



# From the Ground Up

*Bath County Agricultural Newsletter*

**October**

*Robert Amburgey*

**2023**

*Bath County Extension Agent for Agriculture  
and Natural Resources*

Cooperative Extension Service  
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**BATH COUNTY AGRICULTURE**



## PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, YOU CAN CONTACT THE BATH COUNTY  
EXTENSION OFFICE AT 674-6121**

**All of the County Extension Offices in the state are currently working on programs for the upcoming year. In fact we are currently working on a 4 year plan of work.**

**To help us better plan programs that fit your needs, the University of Kentucky has developed a very short survey to get the process started. There is a QR code on the flyer in this newsletter. Please take a couple of minutes and complete this survey so that we can better serve you.**

**The direct link to the survey is:**

**[go.uky.edu/serveKY](http://go.uky.edu/serveKY)**

**There are a number of area and regional meetings promoted in this newsletter. I hope you will be able to attend some of these that fit your needs.**



# University of Kentucky presents 2023 Fall Crop Protection Webinar Series

Beginning Nov. 2, 2023, the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will present a series of four webinars covering field crop protection. Hosted through the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center, the webinars will feature UK extension pest management specialists discussing weed science, plant pathology and entomology topics. Continuing education credits for Kentucky pesticide applicators and Certified Crop Advisors will be available.

The Thursday morning webinars will take place via Zoom at 10 a.m. EST/ 9 a.m. CST, and pre-registration is required for each webinar. The webinars are open to agriculture and natural resource County extension agents, crop consultants, farmers, industry professionals, and others, whether they reside or work in Kentucky or outside the state.



**Dr. Kiersten Wise**

**Webinar #1: *Do multiple corn fungicide applications pay?***

**November 2, 2023**

**Registration: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CfQFt0dQSng5ifdnaSre7A](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CfQFt0dQSng5ifdnaSre7A)**



**Dr. Carl Bradley**

**Webinar #2: *What have we learned from nearly two decades of research on soybean with foliar fungicides?***

**November 9, 2023**

**Registration: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_3SvKPhEDSSWcYhnUnLrvsQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3SvKPhEDSSWcYhnUnLrvsQ)**



**Dr. Travis Legleiter**

**Webinar #3: *Managing the offensive spread of weeds***

**November 16, 2023**

**Registration: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_SIOzGyibQiOk4A6pTRHGmw](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SIOzGyibQiOk4A6pTRHGmw)**



**Dr. Raul Villanueva**

**Webinar #4: *Occurrence of insect in field crops during two years of partial drought and heat wave***

**November 30, 2023**

**Registration: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_AqvCh08TQGCAJXvKxqdwFA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AqvCh08TQGCAJXvKxqdwFA)**

**KENTUCKY**    
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**



- Kentucky resident?
- At least 18 years old?
- Care about your community?



# HOW CAN WE serve you??

Take our ten-minute survey to help us develop programs addressing needs in your community. Scan the code above or visit:

[go.uky.edu/serveKY](http://go.uky.edu/serveKY)

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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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Contact your local Extension Office for a paper copy of the survey.

# Grazing Conference

Low Stress Livestock Handling for Serious Graziers

October 31, 2023

Elizabethtown

Hardin County Extension Office

7:30 AM - 3:30 PM CDT

November 1, 2023

Lexington

Fayette County Extension Office

7:30 AM - 3:30 PM EDT



## Reducing Livestock Stress in Grazing Systems

Curt Pate, Curt Pate Stockmanship



## Fencing for Multi-Species Grazing

Lewis Sapp, Stay-Tuff Fence



## Designing Flexible Watering Systems

Jeff Lehmkuhler, University of Kentucky



## Designing Livestock Handling Facilities for Existing Structures

Chris McBurney, McBurney Livestock Equipment



## Local Producers and Spokesperson Contest



## Optimizing Resources with Multi-Species Grazing

Greg Brann, Greg Brann Consulting

For more information please visit [KFGC.ORG](http://KFGC.ORG)

# Turf Care Calendar for Cool-Season Lawns in Kentucky

Gregg C. Munshaw, Plant and Soil Sciences

Management Practice	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Aerify <sup>1</sup>												
Lime <sup>2</sup>												
Mow <sup>3</sup>												
Mower maintenance <sup>4</sup>												
Nitrogen fertilization <sup>5</sup>												
PRE-herbicides for annual grassy weeds <sup>6</sup>												
POST-herbicides for annual grassy weeds <sup>7</sup>												
POST-herbicides for broadleaf weeds <sup>7</sup>												
Seeding for renovation or initial establishment <sup>8</sup>												
Sodding <sup>9</sup>												
Curative white grub control <sup>10</sup>												
Preventive white grub control <sup>10</sup>												

**Note:** Cool-season lawns include Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue, fine fescues, and perennial ryegrass.

- Best time to perform activity
- Second-best time to perform activity
- Do not perform activity

- Not all lawns need to be aerified or dethatched. These only need to be done if the soil is excessively hard or a great deal of thatch exists. For more information on aerification and dethatching, see AGR-54, *Aerifying and Dethatching Lawns*.
- Lime only needs to be applied if indicated by a soil test report. Applying lime when it is not needed, as indicated by a soil test, could result in reduced nutrient availability and turfgrass health. For more information on liming, see AGR-214, *Liming Kentucky Lawns*.
- Lawns can be mowed any time of the year if the grass is growing. Mowing height should be increased in the summer to reduce stress from heat and drought. For more information on mowing, see AGR-209, *Mowing Your Kentucky Lawn*.
- Mower maintenance, including blade sharpening and oil and filter changes, should be done in the winter so the mower will be ready to use for the lawn growing season. For more information on mower maintenance, see the “Your Kentucky Lawn” videos *Blade Sharpening* (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JMy1j9NR89o&list=UUMFY6zEWe6uJEYakzOofhlg>) and *Seasonal Lawn Mower Maintenance* (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxgbMDdT6bQ&list=UUMFY6zEWe6uJEYakzOofhlg>).
- Nitrogen fertilizer should only be applied in the spring to lawns if it was not applied in the fall. Excessive nitrogen applied in the spring and/or summer reduces turfgrass health and promotes insects, diseases, and weeds. For more information on fertilizing, see AGR-212, *Fertilizing Your Lawn*.
- Pre-emergent herbicides should be applied in early April in southern and western Kentucky and by April 15 for central, eastern, and northern Kentucky. A second application may be necessary in late May to insure grass control all summer. Summer annual grassy weeds include crabgrasses, goosegrass, and foxtails. An autumn pre-emergent application may be necessary for annual bluegrass and winter annual broadleaf weed control. The autumn application should be avoided if the lawn will be seeded with desirable species. For more information on weed control, see AGR-208, *Weed Control for Kentucky Home Lawns*.
- Post-emergent herbicides work best when weeds are young, succulent, and actively growing. For more information on weed control, see AGR-208, *Weed Control for Kentucky Home Lawns*.
- Late-summer/early autumn is the ideal time for planting seed, seed germination and grass seedling development. Although spring lawn seedings can be successful, irrigation and extra care are likely necessary for juvenile grass plants to survive the summer. For more information on seeding, see AGR-50, *Lawn Establishment in Kentucky* and AGR-51, *Renovating Your Lawn*.
- Sod can be laid at any time during the year as long as the soil is not frozen. For more information on sodding, see AGR-50, *Lawn Establishment in Kentucky*.
- Insecticide applications for white grub control should only be made if a history of grubs exists in the lawn or if grubs are present. For more information on controlling white grubs in the lawn, see ENT-10, *Controlling White Grubs in Turfgrass*.

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Revised 7-2016

## **It's Been Hot and Dry and Will We have Enough Hay?**

*Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, Associate Extension Professor, University of Kentucky*

It has been unseasonably warm for early September. Lack of meaningful precipitation has resulted in dormant pastures and limited forage availability. As of this morning, the US drought monitor site has a significant portion of the state listed as abnormally dry or as a moderate drought situation. Many beef operations have started feeding hay already. A challenging spring for making hay and limited late summer rain could be leading us to a shortage of hay this year.

Hay is always cheaper closer to the time that hay is made. Many of us recall putting small square bales up and taking the grain truck to the field to load. As a kid it was a challenge to heave those bales that were as big as you up over your head to the floor of the grain truck. When we got to throw bales on a flatbed trailer we thought we had made it to the big time since we only had to lift them above our waist. Where was I going with this? We were in the field because hay was usually priced lower when you picked it up out of field versus getting it out of the barn. This is the same as it relates to points in time or seasonality. Hay will be cheaper when hay stocks are higher, shortly after being made, in comparison to February when hay stocks have declined.

Inventory your hay stores now. This is as simple as counting the number of bales for each type (round, large square, small square, etc...) you have on hand. Hopefully, you have a rough idea of how much your hay bales weigh. Weight of round bales will depend on size, forage density, forage type and cutting. Dr. Banta, my colleague in Texas, has a nice publication on bale weights. From their work, a bale that is 4'X5' may weigh 880 lb while a 5'X6' bale could weigh 1584 lb. How dense or tight bales are when made will also impact the weight. Bales that are 5'X5' with a density of 9.5 lb/cu ft may weigh 935 lb while bales with a density of 12.3 lb/cu ft will be near 1200 lbs. Point, when you can, buy on a weight basis rather than by the bale. Also, if you are not certain what your bales weigh that you made, when inventorying, estimate on the low end rather than assuming the bales are extremely heavy.

Determining how much hay will be needed is the next step. Hay needs are a factor storage and feeding losses in combination with animal intake. Hay losses during storage can range widely depending on method of storage. Storage in a barn could be 5-10% while hay stored outside on the ground uncovered may have losses of 25-40%. A significant amount of loss from outside storage is due to the bale wicking moisture from the ground and having significant rot on the bottom of the bale. Set bales on a gravel pad that allows precipitation to drain away. Feeding losses can be significant as well. When using hay rings, use rings that minimize waste. Sheeted bottoms on rings will reduce waste. Hay saver type feeders can reduce feeding losses 5-10% as well. If unrolling, consider using a temporary electric wire over the top to reduce losses from cattle bedding down and/or fouling hay with feces and urine.

Animal intake can be estimated by assuming 3% of body weight for hay intake. A 1,000 lb bred heifer would potential consume 30 lbs of hay daily. Mature cows weighing 1,400 lb would consume about 42 lbs of hay daily. Be sure to account for feeding losses when estimating daily hay allocation. Estimate how many days you likely will need to feed hay this year. Hay feeding will be longer than normal with the lack

# Timely Tips

*Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky*

## **Spring-calving herds**

- Schedule a pregnancy examination of cows if not done previously. Winter feeding costs can be minimized by eliminating open cows prior to winterfeeding. Pregnancy status (pregnant versus open) can be determined using palpation, transrectal ultrasonography, or blood sampling. Stage of pregnancy can only be determined by palpation or ultrasonography (performed by your veterinarian). A new chute-side blood sampling kit (Alertys from IDEXX) is available for use. It provides yes/no pregnancy data in 20 minutes for about \$8-10 per cow.
- Evaluate the body condition of your cows and improve their condition prior to winter. It takes about 75 pounds to increase body condition a full score.
- If you have already done a preweaning working, revaccinate (booster) calves as needed. Treat calves for internal and external parasites. If you vaccinate calves yourself, be sure to store, handle, and administer vaccines properly.
- Wean calves before cows lose body condition.

Obtain weaning weights of your calves and remember weaning is the time to do your first round of culling and selecting breeding stock. You can eliminate obviously inferior calves, especially those with wild or nervous dispositions. Consider the number of heifers that you will need to save for your cow herd. Bulls that are old, unsound, roguish, etc. can be culled now. It is not too early to begin thinking about replacements.

## **Fall-calving herds**

- The calving season should be in full swing for fall-calving cows. Check cows frequently. Identify calves and commercial males should be castrated and implanted.
- Take accurate records of calving and calving performance. Our new app (Stocket at Stocket.us) makes data collection and reporting simple, easy, and convenient.
- Put fall-calving cows on accumulated pasture before the breeding season. Be sure to save some grass in the breeding pastures.
- It is time to get everything ready for the fall-breeding season, too. Line-up semen, supplies, etc. now and get your bulls ready to go (don't forget their breeding soundness evaluation). Breeding soundness exams are a vital component to reducing the risk of reproductive performance and need to be conducted 30-45 days before EVERY breeding season. Contact your herd veterinarian to schedule the exams.
- Obtain yearling measurements (weight, hip height, scrotal circumference, etc.) on replacement animals - especially for registered ones.

Contact your herd veterinarian and schedule pelvic area examinations and reproductive tract scores for your potential replacements. Use pelvic area to identify larger heifers with smaller than normal pelvic areas so you can remove them from the breeding pool. Reproductive tract scores can be used to identify immature heifers for culling. Typically, heifers with a reproductive tract score less than 3 have limited ability to conceive early in the breeding season.

## Stockers

- If you are purchasing weaned/stressed calves, have your receiving/feeding program in place. Feed a stress ration which contains at least 13% protein and is fairly energy dense.
- Manage to keep newly weaned and/or purchased calves healthy. Calves should be penned in a small lot with adequate feed, water, and shade to reduce stress. Careful handling and comfortable, uncrowded conditions can decrease stress.
- When newly weaned calves are purchased in the fall, sickness and death loss can be a big problem. Work with your veterinarian on a health and receiving program. Consider purchasing CPH-45 feeder calves that are preweaned, vaccinated, bunk-adjusted and treated for parasites.

Watch calves closely for a few weeks after their arrival. Calves will normally break (get sick) 5-7 days after arrival, but they can break up to 14 days after they arrive. Have a treatment program ready for any health problems. Early recognition of sick cattle improves their chance of recovery. Watch for drooped ears, hollow appearance, reluctance to rise, stiff gait, coughing and dull or sunken eyes. A good "receiving" program is essential to profitability.

## General Reminders

- Avoid prussic acid poisoning that can happen when frost ruptures the plant cells in sorghums, sorghum-sudan hybrids, sudan-grass, and johnsongrass releasing prussic (hydrocyanic) acid. Fields can be grazed after the plants have dried up after a frost. New growth that occurs in stalk fields is potentially dangerous whether frosted or not.
- Take soil samples for soil analysis to determine pasture fertility needs. Apply phosphate, potash, and lime accordingly.
- Test hay quality and make inventory of hay supplies and needs. Adjust now - buy feed before you run out in the winter.
- Do not harvest or graze alfalfa now in order for it to replenish root reserves.

Remove fly-control eartags from all animals, dispose of according to instructions on package.



# Beef Cattle SEEDSTOCK SYMPOSIUM

**UEXTENSION**  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

**Martin-Gatton**  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment

<b>OCTOBER 17</b> Fayette County Kentucky Extension Office, Lexington, KY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM	To register for the Lexington, KY event please go to <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/709667262887?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/709667262887?aff=oddtcreator</a>
<b>OCTOBER 18</b> Barren County Kentucky Extension Office, Glasgow, KY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM	To register for the Glasgow, KY event please go to <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/709673651997?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/709673651997?aff=oddtcreator</a>
<b>OCTOBER 19</b> Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center, Spring Hill, TN 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM	To register for Spring Hill, TN event please go to <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/709676941837?aff=oddtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/709676941837?aff=oddtcreator</a> Eventbrite will have more information for each location.

**MORE INFORMATION**  
This program is designed for seedstock producers that are marketing bulls to commercial and/or other seedstock producers. The cost for each location is \$25.

**QUESTIONS**  
If you have any questions or would like a paper registration email Maggie.Ginn@uky.edu.

**KADF**  
KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

**KBN**  
KENTUCKY BEEF NETWORK

# Beef Cattle Seedstock Symposium

**October 17-19, 2023**

8:30 - Registration

8:50 - Welcome

9:00 - The Evolution of Selection Tools  
Dr. Darrh Bullock, University of Kentucky

10:00 - Improving the Quality of EPDs for You and Your Customers  
Dr. Matt Spangler, University of Nebraska

11:00 - Practical Feeding Strategies for Your Bulls  
Dr. Katie Mason, University of Tennessee,  
Dr. Katie VanValin, University of Kentucky

11:45 - What are Genomics and How do They Help?  
Dr. Troy Rowan, University of Tennessee

1:30 - Bull Reproduction and Health Considerations  
Dr. Saulo Zoca, University of Tennessee

2:30 - Putting Selection Tools to Work (EPDs and Indices)  
Dr. Matt Spangler, University of Nebraska

3:30 - Does Genetic Information Matter in the Bull Market?  
Dr. Charley Martinez, University of Tennessee

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DEVELOPMENT FUND





# Jalapeño Poppers

<b>4 ounces</b> reduced fat cream cheese	<b>1 teaspoon</b> garlic powder	<b>8 large</b> jalapeño peppers
<b>1 tablespoon</b> grated Parmesan cheese	<b>¾ cup</b> shredded reduced fat mozzarella cheese	<b>8 pieces</b> , thinly sliced bacon, cut in half

**Preheat** oven to 425 degrees F. In a small bowl, **mix** together the cream cheese, Parmesan cheese, garlic powder and mozzarella cheese.

**Wash** peppers and **cut off** stems.

**Cut** peppers lengthwise to make 16 halves. You may want to wear plastic gloves while handling hot peppers.

**Scrape** out the seeds and membrane of each pepper. **Stuff** each pepper half with the cream cheese mixture and **wrap** each stuffed pepper with

a half piece of bacon. Lightly grease a broiler pan or pan with a rack. This will allow any grease to fall away from the poppers. **Bake** for 20 minutes or until poppers are hot and juicy and the bacon is browned.

**Yield:** 16 servings

**Nutritional Analysis:** 60 calories, 4 g fat, 2.5 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 180 mg sodium, 1 g carbohydrate, 0 g fiber, 1 g sugars, 5 g protein.



# Kentucky Peppers

**SEASON:** June to September

**NUTRITION FACTS:** Both sweet and hot peppers are low in calories, high in vitamin C and are a good source of vitamin A. One raw, medium size pepper has around 20 calories. Red peppers are higher in vitamins A and C than green peppers. Hot peppers also contain capsaicin, an antioxidant found in its membranes and seeds. Removing these will make the pepper milder.

**SELECTION:** Select peppers that have firm, smooth skin. Avoid flabby, wrinkled or soft peppers.

**STORAGE:** Store unwashed in a paper towel then refrigerate in a plastic bag for up to ten days. Rinse before using.

**PREPARATION:** Wash carefully without bruising. Peppers can be served raw, grilled, stuffed or roasted. Add them to salads, casseroles or Mexican dishes.

**PRESERVING:** Peppers can be preserved by freezing, drying or canning.

**To freeze:** Wash, stem and seed peppers. Package, leaving no head space. Seal and freeze.

## KENTUCKY PEPPERS

### Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

**September 2017**

**Source:** [www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov](http://www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov)

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



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University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

# Protecting Pets and Livestock from Blue-Green Algae

Source: Dr. Megan Romano, UK VDL toxicology resident

Only a few short years ago we started hearing about dogs getting sick or dying after drinking from lakes and ponds. What was happening and how can you protect your pets? Could this happen this year?

Blue-green algae, also called cyanobacteria, are microscopic organisms normally present in aquatic ecosystems, including lakes and ponds. Thousands of species of blue-green algae have been identified; at least 80 are known to produce toxins that can cause illness and death in animals as well as humans. Heavy growth of these toxin-producing algae “blooms” can cause high concentrations of toxins in the water. In North America, *Anabaena*, *Aphanizomenon*, *Oscillatoria*, and *Microcystis* are the species of blue-green algae most commonly associated with poisoning.

In Central Kentucky, blooms are most common in late summer and early fall, during hot, sunny weather. Contamination of water with excess nutrients, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, further encourages algal growth. Common sources of excess nutrients include fertilizer runoff from fields, lawns and gardens, and direct manure and urine contamination from livestock.

Blooms can produce a blue-green sheen on the water surface, or they can be pea-green and thick, like spilled paint. In addition to blue and green, blooms can also be brown or white. They can form scums, slimes, or mats. It is impossible to tell if a bloom is toxic just by its appearance, so you should consider all blooms potentially toxic.