Ag & Natural Resources Of Cows and Plows



Franklin County 101 Lakeview Court Frankfort, KY 40601-8750 (502) 695-9035 Fax: (502) 695-9309 franklin.ca.uky.edu

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



Preliminary Results for New Herbicide for Warm Season Grass Control in Horse Pastures

IN THIS ISSUE

1-2HERBICIDE FOR GRASSES
3OAK CONFERENCE
4-5SOIL SAMPLING PASTURES
5SMALL FARMERS CONFERENCE
6CROP PROTECTION WEBINARS
7FORAGE FOCUS
8NEW HORTICULTURE AGENT
8NORTH AMERICAN
9 FREE SOIL TESTING
10 CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY STORE
11FCCA MEETING
12CONSERVATION DISTRICT
13HABITAT MANAGEMENT
14 FCHS STUDENTS
14ANNUAL MEETING
15RECIPE

Warm season annual grasses pose a major challenge in Kentucky horse pastures over the summer. They tend to germinate in areas where perennial cool season grass stands are thin from overgrazing, low soil fertility or inadequate rainfall.

Some, like crabgrass, have good forage quality and are readily grazed by horses, but others, like yellow foxtail have little to no forage quality. Foxtail also has long hairs on the seed heads – called awns – that have been known to embed in horses' gums and cause irritation or sores.

Regardless of species, warm season annuals hold space where you would prefer to have cool season perennial grasses, and since they die out after frost, there is bare soil all winter.

Until recently, no herbicides have been available to control warm season annual grasses in perennial cool season pastures. Prowl H2O is now labeled for use in cool season grass pastures and researchers are working to understand how best to utilize it on Kentucky horse pastures.

Bill Witt, PhD, professor emeritus within the University of Kentucky's Department of Plant and Soil Sciences partnered with the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program to run a series of plot studies on Lexington-area horse farms. Mill Ridge Farm and Shadwell Farm both generously supported the research, financially and by providing use of land. Asbury University senior Chi Jing Leow collected the data as part of his senior research project and internship with the Horse Pasture Evaluation Program.

Continued from pg. 1

Prowl H2O was sprayed at two different rates and three different application dates during the spring of 2019 in a randomized complete block design at two locations. No injury of cool season grasses was observed at either location. Yellow foxtail populations were low in 2019, but crabgrass was well controlled using higher rates of Prowl H2O and when sprayed at the earlier dates. Plots were then over seeded in early September with orchard grass, Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass. Germination of these grasses was low due to the drought conditions last fall, but no herbicide injury was observed. The herbicide label states to wait 10 months before over seeding grasses in the fall, but during this research the waiting period was four months. The study is being repeated again this summer to determine if the waiting period on the label can be reduced.

This herbicide is a pre-emergent, meaning it kills below ground seedlings. Therefore, it must be applied before germination to be effective. Witt recommends application between mid-April and mid-May for an average year, though



the optimal timing is highly variable. The important thing is to apply before any warm season annual grasses start to germinate. One rule of thumb is that when annual grasses start to germinate in warm spots, like along a driveway, the south face of a building, etc., then it's time to spray. Apply 1.1 to 4.2 quarts per acre. It can be applied as sequential treatments 30 days apart, but not to exceed a total of 4.2 quarts per acre per year. There are no grazing restrictions for horses or beef cattle.

While this new product could be a real benefit to horse farms, it can have some unintended consequences. Many managers likely do not realize how much crabgrass their horses graze on over the summer. Prowl H2O applications will reduce crabgrass, therefore additional hay feeding may be required because the crabgrass is not available for horses to consume. Additionally, removing crabgrass may increase grazing of cool season grasses, creating a thinner fall stand. Preliminary work shows that nimblewill may also benefit from Prowl H2O applications because it can spread into bare areas typically held by warm season annual grasses. Nimblewill spreads primarily by stolons, therefore will not be injured by this herbicide.

Because crabgrass and foxtail are removed, pastures treated with this herbicide may be thinner going into fall and winter, so good grazing management, soil fertility and potentially over seeding will be needed to thicken stands. The best way to prevent the germination of warm season annual grasses or any other unwanted plants is to maintain a thick stand of desirable cool season grasses. Always read and follow all label instructions before applying any pesticide.

Information was provided by University of Kentucky Department of Plant and Soil Sciences members Bill Witt, PhD, professor emeritus; in conjunction with Chi Jing Leow, senior at Asbury University and UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program intern; Krista Lea, MS, coordinator of the University of Kentucky's Horse Pasture Evaluation Program; and Ray Smith, PhD, professor and extension forage specialist.

AG & NATURAL RESOURCES 3



AGR-252

Soil Sampling Pastures and Hayfields

Chris D. Teutsch and Edwin L. Ritchey, Plant and Soil Sciences

A dequate soil fertility in pastures and hayfields is key to maintaining productivity and optimizing profitability. Soil testing is the basis of well-designed fertilization and liming programs. In order to develop effective programs, soil samples must be collected in a manner that results in an accurate representation of each pasture or hayfield area. The objective of this publication is to provide guidelines that, when followed, result in representative soil samples.

Sample pastures and hayfields in the spring or fall. Soil samples can be collected at any time during the year, but collecting samples in either the spring or fall is ideal. More importantly, always soil sample a given pasture/hayfield at the same time of the year. This allows comparisons over time, permitting evaluation of long-term changes in soil fertility.

Sample pastures and hayfields every two to three years. In order to track changes overtime, typical pastures and hayfields should be sampled every two to three years. Intensively managed hayfields with high yields that result in high levels of nutrient removal, such as alfalfa, should be sampled every year.

Avoid sampling immediately following lime and/or fertilizer applications. Sampling following lime, fertilizer, or manure application should be delayed for about 6 months.

A single soil sample should not represent more than 20 acres.

Pastures or hayfields larger than 20 acres, or which exhibit considerable variability, should be subdivided based on landscape position, forage type, and productivity potential. In intensively managed grazing systems, every paddock should be sampled.

Do not sample areas where animals congregate.

Avoid sampling near hay feeding areas, mineral feeders, feed bunks, shade trees, ponds, or waterers. Animals concentrate dung and urine in these spots, elevating soil nutrient concentrations. These areas are *not* representative of the pasture (Figure 1).

Remove plant residues on the soil surface prior to sampling. Scrape soil surface plant residues away prior to taking each soil core because these residues can inflate soil organic matter and nutrient concentration values.

Do not take samples directly in manure pats and urine spots. Do not sample within such spots, as organic matter and nutrient concentration values will be inflated and not representative of the pasture area. Move at least 3 inches away before taking a soil core.



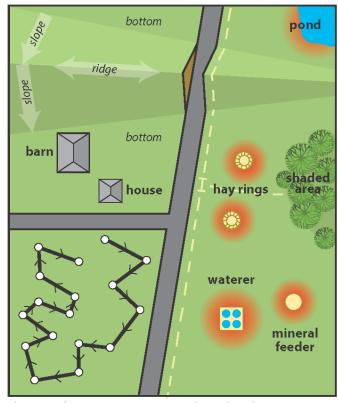


Figure 1. Obtaining representative soil samples is key to accurate soil test results. Collect 15 to 20 cores per pasture or hayfield in a zigzag pattern. Make sure to avoid sampling areas where animals congregate. Larger pastures and hayfields should be subdivided based on landscape position, forage type, and productivity potential.

Key Points

- Soil testing is key to optimizing liming and fertilization programs.
- Accurate soil test results are highly dependent on obtaining representative samples.
- Sample pastures and hayfields in the spring or fall.
- Sample pastures and hayfields every two to three years. Sample more frequently for intensively managed hayfields.
- Sample areas larger than 20 acres should be subdivided and sampled separately.
- Subdivide pastures based on landscape position, forage type, and productivity potential.

- Do not sample where animals congregate. Dung, urine, and rotting organic material increase nutrient concentrations in these areas and lower fertilizer recommendations.
- Always use a soil probe to sample pastures. The sampling depth should be 4-inches.
- Collect 15 to 20 cores per sample in a plastic bucket. Sampling should follow a random zig-zag pattern across the entire area to be represented by each sample.
- Crush and mix the cores throughly and fill sample container to the designated line.
- Submit samples along with completed paperwork to local extension office.



Figure 2. A soil probe should always be used to collect soil samples. Sampling depth for pastures and hayfields should be 4 inches.

Always sample pastures and hayfields using a soil probe. Although other tools can be utilized, soil probes are very easy to use, and result in the most uniform soil cores (Figure 2).

Sampling depth should be 4 inches. The 4-inch sampling depth represents the pasture or hayfield root zone where nutrient uptake occurs (Figure 2). If a new stand is being established in a tilled seedbed, soil should be sampled to the depth of primary tillage, usually 6 to 8 inches.

Collect 15 to 20 cores randomly throughout each pasture/hayfield area. Walking in zigzag pattern, collect a minimum of 15 to 20 cores. In pasture/hayfield areas that are larger and have more variation, collect more cores (Figure 1).

Put cores in plastic bucket, hand crush, and mix thoroughly. Cores should be placed in a clean, dry plastic bucket (never use a galvanized metal bucket) (Figure 2). Then, the soil cores should be hand crushed and mixed thoroughly. Crushing and mixing will result in a more representative sample sent to the soil test lab. Fill the properly labeled soil test box or bag to the designated line. If the soil is excessively wet, allow the sample to air dry and remix the sample before filling the soil test box/bag.

5

Complete the soil test sample submission form and take samples to local extension office. It is extremely important that samples are properly labeled and that the submission form is completed. Fertilizer and lime recommendations will be based not only on the soil test lab results, but also on the information provided on the submission form.

Results will come to local extension office. Results and recommendations will be emailed to your local extension office within one to two weeks. Local agents will send you a copy of the results and be available to help interpret soil testing data.

Additional Resources:

- Find your local Extension Office in Kentucky http://extension.ca.uky.edu/county or (859) 257-4302.
- AGR-1: Lime and Nutrient Recommendations
 http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/agr/agr1/agr1.pdf
- AGR-103: Fertilization of Cool-Season Grasses
 http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/agr/agr103/agr103.htm
- Web Soil Survey, USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm

The 27th Annual Small Farm Conference will be held **November 18–20, 2025**, at Kentucky State University's **Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm** in Frankfort, Kentucky.

This long-standing event provides a vital platform for small farmers to **gather**, **learn**, **and collaborate**, advancing sustainable practices and community development across the region.

The 2025 theme, "Strengthening Local Food Systems for Small

Farmers," highlights the essential role small producers play in building resilient, community-based food networks.

To register visit: https://www.kysu.edu/academics/college-ahnr/events/2025-small-farmers-conference.php



Crop protection webinars begin Oct. 30th

Register now for multiple webinars focusing on agronomic crops and Integrated Pest Management. The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will present the 2025 Fall Crop Protection Webinar Series, hosted through the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center. The series will begin at 10 a.m. ET/9 a.m. CT on Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025, and will continue consecutive Thursday mornings through Nov. 20 at the same time. Each webinar will be one hour in length. Continuing Education Units for certified crop advisors will include 1 CEU in Integrated Pest Management per webinar or 4 CEUs total for participation in all four webinars; Kentucky pesticide applicators will receive 1 CEU in Category 1A (Ag Plant) for each webinar attended.

The webinars are open to agriculture and natural resource county extension agents, crop consultants, farmers, industry professionals, and others, whether they reside or work in Kentucky or outside the state. Preregistration is required by clicking on the links below.



Webinar #1: Oct. 30, 2025; 9 a.m. CT — Dr. Carl Bradley, Extension Plant Pathologist

Title: Research Update on Red Crown Rot of Soybean

Registration link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_lyKRsRuTR7iSKjzMCGh36g



Webinar #2: Nov. 6, 2025; 9 a.m. CT — Dr. Raul Villanueva, Extension Entomologist Title: Delayed Appearance or Declining Insect Pest Numbers in Field Crops in Recent Years Registration link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gmiW6VE5R5GzmJJulSbiDw



Webinar #3: Nov. 13, 2025; 9 a.m. CT — Dr. Kiersten Wise, Extension Plant Pathologist

Title: Stopping Southern Rust: Scouting, Spraying, and Staying Ahead

Registration link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uRGIZOK-T1KCnRBvU3LscA



Webinar #4: Nov. 20, 2025; 9 a.m. CT — Dr. Travis Legleiter, Extension Weeds Specialist

Title: Defense Wins the Ryegrass Battle

Registration link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN X72Xkl21QzGKiX2BA9Ht6w







FORAGE FOCUS:

QUALITY + MARKETING + NUTRITION

Join us for an informative and engaging Hay Program designed for hay producers. This event will cover key topics including understanding hay testing, effective hay marketing strategies, practical beef cattle ration tools, and a producer panel. The program will conclude with a celebratory Hay Awards Banquet, recognizing excellence in hay production.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn, network, and honor outstanding achievements in the hay industry!



NOVEMBER 24TH 6:00 P.M.



RSVP OR QUESTIONS CALL: (859) 257-5582



FAYETTE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE 1140 HARRY SYKES WY, LEXINGTON, KY 40504

Please RSVP by end of day on November 17th for meal reservation!

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, marrial 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.



Disabilities accommodated with prior potificati



Tyler Ray

Franklin County
Extension Agent, Horticulture



Join the Franklin County Extension
Office in welcoming our new
Horticulture Extension Agent!

November 13, 2025 4:30-6:00pm

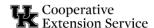
My name is Tyler Ray, and I'm the new Franklin County Extension Agent for Horticulture. I have been a lifelong horticulturist and resident of Franklin County. I have diverse work experience from caring for greenhouses, orchards, and vineyards to caring for livestock and conducting applied forage research. I attended Morehead State University earning a bachelor's degree in agronomy and general agriculture. I am currently pursuing a master's degree in integrated plant and soil science from the University of Kentucky. For the past three years I have served as the Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Boyle County. In this role I provided research-based education and technical assistance and collaborated with community partners. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my fiancée Lauren, our dog Cash, gardening and caring for house plants. I am excited for the opportunity to serve my home community!





Franklin County Conservation District 103 Lakeview Court Frankfort, KY 40601 Phone: (502) 352-2701

NAME



Franklin County 101 Lakeview Court Frankfort, KY 40601-8750 502-695-9035 franklin.ca.uky.edu

FREE SOIL SAMPLE COUPON Sponsored By: Franklin County Conservation District

October 1, 2025- January 31, 2026, the Franklin County Conservation District is sponsoring 10 FREE soil tests.

Bring this coupon in with your soil sample(s) and receive FREE BASIC SOIL TESTING.

Redeemable only at the FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE located at 101 Lakeview Court, Frankfort KY. (502) 695-9035 https://franklin.ca.uky.edu

For information on how to take a soil sample: www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/agr/agr16/agr16.pdf

LIMIT 10 (ten) FREE SAMPLES per PERSON

Coupon available for Franklin County or Frankfort Residents or Farms located in Franklin County.

NO COMMERCIAL SAMPLES WITH THIS OFFER

NDDRESS								
PHONE								
	Sample Number Office Use Only	Date Submitted		Sample Number Office Use Only	Date Submitted			
1			6					
2			7					
3			8					
4			9					
5			10					

C . (
\ †a†	T	
Staf		



FRANKLIN CO. CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING

DECEMBER 9TH

Join us for presentations from the UK Beef Cattle Science Class



Franklin County Conservation District

BACKYARD CONSERVATION PROGRAM
Urban Cost Share Program

July 1, 2025 to June 1, 2026

Raised Garden Beds, Rain Barrels, Compost Bins, Pollinator Gardens, Beehives and Bat Houses

- First come, first serve.
- Franklin County Residents only
- One application per household
- 50% cost share up to \$500 maximum

Must have approval before you begin project

Franklin County Conservation District 103 Lakeview Court Frankfort, KY 40601 502-352-2701

fccd103@gmail.com

Important Numbers

Raising Hope (Suicide & Crisis Lifeline)	988		
Franklin Co Extension Office	695-9035		
Conservation District	352-2701		
Farm Service Agency (FSA)	859-873-3411		
NRCS	695-5023		
Dead Animal Removal	875-8760		
State Rd. Dead Animal Removal	564-6998		
Unwanted Pesticide Removal	1-800-205-6543		
Fish and Wildlife	1-800-585-1549		
Franklin County Wildlife Biologist	859-879-8411		
(All numbers 502 area code unless otherwise noted)			



July 1, 2025 to June 1st, 2026



This two-day event will bring together professionals, researchers and land managers to share projects and expert talks on habitat restoration and natural areas management.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SOUTHEASTERN GRASSLANDS INSTITUTE





Date:

December 2nd & 3rd



Time:

9AM - 4PM



Location:

Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm

CEU's Available!







Land Grant Program

FCHS Students complete BQCA Certification

13 students from Franklin County High School completed the Beef Quality and Care Assurance certification at the Chute Side training at the KSU Harold R. Benson Research Farm in September.



Franklin County Cattleman's Corner

On Thursday, October 16th, we held our Cattlemen's Annual Meeting, hosted by Jerry Samples. It was a great evening, the meal was sponsored by the Franklin County Conservation District and an educational opportunity with guest speaker Dr. Abigail Hines

If you haven't paid your membership dues yet, please do so — \$25 for a single and \$40 for a



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 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.

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 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.

RECIPE



Broccoli Pizza

1½ cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese

1 12-inch whole wheat pizza crust

1 cup chopped broccoli florets

1 medium zucchini, thinly sliced

1 medium onion, sliced into strips

1/2 **medium** red bell pepper, cut into strips

1 medium tomato, thinly sliced

2 cloves minced garlic

1 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning

2 tablespoons vegetable oil

- **1. Sprinkle** half of the cheese evenly over crust; set aside.
- Sauté vegetables, garlic and Italian seasoning in hot oil 3-5 minutes or until vegetables are crisptender.
- **3. Spoon** vegetables evenly over pizza crust.
- **4. Top** with remaining cheese.
- **5. Bake** at 450° F 5 minutes or until cheese melts.

Yield: 8 slices Nutrition Analysis:

320 calories; 23g fat; 11g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 65mg cholesterol; 540mg sodium; 18g carbohydrates; 3g dietary fiber; 3g sugars; 15g protein.







Be sure to follow our Facebook page for all the up-to-date information and articles.

@FranklinCountyKyCooperativeExtension

SAVE THE DATES:

November 6-20 NAILE

November 13 Horticulture Agent Meet & Greet, CEC

November 18-20 KSU Small Farm Conference

November 24 Forage Focus Program

November 27-28 Office Closed

JOIN US ALL YEAR FOR

THIRD THURSDAY THING

November 20th: Small, Limited-Resource, Minority Farmers Conference

Keena R Bisty

Keenan Bishop, County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources Education

Pardon Our Mess...

Our bathroom facilities are antiquated, dating back to the 1990s! Please be patient with us as we endure a long needed upgrade.

The building and meeting rooms will be open as usual but the available restrooms may be on a different floor than where you're meeting.

Sorry for the inconvenience caused & Thank You for your patience!



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.



