



From the Ground Up

Bath County Agricultural Newsletter

Bath County
Ag and Natural Resources

October
2024

Robert Amburgey

**Bath County Extension
Agent for Agriculture**



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

BATH COUNTY CATTLEMAN MEETING

October 8th and 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

Beginning and small farmer school

November 1st from 10:00am to 3:00 p.m

Morehead State University farm

See flyer for more details and QR code to register

HAZARDOUS WEATHER PREPARDNESS PROGRAM

October 21 6:30-7:30

Bath County Ag Center

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



BEGINNING & SMALL FARMER SCHOOL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1



10:00AM-3:00PM

9:30AM Registration



25 MSU FARM DRIVE

Arena Classrooms

TOPICS

- First Steps
- Farm Design & Layout
- Taxes & Record Keeping
- Enterprises to Consider
- Info from Partnering Groups

To register, use the QR code or call your local
Extension Office at: (606) 674-6121



Registration required by 10/25/24

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Kentucky Gardens Need Attention in the Fall

Source: Richard Durham, Extension Horticulture Specialist

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.

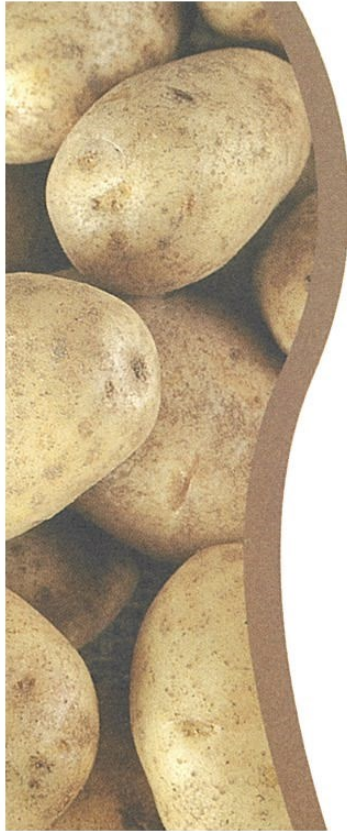
The mower will chop the leaves into pieces small enough to fall between the blades of grass in your lawn. The chopped leaves will break down out of sight, provide nutrients to your lawn and improve the quality of your soil.

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.



Cheesy Broccoli Potatoes

5 slices turkey bacon
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 clove garlic, minced
2 tablespoons chopped chives

Salt and pepper to taste
4 large potatoes, cubed
2 cups fresh broccoli florets
1 cup fat-free, shredded cheese

Preheat oven to 425° F. **Cook** bacon until crispy, crumble and set aside. **Spray** 9x13-inch baking dish with non-stick cooking spray. In a small bowl, **combine** olive oil, garlic, chives, salt and pepper; **stir** to blend. In a large bowl, **toss** together potatoes and broccoli. **Pour** olive oil blend over potato mixture; **stir** to coat. **Pour** into baking dish and **cover** with foil. **Bake** for 35 minutes or until potatoes are tender; **remove** from oven. **Sprinkle** cheese and bacon on top and place back in oven until cheese melts.

Yield: 8, ½ cup servings.

Nutritional Analysis: 140 calories, 5 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 20 mg cholesterol, 470 mg sodium, 15 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 2 g sugar, 10 g protein.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.

Kentucky Potatoes

SEASON: Late June-October.

NUTRITION FACTS: Potatoes are a good source of vitamins B and C, potassium and complex carbohydrates. They do not contain fat, cholesterol or sodium. There is only 70 calories in a ½ cup serving of cooked potato. Most nutrients are located just below the skin, so avoid peeling whenever possible.

SELECTION: Select firm potatoes free from wrinkles, green spots or bruises. New potatoes are immature potatoes of any variety. They are creamy, thin-skinned, and small enough to serve whole. New potatoes are best in dishes that call for boiled potatoes as they will hold their shape. For baking, frying and mashing, choose drier varieties.

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

STORAGE: Potatoes should be kept in a cool, humid, dark, well ventilated place. Do not store in the refrigerator.

PREPARATION: Potatoes should be thoroughly washed and scrubbed before cooking. Any sprouts or eyes growing should be cut out. Common methods of preparation include boiling, baking, microwaving, mashing, frying and grilling.

KENTUCKY POTATOES

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human
Nutrition students

October 2013

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. For more information, contact your county's Extension agent for Family and Consumer Sciences or visit www.uky.ag/fcs

COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
SERVICE

UK
UNIVERSITY OF
KENTUCKY
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



Hazardous Weather Preparedness Class



Monday, October 21, 2024

6:30 - 7:30pm

**Bath County Extension Office
2914 E. Hwy 60
Owingsville, KY 40360**

FREE EVENT!! Come to learn, leave prepared!



Brought to you by the National Weather Service Jackson, KY

Timely Tips

Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

Spring-calving herds

- Schedule a pregnancy examination of cows if not done previously. Winter feeding costs can be minimized by eliminating open cows prior to winterfeeding. Pregnancy status (pregnant versus open) can be determined using palpation, transrectal ultrasonography, or blood sampling. Stage of pregnancy can only be determined by palpation or ultrasonography (performed by your veterinarian). A new chute-side blood sampling kit (Alertys from IDEXX) is available for use. It provides yes/no pregnancy data in 20 minutes for about \$8-10 per cow.
- Evaluate the body condition of your cows and improve their condition prior to winter. It takes about 75 pounds to increase body condition a full score.
- If you have already done a preweaning working, revaccinate (booster) calves as needed. Treat calves for internal and external parasites. If you vaccinate calves yourself, be sure to store, handle, and administer vaccines properly.
- Wean calves before cows lose body condition.

Obtain weaning weights of your calves and remember weaning is the time to do your first round of culling and selecting breeding stock. You can eliminate obviously inferior calves, especially those with wild or nervous dispositions. Consider the number of heifers that you will need to save for your cow herd. Bulls that are old, unsound, roguish, etc. can be culled now. It is not too early to begin thinking about replacements.

Fall-calving herds

- The calving season should be in full swing for fall-calving cows. Check cows frequently. Identify calves and commercial males should be castrated and implanted.
- Take accurate records of calving and calving performance. Our new app (Stocket at Stocket.us) makes data collection and reporting simple, easy, and convenient.
- Put fall-calving cows on accumulated pasture before the breeding season. Be sure to save some grass in the breeding pastures.
- It is time to get everything ready for the fall-breeding season, too. Line-up semen, supplies, etc. now and get your bulls ready to go (don't forget their breeding soundness evaluation). Breeding soundness exams are a vital component to reducing the risk of reproductive performance and need to be conducted 30-45 days before EVERY breeding season. Contact your herd veterinarian to schedule the exams.
- Obtain yearling measurements (weight, hip height, scrotal circumference, etc.) on replacement animals - especially for registered ones.

Contact your herd veterinarian and schedule pelvic area examinations and reproductive tract scores for your potential replacements. Use pelvic area to identify larger heifers with smaller than normal pelvic areas so you can remove them from the breeding pool. Reproductive tract scores can be used to identify immature heifers for culling. Typically, heifers with a reproductive tract score less than 3 have limited ability to conceive early in the breeding season.

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Stockers

- If you are purchasing weaned/stressed calves, have your receiving/feeding program in place. Feed a stress ration which contains at least 13% protein and is fairly energy dense.
- Manage to keep newly weaned and/or purchased calves healthy. Calves should be penned in a small lot with adequate feed, water, and shade to reduce stress. Careful handling and comfortable, uncrowded conditions can decrease stress.
- When newly weaned calves are purchased in the fall, sickness and death loss can be a big problem. Work with your veterinarian on a health and receiving program. Consider purchasing CPH-45 feeder calves that are preweaned, vaccinated, bunk-adjusted and treated for parasites.

Watch calves closely for a few weeks after their arrival. Calves will normally break (get sick) 5-7 days after arrival, but they can break up to 14 days after they arrive. Have a treatment program ready for any health problems. Early recognition of sick cattle improves their chance of recovery. Watch for drooped ears, hollow appearance, reluctance to rise, stiff gait, coughing and dull or sunken eyes. A good "receiving" program is essential to profitability.

General Reminders

- Avoid prussic acid poisoning that can happen when frost ruptures the plant cells in sorghums, sorghum-sudan hybrids, sudan-grass, and johnsongrass releasing prussic (hydrocyanic) acid. Fields can be grazed after the plants have dried up after a frost. New growth that occurs in stalk fields is potentially dangerous whether frosted or not.
- Take soil samples for soil analysis to determine pasture fertility needs. Apply phosphate, potash, and lime accordingly.
- Test hay quality and make inventory of hay supplies and needs. Adjust now - buy feed before you run out in the winter.
- Do not harvest or graze alfalfa now in order for it to replenish root reserves.
- Remove fly-control eartags from all animals, dispose of according to instructions on package. Treat for grubs/lice.



**COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR
CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING**

**NOVEMBER 22, 2024
9AM-3:30PM EST**
30 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK

UK Cooperative Extension Service

CALL (606)845-4641 TO REGISTER FOR THIS FREE TRAINING OR REGISTER USING THE QR CODE:

This training has been approved by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture for the following CEU credits in each category:

- Category 1A: Agricultural Plant **4 CEUs**
- Category 2: Forestry **1 CEU**
- Category 3: Ornamental & Turf & Lawn Care **1 CEU**
- Category 4: Seed Treatment **1 CEU**
- Category 5: Aquatic **1 CEU**
- Category 10: Demonstration & Research **1 CEU**

LOCATION: VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
2025D and Extension Services
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University of Kentucky and the Commonwealth of Kentucky

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
The University of Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky Extension Service are proud to offer this training. This training is a part of the University of Kentucky's commitment to providing continuing education for agricultural professionals. The University of Kentucky is an Equal Opportunity Institution. For more information, contact the University of Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky Extension Service. © 2024 University of Kentucky. All rights reserved. University of Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky Extension Service.



Source: Billy Thomas, UK Extension Forester

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.

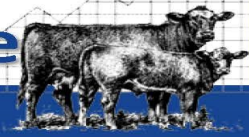




University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

"Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities"

Kentucky Beef Conference



October 24, 2024

Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

9:00—10:00

Registration, visit
sponsors

\$10 registration fee

**RSVP by October 22nd
to Fayette County
Extension Office
859.257.5582**

10:00—Welcome & Sponsor Recognition
Beau Neal, Woodford County Agriculture &
Natural Resources Extension Agent

University of KY Remarks & Welcome

Dr. Laura Stephenson, UK Director of Extension
Genomics Technology

Dr. Troy Rowan, University of Tennessee
Institute of Agriculture Beef Genetics
Extension Specialist

11:00— Marketing Update & Outlook

Dr. Kenny Burdine, UK Beef Economic
Extension Specialist

12:00 Lunch

1:00— Animal Tagging Update

Dr. Michelle Arnold, UK Extension Ruminant
Veterinarian

1:30— KY Beef Cattle Health Update

Dr. Steve Velasco, KY Department of
Agriculture State Veterinarian

2:00—Adjourn

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Lexington, KY 40506



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ROBINSON CENTER FIELD DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024

4 PM-7:00 PM EST

AT THE ROBINSON CENTER

130 ROBINSON RD, JACKSON, KY

FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES | MEAL PROVIDED

JOIN US FOR **FREE FARM TOURS, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS.**

ATTENDEES CAN MAKE AND TAKE HOME THEIR OWN CUTTING BOARD!

UK Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



MANAGEMENT BASICS

- **WEANING**
- **FACILITIES**
- **BQCA TRAINING**



October 8, 2024

Eden Shale Farm
400 Eden Shale Road
Owenton, Kentucky 40359



REGISTER ONLINE

Registration starts at 9am. There will be a 45 minute presentation at each station.

- **Feeding Considerations for Weaned Calves**
- **Facility Design for Animal Welfare, Producer Efficiency, and the Environment**
- **Chuteside BQCA Training**

Lunch will be provided with the BQCA test at noon.

Register by calling 859-278-0899 or scan the QR code to register online.



If you would like to attend this training, you can scan the QR code above with your phone, or you can type this link into your browser. Registration is online only.

<https://keca.memberclicks.net/bqaedenshale#!/>