

Ag and Natural Resources Newsletter

October 2023



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



A Word from the Agent . . .

It is finally starting to feel a little like fall and harvest season is definitely here. Be sure to share the road with tractors and harvest equipment. Your drive might take a little longer, but at

least everyone will be safer. Also remember, a car will not win in a fight against a tractor, so just be sure to give plenty of space to equipment that is on the road.

The CAIP project deadline is coming up in November for those that were approved for CAIP funds, so try to work on finishing those projects and return all paperwork to the Clark County Soil and Water Conservation.

Finally, come join the Clark County Extension Office for our Fall Festival on Saturday, October 7. There will be plenty of food and games for the family, and you will also have the opportunity to learn about the Clark County Extension Office!

Lexington, KY 40506





https:// www.facebook.com/



Forage Management Tips for October

- Feed hay as needed to allow cool-season pastures to accumulate forage growth for winter grazing.
- Do NOT harvest or graze alfalfa fields in October.
- Inventory and test each hay lot for forage quality value and consult a nutritionist to design a supplementation program as needed.
- Remove ruminants from pastures that contain sorghum species (forage sorghums, sorghum-sudangrass hybrids, sudangrass, and johnsongrass) when frost is expected. Even small patches of johnsongrass that have been frosted can cause prussic acid poisoning.
- Begin strip grazing early planted small grain and brassicas (turnips and rape) mixes by the end of this month.

Cooperative Extension Service

levi.berg@uky.edu

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.













Are Internal Parasites Stealing Profit? Particpate in a Field Study



Internal parasites have been shown to impact animal performance and immunity. In research trials, weaning weights of calves burdened with internal parasites have been shown to be 20-35 pounds lighter. We are looking to learn more about the prevalence of internal parasites as well as the efficacy of products available on the market. Most of the anthelmintic products for livestock have been on the market for decades and concerns regarding their effectiveness have been mentioned. We need your help!

A joint effort between Merck Animal Health, Kentucky Beef Network and Kentucky Cooperative Extension is looking for 100-120 farms to participate in a Fecal Egg Count Reduction Test (FECRT) in beef cattle this fall. Several producers participated in the effort this spring and will participate again this fall. We are looking for an additional 20-30 farms.

Who can participate?

We are looking to gather more information on growing cattle this fall. This includes calves that will be weaned and held for at least 14 days, backgrounding/stocker operations that are buying in calves this fall, and those developing heifers for replacements. We can sample mature cows as well if you have them on the farm.

How many animals are needed?

There must be at least 20 animals in a group.

These animals must stay together in a group for at least 14 days after they are dewormed. We cannot collect samples from 15 calves and 5 cows to reach the 20 samples needed.

What's involved?

Fecal samples need to be collected from at least 20 different animals immediately <u>before</u> being treated for internal parasites. Then <u>exactly 14 days later</u>, 20 fecal samples from different animals are collected to examine the difference in fecal egg counts between PRE and POST treatment. Samples can be grabbed from freshly excreted fecal pats in the pasture, this works well for POST samples. Samples are sent to the lab for counting and results are sent to you/your agent.

What does it cost?

Nothing, the service is free except for your time and the money spent to purchase the product you will use. Since we are not purchasing product, you can use any product of your choice.

What do I do next if I am interested in participating?

If you wish to participate, contact the Clark County Extension Office (859-744-4682) and speak to Levi Berg, Agriculture & Natural Resource Agent, at least three weeks before you plan to work cattle.

- Jeff Lehmkuhler, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky
- Michelle Arnold, Associate Professor, University of Kentucky



JOIN US AT THE CLARK COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

FOR OUR SECOND ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL!

1400 FORTUNE DR. WINCHESTER, KY

OCTOBER 7, 2023 5:00-7:00 PM

GAMES CIVE AWAYS
AND MORE!



Cooperative Extension Service



"Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities"

Kentucky Beef Conference



In person

Clark County Extension Office 1400 Fortune Dr Winchester, Kentucky 40391

9:00-10:00

Registration, visit sponsors

\$10 registration fee

RSVP by October 20th Specialist to Clark County **Extension Office** 859.744.4682

10:00—Welcome & Sponsor Recognition

Levi Berg, Clark County Agriculture & **Natural Resources Extension Agent**

University of KY Remarks & Welcome

Dr. Scott Radcliffe, UK CAFÉ Animal & Food Sciences Department Chair

Beef Outlook & Marketing Strategies

Troy Applehans, Cattle-FAX Analyst

11:00- Fecal Egg Count Reduction Test

Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK Beef Nutrition Extension Specialist and Dr. Michelle Arnold, **UK Ruminant Extension Veterinarian**

11:30— Tools for Beef Producers

Dr. Les Anderson, UK Beef Extension

12:00 Lunch

1:00— LRP & Price Risk Protection

Dr. Kenny Burdine, UK Beef Economic **Extension Specialist**

2:00—Adjourn



USDA NRCS in Kentucky Announces Application Cut-Off Period for the 2024 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) will be November 3, 2023

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Kentucky is encouraging landowners, farmers and producers to visit their local NRCS office now to receive information and apply for conservation technical assistance and possible funding opportunities.

The application process for NRCS's conservation programs is continuous, but funding selections for specific programs are made throughout the year. For the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Kentucky NRCS has announced that applications for assistance received by November 3, 2023, will be evaluated and considered for funding.

New for Fiscal Year 2024, Kentucky NRCS will be utilizing ACT NOW to process conservation applications in eight fund accounts to deliver a conservation product to EQIP applicants faster. New and existing applications received prior to October 3, 2023, thru November 3, 2023, which meet program eligibility requirements and the minimum ranking score threshold in one of the ACT NOW fund accounts identified below will be selected for immediate funding until designated funds are depleted. Selections will be made weekly beginning October 3, 2023. Any applicants competing in one of the ACT NOW accounts who do not meet the minimum ranking score threshold will be evaluated for funding with all other applications after the March 8, 2024, ranking deadline as funds allow.

- Urban High Tunnel Initiative Minimum ranking threshold = 30
- Fayette County Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative Minimum ranking threshold = 30
- Conservation Planning Activities Minimum ranking threshold = 40
- Organic Initiative Minimum ranking threshold = 20
- Limited Resource Producer Minimum ranking threshold = 20
- Socially Disadvantaged Producer Minimum ranking threshold = 20
- SEKESH Minimum ranking threshold = 30
- Wildlife Minimum ranking threshold = 20
- Season Extension Production Initiative Minimum ranking threshold = 50

EQIP is a conservation program that provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers who face threats to soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. Through EQIP, NRCS develops contracts with agricultural producers to voluntarily implement conservation practices. Persons engaged in livestock or agricultural production and owners of non-industrial private forestland are eligible for this program. Eligible land includes cropland, pastureland, private non-industrial forestland, and other farm or ranch lands.

In Fiscal Year 2023, NRCS in Kentucky provided over \$28 million in EQIP financial assistance to assist private land users to address natural resource issues on their land.

For more information about EQIP or the other programs offered by NRCS, visit uson the web at www.ky.nrcs.usda.gov or contact your local NRCS service centerat http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app.





Beefy Stuffed Peppers

1 cup uncooked, whole wheat couscous 1 small tomato, diced ½ cup garbanzo beans 1 teaspoon dried

Italian seasoning

1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper 1 teaspoon salt 1/2 cup low fat shredded mozzarella

cheese

4 large bell peppers 1/2 pound lean ground beef

1 tablespoon chopped green onion

ella 1 tablespoon minced garlic

Cook couscous according to package directions. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Combine cooked couscous, tomato, beans, Italian seasoning, pepper, salt and mozzarella cheese in large bowl; set aside. Remove the tops, seeds and membranes from peppers. Cook peppers in boiling water for 5 minutes; drain upside down on paper towels. Cook beef until lightly browned in skillet. Add minced garlic and green onions to beef and sauté until

soft. **Drain** fat. **Toss** beef mixture into the couscous mixture. **Stuff** bell peppers evenly with mixture. **Place** in a lightly greased 9 x 9 inch baking dish. **Bake** for 15-20 minutes or until peppers are tender and cheese is melted.

Yield: 4 servings

Nutritional Analysis: 280 calories, 6 g fat, 2.5 g saturated fat, 35 mg cholesterol, 790 mg sodium, 36 g carbohydrate, 7 g fiber, 6 g sugar, 21 g protein



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.