

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

 Cooperative Extension Service

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023

Cooperative Extension Service
LaRue County
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As we prepare for the end of harvest season and begin to transition to the mindset that winter is around the corner and preparations need to be completed. Now as we roll out of the fields or rotate livestock out of pastures is the perfect time to collect soil samples to prepare for next year’s growing season. Our area is still seeing the effects of slight drought, but some late October rains provided some much-needed relief. It is imperative due to less-than-ideal growing conditions this fall that producers evaluate grazing pastures and hay supplies. The time has come to consider how to market weaned calves and cull cows. I encourage producers this year to add value and consider vaccinating, castrating, and feeding those calves through the weaning to capture more premium at the local markets. Also, as we are seeing solid prices across the spectrum now is the time to cull those open cows due to lack of rain and tight hay supplies. This is the time to keep those heifers and sell those nonproductive cows. Decisions made in the next few weeks can have an impact on the profit and loss of your operations, we at the extension service are here to disseminate information to help you make those decisions. As I wrap up this month’s newsletter, I want to stress the importance to take the time and enjoy the season, spend time with friends and family. Have a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!!



Adam Thomas
LaRue County Extension Agent
for Agriculture & Natural
Resources Education

The Extension Office will be closed
November 23rd and 24th in observance
of the Thanksgiving holiday.
*HAPPY
THANKSGIVING*

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.

CHECK YOUR CEU HOURS TO AVOID PENALTY!

This is the first year under the new recertification rules for pesticide licenses. The new regulations emphasize earning continuing education units (CEUs) to maintain licenses. With the new rule, commercial and non-commercial pesticide applicators and operators will need to have 12 CEU hours earned within the last three years to renew their license. In addition, at least one CEU must be in each of the categories held by the license holder. Each year during license renewal, CEU hours for the previous three years will be checked.

So, both commercial and non-commercial pesticide license holders should check their CEU hours periodically on the Kentucky Department of Agriculture website. This KDA [website](#) will have users create an account, then they can check their hours or the hours of persons in their company. Only hours earned within the past 3 years will appear for each licensee. Persons needing CEU hours have until November 30 to earn those hours. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture maintains a schedule of approved meetings on their [website](#) which is updated periodically. Included on this list are in-person meetings, on-line webinars, as well as on-demand training. People needing hours should check this schedule periodically as new CEU opportunities are added regularly. Hours must be earned by November 30, after that date they will be credited to 2024. Persons wanting to relicense that do not meet CEU hour requirements will be subject to losing their license as well as a \$200 fine to relicense.

Ric Bessin, Entomology Extension Specialist

LIMITING WEANING STRESS FOR BEEF CATTLE

Source: Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK beef cattle specialist

Weaning is usually a stressful time of year for calves. Limiting weaning stress in beef calves can increase their daily gain. Calves often experience four types of stress: physical, environmental, nutritional and social. You can help them avoid or minimize these with proper management.

Physical stress usually happens during long periods of standing in working facilities, mishandling in the working chute and hauling to a weaning facility. Castration and dehorning during weaning can significantly increase stress, so castrating at birth and vaccinating before weaning will help decrease this type of stress.

Environmental stress can be man-made or a product of the climate. The weaning pen is the main human-induced factor in this type of stress. When you transfer calves from a clean pasture to a dry lot, it can add stress as they are not familiar with the new surroundings. Plus, moving calves to dusty dry lot, where they walk around in a confined space turning up dust, can cause respiratory problems and decreased weight gain. Climate issues such as rain, ice, snow and wind are out of your control, but you can try to plan weaning time to avoid those conditions.

Social stress is usually caused by removing the calf from its mother. While this is an inevitable part of weaning, you can decrease the stress by using a cross-fence method. The cross-fence method is where you separate the calves from the mothers with a good fence that will keep them apart, but allow them to be nose-to-nose. This will keep the calves calmer and separation won't be such a large issue. Even with more distance, as long as the calves can see the cows, it will reduce stress levels.

Nutritional stress happens when calves are transitioned from a milk and pasture diet to a stored forage and grain diet. You should have high-quality pasture available to calves during weaning time in the spring and the fall. For fall weaning, calves can graze fields cut for hay that are beginning to regrow or stockpiled fescue fields. Fall weaning pastures should be grazed or clipped between mid-August to mid-September to allow enough time for regrowth. We recommend turning calves into the pasture when grasses are 8 to 12 inches tall and letting them graze until grasses are 3 to 4 inches tall.

Pasture weaning really does offer a lower stress alternative to the conventional dry lot weaning programs. It reduces the environmental and nutritional stress simultaneously because calves are already used to pasture and their diet doesn't drastically change. To have success with this method, it will take planning on your part regarding high-quality, available pastures.

DETERMINING HAY NEEDS AFTER AN UNSEASONABLY HOT, DRY FALL

Source: *Jeff Lehmkuhler, beef extension specialist*

After an unseasonably warm and dry fall, we are facing the consequences of a lack of meaningful precipitation, including dormant pastures and limited forage availability.

Many beef operations have already started feeding hay. A challenging spring for making hay and limited late summer rain could be leading us to a hay shortage this year.

Hay will be cheaper when stocks are higher, shortly after being made, in comparison to February when stocks have declined.

Inventory your hay stores now. This is as simple as counting the number of bales for each type (round, large square, small square, etc...) you have. Hopefully, you have a rough idea of how much each weighs. Weight of round bales will depend on size, forage density, forage type and cutting. Our colleagues at Texas A&M created a nice publication on bale weights. From their work, a bale that is 4 feet by 5 feet may weigh 880 pounds while a 5-by-6-foot bale could weigh 1,584 pounds. How dense or tight bales are when made will impact the weight. Bales that are 5-by-5 with a density of 9.5 pounds per cubic foot may weigh 935 pounds, while the same size bales with a density of 12.3 pounds per cubic foot will be near 1,200 pounds.

The point here is that when you can, buy on a weight basis rather than the bale. Also, if you are not certain what your bales weigh, when inventorying, estimate on the low end rather than assuming the bales are extremely heavy.

Determining how much hay you will need is your next step. Hay needs are a combination of storage and feeding losses and animal intake. Hay losses during storage can range widely depending on your storage method. Storage in a barn could be 5-10% while hay stored outside on the ground uncovered may have losses of 25-40%. A significant amount of loss from outside storage is due to the bale wicking moisture from the ground and having significant rot on the bottom of the bale. If you set bales on a gravel pad, it will allow precipitation to drain away.

HAY TESTING

We will again be offering free hay (dry and high moisture) testing this year. Sampling will begin this month if interested contact the LaRue County Extension Office at 270-358-3401 or email adam.thomas@uky.edu to get on the list.

SOIL SAMPLING

It is still not too late to submit soil samples. Fall is the perfect time for applications of phosphorus, potassium, and lime.

UK LEADS SERIES OF WEBINARS FOR BACKYARD POULTRY OWNERS



In conjunction with the Universities of Wisconsin, Florida, Minnesota, The Ohio State University and Utah State University, the University of Kentucky will host Zoom sessions on everything from reproductive issues to managing poultry flocks on pasture. The following are the upcoming Zoom sessions

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[Designing a small flock poultry house](#) (November 7, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)

[Managing a poultry flock on pasture](#) (December 5, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)

[Chicken health and wellbeing](#) (January 2, 2024 @ 3 PM Eastern)

[Poultry 101](#) (February 6, 2024 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)

CRITICAL INVASIVE SPECIES NOW SPOTTED IN KENTUCKY

Scientifically referred to as *Lycorma delicatula*, the spotted lanternfly could have severe repercussions for the state's economy and quality of life if not controlled.

Spotted Lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula*.

By Jordan Strickler

A pest that can disrupt the state's natural environment and inflict havoc on multiple industries has entered Kentucky. The first [spotted lanternfly](#) was discovered in Gallatin County. This invasive species could have severe repercussions for the state's economy and quality of life if not controlled.

Scientifically referred to as *Lycorma delicatula*, the spotted lanternfly is a rapacious feeder that attacks more than seventy distinct host plants.



"Spotted lanternfly could pose problems for Kentucky grape producers, those working in the hardwood industry, growing apples or hops," said University of Kentucky Department of Entomology assistant professor [Jonathan Larson](#). "These sap-sucking pests also create a sticky mess with their fecal material, called honeydew, which can create big messes on residents' property."

Honeydew is a byproduct of the spotted lanternfly. The insect secretes the syrupy substance during feeding, resulting in the development of black sooty mildew. In addition to harming vegetation, this sugary fecal material may entice stinging insects. Although the immediate impacts on woodland regions might not be as conspicuous as those in agricultural environments, the additional lanternfly strain imposed on the resources of trees may deteriorate their health.

"Eggs are being laid right now in infested areas," Larson said. "It's possible that adults could lay their eggs on cars, trucks, trains and other modes of transportation that come to Kentucky. Their egg patches look like smears of mud and won't hatch until next spring."

Correctly identifying these insects is important because they resemble numerous important native species.

Adult lanternflies are distinguished by stripes and spots on their front wings and a vivid red hue on their rear wings, contrasting their bodies, predominantly colored in white, black and khaki.

Insecticide treatment of potential host trees and eradication of preferable hosts, such as the invasive Tree-of-Heaven, can be employed by professionals to mitigate the transmission of these organisms.

The rapid-growing [Tree-of-Heaven](#) can establish itself in both woodland and urban environments, outcompeting native species. Although it is frequently encountered in polluted urban zones, roadside areas and railroad tracks, it can also infiltrate natural habitats, particularly in wooded regions following harvests. The Tree-of-Heaven can rapidly colonize and establish dense stands due to the wind-borne spores it carries, providing a growing environment for the spotted lanternfly.

"Tree-of-Heaven and the spotted lanternfly have range overlap in the areas they are native to," Larson explained. "Further, the types of areas where Tree-of-Heavens pop up can overlap with areas where the spotted lanternfly may be introduced. They prefer to feed on Tree-of-Heaven as older nymphs and as adults."

Infested regions may be subject to quarantines and permits, in addition to restrictions on the movement of products like lumber.

If residents see a suspected spotted lanternfly, send a picture to reportapest@uky.edu and include the county.

"With citizens' cooperation and help, it will help us to track this pest's invasion into the state and maybe even slow it down," Larson said.

**Organized and Sponsored by the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council,
UK Cooperative Extension Service, and the Master Grazer Program**

This program is designed for producers and agricultural professionals to learn the newest fencing methods and sound fencing construction through a combination of classroom and hands-on learning

WHEN: November 7-Scott County, KY
November 9-Caldwell County, KY

WHERE: Scott County Extension Office
1130 Cincinnati Road
Georgetown, KY 40324

Kentucky Soybean Board Office
1000 Highway 62 West
Princeton, KY 42445



COST: \$35/participant -- includes notebook, refreshments, safety glasses, hearing protection, and catered lunch

Registration DEADLINE: 1 week prior to workshop

ONLINE Registration with Credit Card:

____ Georgetown, KY [Register for KY Fencing School in GEORGETOWN](#)

____ Princeton, KY [Register for KY Fencing School in PRINCETON](#)



Registration by U.S. Mail: Christi Forsythe
UK Research and Education Center
P.O. Box 469
Princeton, KY 42445

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

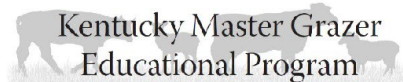
Number of participants _____ x \$35 per participant = _____ **Total Cost**



Make CHECKS payable to: KFGC

For more information contact Krista Lea at 270-625-0712 or Christi.Forsythe@uky.edu

2023 Kentucky Fencing Schools



2023 Kentucky Fencing School Agenda

7:30 Registration and Refreshments

8:15 Welcome and Overview of the Day – Chris Teutsch, UK

8:30 Fencing Types and Costs - Morgan Hayes, UK

9:00 Fence Construction Basics – Eric Miller and Payton Rushing, Stay-Tuff

- Perimeter fences vs. cross fences
- Fencing options on rented farms
- Proper brace construction
- Line posts and fence construction

9:45 Break – visit with sponsors and presenters

10:15 Electric Fencing Basics - Jeremy McGill, Gallagher

- Proper energizer selection and grounding
- Proper high tensile fence construction and wire insulation
- Electric offset wires for non-electric fences
- Underground wires and jumper wires

11:00 Innovations in Fencing Technologies - Josh Jackson, UK

- Wireless fences, fence monitoring, fence mapping

11:30 Overview of Kentucky Fence Law - Clint Quarles, KDA

12:15 Catered Lunch - visit with sponsors and presenters

1:00 Hands-on Fence Building

- Safety, fence layout, and post driving demo - Jody Watson and Tucker LaForce, ACI
- H-brace construction - Jeremy McGill, Gallagher & Eric Miller and Payton Rushing, Stay-Tuff
- Knot tying, splices, and insulator installation - Jeremy McGill, Gallagher & Eric Miller & Payton Rushing, Stay-Tuff
- Installation of Stay-Tuff Fixed Knot Fence - Eric Miller and Payton Rushing, Stay-Tuff
- Installation of High Electrified Tensile Fencing - Jeremy McGill, Gallagher

4:30 Questions, Survey and Wrap-up



University of Kentucky presents 2023 Fall Crop Protection Webinar Series

Beginning Nov. 2, 2023, the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will present a series of four webinars covering field crop protection. Hosted through the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center, the webinars will feature UK extension pest management specialists discussing weed science, plant pathology and entomology topics. Continuing education credits for Kentucky pesticide applicators and Certified Crop Advisors will be available.

The Thursday morning webinars will take place via Zoom at 10 a.m. EST/ 9 a.m. CST, and pre-registration is required for each webinar. 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.



Dr. Kiersten Wise

Webinar #1: *Do multiple corn fungicide applications pay?*

November 2, 2023

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CfQFt0dQSnq5ifdnaSre7A



Dr. Carl Bradley

Webinar #2: *What have we learned from nearly two decades of research on soybean with foliar fungicides?*

November 9, 2023

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3SvKPhEDSSWcYhnUnLrvsQ



Dr. Travis Legleiter

Webinar #3: *Managing the offensive spread of weeds*

November 16, 2023

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SIOzGyibQiOk4A6pTRHGmw



Dr. Raul Villanueva

Webinar #4: *Occurrence of insect in field crops during two years of partial drought and heat wave*

November 30, 2023

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AqvCh08TQGCAJXvKxgdwFA

CAIP

COUNTY AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM



The LaRue County CAIP will start on Tuesday, November 14, 2023. Applications will be accepted until 4:30pm on December 22, 2023. The program is ran by the LC Cattlemen's Association. You can pick up applications at the LaRue County Extension Office (807 Old Elizabethtown Rd., Hodgenville) starting on November 14th.

← APPLICATION PERIOD: →
11/14 - 12/22

LARUE COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S

There will be a Cattlemen's meeting at 7pm on **November 14th** at the LaRue County Extension Service.

11/14
7PM



LARUE COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

How can we **serve you, Kentucky?**

Take a **ten-minute survey** to help us develop programs addressing needs in your community.

go.uky.edu/serveKY

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An Equal Opportunity Organization.

Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

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