

Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter February 2023



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

Cooperative Extension Service
Robertson County
39 E Walnut St.
Mt. Olivet, KY 41064
O: (606)-724-5796
C: (606)-261-0894
samantha.woerner@uky.edu

It is hard to believe that January has already come and gone. Heading into February and March, there are several upcoming programs that may be of interest to you. There will be an Apple Tree Grafting/Pruning Workshop, Backyard Poultry Basics, Pond Management, etc. If you are interested in becoming a member of our Farmer's Market, there will be a series of educational classes including the PBPT training that is mandatory for new members. All of these dates are listed on the next page, so be sure to look over that list!

I will also be offering Private Pesticide Applicator License Classes and Beef Quality Care and Assurance Classes. Be sure to look at your cards in order to see when they expire. If you lost your card, give us a call and we can get that information for you.

The Robertson County Cattlemen's Association was recently recognized at the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association Convention for their increase in membership in 2022. If you have paid your dues, be sure to look for a post card in the mail coming soon about upcoming Cattlemen's meetings. These meetings will be for paid members of the association. If you wish to join, you can do so by stopping at the Extension Office.

Samantha Saunders

Samantha Saunders
Robertson County Agriculture & Natural Resources/
4-H Youth Development Agent

Inside this edition:

- Ag Tag
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- Pond Management
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- Fiesta Potatoes
- Equipment Rental
- Soil Samples
- Making Frost Seeding of Clover Work
- Farm & Family Night



Kentucky drivers who plan on renewing or buying farm vehicle license plates will now have a new opportunity to support young, local farmers.

Motorists who purchase "ag tags" may make a voluntary donation of up to \$10 to the Ag Tag Fund. Donations to the fund are divided equally among Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA, and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture for youth development and promotional programs. Half of the 4-H and FFA funds go back to the county where the tag is purchased to support local programming, awards, and scholarships.

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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Important Dates

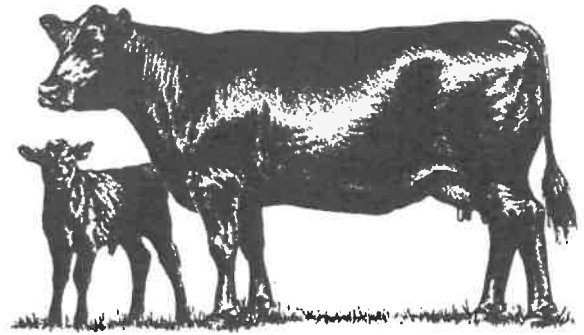
Date	Program	Location
FEBRUARY 21	BQCA 9:00 AM & 5:00 PM	ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE
FEBRUARY 24	PLANT ORDER DUE	ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE
MARCH 1	TOBACCO GAP 6:00 PM	MASON CO. EXT. OFFICE
MARCH 4	APPLE GRAFTING FIELD DAY 8:30	FLEMING CO. EXT OFFICE
MARCH 7	FARM & FAMILY NIGHT	MCTC
MARCH 9	FARMER'S MARKET EDUCATION—PBPT 6:00 PM	ZOOM OR ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE (Must Register Beforehand)
MARCH 23	FARMER'S MARKET EDUCATION— TAXES & RECORD KEEPING 6:00 PM	ZOOM OR ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE (Must Register Beforehand)
MARCH 27	PRIVATE PESTICIDE LICENSE TRAINING 9:00 AM	ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE
MARCH 28	BACKYARD POULTRY BASICS 6:00 PM	FLEMING CO. LIBRARY
MARCH 30	BQCA 1:00 PM	ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE
APRIL 6	FARMER'S MARKET EDUCATION— WHAT'S BUGGING MY GARDEN? 6:00 PM	ZOOM OR ROBERTSON CO. EXT OFFICE (Must Register Beforehand)
APRIL 11	POND MANAGEMENT PART 1 6:00 PM	ROBERTSON CO. EXT. OFFICE OR ZOOM
APRIL 18	POND MANAGEMENT PART 2 6:00 PM	ROBERTSON CO. EXT. OFFICE OR ZOOM
APRIL 21	EDEN SHALE FARM TOUR	CONTACT SAMANTHA IF INTERESTED

Forage Timely Tips: February

- Continue grazing stockpiled tall fescue if available.
- Assess grass stands. If thin, consider adding legumes.
- Begin frost seeding with 6-8 lb/A red and 1-2 lb/A ladino white clover on closely grazed pastures.
- On pastures with lower fertility, consider also adding 10-15 lb/A annual lespedeza.
- Consider applying 40 lb/A nitrogen in mid- to late- February on some pastures to promote early growth.
- Sign up for shared use drills for spring renovation.
- Service and calibrate no-till drills.
- Apply lime and fertilizer according to soil test if not done in fall.

Cattle Timely Tips

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



Spring-Calving Cow Herd

- Study the performance of last year's calf crop and plan for improvement. Plan your breeding program and consider a better herd sire(s). Select herd sires which will allow you to meet your goals and be willing to pay for superior animals.
- Consider vaccinating the cows to help prevent calf scours.
- Keep replacement heifers gaining to increase the probability of puberty occurring before the start of the spring breeding season.
- Start cows on the high magnesium mineral supplement soon. Consider protein supplementation if hay is less than 10% crude protein. If cows are thin, begin energy (grain) supplementation now. Cows must reach a body condition score of 5 before calving to maximize their opportunity for reproductive success. Supplementation now allows adequate time for cows to calving in adequate body condition score.
- Get ready for the calving season! See that all equipment and materials are ready, including obstetrical equipment, record forms or booklets, ear tags, scales for obtaining birthweights, etc. Prepare a calving area where assistance can be provided easily if needed. Purchase ear tags for calves and number them ahead of time if possible. Plan for enough labor to watch/assist during the calving period.
- Move early-calving heifers and cows to pastures that are relatively small and easily accessible to facilities in case calving assistance is needed. Keep them in good condition but don't overfeed them at this time. Increase their nutrient intake after they calve.

Fall Calving Cow Herd

- Provide clean windbreaks and shelter for young calves.
- Breeding season continues. Keep fall calving cows on accumulated pasture as long as possible, then start feeding hay/grain/supplement. Don't let these cows lose body condition!
- Catch up on castrating, dehorning and implanting.

General

- Feed hay in areas where mud is less of a problem. Consider preparing a feeding area with gravel over geotextile fabric or maybe a concrete feeding pad. Bale grazing is an option for producers to help control mud while spreading nutrients across pastures.
- Increase feed as the temperature drops, especially when the weather is extremely cold and damp. When temperature drops to 15°F, cattle need access to windbreaks.
- Provide water at all times. Cattle need 5 to 11 gallons per head daily even in the coldest weather. Be aware of frozen pond hazards. Keep ice "broken" so that cattle won't walk out on the pond trying to get water. Automatic waterers, even the "frost-free" or "energy-free" waterers can freeze up in extremely cold weather. Watch closely.
- Consider renovating and improving pastures with legumes, especially if they have poor stands of grass or if they contain high levels of the fescue endophyte. Purchase seed and get equipment ready this month.

2023 Plant Order Form

Purchaser Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Cooperative Extension Service

Robertson County
 P.O. Box 283
 Mt. Olivet, KY 41064
 (606)-724-5796
<http://extension.ca.uky.edu>

QUANTITY	ITEM	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
_____ BUNDLE(S)	Strawberries (Seascape) (Ever Bearing)	\$7.00 (bundle of 25)	
_____ BUNDLE(S)	Strawberries (Earliglow) (June Bearing)	\$7.00 (bundle of 25)	
_____ BUNDLE(S)	Strawberries (FlavorFest) (June Bearing)	\$7.00 (bundle of 25)	
	Blackberry (Triple Crown)	\$7.00 (per plant)	
	Black Raspberry (Jewel)	\$5.00 (per plant)	
	Asparagus (Jersey Knight)	\$2.00 (per crown)	
	Blueberry (Chandler)	\$12.00 (per plant)	
	Blueberry (Duke)	\$12.00 (per plant)	
		Total Due:	

**** If ordering blueberries, it is recommended to purchase two different varieties for pollination****

Order & Payment is required by February 24th

Make checks payable to: Robertson County Extension Office

Payment Information:

Amount Paid: _____

Date: _____

Received By: _____

Check No: _____ or Cash _____

We will contact you when orders are ready for pick-up. If you have any questions call Samantha Saunders at (606)-724-5796 or email at samantha.woerner@uky.edu



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BUFFALO TRACE COUNTIES PRESENTS:

APPLE TREE GRAFTING/PRUNING WORKSHOP

MARCH 4, 2022

8:30AM - 2PM @ FLEMING CNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG, KY

TOPICS:

- GRAFTING & APPLE VARIETIES
- DISEASE & INSECT MANAGEMENT
- PRUNING- HANDS-ON DEMO

@ORCHARD



\$10 REGISTRATION FEE
PLEASE REGISTER BY: MARCH 1ST

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICE TO REGISTER:

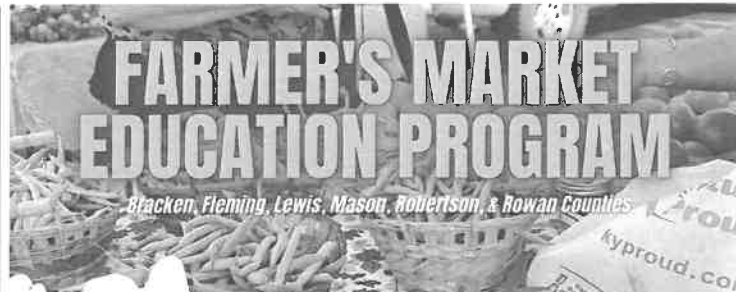
- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON COUNTY: (606) 724-5796

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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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FARMER'S MARKET EDUCATION PROGRAM

Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Mason, Robertson, & Rowan Counties

**6:00PM VIA ZOOM OR
WATCH PARTY**

****Check local office to verify watch party option****

- MARCH 9: PRODUCE BEST PRACTICES TRAINING
- MARCH 23: TAXES & RECORD KEEPING
- APRIL 6: WHAT'S BUGGING MY GARDEN?
- APRIL 20: SENIOR/WIC PROGRAM TRAINING

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CALL TO REGISTER OR
USE QR CODE:

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- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796
- ROWAN COUNTY: (606) 784-5457



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BACKYARD POULTRY BASICS

MARCH 28, 2023
6:00PM

AT FLEMING COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
202 Bypass Boulevard, Flemingsburg, KY

MEAL & SIGN-IN WILL BEGIN AT 5:30PM

CALL TO REGISTER OR USE QR CODE:

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
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- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 24

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POND MANAGEMENT

APRIL 11

Liming, Aeration
(turnover), Stocking
& General
Pond Management



APRIL 18

Pond Plant and
Algae Control

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**6:00PM VIA ZOOM OR
WATCH PARTY**

CALL TO REGISTER OR USE QR CODE:

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****Check local office to verify watch party option****

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TOBACCO GAP TRAINING


▶▶▶▶▶

MARCH 1, 2023


6:00PM

MASON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
800 US-68, MAYSVILLE, KY

****BE SURE TO BRING YOUR TOBACCO GAP CARD WITH YOU****



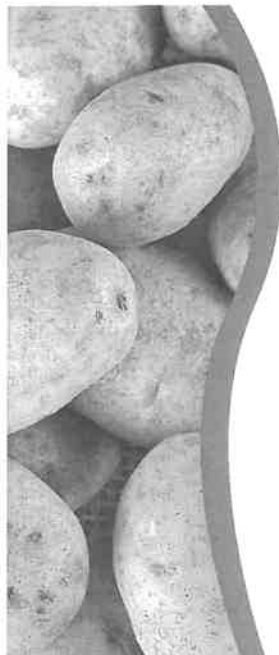
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GAP CONNECTIONS

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Financial programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all eligible recipients of economic
and social gains, regardless of race, color, sex, or ethnicity, or the basis of race, color, sex, or ethnicity, or
national origin, marital status, or age. Limited English proficient persons should
contact the office for assistance. 2022-2023 Extension Program Manual
Approved by the Board of Regents, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
LE-2022-01-0004



Fiesta Potatoes

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8 small to medium russet potatoes, peeled and diced | 1 medium onion, chopped | parsley, chopped |
| 1 green bell pepper, chopped | 1 cup Mexican blend cheese, shredded | 1 tablespoon dried basil, crushed |
| 1 red bell pepper, chopped | ½ cup margarine, melted | ¼ teaspoon salt |
| | ½ cup low-fat milk | ¼ teaspoon black pepper |
| | 2 tablespoons fresh | |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. **Place** the potatoes, bell peppers and onion in a medium pan and cover with water. **Place** over high heat and bring to a **boil**. **Reduce** heat and **simmer** 12-15 minutes, or until vegetables are tender. **Drain** the vegetables and **place** in a mixing bowl. **Stir** in the cheese, margarine, milk and seasonings until combined. **Spread** the mixture in a

9-by-13-inch baking pan that has been sprayed with a non-stick coating. **Bake** for about 20 minutes or until bubbly.

Yield: 12, ½ cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 200 calories, 9 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 370 mg sodium, 24 g carbohydrates, 3 g fiber, 3 g sugar, 9 g protein.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.
<http://plateitup.ca.uky.edu>

Equipment Rental

Robertson Conservation

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| ⇒ No-till Drill
\$50/day, 1-10 acres
\$50 + \$5.50/acre, 11 acres and up | ⇒ Old Lime Spreader
\$50/day |
| ⇒ No-till Drill (Hay Buster)
\$65/day, 1-10 acres
\$65 + \$6.50/acre, 11 acres and up | |
| ⇒ *New Lime Spreader
\$60/day | |

Contact
Grant Paynter
to
schedule:
(606)-842-0320

Soil Samples

First 10 Soil Samples are free!

(Per person)

\$10 deposit on soil probe

Refund upon return

Hay Samples

\$10 (Check) /sample

For more information call the

Extension Office at

(606)-724-5796

****We do free samples for the East KY Hay Contest in the fall. If you could like to be added to the list for sampling, please call the office.**

Making Frost Seedings of Clover Work

Dr. Jimmy Henning, UK Forages

Kentucky weather has a wicked sense of humor. At the November board meeting of the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council, our directors were literally talking about how our 'warmer' winters had backed up the optimum timing for frost seeding clover. And then came 'Coldmeggedon' over Christmas and now a warming trend that will see 60's in late December and early January. Let me paraphrase a saying from my childhood: "Want to make God smile, predict Kentucky weather!" You could say the same thing about predicting the best time to 'frostseed' clovers. Will all of those caveats, let's talk about some things that are a little more certain.

To start with, clovers are frankly amazing. Throw six pounds of red and one to two pounds of white clover onto sod with some exposed soil in late winter, control some competition and boom – high quality pasture. The benefits of clover are significant, including 'free' nitrogen, and high forage quality and yield. Even more significant is the new USDA research that clovers (especially red) directly counteract the vasoconstrictive effects of toxic endophyte tall fescue and you have an unbeatable set of attributes.



Frost seeding is an attractive method of establishment because of the minimal equipment requirements – usually a spinner seeder attached to a moderate horsepower tractor or ATV will get the seed spread. Red and/or white clover can be expected to establish successfully after being frost seeded because they germinate quickly, tolerate shading, and have aggressive root and shoot growth as seedlings. Their small, smooth seed is easily moved into the top quarter inch of soil by weather or hoof action.

Clovers have so many positive establishment traits that it is easy to forget that the requirements of forage establishment must be met even with a low input frost seeding. These basics include:

1. Get a current soil test, and apply the needed nutrients. Clovers need soil that is pH 6.5 to 7 and medium or better in phosphorus and potassium. Do not apply additional N except when diammonium phosphate (DAP) is needed to supply the needed phosphorus.
2. Select a good variety. Choose an improved variety with known performance and genetics. Choosing a better red clover variety can mean as much as three tons of additional hay and longer stand life compared to common seed (variety unknown). UK has extensive data available on yield and persistence of white and red clover for hay or pasture at http://forages.ca.uky.edu/variety_trials.
3. Spread enough seed. A typical seeding rate is 6 to 8 pounds of red or 1 to 2 pounds of white/ladino clover per acre. Applying six pounds of red and one of white will result in over 55 seeds per square foot on the field (37 red plus 18 white).
4. Make sure seed lands on bare soil. Excess grass or thatch must be grazed and/or disturbed until there is bare ground showing prior to overseeding (Figures 2 and 3). The biggest reason for failure of frost seedings is too much ground cover. Judicious cattle traffic or dragging with a chain harrow can expose the needed bare ground.
5. Get good seed-soil contact. Frost seedings depend on rain and snow or the freeze-thaw action of the soil surface (Figure 4) to work the clover seed into the top ¼ inch of soil. A corrugated roller used soon after seeding will also ensure good soil contact.
6. Control competition next spring. Do not apply additional N on overseeded fields next spring, and be prepared to do some timely mowing if grass or spring weeds get up above the clover. Clover is an aggressive seeding but will establish faster and thicker if grass and weed competition is controlled.

Clover can be reliably frost seeded into existing grass pastures with a little attention to establishment basics. Soil fertility, variety, seeding rate, seed placement and competition control are the major contributors to success.



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Robertson County Extension
PO Box 283
Mt. Olivet, KY 41064

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Save The Date...
Farm & Family Night
Coming March 7th



Tickets After Feb. 3rd.
Questions....Call 606.759.7141 ext. 66120

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County
Agriculture &
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Resources
Newsletter—
February 2023

Maysville Community & Technical College Workforce Solutions
1755 US Hwy 68, Maysville, KY 41056
606.759.7141 ext. 66120

