

NIKKI'S NEWSLETTER



Cooperative Extension Service
University of Kentucky
Marshall County
1933 Mayfield Highway
Benton, KY 42025
(270) 527-3285
extension.ca.uky.edu

Marshall County's Agriculture and Natural Resources Update

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a happy holiday season. Even though the calendar turned the page, not much has changed. According to current Extension COVID-19 guidelines, we are open for all regular operations but cannot provide in-person meetings at this time. Therefore, at this time, this limits us to web based meetings offerings unless special approval is granted.

Many of you will need new **private applicator** cards this year. I have been granted special approval to host these trainings in person for growers without zoom capabilities. See page 2 for details.

Many of you are wondering about **dicamba** certifications, at this time, the only training offering is available is the BASF version which can be located at: www.engeniaherbicide.com/training.html If you do not have the ability to participate online, please let me know. Also, if you need a **paraquat** training, call to schedule an appointment.

The **County Agriculture Investment Program (CAIP)** is about to start. The Marshall County Agriculture Development Board has allocated a generous amount of funds for this year's program! This is a great opportunity where you can apply for funding for projects on your farm! See page 3 for details.

On January 15th, USDA announced additional assistance through the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program** for certain agricultural producers whose operations were directly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. More information can be found here: www.farmers.gov/cfap

I hope we will be able to reconvene in-person trainings soon but in the meantime, take advantage of the plethora of **web based educational opportunities** available (see page 7), the new and/or revised **publications** (see page 4.) There are only 60(ish) days until spring! Let's make the best of it! Take care. -Nikki Rhein

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See cover page
for Dicamba and
Paraquat Info!

Marshall County Private Applicator Trainings

January 29th, 9-11am
February 17th, 9-11am
March 17th, 9-11am

Two ways to participate: Via zoom or if zoom capabilities are unavailable to the applicator, then in-person at the Extension Office. In-person seats are limited. **Registration is required.** Call 270-527-3285 to register!

What is a private applicator?

A certified private pesticide applicator can use Restricted Use pesticides to produce any agricultural commodity on property owned or rented by him (her) or an employer, or to the lands of a farmer-neighbor, if the application is made without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities. Other scenarios require a commercial applicator license. Call for more details on commercial testing. Private applicator certification is valid for 3 years and expires on December 31 of the final year.

Marshall County Extension Office
1933 Mayfield Hwy
Benton KY, 42025

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

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, or physical or mental disability. UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND KENTUCKY COUNTIES, COOPERATING

LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification

2021 KY Annual GAP Training

UK is offering a virtual Tobacco GAP, Good Agriculture Practices, Training.

Growers **MUST** Register no later than noon on Monday, February 22, 2021.

Date & Time
Tuesday, February 23rd
from 9:00 am to 11:00 am CST

Register at:

<https://shop.gapconnections.com/training/event?id=4017>



MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS



Eligible Investment Areas:

*Agricultural Diversification
Large Animal - Small Animal
Farm Infrastructure
Fencing & On-Farm Water
Forage & Grain Improvement
Innovative Ag. Systems
On-Farm Energy
Poultry & Other Fowl
Technology & Leadership Development
Value Added & Marketing*

Administered by
Marshall County Conservation District

107 W 5th Street
Benton, KY 42025
(270) 527-2606

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications are available for Marshall County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important farm investments.

Application Period:
February 1- February 28, 2021

No applications will be accepted before February 1 or after February 28

Application Availability:
Marshall County Conservation District
Monday – Thursday (7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

For More Information:
Contact Vicki Boatright at (270) 527-2606 or email mccd@bellsouth.net

All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

NEW/REVISED PUBLICATIONS

The Cooperative Extension Service produces many great publications over a diverse range of topics yearly. Many new and revised publications have just become available. Follow the links below to view them online or call the Extension Office to receive hard copies of these great publications! Looking for something not listed? Contact us. We may already have a publication on that topic or it could be our next great publication idea!

Beef and Forage

AEN-156: Using a Kit to Set up a Cattle Scale System under a Squeeze Chute

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AEN/AEN156/AEN156.pdf>

AGR-173: Baling Forage Crops

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR173/AGR173.pdf>

AGR-252: Soil Sampling Pastures and Hayfields (new)

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR252/AGR252.pdf>

AGR-255: Strategies for Reclaiming Hay Feeding Areas

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR255/AGR255.pdf>

PR:780-790 All Forage Variety Trial

https://forages.ca.uky.edu/variety_trials

Commercial Horticulture

HO-124: Water Use and Water Footprint in Container-grown Nursery and Greenhouse Crops

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/HO/HO124/HO124.pdf

AGR-254: Grain Drill Calibration: Don't Make a Mistake--CALIBRATE! (new)

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR254/AGR254.pdf

AGR-257: Hay Sampling: Strategies for Getting a Good Sample (new)

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR257/AGR257.pdf

PR-779: 2020 Fruit and Vegetable Research Report

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/PR/PR779/PR779.pdf

EQUINE

ID-196: UK Ag Equine Programs Calendar, 2021

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID196/ID196.pdf>

ID-265: Riding Arena Footing: Materials and Characteristics

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID265/ID265.pdf>

ID-266: Riding Arena Maintenance: Dragging and Treatments

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID266/ID266.pdf>

ID-267: Riding Arena Maintenance: Equipment Guide

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID267/ID267.pdf>

ID-196: UK Ag Equine Programs Calendar, 2021

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID196/ID196.pdf

Gardening

HO-126: Consumer Horticulture Benefits for Businesses, Workplaces, and Employees

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/HO/HO126/HO126.pdf>

AEN-157: Self-Watering Wicking Container

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AEN/AEN157/AEN157.pdf>

AEN-158: Raised Wicking Garden Beds

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AEN/AEN158/AEN158.pdf>

Grain Crops

PR-794: 2020 Kentucky Soybean Performance Tests

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/PR/PR794/PR794.pdf

ID-268: Kentucky Grain Crop Production at a Glance

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID268/ID268.pdf

AGR-261: Double Crop Soybean Production in Kentucky

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR261/AGR261.pdf

PR-780: 2020 Kentucky Hybrid Corn Performance Test

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/PR/PR780/PR780.pdf

AGR-259: Multi-SOA Pre-emergence Herbicides for Palmer Amaranth and Waterhemp Control

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR259/AGR259.pdf

AGR-6: Chemical Control of Weeds in Kentucky Grain Crops, 2021

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR6/AGR6.pdf

AGR-256: Identification of Palmer Amaranth, Waterhemp and Other Pigweed Species

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR256/AGR256.pdf

Tobacco

AGR:160 Burley and Dark Tobacco Production Guide

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID160/ID160.pdf>

AGR-258: Production of Connecticut Broadleaf Cigar Wrapper Tobacco in Kentucky and Tennessee

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR258/AGR258.pdf>

Here Come the Seed Catalogs

Rick Durham, extension professor, Department of Horticulture



January often arrives with mixed blessings: cold, dreary weather and seed catalogs that remind us that spring is only a couple of months away.

Garden catalogs, whether they arrive in the mail or pop-up in our favorite social media apps, can be enticing, luring us with their bright images of beautiful blooms, intriguing shrubs and trees, and mouthwatering vegetables. To manage their lure, it's a good idea to approach seed catalogs with three things in mind: an idea of how you want your flower garden to look or what you want your vegetable garden to produce, what kind of gardener you are, and, most importantly, a budget.

Are you the type of gardener who likes to get things started and then move on to other things or do you enjoy tinkering in the garden all season? Are you planning any trips this summer, which might leave you trying to find someone to water or harvest your garden during the height of summer?

If you had a vegetable garden last year, think about which plants succeeded and which may have struggled. Consider the fruits and vegetables your family enjoys eating and also your planting location. Does it get full sun or partial shade? Does it get hot afternoon sun or gentle morning sun? Do you want to start your plants from seed or are you more inclined to buy young plants for transplanting? The former is less expensive and often gives you more varieties to choose. Some plants, like tomatoes, may need a protected environment to start seeds, and others, such as lettuces, can be direct-sown when the soil heats up enough in spring.

When it comes to planting a flower or foliage garden in your landscape, plan your design first. It's easy to fall for that picture of the lovely flowering tree, but it may mature to a size that's not right for your landscape. Things to think about when deciding which plants to buy for your garden include your growing zone, width and height of the plant at maturity, whether you get more sun or shade, terrain, soil type and soil moisture levels. Try searching for plant reviews online and see how others used the plant in their landscapes.

If you are planning to plant a garden for the first time, take this year to try your hand with one or two types of plants and explore what it is you enjoy about gardening. If you are a more experienced gardener, seed catalogs offer new and different varieties to try. With an abundance of heirloom vegetable varieties and an ever-expanding list of flowering cultivars available, you can experiment by mixing in something new among your tried-and-true plants.

Remember, when leafing through a seed catalog, your eyes can be bigger than your budget or the time you have to spare planting and tending to everything you buy. Dream big but move cautiously. You might end up with a garden that is the envy of the neighborhood.

For more information, contact the Marshall county office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

Start 2021 off Right Financially

*Gerry Pierce, Program Coordinator,
Kentucky Farm Business Management Program*



2020 ended up being a more profitable year than expected for some Kentucky producers. This is largely due to increased grain prices and direct government payments. As a result, some farmers may have some unexpected profits. You can use this money to improve your financial situation in 2021.

While 2020 ended better than expected for some operations, much uncertainty and volatility still exist in the agricultural markets. In addition, there continue to be a lot of supply chain issues because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which can affect how and when producers can sell their product. While producers received large direct government payments in 2020, questions remain if there will be future payments.

If you experienced a more profitable year than you expected, work with your financial team to develop a plan for it. The earlier you have this conversation, the better. Talk with your major lenders and your tax preparer. They are the ones who can best advise you on how to put your earnings to work.

Building working capital is one of the best ways to put the farm business in a better position for the new year. It can help you to manage the opportunities and challenges that will come during the year. You can use unexpected extra funds to increase your working capital. You can do this by building up your cash reserves. You can also increase your working capital by reducing the amount of principal due in the next year and by paying off debts, especially short-term debts and loans with high interest rates.



Avoid unnecessary capital expenditures. These include unnecessary equipment purchases, facility upgrades and land purchases that can be delayed. These decrease your working capital, increase your principal due in the next 12 months and do not help build your current assets.

Remember moderation in everything. You may be tempted to increase your family living expenses due to the increased profits, but it is important to maintain your current level of living and save the money for farming purposes. This will allow you to better weather future financial downturns.

The Kentucky Farm Business Management Program helps producers make sound financial decisions. The program has limited opportunities for new clients. You can find out more about the program at <http://agecon.ca.uky.edu/kfbm> or by contacting the Marshall County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

Extension Agriculture Economics Tools
and Publications can be found at:
agecon.ca.uky.edu/ext-publications

Upcoming Virtual Programs

From the Woods Today

Weekly Wednesdays at 10 am

<http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/woods-today>

Intensive Soybean Management Workshop

2/2-2/3 @ 8:30 am

kysoy.org/events/

Beef Bits Podcast

Posted Regularly

<https://beefbits.podbean.com/>

KY Beef Minutes

Posted Regularly

<http://afs.ca.uky.edu/beef/videos/beef-minutes>

Horticulture Webinar Wednesdays

Weekly at 1pm

<https://kentuckyhortnews.com/horticulture-webinar-wednesdays/>

Reaching Out While Locked In- Beef Webinar Series

Every other Tuesday night starting on 2/2 @ 7pm

Virtual Shop Talks For Farmer- Resource Stewardship

2/3, 2/17, 3/3 and 3/17 from 9am-10:30

<https://uky.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMod-6uqTgvHt0sm1Aly0Pcg9ZII5Gkmg9n>

11th Annual Equine Pastures Please

1/26 @ 5pm

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pastures-please-tickets-129057573677>

American Forage and Grassland Conference

on-demand

<https://www.afgc.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3459>

Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference

2/25- all day

<https://forages.ca.uky.edu/event/alfalfa-and-stored-forage-conference-2>

Novel Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop

2/23-24 at 5pm

<https://grasslandrenewal.org/workshops/>

Annual Turfgrass and Landscape Short Course

2/4, 2/11, 2/18 and 2/25 from 7:45 am- 3:10pm

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kentucky-turfgrass-landscape-short-course-day-1-tickets-134025749625>



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Noodles Florentine

8 ounces whole wheat egg noodles
3 tablespoons butter
4 tablespoons whole wheat flour

¼ teaspoon pepper
2 cups fat-free milk
2 cups low-fat cheddar cheese

1½ cups diced, low sodium cooked ham
10 ounces fresh spinach, cooked and drained
¼ cup bread crumbs

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. **Cook** noodles according to package directions; **drain**. In a small saucepan, **melt** butter over medium heat. **Add** flour and pepper; **blend** to a smooth paste. Gradually **add** milk, stirring constantly and **cook** until thickened. **Add** cheese, **stirring** constantly, until melted. **Place** half of the noodles in a greased 2 quart, shallow baking dish. Over the noodles, **sprinkle** a layer of ham and spinach.

Drizzle half of the cheese sauce over the mixture. **Repeat** with second layer of noodles, ham, spinach and remaining cheese sauce. **Sprinkle** with bread crumbs. **Bake** for 25 minutes.

Yield: 8, 1½ cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 310 calories, 11 g fat, 5 g saturated fat, 45 mg cholesterol, 680 mg sodium, 29 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 4 g sugar, 23 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>

Kentucky Spinach

SEASON: May to June and September to November.

NUTRITION FACTS: One cup serving of raw spinach has 10 calories. Packed with vitamins that promote health, it is a major source of vitamins A and C. It is also a good source of calcium.

SELECTION: Look for bright green leaves that are fresh, young, moist and tender. Avoid coarse stems and injured, torn, dried, limp or yellowed leaves.

STORAGE: Store in the coldest part of the refrigerator for no more than two to three days.

PREPARATION: Wash in lukewarm water in a large bowl. Remove any roots, rough ribs and the center stalk, if it is large or fibrous.

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

PRESERVING: Wash leaves and remove large stems. Blanch 2 minutes, cool, drain and pack in canning or freezer jars or plastic freezer boxes, leaving ½-inch headspace. Seal, label and store up to one year in the freezer.

KENTUCKY SPINACH

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

September 2015

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

For more information go to:
<http://marshall.ca.uky.edu/AgNaturalResources>
 or follow us on Facebook @marshallcountyanr



Marshall County
Agriculture and Natural
Resources Agent