

MCCRACKEN AG NEWS



McCracken County's Agriculture and Natural Resources Update

Cooperative Extension
University of Kentucky
McCracken County
2025 New Holt Rd
Paducah, KY 42001
270-554-9520



Meet the New Agent

Hello everybody! In case we haven't met, my name is Gracey Moffitt and I am the new Ag agent here in McCracken County. I am very blessed to have been chosen to take on this position and I am so excited to see what all the future holds! If you haven't taken it yet, please take my Program Interest Survey! The results from this survey will help me to plan programs. You can find the link on our website.



Gracey Moffitt

Agent Update

This past month I attended numerous in and out of state trainings. I am started the **4-H Forestry Project Days** to learn about native KY trees and their uses this last month and we will finish up with our second session this month in time for the county fair. There are numerous opportunities to compete in our **County Fair** at the end of this month! You can check out our website or call the office for more details. This month I will be setting up at the **Small Game Expo** on June 8th at Carson Park. You can come find me for your wild game recipes and a couple of activities for kids!

On the 13th I am hosting the **Ag Advisory Council Meeting** at 6. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested in the future of agriculture for McCracken County. If interested, please call to register. I am still working on the pepper variety research trial and am going to work with the Oscar Cross Boys and Girls Club with a summer garden and ag education opportunities!

Everyone

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Ag & Natural Resources Events and News for Everyone



UK Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

Ag Advisory Council Meeting

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE IN MCCRACKEN COUNTY?

You are invited to the Ag Advisory Council Meeting at the McCracken County Cooperative Extension Office on June 13th at 6pm. There will be a meal included as we discuss the importance of ag in McCracken county for youth, farmers, homesteaders, and the community as a whole. The goal of this council meeting is to discuss how we can embrace agriculture in the county.

» TO RSVP, PLEASE CALL

📞 270-554-9520

Gracey Moffitt

McCracken County
Extension Agent for Ag
and Natural Resources

Cooperative
Extension Service

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Honey and Consumer Science
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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SMALL GAME BOOT CAMP
JUNE 8TH
PADUCAH - KENTUCKY
WITH KEVIN MURPHY
BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS & ANGLERS
JOIN BHA AND SMALL GAME NATION FOR
WORKSHOPS - ENTERTAINMENT - VENDORS
SMALL GAME COOKOFF + OTHER COMPETITIONS
FOOD - PRIZES - FAMILY FUN
CARSON PARK, 300 N 30TH ST. PADUCAH, KY

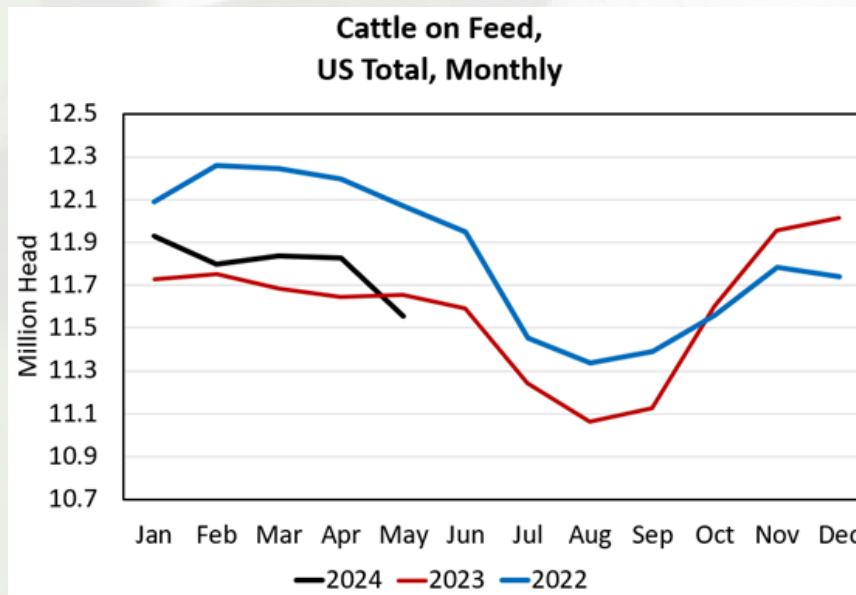


June 24-29th at Carson Park
For more information about entries and competitions look at our website under "County Fair" or call the office.

Livestock Events and News

Cattle on Feed Inventory Below 2023 for the First Time This Year

Source: Dr. James Mitchell, University of Arkansas



USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service released the May Cattle on Feed report last week, detailing the status of U.S. cattle on feed inventories. As of May 1, 2024, the total inventory of cattle and calves on feed in U.S. feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head stood at 11.6 million head. This figure reflects a 1% decrease compared to the May 1, 2023 inventory. This was the first time inventories were below year-ago levels since fall 2023. This was more a question of when inventories would dip below last year's levels than if they would.

Placements in feedlots during April 2024 totaled 1.66 million head, representing a 6% decrease compared to April 2023. The detailed breakdown by weight category reveals specific trends: placements at less than 600 pounds were 7% lower year over year, 600-699 pounds were 10% lower, 700-799 pounds were 9% lower, 800-899 pounds were 4% lower, and placements for both the 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater categories remained unchanged. This overall decrease in placements, particularly among lighter cattle, is expected to impact future market supplies.

The May WASDE report forecasts 2024 beef production at 26.62 billion pounds, which is 1% lower than last year's production of 27.03 billion pounds. The May forecast for 2024 beef production also shows an upward revision of 484 million pounds from the January 2024 forecast. Heavier cattle leaving feedlots have contributed to the upward revision. Steer dressed weights are averaging 920 pounds or 18 pounds heavier than in 2023. Typically, dressed weights seasonally decline through the spring and summer months. So far, that has yet to happen in 2024.

Cattle Market Notes Weekly

Josh Maples



James Mitchell



Kenny Burdine



Livestock

 Cooperative
Extension Service

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Livestock Luau
**WESTERN RIVERS
JR LIVESTOCK EXPO**

JUNE 14-15, 2024

**JUDGING, SKILL-A-THON, FITTING
CONTEST, MEATS JUDGING, & MORE!**

**WILLIAM "BILL" CHERRY EXPO CENTER
MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
2101 COLLEGE FARM RD.
MURRAY, KY 42071**

*Hawaiian Shirt Contest**

Row Crops & Forages

Events and News

Conditions favorable for seedling diseases in corn

Source: Dr. Kiersten Wise

Date: 4/25/24

Seedling diseases are caused by several soil or seed-inhabiting fungi or fungal-like organisms which are favored by cool, wet soil conditions during and after planting. Cool, wet soils also slow plant growth and development and give pathogens more time to infect and damage the seedling. Standard corn fungicide seed treatments provide a short window of protection against seedling diseases. However, corn that was planted several (or more) weeks ago may also be at increased risk of seedling disease, since seed treatments typically protect seeds and seedlings only for a few weeks. Two of the most common seedling diseases of corn in Kentucky are caused by *Pythium* and *Fusarium* species, but other fungi can occasionally cause seed and seedling issues.

Symptoms of seedling diseases can be observed after emergence and in the early vegetative stages of growth. Farmers should look for areas in the field with poor emergence, patchy stands, and/or stunted plants (Figure 1). Often these symptoms are observed first in poorly drained or ponded areas of the field, and areas with heavy or compacted soils. Infected seeds may rot after germination, preventing emergence and leading to the patchy appearance of plants in a field. Infected plants that do emerge may be yellow, stunted, and have discolored roots. In severe cases, large areas of plants may die leading to reduced stand (Figure 2). It is very difficult to accurately determine the specific organism responsible for a suspected seedling disease issue in the field. Submitting samples through a County Agent to the University of Kentucky Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory can help with obtaining an accurate diagnosis.

The risk of corn seedling disease decreases when corn is planted into dry soils with soil temperatures above 50 F. These conditions allow seeds and seedlings to germinate and emerge rapidly. However, it is often necessary to plant into less than ideal soil conditions, and diagnosing seedling disease issues if they occur can improve management in future years. Obtaining an accurate diagnosis is important because fungicide active ingredients work against specific organisms, and efficacy of a given product can vary for seedling blight organisms. Higher rates of specific products may be needed in fields that have a history of severe loss due to a specific seedling disease.

More information on corn seedling blights can be found in the University of Kentucky Extension Publication, "Seedling Diseases of Corn." <https://plantpathology.ca.uky.edu/files/ppfs-ag-c-02.pdf>

Interested in crop pest news updates? Subscribe to the KY Pest News Weekly Newsletter at <https://plantpathology.ca.uky.edu/extension/kpn>.

Are you interested in knowing what is going on in your field? Call me at 270-933-1386. I would be happy to come scout your crops with you to discuss what to do

Row Crops & Forages



June 6, 2024

9am-3pm CST



Soil Properties Workshop

Soil Properties and Their Impact on Delivering Water and Nutrients to Your Plants

We will examine two soil pits with distinctly different profile properties (Loess/Sandstone/Limestone) to discuss how they will influence water and nutrient retention and delivery.

Key topics include:

- Plant available water
- Soil Texture
- Nutrient Profile
- Web soil survey



Pre-registration required @
<https://KATSoilpropertiesworkshop2024.eventbrite.com>

\$105



University of KY Research and Education Center
1205 Hopkinsville Rd.
Princeton, KY

CCA Credits: 6 CEUs

For more information or questions contact Lori Rogers
lori.rogers@uky.edu 270-365-7541 Ext 21317



Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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



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LEXINGTON, KY 40546

Drone Pilot Certification Workshop

An intensive workshop to prepare candidates for the FAA's part 107 Drone Pilot Certification exam



June 10-11, 2024
(Lunch will be provided both days)

Hopkins County Cooperative Extension Office

Madisonville, KY

Class size is limited!

Course: \$400
Exam: \$175

CCA: 12 CEUs



For more information and to register contact: Lori Rogers
lori.rogers@uky.edu 270-365-7541 ext 21317

kats.ca.uky.edu

Course will be taught by Mandy Briggs, Certified Flight Instructor

Pest Management Field Day

June 27, 2024

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Speakers and Topics

Travis Legleiter

- Waterhemp and Palmer amaranth management
- Soybean residual herbicides for management of *Amaranthus* species
- Maximizing metribuzin in soybean
- Postemergence soybean herbicide programs across HR trait platforms
- Corn herbicide programs

Kiersten Wise

- Corn disease update

Weed Science and Plant Pathology Graduate Student Project Updates

Sign-in begins at 8:00 a.m. CDT at Princeton First Baptist Church Christian Life Center located at 300 W. Main St. Parking is available at the church lot on West Market Street. A caravan will proceed to UKREC for field plot tours.

A free lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is recommended by June 20. Pre-register online at <https://tinyurl.com/2j9y33md> or by scanning QR Code; calling the UKREC, (270) 365-7541, EXT. 22569, or email jason.travis@uky.edu.



Continuing Education Units for CCA and KY Pesticide Applicators are pending

Cooperative Extension Service
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Upcoming Office Events

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
MON	3: 4-H Fusible Quilt Project Day 9-12 (RSVP) Food as Health 10:30-12:30 (RSVP)	10: Quilting Club 10 District Board Meeting 11 (RSVP)	17:	24: Karen's Cake Creations 12-5 (more details to come) McCracken County Fair (Carson Park)
TUE	4: Adult Sewing 9-11 Game Day 9-12 Summer Reading Kickoff Party 2-4 (Library) Toolbox Series: Garrett Farms Farm Tour 5-6 (RSVP)	11: Adult Sewing 9-11 Food as Health 10:30-12:30 (RSVP) Grounding Yoga 11-12 (RSVP, Rotary Health Park)	18: Adult Sewing 9-11 Bags of Love 9:30-1:30 Laugh and Learn 11-12 (Library)	25: Adult Sewing 9-11 Food as Health 10:30-12:30 (RSVP) McCracken County Fair (Carson Park)
WED	5: Horticulture Walking Club 11-12 (RSVP, Greenway Trail)	12: 4-H 3-D Wool Felting Project Day 9-12 (RSVP) Horticulture Walking Club 11-12 (RSVP, Greenway Trail) 4-H Summer Chess Club 1-3 (RSVP)	19: Scrapbooking 9-3 Horticulture Walking Club 11-12 (RSVP, Greenway Trail)	26: Horticulture Walking Club 11-12 (RSVP, Greenway Trail) 4-H Summer Chess Club 1-3 (RSVP) McCracken County Fair (Carson Park)
THURS	6: Needlework Club 10-12 Crochet Alley & Knit Row 1-3	13: 4-H Forestry Project Day 2 9-11 (RSVP) Beading Circle 1-3 Ag Advisory Council Meeting 6 (RSVP)	20: Game Day 9-12 Needlework Club 10-12 Food as Health 10:30-12:30 (RSVP) Crochet Alley & Knit Row 1-3 4-H Fair Entry Drop Off 4-6	27: Beading Circle 1-3 McCracken County Fair (Carson Park)
FRI		14:	21: 4-H Fair Entry Drop Off 4-6	28: McCracken County Fair (Carson Park)

Event Calendar for June 2024

If you have questions or would like to RSVP, call the office at 270-554-9520.

The full calendar with event descriptions is located on our website. <https://mccracken.ca.uky.edu>

Recipe of the Month



Big Blue Muffins

2 medium oranges	2 eggs	1 cup whole wheat flour	1 teaspoon baking soda
¼ cup olive oil	½ cup low fat, plain Greek yogurt	1½ teaspoons baking powder	¼ teaspoon salt
¼ cup sugar	1 cup all-purpose flour		1½ cups fresh blueberries
¼ cup honey			

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. **Position** rack in the center of the oven. **Wash** oranges. Using a zester or fine grater, **remove** the orange zest from the rinds of both oranges and place in a mixing bowl. **Slice** oranges in half. **Squeeze** juice into a 1 cup liquid measuring cup. **Add** water if needed to make ½ cup juice. **Add** juice to the zest. **Add** the oil, sugar, honey, eggs and yogurt. **Mix** together with a whisk. In a separate mixing bowl, **place** the flour, baking powder, soda and salt. **Add** the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and **mix** with a wooden spoon, until just combined. Batter should be lumpy.

Add the blueberries and **fold** into batter until evenly distributed. Using a large table spoon, **scoop** the batter into a greased 12 cup muffin pan, evenly dividing the batter. **Bake** 20 minutes or until lightly browned on the tops. **Cool** in pan for 5 minutes. **Remove** to wire rack and serve.

Yield: 12 muffins. Serving size, one muffin.

Nutritional Analysis:

190 calories, 6 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 40 mg cholesterol, 240 mg sodium, 31 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 14 g sugars, 5 g protein.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand. <http://plattup.ca.uky.edu>

Kentucky Blueberries

SEASON: Mid-June through July

NUTRITION FACTS: One-half cup of blueberries has 40 calories and provides 22 percent of the Daily Value of fiber. Blueberries are rich in vitamin C and do not contain any fat or sodium.

SELECTION: Blueberries should be plump and firm and have a deep blue-black skin. They should also have a silvery sheen, which is referred to as bloom.

STORAGE: Cover and refrigerate blueberries for up to 14 days. Wash them just before using.

PREPARATION: Blueberries can be served fresh or used in cooking. Cooking blueberries in batter may cause their color to turn greenish-blue, but change in color does not affect flavor.

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

PRESERVING: To freeze: Place blueberries, unwashed and completely dry, in a single layer on a cookie sheet in the freezer. Once the berries are frozen, transfer them to plastic freezer bags or freezer containers.

KENTUCKY BLUEBERRIES

Kentucky Proud Project
University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Consumer Sciences
County Extension Agents for Family and Human Nutrition students
June 2016

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. For more information, contact your county's Extension agent for Family and Consumer Sciences or visit www.uky.ag/fcs



Have you seen me? Poison Hemlock

Hello, my name is Poison Hemlock. As my name implies, I am very poisonous like my close friends Poison Ivy and Poison Oak. I am poisonous to humans, livestock, and wildlife. I can cause blisters if you come in contact with me, and can be lethal if ingested. Luckily, there are a few ways to identify me from one of my common look-alikes, Queen Anne's Lace (Wild Carrot).

Poison hemlock

- Biennial
- Finely-divided, lacy leaves
- Green stems and leaves lack hairs
- Hollow stems
- Exudes unpleasant odor when crushed
- 6-10 feet tall at maturity
- Flowers June through August
- White, delicate, "umbrella-like" flowers

Wild carrot (Queen Anne's lace)

- Biennial
- Finely-divided, lacy leaves
- Fine hairs on leaves
- Solid green stems
- Root smells like carrot
- 1-2 feet tall at maturity
- Flowers July through September
- White, delicate, "umbrella-like" flowers



Wild carrot (Queen Anne's lace, left), a Michigan noxious weed, is often mistaken for poison hemlock (right) and vice versa. Photos by Missouri Department of Conservation (left) and Eric Anderson, MSU Extension (right).

It is also important to know how to get rid of me, the best options include herbicide treatment or by digging up and wearing appropriate clothing. Make sure to dispose of it properly, and DO NOT BURN. Burning it will increase the inhalation hazard risk. If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to your Ag Agent at your local Extension Office.