

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023

 Cooperative
Extension Service

Cooperative Extension Service
LaRue County
P.O. Box 210, 807 Old Elizabethtown Rd.
Hodgenville, KY 42748-0210
(270) 358-3401
larue.ca.uky.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **September 12th**
LC Cattlemen's Meeting
7pm, Extension Office
- **September 16th**
Small Ruminant Field Day
Lebanon
- **September 21st**
Beef Bash, Versailles
- **September 22nd**
National Hay Association Tour
Munfordville
- **September 27th - 28th**
Fall Grazing School, Versailles
- **October 31st**
Western KY Grazing Conference
Elizabethtown



Fall is rapidly approaching, as Labor Day marks the end of summer for most it does the same for ag producers. This month, producers begin to focus on the harvest season beginning and fall calving to be in full swing. As we wrap up the end of hay season and start to focus on developing a fall grazing program, let us be mindful of hay supplies and the nutritional needs of our beef herds going into winter. This year we hope to reap the rewards of high cattle prices and good crop yields. As harvest season sets in, be mindful of large farm equipment moving across the counties highways and as always **be safe and stay aware.**

HAY TESTING

We will again be offering free hay (dry and high moisture) testing this year. If you'd like to get on the list we will need to know by September 30th. We will do the testing within the first couple weeks of October. Contact the LaRue County Extension Office at 270-358-3401 or email adam.thomas@uky.edu to get on the list.

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

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.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT FIELD DAY



Farm Tour • Equipment Demonstration

Field Day: 9/26/23 at 4:30 pm

Maxine Road, Magnolia - signs will be posted

Contact: LC Conservation District

270-358-3132 or larueccd@hotmail.com

Meal provided by LC Cattlemen's



Save
THE
Date **09/26**

2023 BEEF BASH

Dr. Les Anderson, Extension Professor and Tyler Purvis, Beef Extension Associate, University of Beef Bash 2023 will be held **Thursday, September 21st** from 1-8 PM at the C. Oran Little Research Center. Registration will begin at 1 PM and the event will begin at 2 PM. We will have the educational components from 2-4 PM and again from 6-8 PM. Dinner will be provided by the Woodford County Cattlemen's Association at 5 PM. Pre-registration for attendees will be \$15 and includes a meal ticket. Come out to see a "Vision for the Future" provided by the University of Kentucky, the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, and the USDA ARS.



SEPTEMBER FORAGE & GRAZING TIPS

- Select fields for stockpiling fescue for fall and winter grazing. Apply nitrogen in early to mid-August and remember to mow or graze forage to three to four inches of height prior to nitrogen application.
- Plan ahead for any fall seedings. Plan details such as soil testing, no till or conventional till, fertilizing requirements and removing animals from the field to allow time for establishment.
- Follow up with any soil test results to decide on fertilizer needed for the fall. To take a soil test, contact your local county extension agent. Most fields should be sampled every three to four years and any high-value crops should be sampled annually.
- Closely monitor livestock and do NOT overgraze. Pasture plants accumulate energy reserves in the fall that help them overwinter and regrow in the spring.
- Feed hay to allow pastures to stockpile for winter grazing.
- Rest native warm-season grass fields until after frost for better winter survival.

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RENOVATION TIPS FOR NOVEL ENDOPHYTE TALL FESCUE

Time is counting down with only a month until the ideal Tall Fescue planting time depending on where you are in the fescue belt. Plan on seeding September 1-15 in most of Kentucky. The Spray-Wait-Spray-Plant renovation plan requires the first application of glyphosate 30-40 days before planting followed by another application just before planting. Walk fields to be renovated and scout for weeds. Are there problem weeds that might need an herbicide treatment in addition to glyphosate? An example would be areas where horsenettle or tall ironweed are present as these weeds may not be killed by glyphosate. Consider using a broadleaf herbicide effective on these weeds (and/or other target weeds). Only use herbicides that have short waiting periods from the time you spray until the time you seed. Order your seed now if you haven't already. The variety you choose is likely not available on store shelves, so talk to your seed dealer to make sure they have your seed when you need it. Make sure you get the variety you order and check to make sure that the bags carry the Alliance for Grassland Renewal logo. This logo indicates that you are buying safe novel endophyte seed that has passed rigorous testing for seed quality and endophyte viability. Don't get talked into planting an endophyte-free tall fescue if you want stands that last more than a few years. If the store does not have your seed when you need it, wait! Waiting a week or two is better than planting endophyte-free or toxic KY-31 Tall Fescue. Schedule a drill if you must use a rental unit, or do needed maintenance if you own your own drill. If you plan to broadcast seed then make sure your spreader is in good shape, and that you are using some level of tillage to prepare the seedbed. Immediately after broadcast seeding follow with a cultipacker or similar implement to insure good soil to seed contact. If you missed a critical step for summer burndown/fall establishment, then go ahead and spray with glyphosate anyway, and after the field dies down drill in a small grain like rye, oats or wheat (or other cool season annual) for winter grazing. Follow with a summer annual grass next year and you will be on schedule to plant novel endophyte tall fescue pastures in the Fall of 2024. Ask your extension agent or other advisor for help, and attend an Alliance workshop during the coming year to learn all you can about Tall Fescue Pasture Renovation.

~ excerpt from article by Dr. Matt Poore, NC State Beef Specialist and Alliance for Grassland Renewal chair.



AGENDA

9:30-10am

Check-in

10-10:20

Welcome

10:20-11:20

Equipment needs,

Shawn Harper

West KY Community
& Technical College

11:20-12:20

Rotational Grazing/
Hay Testing,

Dr. Jimmy Henning

University of Kentucky

12:20 - 1pm

Lunch

Rotation:

1-2:30

Goat/Sheep

Confirmation

Taylor Graves, Washington

County Agriculture Extension

Agent

1-2:30

Hoof Trimming

2:30 - 4:00

Goat/Sheep

Confirmation

Taylor Graves, Washing

County Agriculture

Extension Agent

2:30-4:00

Hoof Trimming

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IT'S ALWAYS TIME TO THINK ABOUT FARM SAFETY

It's a good time for all farmers to evaluate their own safety methods around machinery so they can avoid preventable accidents on their farms.

Whenever you work around or beneath farm machines or machine components held up by hydraulics, you should always engage the locking devices supplied by the manufacturer. Hydraulic systems can leak or rupture. Even someone helping you might hit the wrong lever, so it is important that you use the locking device every time, without exception. Check the owner's manual to be sure you know how to use it.

Combine headers, skid-steer loader arms and round baler tailgates are just a few examples of machines that typically have locking devices, specifically for the purpose of safely performing maintenance or repairs. Such devices generally consist of mechanical supports such as steel pins or channels that prevent a hydraulic cylinder from retracting and lowering the machine, but since every machine is different, it is important to consult the owner's manual.

Older machines may not have safety locks, so you must have wood blocks or jack stands to hold up the machine - or angle iron or steel channel strapped to the hydraulic cylinder rod to prevent retraction, while someone is beneath it.

Regardless of a machine's age, you never want to trust your life to anything supported by a hydraulic system. Machines fail, and they do not care who you are.

Source: Mark Purschwitz, extension professor and agricultural safety and health specialist