

Fayette County Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter

December 2023

 Cooperative Extension Service

Cooperative Extension Service
Fayette County Extension
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Dear Fayette County Producers,

It is with bittersweet emotion I write you this month. My last day as the Fayette County Extension Agent will be December 22nd. I want to start by saying what a blessing this community has been to my family and me. From day one I've felt welcomed and appreciated as a part of Fayette County. As many of you know, faith and family are my two biggest priorities in life and this move is a reflection of that. I sincerely appreciate you understanding this. Each one of you has touched my life in some form or fashion, and I'm extremely grateful for all the opportunities we had to work together. I hope that I've helped you as much as you've helped me grow in my career. I will still be a part of the Extension family and will no doubt be around Fayette County from time to time for Ag programs and to help as needed. I pray that the Lord continues to bless you and your families, and that we always look to Him for guidance. I appreciate each one of you for being so great to work with and will always look back on my four years here with joy and gratitude.

Thank you again for everything and love to each of you!

Happy Holidays!



Beau Neal
Fayette County Extension
Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources
beau.neal@uky.edu



Upcoming Events

|| **December 4, 2023 ~ Central Kentucky Hay Program**; Fayette County Extension Office, Lexington KY; 6:00-8:00pm; Please RSVP by November 30th at (859) 257-5582; For more information, see the flyer later in this newsletter; ||

|| **January 7-10, 2024 ~ American Forage & Grassland Conference 2024**; Mobile, AL; For more information, please go online to <https://www.afgc.org/annual-conference/> ||

|| **January 31, 2024 ~ Equines & Endophytes Workshop**; Fayette County Extension Office, Lexington KY; 11:30am-5:00pm; Advance registration is required. To register and for more information, please go online to <https://eew24.eventbrite.com>. ||

|| **February 8, 2024 ~ Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference**; Bowling Green, KY; More information to be announced online at <http://forages.ca.uky.edu/Events> ||

|| **February 19-20, 2024 ~ Heart of America Grazing Conference**; Cincinnati, OH; More information to be announced online at <http://forages.ca.uky.edu/Events> ||

The Fayette County Extension Office will be closed

December 25, 2023 - January 1, 2024 for the Holidays.

The Office will reopen on January 2, 2024.

Happy Holidays!!



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

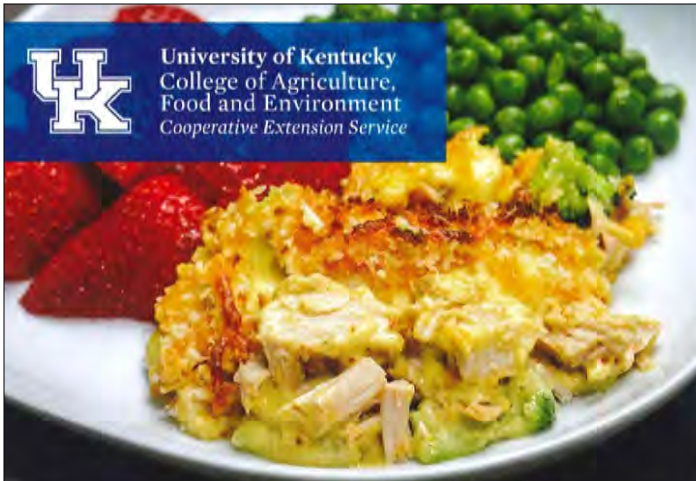
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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



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



Wild Turkey & Broccoli Casserole



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



USDA
Supplemental
Nutrition
Assistance
Program

Putting Healthy Food
Within Reach

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



Wild Turkey & Broccoli Casserole

- 2 packages (10 ounces each) frozen broccoli, or 2 bunches fresh broccoli, washed and cut into pieces
- 4 cups cubed, cooked wild turkey meat
- 1 cup light mayonnaise
- 2 cans (10.5 ounces each) low-sodium cream of chicken soup
- 1 teaspoon curry powder or 1 tablespoon prepared mustard
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon melted butter

To cook turkey breast, preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Add vegetable oil to a roasting pan. Place turkey breast in roasting pan. Season meat lightly with garlic powder and black pepper. Cover with lid or aluminum

foil. Cook at 325 degrees F until internal temperature is 165 degrees, about 1 1/2 to 3 1/2 hours for 4 to 8 pounds of meat. Let meat cool in pan for 15 minutes before cutting into cubes. Steam broccoli until tender. Drain. Grease a 2-quart casserole dish or 9-by-13-inch pan. Place turkey on the bottom, and arrange the broccoli over the turkey. Combine mayonnaise, cream of chicken soup, curry powder or mustard, and lemon juice. Pour over broccoli. Combine cheese, breadcrumbs, and butter. Sprinkle over casserole. Bake at 350 degrees F for 30 minutes.

Yield: 8 servings

Adapted from: "Fish & Game Cookbook," Bonnie Scott, 2013.

Nutrition Facts

8 servings per recipe
Serving size (243g)

Amount per serving
Calories 270

% Daily Value*

Total Fat 12g	15%
Saturated Fat 3g	15%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 65mg	22%
Sodium 660mg	29%
Total Carbohydrate 17g	6%
Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Total Sugars 2g	
Includes 0g Added Sugars	0%
Protein 23g	
Vitamin D 0mcg	0%
Calcium 66mg	6%
Iron 1mg	6%
Potassium 355mg	8%

*The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

For Cook Wild Kentucky recipes, visit:

<https://www.planeatmove.com/recipes>



For Plate It Up! recipes, visit:

<http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/content/plate-it-kentucky-proud>



UK researchers warn that recent weather could be problematic for mares grazing tall fescue pastures

Kentucky's late summer drought, followed by mild/late fall weather and recent rains could put mares at risk.

Lexington, Ky. - According to researchers at the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Kentucky's late summer drought, followed by mild/late fall weather and recent rains could put mares at risk on tall fescue pastures.

In a statement jointly issued by Megan Romano, specialist veterinary toxicologist at the UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL); Krista Lea, research analyst and coordinator of UK's Horse Pasture Evaluation Program; Emma Adam, research and industry liaison and assistant professor with UK's Department of Veterinary Science; and Ray Smith, extension professor and forage specialist within UK's Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, horse farm owners and managers were advised on the following.

Important observations:

- Recent rains after extended drought have enhanced endophyte-infected tall fescue production of the toxic compound, ergovaline.
- Owners should restrict exposure to ergovaline in late-term pregnant mares to avoid tall fescue toxicosis. Signs of tall fescue toxicosis include poor or absent milk production; poor udder development; prolonged gestation, greater than two weeks; thickened, retained placenta; "red bag" deliveries; and potentially fatal dystocia/foaling trauma.
- November and December are typically low pasture growth months where low ergovaline levels are seen, however the UK VDL recently tested numerous tall fescue samples and detected high ergovaline levels. Often fescue is diluted with other grasses, but recent weather conditions have allowed fescue to grow while bluegrass and orchardgrass have slower growth or are dormant.
- This is an issue that can affect states beyond Kentucky. The "fescue belt" includes 50% or more of the acreage in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Protective measures:

- Removing mares 60-90 days from their due date from pastures containing more than 20% toxic tall fescue onto pastures containing mainly orchard grass, Kentucky bluegrass or novel endophyte fescue.
- Feeding appetizing, high-quality hay, such as alfalfa or alfalfa mixed hay, can dilute the intake of ergovaline eaten on pastures, reducing the risk in situations where moving mares to very low fescue pastures is not feasible.
- Discussing managing high-risk mares and using domperidone with a veterinarian.
- Once temperatures drop into the high teens, ergovaline usually drops for the remainder of the winter.

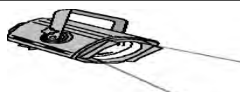
UK resources:

- Owners can test pasture samples for ergovaline at the UK VDL. Samples can be collected using the instructions found [here](#).
- Local county extension agents can assist with sampling and results interpretation. Find your county extension agent [here](#).
- Learn more about tall fescue, including mitigation strategies and new novel endophyte tall fescue varieties with no ergovaline, by visiting the Alliance for Grassland Renewal.
- Attend UK's Equines and Endophytes Workshop Jan. 31 in Lexington. Register today at <https://eew24.eventbrite.com>.

Forage Timely Tips: December

Source: UK Forage News, <https://kyforagenews.com/>

- Begin utilizing stockpiled pastures. Graze pastures with orchardgrass and clovers first. Save tall fescue pastures for late winter grazing.
- Using polywire, strip graze stockpiled pastures to improve Utilization. Start at the water source and allocate enough forage for 2-3 days. Back fencing is not necessary since pastures are not regrowing this time of year.
- Make plans to frost seed red and white clove onto closely grazed tall fescue pastures in February. Seed supplies of improved varieties may be tight.
- Begin hay feeding as stockpiled forage is used up.
- Supplement hay with commodity feeds as needed.
- Minimizing waste by utilizing ring feeders.



PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT: Minerals Matter for Beef Cattle (ASC-258)



Minerals are an essential nutrient for beef cattle. If minerals are not consumed in the diet, deficiencies can occur. At the same time, overconsumption of certain minerals can result in toxicity. Providing the proper balance of each mineral without overconsumption is necessary for optimal performance, as minerals are essential for supporting growth, reproduction, lactation, and health.

The eighth revised edition of Nutrient Requirements for Beef Cattle, published in 2016 by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, identified 17 minerals as essential for beef cattle. Minerals are further classified into two categories based on how much is needed by the animal. Macrominerals are needed in a higher quantity (parts per hundred or percent) compared to microminerals or trace minerals.

Publication is available on-line at <https://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ASC/ASC258/ASC258.pdf> or by contacting Beau Neal at beau.neal@uky.edu or (859) 257-5582.

To complete the survey, please click on the QR code located below or go online to go.uky.edu/serveKY.

Thank you



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KENTUCKY  COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

What to Consider When Renting Out Your Farm

Michael Forsythe, KFBM Area Extension Specialist
Economic and Policy Update (23):10,
Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky

According to 2022 KFBM data, only 27% of land farmed by Kentucky farmers is owned by the farmer. The remaining 73% is typically comprised of landowners that may or may not have a background in farming. In some cases, the landowner inherited the farm and may not even live in the same state as the farmland. There are several factors the landowners need to be aware of and consider when renting their farm.

One decision that needs to be made is what type of rent the landowner plans to receive. There are three main types of rent that were discussed in recent article "[Land Rental Agreements](#)." Below, you'll find a few highlights of each type of rental agreement. The first thing the landowner needs to consider is how much risk they are willing to take. If the landowner doesn't want any risk, they should choose a cash rental agreement. This will allow them to receive a steady income each year that will not be affected by the crop yield. This will solely be based on a rental price per acre, which can vary by location, ground quality, grain prices, and the local market.

There are many factors that go into determining the cash rental price. Location and ground quality are one of these major factors. What soil types are located on the farm? Is the farm prone to flooding? Is there field drainage tile on the farm? Are there any other possible causes for low productivity that might need to be addressed?

Grain prices are also another factor that play a big role in determining the cash rental price, but just looking at the grain prices does not tell the whole story. Typically, when grain prices increase, so do crop input prices and this increase will sometimes hurt the farmer's profitability more than the increase in the grain prices improves it. Because there is so much variability in grain prices, farmers will lock in prices to protect their profitability from a large price drop, so they are very rarely able to completely capitalize on any major price increases. Once a farmer agrees to increase the amount of the cash rent payment, it is hard to ever convince the landowner to lower the payment back down when there is a market downturn.

Some landowners are willing to take on risk with the potential of a higher return. These landowners should choose a share crop leasing agreement. This will allow the landowner to receive a higher payment in good crop years, but they are also accepting the risk of a lower payment in low yielding years. The landowner may choose to purchase crop insurance on their share to hedge against the risk of lower crop yields. They may also choose to sign up for government payments through the local Farm Service Agency office. Depending on the percentage of the share agreement, the landowner might also have to share in some of the crop expenses that they would not have to share in with a cash rental agreement.

Once the type of leasing agreement is decided, there are other issues to take into consideration. One issue that may come up is the possibility that some of the land is unsuitable for row crop farming and the renting farmer may not be willing to rent that portion of the land. In that case, the landowner may want to speak to the local FSA and NRCS offices to see if there are any programs available for this portion of the land, such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). If so, this may allow the landowner to generate some income off that portion of land they would otherwise not generate.

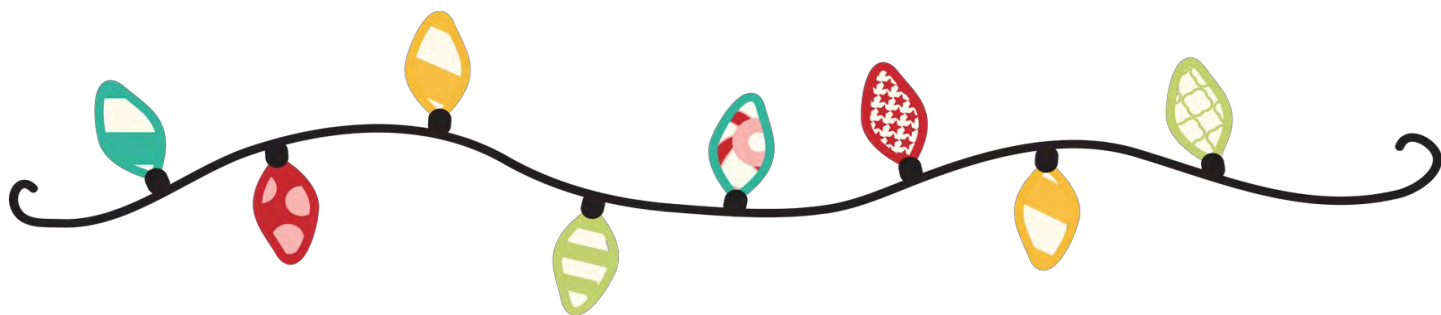
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Continued: What to Consider When Renting Out Your Farm

One factor that may be often overlooked by a landowner is providing access to the land for the farmer. In many instances a farm may be landlocked, so some type of access needs to be provided to the farmer. Also, many farms may have fences on the farm that either need to be maintained or need to be removed. In both cases, an agreement needs to be made on who will be responsible for maintaining the roads and either maintaining or removing any fences.

Field Drainage tile has been installed on many farms to assist in the regulation of excessive water on a farm at any given time. In many instances, this field drainage tile will help increase the productivity of the farm. Field drainage tile is considered a capital expense with a 15-year recovery period. This can quickly become an expensive, but valuable investment for both parties. In many cases the landowner and the farmer may share in this cost, but there are other cases where the farmer agrees to cover all the cost of the field drainage tile installation. In either case, the farmer may request a longer-term leasing agreement because of this 15-year investment. They may also request a pro-rated payment to cover some of the cost of the field tile if the rental agreement does not extend past a certain number of years. Before the final rental agreement is made, the landowner has other factors to consider. What happens if the landowner decides to sell the farm or passes away? The lease agreement terms, as well as an exit strategy for both parties are also necessary.

These are only a few of the decisions that need to be made before a leasing agreement is made between landowner and tenant. Many land leasing agreements are made verbally and with a handshake, but for the protection of both parties there should be a written and signed agreement with all the specific details of the agreement listed. This will allow both parties to have something in writing in case any issues ever arise. This will also provide a written basis to go back to when/if any future agreements are made between the parties.



UK Beef Webinar Series

Dr. Darrh Bullock, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

We will be restarting our UK Beef Webinar Series in December. These sessions are open to any beef producers, but a one-time registration is required. If you have received notices in the past then you are registered and should get the notification, if not, you can register by sending an email with your name and county to dbullock@uky.edu with the topic heading of UK Beef Webinar Registration. The dates and topics are:

- December 12, 2023 – Shooting the Bull – UK Beef Specialists will provide information on a hot topic in the beef industry and answer any questions posed by the attendees.
- January 9, 2024 – Prebreeding Vaccination Considerations – Dr. George Perry, Texas A&M University
- February 13 – What's the Cost of a Cheap Mineral – Dr. Katie VanValin, University of Kentucky

All webinars start at 8:00 EST/7:00 CST. All registered members will receive a Zoom invitation the morning of the presentation with the link and password.

For more information, please contact Darrh Bullock at dbullock@uky.edu



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

*Join us for an
evening of all
things hay!*

CENTRAL KENTUCKY HAY PROGRAM

PROGRAM FEATURES:

- ✓ Central KY Hay Contest Results
- ✓ Understanding your forage test results
- ✓ Supplementing for your livestock needs



When: Monday, December 4th, 2023

Where: Fayette County Extension Office,
1140 Harry Sykes Wy, Lexington, KY 40504

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Please RSVP to the Fayette County Extension Office
at 859-257-5582 before November 27th!

Cooperative Extension Service

Fayette County Cooperative Extension
1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, KY 40504-1383

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County Extension Agent for Agriculture
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Cooperative Extension Service
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Office Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm - Monday-Friday

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY,
KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY, U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND
KENTUCKY COUNTIES, COOPERATING



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