



Cooperative Extension Service **Scott County** 1130 Cincinnati Rd Georgetown KY 40324-8934 (502) 863-0984

> Fax: (502) 863-2392 extension.ca.uky.edu

# Agent Remarks

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March has officially come and gone in the blink of an eye and now we are in April! Things have been busy here at the Extension Office. This past month has been full of trainings, meetings, and farm visits. I'm happy to announce that the program planning I've done the last few months is starting to pay off. Please see the events sections of the newsletter for upcoming programs that will be here at the Extension Office! March was also provided us with some rather cold temperatures, after having an above average warm February. With that in mind specialists are advising to scout wheat fields for spring freeze damage. I've included a publication on page 3 that goes in to details what producers would need to look for in their stands. If you have questions or suspicions that you have freeze damage please reach out and let me know.

I hope to continue to reach more and more people in the county. I look forward to getting out and about more with the warmer weather to come.

Let me know if you need anything and have a great April!





The Official Spring Outlook (April - June) for the state of Kentucky was released from the Climate Prediction Center on March 16th, 2023.

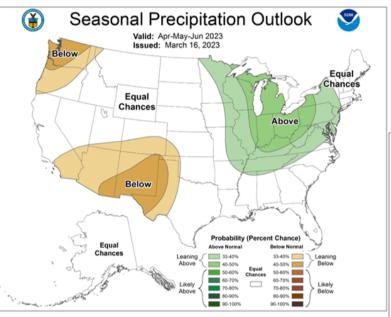
Keep in mind, the colors on the graphics reflect a numbered "probability", or percent chance, of above or below normal values. It does NOT mean that the darker the color the more above normal or below normal we will be, but rather a better probability

## Spring Outlook for the State of Kentucky

-Simone Lewis, National Weather Service

(or chance) of being above or below normal. Also, this is an average across a three month period, which means there could still be periods of warmer/colder than normal temperatures or above/below normal precipitation.

Here are the spring precipitation and temperature outlooks for the state of Kentucky:

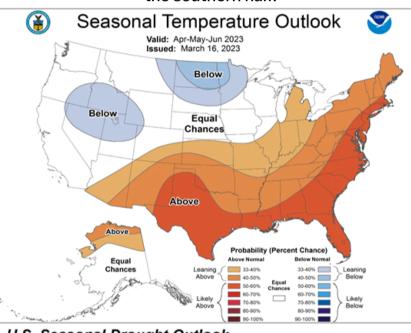


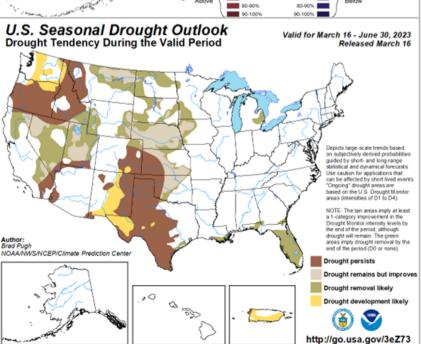
The state of Kentucky is also predicted to have a 40% to 50% of above normal temperatures across the eastern half of the state, and 33% to 40% chance across the western portions of the state. In addition, drought is not expected to develop across the state, but there is at least a 50% of minor

flooding during the spring season.



According to the images, the state of Kentucky has a 40% to 50% chance of above normal precipitation across the northern half of the state, and a 33% to 40% chance of above normal precipitation across the southern half.





# Identifying Damage and Estimating Yield Reductions following a Spring Freeze in Winter Wheat

-Carrie Knott, Plant and Soil Sciences

Wheat, and other small grains, can be damaged when air temperatures fall below certain thresholds for two or more continuous hours. These temperatures do not necessarily mean that damage will occur. Rather, these temperatures are general guidelines of when damage may occur. It is important that the crop be scouted to determine the extent of the damage, if any.

When identifying freeze damage in wheat (and other small grains), it is essential to wait until high temperatures are at least 40°F for a minimum of five to seven days. Depending on the time of the year several weeks may be required for a total of seven days with high temperature of at least 40°F to occur. Inspecting fields too early may result in underestimating the freeze damage. Symptoms will continue to develop as the weeks pass, and the best estimate of damage may come several weeks to up to a month after the freeze event, particularly if the high temperatures following the freeze event are not much above  $40^{\circ}F$ .

Click HERE to read more!



#### Inflation and the Banks

-Roger Cryan, American Farm Bureau

Last week, two banks were in the process of collapsing, and state and federal regulators took them over. On Sunday, the Federal Reserve Bank announced more liberal lending to all banks to help them weather the decline in the prices of bonds they hold as bank reserves. On Monday, President Biden announced an unprecedented bailout for the depositors of two collapsed banks. On Tuesday, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that consumer prices in February were 6.0% higher than a year ago, the lowest year-over-year inflation rate since September 2021, but still higher than any month before that, going back to December 1990. So-called "core inflation" (inflation minus food and energy – whose prices matter but move more erratically than other prices) was 5.5%, also the lowest since (December) 2021 and also higher than any other month in over 30 years. February's month-over-month core inflation of 0.5% is higher than any of the last four months.

How are these related? The inflation of 2021 and 2022, as we have talked about before, was caused by the massive amount of new money created by the Federal Reserve Bank ("the Fed") in 2020 and 2021. The Fed lent trillions of dollars to banks at near-zero interest rates and purchased trillions of dollars in government-backed securities.

Click HERE to read more!

# **Forage News**

Publication of the Month

Bermudagrass A Summer Forage in Kentucky

Climatically, Kentucky lies within a transition zone, where extreme temperatures and variations in rainfall occur. Cool season grasses, such as tall fescue (Festuca arunidinacea), orchardgrass (Dactylis glomerata), Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis), and timothy (Phleum pretense) are well adapted to this zone. However, forage productivity and quality of these species typically reach seasonal lows in the midsummer months, when cool season grasses grow more slowly

Click **HERE** to read more!

#### **Buttercups in Grazed Pastures**

-J.D. Green, Extension Weed Scientist



Buttercups and other winter annual weeds have already emerged or renewed their active growth during the past few weeks. This has been particularly true with the early arrival of warmer temperatures that has occurred this winter. As a cool season weed, buttercup often flourishes in over grazed pasture fields with poor stands of desirable forages. In fact, many fields that have dense buttercup populations are fields heavily grazed by animals during the fall through the early spring months.

Click **HERE** to read more!

### Farmer Scholarships to attend the International Grassland Congress

-UK Forage Extension Team



We want to remind you that the International Grassland Congress will be held in Covington Kentucky, May 14-19, 2023. This is the first time this international conference will be hosted in the US since 1981. Funding is available to help cover your expenses to attend this conference. The registration cost is \$600 for the entire time or \$200 per day. The National Cattleman's Beef Association offers scholarships to producers through the Rancher Resiliency Grant program. You can apply and should be approved to receive up to \$1,622 to cover/reimburse your expenses related to attending the event. Here is the link with details to the grant information: https://www.ncba.org/producers/rancherresilience-grant. During on KFGC scholarship available soon. Here is the link to the International Grassland Congress Strongly consider attending this international conference!

#### 2023 Corn & Soybean Fungicide Efficacy Guides Now Available

-Kiersten Wise & Carl Bradley, Plant Pathology Extension Specialists

The 2023 fungicide efficacy tables for foliar diseases of corn and soybean, and for soybean seedling diseases have been updated, and are now available through the <a href="Crop Protection Network">Crop Protection Network</a> website.

These tables are updated annually based on data provided by United States Extension plant pathologists, with efficacy determined through replicated research trials across a broad geographic area. Kentucky research trial data are included in the development of these national fungicide efficacy ratings.

The ratings in these guides reflect the efficacy of a fungicide against a given disease and are not rating yield response to a fungicide. It is an applicator's legal responsibility to read and follow label directions.

Updated tables include:

<u>Fungicide Efficacy for Control of Corn Diseases</u>
<u>Fungicide Efficacy for Control of Soybean Seedling Diseases</u>
Fungicide Efficacy for Control of Soybean Foliar Diseases

#### **Beef Management for April**

-University of Georgia Extension



#### General

- Keep a close watch on pasture conditions. Continue supplemental feeding until grass is plentiful.
- Fertilize permanent pastures according to soil tests if not done previously.
- Start watching for flies. Order fly control products to be ready when treatment warrants. To avoid resistance, change the class of insecticide used each year.
- Use all outside stores of hay; clean out hay storage areas for new hay

#### **Spring Calving**

- For calves to begin hitting the ground around January 10, bulls need to go into pastures on April 1.
- Check condition of bulls during the breeding season. Provide supplemental feed if needed.
- Be prepared to remove bulls from heifers after a 45-60 day breeding season. Spot check heifers for activity now to see if they are breeding.
- Cows need to be in moderate to good condition to rebreed. Provide supplemental feed if spring pastures are slow to grow.

#### Fall Calving

- To precondition for shipment, calves should be vaccinated for respiratory diseases
   45 days prior to shipment. Check with your veterinarian now for product
   recommendations so these vaccines can be ordered.
- Pregnancy check heifers 45-60 days after the end of breeding season.
- Brand or otherwise establish permanent IDs for bred heifers.

## **Assistance for Migrant** Workers

### **HELP for Farmers and Workers**



-translation services (ex. medical emergencies, tobacco/ beef handling, job orders) -language lessons (Spanish for you, English for your workers) -numerous community resources (ex. health/ dental care, food, clothes, utilities)

-available for local, H2A, and undocumented workers

Free services cheerfully provided by your local migrant services office - we are **NOT** associated with legal aid.

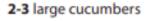
Diana Kuta & Angel Martinez/ Scott County, Kentucky. diana.kuta@scott.kyschools.us or angel.martinez@scott.kyschools.

(502) 370-1929 or (502) 370-8141









2 tomatoes

1 yellow bell pepper

1 small red onion

1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

½ cup black beans

1/2 cup fresh whole kernel corn, cooked

1 ounce package dry ranch dressing mix

1/2 cup cider vinegar

2 tablespoons sugar, optional

Wash all vegetables. Finely chop cucumbers, tomatoes, pepper, and onion. Combine in a large mixing bowl with chopped cilantro. Drain and rinse beans and add to chopped vegetables. Add corn. If using canned corn instead of fresh, drain off liquid prior to adding to vegetables.

In a small bowl, mix together ranch

dressing packet, vinegar, and sugar. Pour dressing over vegetables and mix well. Serve immediately or refrigerate until chilled.

Yield: Makes 20, 1/2 cup servings. Nutrition Analysis: 50 calories, 0 q fat, 130 mg sodium, 7 g carbohydrates,

2 g fiber, 70% Daily Value of vitamin C and 6% Daily Value of vitamin A



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

# Wildlife Information

## Kentucky Elk Hunt Drawing

-Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife

Please follow these instructions carefully to enter the elk drawing. You will need your social security number and a credit/debit card to apply. If you do not have a card, you may purchase a prepaid debit card at most large retailers (for example, Walmart and large supermarkets). You may purchase other permits and hunting, fishing, or trapping licenses at this time also. Click <u>HERE</u> for instructions on how to register for the Elk Hunt Drawing!

Deadline to Apply -April 30, Midnight EST



#### **Black Vulture Damage Control**

-Matthew Springer, University of Kentucky Wildlife

Black vultures (Coragypus atratus) are a native species to Kentucky, and in the last ten to twenty years their population numbers have increased to the point where they are common across much of the state. Vultures, both black and turkey, provide an important ecological service in consuming carrion, which reduces the risk of disease spreading in the environment. Vultures, as with all other wildlife, will take advantage of resources available to them, and unfortunately this behavior sometimes involves human dwellings or livestock operations. Fortunately, vultures respond well to relatively simple methods that discourage them from congregating or feeding in critical areas.

Click HERE to read more!

## Kentucky Regional Fencing Schools

April 11th at Allen County Extension Office
7:30 - 4:30pm
Click HERE to register!
April 13th at SMK Agricultural Venue
7:30 - 4:30pm
Click HERE to register!

CAIP Eligible

**Registration Fee: \$35** 



#### THIRD THURSDAY THING

Every third Thursday of the month, January through November, at 10 a.m. ET

lanuary 19: USDA Form and Home Leans | Natural Resource Management

Coraci y 26. Organio Agriculturo

March 25. Ornali Ruminanto

April 20: Pest Control | NRCS Programs

May 18: Aquaculture

June 15: Farmers Markets | Juneteenth Celebration

July 20: Fencing | Pastured Poultry

August 17: Sustainable and Organic Agriculture

September 21: Pawpaw

October 19: Small Ruminants

November 16: Small Farms Conference

Join us in person at the Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm or online at YouTube.com/kysuag/live



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# April Events



CONTACT: Amanda.Gumberteuky.ed 859-257-6094

Campbell County Extension Office

Bullitt County Extension Office

This class will help you answer these questions, and more:

How do I manage my woodlands for timber and wildlife?
This program is brought to you by UK Cooperative Extension Service and KY Woodland Owners Association.

· How do I get started with land stewardship?

What resource agencies are available?
 How do I improve soil and water resources?

April 27 - 6-8:30pm
Warren County Extension Office

May 23 - 6-8:30pm







Questions! Contact us at

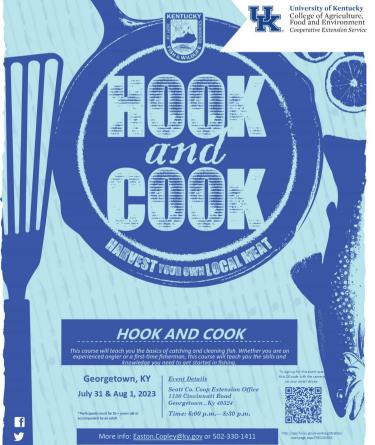
help cover materials and food.

Scott County Office: 502-863-0984 brittany.brewer@uky.edu Franklin County Office: 502-695-9035 keenan.bishop@uky.edu

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#### International Grassland Congress

May 14 - 19 at the Northern Kentucky
Convention Center!
This is the first time IGC will be in the
US since 1981.

The theme of the conference is Grassland for Soil, Animal and Human Health. The conference features academic presentations that highlight research on grassland ecology, forage production and utilization, livestock production systems, grassland sustainability and ecosystems, and grassland policies and social issues. Another highlight of the event will be tours of grasslands throughout the Midwest, Southeast, Northeast, and Pacific Northwest regions of the United States. We are excited to host the **International Grassland Congress in** Kentucky. Find out more about the 2023 event on our event page.

Click HERE to learn more!

CAIP Eligible

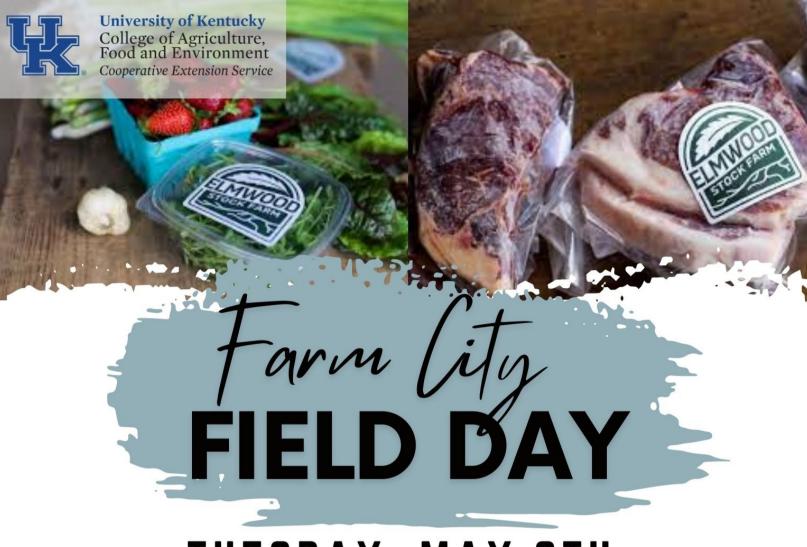
### **Grain Events**

May 9th: UK Wheat Field Day at
Princeton
June 29th: Pest Management Field Day
at Princeton
July 25th: UK Corn, Soybean, and
Tobacco Field Day at Princeton









TUESDAY, MAY 9TH

ELMWOOD STOCK FARM



#### FREE ENTRY / TIME: 4:30 - 6:30 PM

3636 PARIS PIKE, GEORGETOWN, KY 40324

Come join the Farm City Field Day Committee for a day of fun educational experiences. This year's hosting farm is Elmwood Stock Farm. Learn about their business and how they provide local organic produce and meat to Kentuckians all throughout the state while enjoying a free meal sponsored by local businesses.

PLAN ON ATTENDING? SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL THE SCOTT COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AT 502-863-0984 TO CLAIM YOUR MEAL VOUCHER BEFORE MAY 2ND!

Rain date is May 11th.



