

SPRING 2024

Henry County Agriculture Extension News

TIMELY TIPS AND NEWS FOR SPRING

I looked back on my newsletter from last year for some inspiration to write this blurb and am disappointed to find we are dealing with the same issues year after year. Similar to 2023, we started this year above normal temperature-wise. Last year I wrote about the forsythia bush blooming early. Traditionally, we have relied on forsythia as indicators for soil temperatures. The yellow bloom of forsythia is a signal that soil temperatures are ideal for warm-season annual grasses, such as crabgrass, to begin germination. We then use this information as an indicator of when to start applying pre-emergent herbicides. Speaking of herbicides, it's a good time to be thinking of weed control in our pastures and hayfields. March and April are ideal for control of:

- Curly Dock
- Poison Hemlock
- Multiflora Rose
- Buttercup
- Chicory
- Purple Deadnettle
- Wild Garlic

Timing of herbicide application is crucial for good control. Call me at the office for a more in-depth recommendation. The cold nighttime temperatures recently may have negatively impacted the wheat crop. We are still waiting for data to come in. Dr. Carrie Knott, UK Agronomists says that most of the state's wheat crop has jointed and much of it has developed two nodes, leading to possible freeze damage. Less advanced wheat should be fine. See the chart below for estimated yield loss following freezing at different growth stages.

Magnum McConno

Growth Stage	Feekes	Zadoks	Temp. Injury can Occur (≥ 2 hrs)	Primary Symptoms	Visual Damage	Estimated Yield Effect (% Reduction)
Stem Elongation	4 to 9	30 to 39	24°F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death of growing point • Leaf burning and yellowing • Lesions, splitting, bending of stems • Odor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor 0 Moderate 0 - 10 Severe 0 - 20 	
Boot	10	40 to 49	28°F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floret sterility • Spike trapped in boot • Damage to stems and peduncles • Leaf discoloration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor 0 - 20 Moderate n/a Severe n/a 	
Heading	10.1 to 10.5	50 to 58	30°F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floret sterility • Bleached or white awns or spikes • Damage to stems and peduncles • Leaf discoloration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor 0 - 20 Moderate 0 - 45 Severe 30 - 50 	
Flowering	10.5.1 to 10.5.3	60 to 68	30°F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floret sterility • Bleached or white awns or spikes • Damage to stems and peduncles • Leaf discoloration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor n/a Moderate n/a Severe 60 - 85 	

Source: Knott, 2020. <https://access.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cf2.20080>

Forages

- Continue pasture renovation by no-tilling seeding legumes.
- Place small seed at 1/4 to 1/2 inch deep and check depth several times during planting; slow down for more precise seeding.
- Continue feeding hay until adequate forage exists in the pasture for grazing.
- Spring seeding of grasses should be done in early to mid-March (but fall is preferred).
- Begin smoothing and re-seeding hay feeding and heavy traffic areas.
- Graze pastures overseeded with clover to reduce competition from existing grasses. Pull livestock off before grazing new clover plants.
- Provide free choice high-magnesium mineral to prevent grass tetany on lush spring growth.

Taken from Forage News, University of Kentucky

Cattle

Spring-Calving Cows

- Watch cows and calves closely. Work hard to save every calf. Calves can be identified with an ear tag while they are young and easy to handle. Commercial male calves should be castrated and implanted. Registered calves should be weighed at birth.
- Cows that have calved need to be on an adequate nutritional level to rebreed. Increase their feed after calving. Do not let them lose body condition. Keep feeding them until pastures are adequate.
- Do not "rush to grass" although it can be really tempting. Be sure that grass has accumulated enough growth to support the cow's nutritional needs before depending solely upon it. Cows may walk the pastures looking for green grass instead of eating dry feed. This lush, watery grass is not adequate to support them. Keep them consuming dry feed until sufficient grass is available to sustain body condition. We've spent too much money keeping them in good condition to lose it now!
- **Prevent grass tetany!** Provide magnesium in the mineral mix until daytime temperatures are consistently above 60oF. Mineral supplement should always be available and contain a minimum of about 14% magnesium. Make sure that your mineral mix also contains adequate selenium, copper, and zinc. You can ask your feed dealer about the UK Beef IRM High Magnesium Mineral.

- Make final selection of heifer replacements. Strongly consider vaccinating with a modified-live BVD vaccine.
- Purchase replacement bulls at least 30 days before the breeding season starts. Have herd bulls evaluated for breeding soundness (10-20% of bulls are questionable or unsatisfactory breeders). Get all bulls in proper condition (BCS 6) for breeding.
- If you are going to use artificial insemination and/or estrous synchronization, make plans now and order needed supplies, semen, and schedule a technician.
- Prebreeding or "turnout" working is usually scheduled for late April or May between the end of calving season and before the start of the breeding season (while cows are open). Consult your veterinarian about vaccines and health products your herd needs. Decide now on the products needed and have handling facilities in good working order. Dehorn commercial calves before going to pasture.

Fall Calving Herd

- Pregnancy check cows now and cull open ones at weaning especially if the open cows are older than 6 years of age.
- Re-implant feeders.
- Consult with your veterinarian about preweaning working of the herd.
- You may let calves creep-graze wheat or rye if it is available. Calves will benefit from extra feed until spring grass appears.
- Plan marketing strategy for feeder calves.

Stockers

- Do not go to pastures too soon, give plants some growing time. Then stock at two to three times the July rate and rotate rapidly.
- "Condition" purchased calves prior to grazing. They should be processed and fed a conditioning diet prior to being placed on pasture. You can also use this time to introduce them to electric fences used in rotational grazing.
- Provide a good mineral supplement which contains a rumen modifier (Rumensin, Bovatec, etc.) along with adequate levels of copper and selenium.

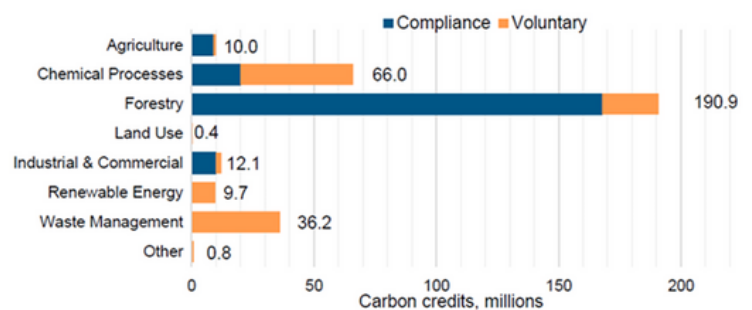
General

- We have made a muddy mess this winter, so be prepared to reseed bare spots. Our forage group has some excellent information on restoring heavy-traffic areas.
- Make plans to improve hay feeding areas to avoid muddy conditions like we have faced this winter. Consider geotextile fabric with gravel or concrete feeding pads.
- Prepare for the grazing season. Check fences and make necessary repairs. Check your corral, too.

The Shift in Agricultural Carbon Markets in the U.S.

The landscape of carbon markets in agriculture is beginning to shift, albeit still the "wild west." Companies are still offering carbon programs to row crop producers for which they are compensated for adopting carbon sequestering practices (e.g., no-till and cover crops) that generate carbon credits. These carbon credits are then sold to companies that must comply with state greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions regulations or to companies with voluntary GHG emission reduction pledges. Figure 1 illustrates that carbon credits issued from agricultural projects remain a small portion of the overall carbon credits issued by sector.

Figure 1. Carbon credits issued by scope for projects in the United States, 2013-2022



Source: USDA (2023). Report to Congress: A General Assessment of the Role of Agriculture and Forestry in U.S. Carbon Markets

Furthermore, most carbon credits from agriculture over the past ten years come from the dairy industry, not from row-crop carbon sequestration practices. Figure 1. Carbon credits issued by scope for projects in the United States, 2013-2022 Source: USDA (2023). Report to Congress: A General Assessment of the Role of Agriculture and Forestry in U.S. Carbon Markets New carbon programs geared toward agriculture continue to launch in the U.S., even in the wake of enhanced public scrutiny. The scrutiny comes as companies are allegedly using carbon credits to "greenwash." Greenwashing is where companies mislead the public by making exaggerated or false environmental claims. This has resulted in lawsuits and federal policies (e.g., Federal Trade Commission) aimed at preventing misrepresentation of a company's claimed GHG emission reductions. This has led to companies shifting their strategy to reduce their GHG emissions to what is known as carbon insetting. Carbon insetting is where companies look within their supply chain to reduce their GHG footprint. A common strategy is sourcing raw ingredients that are produced using sustainable practices (a.k.a. regenerative practices and climate-smart practices). For example, Nestle plans to source 50% of its key ingredients, which are produced using regenerative agriculture methods, by 2030. Some companies have a more aggressive sourcing strategy where they plan to only work with growers that use sustainable agricultural practices.

Numerous companies that use corn and soybeans as a raw ingredient have carbon insetting strategies to meet their GHG reduction goals. So, what does this mean for row-crop producers in Kentucky? In addition to carbon companies continually offering payments for generating carbon credits, new financial opportunities have emerged through carbon insetting. Now, instead of dealing with a carbon credit project developer, you may be approached by an end user or someone representing the end user (e.g., a bourbon company or ethanol plant) who is looking to source corn and soybeans that are produced using sustainable, regenerative, or climate-smart practices. As Kentucky is the home of no-till agriculture, and many farmers already use cover crops, there is ample opportunity in Kentucky for companies looking to source sustainable raw ingredients, where the opportunity was slim to qualify to participate in a carbon credit program due to the concept of additionality. One of the looming questions is, will companies pay a premium for corn and soybeans produced using sustainable agricultural practices? Early indications suggest yes, but the verdict is still out, so stay tuned.

*Taken from Corn and Soybean Newsletter, March 2024. Dr. Jordan Shockley UK
Extension Economist*

Garden and Ornamental

- Sow grass seed. First half of the month is ideal but you can seed all month with reasonable results. Turf type tall fescue is your best choice. Dwarf varieties equal less mowing.
- Feed bulbs a balanced fertilizer now to promote nice blooms next year. Do not cut leaves down after flowering. They provide food for the plant. Let them die naturally.
- Vegetable gardens are awakening. Only work soil when crumbly. Squeeze a handful of soil into a ball. Drop it from waist height. If it crumbles easily soil is dry enough to work. If not wait for drier times as wet soils form hard clods.
- Remove old stems from rhubarb and asparagus. Fertilize with nitrogen, compost or rotted manure.
- Time to plant cool crops in the garden. These include: asparagus, beets, cabbage plants, carrots, chard, collards, kale, lettuce seed and plants, onions, peas, potatoes, radishes, spinach, and turnips.
- Repot houseplants. Increase pot size gradually. Plants may be fed a weak fertilizer solution (one quarter strength).
- Plant pansies and other cold tolerant flowers.
- Use sunny days to begin bed clean up. Be careful not to tread on emerging plants.
- Cut back perennials and ornamental grasses. Most grasses can be divided at this time. Grasses are very woody and may require an ax.
- Prune and fertilize brambles and blueberries.
- Clean out birdhouses or if you don't have any, now is the perfect time to hang a few.
- Seeds of hardy annuals such as larkspur, bachelor's buttons, Shirley and California poppies should be direct sown in the garden now.
- Spray peach trees with a fungicide for the control of peach leaf curl diseases. See HO-57 for more info on peaches.

*Taken from "By the Yard Horticulture Newsletter." Jamie Dockery Fayette
County Extension Agent for Horticulture*

Simple Pruning Tips for Your Fruit Trees During the Dormant Season

All fruit trees must be pruned and trained to enhance fruit production, as the way the tree is shaped will impact fruit yield, fruit size and ripening. In Kentucky, the ideal time to prune fruit trees is in late winter or early spring.

Both newly planted and mature fruit trees must be pruned to maintain size and shape. Here are some easy tips:

- For young trees, pruning to a strong central leader with four to five lateral branches is most common.
- Heading cuts can be done on mature trees to control the tree's height; thinning cuts can open up the canopy and maximize sunlight and airflow. For older, overgrown trees that need heavier pruning, removing up to 1/3 of the larger branches over several years will help rejuvenate the tree.
- Pruning cuts should be made at the base of the branches, leaving a ¼" to ½" branch collar intact for proper healing. Dead and diseased shoots and limbs should be removed, as well as any shriveled or 'mummy' fruit remaining on the tree.
- Sharp pruners or loppers should be used to ensure clean cuts. Sanitize the tool blades between each cut with rubbing alcohol or a 10% bleach solution so as not to spread any disease that may be present.

For more information on pruning apple trees, visit the UK Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/UKAgriculture>.

Pruning Central Leader Apple Trees (<https://bit.ly/48VR31Q>) discusses trees that are pruned to the classic pyramid or oval shape. Pruning Tall Spindle Apple Trees (<https://bit.ly/4bh85JA>) focuses on the high-density supported training system with trees planted on dwarf rootstocks, producing a crop as little as a year after planting.

County ANR Loan Items

- Bale moisture tester
- Windrow moisture tester
- Grain moisture tester
- Soil probes
- Hay sampler with drill
- *NEW* Milwaukee battery-powered Fence Stapler

Call (502) 845-2811 to reserve use of these items.



Milwaukee Fence Stapler

- **\$300.00 deposit- will be returned when tool is returned**
- **Rent for one week**
- **Must purchase staples separately.**
- **2 batteries and charger included with rental.**

University of Kentucky AI and Pregnancy Diagnosis School

April 16th & 17th
10:00 am-4:00 pm

C. Oran Little Research Farm Beef Unit
4410 Frankfort Rd. Versailles, KY 40383
\$400.00



Marketing Basics for Farmers

5:30pm, Henry & Trimble County Extension



**Introduction to Marketing
Basics & Digital Marketing**

Wednesday, March 27th
Henry County Extension Office



**Accepting More than
Just Cash**

Wednesday, April 10th
Trimble County Extension Office



**Photography & Social Media
Tips**

Wednesday, April 24th
Henry County Extension Office



**Customer Retention &
Engagement**

Tuesday, April 30th
Henry County Extension Office

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.

BEEKEEPING SERIES

Trimble County Extension Service

FEB 21, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Helpful Hints for Beekeeping

MARCH 20, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Beekeeper's Resources

APRIL 18, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Enemy of your Hive - Part 1 Pests

MAY 15, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Enemy of your Hive - Part 2 Diseases

Extraction Field Day: date to be set



Please
RSVP
(502) 255-
7188

Homesteading Series!

Trimble County Extension
1:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Please RSVP
(502) 255-7188

- March 11 -
Growing Plants for Canning or for Dyes
- April 23 -
Raising Livestock
- May 14 -
Food Preservation
- June 18 -
Green Cleaning
- July 23 -
Fabric Dying (10:00 am to 4:00 pm)



Wildflower WALK

April 25, 2024
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



Join Kentucky State University's extension staff as they lead an in-person wildflower walk at the Environmental Education and Research Center (1371 Little Dixie Rd. Pleasureville, KY 40057). Attendees will be able to practice plant identification and learn about Kentucky's native flowers during this moderate hike. Registration is limited to 15 attendees. There is no registration fee.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3uU7eyb>

Grower-Buyer MeetUp

APRIL 23, 2024

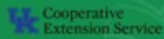
1 PM - 3 PM (EST)

Owen County Extension Office
265 Ellis Rd. Owenton, KY 40359

Register by phone or email:

502-484-5703

owen.ext@uky.edu



HENRY COUNTY FARMERS MARKET INFORMATIONAL MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH, 5:30

Henry County Extension Office
2151 Campbellsburg Rd. New Castle



“Kentucky First Farm” Workshop

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Eden Shale Farm

400 Eden Shale Rd, Owenton, KY 40359

Giving military veteran, minorities, small farm, and limited resource farmers the information and training needed to create a sustainable agricultural operation.

This program is free and open to all military veterans, active, retired or transitioning, minority and underserved populations and those with small farms that have been in operation for under 10 years. This program is sponsored by a USDA/NIFA grant with the Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program and is under the direction of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Services. Programs include Business Planning, Record Keeping, Funding Opportunities, Land Acquisition, and specific farm enterprises.

Lunch will be included.

Event Registration: <https://bfrdp.ca.uky.edu/events/bfrdp-workshop-eden-shale-farm>

Kentucky First Farm



Phone: (859) 257-1126

Email: Linda.Bokros@uky.edu

Sponsored by USDA/NIFA Award # 2021-70033-35706

Cost- share corner ...and other programs for farmers

NRCS

FSA

Conservation
District

CAIP

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

1125 Campbellsburg Rd. New Castle
Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:30, Friday by appointment
502-845-3052 or 502-845-2890 ext. 2

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP): flagship conservation program that helps farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands. **Applications are year-round. Call for more information.**
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP): provides a yearly rental payment to farmers who remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. **Applications are year-round. Call for more information.**

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

1125 Campbellsburg Rd. New Castle
Monday & Tuesday 8:00-4:30
(502) 845-2820

- Variety of farm loans with competitive interest rates (ownership, operating, microloans, youth loans, etc.)
- December 2023 Rates:
 - Farm Operating Loans (Direct): 4.875%
 - Farm Ownership Loans (Direct): 5.250%
 - Farm Ownership Loans (Direct, Joint Financing): 3.250%
 - Farm Ownership Loans (Down Payment): 1.500%
 - Emergency Loan (Amount of Actual Loss): 3.750%
 - Farm Storage Facility Loans:
 - Three-year loan terms: 4.125%
 - Five-year loan terms: 3.875%
 - Seven-year loan terms: 4.000%
 - Ten-year loan terms: 4.000%
 - Twelve-year loan terms: 4.000%
- Livestock indemnity: provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather (i.e. \$1,618.00/head for 800+ beef calves). **File notice of loss within 30 days. Please take a picture of the animal ASAP.**
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass and more.

Henry County Conservation District

1125 Campbellsburg Rd. New Castle
Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:30
502-845-3052 or 502-845-2890 ext. 2

- Lime cost-share: 50/50 up to \$500. Must provide soil test results and lime receipts. **First come first serve.**
- Cover crop cost-share: 50/50 up to \$500. **First come first serve. Crop must be planted by Nov. 1st, 2024**
- Post driver and drill available for rent

County Agriculture Investment Program (CAIP)

Changes for 2024

Every year the state Agricultural Development Board meets to discuss and update program policies. Here are the big ones for 2024:

- Applicants must provide proof of KY residency (driver's license & utility bill)
- Implementation of a tiered system in CAIP. Meaning each eligible item in CAIP has been given a cost-reimbursement percentage (75%, 50%, or 25%) denoted in each Investment Area Guideline in red. For example, in the Large Animal Investment Area **bulls and heifers are 50%** cost-shareable, **AI equipment is 75%** cost-shareable, and **vaccines are 25%** cost-shareable. This applies to all 11 investment areas. You can find all official CAIP documents here: <https://tinyurl.com/9hx2znhh>.

Please check in with me at any time at the Extension Office if you would like to know more about the CAIP program.

KSU Small-Scale Farm Grant

WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM

This program helps farmers who want to improve their farming operations, improve the marketability of their products with value-added enterprise, and further their farming and agricultural knowledge through educational trainings.

WHAT IS A SMALL-SCALE FARM?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines a small-scale farm as one that sells less than \$250,000 of agricultural products each year. Farmers who are motivated to improve their business and who can demonstrate the ability to document their successes will be considered.

GENERAL PROJECT GUIDELINES

Grant funds cannot be used for the following:

- Motorized vehicles such as trucks, tractors, walk-behinds.
- Labor costs paid to the applicant or their relatives.
- Consumables or expendables such as jars, seeds, feed, trees, or plant materials.
- Partial funding of equipment greater than \$10,000. Up to \$10,000 on a single piece of equipment requires verified matching funds up to \$5,000.
- Purchases made prior to grant approval are not eligible for reimbursement.

For the Farmer Education Program, education assistance applications must be submitted at least 30-90 days in advance of the conference/workshop, and you must secure your registration and lodging beforehand.

MAXIMUM FUNDING AMOUNTS

- The maximum funds available per farm household or business is \$5,000 per application with a lifetime maximum of \$10,000.
- Applicants may also be eligible for up to \$500 for educational trainings or materials.

Applications and more information here: <https://tinyurl.com/ywe7p28r>

Contact: Joni Nelson at 502-597-6831 joni.nelson@kysu.edu or

Kevin Gurtowski at 606-359-0919 gurtowski@kysu.edu

Henry County Conservation District Shared-Use Equipment



IDEAL ID210 trailer-mounted post driver with electric start

\$200.00/day rental fee

Haybuster 77c with legume and native grass box. 7ft 7in width

\$6.00/ac

Minimum charge of \$60.00/day



Call the Henry County Conservation District to reserve use
(502) 845-3052

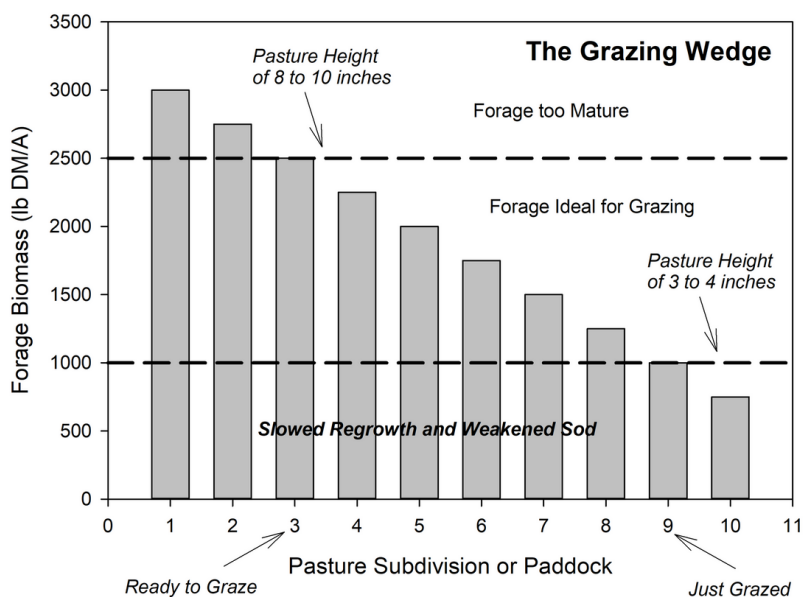
Not Enough to too Much...Managing Spring Grass

Chris D. Teutsch, University of Kentucky Research and Education Center at Princeton

In March we often find ourselves wringing our hands waiting for grass growth to start and a short time later our pastures are out of control! Spring can often be one of the most difficult times of the year for graziers.

Grass growth goes from nonexistent to excessive in a matter of weeks and if you are properly stocked grazing livestock can have a hard time keeping up with it. The following suggestions can help you to stay in control spring growth.

- **Implement rotational grazing.** To fully utilize the spring flush of pasture growth YOU must be in control of grazing. In a continuous grazing system, the cows are in charge. By utilizing rotational stocking, you start to make the decisions. Implementing a rotational stocking system may be as simple as closing some gates or stringing up some polywire.
- **Start grazing before you think the pastures are ready.** One of the most common mistakes that graziers make is waiting too long to start grazing. If you wait until the first paddock is ready to graze, by the time you reach the last paddock it will be out of control. Starting early allows you to establish a “grazing wedge” (Figure 1).



- **Rotate animals rapidly.** It is important to realize that grazing pastures closely and repeatedly as they initiate growth in early spring can reduce production for the entire season. Therefore, it is important to keep animals moving rapidly through the system. The general rule is that if grass is growing rapidly then your rotation should be rapid. This will allow you to stay ahead of the grass by topping it off and keeping it in a vegetative state.
- **Do not apply spring nitrogen.** Applying nitrogen in the spring will make the problem of too much grass at once even worse. In many cases you are better off to apply nitrogen in late summer or early fall to stimulate growth for winter stockpiling.
- **Remove most productive paddocks from rotation and harvest for hay.** Graze all paddocks until the pasture growth is just about to get away from you and then remove those productive paddocks from your rotation and allow them to accumulate growth for hay harvest (Figure 2).
- **Increase stocking rate in the spring.** If it is possible, a good option for utilizing spring growth is to increase your stocking rate. This will allow you to harvest more of the available forage and convert it into a saleable product. This can be done by adding some stockers or thin cull cows to your rotation and then selling them when pasture growth slows. If you are in a fall calving system, you are better positioned to take advantage of spring forage growth since the calves will be larger.
- **Even out seasonal distribution of forage by adding a warm-season grass.** Adding a well-adapted warm-season grass that produces the majority of its growth in July and August would allow you to concentrate grazing on your cool-season paddocks during periods of rapid growth (spring flush).

After cool-season grass growth is slowed by higher temperatures in late spring and early summer, animals can be shifted in the warm-season paddocks for summer grazing.

- **Bush-hog out of control pastures.** The benefits of clipping include maintaining pastures in a vegetative state, encouraging regrowth, and controlling weeds. Clipping pastures costs money, so make sure that the primary reason for bush-hogging is pasture management, not aesthetics.
- **Stockpile out of control pastures for summer grazing.** Although forage quality decreases as the plant matures, the quality of spring stockpiled pasture is sufficient for dry cows and in some cases can result in reasonable gains on growing animals (Figure 4) during the summer months. This is especially true if using novel endophyte tall fescue and the pastures were clipped at the early boot stage to promote vegetive regrowth. This could be a cost-effective and simple way to provide additional grazing during the summer months.

When it comes to grazing operations, there is not one size that fits all. What works for you may not work for your neighbor. The key is figuring out what works on your farm and implementing it in a timely manner. Hopefully one or more of the above tips will help you deal with the “quandary of spring grass”!

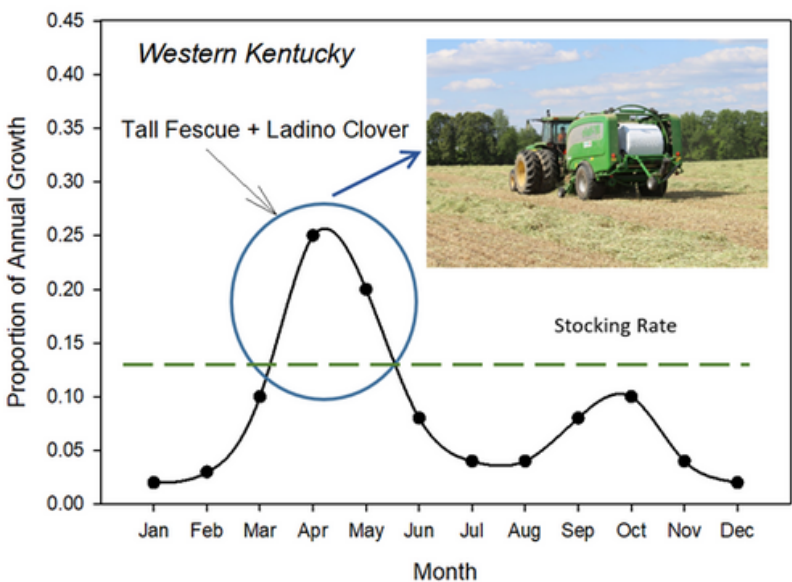


Figure 2. In the spring during periods of rapid growth, some paddocks can be removed from the rotation and harvested for conserved forage. Cutting at the late boot or early head stage will optimized yield and forage quality.

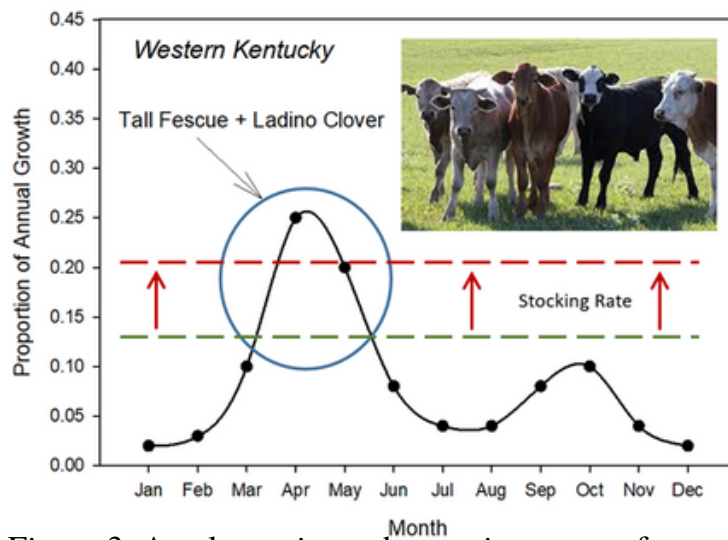


Figure 3. An alternative to harvesting excess forage as hay or baleage is to increase your stocking your stocking rate by adding more animal units in the spring and then decreasing animal numbers as plant growth slows due to higher temperature during the summer months. While this is a viable approach, it is not practical on smaller part-time operations

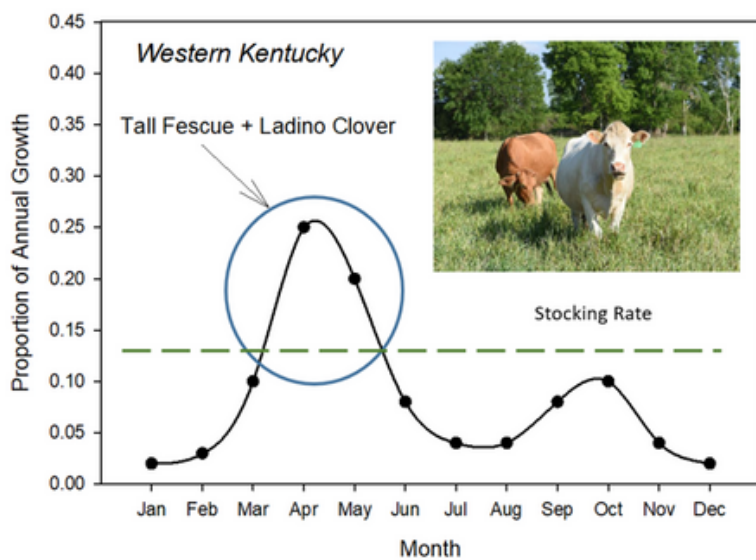


Figure 4. Excess growth in the spring could also be stockpiled for grazing during the summer months. This is accomplished by removing some paddocks from the rotation and allowing growth to accumulate during late spring and early summer. It is important to remember that only about the one-half of the available biomass should be grazed. The remaining residue will protect plant crowns from high temperatures and reduce soil moisture loss during the summer months.

For more information on grazing management visit <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage/> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/KYForages>.

Spring Harvest Salad

- 5 cups torn spring leaf lettuce
- 2½ cups spinach leaves
- 1½ cups sliced strawberries
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- ½ cup thinly sliced green onions
- Dressing:**
 - 4 teaspoons lemon juice
 - 2½ tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
 - 1½ teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons Kentucky honey
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup feta cheese crumbles
- ½ cup unsalted sliced almonds

1. Combine leaf lettuce and spinach leaves with sliced strawberries, blueberries and green onion in a large salad bowl.

2. Prepare dressing by whisking together the lemon juice, olive oil, balsamic vinegar, Dijon mustard, honey and salt; **pour** over lettuce mixture and toss to coat.

3. Sprinkle salad with feta cheese and sliced almonds.

4. Serve immediately.



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

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings.
Nutrition Analysis: 130 calories, 9 g fat, 1.5 g sat fat, 240 mg sodium, 12 g carbohydrates, 3 g fiber, 7 g sugar, 3 g protein.



Registration limited to 20 households

Price: \$35- includes 1 FAMACHA and lunch

Additional lunches- \$10 each

Register at <https://www.kysheepandgoat.org/product-page/fall-parasitology-clinic>

Registration Deadline: April 8th

Online

March 25th, April 1st, April 8th

In-person Clinic,

9:15am-4:15pm, April 13th,
 Bullitt County Extension Office, 384 Halls Ln, Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Hosted By:



THIRD THURSDAY THING

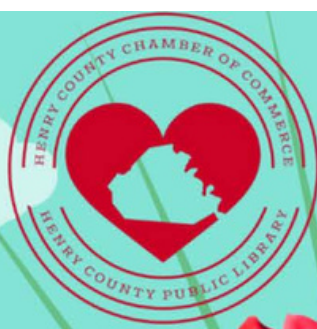
Every third Thursday of the month, January through November, at 10 a.m. ET

- January 18:** Resources and Funding for Farmers
- February 15:** Organic Agriculture
- March 21:** Farmers Markets and Local Foods
- April 18:** Cattle and Poultry
- May 16:** Aquaculture
- June 20:** Agriculture Technology | Juneteenth Celebration
- July 18:** Field Day
- August 15:** Forestry
- September 19:** Pawpaw
- October 17:** Small Ruminants
- November 21:** Small, Limited-Resource, Minority Farmers Conference

Join us in person:
 Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm
 1525 Mills Lane
 Frankfort, KY 40601

Recordings will be available at youtube.com/kysuag

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Love Local
MARKET

LOVE LOCAL MARKET

AT THE HENRY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

COMMUNITY EVENT

SAVE THE DATES / 2024

WATCH FOR INFORMATION

SPRING SHIN DIG 4/27/24

FRIDAY NIGHT MARKETS:

5/17/24

6/21/24

7/19/24

8/16/24

9/20/24

10/11/24 (FALL FESTIVAL)

COME & ENJOY

Join Us

**PRESENTED BY
THE HENRY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& THE HENRY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**



24TH ANNUAL
HENRY COUNTY
HARVEST SHOWCASE

JULY 27, 2024

AT THE
HENRY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

DEAD ANIMAL REMOVAL SERVICES

Blue Line Outdoor LLC- (502) 645-9829

Conboy Enterprises - (859) 221-6998

***Call for pickup and fee structure**

UK Vet Diagnostic Lab - (859) 257-8283

No pickup available for this service. Farmers must transport animals to the UKVDL in Lexington during business hours. UKVDL does not provide euthanasia services. UKVDL does not dispose of animals except in the case of a paid necropsy. Call the lab before bringing an animal.

Food Animal Adult Necropsy: \$182.50

Equine Adult Necropsy: \$427.50

Monday to Friday 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Saturday 9:00AM - 5:00PM

Sunday 1:00PM - 5:00PM

For any questions about the UKVDL please call the number above or the Henry Co Extension Office.

MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	Third Thursday trip 10:00am KSU Farm	22	23
24	25	26	Marketing for Farmers 5:30pm Henry Co Extension	28 Henry Co Farmers Market Meeting 5:30 Henry Co Extension	29 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Sunday						

APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 April 23rd KY First Farm Workshop 8:00-4:00 Eden Shale Farm	9	Marketing for Farmers 5:30pm Trimble Co Extension	10	11	12 Parasitology Clinic In-person 9:15-4:15 Bullitt Co Extension
14	15	16 AI & Preg Check School 10:00-4:00 UK Versailles Beef Unit	17	Third Thursday trip 10:00am KSU Farm	18	19
21	April 23rd Homesteading Series 1:00pm Trimble Co Extension	22 Grower-Buyer Meetup 1:00-3:00 Owen County Extension	23 Marketing for Farmers 5:30 Henry Co Extension	24	25 Wildflower Walk 6:30-8:30pm KYSU Environmental Center	26 27 Love Local Market
28	29	30 Marketing for Farmers 5:30 Henry Co Extension				

MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	Food Preservation 1:00pm Trimble Co Extension	14	15	16 Third Thursday trip 10:00am KSU Farm	17 Love Local Market
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	office closed 27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

Henry County Extension
PO Box 246
New Castle, KY 40050
502-845-2811

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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.