produce per 1,000 square feet and may include many different crops.

Finally, the closer the vegetable garden is to your back door, the more you will use it. You can see when your crops are at their peaks and can take maximum advantage of their freshness. Also, keeping up with the planting, weeding, watering and pest control will be easier.

For more guidance on planning your 2019 vegetable garden, contact Jefferson Cooperative Extension or download the publication, "Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky (<http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/id/id128/id128.pdf>) from the Web.

Source: Richard Durham, Extension Horticulture Specialist

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)

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](#)

[NEW KY Master Naturalists Program \(for information; contact Wayne Long pwl@uky.edu or Carmen Agouridis carmen.agouridis@uky.edu\)](#)

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Long".

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