

AUGUST 2025 ISSUE

 Cooperative
Extension Service

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Newsletter by Fleming County Extension Office

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:

As we are nearing fall we are finalizing details on our Fall and Winter educational programming. You will find several upcoming educational opportunities throughout this newsletter.

We are also offering free hay sampling and testing for the East Kentucky Hay Contest again this year. I know a lot of folks say their hay is not good enough to be in a contest but we are most interested in you knowing what nutrients are in your hay so that you are making informed decisions when feeding livestock this winter. And this year we all struggled to get hay cut and stored in a timely manner so of all years this may be the year you definitely want to test it. If you want to sign up you can use the QR code on the flyer in this issue, or call us at the office (606) 845-4641. We will come out sometime in the month of September to take samples.

We hope to see you at an upcoming program or event!

April Wilhoit



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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

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may 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, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Timely Tips

Les Anderson, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky



Spring-Calving Cow Herd

- Fescue pastures don't generally produce much this month. Some of us have had some rain but the heat has punished our pastures and cattle this summer. 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. We recommend Stocket.us for a simple, inexpensive web/app platform.
- 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 pour-on 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.

SUMMER 2025 SEASON



Good Idea Shop Talks

Spend your lunch break exchanging ideas with like-minded farmers about how to improve on-farm soil and water resources, while protecting profitability.

These farmer-to-farmer meet-ups take place on the following Thursdays at 11:30am CT / 12:30pm ET via Zoom:

- August 14th
- August 21st
- August 28th

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER:
[HTTPS://GOODIDEAFARM.ORG/SHOP-TALKS](https://goodideafarm.org/shop-talks)



FREE!
HAY TESTING

2025 EAST KENTUCKY HAY CONTEST

SIGN UP EVEN IF YOU THINK YOUR HAY ISN'T THAT GOOD!

 **Cooperative
Extension Service**

LIMITED TO 5 LOTS



**TESTING PROVIDES: NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF HAY &
HAYLAGE; RATIONS; & CAN RESULT IN: REDUCED FEED
COSTS, INCREASED ANIMAL PERFORMANCE, &
INFORMATION TO IMPROVE FORAGE STANDS**

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

DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS 9/1/25

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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
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Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



Forage Timely Tips: **AUGUST**

- Make plans to attend upcoming grazing and fencing schools.
- Do NOT graze cool-season pastures closer than 3 to 4 inches to conserve soil moisture and to 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.
- After the 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 need P and K

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

2025

BQCA Certification
at Fleming County Extension Office



**SEPTEMBER 23
8:30AM-10:00AM**

**SEPTEMBER 23
6:00-7:30PM**

**SEPTEMBER 30
11:00AM-12:30PM**



Pre-registration required, please use the QR code or call (606) 845-4641

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PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAININGS

JANUARY 27: 8AM-11AM

FEBRUARY 26: 5PM-8PM

MARCH 20: 11AM-2PM



TO REGISTER: CALL (606) 845-4641 OR USE THE QR CODE

AT FLEMING COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

DATES DON'T WORK FOR YOU? CONTACT APRIL TO DISCUSS OTHER OPTIONS: APRIL.WILHOIT@UKY.EDU

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: 7 DAYS PRIOR TO CLASS
****CLASSES ARE CANCELLED IF NO ONE REGISTERS****

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UK Cooperative Extension Service



BUFFALO TRACE AREA FARM SCHOOL

4 THURSDAYS IN OCTOBER

6:00PM MEAL WILL BEGIN AT 5:30PM

FLEMING CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG

OCTOBER 2
PLUMBING BASICS

OCTOBER 9
PLANT DISEASES 2.0

OCTOBER 16
BACKYARD POULTRY

OCTOBER 23
CONTAINER GARDENING

CALL YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE TO REGISTER BY 9/26/2025

-BRACKEN: (606) 735-2141
 -FLEMING: (606) 845-4641
 -LEWIS: (606) 796-2732
 -MASON: (606) 564-6808
 -ROBERTSON: (606) 724-5796



OR REGISTER USING THE QR CODE

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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rinse & Return



SEPTEMBER 25, 2025



10AM-12PM



FLEMING CO. EXTENSION OFFICE
 1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG



UK Cooperative Extension Service
 Agriculture and Natural Resources

1. TRIPLE RINSE OR PRESSURE RINSE ALL CONTAINERS WHEN EMPTIED
2. DISPOSE OF THE CAPS & REMOVE SLEEVES & LABELS FROM CONTAINERS
3. UNRINSED CONTAINERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

MORE INFO

SCAN QR CODE OR CALL (606) 845-4641



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CAIP EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES- FLEMING COUNTY

ONLINE AT ANYTIME:

- Visit: <https://anr.ca.uky.edu/caip-training> for instructions
- Visit: <https://campus.extension.org/enrol/index.php?id=1970> to access the online training site

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

- Programs listed in this newsletter



****BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025 ONLY UK EXTENSION EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WILL COUNT TOWARDS CAIP EDUCATION****

CONTACT: (606) 845-4641 OR APRIL.WILHOIT@UKY.EDU FOR MORE INFO

Pub. Of the Month—Establishing Livestock Pastures and Hayfields

This new establishment publication will soon be available through UK Ag. Communications but we wanted to include some highlights and a link to a preprint version. Whether you are seeding all or part of a pasture or hayfield, following these recommendations will increase your chances of success. Control problem weeds prior to establishment. Weeds should be controlled during the season prior to establishment. Follow the reseeding restrictions found on the herbicide label(s) as this will prevent damage to new seedlings and reduce competition.

Apply needed lime and fertilizer amendments.

Use High –quality seed of an improved variety. . Use a variety that has been proven to be a top performer under Kentucky conditions.

Inoculate legume seed. Inoculating legumes with the proper strain of nitrogen-fixing bacteria helps to ensure optimum nitrogen fixation.

Use proper seeding rate. Seeding rates will vary by species and whether sown alone or in a mixture.

Plant at the right time. Grasses and clovers can be seeded in either spring or fall. However, cool-season grasses (Kentucky bluegrass, orchardgrass, timothy, and tall fescue) are most easily established in the late summer and early fall.

Prepare seedbed and use proper seeding method. Proper establishment requires that seed be planted at the correct depth, which will vary depending on seed size, and be in good contact with the soil.

Manage post-seeding sod and weed competition. New seedlings often fail due to competition from existing vegetation and newly emerged weeds as the desired seedlings are emerging and establishing.

Allow the immature seedlings to become established. Allow new stands to become fully established before putting them back into full use.

For more information go to:

<https://forages.ca.uky.edu/sites/forages.ca.uky.edu/files/Establishing%20Livestock%20Pasture%20AGR-64%20update%20preprint%20version.pdf>

~ authors S. Ray Smith, Jimmy Henning, Chris Teutsch, Stephanie Q. Smith

Establishing Livestock Pastures and Hayfields (AGR-64)
Preprint version

S. Ray Smith, Jimmy Henning, Chris Teutsch, Stephanie Q. Smith
University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment

Introduction

Profitable ruminant livestock operations depend on the production of high-quality forages. High yields can only be obtained from a dense, vigorous stand of an adapted forage species. The first step in obtaining such a stand is establishment. The establishment phase of forage production is critical because the response to all other management inputs depends on having a healthy and vigorous stand. Successful forage establishment requires careful planning and attention to detail.

Establishment principles detailed in this publication include proper fertilization, species and variety selection, seeding dates and rates, seeding methods, and managing weed competition. Management principles include grazing plans and rotations, paddock design and fencing, pest control, cultural practices, annual fertilization based on soil testing and weed management.

Basic Establishment Requirements

Whether you are seeding all or part of a pasture or hayfield, following these recommendations will increase your chances of success.

Control problem weeds prior to establishment. Weeds should be controlled during the season prior to establishment. Follow the reseeding restrictions found on the herbicide label(s) as this will prevent damage to new seedlings and reduce competition. Most herbicides have a waiting period between spraying and seeding, and the restriction likely will be different when seeding grasses compared to legumes. At least two well-timed applications of a non-selective herbicide will be needed for the elimination of toxic tall fescue and perennial weeds. Remember that herbicides must be applied to actively growing stands to work effectively; herbicide activity may be reduced if plants have recently been mowed or grazed, or if it is too cold or too dry. Consult AGR-172: *Weed Management in Grass Pastures, Hayfields, and Other Farmstead Sites* for specific information (<https://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/agr/agr172/agr172.pdf>).

Apply needed lime and fertilizer amendments. A current soil test will indicate the needs for lime, phosphorus, and potassium and provide recommendations for nitrogen based on whether a hayfield or pasture is being established. Lime should be applied at least 6 months before establishment (Figure 1). More information on soil sampling can be found in AGR-257: *Soil Sampling Pastures and Hayfields*. For this publication and others on managing soil fertility go to the UK Forages Extension website (https://forages.ca.uky.edu/TOOLS_FERTILITY).



Figure 1. Commercial truck spreading fertilizer.

MASTER CATTLEMAN PROGRAM

PRESENTED BY THE BUFFALO TRACE COUNTIES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICES

THURSDAYS: JANUARY 8-FEBRUARY 12

- 1/8/26: GENETICS (AT MASON COUNTY)
- 1/15/26: MARKETING & PROFITABILITY (AT BRACKEN)
- 1/22/26: HERD HEALTH (AT FLEMING COUNTY)
- 1/29/26: NUTRITION (AT MASON COUNTY)
- 2/5/26: REPRODUCTION & RECORDS (AT LEWIS CO.)
- 2/12/26: FACILITIES & WINTER FEEDING (AT ROBERTSON)

MEAL BEGINS AT 5:30PM
we will serve until a little after 6pm

PROGRAM 6PM-9PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY: 12/1/25

CALL TO REGISTER OR USE QR CODE:

- 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

\$100 per person OR \$125 per couple

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University of Kentucky

Commerical Turf & Lawn

CEU'S PENDING APPROVAL

- Kenneth Clayton: Weed ID & Control
Turf Extension Associate, University of Kentucky
- Dr. Jonathan L. Larson, PhD: Insect ID & Control
Assistant Extension Professor - Entomology, University of Kentucky
- Julie Beale: Disease ID and Control
Scientist III, Plant Pathology, University of Kentucky

MAYSVILLE/MASON COUNTY RECREATION PARK, 2340 OLD MAIN ST, MAYSVILLE, KY 41056 (BROWNING SHELTER)

9/24/25

9:00 AM - Noon

Lunch will be provided

Weed ID & Control

Insect ID & control

Disease ID & control

Registration is required for this program please call or scan to register. 606-564-6808

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University of Kentucky

SOIL PROPERTIES WORKSHOP

SEPT 16, 2025
8:30 AM-3 PM EST

Eastern Kentucky University
Meadowbrook Farm
485 Whitt Road
Richmond, KY 40475

We will examine three soil pits with distinctly different profile properties to discuss how they will influence water and nutrient retention and delivery

Key topics include:

- Plant available water
- Soil texture
- Nutrient profile

CCA Credits: 5.5 CEUs

For questions contact Lori Rogers
lori.rogers@uky.edu 270-365-7541 ext 21317

Pre-registration is required at
KATSSoilPropertiesRichmond2025.eventbrite.com

Cost \$105
Lunch provided

KATS
Kentucky Agriculture Training School

Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
University of Kentucky

KENTUCKY MECHANICAL WEED CONTROL FIELD DAY

UK Horticulture Research Farm
Lexington, KY

SEPT 23
8 AM - 4 PM EST

"Investing in new equipment without seeing it in action is daunting. This was a great opportunity to get up close and learn about the finer points of various tools."

-KY Farmer, Midwest Mechanical Weed Control Field Day

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University of Kentucky

MIDWEST
Horticulture 101

OAK
Orchard & Vineyard

GLACIAR
Glacial Drift

Center for Crop Diversification
University of Kentucky

Hay Testing Even More Important in 2025

Dr. Chris Teutsch, UK Research and Education Center at Princeton

In many parts of Kentucky first cutting hay was delayed. Although yields were good, forage quality is another story. As the grass plant reaches maturity (gets mature seed) yield goes up, but quality decreases (Figure 1). This year we were on the right side of this figure, good yield but lower quality. We have already got our hay testing results back from the lab for our first cutting and that is exactly what they show (Table 1).

I wish we could have been more timely in our hay harvest this spring but weather conditions were just not conducive to dry hay harvest. In fact, weather records indicate that we are seeing a trend toward fewer baling days in May (baling day = 3 curing days + 1 harvest day). It is just getting tougher to be timely with our first cutting harvested as dry hay. So, the question becomes what do we do? The list of practical solutions is short; in fact, there is really one viable alternative and that is baleage. High quality baleage can be made with a curing window as short as 2 days (one day to mow and wilt and a second day to bale and wrap). This provides more opportunities to harvest at the correct stage of maturity (late boot to early head).

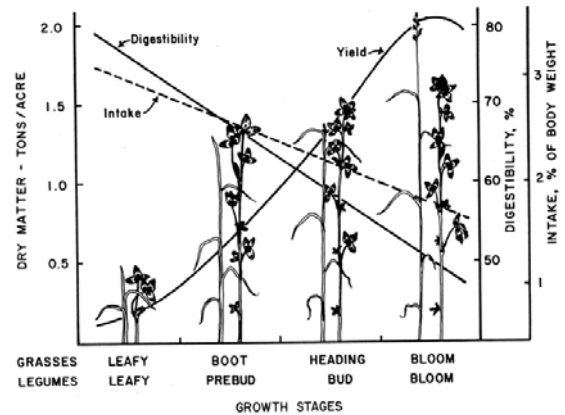


Figure 1. As plant maturity increases, yield increases and forage quality (digestibility and crude protein) decreases. The single most important factor impacting forage quality is stage of maturity at harvest.

| Field | CP† | ADF | NDF | TDN | Meet CP Requirements | | Meet TDN Requirements | |
|-------|------|------|------|------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | Dry | Lactating | Dry | Lactating |
| 1 | 8.9 | 40.1 | 59.1 | 55.5 | yes | no | yes | no |
| 2 | 9.9 | 39.4 | 60.0 | 56.2 | yes | no | yes | no |
| 3 | 8.2 | 41.6 | 67.2 | 53.8 | yes | no | yes | no |
| 4 | 10.6 | 41.0 | 64.5 | 54.5 | yes | yes | yes | no |
| 5 | 8.3 | 40.7 | 65.6 | 54.8 | yes | no | yes | no |
| Avg | 9.2 | 40.6 | 63.3 | 55.0 | yes | no | yes | no |

Table 1. Forage quality of 2025 first harvest hay at UK Research and Education Center in Princeton. †CP, crude protein, ADF, acid detergent fiber, NDF, neutral detergent fiber, TDN, total digestible nutrients.

Hay Testing Even More Important in Wet Years

In years like this one, hay testing becomes even more important. Since most of Kentucky's first cutting hay was put up at an advanced stage of maturity, testing is going to be a critical part of making sure that we meet the nutrient requirements of our cows this winter. The single most important factor impacting rebreeding in cow herds is body condition at calving. To design an effective supplementation program for our lower quality hay we must know what the quality is. If you have never tested your hay, this is the year to start!

FORAGE MANAGEMENT TIPS

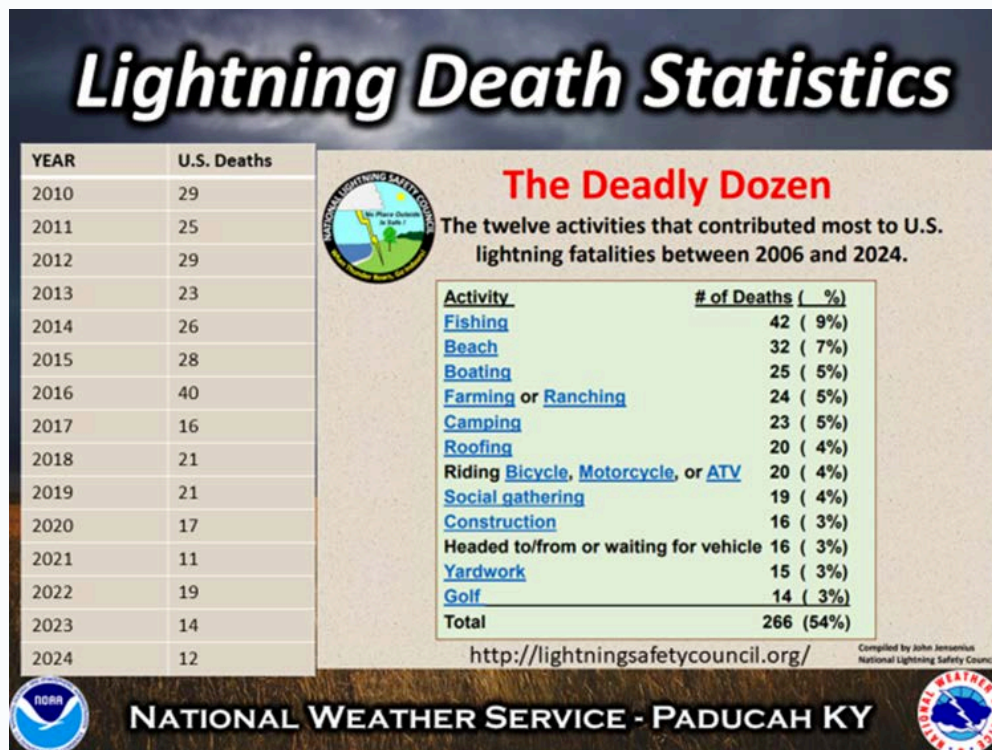
| |
|---|
| ✓ Test first cutting hay and use the results to develop a supplementation strategy for this winter. |
| ✓ Graze summer annuals pastures and fertilize with 40-60 lb N/A if regrowth is desired. |
| ✓ Identify pastures to stockpile for winter grazing. Pastures should be well drained and have a strong sod. Limit summer grazing so that they are ready to grow as conditions cool and rain comes in late summer. |
| ✓ Do NOT mow hayfields or graze pastures closer than 4-5 inches. |
| ✓ Soil test pastures to determine nutrient needs. |
| ✓ Use UKY variety testing results to select varieties that will be planted in the fall. |
| ✓ If drought occurs, confine animals to one pasture and feed hay. |

Lightning Safety

By Derrick Snyder - National Weather Service Paducah, KY



While the risk for severe thunderstorms that produce tornadoes, large hail, and damaging winds is greatest during the spring across most of the country, the dangers of lightning can occur during all times of the year. Every year, hundreds of people are seriously injured from lightning strikes. The good news is that lightning deaths have trended downward in recent years thanks to greater preparedness and education. However, numerous people are still killed every year. Looking at the statistics for lightning fatalities, the majority of lightning deaths occurred while people were doing outdoor activities.



The deadliest activity when it comes to lightning strikes is fishing, followed by beach going, boating, camping, farming/ranching, riding bikes/motorcycles/ATVs, roofing, gathering outside, working construction, walking to a vehicle, yardwork, and playing soccer or golf. If you are caught outside during a thunderstorm, remember that there is no safe place outside from lightning. If a thunderstorm is occurring or nearby, seek shelter inside a sturdy enclosed structure. A hard-topped vehicle can also provide good shelter.

Keep these things in mind when it comes to lightning safety:

1. Your chances of being struck by lightning depend on how you react when storms are in the area.
2. Remember: "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!" If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning!
3. The threat of lightning increases as a storm approaches, peaks when it is overhead, and gradually diminishes as it moves away.
4. Many people wait too long to get to a safe place and then go back outside too soon before the threat is over. Wait about 30 minutes after you hear the last rumble of thunder to return outside.

BUFFALO TRACE COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION SERVICE OFFICES PRESENTS

NOVEMBER 7, 2025

BARNYARD THEATER

SPONSORED BY:
(MORE SPONSORS COMING SOON)



FEATURING

DAVID APPELMAN
CHUCK BAILEY
ADAM HINTON
JENNIFER MEADOWS



STRAUB ELEMENTARY GYMNASIUM

387 CHENAULT DRIVE, MAYSVILLE, KY

PROGRAM INFORMATION:



4:00PM-5:45PM HEALTH SCREENINGS



6:00PM- DINNER & SHOW

- FREE CHILDCARE
- GENERAL SCREENINGS
- RESP. FIT TESTING
- VISION CHECK
- FREE GIVEAWAYS
- DRAWING FOR UK TICKETS

FREE



ADMISSION

ADMIT ONE



**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION
OFFICE FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS AT:**

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Pub of the Month: Stockpiling for Fall Grazing

Now is the time to prepare for stockpiling fescue pastures. Simply follow the guidelines: Choose a strong tall fescue sod in a field that is well drained. To get the maximum yield response to nitrogen applications you will need a healthy stand of tall fescue. Choosing a field that is well-drained will help to ensure that the stockpile can be grazed with minimal pugging damage during the wet winter months.

Clip pastures that will be stockpiled to 3-4 inches prior to applying nitrogen. Clipping pastures removes old growth and increases the forage quality of the stockpiled grass. Apply 60-80 lb of nitrogen per acre in mid-August to early-September. Applying nitrogen too early can stimulate warm-season grass growth in pastures, while applying nitrogen too late decreases dry matter yield. When applying nitrogen in early to mid-September, decrease application rates to 40-60 lb/A.

Allow growth to accumulate until mid-December before grazing. If limited grazing is available, feed hay during late summer and fall to allow pastures to stockpile.

Graze stockpiled pastures that contain legumes first. Legumes deteriorate at faster rate than grass and should be grazed first to minimize losses.

Strip graze tall fescue to maximize grazing days. Ideally, allocating only enough stockpiled grass for 2-3 days will increase grazing days per acre by 30 to 40%. However, if you work off the farm, it may make more sense to allocate 7 days of grass. This would allow you move fences on days off.

Frost seed legumes on grazed areas. Closely grazed stockpile provides an excellent opportunity to establish legumes in grass dominated pastures. Broadcasting the seed as the pasture is being grazed can enhance soil-seed contact and increase overseeding success.

~Excerpt of article by Dr. Chris Teutsch for the July issue of Cow County News. For the full article go to the website:

<https://issuu.com/cowcountrynews/docs/2407cowc-a> or go to the stockpiling publication on the UK Forage Website: <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/agr/agr162/agr162.pdf>

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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY—COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Stockpiling for Fall and Winter Pasture

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Many cattle producers can take advantage of the late summer-fall growing conditions to obtain high-quality pasture for fall and early winter grazing. This practice is called stockpiling. Management decisions for optimum stockpiling include selecting grass species, timing, fertilizing, grazing management or utilization, selecting classes of cattle, and designing grazing systems for efficient utilization.

Grasses to Stockpile

The best grass for stockpiling is a cool-season grass that will return its green color and forage quality later into winter. In addition, the grass should be somewhat resistant to low temperatures and have the capabilities of forming a good sod. Kentucky has two adapted grasses that have these characteristics: tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass. Tall fescue produces more fall and winter growth than bluegrass (Table 1).

Table 1. Yield and crude protein content of Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue produced from Aug. 15 to Dec. 1 under different levels of N fertilization at Lexington (average of three years).

| Nitrogen Applied lb/acre | Bluegrass | | Fescue | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| | Yield lb/acre | % Protein | Yield lb/acre | % Protein |
| 0 | 700 | 12.8 | 1700 | 11.1 |
| 45 | 1600 | 15.5 | 2800 | 11.8 |
| 90 | 2100 | 19.1 | 3900 | 14.8 |

Source: Taylor, T.R., and Templeton Jr., R.C. 1976. Agron. J. Vol. 68, Mar-Apr.

Time to Begin Stockpiling

Late July-early August is the time to begin stockpiling for fall and winter use. Remove cattle in late July or early August, apply necessary fertilizer, and allow the grass to accumulate growth until November or December. Make sure that summer growth has been removed to 3 to 4 inches by grazing or clipping so that stockpile production comes from new grass regrowth.

During the stockpiling period, August 1 to November 1, other available forages such as sorghum-sudan hybrids, sudangrass, bermudagrass, grass-lespedeza, and grass-clover should be used. After frost, alfalfa-grass and clover-grass growth should be grazed first before moving to grass fields.

Fertilizer Needed

A soil test should be taken to determine the phosphorus, potassium, and lime necessary. Nitrogen should be topdressed at the rate of 40 to 60 pounds of actual N per acre on bluegrass and 40 to 100 pounds on tall fescue. When N was applied August 15 and yields were taken in December, Kentucky researchers have shown that bluegrass fertilized with 45 pounds of nitrogen per acre had a yield increase of 20 pounds of dry matter for each pound of nitrogen applied. In the same study, tall fescue showed an even greater nitrogen use efficiency with 24.4 pounds of dry matter produced for each pound of nitrogen applied. Additional studies have shown that the greatest yield increases occur when N application occurs soon after August 1 (Table 2). Nitrogen applications before August 1 may encourage the growth of summer grasses such as crabgrass and foxtail and subsequently reduce the production of bluegrass and tall fescue. Source of nitrogen will also influence N use efficiency with urea 79 to 89% as effective as ammonium nitrate on an equivalent nitrogen basis (Table 3).

Table 2. Effect of time of nitrogen application on production efficiency of KY 31 tall fescue.

| Date N Applied | Nitrogen Efficiency lb DM/lb N added |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Aug 1 | 27.2 |
| Aug 15 | 25.8 |
| Sep 1 | 19.2 |
| Oct 1 | 10.8 |

*Dry matter.
Source: Mumford, Lloyd W. 1982. Agronomy Notes, Vol. 15, No. 2, April 1982.

Table 3. Pounds of tall fescue 10 weeks after N application.

| Application Date | lb/acre % | | | |
|------------------|-----------|------------------|------|------|
| | None | Ammonium Nitrate | Urea | U/N* |
| Early August | 786 | 1683 | 1406 | 84 |
| Mid-August | 741 | 1438 | 1287 | 89 |
| September | 372 | 1076 | 852 | 79 |

*Efficiency of urea compared to ammonium nitrate.
Source: University of Kentucky.

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- **September 23** | BQCA | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 8:30AM
- **September 23** | BQCA | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 6:00PM
- **September 25** | Rinse & Return | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 10:00AM
- **September 30** | BQCA | Fleming Co. Ext. Office | 11:00AM
- **October 2** | Farm School #1 | Fleming Co. Ext. | 6:00PM
- **October 9** | Farm School #2 | Fleming Co. Ext. | 6:00PM
- **October 16** | Farm School #3 | Fleming Co. Ext. | 6:00PM
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- **November 7** | Barnyard Theater | Straub Elem. | 6:00PM



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