

Ag & Natural Resources Of Cows and Plows

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



Cowherd Expansion is Not the Only Way to Capitalize on a Strong Calf Market

Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky

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Much has been written recently about the strength of the current cattle market. With beef cow inventory at a 60+ year low and demand being very strong, cow-calf operations are clearly in the driver's seat. Calf values are more than double what they were three years ago, which speaks to considerable opportunity for cow-calf operators to invest in their cowherds. Expansion is often the first opportunity that comes to mind in a strong calf market and there is likely merit in expansion, if doing so is consistent with the goals of the operation. However, some producers may not be interested in growing the size of their cowherds due to land and / or management constraints or other reasons. This article will briefly walk through other opportunities that are worth consideration.

Genetics – Some producers may choose to use the current increase in cow-calf revenues to improve the genetics of their herds. Investment in genetics often has long-run implications, resulting in more valuable calves to sell over multiple years. Sires certainly come to mind, but the current calf market combined with the strong cull cow prices may provide an opportunity to cull a bit harder and also purchase some higher quality females.

Facilities – Working facilities are crucial resources for cow-calf operations for numerous reasons. Value-added opportunities such as health protocols, post-weaning programs, castration, implants, etc. are made much easier with quality working facilities. The same is true for receiving, sorting and loading of cattle. If facilities have historically been a constraint, the current market may be providing an opportunity to make improvements and position the operation to sell higher value calves in the future.

Continued on pg. 2

Continued from pg. 1

Grazing systems – Winter feeding days are typically the most expensive days for cow-calf operations as stored feed (hay) is being fed. Improved grazing systems (interior fencing, additional water sources, portable mineral feeders, etc.) allow for more efficient use of existing forage during the grazing season. This has the potential to increase the number of grazing days and reduce the number of hay feeding days. In most cases, this results in lower costs per cow per year and puts an operation in a better position when calf prices fall.

Debt service / financial management – Strong markets also provide an opportunity to make financial moves that set an operation up for the long run. Increased revenues may allow an operation to pay down some debt and thereby lower their cost structure going forward. Similarly, it may provide an opportunity to build some working capital and lower dependence on operating loans. In both cases, future interest expenses are reduced, which has implications for profitability.

To be clear, the purpose of this article was not to discourage expansion. There are likely operations that need to do just that. But I also live in an area where land constraints are real and know that expansion is not always feasible. Plus, I have seen situations where operations expanded during strong markets and wished they had not done so a few years later. The main point is that the current calf market provides a significant opportunity for a cow-calf operation to position itself for the long-run, and that will look different for each one of them.

**Franklin County Conservation District
FALL SCRAP
METAL COLLECTION**

Lakeview Park

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday
October 23 – October 25, 2025**

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM on

Thursday and Friday

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM on Saturday

Lakeview Park

**Items accepted: metal, appliances,
appliances w/freon,
fencing, sheet metal, farm equipment,
etc.**

- No tires or oils -No gas cylinders -

No LP or welding tanks

- No electronics/televisions -

Contact: 502/352-2701

**DUMPSTERS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE
DURING THE FALL COLLECTION**



EDEN SHALE OPEN HOUSE

OCTOBER 18, 2025 • 400 EDEN SHALE RD, OWENTON, KY

New Winter Feeding Structure

Dr. Steve Higgins University of Kentucky

Novel Endophyte Fescue in a Grazing System

Adam Probst Barenbrug Seed

Environmental Health: Vector-Borne Diseases

Sarah Wilhoite Kentucky Department for Public Health



Call (859) 278-0899 to register or email kbn@kycattle.org

Event begins at 10am • Lunch will be Provided



Join us for the Eden Shale Open House on October 18, 2025 at 400 Eden Shale Rd, Owenton, KY!

Learn about:

- New Winter Feeding Structure – Dr. Steve Higgins, University of Kentucky
- Novel Endophyte Fescue in a Grazing System – Adam Probst, Barenbrug Seed
- Environmental Health: Vector-Borne Diseases – Sarah Wilhoite, KY Dept. of Public Health

Event begins at 10am

Lunch will be provided!

Register today by calling (859) 278-0899 or email kbn@kycattle.org or fill out this link <https://keca.memberclicks.net/edenshale2025>

Don't miss this opportunity to learn, connect, and enjoy a day at Eden Shale Farm!

Selling Black Walnuts in Kentucky - 2025

 Cooperative
Extension Service
Forestry and Natural Resources

Renee' Williams,
Forestry and Natural Resources - Extension, University of Kentucky

FORFS25-07

Black walnuts can be sold to commercial hullers in Kentucky (see Table 1). Bring the whole seed to the huller locations and they will run them through a machine to remove the hulls. They will weigh the walnuts after the hulls have been removed and pay you a specific amount per 100 lbs. Normally, they accept walnuts throughout the fall. However, it is recommended that you contact your local huller prior to gathering nuts.

Table 1. Commercial Huller Operations in Kentucky – 2025

Huller Operator	City (County)	Phone #	Address
Hertzler, Henry	Owingsville (Bath)	859-404-4243	1972 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Owingsville, KY 40360
Benneman, Alvin	Campbellsville (Taylor)	270-937-4377	3050 Barney School Rd., Campbellsville, KY 42718
Graber, David	Carlisle (Nicholas)	859-405-5615	4600 Burris Rd., Carlisle, KY 40311
Martin, Laverne	Cerulean (Trigg)	N/A	1015 Buffalo Cerulean Rd., Cerulean, KY 42215
Ottenheim Country Store	Crab Orchard (Lincoln)	606-355-7464	5920 Kentucky 643, Crab Orchard, KY 40489
Yoder, Samuel	Cynthiana (Harrison)	859-588-1211	1013 Salem Pike, Cynthiana, KY 41031
Coblentz, Tim	Flemingsburg (Fleming)	606-748-2219	1591 Maddox Pike, Flemingsburg, KY 41041
Yoder, Paul	Hardyville (Hart)	270-303-0351	2440 Whickerville Road, Hardyville, KY 42746
Miller, Cristie	Harrodsburg (Mercer)	859-407-9787	855 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Grayson County Implement	Leitchfield (Grayson)	270-259-0075	3363 Owensboro Rd., Leitchfield, KY 42754
Burkholder, Paul	Liberty (Casey)	270-787-7996	9431 KY 501 S, Liberty, KY 42539
Martin, Daniel	London (Laurel)	606-312-8641	11200 East Laurel Rd., London, KY 40741
Byler, Roy	Marion (Crittenden)	870-692-6962	2865 Mt. Zion Church Rd., Marion, KY 42064
Farmwald, Delbert	Monticello (Wayne)	606-348-6281	3521 St. Hwy 1009, Monticello, KY 42633
Fisher, Daniel	Mount Sterling (Montgomery)	859-274-8888	908 Gibson Ln., Mt. Sterling, KY 40353
Raber, Roman	Pleasureville (Henry)	502-878-4211	10712 Castle Hwy., Pleasureville, KY 40057
Derstine, Justin	West Liberty (Morgan)	606-495-8280	207 Crockett Loop, West Liberty, KY 41472

If you need directions, please go to Hammons Products Company's website (<http://www.black-walnuts.com/>) and click on the *Locate a Buying Station* where you will find the hulling locations.

To Cut or Not To Cut Alfalfa

Kentucky Forage News

... alfalfa really does need a rest period during the fall to recharge root reserves and survive the winter. The last harvest should come four to six weeks before the date of the first killing frost for your area. For most of Kentucky this will mean taking that harvest before September 15 to October 1. Alfalfa then has the next four to six weeks to regrow enough to replenish the root carbohydrates. After the first hard freeze (24° F or lower), or November 1, a final harvest can be made.

UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY — COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Bird Flu – Information for Hunters and Taxidermists

Avian influenza, or bird flu, is a virus that causes disease in chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, ducks, and geese. It may also cause disease in other birds as well. The bird flu virus is spread via the bodily fluids and feces of infected birds. Wild birds, especially waterfowl and shorebirds, are natural hosts for the virus. They may not show signs of the disease, even if infected.



The virus is not easily transmitted from birds to people. However, it is possible that the virus could change into another form that spreads rapidly from person to person. Other species which may be able to catch the bird flu virus include pigs, primates, ferrets, rodents, rabbits, cats, and humans. Although it is unlikely that hunters and taxidermists will contract AI, health officials recommend people who handle birds to use common sense precautions.

To reduce the risk of contracting AI or any wildlife disease:

- Limit exposure to feces and bodily fluids from game animals.
- Do not handle or process birds found sick or dead.
- Wear rubber or latex gloves and washable clothing while handling game.
- Dispose of internal organs, feathers, bones, skin, and trimmings in a safe manner by double bagging, sealing both bags, and putting it in the trash.
- Do not eat, drink, or use tobacco products while handling game.
- Wash hands with hot soapy water or alcohol wipes immediately after handling game.
- Clean all tools and work surfaces with hot soapy water then disinfect with 10% chlorine bleach solution or other disinfectant.
- Thoroughly cooked meat is safe to eat. Poultry should reach an internal temperature of at least 165° F. Use a meat thermometer.
- Use caution around water sources and roosting areas where feces from wild birds may accumulate.
- When finished hunting, clean clothing, boots, vehicles, etc. as soon as possible.
- Do not bring game birds onto poultry farms.



Call the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife at (866) 4US-DAWS or the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife at (800) 858-1549 to report sick or dead wild birds. Because waterfowl are the greatest risk, call to report any number of sick or dead waterfowl. For any other type of wild bird, only call to report if there are 5 or more birds.

Self-Report Drought Conditions

Producers are encouraged to report their drought conditions through the “Drought Impact Tool”. This is one way that producers can report conditions on their operation so that their voices can be heard. Attached you can find instructions on how to report drought conditions and a QR Code to take you to the Drought Impact Tool. Click the following link to access the Drought Impact Tool: [USDA Drought Impact Reporting Tool](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/MapArchive.aspx) Click the following link to view the KY drought monitor to see your current drought status: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/MapArchive.aspx>

Jimmy Chambers
County Executive Director
Woodford County Farm Service Agency



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Woodford County Farm Service Agency
182 Beasley Road, Versailles, Kentucky, 40383
p: (859) 873-4941 ext. 2

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. Pre-registration 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_lyKRuRuTR7iSKjzMCGh36g



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

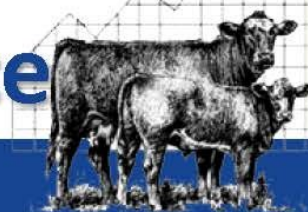
Registration link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_X72Xkl21QzGKiX2BA9Ht6w



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

"Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities"

Kentucky Beef Conference



October 21, 2025

Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

2:00-3:00

Registration, visit
sponsors

**RSVP by October 17th
to Fayette County
Extension Office
859.257.5582**

****If you have a gluten or
alpha gal allergy please
indicate that when you
call****

CAIP Education Eligible

3:00 — Welcome & Sponsor Recognition

Allison Tucker, Fayette County Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Agent

University of KY Remarks & Welcome

Dr. Craig Wood, Ast. Director or Extension for Agriculture, Natural Resources & Horticulture

Marketing Update & Outlook

Dr. Kenny Burdine, UK Beef Economic Extension Specialist

4:00 – Bull Management & Selection

Dr. Saulo Zoca, University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Beef Reproduction Extension Specialist

5:00— Emerging Insect Pests

Dr. Hannah Tiffin, UK Extension Entomologist

Dr. Jessie Lay, UK Extension Animal Health Veterinarian

6:15 — Questions/Wrap up

6:30 — Meal



**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



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY...

**JIM GERRISH
DR. GREG HALICH
DR. CHRIS TEUTSCH
DR. RAY SMITH
CODY RAKES
DR. RICARDO RIBERIO
& LOCAL PRODUCERS**

TWO LOCATIONS IN KY



Tuesday, October 28
Winchester, KY



Thursday, October 30
Leitchfield, KY

REGISTER TODAY!

<https://2025GrazingConferenceEast.eventbrite.com>
<https://2025GrazingConferenceWest.eventbrite.com>

Winchester, KY



Leitchfield, KY



KENTUCKY
**FORAGE &
GRASSLAND**
COUNCIL

2025 KY GRAZING CONFERENCE AGENDA

- 7:30 AM Registration & Refreshments
- 8:00 AM Welcome
Dr. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky
- 8:15 AM Seven Things That I Have Learned About Profitable Ranching in the Last 45 Years, *Jim Gerrish, American GrazingLands Services*
- 9:15 AM Nutrient Cycling in Grassland Ecosystems
Dr. Ricardo Riberio, University of Kentucky
- 10:00 AM Break & Visit with Sponsors
- 10:30 AM Forage Management for Shifting Weather Patterns
Dr. Chris Teutsch, University of Kentucky
- 11:00 AM Breeding a Functional Cow that Works in Your Environment
Cody Rakes, Loretto Motherhouse Farm
- 11:40 AM Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council Business Meeting & Awards
- 12:00 PM Lunch & Visit with Sponsors
- 1:00 PM Forage Spokesperson Contest/Local Producers
- 2:00 PM What We Have Learned About Bale Grazing
Dr. Greg Halich, University of Kentucky
- 2:45 PM Managing Feed Costs in Ruminant Livestock Production Systems
Jim Gerrish, American GrazingLands Services
- 3:30 PM Adjourn

**** All times local ****

**SPACE IS LIMITED
REGISTER TODAY**

REGISTER BY MAIL

Name: _____

Address: _____

State, City, ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

\$60 per participant OR \$25 per student

\$75 per participant at the door

SPACE IS LIMITED REGISTER TODAY

Make checks payable to KFGC and mail to:

**KFGC c/o Caroline Roper, PO Box 469, Princeton, KY 42445
(270) 704-6618**





Household Hazardous Waste Fall Collection 2025



**Saturday, October 25th
8:00 AM- 12:00 PM**

**City of Frankfort Recycling Center
309 Rouse Ave**

Open for Frankfort and Franklin County residents. Must show valid identification.

First 500 vehicles. Please stay inside your vehicle.

Please, no early drop-offs.

Items to be collected include:

Poison (liquid and solid) ✦ Herbicide (liquid and solid) ✦ Batteries (all types) ✦
Aerosol cans ✦ Propane cylinders ✦ Oil based paint ✦ Solvents, gasoline,
thinners ✦ Antifreeze ✦ Fluorescent tubes ✦ Fire extinguishers ✦ Adhesives,
tars ✦ Asbestos ✦ Corrosive acids, bases, cleaners ✦ Dioxins ✦ Fertilizers ✦
Organic peroxides ✦ Reactive solids ✦ Oxidizers ✦ Flammable solids ✦
Mercury ✦ Freon, acetylene, etc ✦ Electronics (including box-style TVs) ✦

Items not accepted:

Water based paints (latex or acrylic): These paints may be hardened with sand, kitty litter or a paint hardener and disposed of in the trash.

Motor oil and hydraulic oil: These materials are accepted at local retailers

Medications: may be disposed of at the Frankfort Police Department or the Health Department during a Drug Takeback Event

More info:

<https://franklincounty.ky.gov/solid-waste-management/>

Scrap Metal

Collection hosted by
the Franklin County
Conservation District:

10/23-10/24

8am-4:30pm

10/25 8am-12pm

Lakeview Park

Rejuvenating Your Kentucky Lawn: Fall Lawn Care

Source: Kenneth Clayton, extension associate in turfgrass



Taking care of your lawn during the fall is as important as it is during spring and summer, even more so for lawns with cool-season grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue. Nearly all fertilizers and broadleaf herbicides should be applied in the fall, and it is by far the best time for lawn renovations, such as seeding. When it comes to the timing of renovations, spring is better than summer, but fall is best of all.

Here are some tips for cool-season grasses:

Fertilize – Fertilizing your lawn in the fall will help it grow stronger, thicker and greener. Cool-season grasses should be fertilized with nitrogen in the fall as temperatures begin to cool and days shorten. Applying later in the fall when cool-season grasses are actively growing can help rejuvenate the lawn after a stressful summer and improve competition over undesirable warm-season weeds such as bermudagrass. Use either farm fertilizers, such as urea or ammonium sulfate, or specialty fertilizers found in garden centers. The normal rate is 1 to 1.5 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn. Remember to spread it evenly over your lawn.

Control weeds – If broadleaf weeds such as clover, dandelion, plantain and chickweed are growing in your lawn, fall is the best time of year to get them under control. Almost all broadleaf weeds can be controlled selectively in turfgrass by applying a three-way mix of 2, 4-D, MCPP and Dicamba. This mix is sold in many garden centers under various trade names. Applications in late October through November, after winter annuals have emerged, often result in better control of winter annual broadleaves and perennial broadleaves compared to spring applications. Make the application on a warm day, sometime after the first frost of the season.

Renovate – Summer's stresses often take a toll on your lawn. The best time to reseed your lawn is from late August through October. Because the goal is to get the seed in close contact with the soil, it is recommended that you first remove surface debris and mechanically groove the soil. This can be easily done by traversing the lawn with a dethatching machine that can be rented at many rental centers. Seed a turf-type tall fescue at a rate of five to six pounds per 1,000 square feet. To avoid uneven application, spread half the seed horizontally across the lawn and the other half vertically. The best and quickest results are obtained if the seeded areas can be kept moist until the seeds germinate.

Remember to continue mowing your lawn as long as the grass is growing. You might want to lower the height in the fall to 1.5 to 2 inches. This tends to keep the grass greener longer in the winter and will help the lawn to green up earlier next spring. It might even help increase turf density.



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



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**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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		

Staff _____

SOIL TESTING

Did you know UK Extension will test your soil?

What is Soil Testing?

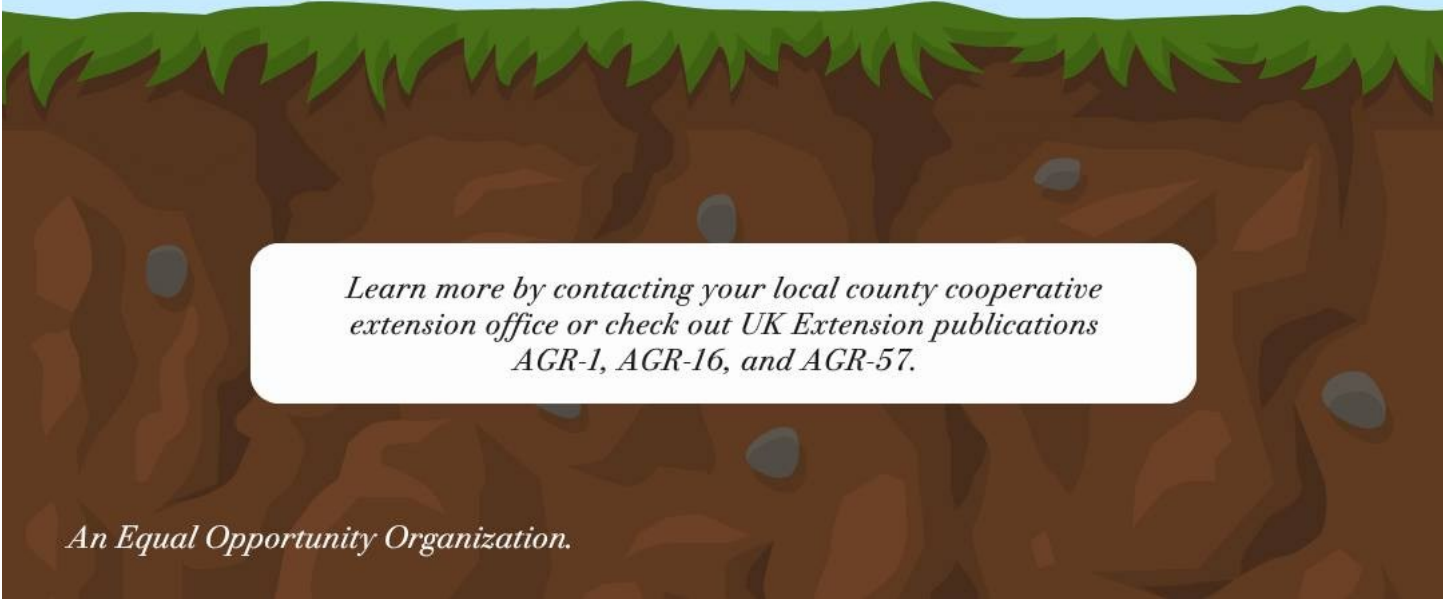
- Soil testing is a chemical analysis that provides valuable insights into what your soil needs to be more productive.

How does it work?

- Soil samples are collected at all of our 120 UK Extension offices and sent to a laboratory for testing.

Why Soil Test?

- Identify previous cropping history.
- Show losses of surface soil through erosion.
- Provide a guideline for the lime and fertilizer needs of the soil.
- Analyze the pH, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, and zinc of the soil.



Learn more by contacting your local county cooperative extension office or check out UK Extension publications AGR-1, AGR-16, and AGR-57.

An Equal Opportunity Organization.

Cattle Owners!

Please share your
pest concerns & help
shape education and
research for your
needs!



Investigators

Hannah Tiffin, PhD
Assistant Professor
Entomology Dept.
MG-CAFE
University of Kentucky

Kenneth Burdine, PhD
Professor
Agricultural Economics Dept.
MG-CAFE
University of Kentucky



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



Research

The Franklin Co. Jr. Cattlemen's Cookbook Fundraiser



The Franklin Co. Jr. Cattlemen's
are creating a cookbook for a fundraiser!

They are requesting all Jr. Cattlemen and
Franklin Co. Cattlemen who would like to
submit a recipe to email a copy to
crystal.harrod@yahoo.com.

**Stay tuned for how to
purchase a Cookbook!**

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

KY Horse Owners!

**What's buggin' you
and your horses? We
want to know!**

Tell us about pests of your
equines to inform research
and education in Kentucky



Investigators

Hannah Tiffin, PhD
Assistant Professor
Entomology Dept.
MG-CAFE
University of Kentucky

C. Jill Stowe, PhD
Professor
Agricultural Economics Dept.
MG-CAFE
University of Kentucky



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



Research

Publication of the Month

UK publishes a Kentucky ANR Agent Land Value and Cash Rent Survey which was just updated:

<https://publications.ca.uky.edu/sites/publications.ca.uky.edu/files/AEC102.pdf>

This is based on information that farmers and landowners share. If you disagree with some of the figures, let us know at kbishop@uky.edu. Also of interest may be Custom Machinery Rates Applicable to Kentucky (2024): [Custom Machinery Rates](https://franklin.mgcafe.uky.edu/anr) found <https://franklin.mgcafe.uky.edu/anr>



July 1, 2025 to June 1st, 2026

Contact the office at 502-352-2701 for more information



KENTUCKY STATE
UNIVERSITY

Kentucky Farmers Survey

Seeking Farmer's Perspective on Agrivoltaics in Kentucky

Have you **ever adopted Agrivoltaics** on your farm?
Have you **never adopted Agrivoltaics** on your farm?
Are you **interested in adopting Agrivoltaics** on your farm?
We want to hear from you!

SCAN ME



Photo courtesy NREL; Agrivoltaic Clearinghouse, 2023

We are looking for farmers who are major decision makers regarding farm activities to participate in a short survey about their perspectives on Agrivoltaics.

Scan here to start the survey!

SCAN ME



⌚ 10-15 minutes

📱 Scan the QR code or visit

<http://bit.ly/45vRVvu>

What is in the survey

- ✓ Farm Characteristics
- ✓ Impact of Weather Activities
- ✓ Conservation Farming Practices
- ✓ Farmers Perspectives on Agrivoltaics



Photo courtesy enelgreenpower, 2022

📞 502-597-6146

✉ farida.abdulkadir@kysu.edu

✉ Suraj.upadhaya@kysu.edu

**Voluntary
Participation**

2025 HABITAT MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM



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

REGISTER:



Date:
December 2nd & 3rd



Time:
9AM - 4PM



Location:
Harold R. Benson Research
and Demonstration Farm



CEU's Available!



**HABITAT
MANAGEMENT**
SYMPOSIUM



kaee
Kentucky Association for
Environmental Education



**KENTUCKY STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Land Grant Program

Are you currently dealing with drought? Have drought conditions affected your community or agricultural operation?

Submit a report to the Condition Monitoring Observer Reports system (CMOR) at go.unl.edu/cmor_drought to help us understand what drought looks like where you are. The CMOR system, managed by the National Drought Mitigation Center, collects reports of local weather conditions and impacts around the country. Your report will become part of the permanent record, appearing immediately on an interactive map visible to the public, including authors of the U.S. Drought Monitor and the media.



CMOR reports are one piece of supporting evidence used in the development of the Drought Monitor each week, providing on-the-ground information to help authors better understand local conditions. Observations shared via CMOR will not be used as sole justification to change an area's drought classification. However, authors rely on CMOR reports to help identify areas that might need more attention or to interpret complex weather data, particularly in moments of extreme or rapidly developing drought.

The Drought Monitor is used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to trigger disaster declarations and eligibility for low-interest loans and assistance programs. State and local decision makers also use the map to implement drought response activities.

Information incorporated in a CMOR report includes how dry or wet it is and how current conditions compare to what's typical, in the eyes of the observer. The system allows users to also note impacts on different sectors, such as crop and livestock production, municipal water supply, recreation and public health. We encourage you to submit photos along with your reports to illustrate what conditions look like in your community.

You can submit reports as frequently as you'd like. Frequent reporting is particularly useful during times of rapid change and extreme weather, but we encourage users to participate year-round to provide an ongoing comparison of wet, dry and normal conditions.

To learn more about CMOR, in English and Spanish, and how you can become an observer, check out go.unl.edu/cmor_drought.



FRANKLIN CO. CATTLEMEN'S ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for the Annual Membership Meeting. This year's event will be on Thursday, October 16, 2025.

Existing, new, or potential members are encouraged to attend.

Dues are \$25.00 for individuals (\$40 couples) to join the Franklin County Cattlemen's Association. Dues can be paid the night of the meeting or can be mailed to KCA.

The KCA operates on an October to October year but you can join anytime.

Hosted by Jerry Samples



THURSDAY
OCTOBER 16TH



3391 DEVILS HOLLOW RD
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

PLEASE RSVP TO CRYSTAL HARROD BY OCTOBER 11TH



(502)330-5084

In 2025 Kentucky provided over \$25 million in EQIP financial assistance to land owners.

EQIP helps Farmers and Ranchers

- Improve Water and Air Quality
- Conserve ground and surface water
- Reduce soil erosion
- Protect against droughts and more!

If you are a land owner with natural resource concerns on your land, contact your local NRCS office to learn how to apply for EQIP financial assistance.

2026 EQIP Applications are due by September 26, 2025

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RECIPE



Nutty Sweet Potato Biscuits

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup whole wheat flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/3 cup chopped walnuts
1 cup mashed sweet

potatoes
6 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup butter, melted
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 tablespoon milk

1. In a large mixing bowl, **combine** flours, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and walnuts. **Set** aside.
2. **Combine** sweet potatoes, sugar, butter, vanilla and milk; **add** to flour mixture and mix well.

3. **Turn out** onto a floured surface; gently **knead** 3 or 4 times. **Roll** dough into 1/2 inch thickness. **Cut** with a 2 inch biscuit cutter and **place** on a lightly greased baking sheet.
4. **Bake** at 450°F for 12 minutes or until

golden brown.

Yield: 18 biscuits

Nutritional Analysis: 4 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 210 mg sodium, 14 g carbohydrate, 1 g fiber, 4 g sugar, 2 g protein.



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



SAVE THE DATES:

October 16	FC Cattlemen's Annual Meeting
October 18	Eden Shale Open House
October 21	Beef Conference
October 23-25	Metal Collection
October 25	Household Hazardous Waste
October 28	Grazing Conference

JOIN US ALL YEAR FOR THIRD THURSDAY THING

October 16th: Small Ruminants

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

**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!*



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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.