

Ag & Natural Resources

OF COWS AND PLOWS FRANKLIN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER



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July is KY Grown Cut Flower Month

By Cindy Finneseth, Bethany Cox, and Dakota Moore, Kentucky Horticulture Council

Kentucky cut flower growers are being celebrated this July in a month-long promotional event organized by the Kentucky Horticulture Council (KHC) and the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. Each day, cut flower growers across the state will be featured in our Kentucky Grown Cut Flower Promotion Facebook Group and other social media platforms. The promotion includes cut flower farm bios, farmer and customer resources, featured webinar and conference recordings, and floral design videos filmed during cut flower farm visits (you can find last year's visit videos in KHC's YouTube Playlist). This promotion allows farmers to introduce their farm to new audiences highlighting where customers can find locally grown flowers on farms, at farmers markets, pop-up shops, through community supported agriculture subscriptions, and other outlets.

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“July is a great month to shine the spotlight on Kentucky’s cut flower industry! Growers throughout the state are very creative in how they offer their bright magnificent blooms to consumers,” said Kristin Hildabrand, Warren County horticulture extension agent. “Customers can find Kentucky blooms at local farmers markets, self-serve flower stands, pop up locations, and right off the farm for u-pick operations or during special field to vase arrangement workshops. If you have a special occasion coming up in the future, fresh locally grown cut flowers can fit that bill! Utilize locally grown flowers to enhance weddings, individual or family photography sessions, graduations, back to school bouquets, anniversaries, and other social gatherings. You simply can’t go wrong with fresh locally grown flowers!”

Most – about 80 percent – of cut flowers are imported for U.S. markets, yet Kentucky farm conditions are well-suited for high-quality commercial production. The commonwealth is home to well over 130 commercial cut flower operations. The number of farmer-florists continues to increase each year.

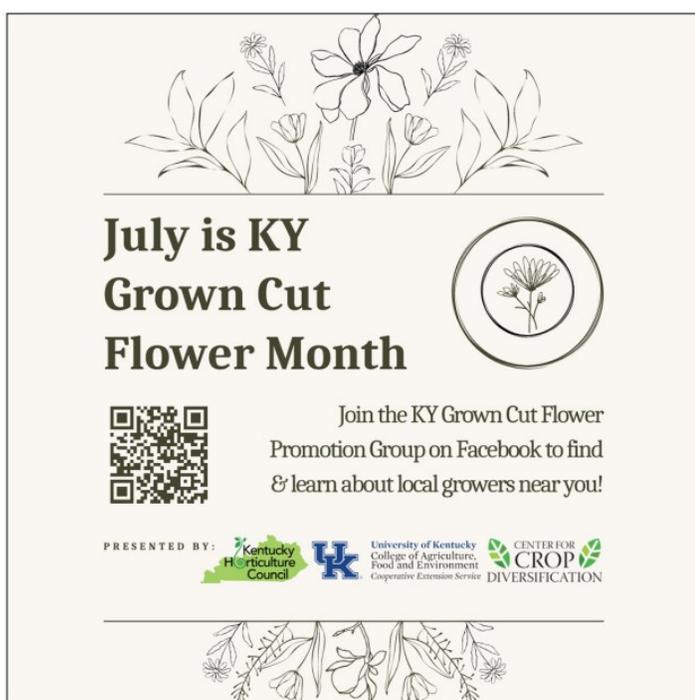
“Cut flower production can be profitable for small to large-scale Kentucky farms,” said Cindy Finneseth, KHC executive director. “Consumer demand for locally grown products is high in both urban and rural areas. Our flower farms are growing a range of high quality products to meet that demand.”

To help customers find Kentucky operations, the Kentucky Horticulture Council and UK horticulture agents have partnered with UK’s Center for Crop Diversification to produce an interactive, online Kentucky Commercial Cut Flower Grower Directory. New farms are being added frequently and there may be a flower farm close to you.

“In the three short years July has been recognized as Kentucky Cut Flower Month, we have seen incredible growth and support for locally grown flowers,” said Alexis Sheffield, Boyle County horticulture extension agent. “Growing cuts has been a great way to introduce new, young people to farming and we have seen established farms begin to diversify their operations for both increased

profits and ecosystem benefits. There are a growing number of florists who have started purchasing local blooms and cooperatives formed to support both the farmers and the florists. I am eager to see what another three years will do for this growing industry!”

To follow the cut flower month promotional activities, visit Facebook (Kentucky Grown Cut Flower Promotion Facebook Group), Instagram (@KYHorticulture) or Twitter (@KYHorticulture). For more information about the monthly activities, please contact: Dakota Moore (dakota@kyhortcouncil.org) or Bethany Cox (bethany@kyhortcouncil.org)



**July is KY
Grown Cut
Flower Month**

Join the KY Grown Cut Flower
Promotion Group on Facebook to find
& learn about local growers near you!

PRESENTED BY:   University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service  CENTER FOR
CROP
DIVERSIFICATION

SAVE THE DATE: JULY 13, 2023
9AM- 1PM



FARM CITY FIELD DAY

FARM HOSTS:

HARROD FARM - 645 EVERGREEN RD.

FIRMLY ROOTED FLOWERS - 650 EVERGREEN RD.

The 63rd Franklin County Farm City Field Day is July 13 in the Bridgeport community off Evergreen Road. This year we have two host farms, Firmly Rooted Flowers and the Harrod Family Farm.

Firmly Rooted Flowers is a seasonal specialty cut flower farm operated by a 5th generation farm family. The Harrod Family Farm is a beef cattle operation of multiple families and generations as well.

Tours will start at 9:00 and run until lunch. Stops include cut flower production, heavy-use feed pad, tire waterers and the embryo-transfer process of artificial insemination. After our meal and short program, we'll be offering an in-depth tour of the flower operation for those interested.

Please join us for an informative, educational day of fellowship. Tickets are available at both Farm Bureau Insurance Offices (free but required for the meal).

Watch for Potato Leafhopper to Avoid Hopperburn

Potato leafhoppers often go unnoticed until their characteristic damage (V-shaped yellowing of alfalfa leaves) begins to appear in early summer. It is the key insect pest of second and third cutting alfalfa, as well as spring-seeded alfalfa. Spring-seeded alfalfa fields are more susceptible to injury by this pest because of the long period after seeding until the first cutting. For this reason, producers should watch their spring-seeded fields closely and treat as necessary.

While potato leafhopper is a pest of alfalfa in general, it can be more problematic in spring-seeded alfalfa. Spring-seeded alfalfa needs to be monitored regularly for this pest until the first cutting. Significant numbers of leafhoppers often find their way into spring-seeded fields in spring with a rapid increase during June and a peak in early July, but usually disappear from Kentucky alfalfa fields in late July.

Potato leafhopper damage can result in stunted growth, premature leaf-drop, reduced root carbohydrate reserves, and drastic reductions in protein content of hay. Yields can be reduced by up to 25%, as well as lower crude protein, vitamin A, carotene, calcium, phosphorus, and digestible dry matter content.

Regular monitoring of spring-seeded fields alerts growers to potentially destructive potato leafhopper populations before they damage fields. Fields are sampled with a 15-inch diameter sweep net. Five sets of 20 sweeps are taken from randomly selected areas representing the entire field. These leafhopper numbers, coupled with the average plant stem height, is used to determine if a leafhopper treatment is needed.

~ Ric Bessin, from KY Pest News. To read the whole article or to sign-up for KY Pest News go to

<https://kentuckypestnews.wordpress.com/>



Potato leafhopper damage results in a V-shaped area and is referred to as hopperburn (Photo: Lee Townsend, UK)



KENTUCKY STATE
UNIVERSITY

Land Grant Program

THIRD THURSDAY THING

Topic: Fencing | Pastured Poultry

July 20, 2023, at 10:00 AM EDT

Join us in person at the Harold R. Benson Research & Demonstration Farm or online!



1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601



youtube.com/kysuag/live



STEM OPEN HOUSE

July 29, 2023 | 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm

Demonstrations and hands-on activities

Learn about pond raceways, goats, drones, autoclaves,
saltwater shrimp, aquaponics and more

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

Reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be provided free of charge upon request. Language access services for limited English proficient individuals will be provided free of charge upon request. Please contact Dr. Ken Thompson at ken.thompson@kysu.edu by July 20, 2023.

Franklin County Fair

July 18th—July 22nd

The Fair Book are here! Stop by the Extension Office to pick one up OR scan the QR code If you would like to view the exhibits for the 2023 Franklin County Fair.



Exhibits



Location: Farm Bureau Pavilion

Exhibit Hall Viewing Times:
 Tuesday-Friday, July 18-21: 5:00-8:00 pm
 Saturday, July 22: 9:00 am - 12 Noon

2023 Exhibit Hall Committee
 Chair: Matt Graham
 Keenan Bishop, Jenna Burke, Erica Baxter,
 Anne Marie Franklin, Julie Derringer, Linda Eldridge, Mary-Grace Allen, JR Zinner

How to Enter your Exhibit

Entries will be registered on Monday, July 17, 5-7:00 pm and Tuesday, July 18, 8-11 am at the Farm Bureau Pavilion in Lakeview Park. (Note: ALL perishable entries should be entered on Tuesday morning to ensure the integrity of exhibits for judging.) If entering more than 10 items, please arrive at least ONE HOUR before entry time closes. Exhibitors will be assigned a unique number and ticket at registration for their entries and will then check their entries into division tables in the pavilion for public display.

BEEF CATTLE WORKSHOP
 July 26, 2023, at 6 P.M. EDT
 Topic: Heat Stress Management & Forage Testing

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY
 Land Grant Program

Join us in person: Bluegrass Stockyards, Lexington, KY
 Watch online: YouTube.com/kysuag
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Franklin County Fair
 Lⁱvestock Shows
 2023

Lakeview Park
 112 Park Ave
 Frankfort, KY 40601

Tuesday 7/18 - Sheep Show @ 6:00 PM
 Champion Market Lamb - \$200.00
 Reserve Market Lamb - \$100.00
 Supreme Ewe - \$50.00

Wednesday 7/19 - Swine Show @ 7:00 PM
 Champion Market Hog - \$200.00
 Reserve Market Hog - \$100.00
 Champion Gilt - \$50.00
 Reserve Gilt - \$25.00

Thursday 7/20 - Market Goat Show @ 6:00 PM
 Champion Market Goat - \$100.00
 Reserve Market Goat - \$50.00

Friday 7/21 - Beef Show @ 6:00 PM
 Supreme Market Animal - \$200.00
 Supreme Heifer - \$200.00
 Supreme Bull - \$200.00

Franklin County FAIR and Horse Show

MEET THE FRANKLIN COUNTY EXTENSION SUMMER INTERNS

Lauren Leahr is currently attending North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with a major in animal science and a minor in chemistry. Lauren grew up in Loganville, Georgia and graduated high school in 2020. She enjoys gaining work experience in her field of interest through shadowing experienced veterinarians and having hands-on experiences within the agricultural field. During her junior year, Lauren had the opportunity to study abroad in Italy and complete an internship at an Italian veterinary hospital. This year, Lauren is excited to be a 2023 summer intern for the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension program and experience all areas this opportunity has to offer. This is her first time in the state of Kentucky, and she is excited to learn more about the 4-H program, horticulture, and agriculture through this internship experience.



Ciara Brown is from Raleigh, NC. She graduated from Needham Broughton High School in 2019 and currently is a senior at North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University, majoring in Nutrition and minoring in Biology. On campus, Ciara is president of Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society, vice-president of Golden Key International Honor Society and an active member and past president of the Food and Nutritional Sciences Club. This summer, Ciara will be interning alongside of her 4-H agent, MacKenzie Preece. Ciara is excited to step outside of her comfort zone and see what all of Cooperative Extension has to offer. Ciara always challenges herself and is always willing to try new things!



Make sure to say hello!

They will be out and about at all summer at Franklin Co. Extension Programs helping the agents!

Franklin County Conservation District

Backyard Conservation Program
Urban Cost Share Program

April 1, 2023 to August 1, 2023

Raised Garden Beds, Rain Barrels, Compost Bins, Pollinator Gardens and Behives

- First come, first serve
- Franklin County Residents only
- One application per household
- 50% cost share up to \$250 maximum

Must have approval before you begin project



Franklin County Conservation District
103 Lakeview Court
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-352-2701

CALL FSA NOW TO:

Agricultural producers who have not yet completed their crop acreage reports after planting should make an appointment with their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) service center before the applicable deadline. **July 15** is a major deadline for most crops including Forage Crops and Pastures, but acreage reporting deadlines vary by county and by crop. Producers should make an appointment as soon as possible to avoid missing deadlines.

CONTACT US TODAY!
Versailles Service Center
182 Beasley Drive,
Versailles Ky 40383
859-873-3411 Ext 2

Recipe



Blueberry Cream Cheese Pound Cake

- | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 (8 ounce) package fat free cream cheese | 1 (5 ounce) package instant vanilla pudding mix | 2 teaspoons vanilla extract |
| ½ cup canola oil | 2 large egg whites | 2 cups fresh blueberries |
| 1 (18 ounce) package yellow butter cake mix | 2 large eggs | |

- 1. Preheat** oven to 325° F.
 - 2. Lightly spray** Bundt pan with nonstick cooking spray and dust with flour.
 - 3. Combine** cream cheese and oil in a medium bowl; beat with mixer at high speed until smooth and creamy.
 - 4. Add** cake mix, pudding mix, egg whites, eggs, and vanilla extract. Beat at medium speed until blended.
 - 5. Fold** in berries.
 - 6. Spoon** batter into prepared pan.
 - 7. Bake** 60 minutes or until wooden toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.
 - 8. Cool** cake in pan for 20 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely.
- Yield:** 16 slices.
Nutrition Analysis: 260 calories; 10g fat; 1.5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 30 mg cholesterol; 390mg sodium; 38g carbohydrate; 1g fiber; 23g sugar; 4g protein.

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.



2023 Kentucky Beginning Grazing School

Helping livestock producers improve profitability with classroom and hands-on learning

When: September 27-28, 2023

Where: Woodford County Extension Office
184 Beasley Drive, Versailles, KY 40383

Cost: \$60/Participant – includes all materials, grazing manual, grazing stick, fencing kit, morning refreshments, and lunch both days

Program Registration: DEADLINE is September 22, 2023

Online Registration with CREDIT CARD AT:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-kentucky-beginning-grazing-school-fall-tickets-666511101647?aff=oddtcreator>

Registration by U.S. Mail with CHECK:

Christi Forsythe
UK Research and Education Center
348 University Drive, Princeton, KY 42445

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of participants _____ x \$60 per participant = _____ Total Amount



Please make checks payable to KFGC



2023 Kentucky Beginning Grazing School

Helping livestock producers improve profitability with classroom and hands-on learning

Emphasis on ruminants - beef, dairy, sheep, & goats

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Thursday September 28, 2023

MEET AT WOODFORD COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE EACH MORNING

- 7:30 Registration and refreshments
- 8:00 Introduction of staff and participants
- 8:15 Benefits of rotational grazing-Dr. Ray Smith, UK
- 8:35 Introduction to soils-Dr. John Grove, UK
- 9:05 Grazing math concepts/introduce field exercise-Dr. Katie VanValin, UK
- 9:35 Break & travel to field demonstration area
- 10:00 Hands on soil sampling-John Grove
- 10:20 Portable/seasonal water systems-Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK
- 10:40 Methods to assess pasture production and determine stocking rate-Dr. Ray Smith, UK
- 11:00 Hands-on: setting up small paddocks for grazing demonstrations-All Instructors
- 12:15 Lunch at farm (Woodford County Cattlemen)
- 1:00 Travel to local farm
- 1:30 Tour of local farm
- 3:00 Travel to teaching facility
- 3:30 Using electric fencing to control grazing-Jeremy McGill, Gallagher
- 4:00 Forage species for a comprehensive grazing system-Dr. Chris Teutsch, UK
- 4:30 Discussion and adjourn

- 7:30 Refreshments
- 8:00 Forage plant growth-Dr. Ray Smith, UK
- 8:30 Meeting the nutritional needs of grazing livestock-Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK
- 9:00 Financial assistance for improved grazing infrastructure-Adam Jones, NRCS
- 9:30 Break
- 10:00 Fencing types and costs-Dr. Morgan Hayes, UK
- 10:30 Fundamentals of laying out a grazing system-Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK
- 11:00 Small group project: grazing system design-Adam Jones, NRCS
- 12:00 Lunch (Woodford County Cattlemen)
- 1:00 How I made grazing work on the farm-Todd Clark, Clark Family Farm
- 1:30 Rejuvenating run-down pastures-Dr. Chris Teutsch, UK
- 2:00 Grazing myths that impact profitability-Greg Halich, UK
- 2:30 Complete grazing school evaluation
- 2:45 Travel to field demonstration area
- 3:00 Field exercise: observe grazed paddocks and hear reports from each group
- 3:30 Hay sampling and analysis-Jimmy Henning, UK
- 4:00 GPS and frost seeding demonstration-Brittany Hendrix
- 4:30 Final comments, diplomas, and adjourn



SAVE THE DATES:

July 13	Farm City Field Day, Harrod Family Farm & Firmly Rooted Flowers
July 18-22	Franklin County Fair Week, Lakeview Park
July 18	Sheep Show
July 19	Swine Show
July 20	Meat/ Market Goat Show
July 21	Beef Show
July 22	Cattlemen & Jr. Cattlemen Grilling at the Truck & Tractor Pull

Keenan R Bishop

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

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



@FranklinCountyKyCooperativeExtension



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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.