

THE FARMACY

MAY NEWS

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Agent Remarks

I hope you all are having a great May. With the weather warming up and the days getting long I am sure that everyone is busy gearing up for one of the busiest times of the year. With that being said be aware of the farm equipment that will be on the road these upcoming months. For anyone who wants a farm safety road sign please reach out to me or the Scott County Farm Bureau.

County Fair is also quickly approaching. I am happy to announce that this year I will accept open class agriculture crop exhibits. If you are interested in participating you can pick up fair books at the Scott County Extension Office or find them online at the Scott County Extension Office website. You can also email me directly with any questions that you may have about agriculture exhibit hall entries.

For any woodland owners out there, I strongly suggest that you look into completing the Kentucky Woodland Owner Short course starting in June. It is a very extensive program that goes into great detail over all things woodlands. For more information check out the flyer on page 9.

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Have a great May!

Stay safe!

Brittany



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

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Late-Season Management Tips for Winter Wheat

-Chad Lee

May is the prime time to scout and take action for wheat for diseases, insects and weeds. While approximately 10,000 acres of wheat that were underwater for several days in April are lost, most farmers across Kentucky have reported only a small portion of their wheat fields were impacted. Further good news is that the condition of Kentucky's surviving wheat crop has improved, according to the May 5 USDA-NASS Crop Progress and Condition report. By May, wheat is typically flowering and developing seeds. This grain-filling period is critical for producing high yields because kernel size and weight are determined during this stage. Yields will be reduced by any stress (high temperatures, low soil moisture, nutrient deficiencies and pests) occurring during grain fill. Even though we have little control over weather scenarios, decisions can be made to address pest stressors.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



April WASDE Updates Old Crops Estimates Before Shifting Focus to New Crop Forecast in May

-Nathan Smith

The April World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report released Thursday, April 10, made a few updates to the 2024/25 balance sheets for major row crops that were generally minor adjustments to old crop estimates for the United States (U.S.). The Crop Production report was also released on April 10th with no new data reported for row crops. Thus, the adjustments in the WASDE report were made on the use side of the balance sheet. The U.S. corn balance sheet was viewed as the most bullish with a sizable increase in the export forecast of 100 million bushels due to strong sales.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Ag Economics and Policy

Current Non-Real Estate Farm Debt

-Charley Martinez & Parker Wyatt

As mentioned in previous Southern Ag Today (SAT) articles (Martinez and Ferguson 2022, Martienz 2023), monitoring Non-Real Estate Farm Debt provides insight into debt health. Last year, there were periods of drought and increased input prices for producers. At the time of this article, planting is on everyone's mind (completed or about to start), producers are bailing hay, and all prices in every supply chain are working their way through tariffs. The most recent reports offer insights through the end of 2024. As a refresher, every commercial bank in the U.S. submits their quarterly Reports of Condition and Income, which are known as call reports. Within these call reports are totals of agricultural loans and the status (on time or late) of the loans.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Weathering the Storm

-Jerry Pierce

"Agriculture is by nature a cyclical industry." So said the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in History of the Eighties - Lessons for the Future published in 1987. It still is, with net incomes cycling up and down over the decades. So how can farms "weather the storm" when farm income is cycling down? Long-term success in farming depends greatly on the ability of the farm business to meet obligations in the long term and short term. And it might be said that every business must meet its obligations this year to have a chance to meet the longer-term obligations.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Forage News

What Horse Owners Want From Haymakers -Mike Rankin

Selling hay in the horse market can be both rewarding and frustrating. Even so, that market is the lifeblood for many commercial hay producers, especially those who make small square bales. "We sometimes consider horse people as a bit of an enigma as to what they consider to be important when buying hay," said Bob Coleman at the Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference in Lexington last month.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Grazing Summer Grass: What to Expect

-Kelly Prince, Krista Lea, and Ray Smith

Despite the fact that horses graze year-round, no pasture forage species actively grows all year. Pasture grasses vary from season to season and even from month to month. Each new season brings limitations and availabilities to pastures, and understanding these rhythms will help horse owners take advantage of forages year-round.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Forage Timely Tips

- Start hay harvests for quality forage. Consider making baleage to facilitate timely cutting.
- Seed warm season grasses for supplemental summer forage once soil temperature is at 60°F
- Clip, graze, or make hay to prevent seedhead formation.
- Consider temporary electric fencing to subdivide larger pastures and exclude areas for mechanical harvesting.
- Scout pastures for summer annual weeds and control when small.
- Rotate pastures as based in height rather than time. Start grazing tall fescue at 8-10" and stop grazing at 3-4". Stop grazing orchardgrass dominant pastures at 4-5" for quicker regrowth. results to select seed for spring renovation



One-pot Pasta with Fresh Tomato Sauce

12 ounces tri-colored pasta
8 medium tomatoes, diced**
2 cups low-sodium chicken broth
1 small yellow onion, sliced
4 garlic cloves, minced or 2 tablespoons garlic powder

1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 tablespoon fresh basil, chopped or
1 teaspoon dried
1 teaspoon salt

6 ounces baby spinach with stems removed
 Parmesan cheese to top
 Fresh basil for garnish (optional)

Place all of the ingredients except the spinach, parmesan, and additional fresh basil in a large pot. **Cover** pot with lid and **bring** to boil over medium-high heat. **Reduce** heat to medium-low and **let simmer** for 6 minutes or until pasta is slightly al dente, **stir** occasionally. **Remove** from heat. **Stir** in spinach; **cover** and **let** stand 5 minutes. **Top** with parmesan cheese and basil just before serving.

***Substitute 2, 14-ounce cans low-sodium diced tomatoes when tomatoes are out of season.*

Yield: 6, 1 ½ cup servings

Nutritional Analysis:
 260 calories, 2g fat, 0g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 0mg cholesterol, 460mg sodium, 51g carbohydrate, 3g fiber, 8g total sugars, 0g added sugars, 12g protein

Conservation Corner

Here are some ways the Scott County Conservation District can help you!

Backyard Conservation

Programs Include:

- Plant a Tree – 50% cost-share up to \$100
- Pollinator Plot – 50% cost-share up to \$100
- Rain Barrel Kit – 50% cost-share up to \$25.00
- Garden Cover Crop – Free bags of wheat seed

Scott County Conservation District
 100 E Penn Ave (M-F 9:00 – 2:00pm),
 502-863-2466, scottcountycd@yahoo.com

Local Cost Share

Programs Include:

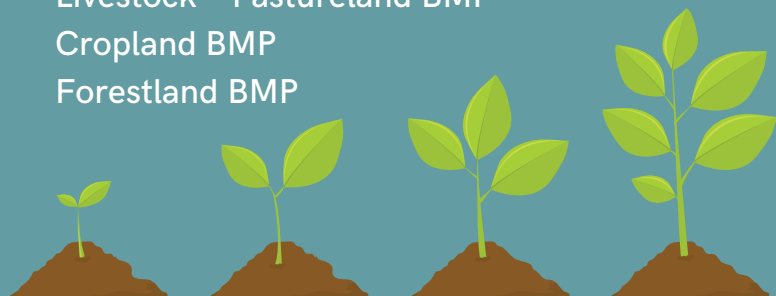
- Gateway, Barn Entrance & Heavy Traffic Corridor Erosion Control Program
- Pipeline and Waterer
- Cover Crop
- Pasture Renovation

State Cost Share

Applications accepted for 2026 funding until October 30, 2025

4 Areas of Interest:

- Livestock – Animal Feeding Operations (AFO)
- Livestock – Pastureland BMP
- Cropland BMP
- Forestland BMP



Livestock

Secretary Rollins Suspends Live Animal Imports Through Ports of Entry Along Southern Border, Effective Immediately

-USDA

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins today announced the suspension of live cattle, horse, and bison imports through U.S. ports of entry along the southern border due to the continued and rapid northward spread of New World Screwworm (NWS) in Mexico, effective immediately. NWS has been recently detected in remote farms with minimal cattle movement as far north as Oaxaca and Veracruz, about 700 miles away from the U.S. border.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Vaccinations for Cow-Calf Operations

-University of Kentucky Beef Extension



Remember: “Vaccination” (drawing up the vaccine in a syringe and injecting it into the animal) is not the same as “immunization” (the animal mounts an immune response) and “vaccination + immunization” never adds up to 100% protection from infection, even in the best of circumstances.

The vaccines must be handled correctly (proper mixing, right temperature) and cattle in good health (low stress environment, good plane of nutrition, trace mineral needs met, minimal parasites present) in order to get the most protection from vaccines.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

Predator Control for Sheep and Goats

-Walter Pieczynski & Valens Niyigena

Small ruminants, such as sheep and goats are gaining traction in the United States as newer and revitalized markets appear. With globalization, access to foreign markets has increased the profitability of these animals. Profitability, however, is lost if sheep and goat predators are not controlled.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



WILDLIFE

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Reminds Public to Leave Baby Wildlife Alone

-Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife

With spring in full swing, more people are encountering young wildlife as they venture outdoors. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is reminding the public to avoid interfering with young wildlife, even if they seem to be alone. While these animals may appear vulnerable, the mother is likely nearby. "It's common for wildlife rehabilitators to receive animals that are thought to be orphans. In reality, they were fine before someone with good intentions stepped in, trying to help in the wrong way," said Dr. Christine Casey, wildlife veterinarian with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

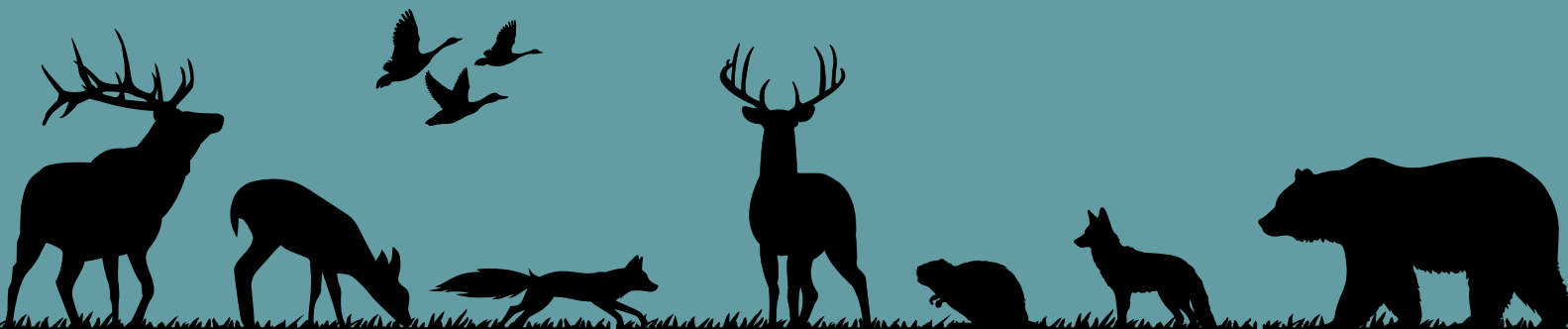


Farm Ponds Needing Clean Up For Summer Activities

-Purdue Extension

After the winter, many people's thoughts turn to getting outside and pursuing some of our favorite hobbies. For some, that includes getting their farm pond back in order for any number of recreational activities. Depending on what you need, there are valuable resources available on the Internet that can assist you in making good management decisions to utilize your pond for maximum enjoyment. Two of the best management resources available have to do with aquatic weed management and farm pond management for recreational fishing.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!



BEEF CATTLE WORKSHOP



May 28, 2025 at 6 P.M. ET

@ 6pm: Meal

Topics:

@ 6:30pm: Marketing Your Beef Cattle
(Jim Akers-Bluegrass Stockyard)

@ 7pm: Pasture Planning 101: Grazing
and Forage Selection (Dr. Abigail
Hines-KSU)



Meal will be provided.
No registration required.



Join us in person: Harold R. Benson Research & Demonstration Farm
1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY

Living with Alpha-gal Syndrome

Learn more about AGS (red meat
allergy) and how to reduce your
risk with University of Kentucky
Cooperative Extension



Topics Covered

- ✓ AGS basics
- ✓ Tick bite prevention
- ✓ Diet & lifestyle management
- ✓ Q/A session

Thursday, May 29th

6-7:30pm CDT

7-8:30pm EDT

Register Now!

ukfcs.net/AgS



May Events



Scott County Fair

June 16th - 21st

at

the Scott County
Fairgrounds



Kentucky State Fair

August 14th - 23rd

at

the Kentucky State Fair
Grounds

KENTUCKY WOODLAND OWNERS SHORT COURSE

SIX WEBINARS & A FIELD SESSION WITH RESOURCE EXTRAVAGANZA

This program aids Kentucky woodland owners in forest resource management, offering online and in-person options. Live session recordings will be available, with participants able to choose between online-only or a field session, each featuring a regional Woodland Owner Resource Extravaganza.



Online

JUNE 10 – 26

7 PM – 8:30 PM ET



Field Session and Extravaganza

JULY 19 – WHITLEY CO.

AUGUST 16 – PENDLETON CO.

Each Field Session showcases a Woodland Owner Resource Extravaganza!

Online only: \$10/person
Online & 1 Field: \$30/single \$45/couple

www.KYWOSC.org

Meet the WOSC Partners
<https://wosc.ca.uky.edu/partners>

Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Short Course



Cooperative
Extension Service

FORESTRY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES - EXTENSION

2025 KY Grazing Conference East

October 28, 2025 - Winchester, KY



Kentucky Master Grazer
Educational Program

Kentucky Fencing Schools

Electric Fencing for Serious Graziers: Installation and Troubleshooting

Organized and Sponsored by the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council, UK
Cooperative Extension Service, and the Master Grazer Program

What: Hands on electric fencing school covering installation and troubleshooting
When: June 3, 2025, 9 AM to 4 PM
Where: Grayson County Extension Office
64 Quarry Road
Leitchfield, KY 42754

Registration
limited to first
30 participants!

Preregistration Required:

Register online at: <https://forages.ca.uky.edu/events>

Or call Caroline Roper, 270-704-2254



Kentucky Master Grazer
Educational Program



WORKSHOP AGENDA AND TOPICS

Classroom Sessions: Fundamentals of Electric Fencing

- Electric fencing theory and principles-Morgan Hayes
- System layout and design-Jeremy McGill

Hands-on Sessions: Installation and Troubleshooting

Installation of permanent electric fencing

- Installation of energizer and grounding system
- Making good connections
- Tying fence run ends together to enhance conductance
- Installation of underground cables for lead-out and gates

Using temporary fencing

- Utilizing an electrical offset for new and existing fencing
- Using reels and temporary posts for subdivisions
- Using a solar charger for temporary fencing
- Repairing breaks in polywire
- Training livestock to electric fencing

Troubleshooting Electrical Fences

- Testing grounding systems
- Using cutoff switches to isolate shorts
- Using fault finders to find shorts
- Diagnosing grounding problems
- Finding faulty insulators
- Finding broken lead out wires

Intermediate Grazing School

Sept. 24-25, 2025 - Versailles, KY



Kentucky Master Grazer
Educational Program