

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 you haven't seen my newsletter before, 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!

Programming Survey

I am brainstorming different ideas for various programs, classes, and events to make available for all of McCracken County to come and enjoy! I have a survey linked to the QR code below, please scan with the camera on your phone and it will take you to the survey link to fill out. This survey will help me come up with ideas for programming! You can also find the survey under the Agriculture and Natural resources tab on our website - mccracken.ca.uky.edu. If you ever have any questions, feel free to reach out by calling or coming up to the office and I would be more than happy to help!



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Ag & Natural Resources

Events and News for Everyone



NO HOLDS | LIMITED QUANTITIES

March 28 | 12 PM - 5 PM
March 29 | 9 AM - 1 PM

ANNUAL FREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

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

EXPECTED VARIETIES:
Pecan | Red Shumard Oak |
White Pine | KY Coffee Tree |
and Wild Plum

DAILY GIVEAWAY UNTIL SUPPLIES RUN OUT



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



McCracken County
Conservation District

Come join us March 28th and 29th here at the McCracken County Extension Office to get some free tree saplings courtesy of the McCracken County Conservation District!



McCracken County Cooperative Extension

Like and follow us on Facebook for updates about programs and events!


Know someone who would be interested in my newsletter? Have them contact Carla Wilkey at carla.wilkey@uky.edu or call the office at 270-554-9520 to be put on the mailing list!

Want to know more about your soil? We offer soil testing!

Here at the McCracken County Extension Office we take soil samples all year long for nutrient testing. Each sample is just \$7 per bag. Simply collect your samples, bring them to us, we will ship them to UK, and in a few days time the reports come back for us to share with you! If you have any questions regarding soil testing please feel free to call the office.

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences

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Livestock Events and News

The Markets:

Overall, prices for feeder cattle and calves were higher last week and remain well above 2023 levels.

Futures prices were largely steady while corn price fell a bit more.

You can find the rest of the article at *Cattle Market Notes Weekly*.

Cattle Market Report		For Weeks Ending On			% Chg Prev. Week	% Chg Prev. Year	Chg Prev. Week
		2/16/24	2/9/24	2/17/23			
Prices \$/cwt. Sources: USDA, LMIC, and CME							
500-600 lb. Feeder Steers	Mississippi M/L #1-2	\$274.64	\$266.24	\$178.43	3%	54%	\$8.39
	Arkansas M/L #1	\$293.81	\$289.73	\$199.57	1%	47%	\$4.08
	Kentucky M/L #1-2	\$268.37	\$262.69	\$199.57	2%	34%	\$5.68
	Oklahoma City M/L #1-2	\$279.19	\$277.04	\$199.50	1%	40%	\$2.15
	Alabama M/L #1	\$293.66	\$284.02	\$194.67	3%	51%	\$9.65
	Tennessee M/L #1-2	\$277.26	\$264.83	\$195.52	5%	42%	\$12.43
700-800 lb. Feeder Steers	Mississippi M/L #1-2	\$209.17	\$212.50	\$146.86	-2%	42%	(\$3.33)
	Arkansas M/L #1	\$246.32	\$232.30	\$171.92	6%	43%	\$14.02
	Kentucky M/L #1-2	\$223.69	\$223.79	\$167.96	0%	33%	(\$0.10)
	Oklahoma City M/L #1-2	\$241.50	\$235.31	\$175.99	3%	37%	\$6.19
	Alabama M/L #1	\$235.74	\$222.67	\$167.70	6%	41%	\$13.07
	Tennessee M/L #1-2	\$230.71	\$225.04	\$165.36	3%	40%	\$5.67
Negotiated Fed Steers	Live Price	\$235.39	\$235.11	\$179.14	0%	31%	\$0.28
	Dressed Price	\$180.35	\$181.15	\$161.17	0%	12%	(\$0.80)
Boxed Beef Cutout	Choice Value, 600-900 lb.	\$286.61	\$287.37	\$256.78	0%	12%	(\$0.76)
	Select Value, 600-900 lb.	\$294.37	\$294.32	\$275.65	0%	7%	\$0.05

Futures Prices		2/16/24	2/9/24
Live Cattle	February	\$184.77	\$184.63
	April	\$187.55	\$186.73
	June	\$182.82	\$183.98
Feeder Cattle	March	\$251.02	\$247.15
	April	\$253.55	\$251.77
	May	\$255.63	\$255.68
Corn	March	\$4.16	\$4.29
	May	\$4.30	\$4.41

Source: CME Group

Cattle Market Notes Weekly

Josh Maples



James Mitchell



Kenny Burdine



Subscribe to the *Cattle Market Notes Weekly Newsletter* and find other beef related articles by going to the UK Beef Center of Excellence under Current Market Information

<https://bce.ca.uky.edu/economics/current-market-information>.

Livestock

ANNUAL PURCHASE AREA BEEF PRODUCTION MEETING

LOCATED AT THE GRAVES
COUNTY COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION OFFICE

4200 US-45
MAYFIELD, KY 42066



TUESDAY
MARCH 19TH



TRADE SHOW
5:30-6:30 PM

MEAL
6:30 PM

\$10 ENTRY FEE FOR
RIBEYE STEAK
DINNER/REGISTRATION
AT THE DOOR

**CALL (270) 247-2334 TO
RSVP BY MONDAY,
MARCH 11TH!**



**HOSTED BY THE
PURCHASE AREA
CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**

Row Crops & Forages

Events and News

2024: First Scout for Aphids, then Conduct an Early Spray if Aphids are above Thresholds in Winter Wheat

Source: Dr. Raul T. Villanueva, Entomology Extension Specialist

Aphids in Wheat

Several aphid species are key pests in small grains (wheat, barley, and cereal rye) in Kentucky for their role as vectors of barley yellow dwarf virus (BYDV). Among them, bird cherry oat and English grain aphids overwinter as nymphs or adults. These aphids start feeding on plants when temperatures are greater than 45° F and can then potentially transmit viruses. Below 45° F, aphids are inactive, lethargic, and sheltered in soil crevices near the bases of wheat stems.

Current Conditions & Management

Since January 23, to February 12, 2024, there were 13, 12, and 14 days where temperatures were greater than or equal to 45° F in Lexington, Princeton, and Mayfield in Kentucky (Figure 1), respectively. Thus, during those days, aphids might be feeding on plants, and if they are carrying the viruses, may be spreading them to healthy plants. Under these conditions, it is recommended that farmers and consultants scout commercial fields before conducting sprays for aphid management. If tallies are above the threshold levels indicated in Table 1, an insecticide spray needs to be considered. Calendar-based sprays or preventative sprays are not recommended as they are not part of integrated pest management (IPM) programs.

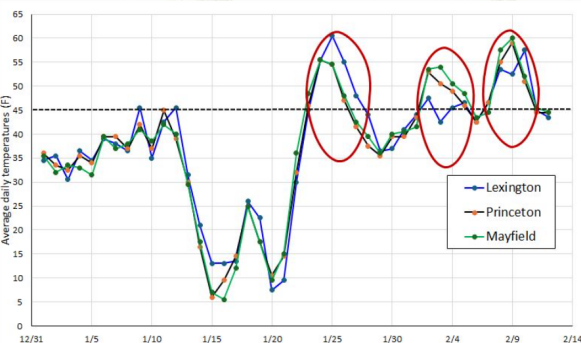


Figure 1. Daily average temperatures (Fahrenheit) from January 1 to February 12, 2024, in Lexington, Princeton, and Mayfield. On days where temperatures are greater than 45° F (red ellipses) aphids start to feed on small cereals.

Crop age (days post emergence)	N° of aphids per foot row
≤ 30 days post emergence	3
30 to 60 days post emergence	6
> 60 days post emergence	10

Table 1. The number of aphids per foot of wheat row required to support an insecticide application for management of BYDV.

Insecticide spray programs for aphid management should follow IPM practices instead of calendar-based programs. In Kentucky, the rest of the U.S., and many other parts of the world, calendar-based insecticide programs continue to be used due to time constraints for scouting, and economic savings achieved by reducing trips, and conducting combined applications of herbicides and fungicides across fields. However, as mentioned above, the use of IPM is recommended to avoid unnecessary application of insecticides, increase costs of production, reduce insecticide resistance, and kill natural enemies that may be keeping pests populations at low levels.

Pesticide Licensing and Trainings: I still haven't gotten my pesticide license yet, so I am still unable to give training. You are still welcome to go to any of the other surrounding extension offices trainings. The dates are listed on their websites and Facebook. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office or email me at gracey.moffitt@uky.edu.

Row Crops & Forages

Italian Ryegrass Control Field Tour

Thursday, March 28, 2024
8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Please meet at the Caldwell County Extension Office
1025 U.S. Highway 62 West, Princeton, KY
Sign-in begins at 8:30 a.m. CDT

A caravan will proceed to the UKREC in Princeton for plot tours
of Italian ryegrass research

Please pre-register by scanning
QR Code or clicking link:
https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3w9zPIbfbHT33JL



Credits — CCA: 3 CEUs for IPM; KY PAT: 1 CEU for Category 10, 2 CEUs for Category 1A



Italian ryegrass (aka Annual Ryegrass) is rapidly becoming one of the most problematic weeds in no-till corn and soybean production in Kentucky.

Presented by **Dr. Travis Legleiter, UK Extension Associate Professor - Weed Science**, this field tour will highlight the options available to Kentucky farmers for maximum control of this problematic weed in the fall and spring prior to corn and soybean planting.

For more information about the field tour call (859) 562-2569.

University of Kentucky
Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture Food and Environment

2024 IPM Training School
March 18th, 2024

Program

8:00 AM Registration

Field Crops

8:25 AM	Herbicide Resistance Screening in the Commonwealth of Kentucky	Dr. Samuel Revolinski
8:50 AM	Herbicide Resistant Weed Control	Dr. Travis Legleiter
9:15 AM	Cover Crops	Dr. Lloyd Murdock
9:40 AM	Keeping Cover Crops from Becoming a Pest Problem	Dr. Chad Lee
10:05 AM	Break	
10:20 AM	Management of Important Soilborne Diseases of Soybean	Dr. Carl Bradley
10:45 AM	Efficacy of Insecticides in Bt- and non-Bt field Corn and Problems Capturing Pest Moths	Drs. Ric Bessin Raul T. Villanueva
11:10 AM	The Agronomics and Economics of Various Nutrient Sources for Crop Production	Dr. Edwin Ritchey
11:35 AM	Application of Low-Cost GPS Technologies to Improve Input Use	Dr. Chris Teutsch

Horticulture

1:00 PM	Understanding the Mildews – Downy versus Powdery	Dr. Nicole Gauthier
1:25 PM	Greenhouse Disease Management	Ms. Arundathi Sharma
1:50 PM	Cover Cropping in Vegetable Production Systems: Benefits, Challenges, and Considerations	Dr. Rachel Rudolph
2:15 PM	Break	
2:30 PM	Everything Old is New Again	Dr. Shawn Wright
2:55 PM	Impact of Invasive Species on IPM	Dr. Jonathan Larson
3:20 PM	Current and Future Wildlife Management Conflicts for the Mid-South	Dr. Matt Springer

Cooperative Extension Service

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To attend in person or online, please click to [register](#)

	Pesticide Applicators CEUs	Certified Crop Adviser CEUs
Field Crops	Category 1A: 4	Soil & Water Management: 1 IPM: 2 Crop Management: 1
Horticulture	Category 1A: 3	IPM: 2 Crop Management: 1



Location	Contacts	
Warren County Extension Office 5162 Russellville Rd. Bowling Green, KY 42101	Zenaida Vilorio zenaida.vilorio@uky.edu (270) 365-7541 Ext. 21336	Ric Bessin r.bessin@uky.edu (859) 323-1120

Upcoming Office Events

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
MON	4: 4-H Shooting Sports Info Night 5-7	11: Quilting Club 10 4-H Book Club 4:30-6 (RSVP)	18: Woodworking Project Day: Birdhouse 9-3:30	25: Baked by Caryn for Beginners 1-2:30 (RSVP)
TUE	5: Adult Sewing 9-11 Game Day 9-12 Toolbox Series: Honeybees 5-6	12: Adult Sewing 9-11 4-H Lego Club 4:30-5:30	19: Woodworking Project Day: Birdhouse 9-3:30 Adult Sewing 9-11 Bags of Love 9:30-1:30 Interracial Women's Group 11	26: Adult Sewing 9-11
WED	6: Paint Fan Dance 11-12 (RSVP)	13: Cloverbud 4-H Club 4-5 (RSVP)	20: Scrapbooking 9-3 Paint Fan Dance 11-12 (RSVP)	27:
THURS	7: Needlework Club 10-12 Crochet Alley & Knit Row 1-3	14: Tech Class: Google Docs 10-11 Beading Circle 1-3	21: Game Day 9-12 Needlework Club 10-12 Crochet Alley & Knit Row 1-3	28: Beading Circle 1-3 St. Patrick's Lucky BINGO 1-3 (RSVP)
FRI	8: Arts & Crafts: Psanky 9:30 (RSVP) Dining with Diabetes 10-12 (RSVP)	15: Dining with Diabetes 10-12 (RSVP) McCracken County Seed Swap 4-6	22: Home-Based Micro Processing 9:30-2:30 (RSVP) Dining with Diabetes 10-12 (RSVP)	29: Homemaker Lesson: Savor the Flavor - Seasoning with Spices 10 CPR, AED, First Aid 1-4 (RSVP)

Event Calendar for March 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.

Recipe of the Month



Italian Turkey Sausage and Peppers

3 red bell peppers	6 cloves garlic, chopped	2 tablespoons Italian seasoning
2 green bell peppers	2 tablespoons olive oil, divided	8 4-ounce links of Italian turkey sausage
1 yellow bell pepper	2 teaspoons garlic powder, divided	¼ cup shredded mozzarella cheese
2 large tomatoes		
1 large sliced red onion		

Wash and **slice** the peppers and tomatoes; **place** in a large bowl. **Place** sliced onions and chopped garlic cloves in a small bowl and **set** aside. In a separate small bowl, **combine** 1 tablespoon of olive oil, 1 teaspoon of garlic powder, and Italian seasoning. **Drizzle** oil mixture over peppers and tomatoes, and lightly toss. **Slice** each sausage link into 5 or more pieces. **Heat** 1 tablespoon of olive oil and the remaining garlic powder in a large skillet over medium-high heat. **Add** sausage and **cook** until browned. **Add** peppers

and tomatoes. **Reduce** heat to medium-low; **cover** and **simmer** 15 minutes; **stir** as needed. **Add** onions and chopped garlic; **cover** and **cook** an additional 5 minutes. **Sprinkle** with mozzarella cheese. **Cover** and **simmer** until cheese melts.

Yield: 6 1-cup servings

Nutritional Analysis:

380 calories, 21 g fat, 5 g saturated fat, 110 mg cholesterol, 730 mg sodium, 17 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 8 g sugars, 0 g added sugars, 32 g protein.

Kentucky Bell Peppers

SEASON: June through the first frost, usually September.

NUTRITION FACTS: Sweet peppers are low in calories, high in vitamin C, and a good source of vitamin A. One raw, medium-sized pepper contains about 20 calories. Red peppers are higher in both vitamins C and A than green peppers.

SELECTION: Select peppers that are heavy for their size, with bright, shiny skins. Avoid flabby, wrinkled, or soft peppers.

STORAGE: Store unwashed in the refrigerator for 3 to 5 days. Place in the vegetable crisper or in plastic bags.

PREPARATION: To prepare peppers, wash carefully without bruising. Serve peppers raw, grilled, stuffed, or roasted. Add them to salads, casseroles, or Chinese and Mexican dishes.

PRESERVING: Peppers can be canned, dried, or frozen. To freeze: Wash, stem, and seed peppers. Package leaving no headspace. Seal and freeze.

KENTUCKY BELL PEPPERS

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

August 2019

Source: 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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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.