Lawrence County Part-Time Farmer

Winter 2022

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- Event Flyers

Sincerely,

Laura Maggard

Laura Maggard,
CEA for Agriculture
and Natural Resources

Upcoming Events and Meetings

January 13th: Farm Estate Planning
See flyer for information

January 17th: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Office Closed

January 27th: Farm Estate Planning
See flyer for more information

February 3rd: LC Beekeepers Mtg
6:00 PM @ the LC Extension Office

February 10th: Farm Estate Planning
See flyer for more information

February 24th: Fruit Orders Due
Order form enclosed

February 24th: Farm Estate Planning
See flyer for more information

March 3rd: LC Beekeepers Mtg
6:00PM @ the LC Extension Office

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
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LEXINGTON, KY 40546

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Managing Limited Hay Supplies

Having a limited hay supply can cause stress, but sound management will allow you to conserve hay without sacrificing animal productivity. Remember that the animals' nutritional needs should always come first. Here are a few tips to help you figure it out.

Determine your hay needs. If you know the mature weights of your cows, multiply the average weight by 3 percent and then by the expected number of days you will feed hay. If a cow at a body condition score of 5 weighs 1,300 pounds, it needs 39 pounds of hay per day. That cow needs about 5,850 pounds of hay for a five-month period. If bales provide 800 pounds of good forage (excluding rot/spoiled hay), you would need 7.3 bales for one cow. Always add 10-20 percent more to cover feeding losses, spoilage and longer feeding periods.

Ideally, you took inventory of your hay in the early winter as hay is cheaper at the start of the winter as opposed to later. Match hay quality to what your animals need. Use limited forage wisely by matching quality to stage of production. Growing and lactating animals have the highest nutritional needs.

As we consider the annual production of a beef cow, nutritionally we tend to break them out to late gestation, early lactation, late lactation, and the dry, mid-gestation period. During late gestation, particularly the last 60-75 days before calving, the fetus grows rapidly, increasing the nutrient needs of the cow. Additionally, mammary tissue development and colostrum formation require additional nutrients. Nutritional requirements increase with milk production.

Peak milk production occurs around eight weeks post-calving and corresponds with the highest nutritional needs during the production year. Nutritional needs may decrease after peak as milk production declines. However, some research has shown that cows may sustain high levels of milk production 120 days post-calving. It is important to monitor cow body condition through lactation and make necessary feeding adjustments. Fall calving beef cows may require additional supplementation to support higher milk production levels.

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Feed the highest quality forage during lactation to minimize body condition loss and supplementation needs. As you wean cows and milk production ceases, nutritional needs greatly decrease. Dry, nonlactating cows that have weaned 6-8-month-old calves should be in the second trimester of gestation. The nutritional needs to support fetal development at this point is low and corresponds to the lowest nutritional requirements for the production year. Use lower quality forages to conserve higher quality forages for other phases of production.

You can stretch limited hay stores if you can limit the amount of time cows have access to the hay. You can only do this for mature cows that are in the dry, mid-gestational stage of production and are 5-6 body condition scores. Young and thin cows need additional feed to grow and replenish body stores and should not have their feed limited.

Don't restrict low-quality forage. Cows will need to consume as much low-quality forage as they can due to the low digestibility and low nutrient concentrations. To do this, separate the herd by age and production as lactating cows, late gestational and young or thin cows

Reducing feed loss is key. Research demonstrated increased losses when unrolling hay on the ground. Cows trample hay into the mud by walking and laying on it. Defecation and urination will prevent intake as well. If you are using a processor and want to minimize losses, place processed hay in a feeder or bunk rather than on the ground. Hay rings should have sheeting around the bottom to minimize hay losses.

Improved designs that keep bales elevated off the ground while allowing dropped hay to fall within the hay feeder also lower feeding losses. These feeders are more expensive up front but if hay is expensive, they can lower feeding costs. It is important these hay feeders are managed. If hay builds up inside the feeder and the cattle don't consume the hay due to rot or mold, move the hay ring. If the hay is not of low quality, allow animals to consume the hay that is lying on the ground within the ring before placing a new bale in the feeder. Allowing the hay to build up to the top of the ring/sheeting/tire in these newer designs will increase losses when a new bale is offered as hay will fall out over the edge of the ring or tire. Placing hay rings on a feeding pad can lower losses from hay that falls outside the ring on the ground.

Consider replacing hay with other feedstuffs to supply necessary nutrients. Use caution when restricting hay; the rumen will not be full. Stretch receptors on the rumen will cause cows to eat even though nutritionally, they won't need to eat. This can lead to tree and fence damage or even cows getting out looking for something to eat. Giving access to low-quality forage can curb this behavior. You can use corn stover, wheat straw and other low-quality forages.

Typical fescue hay contains 50-54 percent of total digestible nutrients and 7-9 percent protein on a dry matter basis. If you offer 1 pound of dried distillers grains, the protein is equal to 3-4 pounds of hay, while the energy from the

Continued

Typical fescue hay contains 50-54 percent of total digestible nutrients and 7-9 percent protein on a dry matter basis. If you offer 1 pound of dried distillers grains, the protein is equal to 3-4 pounds of hay, while the energy from the distillers grains would replace 1.75 pounds of hay. For dry, gestating cows, you can use soybean hulls to replace average grass hay at a rate of 1.5 pounds of soyhulls per pound of hay.

Always offer cows at least 8-10 pounds of long-stemmed forage to maintain rumen health and lower the incidence of bloat. Be sure to work with a nutritionist to ensure you are meeting the cows' nutrient needs and lessening the risk of digestive disorders.

Don't overlook other nutrients. A beef cow may need 10-20 gallons of water a day. Restricting water availability leads to lower feed intake and reduced milk production. Always provide a high-quality loose mineral to meet mineral and vitamin requirements. Consider supplementing an ionophore such as monensin or lasalocid to improve energy efficiency.

Establishment and First Year Management of Tall Fescue

Tall fescue, specifically Kentucky 31, is a cool-season grass that is widely grown throughout Kentucky and the eastern United States, because it is resistant to many unfavorable conditions including drought tolerance and insect resistance. However, the very reason for its resiliency is also its Achilles heel. It contains a harmful fungal endophyte that causes fescue toxicosis in cattle and horses. Affected animals get sick, have reduced weight gains, reproductive problems and other issues.

In recent years, researchers have learned how to introduce beneficial or novel endophytes into tall fescue varieties. These novel endophytes do not cause fescue toxicosis, but allow a variety to have vigorous growth and improved drought and insect resistance. Six novel endophyte tall fescue varieties are already available on the market. This fall, seed will be available for the University of Kentucky-developed novel endophyte variety Lacefield MaxQ II.

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Establishing a pasture with a novel endophyte tall fescue variety is a process that will require you to have a good first-year management plan, especially if you are converting a pasture or hay-field that contains Kentucky 31 tall fescue.

In the spring, you should prevent toxic fescue from producing a seedhead. Either graze the pasture every time seedheads emerge or harvest for hay. Some farmers use a combination of grazing and mowing to remove seedheads. Then spray with a high rate of glyphosate to kill the existing toxic fescue. Do a soil test and apply fertilizer and lime according to the results. Drill a summer annual forage into this killed-out sod or cultivate and plant for an even more productive stand.

In the summer, graze animals on the summer annual forage or harvest it for hay or silage.

In the late summer, graze the summer forage closely or harvest it one last time for hay or silage. Apply another application of glyphosate and apply fertilizer as recommended. Some farmers skip the summer annual and just make two to three glyphosate applications four to six weeks apart. Next use a no-till drill to seed your new novel endophyte variety between late August and late September.

During the first winter, don't graze the seedling pasture, and make sure you that you never feed hay on this pasture that contains seedheads of KY-31 tall fescue..

In your second year, you want to apply fertilizer in the spring, as recommended, and wait until the plants are 8 inches high and firmly anchored to graze it. You can graze for short periods, but make sure you maintain a pasture height between 3 and 10 inches.

ROAD MAP TO FARM ESTATE PLANNING

HOSTED BY THE DISTRICT 1 UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICES

2022 DATES & TOPICS

• JANUARY 13	TAXES
• JANUARY 27	BASICS OF ESTATE PLANNING
• FEBURARY 10	WILLS, POWER OF ATTORNEY
• FEBRUARY 24	TRANSITIONING THE FARM & FAMILY PROPERTY
• NOVEMBER 3	FARM LEASING
• NOVEMBER 17	TRUSTS
• DECEMBER 1	LIFE INSURANCE & FUNERAL EXPENSES
• DECEMBER 15	END OF LIFE CARE

ZOOM & IN-PERSON VIEWING OPTIONS**

***Options may differ by location**

Each session begins at 6:00PM

To register scan the QR code above OR call:

Lawrence County Extension Office 606-673-9495

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College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
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LEXINGTON, KY 40546

Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

2022 Plant Order Form

Purchaser Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Lawrence County Cooperative Extension Service

Lawrence County
249 Industrial Park Road
Louisa, KY 41230
606-673-9495
606-673-9498

Quantity	Item	Unit Price	Total
_____ bundles	Strawberries (FlavorFest--midseason variety with large berries)	$5.00 (bundle of 25)	
_____ bundles	Strawberries (Earliglow-sweet, early season variety)	$5.00 (bundle of 25)	
	Blackberries (Prime Ark Freedom-thornless, semi-erect plant with large, flavorful fruit on first year canes)	$5.00 each	
	Blueberries (Duke) (two varieties needed for pollination)	$8 each	
	Blueberries (Chandler) (two varieties needed for pollination)	$8 each	
	Raspberries (Heritage—red, everbearing)	$4 each	
	Jewel Black Raspberries (winter hardy, productive, & vigorous)	$4 each	
	Asparagus (Jersey Knight)	$1 each	
	Rhubarb (Green Victoria) (hardy, heavy producer with old fashion zingy flavor)	$4 each	
	Spanish Sweet Onion (limited to 1 bag per order)	$6 for a bag of 100 bulbs	
		Total Due	

Order forms and pre-payment are required by

Thursday, February 24th

Payment Information:

Amount Paid:

_____

Date: _____

Received by: _____

Check No.: _____ or Cash _____

Plants are expected to arrive the first week of April. We will call to let you know when the plants will be available for pickup.

Laura Maggard
Lawrence County
Extension Agent for
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Lawrence County Extension Service

249 Industrial Park Road

Louisa, KY 41230

606-673-9495

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lawrence.ca.uky.edu

Call to get your cooking calendar, WVU gardening calendar, and the UK beef calendar!!

Apple Spinach Salad

5 ounces fresh spinach
4 large Gala apples
2 ounces sharp white cheddar cheese, shredded
½ cup slivered almonds, toasted (see directions below)
½ cup golden raisins

Dressing:
2 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 tablespoon cider vinegar
¼ teaspoon dry mustard
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
¼ teaspoon finely chopped garlic

Wash and dry fresh spinach. **Tear** into small pieces. **Core and chop** apples into bite sized pieces. Do not peel. **Mix** together spinach, apples, cheese, almonds and raisins. In a small bowl, **stir** together dressing ingredients and pour over salad mixture. **Toss and serve. To toast almonds: Spread** almonds evenly in a small saute pan, over medium high heat for about 30 seconds, **stir.** Continue to **heat** almonds for an additional 3-5 minutes, **stirring** often for even browning. **Remove** from heat when almonds are fragrant and turning golden brown around the edges. Immediately **pour** almonds into a dish to cool.

Yield: 10, 1 cup servings.

Nutritional Analysis: 150 calories, 6 g fat, 1.5 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 50 mg sodium, 22 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 17 g sugar, 3 g protein.

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