

Ag & Natural Resources Of Cows and Plows

FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER



Franklin County
101 Lakeview Court
Frankfort, KY 40601-8750
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franklin.ca.uky.edu



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Not Enough to too Much.... Managing Spring Grass

Chris D. Teutsch, University of Kentucky Research and Education Center at Princeton

In March we often find ourselves wringing our hands waiting for grass growth to start and a short time later our pastures are out of control! Spring can often be one of the most difficult times of the year for graziers. Grass growth goes from nonexistent to excessive in a matter of weeks and if you are properly stocked grazing livestock can have a hard time keeping up with it. The following suggestions can help you to stay in control spring growth.

- ♦ **Implement rotational grazing.** To fully utilize the spring flush of pasture growth **YOU** must be in control of grazing. In a continuous grazing system, the cows are in charge. By utilizing rotational stocking, you start to make the decisions. Implementing a rotational stocking system may be as simple as closing some gates or stringing up some polywire.
- ♦ **Start grazing before you think the pastures are ready.** One of the most common mistakes that graziers make is waiting too long to start grazing. If you wait until the first paddock is ready to graze, by the time you reach the last paddock it will be out of control. Starting early allows you to establish a “grazing wedge” (Figure 1).

Continued on pg. 2

- ◆ **Rotate animals rapidly.** It is important to realize that grazing pastures closely and repeatedly as they initiate growth in early spring can reduce production for the entire season. Therefore, it is important to keep animals moving rapidly through the system. The general rule is that if grass is growing rapidly then your rotation should be rapid. This will allow you to stay ahead of the grass by topping it off and keeping it in a vegetative state.
- ◆ **Do not apply spring nitrogen.** Applying nitrogen in the spring will make the problem of too much grass at once even worse. In many cases you are better off to apply nitrogen in late summer or early fall to stimulate growth for winter stockpiling.
- ◆ **Remove most productive paddocks from rotation and harvest for hay.** Graze all paddocks until the pasture growth is just about to get away from you and then remove those productive paddocks from your rotation and allow them to accumulate growth for hay harvest (Figure 2).
- ◆ **Increase stocking rate in the spring.** If it is possible, a good option for utilizing spring growth is to increase your stocking rate. This will allow you to harvest more of the available forage and convert it into a saleable product. This can be done by adding some stockers or thin cull cows

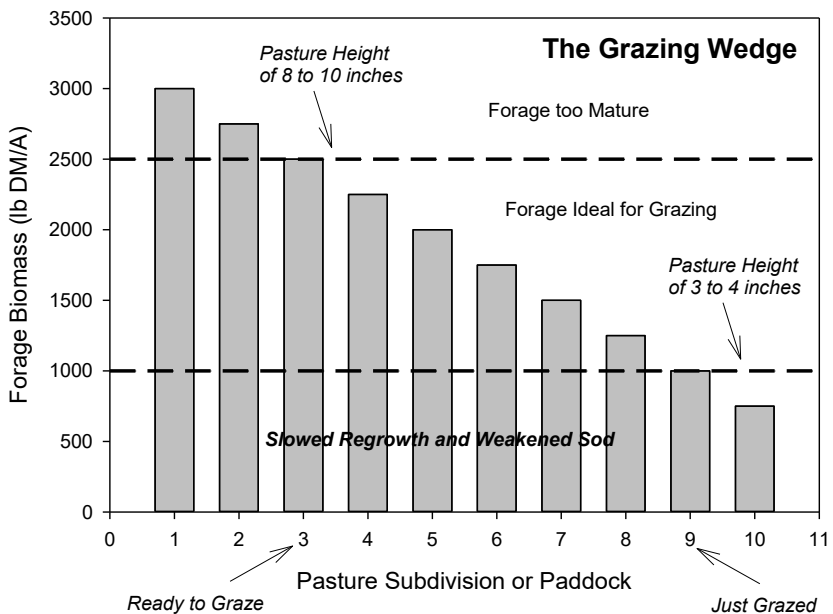


Figure 1. The “grazing wedge” simply refers to having pasture subdivisions or paddocks at varying stages of regrowth from just grazed to ready to graze.

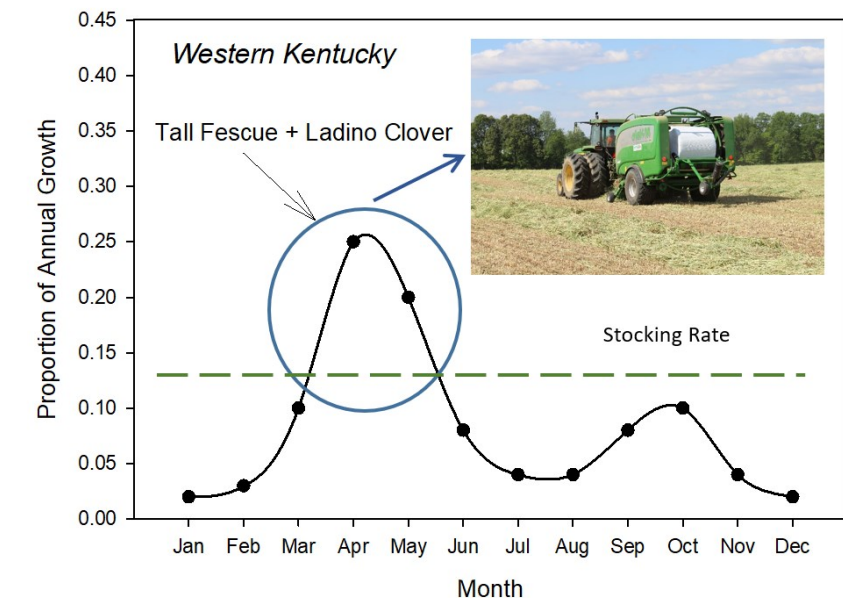


Figure 2. In the spring during periods of rapid growth, some paddocks can be removed from the rotation and harvested for conserved forage. Cutting at the late boot or early head stage will optimized yield and forage quality.

to your rotation and then selling them when pasture growth slows. If you are in a fall calving system, you are better positioned to take advantage of spring forage growth since the calves will be larger.

- ◆ **Even out seasonal distribution of forage by adding a warm-season grass.** Adding a well-adapted warm-season grass that produces the majority of its growth in July and August would allow you to concentrate grazing on your cool-season paddocks during periods of rapid growth (spring flush). After cool-season grass growth is slowed by higher temperatures in late spring and early summer, animals can be shifted in the warm-season paddocks for summer grazing.

◆ **Bush-hog out of control pastures.**

The benefits of clipping include maintaining pastures in a vegetative state, encouraging regrowth, and controlling weeds. Clipping pastures costs money, so make sure that the primary reason for bush-hogging is pasture management, not aesthetics.

◆ **Stockpile out of control pastures for summer grazing.**

Although forage quality decreases as the plant matures, the quality of spring stockpiled pasture is sufficient for dry cows and in some cases can result in reasonable gains on growing animals (Figure 4) during the summer months. This is especially true if using novel endophyte tall fescue and the pastures were clipped at the early boot stage to promote vegetive regrowth. This could be a cost-effective and simple way to provide additional grazing during the summer months.

When it comes to grazing operations, there is not one size that fits all. What works for you may not work for your neighbor. The key is figuring out what works on your farm and implementing it in a timely manner. Hopefully one or more of the above tips will help you deal with the “quandary of spring grass”!

For more information on grazing management contact your local extension agent or visit <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage/> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/KYForages>.

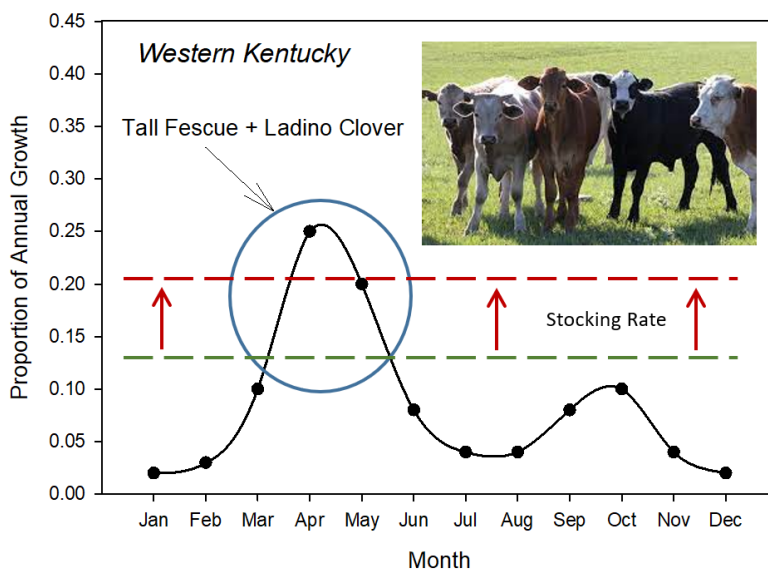


Figure 3. An alternative to harvesting excess forage as hay or baleage is to increase your stocking your stocking rate by adding more animal units in the spring and then decreasing animal numbers as plant growth slows due to higher temperature during the summer months. While this is a viable approach, it is not practical on smaller part-time operations.

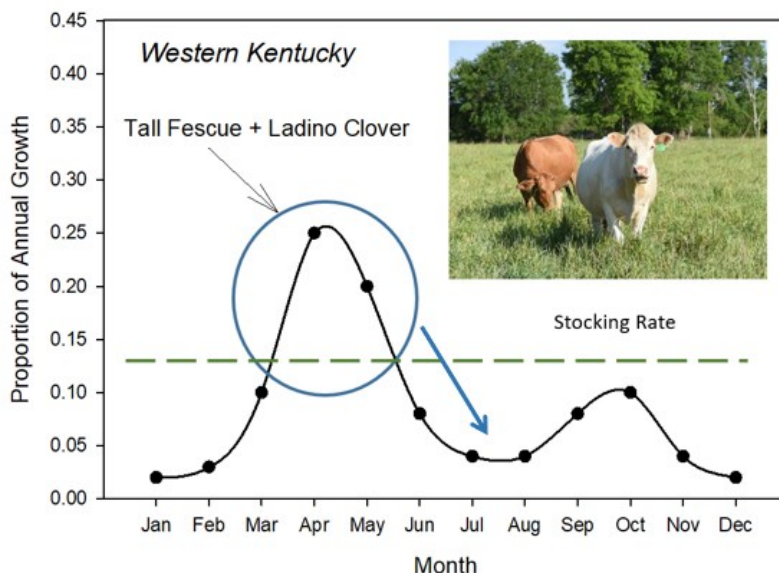


Figure 4. Excess growth in the spring could also be stockpiled for grazing during the summer months. This is accomplished by removing some paddocks from the rotation and allowing growth to accumulate during late spring and early summer. It is important to remember that only about the one-half of the available biomass should be grazed. The remaining residue will protect plant crowns from high temperatures and reduce soil moisture loss during the summer months.

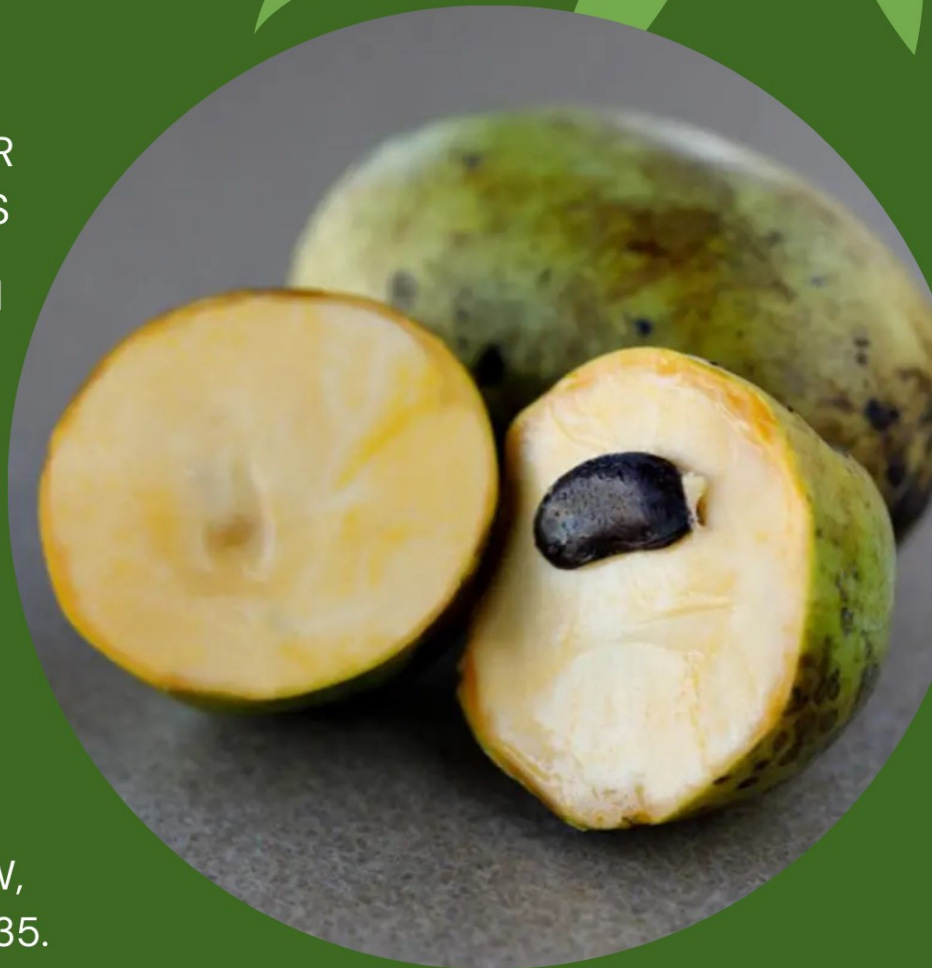
Paw Paw Grafting Class

LEARN TO GRAFT YOUR OWN PAW PAW TREES

CLASS BEGINS AT 6PM
\$10 PER PERSON



TO REGISTER,
SCAN THE QR CODE ,
ENTER THE LINK BELOW,
OR CALL 502-695-9035.
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/33SAT2J3](https://tinyurl.com/33SAT2J3)



APRIL 23

101 LAKEVIEW COURT
FRANKFORT KY 40601
502-695-9035



Sat. April 13th - 9:00am to 3:00pm
Madison Co Extension Office
230 Duncannon Lane, Richmond



Predator Control & Guard Animal Management for Livestock Owners Workshop & Lunch

Who: Madison, Garrard and Surrounding County Extension Offices, the Southeast Kentucky Sheep Producers Association (SEKSPA), Kentucky State University, and University of Kentucky Forestry Extension

What: Learn how to protect your livestock from predators

When: Saturday, April 13, 2024. Registration 8:30-9:00. Luncheon starts at 12 noon

Where: Madison Co Extension Office at 230 Duncannon Lane, Richmond, KY 40475

Featured Speakers: UK Wildlife Specialist Dr. Matt Springer, KSU Veterinarian Dr. Jessie Lay, SEKSPA President Dr. Patrick Angel and experts in guard animal management, predator hunting/snaring and coyote/bobcat trapping from United Trappers of Kentucky

Registration Required. Please register by calling the Madison County Extension Office at 859-623-4072

\$10.00 per family. Your registration fee will include a delicious lamb burger and beef burger luncheon with sides and a One-Year Membership to SEKSPA

This workshop qualifies for CAIP education credits



FRANKLIN COUNTY SPRING CLEAN 2024



DUMPSTER DAY

Saturday, April 27
from 730 AM - 230 PM
At the following locations



Old Peaks Mill School
Evergreen Road Fire Station
Bald Knob Fire Station
Owenton Road Fire Station
Lakeview Park

Anyone found dumping outside these hours may be held liable for illegal dumping

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 27
from 8 AM to 12 PM
At 309 Rouse Avenue

Accepted Items include:

Poisons, herbicides, batteries, aerosol cans, propane/helium canisters, oil-based paint, solvents/gasoline/thinners, antifreeze, fluorescent tubes, fire extinguishers, adhesives, asbestos, corrosive acids/bases/cleaners, dioxins, fertilizers, organic peroxides, reactive solids, oxidizers, flammable solids, mercury, freon/acetylene, electronics (including TVs!)

We will NOT accept:
water-based paints,
motor/hydraulic
oil, or medications

SCRAP METAL COLLECTION

With the Franklin County Conservation District at Lakeview Park
Thursday - Saturday
4/25-4/26 from 8 AM to 430 PM
4/27 from 8 AM to Noon



LANDFILL DISPOSAL

Voucher needed to dump at the landfill on Saturday.
Sign up for free at www.franklincounty.ky.gov/trash-vouchers

YARD WASTE WEDNESDAY

Begins 4/24 and runs every Wednesday through 11/6
8 AM to 12 PM at Lakeview Park: 112 Park Ave



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.FRANKLINCOUNTY.KY.GOV/SOLID-WASTE-MANAGEMENT**



176 Pasadena Drive
Lexington KY 40503
kbn@kycattle.org

Lexington, KY
2/12/2024

University of Kentucky Extension and Kentucky Beef Network offer Free BQCA Certifications in April and September

The Kentucky Beef Network and University of Kentucky Extension are pleased to announce that they will be offering free Beef Quality and Care Assurance (BQCA) certifications in April 2024 and September 2024.

The Kentucky BQCA program takes national BQA practices one step further to provide a holistic program for Kentucky producers, by adding cattle handling and animal care components to the training modules. Educational modules provide the best management practices for handling cattle and providing for their well-being, in addition to training on the core principles of BQA.

The cost of BQCA enrollment is \$5 for in person training through their local county extension office and \$10 for online training, however from April 1- 30, 2024 and September 1-30, 2024 the Kentucky Beef Network and University of Kentucky Extension will be sponsoring the enrollment costs, making it free for producers.

Producers interested in taking advantage of this opportunity can visit www.kybeefnetwork.com to access the online training platform or contact their county extension office for training opportunities. “We are very excited for this partnership for our Kentucky cattlemen to continue to tell their story to consumers through sound management practices,” says Kevin Laurent University of Kentucky Co-BQCA Coordinator.

Beef Quality & Care Assurance

CHUTE SIDE

Training

FREE BQCA Certification

Bring \$10 if you would like a BQCA FARM sign

APRIL 23, 2024

6:00 PM

DAILEY FARM

DETAILS PROVIDED UPON RSVP

A LIGHT DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED

Please RSVP by April 22

502-695-9035

Cooperative Extension Service
 Agricultural Experiment Station
 University of Kentucky
 Lexington, KY 40546-0001
 (606) 257-2311

MARSHYLL-GAITHER COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
 1000 College Lane
 Lexington, KY 40502-0001
 (606) 257-2311

Capital Area Extension
Master Gardeners’
Saturday, April 27th
9am - 1pm
Lakeview Park
(Farm Bureau
Pavilion)
118 Park Avenue
Frankfort, KY

Plant Market

Tomatoes, peppers,
herbs, perennials
and MORE!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Kentucky Extension
Master Gardener
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
University of
Kentucky

**Franklin County Conservation District
Spring Scrap Metal Collection**
Lakeview Park
Thursday, Friday and Saturday
April 25, 26 and 27

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM -Thursday and Friday
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM - Saturday

Items accepted: metal, appliances, appliances w/freon,
fencing, sheet metal, farm equipment, etc.
- No tires or oils!!! -
- No electronics/televisions -
Contact: 502/352-2701

DUMPSTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE
DURING THE SPRING COLLECTION

THIRD THURSDAY THING

Every third Thursday of the month,
January through November, at 10 a.m. ET

January 18: Resources and Funding for Farmers
February 15: Organic Agriculture
March 21: Farmers Markets and Local Foods
April 18: Cattle and Poultry
May 16: Aquaculture
June 20: Agriculture Technology | Juneteenth Celebration
July 18: Field Day
August 15: Forestry
September 19: Pawpaw
October 17: Small Ruminants
November 21: Small, Limited-Resource, Minority Farmers Conference

Join us in person:
Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm
1525 Mills Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Recordings will be available at youtube.com/kysuag

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Jr. Cattlemen's Corner

Exploring the heart of beef production with our junior cattlemen at the University of Kentucky meat lab! #FutureFarmers #BehindTheScenes

On March 16, 2024, our juniors toured the UK Agriculture's Meat Lab, where we learned the process of producing meat from start to finish. Unfortunately, we were able to take photos inside the lab.



Upcoming events

4/15/2023 - BQCA Certification - 6:00 pm at KSU Research Farm - pizza will be provided. Please let me know by 4/12/2024 if attending.

4/20/2024 - Chaney's Dairy - Bowling Green - Cost is \$8 per person. Juniors will be paid for.



"Kentucky First Farm" Workshop

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Eden Shale Farm

400 Eden Shale Rd, Owenton, KY 40359

Giving military veteran, minorities, small farm, and limited resource farmers the information and training needed to create a sustainable agricultural operation.

This program is free and open to all military veterans, active, retired or transitioning, minority and underserved populations and those with small farms that have been in operation for under 10 years. This program is sponsored by a USDA/NIFA grant with the Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program and is under the direction of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Services. Programs include Business Planning, Record Keeping, Funding Opportunities, Land Acquisition, and specific farm enterprises.

Lunch will be included.

Event Registration: <https://bfrdp.ca.uky.edu/events/bfrdp-workshop-eden-shale-farm>

Kentucky First Farm



Phone: (859) 257-1126

Email: Linda.Bokros@uky.edu

Sponsored by USDA/NIFA Award # 2021-70033-35706



University of Kentucky Extension presents:

HORSE FARM MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 5:00 - Registration
- 5:30 - Fencing
- 6:00 - Composting
- 6:30 - Pasture Renovations
- 7:00 - Meal from Mercer County Cattlemen

Registration - FREE!

Advanced registration is appreciated at <https://QH2Mercer.eventbrite.com> or scan the QR code

Venue

Far Cry Farm is a 37 acre horse farm that has been breeding Thoroughbreds and Irish Sport Horses for more than 20 years. In recent years, they have invested in alternative fencing options, pasture renovations and a state-of-the-art on farm composting facility.



This event is organized by UK Forage Extension, UK Equine Extension and Mercer County Cooperative Extension and funded by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund with special thanks to our host, Far Cry Farm.

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 Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social class and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political beliefs, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, disability or sexual disability or refusal or activities for prior civil rights activity. The most reasonable accommodations 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 40528



Disability accommodations with prior notification.



5 PM - 8 PM

11

APRIL

FAR CRY FARM

365 PHILLIPS LANE
HARRODSBURG, KY 40330



Reforest Frankfort 2024

Tree Planting, Music, Environmental Activities, Food.
Free for the Community!

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 13 | 8 AM - 12 PM
WEST SIXTH FARM

More information coming soon!



[KYES.ORG/SOLARIZE](https://kyses.org/solarize)

SolarizeFrankfort@fastmail.org



Solarize Frankfort

The 2024 campaign is live!

FREE Solar 101 Workshops

Join us to learn more about going solar in Frankfort!

April 24 • 6-8PM at Paul Sawyer Public Library

May 8 • 6-8PM at Franklin County Extension Office



The *Kentucky Solar Energy Society* and local partners are organizing a group-purchasing campaign making it easier to go solar in the Frankfort area. Solarize Frankfort connects participants with pre-screened solar installers and provides access to bulk-purchase discounts (up to 15% off solar PV installations).

Go Solar!

- Reduce your energy bill
- Lower your carbon footprint
- Help the City of Frankfort meet its goal of 100% renewables by 2030

2024 SOLAR INSTALLATION PARTNERS



PURE POWER SOLAR



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

BEGINNING *Farmer Bootcamp*

COME JOIN US



KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension Program



Cooperative Extension Service



1 Record Keeping & Business Planning

KCARD will go over business planning and development as well as record keeping.

Date: April 18th

Place: KSU Farm, 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY

Time: 6:00pm

2 Legal and Tax Information

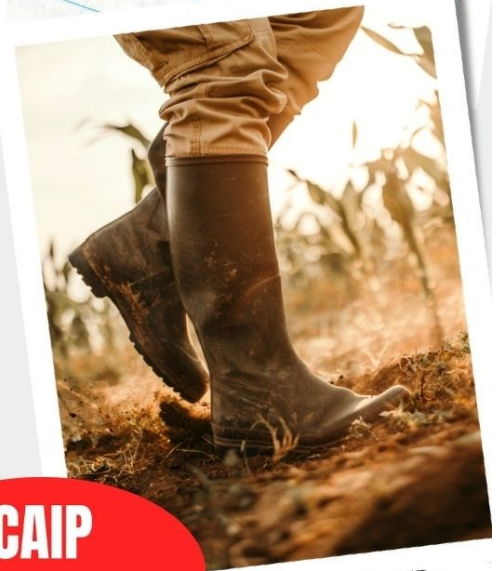
Join Clint Quarles and Jonathon Shepherd as they talk about legal and tax information.

Date: May 28th

Place: Scott County Extension Office, 1130 Cincinnati Rd. Georgetown, KY

Time: 6:00pm

CAIP Eligible



To RSVP call the Scott County Extension Office at 502-863-0984. RSVPs need to be made at least a week before the program! Supper will be provided.

Questions? Reach out to one of the following:

- brittany.brewer@uky.edu
- keenan.bishop@uky.edu
- nathaniel.colten@kysu.edu



Cooperative Extension Service

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

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40546



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

Franklin County High School FFA Drive

Your Tractor to School Day

April 26th, 2024



Save the date! Franklin County High School's FFA's Drive your Tractor to School day is April 26th! The students start at the Extension Office parking lot around 8:30 am and with a police escort from the Sheriff's Office travel down Steadmantown Lane to Georgetown Road before arriving in the front of FCHS where the rest of the student body greets them. Community members and parents are encouraged to watch and cheer on our student drivers! This is an excellent opportunity for the FFA students to interact with their school mates and educate them about the farming process and the machines required to get the work done! Checkout these pictures from Tractor Day 2023!

The Franklin County High School greenhouse will also be open on April 26th from 9:00 am—5:00 pm. They have bedding flowers, hanging baskets and vegetables! We hope to see everyone there!

Grower-Buyer MeetUp

Are you interested in value-added products for additional farm income? Would you like to learn about working with a commercial food manufacturer? Join us for a training on resources available for Kentucky producers interested in value-added products.

Covenant Group, a local food manufacturer in Owen County, will be a featured business detailing how their operation helps producers scale their businesses and optimize operations.

APRIL 23, 2024

1 P M - 3 P M (E S T)

Owen County Extension Office
265 Ellis Rd, Owenton, KY 40359

Register by phone or email:

502-484-5703

owen.ext@uky.edu



*WHHS Greenhouse
Opening Day
Friday, April 19th*

The WHHS Greenhouse opens on Friday, April 19th!!! The ferns are so big and absolutely beautiful. They have bedding plants, hanging baskets, vegetable plants and more!

63RD ANNUAL

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

FARM CITY FIELD DAY

presented by: Franklin County Farm Bureau, Franklin County Extension Office, Franklin County Conservation District, & Frankfort Area Chamber of Commerce

THANK YOU to our 2023 sponsors:



Special thanks to those who furnished materials and services.

Bondurant Middle School FFA	Franklin Co. Fire Department
Cable 10	Franklin Co. Health Department
Capital Area Extension Master Gardeners	Franklin County High School FFA & Alumni
Chad & Shauna Hill	Franklin Co. Regional Jail
City of Frankfort Division of Solid Waste	Franklin County Sherriff's Office
Danny Harrod	Franklin Co. Solid Waste
Eric Phillips Trucking	Harrod Concrete & Stone Co.
Frankfort/Franklin County Emergency Management	Kentucky State University Cooperative Extension
Franklin County Cattlemen's Association	Local Cooks, Servers, Tractor Drivers, etc.
Franklin County Jr. Cattlemen's Association	Meade Tractor
Franklin County Fair Board	Scotty Wooldridge
Franklin County Fiscal Court	The State Journal
	Western Hills High School FFA & Alumni

AND, ALL OUR MANY, MANY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS.

FARM CITY FIELD DAY

Happy Jack's Farm
July 11, 2024

SAVE
the Date



REMINDER

March 22, 2024

Deadline to notify Crystal Harrod if you will not be using your CAIP Funds

May 3, 2024 @ 4:00 pm

Deadline for Completion



PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATION TRAINING

April 29, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Franklin County Extension Office

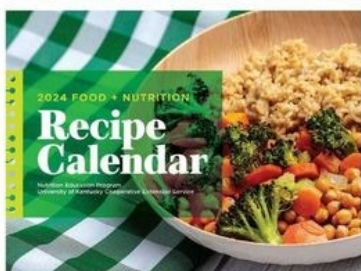
Register NOW!



502-695-90335

COOKING THROUGH THE

Calendar



Second Monday
of each month starting
February 12, 2024
5:30pm - 7:30pm
at the

**Franklin County Cooperative
Extension Office**
101 Lakeview Court
Frankfort, KY 40601

**All 2024
Class
Dates**
Feb 12
March 11
April 8
May 13
June 10
July 8
Aug 12
Sept 9
Oct 14
Nov 11
Dec 9

For more information on how you can attend these
FREE cooking classes, please contact your local
Nutrition Education Program Assistant:

Pamela Holbrook

502-695-9035

pamela.holbrook@uky.edu

RSVP Required three days before class

This work is supported by the
Expanded Food and Nutrition
Education Program from the USDA
National Institute of Food and Agriculture.



This institution is an equal opportunity
provider. This material was partially
funded by USDA's Supplemental
Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.

Recipe



Zunicotti

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 cup ricotta cheese | 2 cups whole spinach, roughly torn | Freshly ground black pepper to taste |
| 1 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese, divided | ½ teaspoon Italian seasoning | 4 medium zucchini |
| 1 large egg, lightly beaten | Salt to taste | 1 cup marinara sauce |
| 1 clove garlic, minced | | ¾ cup shredded mozzarella cheese |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
Spray 13-by-9-inch baking dish with cooking spray. In a medium bowl, **combine** ricotta, ½ cup Parmesan cheese, egg, garlic, spinach, and Italian seasoning. **Add** salt and pepper to taste, and **mix** until well combined. **Set** aside. **Wash** zucchini and **cut** off ends. Use a mandolin or sharp knife to **slice** zucchini thinly lengthwise. To reduce water, **place** zucchini on a microwave-safe plate lined with paper towels and **cover** with a paper towel. **Microwave** 1 minute. **Pat** excess moisture away with paper towels. On a clean work surface, **place** three slices of

zucchini so they are slightly overlapping and place a spoonful of ricotta mixture on top. **Roll up** and **place** in baking dish. **Repeat** with remaining zucchini and ricotta mixture. **Spoon** marinara on top of zucchini. **Sprinkle** with remaining Parmesan and mozzarella cheese. **Bake** until zucchini is tender and cheese has melted, about 30 minutes.

Yield: 10 servings

Nutritional Analysis: 130 calories, 7 g fat, 4 g saturated fat, 40 mg cholesterol, 410 mg sodium, 8 g carbohydrate, 1 g fiber, 3 g sugars, 0 g added sugars, 9 g protein

Be sure to follow our Facebook page
for all the up-to-date
information and articles.
 @FranklinCountyKyCooperativeExtension

SAVE THE DATES:

April 13	8:00– Reforest Frankfort– West Sixth Farm
April 18	10:00– Third Thursday Thing– KSU
	6:00– Beginning Farmer Bootcamp—KSU Farm
April 22	12:00– County Extension County Meeting
April 23	6:00– BQCA Certification– Dailey's Farm
April 25-27	Scrap Metal Collection– Lakeview Park
April 27	Dumpster Day/ Household Hazardous Waste Collection
	Capital Area Master Gardener Plant Market
April 29	Private Pesticide Application Training
May 8	6:00– Solar 101 Workshop
May 28	6:00- Beginning Farmer Bootcamp—KSU Farm

Keenan R Bishop

**Keenan Bishop, County Extension Agent
for Agriculture and Natural Resources
Education**



**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.