



UK Cooperative Extension Service

Clark County AG & NATURAL RESOURCES Newsletter

Clark County Extension Service • 1400 Fortune Drive • Winchester, KY 40391 • 859-744-4682 • clark.ext@uky.edu • <http://clark.ca.uky.edu/>

April 2024

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A Word from the Agent . . .

Yesterday was one of the worst days for some farms in Clark County. The weather rolled through quickly taking many barns, many fences, many trees, and a lot more. A natural disaster is never easy, and no amount of preparation will prevent hardships after the storms pass. I just pray that everyone is okay and safe. The rebuilding process is not quick and will take awhile. Please keep your head up and keep pushing forward. Just be sure to document all damage and contact your insurance provider and the Farm Service Agency. Remember the Winchester office (859-745-2828) is open on Mondays and Tuesdays, and the Mt. Sterling office (859-498-5487) is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Again, I hope you and your families were safe, and please give the Clark County Extension Office a call (859-744-4682), if you have questions about the rebuilding stages. For this month, you will find information on banding bulls, the 2022 Ag Census Data for Clark County, Clark Cattlemen's Beef Field Day, and more!

Levi Berg
Clark County Extension Agent
for Agriculture and Natural Resources

KEEPING YOU
Informed



Forage Management Tips for April

- Graze cover crops using temporary fencing.
- As pasture growth begins, rotate through pastures quickly to keep up with the fast growth of spring.
- Creep-graze calves and lambs, allowing them access to highest-quality pasture.
- Finish re-seeding winter feeding sites where soil disturbance and sod damage occurred.
- As pasture growth exceeds the needs of the livestock, remove some fields from the rotation and allow growth to accumulate for hay or haylage.
- Determine need for supplemental warm season forages such as pearl millet or sudangrass.
- Flash graze pastures newly seeded with clovers to manage competition.



What to do after a natural disaster?

- ✓ Document all damage and take inventory of livestock and equipment.
- ✓ Contact your insurance provider.
- ✓ Contact the Farm Service Agency with damage to your farm:
Winchester Office: **859-745-2828**
Mt. Sterling Office: **859-498-5487**
- ✓ Contact Emergency Management at: **859-745-0260** for structure damage to homes. FEMA only looks at structures which individuals are currently living in.
- ✓ Ensure all water and feed supplies are safe for livestock.

**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

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



Clark County Kentucky

Total and Per Farm Overview, 2022 and change since 2017

	2022	% change since 2017
Number of farms	804	-8
Land in farms (acres)	135,849	-8
Average size of farm (acres)	169	-0
Total	(\$)	
Market value of products sold	45,348,000	+33
Government payments	154,000	-47
Farm-related income	2,714,000	+86
Total farm production expenses	43,835,000	+25
Net cash farm income	4,382,000	+497
Per farm average	(\$)	
Market value of products sold	56,403	+44
Government payments ^a	4,387	+34
Farm-related income ^a	9,264	+106
Total farm production expenses	54,521	+36
Net cash farm income	5,450	+547

1 Percent of state agriculture sales

Share of Sales by Type (%)

Crops	32
Livestock, poultry, and products	68

Land in Farms by Use (acres)

Cropland	51,330
Pastureland	61,828
Woodland	14,015
Other	8,676

Acres irrigated: 87

(Z)% of land in farms

Land Use Practices (% of farms)

No till	11
Reduced till	5
Intensive till	6
Cover crop	6

Farms by Value of Sales

	Number	Percent of Total ^b
Less than \$2,500	275	34
\$2,500 to \$4,999	79	10
\$5,000 to \$9,999	111	14
\$10,000 to \$24,999	121	15
\$25,000 to \$49,999	90	11
\$50,000 to \$99,999	55	7
\$100,000 or more	73	9

Farms by Size

	Number	Percent of Total ^b
1 to 9 acres	74	9
10 to 49 acres	331	41
50 to 179 acres	222	28
180 to 499 acres	100	12
500 to 999 acres	57	7
1,000+ acres	20	2

Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold

	Sales (\$1,000)	Rank in State ^c	Counties Producing Item	Rank in U.S. ^c	Counties Producing Item
Total	45,348	59	120	2,031	3,078
Crops	14,689	63	120	2,012	3,074
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, dry peas	7,398	61	116	1,655	2,917
Tobacco	2,547	25	78	84	267
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	647
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes	750	18	119	957	2,831
Fruits, tree nuts, berries	(D)	41	118	(D)	2,711
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod	(D)	76	111	(D)	2,660
Cultivated Christmas trees, short rotation woody crops	(D)	16	32	(D)	1,274
Other crops and hay	3,689	27	120	904	3,035
Livestock, poultry, and products	30,660	39	120	1,463	3,076
Poultry and eggs	103	70	120	1,345	3,027
Cattle and calves	23,225	14	120	747	3,047
Milk from cows	(D)	40	70	(D)	1,770
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)	115	(D)	2,814
Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, milk	177	26	117	1,055	2,967
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, donkeys	6,832	7	111	33	2,907
Aquaculture	-	-	24	-	1,190
Other animals and animal products	48	41	115	1,275	2,909

Producers ^d

1,349

Sex	
Male	859
Female	490
Age	
<35	147
35 – 64	669
65 and older	533
Race	
American Indian/Alaska Native	2
Asian	-
Black or African American	4
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	-
White	1,325
More than one race	18
Other characteristics	
Hispanic, Latino, Spanish origin	15
With military service	106
New and beginning farmers	453

Percent of farms that:

Have internet access	80
Farm organically	-
Sell directly to consumers	8
Hire farm labor	20
Are family farms	95

Top Crops in Acres ^e

Forage (hay/haylage), all	31,214
Soybeans for beans	4,759
Corn for grain	2,149
Corn for silage/greenchop	897
Tobacco	459

Livestock Inventory (Dec 31, 2022)

Broilers and other meat-type chickens	(D)
Cattle and calves	37,837
Goats	462
Hogs and pigs	114
Horses and ponies	1,308
Layers	2,341
Pullets	34
Sheep and lambs	697
Turkeys	215

^a Average per farm receiving. ^b May not add to 100% due to rounding. ^c Among counties whose rank can be displayed. ^d Data collected for a maximum of four producers per farm. ^e Crop commodity names may be shortened; see full names at www.nass.usda.gov/go/cropnames.pdf. ^f Position below the line does not indicate rank. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (NA) Not available. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. (-) Represents zero.



Tetanus Prevention When Banding Bulls

In the United States, more than 17 million bulls that range in age from 1 day to 1 year are castrated yearly. Tetanus is a potentially life-threatening neurologic disease affecting all species of domestic livestock, including cattle, so it's important for producers to take steps to prevent it.

It's easy to miss the subtle clinical signs of tetanus until the disease is advanced. At that point, treatment and management of the affected animal is very difficult, and the chance for recovery is poor. Recognition of the initial signs of stiff legs, an anxious expression with ears held back toward the poll, moderate bloat, erect tail and the unusual "flick" of the third eyelid across the eye leads to an accurate early diagnosis and allows you to begin treatment when it is most effective.

You should give any calf castrated with an elastrator band tetanus prevention in the form of either tetanus toxoid (two doses required with the second given two weeks prior to castration), tetanus antitoxin (given the day of banding) or both, in some cases. Early in life, testicles are

smaller and the scrotal sac falls off much more quickly, so banding calves at this stage means they are less likely to develop tetanus, because the tetanus organism does not have time to grow. Earlier castration is relatively quick and easy, and it also lowers the infection risk, as well as the risk of injury to the person performing the castration.

Castration is a necessary management practice for cattle. Work with a local veterinarian to establish the optimal herd health program for your farm and institute an early castration program to minimize the pain, stress and complications that go along with this procedure. If you delay castration until the calves get older and heavier, these calves are at much higher risk for developing tetanus and are twice as likely to get respiratory disease when they arrive in a feedlot or backgrounding operation.

For more information on about preventing tetanus in cattle, contact the Clark County Cooperative Extension Service (859)744-4682. *Information from this article was obtained from Dr. Michelle Arnold. UK Extension Ruminant Veterinarian.*



SOIL TESTING

Spring Soil Testing Season

Don't get behind on production this spring waiting on soil sample results, get your samples into the Extension Office early, so we can get your sample results back to you in a timely manner!

As always, soil sampling is a free service we offer our clientele here at the Clark County Extension Office. Current wait time on sample results is approximately two to three weeks. You may stop by the Extension Office between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday, to pick up a soil probe and soil bags. There is no charge for testing your soil.



FREE MEAL!

About The Class



**Learn About Herd Health
With Brent Tolle, Merial**

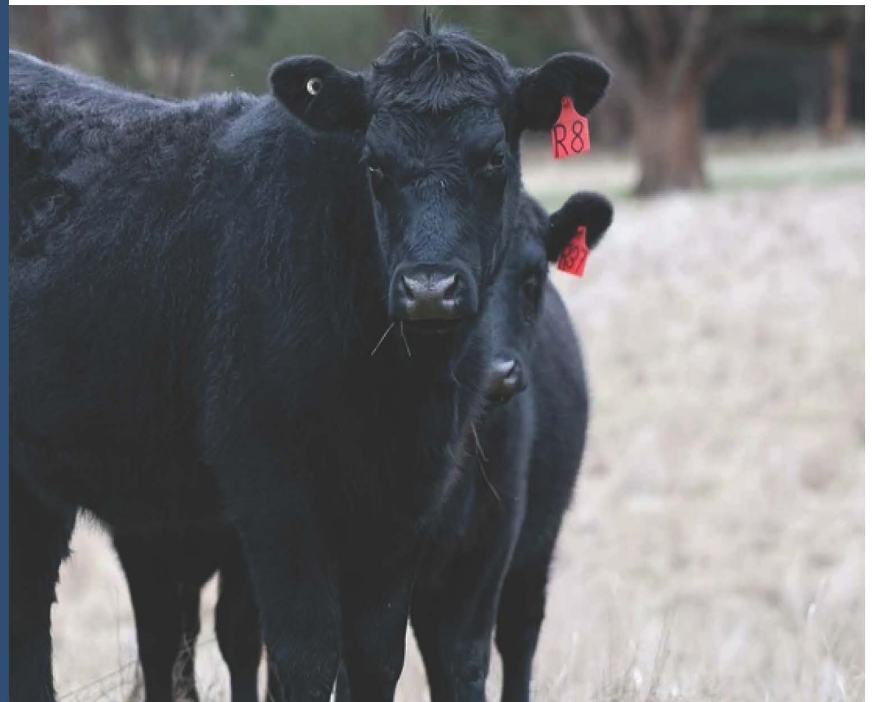


**Learn About Pasture
Weeds and Yearly
Maintenance with Rachel
Walker, Corteva**

CLARK COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S SPRING FIELD DAY

May 7th, 2024

**Meal at 6:00pm, Talks after the Meal
at Pace Farms
(2520 Pilot View Rd. Winchester, KY)**



**Will Count
Towards CAIP
Education!**

**Please RSVP By Calling
859-749-8700!**

**Membership Dues Can Also
Be Paid At The Field Day**

Sat. April 13th - 9:00am to 3:00pm
Madison Co Extension Office
230 Duncannon Lane, Richmond



Predator Control & Guard Animal Management for Livestock Owners Workshop & Lunch

Who: Madison, Garrard and Surrounding County Extension Offices, the Southeast Kentucky Sheep Producers Association (SEKSPA), Kentucky State University, and University of Kentucky Forestry Extension

What: Learn how to protect your livestock from predators

When: Saturday, April 13, 2024. Registration 8:30-9:00. Luncheon starts at 12 noon

Where: Madison Co Extension Office at 230 Duncannon Lane, Richmond, KY 40475

Featured Speakers: UK Wildlife Specialist Dr. Matt Springer, KSU Veterinarian Dr. Jessie Lay, SEKSPA President Dr. Patrick Angel and experts in guard animal management, predator hunting/snaring and coyote/bobcat trapping from United Trappers of Kentucky

Registration Required. Please register by calling the Madison County Extension Office at 859-623-4072

\$10.00 per family. Your registration fee will include a delicious lamb burger and beef burger luncheon with sides and a One-Year Membership to SEKSPA

This workshop qualifies for CAIP education credits

RECIPE

What's Cooking?



Mozzarella Basil Chicken with Roasted Grape Tomatoes

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 4 (4 ounce) boneless chicken breast halves | 12 large fresh basil leaves | 2 ½ cups grape tomatoes, halved |
| ½ cup lite balsamic vinaigrette dressing | 2 ounces low-fat skim mozzarella cheese, cut into four slices | 4 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese |

Place chicken breasts into a 1 gallon zip close plastic bag. **Pour** ¼ cup of dressing over chicken. **Marinate** in refrigerator for 30 minutes. **Preheat** oven to 400 degrees F. **Remove** chicken breasts from marinade. **Discard** bag and marinade. Make a deep **slice** into one long side of each chicken breast half, being careful not to cut through to the opposite side. **Fill** each chicken breast pocket with 2 basil leaves, 1 slice of mozzarella cheese, and two grape tomato halves. **Place** chicken on one side of rimmed baking sheet sprayed with nonstick spray;

add tomatoes to the other side of baking sheet. **Sprinkle** each breast half with 1 tablespoon of Parmesan cheese. **Bake** 30 minutes or until chicken reaches an internal temperature of 165 degrees F. **Cut** remaining basil leaves into thin slices and toss with remaining dressing and roasted tomatoes. **Serve** chicken topped with tomato mixture. **Yield:** 4 servings
Nutritional Analysis: 220 calories, 6 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 85 mg cholesterol, 720 mg sodium, 10 g carbohydrate, 1 g fiber, 5 g sugar, 31 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>