

AG News Today

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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

NOVEMBER 2024

November Tips for Livestock and Forage Management

As we move into the colder months, it's essential to stay proactive with your winter preparations. Here are some key tips to ensure your animals and pastures are set up for a successful winter season:

Inventory Your Hay Supply: Assess your hay stocks to ensure you have enough to carry your livestock through the winter. If you're running low, now is the time to purchase additional supplies or adjust your animal numbers.

Balance Forage and Feed Supplies: Adjust animal numbers if necessary, or purchase additional hay to ensure that your forage supply and feed are in sync for the winter months.

Fertilize Cool-Season Grasses: Apply 30-40 lbs of nitrogen (N) per acre to strengthen cool-season grasses, ensuring they're ready to grow and provide quality forage in the spring.

Winter Grazing of Annuals: Take advantage of annual crops like brassicas and oats that won't overwinter by using them for winter grazing. They provide a good feed source while helping to reduce supplemental feed costs. **Grazing Crop Residues and Cover Crops:** Grazing crop residues and cover crops that are not winter-hardy is a great way to utilize your land and reduce feed costs. However, be cautious of grazing Johnson grass until it has fully dried out, as it can be toxic if grazed too early in the winter.

By planning ahead and taking these steps now, you can ensure a more efficient, cost-effective winter for your livestock while maintaining healthy, productive land for the seasons to come.



CNA for ANR - Livingston County

Cooperative Extension Service

Livingston County

803 U.S. Hwy 60 East.-P.O. Box 189

Smithland KY 42081

Phone: (270) 928-2168

Fax: (270) 928-4808

www.ca.uky.edu

E-mail:

DL_CES_LIVINGSTON@EMAIL.UKY.EDU

AG CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Up and coming AG classes, workshops, and reminders:

- Thursday December 12th 2024 6:00pm at the Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office - Farm Equipment & Truck Regulations. To RSVP please call the Extension Office at 1.270.928.2168 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.
- Thursday January 16th 2024 at 6:00pm at the Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office - Kentucky Beef Network's role and programming. To RSVP please contact the Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office at 1.270.928.2168 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.
- Up to 25 Free soil samples per Livingston County producer per year. Soil Samples are accepted all year round.
- Up to 25 Free Forage Samples per Livingston County producer per year. Samples are accepted all year round.
- Livingston County Farmers Meetings are up and going through February 2025. Make sure to check our Livingston County AG Facebook page for dates, Topics and meeting times!

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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



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with prior notification.

TOP 10 REASONS TO TEST HAY

Excerpt from Dr. Jimmy Henning's Forage Doctor column Oct. 17 Farmers Pride. For the full online issue go to TheFarmersPride.com

Most of you recognize the value of testing hay and make sure your livestock are fed the right hay at the right time. If you don't regularly test hay then the following is a list the top ten reasons you should make the effort to test the hay you produce or the hay you are buying.

1. It saves feed costs. Overwintering costs are the single biggest cost in a cow-calf operation. UK budgets place the hay cost of overwintering a cow at \$150 (2.5 tons at \$60 per ton). Since much of the profit in a cow-calf operation comes from saving money, it makes good sense to know what is in your hay and to not purchase nutrients you don't need.
2. It keeps livestock healthy. By preventing underfeeding, you keep cows in better condition and they can better handle the disease stresses of winter.
3. It tells you about your legume content. The calcium to phosphorous ratio will indicate how much legume is in the hay. If calcium and phosphorous are present in similar amounts (in other words the ratio is 1 to 1), your hay is mostly grass. If it is 2 to 1 or greater, you have a significant amount of legume.
4. You get more calves. In other words, skinny cows don't rebreed. Testing hay and feeding accordingly lowers the risk of cows losing significant body condition over winter.
5. It is a scorecard for your hay program. Hay quality is something you can do something about but only if you get it tested. Comparing current values to historic values for your hay quality will "red flag" production issues before you find out about them in the form of fewer calves or thin cows.
6. It can make you money. A hay test can help leverage higher prices for cash sales. Having a hay test says to potential customers that you are a serious forage producer.
7. It can tell you if your hay got hot. A hay test can tell you if your hay got hot in storage, if you specify the correct assay when you submit the sample. Commonly used acronyms for heat damaged protein are ADICP, ADF-CP, ADIN, HDP and ICP. All of these represent the same thing – the amount of insoluble nitrogen associated with the acid detergent fiber in forage. All forage will have some insoluble nitrogen in the acid detergent fiber, but if it is more than 10% of the total, then you have heat damaged protein and you may need supplement.
8. It helps you use your hay efficiently. You will be able to feed the best hay to the livestock that need the most nutrition.
9. It helps diagnose storage problems. Getting around to all your hay barns and storage locations will give you a chance to make note of any barn leaks, water encroachment from poor drainage, and other problems.
10. It will impress (and maybe shock) your county agent, your ag dealer and even your neighbors.

Kentucky Beef Network's Role & Programs

With guest speaker, Ben Lloyd with the KBN Program

The Kentucky Beef Network (KBN) plays a crucial role in the success of Kentucky's beef industry. This class will provide in-depth insights into the network's programs, the services it offers, and how you can leverage its resources to enhance your beef operation. Whether you're a seasoned producer or new to the industry, this class is designed to give you a comprehensive understanding of how KBN supports Kentucky beef producers and contributes to the state's beef supply chain.



When: Thursday January 16th 2024

Time: 6:00pm

Where: Livingston County Cooperative Extension

803 US 60 East Smithland, KY 42081

RSVP & Questions: Call the Livingston County Extension Office
at 1.270.928.2168 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

Adam Barnes

CEA for ANR - Livingston County

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Updates on AGR1 Fertilizer Recommendations Maximize Your Crop Yield with the Latest Fertilization Guidelines!



Speaker Edwin Ritchey
Associate Extension Professor, Plant and Soil Sciences,
University of Kentucky

Attention Farmers & Agricultural Professionals!

Join us for the latest updates for the AGR1 fertilizer recommendations are here, ensuring optimal soil health and maximizing your crop productivity.



RSVP INFORMATION OR FOR QUESTIONS

To RSVP for this informational meeting or for questions about this meeting please contact the Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office at 1.270.928.2168 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.

MEETING DETAILS

Date: Thursday December 19th 2024


Time: 6:00pm

Location: Livingston County Extension

Address: 803 US 60 East

Smithland, KY 42081

Contact Number: 1.270.928.2168


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Farm Grant Opportunities

Through KCARD

Join us for an informational meeting about what farm grant opportunities might be available to you through the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rule Development.

When: Thursday December 5th 2024

Time: 6:00pm

Where: Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office

Address: 803 US 60 East Smithland, KY 42081


Cost: FREE!

Who is KCARD?

The Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rule Development (KCARD) is a non-profit organization established to facilitate agricultural and rural business development in Kentucky. We provide educational opportunities, technical assistance, and business support services to new and existing agribusinesses.



For questions or to RSVP please contact the Livingston County Cooperative Office at 1.270.928.2168 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm


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Farm Equipment & Truck Regulations

**With speaker Jason Morris, Vehicle Enforcement
Division of Kentucky State Police**

When: Thursday December 12th 2024

Time: 6:00pm

Where: Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office
803 US 60 East Smithland, KY 42081


Cost: FREE!

Who should attend?

Are you a Farmer, Farm Equipment Operator or in the Logging Business ?

- Kentucky Farm Equipment Regulations
- Truck and Transport Laws
- Safety and Accident Information

Stay Compliant, Stay Safe!


CEA for ANR Livingston County

To RSVP or for questions

Please contact the Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office at
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SAVE THE DATE

February 4, 2025

*W*inter *W*heat *M*eeting

*The Bruce Convention Center
Hopkinsville, KY*

9am-3pm central

Guest speaker: Phil Needham (Needham Ag Technologies)

Farmers Recipe of the Month

Fall Spiced Pumpkin Bread

½ cup all-purpose flour	2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice	½ cup honey
1¼ cup whole-wheat flour	½ teaspoon salt	2 cups pumpkin puree
1½ teaspoons baking powder	½ cup melted margarine	⅓ cup olive oil
1 teaspoon baking soda	½ cup sugar	2 eggs
		⅓ cup chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 350 degrees F. **Mix** flours, baking powder, baking soda, pumpkin spice and salt; set aside. In a large mixing bowl, **whisk** together margarine, sugar, honey, pumpkin puree and olive oil. **Blend** in eggs. **Add** flour mixture. **Stir** until dry ingredients are moistened. **Spray** a 8-by-4 inch loaf pan with non-stick cooking spray. **Pour** batter into pan; **sprinkle** walnuts on top of batter. **Bake** for 1 hour. **Remove** from oven

and **cover** with foil. **Return** to oven and **bake** an additional 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. **Cool** for 10 minutes and **remove** from pan.

Yield: 16 slices

Nutritional Analysis: 220 calories, 13 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 30 mg cholesterol, 270 mg sodium, 26 g carbohydrate, 1 g fiber, 14 g sugars, 4 g protein.

Plate it up!



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