

FEBRUARY 2025

AG NEWS TODAY

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Cooperative Extension Service

Livingston County

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NOTE FROM YOUR LOCAL AGRICULTURE AGENT

Welcome to the February Edition of Our Agriculture Newsletter!

As winter continues to blanket the fields, the agricultural world is already looking ahead to the upcoming season of growth and renewal. In this issue our focus is on overseeding pastures in Kentucky. Whether you're planting, planning, or simply reflecting on last year's harvest, February is the perfect time to assess, learn, and prepare for success. Read on to discover helpful tips, insights, and updates that will help you thrive in 2025 and beyond!

Adam Barnes

Adam Barnes - CEA for ANR Livingston County

This issue:

Upcoming Pesticide Trainings

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 12TH 2025
12:00PM HELD AT
LIVINGSTON COUNTY COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION OFFICE RSVP BY CALLING
1.270.928.2168

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27TH
2025 12:00PM RSVP BT CALLING
1.270.928.2168

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27TH
2025 6:00PM RSVP BY CALLING
1.270.928.2168

Virtual IMP Training School

WEDNESDAY MARCH 12TH 2025
STARTS AT 8:00AM-3:20PM FOR
QUESTIONS CALL 1.270.928.2168
FOR QUESTIONS RSVP ONLINE

Overseeding Pastures In Kentucky

Clover Frost Seeding

Soil Sampling

NOW IS THE TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT GETTING THOSE GARDEN AND FEILD SAMPLES IN FOR SPRING! THE FIRST 25 ARE FREE!





Farmers Monthly Recipe



Green Bean and Ham Soup

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 4 cups fresh green beans, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces | 3 whole carrots, peeled and sliced | ¼ teaspoon black pepper |
| 3 cups russet potatoes, unpeeled and cubed | 1 pound fully cooked ham, cut into bite-sized pieces | 1 teaspoon garlic powder |
| 2 small onions, thinly sliced | 9 cups water | 1 cup half and half |
| | 1 teaspoon salt | 2 tablespoons corn starch |
| | | ¼ cup cold water |

Place green beans, potatoes, onions, carrots, ham and the nine cups water into a large soup pot; **cover** and bring to a **boil**. **Reduce** heat to medium and **simmer**, uncovered, about 45 minutes or until the vegetables are tender. **Remove** the pot from the heat and **add** the salt, black pepper, garlic powder and half and half. **Return** to heat and bring to a **simmer** again. **Combine** corn starch and

the ¼ cup cold water in a small bowl. When simmer begins, **combine** the corn starch mixture into the soup and stir well. Allow the soup to remain on the heat for 5-7 more minutes while it thickens.
Yield: 12, 1 cup servings
Nutritional Analysis: 140 calories, 4.5 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 25 mg cholesterol, 670 mg sodium, 14 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 3 g sugar, 10 g protein



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



DONT FORGET TO LIKE AND FOLLOW LIVINGSTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES PAGE ON FACEBOOK!



Livingston County

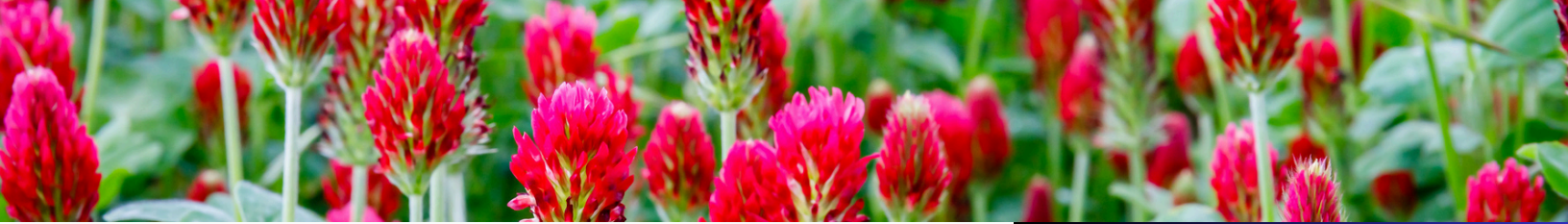
ANR

University of Kentucky
 College of Agriculture,
 Food and Environment

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Overseeding Pastures in Kentucky

written by Ray Smith - Overseeding of pastures is an excellent management tool that improves pasture production, forage quality, and ensures a good ground cover the following year without major pasture renovations. Overseeding consists of planting seed in a field with existing grass cover in order to fill in bare patches and thicken the stand. It can be done over the entire pasture or limited to trouble areas. The best time for overseeding is the fall when weed competition is low and ideal growing conditions exist for cool-season grasses.

Controlling competition from weeds is an important step in overseeding. While herbicides are an effective way of controlling weeds, spraying may also hinder young seedlings, resulting in a failed establishment. Carefully check the label for the recommended waiting period before seeding. In general, weeds are less aggressive in the fall, making it the best time to overseed. Usually, close mowing or grazing can help seedlings establish.



Many overseeding applications fail to establish due to grazing the pasture too soon after seeding and grazing too heavy the first 6– 8 months.

Proper seeding method is also an important factor in overseeding success. The goal of any seeding method is to place the seed $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch into the soil and cover it to achieve good seed to soil contact. Using a no-till drill is recommended to provide the best chance of success. Harrowing before and after broadcast seeding is another seeding method; however it is much less accurate and effective than a no-till drill. Using a cultipacker or roller after the harrow method can help improve seed to soil contact. Finally, frost seeding is an option for overseeding clovers. Frost seeding is broadcasting seed onto the ground during mid to late February and relying on the freeze and thaw cycle to work the seed into the soil. Frost seeding works well with red and white clover, but success is limited with grasses and alfalfa.

Allowing time for seedlings to establish is another critical step in overseeding. Returning livestock to an overseeded pasture too soon can wipe-out any seedlings by grazing or trampling. Ideally, a pasture should have six to eight months of rest after overseeding before heavy grazing resumes; however, a few sessions of light grazing can generally be tolerated by seedlings.

Another option is to take a spring hay cutting before returning to full grazing. If it is not possible for animals to be removed from the pasture for six to eight months, consider using temporary fencing and overseeding half of a pasture one year, then the other half the next.





Overseeding Pastures in Kentucky - Continued

The following recommendations will increase the chances of a successful overseeding application:

- Apply any needed lime and fertilizer amendments – An up-to-date soil test will indicate the needs of many nutrients needed for both established and growing plants. For more information, contact your local County Extension Agent or consult the UK publication Lime and Fertilizer Recommendations, AGR-1 (www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage under “Publications”). A low rate of nitrogen at seeding (30 to 40 lbs/acre) will improve the chances of successful establishment.

- Use high-quality seed of an improved variety – Use a variety that has proven to be a top performer under Kentucky conditions. The University of Kentucky forage testing program tests the survival of cool-season grasses and legumes under grazing and reports these findings in Forage Variety Trials, www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage. High-quality seed has high rates of germination and is free of contamination from weed seed. Remember, quality seed will produce a pasture that lasts for years; “cheap seed” will only lead to headaches.

- Plant enough seed – Seeding rates are determined by the grass mixture to be planted. See Table 1 for the recommended seeding rates for common forage plants.

- Use the best seeding method available – Using a no-till drill is recommended for overseeding, as discussed previously.

- Control competition – Close mowing or grazing prior to overseeding will reduce existing grass and weed competition.

- Allow immature seedlings to become established – In addition to limiting grazing of an overseeded pasture, also limit herbicide applications at critical times. Typically, seeding grasses should not happen until six to eight weeks after spraying and wait an additional six to eight weeks before spraying a newly overseeded stand. With clovers the waiting period for seeding after spraying can be six or more months with some herbicides. Always follow herbicide labels.

- Allow immature seedlings to become established – In addition to limiting grazing of an overseeded pasture, also limit herbicide applications at critical times.

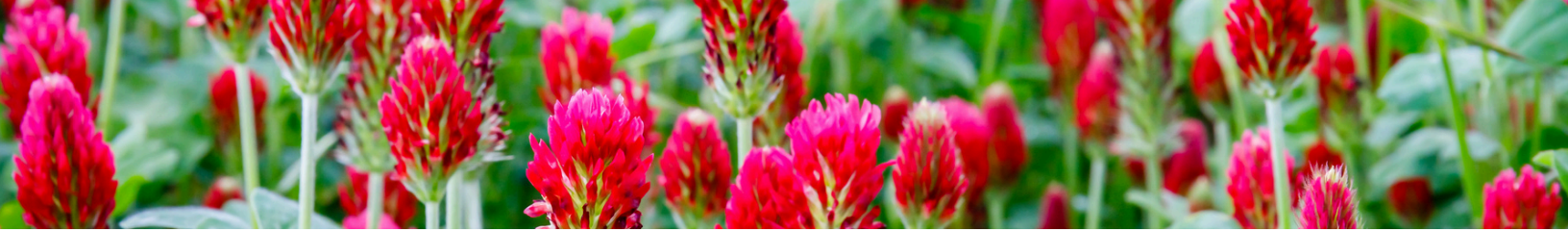
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- Other Considerations When Overseeding - Perennial ryegrass is a short-lived, cool-season grass that has exceptionally high seedling vigor and is often used to thicken up troublesome areas. If perennial ryegrass is seeded at high rates (above 20%) it will outcompete other grasses, which will result in bare spots as perennial ryegrass dies out in two to three years. Perennial ryegrass can be infected with an endophyte similar to that of tall fescue, therefore only endophyte-free perennial ryegrass should be seeded.

Purchase seed well in advance of overseeding. High quality seed is in high demand in the fall and may not be available at that time.

Store seed in a cool, dry area to maintain germination levels. Always store in a container that is rodent proof.





Overseeding Pastures in Kentucky - Continued

Table 1. Common seeding rates and optimum seeding dates for pasture plant species

Species	Rate lb/A (Seeded Alone)	Rate lb/A (In Mixtures)	Optimum Seeding Dates
Endophyte-free or novel endophyte tall fescue	20-25	10-15	8/20 - 9/20
Orchardgrass	15-20	10-15	8/20 - 9/20
Kentucky Bluegrass	15-20	10-15	8/20 - 9/20
Perennial Ryegrass (Endophyte-free)	20-25	5-10	8/20 - 9/20

Categories: General Establishment/Renovation

For more information or if you have any questions visit your local Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office at 803 US 60 East Smithland, Kentucky 42081 or contact us by phone at 1.270.928.2168 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.



Virtual IPM Training School



March 12th, 2025

Zoom 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM CST

8:00-8:15 Welcome Dr. Ric Bessin

Morning: Field Crops

8:15	Updating Nitrogen, Phosphate and Potash Rate Recommendations (AGR-1) for Kentucky Grain Growers - Dr. John Grove
8:40	Fertilization Methods for Organic Crop Production - Dr. Edwin Ritchey
9:05	Improving ROI for Corn Fungicide Applications - Dr. Kiersten Wise
9:30	Management of Foliar Diseases of Soybean - Dr. Carl Bradley
9:55	Coffee Break
10:10	Slug Observations and Implications from Delaware - Dr. David Owens , Michael Crossley and Ben Sammarco, University of Delaware
10:35	Three Emergent Soybean Pests: Snails, Three-Cornered Alfalfa Hopper and Bean Leaf Beetles - Dr. Raul Villanueva
11:00	Potential Responses of Insect Pests to Climate Change - Dr. Nick Teets
11:25	Weed Control in 2025 and Beyond - Dr. Travis Legleiter
11:50	Lunch Break

Afternoon: Horticulture

1:00	Difficult Weeds and Management Strategies - Dr. Shawn Wright
1:25	Techniques for Managing Common Invasive Plants - Dr. Ellen Croker
1:50	Soil Solarization: An Alternative Management Method for Many Issues - Dr. Rachel Rudolph
2:15	Coffee Break
2:30	Nursery IPM Practices to Up Your Disease and Pest Management Game- Ms. Tara Vaughn
2:55	Spotting Trouble: Spotted Lanternfly and Kentucky - Dr. Jonathan Larson
3:20	An overview of cold damage and prevention for fruit crops -

Dr. Brent Arnoldussen

Field Crops CEUs Pesticide Applicator- Category 2, 3, 10: 1; Category 1A: 3
Certified Crop Adviser- Nutrient Management: 1; IPM: 3

Horticulture CEUs Pesticide Applicator- Category 1A, 2, 3: 1 for each
Certified Crop Adviser- IPM: 2; Crop Management: 1

Contacts

Ric Bessin- r.bessin@uky.edu; (859) 257-7456
Zenaida Vilorio- zenaida.vilorio@uky.edu
(270) 365-7541 Ext. 21336



Pesticide Applicator Training

WHEN: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27TH 2025

TIME: 12:00PM OR 6:00PM

WHERE: LIVINGSTON CO. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

ADDRESS: 803 US 60 EAST SMITHLAND, KY 42081



To RSVP or for questions call the Livingston County
Cooperative Extension Office at 1.270.928.2168

Leave same day with your Pesticide Applicator License in hand!

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**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

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCERS

Don't miss these program deadlines:

Jan. 10, 2025 – Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops program

Jan. 31, 2025 – Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops program
for 2024 expenses



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION FOR SPECIALTY CROPS



APPLICATION DEADLINE REMINDER
For 2024 Expenses → **Jan. 31, 2025**

