



[Jessamine County  
Agriculture](#)



University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

# AGRICULTURE NEWS

## AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

**Cooperative  
Extension Service**  
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Steve Musen  
Jessamine County Extension Agent  
Agriculture and Natural Resources



**May 2025**

### Land Pride Multi-Purpose Seeder Added to Shared Use Equipment

The Jessamine County Extension Office is proud to announce the acquisition of a Land Pride MPS 2607 multi-purpose seeder that is being added to our growing list of shared-use equipment pieces. The seven foot wide seeder is a durable, high-quality implement that will meet the needs of Jessamine County land managers who plan to establish or renovate hay land, pastures, paddocks, cover crops or food plots.

We are currently developing a rental contract for the seeder and planning a demonstration Field Day for Saturday morning, May 17th, 9:00a-11:00a at a nearby farm. We encourage anyone interested in renting the seeder, to attend the field day, to learn the proper transportation, set-up and use of the seeder. More details on the field day will be posted on our Facebook page. We will not be releasing the seeder for use until after the field day.



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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

## Upcoming Events in Agriculture

May 3	151st Running of the Kentucky Derby!	& Lamb Dinner 5:30p @ Mercer County Extension (see flyer for details)
May 9	27th Taste of Jessamine 6:30p-8:30p @ R.J. Corman Hanger 2	May 22 Jessamine County Beekeepers 6:00p @ Jessamine Extension (see flyer for details)
May 13,14	Beef Backgrounder Short-Course	June 10-26 KY Woodland Owners Short Course (see flyer for details)
May 17	Multi-Purpose Seeder Demo Time and Location TBD	
May 19	Jessamine County Cattlemen 6:30p @ Jessamine Extension	
May 22	Sheep & Goat Educational Meeting	

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





**Venison  
Meat Loaf**



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program — SNAP.





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## Healthy Recipe From Cook Wild Kentucky

### Venison Meat Loaf

- 2 pounds ground venison
- 1 cup low-sodium beef broth
- 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic (approximately 2 cloves)
- 2 cups plain, soft bread crumbs
- ½ cup chopped onion
- 1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 (15 ounces) can crushed tomatoes

### Tomato Juice Sauce

- 2 cups low-sodium tomato juice
- 1 tablespoon vinegar
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard

Preheat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit. Grease two 9x5 loaf pans and set aside. In a large mixing bowl, combine first 10 ingredients; mix well. In a separate bowl, combine tomato juice, vinegar, brown sugar, and dry mustard. Place equal amounts of meat mixture in each pan. Pour equal amounts of the sauce over each loaf. Bake 1 hour to an internal temperature of 165 degrees Fahrenheit. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

**Yield:** 8 servings

Nutrition Facts	
8 servings per container	
<b>Serving size</b>	<b>4 ounces (301g)</b>
<b>Amount per serving</b>	
<b>Calories</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>% Daily Value*</b>	
<b>Total Fat</b> 5g	<b>6%</b>
Saturated Fat 1.5g	<b>8%</b>
Trans Fat 0g	
<b>Cholesterol</b> 160mg	<b>53%</b>
<b>Sodium</b> 320mg	<b>14%</b>
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 15g	<b>5%</b>
Dietary Fiber 2g	<b>7%</b>
Total Sugars 7g	
Includes 2g Added Sugars	<b>4%</b>
<b>Protein</b> 31g	
Vitamin D 0mcg	<b>0%</b>
Calcium 57mg	<b>4%</b>
Iron 5mg	<b>30%</b>
Potassium 800mg	<b>15%</b>

\* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.



## Upcoming Opportunities:

### UK Beef Backgrounding Shortcourse

May 13-14 @ the U.K. C. Oran Little Research Center, in Woodford County. A two-day program focused on post-weaning management of feeder cattle.

See Flyer for registration details

Meets CAIP Education Requirements

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### Sheep & Goat Educational Meeting and Lamb Dinner

Thursday, May 22nd, 5:30p-7:00p @ Mercer County Extension Office

RSVPs are encouraged. Please call 859-734-4378 to reserve a spot.

Registration \$10.00 per family (collected at the door) will include dinner and One-Year Membership to SEKSPA.

See flyer for more information.

Meets CAIP Education Requirements.

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### Share-Use Multi-Purpose Seeder Demonstration Field Day

May 24, 9:00a-11:00a @ a nearby farm. We encourage anyone interested in renting the seeder, to attend the field day, to learn the proper transportation, set-up and use of the seeder. More details on the field day will be posted on our Facebook page.

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### 2025 Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Course

June 10-26 Online. 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 online plus a field session, each featuring a regional Woodland Owner Resource Extravaganza.

Register at: <https://wosc.ca.uky.edu/2025-WOSC>

Meets CAIP Education Requirements

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### Follow us on Facebook

@ Jessamine County Agriculture





## Better Pastures Equals Healthier Herds

**“When producers shift from continuous grazing to a rotational system, they often see dramatic improvements in pasture productivity, soil health and even animal behavior”**

Rotational grazing is a powerful technique that can bring a range of benefits to all types of livestock as well as the land. By dividing large pastures into smaller paddocks and moving animals through them on a planned schedule, farmers can give each grazed area a rest period, allowing for regrowth of leaf area lost to grazing and replenishment of stored carbohydrates that were utilized to fuel regrowth. When producers shift from continuous grazing to a rotational system, they often see dramatic improvements in pasture productivity, soil health and even animal behavior.

One of the primary advantages of rotational grazing is enhanced pasture productivity. When animals graze one paddock at a time and then move on, the plants in the grazed paddock have a chance to recover. During this rest period, forage plants can restore their carbohydrate reserves and recover more completely from being grazed. This not only boosts the quantity of forage available over time but also maintains better and more consistent nutritional quality. In contrast, continuous grazing—where livestock stay in the same pasture all season—often leads to overgrazing, weaker plants that are more susceptible to stresses and progressively lower yields.

Improved nutrient distribution is another significant plus. Rotating animals means they spread manure evenly around the paddocks rather than depositing it heavily in just a few favorite areas. Because manure is a natural fertilizer, more uniform distribution helps replenish the soil and encourages consistent plant growth. A continuous grazing system, on the other hand, may result in “hot spots” of manure accumulation that can negatively impact both plant growth and the environment around those areas.

A well-managed rotational grazing system also offers increased drought tolerance. With planned rest periods, plants develop deeper, stronger root systems allowing the plants to access water further below the surfaces. In a continuously grazed pasture, plants rarely get the downtime they need to fully recover, leaving them more vulnerable to stress when rainfall is scarce. As a result, fields under rotational management often grow longer into drought periods and recover faster when conditions improve.

Another practical benefit of rotational stocking is easier animal handling. When paddocks are set up with well-designed lanes and strategically placed water sources, moving livestock becomes more straightforward. In addition, more frequent contact with animals allows livestock to associate human interaction with something positive...fresh grass. This greatly reduces the stress and chaos commonly associated with animal handling in open pastures. Properly placed lanes can also help control erosion, ensuring that foot traffic and machinery movement do not damage sensitive areas of the pasture.

Rotational stocking can be a game-changer for anyone looking to optimize pasture health and livestock performance. By giving plants time to recover, distributing nutrients more evenly, building drought resilience and streamlining animal handling, rotational grazing can deliver long-lasting improvements to farm operations. Whether you’re raising cattle, sheep, goats or other grazing animals, this strategy can help you optimize productivity and protect land and water resources for future generations.

*Source: Dr. Christopher Teutsch, UK Extension Forage Specialist*

## 10 Backyard Chicken Basics

Having a small backyard chicken flock is growing in popularity. With the high price of eggs, the trend towards “homesteading” and a growing desire to eat fresh and local, many people are exploring the possibility of raising a few hens. To have a successful flock producing eggs for your family, you’ll want to learn the basics.

1. Make sure you check your local city and county ordinances to ensure you’re able to have a backyard flock. Some ordinances require a minimum amount of land and some subdivisions and homeowners’ associations have their own rules.
2. Chickens require daily care. You must feed them, provide clean water and collect eggs every single day. Managing a small flock is an excellent opportunity to teach children a certain amount of responsibility, but ultimately, you’ll oversee the health and well-being of your flock.
3. Birds get sick and it may be difficult to find a veterinarian to provide care for them.
4. Cleanliness and sanitation are critical elements in caring for a small flock. Everyone must wash their hands before and after handling the birds. Also, no matter how tempting, avoid bringing your chickens into the house and don’t use your kitchen sink to wash equipment.
5. Poop happens. Chickens eat a lot and hens use about 60% of the feed they consume and excrete the other 40% as manure. You must have a plan for that manure. One option is adding it as an odor-free fertilizer for your home garden.
6. Keep it down. Chickens make noise. Only roosters crow, however, hens are not always quiet and can make a lot of noise letting everyone know they just laid an egg.
7. The egg season will come to an end. Chickens stop producing eggs at some point in their lives and may live a long time beyond their egg-laying years. Have a plan for what you will do with hens that stop producing. If you keep them as pets,

you’ll have to keep feeding them and providing other resources for their care.

8. Housing is a big part of keeping a flock. Your birds will need a house that provides shelter from the weather, next boxes for egg laying and perches for roosting at night. Make sure housing is easy to clean and provides protection from predators. You’ll have to manage their bedding well to prevent rodents from making your chickens’ house their home.
9. Scratch that. Chickens scratch when they forage. If you let hens run free, you may need to place a fence around your garden if you don’t want the birds to destroy it.
10. Know how to get chicks. You will most likely want to raise your hens from chicks. You can buy them online and have them shipped to your home, but some suppliers have minimum quantities for orders. You may have neighbors or friends who also raise chickens willing to join you in an order. Remember you’ll need to provide new chicks with a heat source, such as a lamp, for at least six weeks.

For more information about small flocks, visit <https://afs.ca.uky.edu/poultry/poultry-publications> or contact the Jessamine County Cooperative Extension Service.

*Source: Jacquie Jacob, U.K. Extension Poultry Project Manager*

**“With the high price of eggs, the trend towards “home-steading” and a growing desire to eat fresh and local, many people are exploring the possibility of raising a few hens.”**



A Two-Day Program Focused on Post-Weaning Management of Feeder Cattle

# **Backgrounding Shortcourse**

**May 13 & 14, 2025**

Registration  
limited to 30  
attendees!

University of Kentucky C. Oran Little Research Center  
4410 Frankfort Rd, Versailles, KY 40383

Program will begin with registration at 7:30 am ET

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## **Program Topics**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Bunk Management</b></li><li>- <b>Health Risk Management</b></li><li>- <b>Vaccination Protocols</b></li><li>- <b>Cattle Processing</b></li><li>- <b>Confinement Considerations</b></li><li>- <b>Feeds and Feeding</b></li><li>- <b>Develop a Feeding Program</b></li><li>- <b>Ruminant Digestion</b></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Health Diagnostic Tools</b></li><li>- <b>Best Management Practices</b></li><li>- <b>Feed Mixing &amp; Management</b></li><li>- <b>Cattle Handling Equipment</b></li><li>- <b>Haylage Fermentation</b></li><li>- <b>Disposition &amp; Performance</b></li><li>- <b>Technology Tools</b></li><li>- <b>Enterprise Budgets</b></li></ul> |
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## **Registration**

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Cost to attend: \$30/individual (includes lunches/dinner)  
Pre-registration is required and is limited to the first 30 individuals

**Registration Deadline: May 6th**

Online Registration Link

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/uky-backgrounding-shortcourse-tickets-1321765178229?aff=oddtcreator>

Or to register, please send email: [jeff.lehmkuhler@uky.edu](mailto:jeff.lehmkuhler@uky.edu)

For more information call

Dr. Jeff Lehmkuher:

859-257-2853

Recommended Hotel Accomodations: Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Versailles, KY 40383

# 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 online plus a field session, each featuring a regional Woodland Owner Resource Extravaganza.



**JUNE 10 – 26**

7 PM – 8:30 PM ET



**JULY 19 – WHITLEY CO.**

**AUGUST 16 – PENDLETON CO.**

Field Session and Extravaganza

Each Field Session showcases a Woodland Owner Resource Extravaganza!

Online only: \$10/person

Online & 1 Field Session: \$30/single \$45/couple

**[www.KYWOSC.org](http://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



# SHEEP & GOAT

## Educational Meeting & Lamb Dinner

### Thursday, May 22

#### Registration begins at 5:30pm

Who: The County Extension Offices of Mercer, Boyle, Lincoln, Garrard, Jessamine, Woodford, Franklin, and Anderson Counties; the Southeast Kentucky Sheep Producers Association (SEKSPA); Kentucky Sheep and Wool Producers Association (KSWPA) and the University of Kentucky's Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food & Environment.

Registration is from 5:30-6:00 pm EST. Lamb Dinner starts at 6:00 with the educational program to follow.

How: Round-Table discussion led by: Patrick Angel, SEKSPA; Harry Frederick, KSWPA and Winding Creek Farms; Dr. Jessie Lay DVM, UK Extension Animal Health Veterinarian.

**This meeting qualifies for CAIP Educational requirement.**

Mercer County Extension Office  
1007 Lexington Road—Harrodsburg, KY

**KENTUCKY**    
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**



#### Registration Required.

Please RSVP by May 20  
Call the Mercer County Extension  
Office at 859-734-4378

**\$10.00 per family**  
**(collected at the door)**

Your registration fee will include a  
delicious lamb dinner with sides and a  
One-Year Membership to SEKSPA.

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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.





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Nicholasville, KY 40356

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