

NIKKI'S NEWSLETTER

Marshall County's Agriculture & Natural Resources Update

February is here and even though many are dreaming about Valentines Day, forage farmer's are dreaming about frost seeding clovers. Stop dreaming and read pages 3-4 for more details on how to frost seed clovers with success. Just don't forget to grab some chocolates or flowers for your "main squeeze" on your way home from the seed store. ❤️

As meeting season rolls on, I wanted to remind everyone to RSVP for my upcoming programs! Don't forget about the "**Grain Growers Night Out**" row crop farmer's dinner on page 2, the "**Raising the Steaks**" beef producer dinner on page 4 and the **Lunch Break Gardening Series** on page 7. Remember, all these programs require a call in RSVP so we can secure an appropriate amount of food.

Another great upcoming opportunity is the "**Winter Ag. Conference**," which is a meeting for grain growers that I help host annually at Keith Lowry's Farm in Water Valley. We have secured CCA and pesticide CEU's as well as breakfast sandwiches/donuts and a catered lunch. See page 7 for more details.

Also, check out these other nearby opportunities that may interest you:

"**Pasture Please**" is a forage meeting for **equine farmers**. It is on March 2nd at the Grand Rivers Community Center. More information can be found at this link:
www.eventbrite.com/e/pastures-please-western-ky-tickets-515044280307

The **UK Beef Webinar Series continues**. Email me at nikki.rhein@uky.edu for registration info.

* February 14~ Where is the Cheap Feed? – Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky will discuss feeding strategies to mitigate current high feed costs. We will also get a market update from Dr. Kenny Burdine, Extension Professor, University of KY.

* March 14~ Beef Management Update – Management information useful for going into spring breeding and summer stocker-ing will be presented by the Beef Extension Team and other specialists within the college.

For the few **tobacco growers** I have left, I just wanted to let you all know about the 2023 Tobacco GAP training options for your required annual training.

Option 1:

Growers have the opportunity to complete their 2023 Annual GAP Training online through GAP Connections on their Grower Dashboard. Growers need to log in on their grower dashboard and complete the required number of modules.

Option 2:

In-person meetings: GAP connections has set up a limited number of in-person meetings in Kentucky. The full list of meeting can be found on the list at the link below: shop.gapconnections.com/training

Enjoy! I hope to see everyone soon!



Nikki Rhein
Agriculture and Natural
Resources,
Marshall County

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Grain Grower's Night Out

Marshall County's Annual
Grain Farmer Dinner

Early Soybeans

Join Conner Raymond,
Extension Associate, as he
discusses Uk research on
early planted soybeans

Grain Storage

Then welcome Dr. Sam
McNeill, Extension Agricultural
Engineer, for a presentation
about grain storage tools and
safety

March 6th at 5:30 pm at the
Marshall County Extension Office
1933 Mayfield Hwy, Benton

**Must RSVP by March 3rd
by calling
270-527-3285**

Meal graciously sponsored by:

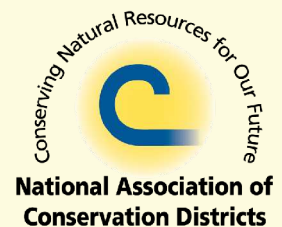


Marshall County Conservation District's

Highlight of the Month:

Roof Covers and Runoff Structures

There are two different practices that can assist producers with reducing nutrient runoff from buildings: Roofs and Covers (367) and Roof Runoff Structures (558). Landowners can apply for State Cost Share under the Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) and Livestock-Pastureland practices. Landowners who apply under the Livestock-Pastureland best management practices can only apply for 558 Roof Runoff Structure. For more information, please contact the Marshall County Conservation District at 270.527.2606



Making Frost Seedings of Clover Work

Jimmy Henning, UK Forage Specialist



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. With 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

Figure 1 (above): Clovers can be frost seeded successfully into grass pastures because of their quick germination, tolerance to shade and aggressive root and shoot growth as seedlings. Proper attention to establishment basics helps ensure success.

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 over-seeding (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.



Figure 2: The heavy ground cover seen here will prevent clover establishment.



Figure 3: Bare soil should be showing for successful clover over-seeding, as in the picture above.

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.

Continued on page 4.

Making Frost Seedings of Clover Work

Continued from page 3.

Figure 4 (right): Hard frosts can create a honeycomb of ice crystals pushing up from the soil surface, bringing up bits of soil with them. Overseeded clover will fall down to the soil surface and be covered by the falling soil from the top of the ice crystals. These seed will germinate with warming temperatures in spring.

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.

Happy Foraging.



Weed Control in Pastures

Join Dr. J.D. Green,
University of Kentucky
Weed Specialist, as he
reviews the
recommended
techniques for combating
the hard to kill weeds in
your pasture!

*Feb. 9th at 5:30 pm at the
Marshall County Extension Office
1933 Mayfield Hwy, Benton*

**Must RSVP by Feb. 6th
by calling
270-527-3285**

Meal graciously sponsored by:



Raising the Steaks

Marshall County's Annual Beef Dinner

 University of
Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



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



MASTER GARDENER LIBRARY LESSONS

BLACKBERRIES

Join Master Gardener Doug Parady for a free gardening workshop!

Learn how to grow, maintain and prune blackberry vines!

Two chances to attend!
Marshall County Public Library Branches:

Hardin on March 8th from 10-11:00am
Calvert City on March 15th from 10-11:00am



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4-H Youth Development
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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification

Private Applicator Trainings 2023



3 Opportunities:
Jan. 25th, Feb. 22nd & March 22rd
8:30-11:30am

Marshall County Extension Office
1933 Mayfield Highway
Benton KY, 42025

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4-H Youth Development
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Kentucky Sales Tax on Utilities



Jerry Pierce, UK, Farm Business Mang.

A legislative change was made to the qualifications for residential use exemption from sales tax on utilities. Effective January 1, 2023, the resident at a specific service address is responsible for declaring it as their place of domicile and the utility services exempt for residential use. Kentucky sales tax will be charged for utility services furnished to any location that is not your place of domicile, even if it was formally classified as residential. The 6% sales tax applies to the sale of water and sewer, electricity, and heating gas and fuels used or delivered.

“Place of domicile” is your primary residence. The legislation says it is “the

place where an individual has his or her legal, true, fixed, and permanent home and principal establishment, and to which, whenever the individual is absent, the individual has the intention of returning.”

The residential use exemption applies to all utilities serving the primary residence. Generally, everything on the meter or the tank that serves your primary residence qualifies for the exemption.

In general, an existing customer with only one service address should not be contacted by the utility providers. The qualification for residential exemption will simply continue. If your utility provider requested you complete the Declaration of Domicile form follow the company’s instructions. Contact them if you have questions. If you have utility service for a second home, a separate farm or business, or other non-residential property you should fill out the form required by your utility providers to declare which meter serves your primary residence.

Multiple meters at your primary residence may qualify for the residential exemption. Separate meters for garages, outbuildings, security lighting, and other non-commercial uses that are a part of your residence could be exempt from the sales tax. Contact your utility providers.

Multiple properties you own may qualify for a residential exemption. Each property must be the place of domicile for different Kentucky residents and you must submit a certificate of domicile to the utility service providers for each separately metered account.

If farm buildings and the primary residence are on the same meter or tank and the utility service was previously classified as residential, you should continue to receive residential use tax treatment. If service is switched to separate meters or to another owner, only the primary residence will qualify for the residential use exemption.

Farm Exemption

Utility services to farms separate from the primary residence may be exempt from some utility sales tax. The Agriculture Exemption License Number makes qualified farms exempt from sales tax on natural gas, LP, and water used exclusively and directly in qualified farming operations. Provide a copy of your Ag Exemption Certificate to your utility providers to verify the exemption with them. The exemption for heating fuels does not apply to raising horses. There is a separate exemption for water only sold to a business raising horses. Use Form 51A157.

The Agriculture Exemption License Number does not include an exemption from sales tax on electricity.

Farmers who pay utilities for a farm employee may qualify for the residential exemption. The employee must complete the Declaration of Domicile Form 51A380. If employees are housed in a multi-unit dwelling with a master meter, the farmer should complete the Landlord Declaration Form 51A381 and have each resident complete a Declaration of Domicile form. The residential exemption does not require the employee to pay directly for the utility services.

For more information contact the Department of Revenue at: 502-564-5170

2023 WINTER AG CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 10 LOWRY FARMS

5183 ST. RT. 94 W. WATER VALLEY KY 42085

- 7:00 AM: REGISTRATION/SPONSOR SET UP
- 8:00 AM: ALEX HAYES - 2023 GRAIN MARKET OUTLOOK
- 8:30 AM: MATT DIXON - WEATHER IN KENTUCKY
- 9:00 AM: JOHN GROVE - SULFUR USE IN CORN AND SOYBEANS
- 9:30 AM: BREAK
- 9:45 AM: CARL BRADLEY - SOYBEAN AND WHEAT DISEASE UPDATE
- 10:45 AM: DALE DOBSON - THE POWER OF A HANDSHAKE - FARM SAFETY
- 12:00 PM: LUNCH/DOOR PRIZES
- 1:00 PM: DICAMBA CERTIFICATION

Sponsored Lunch and Product Vendors on Site
KY & TN Pesticide and CCA CEU's are pending

Lunch Break Gardening Series

 University of
Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



Join Dr. Matt Springer, Wildlife Management Specialist, as he provides research proven tricks to help keep deer out of your gardens!

Join us during your lunch break for a gardening workshop!

\$12

Includes a boxed lunch from a local restaurant

1st Wednesday Monthly
12:15-12:45pm
at the Marshall County
Extension Office



RSVP by Feb. 27th
Call 270-527-3285

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Grain & Gardening 7



Greek Style Spaghetti Squash

Directions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Prepare the squash by carefully cutting it in half lengthwise with a sharp knife and scooping out the seeds. Place on a lightly greased baking sheet, cut -side down and bake for 30 to 35 minutes, or until a sharp knife can be easily inserted into the rind. Remove the squash from the oven and allow to cool. When cooled, use a fork to scrape out the stringy flesh from the shell and place in a colander. Press out as much liquid as possible. Place squash in a medium bowl and keep warm. Heat the oil in a skillet over medium heat. Sauté the onion and bell pepper until tender. Add the garlic and continue to cook 2-3 minutes. Add the spinach; allow to wilt. Stir in tomatoes and cook until tomatoes are heated through. Toss the cooked vegetables with the warm spaghetti squash. Stir in seasonings, basil, and feta cheese. Serve warm.

Ingredients:

1 spaghetti squash (2-3 pounds)
2 tbs olive oil
1 cup chopped onion
1/4 cup chopped green bell pepper
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup fresh spinach leaves
1 1/2 cups chopped tomatoes
1 tsp dried oregano
1 tsp lemon no-salt seasoning blend
1/4 tsp salt
2 tbs chopped fresh basil
3/4 cup crumbled low-fat feta cheese

Nutritional Analysis: 120 calories, 6 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 280 mg sodium, 14 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 6 g sugars, & 4 g protein

Kentucky Spaghetti Squash

SEASON: August through October.

NUTRITION FACTS: Squash is low in calories. One cup raw squash contains 42 calories. It contains vitamin C, potassium and calcium. It is naturally free of fat and cholesterol.

SELECTION: Choose squash that is a creamy to deep yellow in color. Look for hard skinned, evenly colored squash without blemishes or ridges. Avoid squash that are tinged with green as they are not mature.

STORAGE: Spaghetti squash can be stored at room temperature for up to one

month. Longer if stored in a cool, dry, dark location. Do not wash before storing.

PREPARATION:

To Bake: Pierce holes in the squash and place in a baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees F for one hour or until the skin gives easily under pressure and the inside is tender. Cool for 10 to 15 minutes.

To Microwave: Pierce holes in the squash and microwave on high for 10 to 12 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes.

Halve squash lengthwise and discard seeds. Shred squash with a fork and serve.

KENTUCKY SPAGHETTI SQUASH

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

October 2016

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

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



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



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For more information go to:

<http://marshall.ca.uky.edu/AgNaturalResources>
or follow us on Facebook @marshallcountyanr

Nikki Rhein

Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent,
Marshall County