AG Newsletter

January 2024

Agent's Corner

We may all be going through some rough times with the recent snow and rainfall in these winter months. The cold temperatures and frozen ground that the snow falls upon is a true sign of the relief from drought.

I feel like running away to the warmer temperatures, the older I get. Thawing water pipes, running water in all of the sinks has been a lifestyle that we almost forgot about in the past few years. We have had 1-2 weeks of below freezing temps (that's what I recall) in the past few years. Now this winter is actually feeling and looking like winter. By the time we get heated up and dig in for the long haul, it will be over just like our long hot summers.

Just remember the snow that we get, will lead us inch by inch out of a drought.

Please be careful out there, feed livestock and pets a higher concentrated feed in days like the past two (2) weeks. Yes, I mean on raining days, as well. Rain mats down the hair on an animal, that releases all of the animals heat and they are constantly trying to heat their bodies with no avail until they dry out and their hair stands up again to insulate their bodies.

More meeting dates coming, please review what is scheduled, and look for new meetings and plan to get your Pesticide applicator license and BQCA renewed timely.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Hinton

Carol M. Hinton

Breckinridge County Extension Agent

for Agriculture/Natural Resources Education

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ breckinridgeextensionagriculture

1377 S HWY 261 | Hardinsburg, KY 40143 | P: 270-756-2182 | F: 270-756-9016 | breckinridge.ca.uky.edu

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

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 physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506





WINTER WHEAT MEETING

Feb 1, 2024



TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Keynote Speaker Rick Siemer
- Wheat Crop Update
- Preparing Grain Producers for the Evolution of Carbon Markets
- Soil Ph Management
- Wheat Diseases Update
- Differences on Cereal Aphids Captured in Suction Traps vs Scout Sampling
- Capitalizing on Price Volatility in Soft Red Winter Wheat
- Kentucky Wheat a Perfect Scenario for Winter Annual Grass Weeds
- An Herbicide Resistance Screening Program for the Commonwealth of Kentucky
- Yield Contest Winners' Practices
- YEN Dennis Pennington



Bruce Convention Center Hopkinsville, KY 42240 9 am - 3 pm CT Registration 8:30 CT



For additional information email claurent@uky.edu

Cooperative Extension Service Agriculture and Natural Renounces Farmity and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve off people regardless of economics or reside status and will not discreterable on the basis of resix cubic, others origin, notional origin, overal resigner, political before, yes, several selectables, operand isoting power organization, programs, emeils status, genetic information, ago, veteral status, or physics or montal display, towersky of Kentucky, Kentucky State (Neversity, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating, LEXINGLIGH, KY 40048



KCHC Kentucky Crop Health Conference

Feb. 8, 2024 - National Corvette Museum - Bowling Green, Ky.

Speakers include University of Kentucky Extension Specialists and invited nationally prominent Extension Specialists from across the United States



Thomas Butts University of Arkansas

Topic: Drone Herbicide Applications: What Do We Need to Know for Success?



Nicholas Seiter
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Topic: Above- and below- ground traits for insect management in corn – new tools, old pests, and resistance



Gregory Tylka Iowa State University

Topic: Soybean Cyst Nematode: Past, present, and future



Topic: Red Crown Rot of Soybean: Disease Management and Potential Impacts of this New Disease on Soybean Production in Kentucky



Topic: Abundance of Emergent Pests in the 2022-23 Corn and Soybean seasons in Kentucky



60



Travis Legleiter University of Kentucky

Topic: Dealing with the Stretch - Early Planted Soybean and Weed Control

Kiersten Wise University of Kentucky

Topic: It's always something! New corn disease concerns for Kentucky







For tickets scan QR Code or visit: https://kchc2024.eventbrite.com (non-refundable after Jan. 25, 2024)

Lunch included - CCA and pesticide applicator CEUs will be available

2024 KY Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference Getting Started in the Hay Business

fincludes refreshments, catered \$40 General Admission lunch, printed proceedings) \$15 Students Warren County Extension Bowling Green, KY 42101 5162 Russellville Road WHERE Thursday, February 8, 8:00 to 3:30 CT 2024

8:00 Registration, Sponsor Displays, Silent Auction

8:45 Welcome and Program Highlights

Dr. Ray Smith, Forage Specialist, University of Kentucky

9:00 Operating a Major Hay and Straw Farm in Ohio

John Russell, J.D. Russell Hay and Straw, Pembenville, Ohio

9:45 Teaching Hay Buyers What Their Horses Really Need

Dr. Laurie Lawrence, Professor, Equine Nutrition, University of Kentucky

10:45 How to Find and Evaluate Used Equipment

Dennis Wright, Alfalfa Producer in Logan County, Kentucky

11.15 Panel: Establishing a Market(s) for Your Hay and Straw

Ellis Deweese, Deweese Hay Emporium, La Center, Kentucky Jeff Stephens, Stephens Hay & Straw, Ewing, Kentucky

11:50 Lunch, Alfalfa Awards, KCA Hay Quality Awards, and Silent Auction Winners 12:50 Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council Update

Brandon Sears, Agri. and Natural Resource Agent, University of Kentucky Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council President

1:00 50 Years of Alfalfa Production in Kentucky: Observations, Reflections and Opportunities

Dr. Garry Lacefield, Professor Emeritus, University of Kentucky

1:45 Basics of Fertilizing for Successful Hay Production

2:10 How I Got Started in the Hay Business: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Dr. Edwin Ritchey, Soil Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky

John Russell, Clayton Geralds, Dennis Wright, Brad Hines

Dr. Ray Smith, Forage Specialist, University of Kentucky 3:15 Take-Home Lessons from Today's Meeting

Forage and Grassland Council V Kentucky



Kentucky Master Grazer Educational Program

2024 KY Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference Getting Started in the Hay Business

This program is designed for alfalfa and hay producers to learn more about improving their hay yield, hay production, marketing and promotion

WHEN

Register online by scanning the QR code with your

camera

Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:00 to 3:30 CT

WHERE

Warren County Extension Office Bowling Green, KY 42101 5162 Russellville Road

COST \$40

(includes refreshments, catered lunch, printed proceedings)





SCAN HERE

https://2024ASFConference.eventbrite.com

Mail-in Registration

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

of tickets General Admission # of tickets

Admission Student

\$40

KFGC (Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council) Make checks payable to and send to:

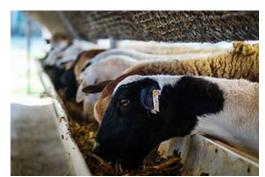
Forage and Grassland Kentucky Council

University of Kentucky REC Attn: Caroline Roper Princeton, KY 42445 PO Box 469



Master Small Ruminant Nutrition Course

Nutrition is the #1 most important part of your small ruminant operation. Understanding basic physiology, feed stuffs, nutrient requirements, and ration balancing are key components to managing your feed bill. Dr. Don Ely, University and Kentucky, and Dr. Andrew Weaver, North Carolina State University, team up to provide a comprehensive small ruminant nutrition course. This is an online, self paced course with a certificate of completion option. Learn more at https://www.kysheepandgoat.org/ky-master-small-ruminant-nutrition.



Upcoming Cattleman's (BCCA) Meetings

February 22, 2024 – Breckinridge County Extension Community Building, 6 p.m. (ct)

Topic: Equipment update

March 21, 2024- Breckinridge County Extension Community Building

Speaker: Chris Teutsch, UK Extension Associate Professor & Forage Specialist—6 p.m. (ct)

Topics: Hay and Pasture updates

These meetings will be CAIP approved meetings.

CLOVER FROST SEEDING

Frost seeding is surface seed placement in late winter or early spring.

It works best on species that germinate rapidly like white or red clover.

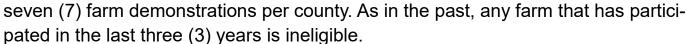
With Kentucky's unpredictable weather conditions, consider these six steps to maximize your pasture success with clover frost seeding.



Nuisance Weed Spraying Program

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture will be offering the Noxious Weed Program to farmers again this year.

The guidelines will be the same as they have for the past few years with the Dept furnishing chemical for



Signups will again be taken during the *month of February ONLY* and must be made using the application on the KDA web page. https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx

If any questions, you may contact: Billy Walker, Administrative Branch Manager, Kentucky Dept. of Agriculture at 270-339-4510 or e-mail Billy.Walker@ky.gov

Annie's Project

Empowering Women in Agriculture

The Breckinridge County Extension Office in conjunction with Grayson and Hancock County Extension Offices will be offering the Annie's Project this year starting on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 6 p.m. (ct) in the Breckinridge County Extension Farmers' Market & Educational Facility. See flyer on page 7.

Dinner will be provided.

These calendars are now available at the Extension Office

2024 Beef IRM Calendar

2024 KY Sheep & Goat Calendar

2024 Master Grazer Program KY Grazing Calendar

If you raise goats, sheep or beef cattle and need one of these calendars, stop by the Extension Office to pick up one.



ANNIE'S PROJECT

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

Why Annie's Project?

This six-week course that is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing, and the legal field. Each session offers time for questions, sharing, reacting and connecting with presenters and fellow participants.

Breckinridge County
Extension Office Farmers' Market Building
1377 HWY 261 N, Hardinsburg

Tuesdays | 6 PM

Cost: \$25 | dinner included

Register by calling Breckinridge County Extension at (270) 756-2182 no later than February 23.

February 27 | People

labor liability (physical/mental working with family stop the bleed activity true colors ice breakers

March 5 | Financial

cash flow
input cost
marketing commodities
off-farm income
money habitudes activity

March 12 | Production

enterprise selection resources for the farmer

March 19 | Marketing

creating and marketing your brand goal setting ag advocacy/industry involvement

March 26 | Legal

how land is titled liability investments you're dead game

April 9 | Insurance

property insurance
life insurance and succession planning
crop insurance
liability insurance
transferring cherished possessions

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, educine origin, national origin, creed, religion, publical belief, see, sexual orientation, genetic identity, genetic expression, pregnancy, mariest stams, genetic information, any screen stams, physical or mental disability or requisal or retailisation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability was been valided by the prior ordice. Programs information may be made available in languages other than Regional University of Eternadoy, Kensucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating, Leaderson, V.Y. 6000.









ADULT

HEALTH BULLETIN



JANUARY 2024

Download this and past issues of the Adult, Youth, Parent, and Family Caregiver Health Bulletins: http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/ content/health-bulletins Breckinridge County Extension Office 1377 S Hwy 261 Hardinsburg, KY 40143 270-756-2182

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC:

ASK A PHARMACIST!



sing a pharmacist can increase your health and quality of life. Pharmacists are highly trained medical professionals. They are qualified to give advice on health issues and medicines. Pharmacists also ensure the safe supply and use of medicines by the public. Medicines prevent, treat, or manage many illnesses or conditions. They are the most common intervention in health care. The traditional role of pharmacists in the community has involved dispensing prescriptions that doctors issue. However, pharmacists can do more than that. Below are seven ways that a community pharmacist can help you be healthy:

Continued on the next page (





Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506





Pharmacists have the skills and training needed to administer vaccines, from an annual flu vaccine, to polio, shingles, tetanus, chicken pox, and more.

Continued from the previous page

- **1. Administer vaccines:** Pharmacists have the skills and training needed to administer vaccines, from an annual flu vaccine, to polio, shingles, tetanus, chicken pox, and more.
- **2. Help you quit smoking:** Pharmacists are trained to assist with smoking cessation. They can recommend medications to help with kicking a smoking habit. They can also provide ongoing support and holistic resources.
- **3. Offer advice regarding dietary supplements:** If you have visited a pharmacy, you know that vitamin and supplement aisles can be overwhelming. Your pharmacist can give recommendations and advice about supplement type, brand, and dosage.
- 4. Create a personalized medication calendar:

 If you have multiple medications, things can
 get complicated. Your community pharmacist
 can help you develop a personalized
 calendar for your medications, so you know
 exactly when and how to take each one.
- 5. Educate you on medication interactions:
 As your health-care team's medication expert, pharmacists can tell you exactly how your medications will react with each other. That way you can avoid any life-threatening issues. Pharmacists can offer alternatives when necessary.
- 6. Help you manage health conditions:

 Pharmacists can help manage ongoing health conditions such as high blood pressure, chronic pain, asthma, and diabetes. Often, pharmacists can run basic tests such as blood glucose levels. They can assist with educating patients on how to reduce symptoms they experience because of ongoing health conditions.
- 7. Advise you on over-the-counter medications: Not only are pharmacists experts in prescription medications, but they are also very knowledgeable when it comes



to over-the-counter (OTC) medicines. They help you to find the right OTC medication and can ensure it will not negatively interact with your prescription medications.

REFERENCES:

- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK564913/
- https://pharmacyforme.org/2020/10/21/7-things-yourcommunity-pharmacist-can-do-for-you



Written by:
Katherine Jury, MS
Edited by: Alyssa Simms
Designed by: Rusty Manseau
Stock images:
Adobe Stock



MULTI-COUNTY TOBACCO PRODUCTION & GAP CERTIFICATION MEETING

Breckinridge County Extension Community Building
Tuesday, March 19, 2024

10 a.m. (ct)

Speaker: Dr. Robert Pearce, UK Tobacco Specialist

This meeting will qualify for GAP certification for all tobacco companies.

BE SURE TO BRING YOUR GAP CONNECTION CARD and A PICTURE ID

WITH YOU TO GET CERTIFIED.

A meal will be provided.

If you want to attend this training at the Breckinridge County Extension Office,
you must call 270-756-2182 to register.

You must stay for the entire two-hour meeting to be eligible for 2024 GAP Training credit.

Attendance at one (1) GAP meeting is MANDATORY,

if you are going to keep selling tobacco with a GAP CARD

1377 S HWY 261 | Hardinsburg, KY 40143 | P: 270-756-2182 | F: 270-756-9016 | breckinridge.ca.uky.edu

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development

Lexington, KY 40506

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.





Timely Tips -

Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky Source—Off the Hoof, KY Beef Cattle Newsletter, January 12, 2024

Spring Calving Cow Herd

- Study the performance of last year's calf crop and plan for improvement. Plan your breeding program and consider a better herd sire(s). Select herd sires which will allow you to meet your goals and be willing to pay for superior animals.
- Consider vaccinating the cows to help prevent calf scours.
- Keep replacement heifers gaining to increase the probability of puberty occurring before the start of the spring breeding season.
- Start cows on the high magnesium mineral supplement soon. Consider protein supplementation
 if hay is less than 10% crude protein. If cows are thin, begin energy (grain) supplementation now.
 Cows must reach a body condition score of 5 before calving to maximize their opportunity for reproductive success. Supplementation now allows adequate time for cows to calving in adequate
 body condition score.
- Get ready for the calving season! See that all equipment and materials are ready, including obstetrical equipment, record forms or booklets, eartags, scales for obtaining birthweights, etc. Prepare a calving area where assistance can be provided easily if needed. Purchase ear tags for calves and number them ahead of time if possible. Plan for enough labor to watch/assist during the calving period.
- Move early calving heifers and cows to pastures that are relatively small and easily accessible to facilities in case calving assistance is needed. Keep them in good condition but don't overfeed them at this time. Increase their nutrient intake after they calve.

Fall Calving Cow Herd

- Provide clean windbreaks and shelter for young calves.
- Breeding season continues. Keep fall calving cows on accumulated pasture as long as possible, then start feeding hay/grain/supplement. Don't let these cows lose body condition!
- Catch up on castrating, dehorning and implanting.

General

- Feed hay in areas where mud is less of a problem. Consider preparing a feeding area with gravel over geotextile fabric or maybe a concrete feeding pad. Bale grazing is an option for producers to help control mud while spreading nutrients across pastures.
- Increase feed as the temperature drops, especially when the weather is extremely cold and damp. When temperature drops to 15°F, cattle need access to windbreaks.
- Provide water at all times. Cattle need 5 to 15 gallons per head daily even in the coldest weather. Be aware of frozen pond hazards. Keep ice "broken" so that cattle won't walk out on the pond trying to get water. Automatic waterers, even the "frost-free" or "energy-free" waterers can freeze up in extremely cold weather. Watch closely.
- Consider renovating and improving pastures with legumes, especially if they have poor stands of grass or if they contain high levels of the fescue endophyte. Purchase seed and get equipment ready this month.

Tips to Stretch Short Hay Supplies

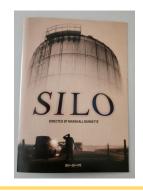
Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, PhD, PAS, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky Source: Off the Hoof, KY Beef Cattle Newsletter, January 2, 2024

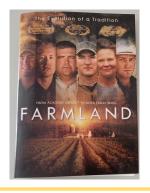
Below are a few tips to consider stretching limited hay supplies. For additional information contact your local Extension agent. It is recommended to consult with your feed nutritionist or County ANR Agent before making drastic changes in your feeding program.

- 1) Inventory hay know how much hay you available; weigh a few bales to get an average weight or estimate the weights based on available information from Extension publications.
- 2) Minimize storage losses keep hay off the ground on a surface that will allow water to drain away; keep bales covered or stored inside a barn; if bale grazing limit the number of bales placed in the field to provide 2-4 weeks of feeding to reduce weathering losses.
- 3) Reduce feeding loss consider minimizing feeding losses; using hay rings with skirts / metal on the bottom, tapered ring designs, chains to suspend bales, or cone inserts to keep hay inside the feeder has been proven to reduce hay feeding losses compared to hay rings with openings at the bottom; using an electrified temporary poly-wire placed down the center of unrolled hay will reduce losses from cows laying on the hay, trampling it into the mud, and defecating on the hay; feeding processed hay into a bunk or large industrial tire reduces waste compared to feeding processed hay on the ground.
- 4) Cull consider selling less productive females, open cows, and cows with structural/functional issues to reduce the number you must over winter; consider selling the bull as the market may provide the opportunity to sell a mature bull and replace him with a younger bull next spring.
- 5) Limit time access to hay research has shown dry cows in mid-gestation can be maintained on good quality hay when they have restricted access time to only 6-8 hours a day; the hay savings comes from less waste as feeding behavior is altered; all cows must be able to access hay at any given time; this is not recommended young or thin cows, lactating cows or growing animals.
- 6) Substitute hay with grain calories and protein can be provided from supplements; grain/ commodity mixes can be used to replace hay; cows can be maintained on a low hay diet by using grain supplementation that balances the nutrient supply and animal requirements; consult a nutritionist before making extreme feeding changes.
- 7) Deworm young animals animals with an internal parasite burden will have reduced efficiency.
- 8) Feed an ionophore if grain supplementation will be used, consider adding an ionophore to increase the energy efficiency of the feed consumed. Consult your nutritionist to discuss inclusion rates and developing a supplement program. Previous work has shown that feeding 200 mg of monensin allowed cows to maintain body condition on 10-15% less hay.

If interested, we have these videos you can check out on loan.









New Grower Resource: 2023 Fruit IPM Webinar Video Series

Source: KY Pest News 12-06-2023

The 2023 Fruit Integrated Pest Management (IPM) webinar series was conducted during the summer of 2023. Sessions from these webinars are now available online. These videos provide information for growers of all experience levels.



- This series includes presentations from specialists from the University of Kentucky Departments of Entomology, Horticulture, and Plant Pathology. Videos provide information about the role of plant health in IPM, disease management (Figure 1), and insect management for fruit crops. The complete video series can be accessed online through YouTube at the following links.
- The Role of Plant Health in Integrated Pest Management, Presented by Dr. Shawn Wright https://youtu.be/TA1E5POogr8
- Fruit Soil & Foliar Sampling: Part 1 Soil Sampling, presented by Daniel Becker https://youtu.be/PHKfkYtD2e8
- Fruit Soil & Foliar Sampling: Part 2 Foliar Sampling, presented by Daniel Becker https://voutu.be/WJOI0C1na3w
- Integrating Fruit Disease Management Solutions, presented by Dr. Nicole Gauthier https://youtu.be/qtY9bew6mC8
- Spotted Wing Drosophila & African Fig Fly: How Two Invasive Flies Come Together in Your Berries, presented by Ellie McCabe – https://youtu.be/ABcYs6ZsA1k
- IPM of Insects: When Insecticides Don't Work, presented by Dr. Ric Bessin https://youtu.be/XQibd76jhLU
- 2023 Fruit IPM Webinar Series –
 https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFS9oa3IB0bkzU64noP7jWJAzPCcP2rfD&si=uPmf00x_jvksO9g6

By: Kim Leonberger, Plant Pathology Extension Associate, and Nicole Gauthier, Plant Pathology Extension Specialist

Keep your chickens healthy this winter

Source: Jacqueline Jacob, Agriculture Extension Project Manager

Keeping your chickens happy and healthy in the winter is important, but maintaining a cozy and vigorous flock during the colder months demands diligent care.

Chickens, which typically have an internal temperature around 106 degrees Fahrenheit, may experience cold stress when the environment's chill overwhelms their heat-generating capabilities. Indications that your chickens might be feeling the cold include behaviors like feather fluffing, huddling and tucking one foot up to their body for warmth. When such stress is prolonged, it can impair their well-being and could be fatal.

When considering your flock, it's vital to recognize that not all breeds are equally winter-resistant. Heavier breeds, such as the Plymouth Rock or Orpington, tend to endure cold better than their lighter counterparts or those with substantial combs and wattles, which are susceptible to frostbite. Monitoring the flock dynamics, especially if diverse breeds are present, is crucial since bullying over resources can leave some chickens malnourished and more vulnerable to the cold.

Preparing your coop for the winter is fundamental. It should be a sanctuary, protecting against elements and predators alike. Roosts are essential, providing an elevated perch that shields them from the cold ground and also allow the feet to dry better. These should be crafted from materials like wood, avoiding metal or plastic, which can aggravate the cold. Perches should be spacious to prevent overcrowding, but cozy enough to allow shared body heat.

Managing airflow is essential; you must ensure adequate ventilation to prevent the buildup of harmful ammonia and moisture accumulation. Chickens can withstand relatively cold temperatures as long as they are dry. You may need to insulate the coop to keep the warmth in. On below freezing nights, it may be necessary to provide supplemental heat.

Historically, infrared heat lamps have been used to provide supplemental heat, but they can be a major fire risk. Alternative heat sources that have lower fire risk are now available. Use only equipment designed for livestock, and always have installations carried out by a professional.

Regarding nutrition, chickens' dietary intake tends to increase during winter since they require more energy to keep warm. Treats like scratch grains are beneficial for their warmth-inducing digestion and as an activity stimulant, but should be offered sparingly and never mixed with a complete, nutritionally balanced feed as it would dilute nutrients. Ensuring continuous access to unfrozen water is equally important because chickens will not eat if they cannot drink.

Egg production might dip due to reduced daylight; therefore, some opt for supplementary lighting to stimulate laying. It is important that the number of light hours per day never decreases during egg production. A minimum of 14 light hours per day (no more than 18) is recommended to maintain egg production throughout the year.

Tending to chickens in winter revolves around striking a delicate balance: ensuring they're warm but not overheated, well-fed but not overindulged and active yet secure from the harsh external environment. With meticulous planning and proactive management, your poultry can thrive even when the temperatures drop.

EQUIPMENT FOR RENT

The Extension Office has a No-Till Seed Drill, an in-line silage Hay Wrapper and Boomless Pasture Sprayers available for rent.

For more information on renting or to schedule a date to use call:

No-Till Seed Drill — Hobdy Dye & Reed at 270-756-2555

Inline Silage Hay Wrapper — Wright Implement at 270-756-5152

2 –Boomless Pasture Sprayers — Carol Hinton at 270-617-3417



FREE Soybean Cyst Nematode Testing:

If you are interested in taking and receiving information on Soybean Cyst Nematode levels in your fields, please contact the Breckinridge County Extension Service.

Almanac Tidbits for: January

Plant above ground crops — 13, 14, 18, 19, 22-24

Plant Below ground crops — 2-6, 9, 10, 30, 31

Seed Beds——— 5, 6, 22-24

Kill plant pests: 1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15-17, 20, 21, 25-29

Almanac Tidbits for: February

Plant above ground crops — 10, 11, 14, 15, 18-20

Plant Below ground crops — 1-3, 6, 7, 26-29

Aries	2	3
Taurus	16.2	8
Gemini	教	П
Cancer	₩	(3)
Leo	Z.	ઈ
Virgo	₫ &	m
Libra	<u> </u>	<u>د</u>
Scorpio	سيكون	M
Sagittarius	*	×
Capricorn	<u></u>	ΥJo
Aquarius	→ \	222
Pisces	×)(

Breckinridge County Recycling Program



All recycling sites are accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Stop by one of the following recycling centers near you:

Breckinridge County High School
Cloverport Fire Department
Auggie Doggie's, Garfield
St. Romuald Gym, Hardinsburg
McQuady Firehouse
Breckinridge County Extension Office
Rough River Corp of Engineers Office
McDaniels Fire Department
Frederick Fraize High School, Cloverport
Hardinsburg Elementary School
Union Star

Mark Your Calendar!

Jan. 31, 2024—50th Annual Ag Expo—Owensboro Convention Center

Feb. 15, 2024—Green River Area CPH 60 Pre-conditioned Cattle Sale, Kentuckiana Livestock Market, Owensboro

Feb. 22, 2024—BCCA meeting, Breckinridge County Extension Community Building

Feb. 27, 2024—Logger WebTV, Breckinridge County Farmers' Market & Educational Facility,
Registration required.

March 19, 2024—GAP Annual Training, Breckinridge County Extension Community Building

March 21, 2024—BCCA meeting, Breckinridge County Extension Community Building

May 14, 2024—UK Wheat Field Day, Princeton, KY

Looking forward to putting these meetings on the calendar for you:

- 1. Dicamba
- 2. Grain Marketing
- 3. Drones in Agriculture
- 4. SRQA—Small Ruminant Quality Assurance training
- BQCA—Beef Quality & Care Assurance training
- 6. PATIM—Private Pesticide Applicator training

The Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal Opportunity Organization with respect to education and employment and authorization to provide research, education information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to economic or social status and will not discriminate on the bases of race, color, ethnic 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 or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and other related matter should be directed to Equal Opportunity Office, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Kentucky, Room S-105, Agriculture Science Building, North Lexington, Kentucky 40546, 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.