



AGRICULTURE NEWS

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Cooperative
Extension Service
Jessamine County
95 Park Drive
Nicholasville, KY 40356
(859) 885-4811
www.jessamine.ca.uky.edu

Steve Musen Jessamine County Extension Agent Agriculture and Natural Resources



February 2025

Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference February 25th, 2024—Fayette County Extension Office

The 2025 Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference will be held Feb. 25 from 8:00 to 3:30 at the Fayette County Extension office, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington, KY. The conference will provide important updates on alfalfa production and feature how to produce grass hay for premium markets.

Speakers will include long-time alfalfa breeder Dr. Don Miller from Idaho. Don Dr. Miller has developed or co-developed 100 alfalfa varieties, 6 red clover and one teff grass variety during his plant breeding career.

Specific presentations will include:

- Everything I Ever Needed to Know about Armyworms, Armyworm Control Methods: What to spray and when What's New in Alfalfa Varieties
- What do Horse Owners Want and Why
- What We Can Learn from the Results of the KY Hay Contests
- Emerging Markets for Unique Forage Species
- Producer Panel—The panel will feature four top KY hay producers discussing Orchardgrass, Timothy, Teff, and Fescue/mixed hay production. We have asked them to be very practical and explain their successful methods for establishment, fertilizing, harvesting and marketing. And then we will open the floor to questions.

The cost is \$45 and students are only \$15. Go to the UK Forage Website under events (https://forages.ca.uky.edu/events) for more details and to register.

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Upcoming Events in Agriculture

Feb II	UK Beef Management Seminar	Feb 25	Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conf.
	8:00p via ZOOM		8-3:30p @ Fayette Co. Extension
	See Flyer for more info	Feb 27	Jessamine County Beekeepers
Feb 12-15	National Farm Machinery Show		6:00p @ Jessamine Extension
	KY Expo Center, Louisville	Feb 27	Pastures Please! Equine Forages
Feb 17	Jessamine County Cattlemen		5:30-7:00p @ Fayette Extension
	6:30p @ Jessamine Extension		See Flyer for more information
Feb 18-20	Kentucky Turf @ Landscape	March II	Risk Management for Advanced
	Management Short Course		Cattle Marketers
	See Flyer for more info.		6:00p @ Jessamine Extension

For more information on any of these programs, please contact the Jessamine County Extension Office



Healthy
Recipe
From
Cook Wild
Kentucky

Oven-Baked Frog Legs

- 1 pound frog legs, cleaned
- Buttermilk, to cover
- ½ cup cornmed
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
 ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup melted butter

In a covered container, soak frog legs in buttermilk for 3 hours or overnight in the refrigerator. Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Mix cornmeal, flour, garlic powder, and pepper in a plastic bag. Use tongs to remove frog legs from buttermilk. Place one or two at a time in bag with cornmeal mixture to coat. Place frog legs in a greased 13x9 baking dish; sprinkle with salt. Drizzle lightly with melted butter. Cover tightly with aluminum foil and bake 30 minutes, ensure thermometer inserted into the meatiest part of the leg reaches 165 degrees Fahrenheit. Remove foil after 20 minutes to allow frog legs to brown.

Yield: 4 servings

Nutrition Facts 4 servings per container Serving size 4 ounces (157g) unt per serving 280 **Calories** % Daily Value* Total Fat 12g 15% Saturated Fat 7g 35% Trans Fat 0g 30% Sodium 330mg 14% Total Carbohydrate 22g Dietary Fiber 2g Total Sugars 0g Includes 0g Added Sugars Protein 21g 0% Vitamin D 0mcg Calcium 23mg Iron 3mg 15% Potassium 382mg 8%



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Upcoming Opportunities:

UK Beef Management Webinar Series

If you would like to register, please send an email to dbullock@uky.edu with Beef Webinar in the subject line and your name and county in the message.

All meeting times are 8:00pm ET and meets CAIP Education Requirements.

February 11, 2025 Marketing Opportunities for the Spring – Dr. Kenny Burdine and Kevin Laurant. (See Flyer)

Kentucky Turf and Landscape Management Short Course

February 18-20, 2025 @ Hardin County Extension See Flyer for Registration Information Meets CAIP Education Requirements

Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference

8:00a-3:30p—Tuesday, February 25 @ Fayette County Extension Office See Page 1 for registration information Meets **CAIP Education** Requirements

Pastures Please! Equine Forage Conference

Thursday, February 27th, 5:30p-7:00p @ Fayette County Extension Office This annual has served as a foundational educational program, offering timely and practical information to horse owners. This year's event continues the tradition of focusing on best management practices for pastures and forages, helping equine operations remain profitable and sustainable.

The event is free and open to the public.

RSVPs are encouraged. Please call 859-257-5582 to reserve a spot.

See flyer for more information.

Meets **CAIP** Education Requirements.

Follow us on Facebook

@ Jessamine County Agriculture





- Use a ledger or use and farm operations. Start when your veterinarian comes to check your s Make record-keeping a team effort by involving the will help to avoid being overwhelmed. Check out the publications offered by UK's Depart Agricultural Economics! These provide in depth an Agricultural Economics! These provide in depth and the publication techniques, and budgets.

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Not All Firewood is Created Equal

Fires in the fireplace or outside in the fire pit are intrinsically connected to our visions of nestling in for a long, comfy winter. Outside, let the winter bring its ice and snow if it wants. Inside, we could have a fire to snuggle up to. But not all firewood is created equal.

There are some important things to know before lighting, igniting just any old wood.

- Different species of trees provide different amounts of heat. Wood is made up of air and wood fiber, or cellulose. Since the cellulose burns, but not the air, look for the heaviest or densest firewood per unit volume.
 The best woods would be oak, hickory and black locust. Yellow-poplar, silver and red maple are not as dense and will provide much less heat. On the other hand, they are great woods for starting a fire.
- Freshly cut wood contains a lot of water. Seasoned wood refers to wood that has been given the time for some or all of that water to evaporate. It usually takes between six and 12 months for wood to cure. If you burn it too soon, when it's still green, most of the heat generated will go into evaporating that water, rather than heating your room.
- DON'T GET BURNT

 NOT ALL FIREWOOD IS CREATED EQUAL

 Check out these tips before lighting any wood this winter season:

 Different species of trees provide different amounts of heat.
 Freshly cut wood contains lots of water.
 Burning unseasoned wood can also be dangerous.
 If buying wood from a vendor, ask about the tree species and how long it has been seasoned.
 Seasoning your wood takes time.
 Be aware of unwanted visitors that can hitch a ride on your firewood.

- Burning unseasoned wood can also be dangerous. Generated smoldering fire can cause a creosote buildup in your chimney. Burning pine logs, with their heavy resin, can result in the same problem. Over time, that buildup can lead to a chimney fire.
- If you're seasoning your own wood, cut it first to a length that fits your fireplace, remove the bark, and split the logs for faster drying. Stack it off the ground in an open area with good airflow. Pallets make a good base for this. Air dry it for a minimum of six months.
- If you are buying your wood from a vendor, ask what tree species the wood comes from and how long it has been seasoned. Wood that has been properly seasoned has a gray, weathered appearance and large cracks in the ends of the logs. Even if you've bought seasoned wood, storing it correctly—stacked off the ground and covered with a tarp to protect it from rain—will prevent the wood from reabsorbing water.
- Be aware, too, of unwanted visitors that can hitch a ride on your firewood. Buy firewood near the location where you plan to burn it. Moving infected firewood long distances (especially ash) can spread invasive species, such as the emerald ash borer, a destructive species that originated in Asia. You likely won't see the adult borers, which are threeeighths to one-half-inch long and very narrow. But larva and eggs could be out of sight inside the logs.

However you plan to enjoy utilizing firewood this season, stay safe and enjoy their embers.

"There are some important things to know before lighting, igniting just any old wood."

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Frost Seedings of Clover at a Glance

Legumes are an essential part of a strong and healthy grassland ecosystems. Clover also increases forage quality and quantity and helps to manage tall fescue toxicosis.

- Overseeding may be required to maintain and thicken stands.
- Frost seeding is the simplest method for reintroducing clover back into pastures.
- Control broadleaf weeds prior to frost seeding.
- Soil test and apply any needed lime or fertilizer before frost seeding.
- Suppress the existing sod and reduce residue with hard grazing in the fall and winter.
- Choose well adapted varieties of red and white clover using the UK forage variety testing data.
- Calibrate seeder and check spread pattern.
- Broadcast 6-8 lb/A of red clover and 1-2 lb/A of white clover that has been inoculated in February or early March.
- Control post seeding competition by grazing pastures until clover seedlings become tall enough to be grazed off.
- Put pasture back into rotation once seedlings reach a height of 6-8 inches For more information on frost seeding or visit the UK Forage Extension Website:

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



KDA Nuisance Weed Spraying Program

This program consists of weed spraying demonstration plots. The department will provide the sprayer and enough chemical for the treatment of 10 acres of agricultural land or 100 gallons of spot spraying mix to be used on agricultural land. The department's representative will demonstrate proper mixing and application techniques. A number of nuisance weeds can be treated under this program depending on the needs of the participant. This program is limited to broadleaf weeds.

Signups will go live on February 1st at https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx, and will close at midnight on February 28th.

- 10 acres of agricultural land will be treated with chemical provided by the department
- Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with boomless nozzles.
- If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 10 acres can be treated
- The participant must provide water source
- The participant must provide tractor and operator
- All chemical products must be labeled and the product label will be strictly followed.

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Getting Started with Composting

"Compost is the result of a natural process where decaying organic substances, such as plants, are broken

down by

microorganisms

Composting is a great way to add valuable organic matter to your soil while reducing the amount of yard and food waste that ends up in landfills. It's also something that is remarkably easy to do.

Compost is the result of a natural process where decaying organic substances, such as plants, are broken down by microorganisms. This produces a nutrient-rich, organic material that you can apply to your lawn or garden, much like you would a commercial fertilizer.

You can start a compost bin or pile in your backyard. You can purchase a bin or make one using inexpensive, leftover materials like pallets or chicken wire. The bin can be as big or small as you want, but for most rapid composting, a pile that is at least one yard tall, one yard wide and one yard long is best. Make sure to place your compost in an area that is flat and well-drained.

When the compost area is ready, collect yard waste and food scraps. Yard waste can include twigs, shrub trimmings, grass clippings, leftover straw and leaves. Most

fruit, vegetable and grain scraps are compostable as are coffee grounds, herbs, nuts and egg shells. Avoid meat scraps, oils and dairy products. You need to have a mixture of "brown" material (dried leaves, straw, twigs, coffee grounds, even cardboard) and "green" materials (fresh grass clippings, vegetable scraps, other fresh plant materials) for the composting process to work.

Mix or turn the pile once a week to help speed the breakdown of organic materials. If the compost pile is extremely damp, turn it more often. If it is dry, add some water or fresh plant material. It can take four to six months to complete the composting process. You will know it's finished when the compost is dark brown, crumbly and smells like soil.

Compost can be used in the vegetable garden or spread around ornamental plants in the landscape, but be careful not to use too much. A one-inch layer of compost, worked into the top few inches of soil, will feed plants for several months.

Civil Rights Act-Compliant Statement

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the UK Office of Institutional Equity and Equal Opportunity, 13 Main Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0032 or

US Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

JESSAMINE COUNTY BEEKEEPER'S CLUB FEBRUARY MEETING

Corey Anderson talks about: FSA Programs for Beekeepers

Join Our FB page: Jessamine County Beekeepers

95 PARK DR NICHOLASVILLE, KY 6PM 2/27/25



2025 Horses & Horsemen:

Join us for the 18th annual

PASTURES PLEASEII

Thursday, February 27



Schedule:

5:30—Meal

6:00—Aerial Applications: Does a Drone Fit

- Brett Reese

6:30—Weeds to Watch Out For

- Dr. Bill Witt

7:00—Cost Share Opportunities for Horse Owners

- Krista Lea

RSVP to 859-257-5582

Fayette County Extension Office

1140 Harry Sykes Way Lexington, KY 40504

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2025

48th Annual Kentucky Turf & Landscape Management Short Course

Scan the code with your phone to register

February 18-20, 2025

Hardin County Extension Center 111 Opportunity Way Elizabethtown, KY



- Tracks: Golf, Lawn & Landscape, Sports Turf (Feb. 19-20)
- Pre-conference pesticide certification training & testing (Feb. 18)
- Approved for six CAT 3 CEUs for each track on Feb. 19 & 20, one CEU for CAT 11 (Aerial) on Feb. 19, and two CEUs for CAT 10
 (Demonstration and Research) on Feb. 20
- CEUs requested for KERS, IN, OH, TN, GCSAA, and PGMS as well

Pre-registration closes February 14, 2025 Learn more at https://kyhortcouncil.org/2025-ky-turf-short-course/



BEEF MANAGEMENT WEBINAR SERIES

If you are interested and would like to be registered send an email to dbullock@uky.edu with Beef Webinar Series in the Subject and your name and county in the message to receive a Zoom link and password. You will receive an invitation and password the morning of the presentation.

November

12 Shooting the Bull: Answering all your Beef Related Questions!

Updates and Roundtable discussion with UK Specialists

December

10 Winter Feeding Strategies to Extend Short Hay Supplies

Dr. Lawton Stewart, Professor, University of Georgia

January

14

Important Traits for Bull Selection in Kentucky

Dr. Matt Spangler, Professor, University of Nebraska

February

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Marketing Opportunities for the Spring

Dr. Kenny Burdine, Professor, and Kevin Laurent, Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky

March 11

Preparing for a Successful Spring Breeding Season

Dr. Les Anderson, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

April 8

Health Update and Internal Parasite Field Study Results

Dr. Michelle Arnold, Extension Veterinarian, and Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

If you have any questions or need additional information please email dbullock@uky.edu. If you are already registered you will get a Zoom invitation the morning of each session with the link and password.





Jessamine County Extension Service 95 Park Drive Nicholasville, KY 40356

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED