



Mark your calendars now!

▶ **Boone County CAIP Reports & Paperwork Due August 30, 2024**

▶ **Boone County Extension Office Closed for Labor Day September 2, 2024**

▶ **Master Cattlemen**
November 4, 2024
November 11, 2024
November 18, 2024
November 25, 2024
December 2, 2024
December 9, 2024
Details on Page 5.



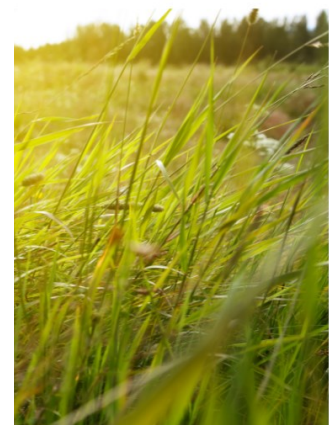
Important Reminder: Boone County CAIP Producer Reports and Paperwork Due by August 30th!

- ▶ Attention Boone County agricultural producers: The deadline for submitting your County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) producer reports and other necessary paperwork is quickly approaching! All required documents must be turned in by August 30th.
- ▶ **Complete All Required Forms:** Make sure you have filled out all necessary forms accurately. Double-check for any missing information or signatures.
- ▶ **Gather Supporting Documents:** Include all required supporting documents, such as receipts, canceled checks, or invoices.
- ▶ If you are unsure of what all needs to be turned in, come by the office before the deadline and let me review your paperwork.

Overseeding Fall Pastures

Overseeding fall pastures is a crucial management practice that can significantly improve pasture production, forage quality, and ensure good ground cover for the following year. The University of Kentucky (UKY) Extension provides comprehensive guidelines on the best practices for overseeding pastures in Kentucky.

The optimal time for overseeding pastures in Kentucky is typically from early to mid-September, when weed competition is minimal and growing conditions are ideal for cool-season grasses. Selecting the right seed is essential. Cool-season grasses like tall fescue,



(Continued on next page)

PO Box 876 | 6028 Camp Ernst Road | Burlington, KY 41005 | P: 859-586-6101 | boone.ca.uky.edu



orchardgrass, and timothy are recommended due to their adaptability and persistence in Kentucky's climate.

Effective weed control is a critical first step. While herbicides can be useful, they may also hinder the establishment of young grass seedlings. Instead, UKY Extension advises mowing or grazing pastures closely before seeding. This helps reduce weed competition and prevents existing grass from overshadowing new seedlings.

The success of overseeding largely depends on proper seeding methods. The goal is to ensure good seed-to-soil contact, which can be achieved by placing seeds $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch into the soil. Using a no-till drill is the most effective method. This tool helps to place the seed accurately and cover it, enhancing germination and establishment rates.

Soil testing is an essential practice recommended by UKY Extension. Testing should be done every three to four years to determine the soil's nutrient status and pH levels. Based on the test results, appropriate fertilization can be applied to support the growth of the new seedlings.



After seeding, it's important to manage the pasture carefully to ensure successful establishment. This includes monitoring for moisture levels, controlling grazing to avoid overgrazing the young plants, and continuing to manage weeds as the new grass becomes established.

Overseeding pastures not only helps in filling bare spots but also thickens the stand, resulting in improved forage quality and pasture longevity without the need for major renovations. By following the guidelines provided by UKY Extension, farmers and landowners can enhance their pasture productivity and sustainability effectively.

For more detailed information and specific recommendations, you can refer to UKY Extension publications on overseeding pastures, which provide comprehensive guidance tailored to Kentucky's conditions.

The Importance of Hay Testing in Livestock Management

Hay testing is a critical aspect of livestock management that often goes overlooked. Ensuring the quality and nutritional value of hay is essential for maintaining the health and productivity of animals. Hay, being a primary feed source for many livestock, directly impacts their growth, reproduction, and overall well-being. This article delves into the importance of hay testing and its benefits for livestock producers.

One of the primary reasons for hay testing is to determine its nutritional content. Hay provides essential nutrients like protein, fiber, vitamins, and minerals that are vital for the health of livestock. However, the nutritional composition of hay can vary significantly based on factors such as the type of forage, soil fertility, weather conditions, and harvesting practices. Testing hay allows producers to understand its exact nutritional profile and make informed decisions about supplementation to ensure a balanced diet for their animals.

(Continued on next page)

Nutritional deficiencies in livestock can lead to a host of health problems, including poor growth rates, reduced reproductive performance, weakened immune systems, and increased susceptibility to diseases. By testing hay, producers can identify any deficiencies in essential nutrients and take corrective measures. For instance, if the hay is found to be low in protein, additional protein supplements can be provided to meet the animals' dietary requirements.

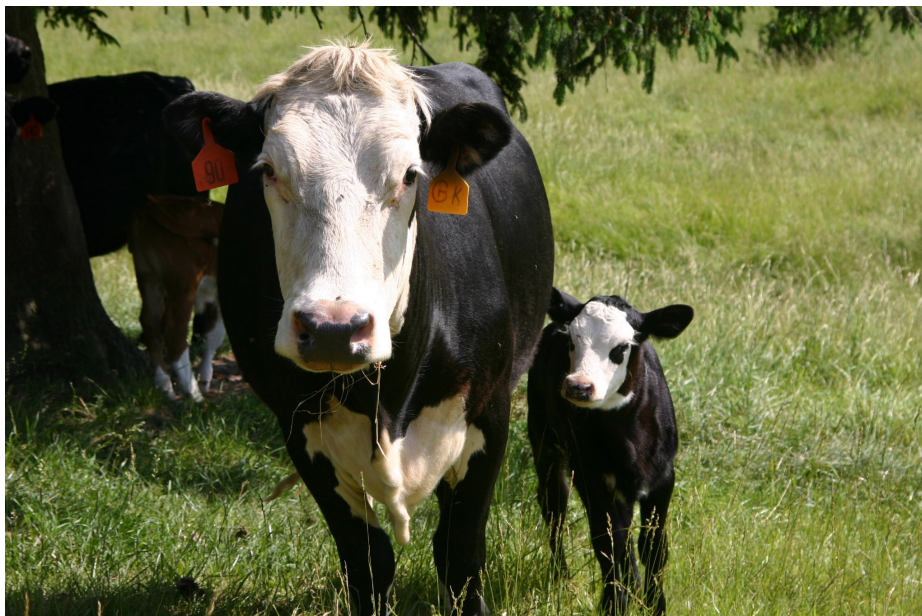
Hay testing can also lead to significant cost savings. Knowing the nutritional content of hay helps in formulating precise feeding programs, which can prevent over- or under-feeding. Over-feeding can lead to wastage of resources and increased feeding costs, while under-feeding can result in poor animal performance and increased veterinary expenses. By optimizing feed rations based on hay testing results, producers can enhance feed efficiency and reduce overall feed costs.

The quality of hay can be affected by various factors such as mold, dust, and the presence of toxic plants. Moldy or dusty hay can cause respiratory issues in livestock, while certain toxic plants can lead to poisoning. Hay testing can help detect these issues early, allowing producers to take necessary actions to mitigate risks. Ensuring the safety and quality of hay is crucial for maintaining the health and productivity of the herd.

Reproductive performance is closely linked to the nutritional status of livestock. Proper nutrition is essential for successful breeding, pregnancy, and lactation. Hay testing ensures that the animals receive adequate nutrients required for optimal reproductive performance. This is particularly important for breeding stock, as poor nutrition can lead to lower conception rates, higher incidences of pregnancy complications, and reduced milk production in lactating animals.

Sustainable farming practices aim to optimize resource use and minimize environmental impact. Hay testing supports these goals by enabling more efficient use of feed resources. By understanding the nutritional value of hay, producers can minimize the need for additional feed supplements, reducing the overall environmental footprint of their operations. Additionally, accurate hay testing helps in better pasture management and soil conservation practices.

In conclusion, hay testing is a fundamental practice in livestock management that offers numerous benefits. It ensures that animals receive a balanced and nutritious diet, preventing deficiencies and health issues. It also leads to economic efficiency by optimizing feed rations and reducing costs. Moreover, hay testing enhances the quality and safety of feed, supports reproductive performance, and promotes sustainable farming practices. For more information on how to have your hay tested, give us a call at 859-586-6101.



Why You Should Join the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association

The Kentucky Cattlemen's Association (KCA) stands as a vital organization for anyone involved in the cattle industry within the state. Whether you are a seasoned rancher, a new farmer, or simply interested in cattle, joining KCA offers numerous benefits that can significantly enhance your operations and contribute to the broader agricultural community. Here are compelling reasons why you should consider becoming a member of the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association.

One of the most critical roles of KCA is to serve as the voice of cattle producers at local, state, and national levels. The association actively engages in lobbying efforts to influence legislation and policies that impact the cattle industry. By joining KCA, you ensure that your interests and concerns are represented in policy discussions, helping to create a favorable business environment for cattle producers.



KCA provides its members with access to a wealth of resources, including educational programs, industry news, and research findings. The association organizes workshops, seminars, and field days that cover various aspects of cattle farming, from herd health and nutrition to marketing strategies and sustainable practices. These events are invaluable for staying informed about the latest advancements and best practices in the industry.

Membership in KCA opens the door to a vast network of fellow cattle producers, industry experts, and agribusiness professionals. The association hosts numerous events throughout the year, such as the annual convention, regional meetings, and cattle sales, where members can connect, share experiences, and form valuable partnerships. Networking within the association can lead to new business opportunities, collaborations, and lifelong friendships.

Effective marketing is crucial for the success of any cattle operation. KCA offers marketing support to its members through various programs and initiatives. The association promotes Kentucky beef and helps members market their products locally, nationally, and even internationally. Additionally, KCA provides guidance on value-added opportunities, branding, and direct-to-consumer sales, helping members increase their profitability.

KCA is dedicated to fostering the next generation of cattle producers through its youth and education programs. The association supports initiatives such as the Kentucky Junior Cattlemen's Association, which provides young people with leadership development, educational opportunities, and hands-on experiences in the cattle industry. By joining KCA, you can contribute to the growth and development of future leaders in agriculture.

KCA members gain access to various health and management tools designed to improve the efficiency and sustainability of their operations. These include herd health programs, vaccination protocols, and disease management resources. The association also collaborates with veterinary professionals and researchers to provide members with up-to-date information on animal health and welfare.

Understanding market trends and economic factors is essential for making informed decisions in the cattle business. KCA regularly publishes market reports, economic analyses, and forecasts that help members stay abreast of market conditions and price trends. This information enables producers to make strategic decisions regarding production, marketing, and risk management.

(Continued on next page)

Being part of KCA means contributing to the broader agricultural community and supporting initiatives that have a positive social impact. The association is involved in various community outreach programs, including food donation drives, educational campaigns, and partnerships with local organizations. By joining KCA, you become part of a community that is committed to making a difference in the lives of others.

Joining the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association is an investment in your cattle operation and the future of the cattle industry in Kentucky. The association offers a wide range of benefits, from advocacy and education to marketing support and networking opportunities. By becoming a member, you gain access to valuable resources, connect with fellow producers, and contribute to the growth and sustainability of the cattle industry. Whether you are a seasoned rancher or just starting out, KCA provides the support and representation you need to succeed.

To learn more about the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association and how to become a member, visit their official website at www.kycattle.org. Join today and be part of a vibrant community dedicated to advancing the cattle industry in Kentucky.

MASTER CATTLEMEN 2024

BECOME A MASTER CATTLEMEN... The Master Cattlemen Program was created to give beef producers an in-depth educational course on beef cattle management. Producers completing the program will acquire knowledge that will help them make informed economic management decisions in the beef operations.

All Sessions will be held in the Northern Kentucky Area.
Participant must complete all six (6) three-hour sessions to become certified.

<p>November 4 Dr. Katie Vanvalin Assistant Extension Professor Extension Beef Specialist Nutrition</p>	<p>November 11 Kevin Laurent Senior Agriculture Extension Specialist Marketing & Profitability</p>	<p>November 18 Darrh Bullock Extension Professor Animal & Food Sciences Genetics</p>	<p>BOONE 859-586-6101</p> <p>CAMPBELL 859-572-2600</p> <p>CARROLL 502-732-7030</p> <p>GALLATIN 859-567-5481</p>
<p>November 25 Les Anderson Extension Professor Animal & Food Sciences Reproduction & Record Keeping</p>	<p>December 2 Dr. Morgan Hayes Assistant Extension Professor Josh Jackson Ag Engineering Specialist Facilities & Winter Feeding</p>	<p>December 9 Dr. Michelle Arnold UK Ruminant Extension Veterinarian Animal Health</p>	<p>GRANT 859-824-3355</p> <p>KENTON 859-356-3155</p> <p>PENDLETON 859-654-3395</p> <p>OWEN 502-484-5703</p>

 **Call your County Extension Office or Scan the QR Code to register.**

Registration fee: \$125 includes all meals, class materials and a farm sign.

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
 University of Kentucky
 Cooperative Extension Service
 Agricultural and Natural Resources
 Faculty and Extension Services
 4-H Youth Development
 Community and Economic Development
 Lexington, KY 40546

Installing a Butterfly Garden Can Play a Critical Role in Plant Pollination

Butterflies aren't the only ones that can benefit from butterfly gardens. Honeybees, which are native to Europe and introduced to the United States, are also important pollinators for home gardens. Numerous other pollinator species including native bees, butterflies and moths, beetles, birds and bats benefit our gardens. Sadly, many of the pollinators have suffered from habitat loss, chemical misuse, diseases and parasites.

Butterfly gardeners play a critical role in nurturing and conserving both native and introduced pollinators. Butterfly gardens and landscapes provide pollinators with food, water, shelter and habitat to complete their life cycles. Urban areas typically feature large areas of pavement and buildings and offer little in the way of food and shelter for pollinators. Garden plantings can help bridge that gap.

Just like with any new flower bed, you want to pick a site for your butterfly garden with good drainage, full sun and an area with good weed control. If you are starting a new butterfly garden, get a soil test, eliminate the weeds and add organic matter.

Butterflies, honeybees and other pollinators need protein from flower pollen and carbohydrates from flower nectar. Plan to provide a variety of different types of flowers and aim to have three different flower species in bloom throughout the growing season. Showy, colorful flowers and massed groups of flowers, particularly in small gardens, provide efficient feeding stations for the pollinators. Flowering trees and shrubs also provide excellent food sources. Native plants share a long history with their pollinators, including a wide variety of natives will make your garden a favorite destination for pollinators.

You want to have a variety of plants, preferably native and non-native ones that will bloom throughout the growing season. Some of these are purple cone flower, black-eyed susan, asters, golden rod, yarrow, tall blazing star, milkweed, coreopsis and many more. The Kentucky Native Plant Society has an updated listing of nurseries in Kentucky that sell native plants.

Be sure to have puddling spots for butterflies to get a drink of water. Pollinators also need shelter from the wind, scorching sun, and heavy rain. Fences can serve as windbreaks, which may make the garden more attractive to pollinators.

Source: Faye Kuosman, UK Food Connection coordinator



Storm Water Run-Off

Stormwater management is a significant environmental challenge, especially in regions with extensive urban development like Kentucky. In response, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) have been implemented in over 100 communities in 34 counties to manage and treat stormwater runoff before it reaches natural water bodies.

The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment offers comprehensive educational materials to improve stormwater management within MS4-regulated communities. These resources are organized by both topic and season, ensuring they are relevant and easily accessible year-round. Just some of the many topics covered include:

- **Lawn Care and Pollution Prevention:** Instructions on proper lawn care to prevent nutrient runoff and advice on managing lawn debris and litter.
- **Water Conservation Techniques:** Strategies for conserving water at home, including using rain barrels and rain gardens, which also help reduce stormwater runoff.
- **Native Plants and Biodiversity:** Guidance on using native plants to enhance biodiversity and improve the absorption of rainwater.
- **DIY Rain Barrel Projects:** Instructional videos and factsheets, such as "Building a Rain Barrel from a Pickle Barrel," teach residents how to construct their own rain barrels, reducing runoff and promoting water reuse.
- **Rain Garden Design and Maintenance:** Publications like "Residential Rain Garden: Design, Construction, and Maintenance" provide step-by-step guides on creating effective rain gardens, which are essential for absorbing rainwater and reducing runoff.

For those seeking more hands-on involvement, the university facilitates workshops offering additional information and assistance on setting up rain barrels and gardens. These workshops provide practical skills and empower participants to take active roles in their community's stormwater management efforts.

Beyond educational outreach, UK is researching and developing advanced stormwater management technologies. For instance, studies on permeable pavements and low-impact development techniques are part of the university's efforts to discover more efficient ways to manage stormwater in urban settings. To access these materials, visit <https://water.ca.uky.edu/MS4>.

Source: Brad Lee, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences professor

Runoff of excess nutrients into waterways can cause algae overgrowth or algal blooms in a process called EUTROPHICATION. Algal blooms harm aquatic ecosystems and wildlife and may produce toxins that sicken people and pets.

Algal Bloom Blues



Do your part to reduce excess nutrients:

- Take a soil test before fertilizing.
- Apply only what you need.
- Keep lawn debris out of the storm sewer.
- Pick up after your pets.



Apple and Chicken Salad

2 red apples
2 stalks celery
1/2 cup raisins
1/4 cup plain non-fat Greek yogurt
1/4 cup light mayonnaise
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
2 cups cooked chicken, chopped
18 lettuce leaves



- Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
- Rinse all fresh produce under cold water in a colander. Scrub celery and apples with a vegetable brush.
- Using the cutting board and knife, dice 2 stalks of celery.
- Chop 2 red apples, remove the core and seeds.
- Combine chopped apples, celery, and 2 cups diced chicken in a bowl.
- Add 1/4 cup Greek yogurt, 1/2 cup raisins, 1/4 cup light mayonnaise, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon pepper to bowl.
- Stir all ingredients together.
- Arrange 3 lettuce leaves on a plate and top with 1 cup of apple and chicken salad mixture.
- Store leftovers in bowl with a lid in refrigerator for 3-4 days.

Servings: Makes 6 servings Serving Size: 1 cup Recipe Cost: \$6.42 Cost per Serving: \$1.07

Nutrition facts per serving:

240 calories; 3g fat; .5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 35mg cholesterol; 250mg sodium; 12g carbohydrate; 2g fiber; 35g sugar; 0g added sugar; 17g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 4% Daily Value of calcium; 10% Daily Value of iron; 15% Daily Value of potassium.

Source: Adapted from United States Department of Agriculture, What's Cooking USDA Mixing Bowl. March 2015. www.usda.gov/whatscooking



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Gary Stockton,
Boone County Extension Agent
for Agriculture
gary.stockton@uky.edu

Lacey Kessell,
Boone County Extension Agent
for Natural Resource &
Environmental Education
lacey.laudick@uky.edu