AUGUST 2023 ISSUE

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Newsletter by Fleming County Extension Office

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

Cooperative Extension Service

Fleming County P.O. Box 192; 1384 Elizaville Rd Flemingsburg, KY 41041 Office Phone: (606) 845-4641 extension.ca.uky.edu april.wilhoit@uky.edu



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A Note From Your Agent:

Hello All,

We're already half way through August; and over halfway through 2023. I know I say it every time, but time sure flies!

The 2023 Area Farm Field Day will be September 29th. It is free to attend and we have some really great door prizes that folks can win! In addition to the Farm Field Day we have several programs planned for this fall. Check out this issue for more info.

If you have questions, please reach out to me at april.wilhoit@uky.edu, by phone (606) 845-4641, or stop by the office during business hours. We're happy to help.

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April Wilhoit

Lexington, KY 40506



Schedule a time to come in for training or contact the office for info about the Online training. Contact the Fleming County Extension Office for more information: (606) 845-4641 april.wilhoit@uky.edu

Cooperative **Extension Service**

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kenrucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of rue, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnares, martist status, genetic information, age, veterans physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of the way be available with prior notice Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooper





Timely Tips

Les Anderson, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky



Spring-Calving Herd

- Fescue pastures don't generally produce much this month. Many of us have had some rain (some of us a bit too much) but the heat has waited until late summer to become an issue. Most of you may have some forage going into the usually dry months. Keep rotating pastures to permit calves to continue gaining weight. Always keep minerals available.
- Bulls should have been removed from the cow herd by the end of the month. They should be pastured away from the cow herd with a good fence and allowed to regain lost weight and condition. It is a good time to evaluate physical condition, especially feet and legs. Bulls can be given medical attention and still have plenty of time to recover, e.g., corns, abscesses, split hooves, etc. If removing the bull is not practical for you then call your herd veterinarian and schedule a pregnancy diagnosis. Market your "late-bred" cows and keep those that conceived early in the breeding season.
- Repair and improve corrals for fall working and weaning. Consider having an area to wean calves and retain ownership for postweaning feeding rather than selling "green", lightweight calves. Plan to participate in CPH-45 feeder calf sales in your area.

Fall-Calving Cows

- Dry cows should be moved to better pastures as calving time approaches. Cows should start calving next month. Yearling heifers may begin "headstart" calving later this month. Plan to move cows to stockpiled fescue for the breeding season, so it will soon be time to apply nitrogen fertilizer.
- Prepare for the fall-calving season (usually September). Get ready, be sure you have the following:
 - record book
 - ear tags for identification
 - calf puller
 - · castration equipment

General

- Perhaps the most tedious aspect of agriculture is keeping records, generating reports, and using data to make management decisions. Consider using one of the many electronic data collection and management systems available on the market.
- Provide shade and water! Cattle will need shade during the hot part of the day. Check water supply frequently – as much as 20 gallons may be required by high producing cows in very hot weather.
- Select pastures for stockpiling. Remove cattle and apply nitrogen when moisture conditions are favorable. Stockpiled fescue can be especially beneficial for fall-calving cows after calving. Reproductive rates are highest in fall-calving cows grazing stockpiled fescue.
- Avoid working cattle when temperatures are extremely high – especially those grazing high-endophyte fescue. If cattle must be handled, do so in the early morning.
- Do not give up on fly control in late summer, especially if fly numbers are greater than about 50 flies per animal. You can use a different "type" of spray or pouron to kill any resistant flies at the end of fly season.
- Keep a good mineral mix available at all times. The UK Beef IRM Basic Cow-Calf mineral is a good choice.
- Cattle may also be more prone to eat poisonous plants during periods of extreme temperature stress. They will stay in "wooded" areas and browse on plants that they would not normally consume.
 Consider putting a roll of hay in these areas and/or spraying plants like purple (perilla) mint that can be toxic.
- Take soil samples to determine pasture fertility needs. Fertilize as needed, this fall.



USE THE QR CODE OR CALL (606) 845-4641 TO SIGN-UP

DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS 9/1/23

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Developm MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Late Summer Alfalfa Planting

Take advantage of late-summer alfalfa seeding to get a jump on next year's yield. Slow initial growth during the 6- to 8-week establishment phase of alfalfa cuts off a significant portion of the growing season yield potential when alfalfa is planted in spring. For that reason, establishment-year yields don't measure up to second-year yields in this perennial crop. Alfalfa seedings in late summer can be very successful, and it's a great time of year to plant a new stand if soil moisture is adequate for stand establishment. Late-summer planting (mid-Aug.) offers some advantages over spring planting by allowing other crops to be grown. For example, planting after small-grain harvest, or following sorghum-sudan, or after early corn silage harvest. With adequate fall establishment, the new stand can begin its growth on schedule the following spring, ready to go into full production. ~ excerpt from NAFA News article by Robin Newell, **Alfalfa Partners.** Full article here.





Forage Timely Tips: June

- Do NOT graze cool-season pastures closer than 3 to 4 inches. This will help to conserve soil moisture and prevent overheating of the crowns.
- If drought conditions limit pasture growth, close off pastures and feed hay in a sacrifice area.
- Graze warm season annuals or perennials to allow cool season grasses to recover and to avoid endophyte-infected fescue.
- After first good rain in August, seed winter annuals (such as small grains, ryegrass, crimson clover, and brassicas) for late fall and early spring grazing.
- Plant alfalfa after first good rain in August to allow sufficient size going into winter and reduce potential for sclerotinia damage.
- Consider renovation of cool-season grass pastures that have thinned.
- In mid-August to early September, exclude livestock from pastures to be stockpiled and apply 60 lb N/A and any needed lime, P and K.



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

AREA FARM FIELD DAY

BRACKEN, FLEMING, LEWIS, MASON & ROBERTSON COUNTIES



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

MORNING TOPICS:

- ALL ABOUT BEES
- GENERAL SHEEP & GOAT PRODUCTION
- CATTLE VACCINES
- INSECT ID
- ELECTRIC FENCING DEMO

AFTERNOON TOPICS:

- IDENTIFYING WEEDS IN PASTURE & HAY FIELDS
- HIGH/LOW TUNNELS
- UTILIZING DRONES IN PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE

WILL BEGIN AT MASTERS ACRES: 3850 HELENA RD, FLEMINGSBURG

9:00AM-2:00PM

- 900 AM- VENDORS & SIGN-IN
- 9:50 AM- WELCOME
- 10:00 AM- FIRST MORNING SESSION SPEAKERS
- 11:00 AM- 2ND MORNING SESSION SPEAKERS
- 12:00 PM- FREE LUNCH & VENDORS
- 1:00 PM AFTERNOON SESSION SPEAKERS
- 2:00 PM- CONCLUSION OF EVENT

REGISTER BY QR CODE OR CALL YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE BY 9/22/23:

BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141

FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641

• LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732

MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808

ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796



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Lexington, KY 40506

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Wildfire Preparedness



By Simone Lewis - National Weather Service Charleston, WV



When the word *wildfire* comes to mind, images of burning forests in the western United States usually enter the thoughts of most. But did you know that Kentucky is also prone to wildfires? In fact, the state averages 1,447 wildfires a year! The following article will discuss what weather conditions are favorable for wildfire development, the weather alerts that are issued during periods of favorable fire weather, and what you can do to prepare for and prevent wildfires.



Photo Credit: Kentucky Emergency Management

The first question on your mind is probably "What is Fire Weather"? Essentially, fire weather is any sort of weather that can ignite or lead to rapid spread of fires. This includes thunderstorms (which contain strong gusty winds and lightning that can lead to rapid spread or ignition of a fire), days when the relative humidity is low (often in the early spring and fall seasons), and windy days (which acts to not only spread wildfires but also leads to the drying of vegetation, making it more susceptible to burning).

Wildfire Prevention

Most wildfires in the state of Kentucky are caused from arson or from uncontrolled debris burning. In fact, 90% of all wildfires in Kentucky are caused by humans. Unlike many fires in the western United States, most of the fires in Kentucky are fought by firefighters on the ground (Source: Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet). They are putting their lives in danger to control the spread of these fires. It is therefore important to always be fire aware, and heed any Fire Weather Watches or Red Flag Warnings issued by the NWS.

Here are some general guidelines to follow when the following products are issued:

Fire Weather Watch = BE PREPARED! Dangerous fire weather conditions are possible in the next few days but are not occurring yet.

Red Flag Warning = TAKE ACTION! Dangerous fire weather conditions are ongoing or expected to occur shortly. During a Red Flag Warning, you should avoid or use extreme caution when dealing with anything that could pose a fire hazard.

Do not start a campfire or ignite a burn pile.

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- Do not burn trash.
- Avoid using a lawnmower, chainsaw, or any other equipment that may emit sparks.
- Do not dispose of cigarette butts on the ground or outside of your car.
- If using an outdoor grill, make sure to have a water source nearby and do not dispose of the ashes until the Red Flag Warning has expired or been canceled AND the ashes are fully extinguished!
- Watch for smoke nearby. If you spot an unattended fire, call 911 and report it immediately!

What do I do to prepare?

Take personal responsibility by preparing long before the threat of a fire, so your home and family are ready.

- If there are concerns of fire potential, create a defensible space by clearing brush that is easier to ignite away from your home.
- Put together a basic emergency supply kit. Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights and generators.
- Plan escape routes and make sure all those residing within the home know the plan of action.
- Sit down with your family and close friends, and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go, and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency kit, or another safe place where it can be accessed in the event of an emergency.
- Review your insurance policies to ensure that you have adequate coverage for your home and personal property in the event of fire.
- Follow the latest NWS forecasts and listen to a NOAA Weather Radio for the latest updates.



Photo Credit: U.S. Forest Service

What are Kentucky's Fire Laws?

Lastly, it's important to know and heed the fire laws and seasons for the state of Kentucky. During the following periods, it is illegal to burn anything within 150 feet of any woodland or brushland between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

- Spring Forest Fire Hazard Season: February 15 April 30
- Fall Forest Fire Hazard Season: October 1 December 15

Also, burn bans can be issued at any time of the year if conditions warrant, particularly during periods of drought, and should always be followed.



2023 Horses & Horsemen:

Equipment and Facilities for the Small Acreage Horse Owner

Tuesday, September 12 at 5:00pm

RSVP to Mercer County Extension Office: 859-734-4378

Schedule:

5:00-Registration and trade fair

6:00-Dinner by Mercer County Cattlemen's Association

6:15-Welcome & Farm Overview by Desmar Stables

6:30—Tractor and Equipment Safety—Dale Dobson, KDA Farm Safety Program Administrator

7:00—What to consider in your farm layout, Dr. Bob Coleman

-Making Good Equipment Decisions, Dr. Morgan Hayes





Servings: 9



Location: Desmar Stables LLC

at Crockett Springs Farm 685 Handy Pike Harrodsburg, KY 40330

Peach Crisp

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Combine the oats, granola, flour and brown sugar in a medium mixing bowl. Cut small pieces of softened butter over the top. Cut butter into dry ingredients until well combined and crumbly. Lightly coat an 8-by-8-inch baking dish with cooking spray, add peaches. Sprinkle the dry ingredients and butter mixture over the peaches. Add spices and chopped nuts evenly over the top. Place on rack in the middle position in oven. Bake 25 to 30 minutes, or until topping is golden brown.

Nutrition Info: 200 calories, 8 g fat, 3.5 g saturated fat, 15 mg cholesterol, 5 mg sodium, 32 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 20 g sugars, 3 g protein



INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup quick cook oats
- 1/2 cup honey-sweetened granola
- 3 tablespoons whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- · 6 cups peaches, peeled and sliced
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans

Renovation Tips for Novel Endophyte Tall Fescue

Time is counting down with only a month until the ideal Tall Fescue planting time depending on where you are in the fescue belt. Plan on seeding September 1-15 in most of Kentucky. The Spray-Wait-Spray-Plant renovation plan requires the first application of glyphosate 30-40 days before planting followed by another application just before planting.



Walk fields to be renovated and scout for weeds. Are there problem weeds that might need an herbicide treatment in additional to glyphosate? An example would be areas where horsenettle or tall ironweed are present as these weeds may not be killed by glyphosate. Consider using a broadleaf herbicide effective on these weeds (and/or other target weeds). Only use herbicides that have short waiting periods from the time you spray until the time you seed.

Order your seed now if you haven't already. The variety you choose is likely not available on store shelves, so talk to your seed dealer to make sure they have your seed when you need it. Make sure you get the variety you order and check to make sure that the bags carry the Alliance for Grassland Renewal logo. This logo indicates that you are buying safe novel endophyte seed that has passed rigorous testing for seed quality and endophyte viability. Don't get talked into planting an endophyte-free tall fescue if you want stands that last more than a few years. If the store does not have your seed when you need it, wait! Waiting a week or two is better than planting endophyte-free or toxic KY-31 Tall Fescue.

Schedule a drill if you must use a rental unit, or do needed maintenance if you own your own drill. If you plan to broadcast seed then make sure your spreader is in good shape, and that you are using some level of tillage to prepare the seedbed. Immediately after broadcast seeding follow with a cultipacker or similar implement to insure good soil to seed contact.

If you missed a critical step for summer burndown/fall establishment, then go ahead and spray with glyphosate anyway, and after the field dies down drill in a small grain like rye, oats or wheat (or other cool season annual) for winter grazing. Follow with a summer annual grass next year and you will be on schedule to plant novel endophyte tall fescue pastures in the Fall of 2024. Ask your extension agent or other advisor for help, and attend an Alliance workshop during the coming year to learn all you can about Tall Fescue Pasture Renovation.~ excerpt from article by Dr. Matt Poore, NC State Beef Specialist and Alliance for Grassland Renewal chair.

BEEF BASH 2023

DATE: Thursday, September 21, 2023

University of Kentucky

C. Oran Little Research Center

1051 Midway Rd. Versailles, KY 40383

TIME: Registration starts at 1:30 PM EST

Programs start at 2:00 PM EST

MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US!

VISIT WITH:

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITORS **EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS &** DEMONSTRATIONS **UK PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATORS** KCA LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Tickets are \$15 and includes meal. To Pre-register, go to **Eventbrite.com** and search Beef Bash 2023



College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Beef Extension





For More Information Visit: https://www.facebook.com/KyBeefIRM/



NORMAL SEASONAL HOURS: TUESDAYS: 4PM- SELLOUT

SPECIAL DATES:

SUMMER CELEBRATIONS: IULY 11 & JULY 25, 4-7PM SATURDAYS: 8AM- SELLOUT CUSTOMER APPRECIATION: AUGUST 5TH

LOCATION: EXTENSION OFFICE PARKING LOT (1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG)











Cooperative Extension Service CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING CLASS **NOVEMBER 28 @ 5PM NOVEMBER 29 @ 9AM NOVEMBER 29 @ NOON** FLEMING COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE 1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG USE THE QR CODE OR CALL (606) 845-4641 TO REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 17TH CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO: FLEMING CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

Considerations for Preconditioning Calves this Fall

James Mitchell, University of Arkansas

As fall approaches, producers should already be thinking about preconditioning programs as part of their broader marketing plan. A few months ago, Kenny discussed always doing the "little things", even when times are good, and prices are high. Preconditioning is a "big thing" that producers should continue to do to add value to their calves. That preconditioning process includes castrating bull calves, removing horns, vaccinating calves for respiratory disease and blackleg, treating calves for internal parasites, and keeping calves at least 45 days after weaning. I'd argue 45 days isn't long enough and should be considered the minimum number of days to keep calves after weaning.

This year in Arkansas, preconditioned steer calves are bringing a \$14/cwt premium. Preconditioned heifer calves are averaging a \$17/cwt premium at auction. For a 500-pound calf, that's an additional \$72/head and \$83/head for steers and heifers. That price premium does vary by weight category, with lighter-wight calves receiving the highest premium for preconditioning. That premium is also consistent across years. There is a premium in years when cattle prices are high and in years when prices are low.

Producers get paid by the pound, so there is some disagreement about whether it pays to castrate bull calves. Kenny has discussed this topic at length in a previous article. The general finding is that selling bull calves instead of steers is never a price advantage, even after considering that bull calves will weigh more. Kenny calculated—depending on the specific price adjustment for weight—a bull calf would need to weigh 70-100 pounds more than a steer to have comparable value. Separate from preconditioning programs, steers are selling for \$20/cwt more in Arkansas than bulls.

Another consideration is the additional weight from keeping calves after weaning. Assuming calves are in a program that gains 1.5/lbs/day for 45 days, producers sell an additional 68 pounds at marketing. Based on current Arkansas price forecasts for early November and a \$10/cwt price slide, the value of gain for an additional 68 pounds is \$1.70/lb or \$116/head.

The final estimate for preconditioning calves considers value of gain, premiums for castrating bull calves, and the premium for weaning and vaccinating. That estimate can be compared against the cost of gain and preconditioning. These costs include feed (supplement, hay, and mineral) ear tags, dewormers, vaccines and boosters, chute charge, and labor. Other considerations should be given to timing (seasonality), location (venue and distance), lot size (there are no premiums for selling singles), and risk management (previously bought LRP contracts), among other factors.





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





FARM SCHOOL FOR WOMEN

THURSDAYS IN OCTOBER 6:00PM

FLEMING CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG

CALL YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE TO

REGISTER BY 9/29/2023

-BRACKEN: (606) 735-2141 -FLEMING: (606) 845-4641

-LEWIS: (606) 796-2732 -MASON: (606) 564-6808 -ROBERTSON: (606) 724-5796



OCTOBER 5 HAULING- LAWS & SECURING LOADS

OCTOBER 12 WILDLIFF CONTROL

OCTOBER 19 POULTRY HEALTH & NUTRITION

OCTOBER 26 PARTNERING GROUPS-LEARNING ABOUT RESOURCES

OR REGISTER USING THE QR CODE



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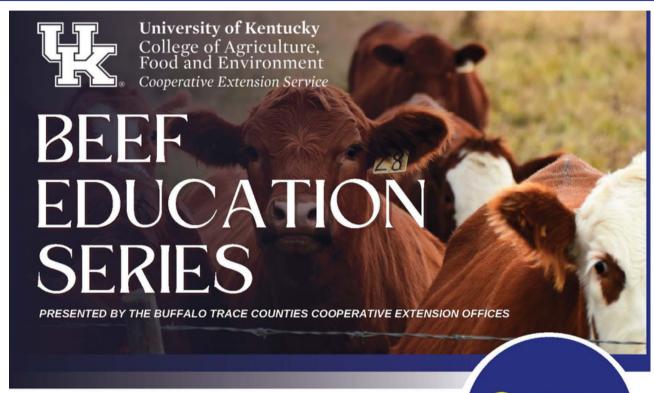






PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAININGS

CLASSES HAVE CONCLUDED,
HOWEVER, YOU CAN SCHEDULE A
TIME TO BE TRAINED BY CALLING
(606) 845-4641 OR EMAILING
APRIL.WILHOIT@UKY.EDU



- 11/2: CATTLE HEALTH @ FLEMING COUNTY EXTENSION
- 11/9: CATTLE NUTRITION @ MASON COUNTY EXTENSION
- 11/16: CATTLE FACILITIES @ LEWIS COUNTY EXTENSION

6PM
MEAL PROVIDED

CALL TO REGISTER OR USE OR CODE:

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
 FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- LEVVIS COOIVIT. (000) 770-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796





NUTRITION

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY: 10/27/23 TO PLAN FOR MEAL

FACILITIES



COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING

Presented by the Buffalo Trace Cooperative Extension Service Counties

NOVEMBER 17, 2023 9AM-3:30PM EST

30 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK



Category 1A: Agricultural Plant

Category 2: Forestry

Category 3: Ornamental & Turf & Lawn Care

Category 4: Seed Treatment

Category 10: Demonstration & Research

Category 11: Aerial



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

CALL (606)845-4641 TO REGISTER FOR THIS FREE TRAINING OR REGISTER USING THE OR CODE:



LOCATION: VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Cooperative Extension Service

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

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Important Dates



- August 15-November 14 | Master Gardener Program | Tuesdays | FC Ext. Office | 12:30PM **Deadline Passed**
- August 17-27 | Kentucky State Fair | Kentucky Expo Center, Louisville
- September 1 | DEADLINE to sign up for Free Hay Sampling
- September 12 | 2023 Horses & Horsemen | Desmar Stables LLC, Harrodsburg | 5:00PM
- September 14 | 82nd Annual 4-H & FFA Livestock Show & Sale | Fleming Co. High School
- September 21 | Beef Bash 2023 | C. Oran Little Research Center, Versailles | 1:30PM
- September 29 | Buffalo Trace Area Farm Field Day | See Flyer for More Info
- October 5 | Farm School For Women- Hauling- Laws & Securing Loads | FC Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- October 12 | Farm School For Women- Wildlife Control | FC Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- October 19 | Farm School For Women- Poultry Health & Nutrition | FC Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- October 26 | Farm School For Women- Partnering Groups- Learning About Resources | FC Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- November 2 | Beef Education Series: Cattle Health | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- November 9 | Beef Education Series: Cattle Nutrition | Mason Co. Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- November 16 | Beef Education Series: Cattle Facilities | Lewis Co. Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- November 17 | Commercial Pesticide CEU Program | Virtual Via Zoom | 9:00AM
- November 28 | Wreath Workshop | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 5:00PM **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
- November 29 | Wreath Workshop | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 9:00AM **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
- November 29 | Wreath Workshop | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 12:00PM **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**