



The Mason County mAGazine

A Monthly Agricultural Newsletter



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A NOTE FROM YOUR AGENT

Hello all,

Summer may be nearing its end, but things aren't slowing down. Fair season is upon us, and harvest time is just around the corner!

There will be a Mason County Cattlemen's meeting this month—details on how to RSVP can be found later in this newsletter. Sign-ups for the East KY Hay Contest are now open, so be sure to check it out! I'd love to come out for a farm visit and collect some hay samples.

We're also preparing for several exciting fall programs including a Cattle Pregnancy Testing Workshop, The Farm School for Women series, and the Barnyard Theater program focusing on the health of our farmers. Registration is also now open for the Master Cattlemen series in early 2026!

As always, don't hesitate to reach out if I can help with anything. Be sure to sign up for a program!

Audrey Wright
Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent
Mason County Extension

800 US HIGHWAY 68 | MAYSVILLE, KY 41056 | P: 606-564-6808 | AUDREY.WRIGHT@UKY.EDU



CHUTESIDE CATTLE PREGNANCY TESTING WORKSHOP



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

How utilizing on farm pregnancy tests can benefit your operation

Types of chuteside tests that are available to you

Hands on step by step instructions for using the tests



REGISTER HERE:



Dr. Les Anderson will lead some hands on demonstrations and discuss the importance of pregnancy checking your herd

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

6:00 | 7580 TAYLOR MILL RD, MAYSVILLE, KY 41056

SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL THE OFFICE AT (606)564-6808 TO REGISTER!

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of race, color,
status, gender
accommodate
University
Levin

REGISTER

are on the basis
pregnancy, marital
age



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

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Facebook



Mason Co. Conservation District

SHARED-USE

EQUIPMENT



GREAT PLAINS 1006NT DRILL



INLINE WRAPPER HYBRID X

For rental information, contact the district office (606)759-5570 Ext. 3

scan the QR code
to register or call
the office at
(606)584-6808



MASON COUNTY *CATTLEMEN'S* ASSOCIATION



SUMMER MEETING

August 28th | 6:00 PM
Mason Co Extension Office



The Mason County Cattlemen's Association is calling on local producers and agricultural advocates to join its growing network of cattlemen and women who are working together to strengthen the future of agriculture in Mason County.

With a renewed focus on expanding its membership, the Association is emphasizing the vital role it plays in supporting local producers, promoting agricultural education, and building a stronger rural economy.

The Association offers a variety of benefits to its members. Each meeting includes a free meal, door prizes, and opportunities to hear from agricultural experts on topics ranging from market trends and research updates to local best practices. Members also receive timely industry updates through Cow Country News and enjoy valuable networking with producers, industry leaders, and specialists from across the region.

Educational presentations are a cornerstone of each meeting, focused specifically on the needs and interests of Mason County cattle producers. These sessions aim to equip members with tools and knowledge they can apply directly to their farming operations.

Anyone interested in learning more or becoming a member is encouraged to contact the Mason County Extension Office at (606)564-6808.

FREE!
HAY TESTING

2025 EAST KENTUCKY HAY CONTEST

SIGN UP EVEN IF YOU THINK YOUR HAY ISN'T THAT GOOD!

 **Cooperative
Extension Service**

LIMITED TO 5 LOTS



TESTING PROVIDES: NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF HAY & HAYLAGE; RATIONS; & CAN RESULT IN: REDUCED FEED COSTS, INCREASED ANIMAL PERFORMANCE, & INFORMATION TO IMPROVE FORAGE STANDS

USE THE QR CODE OR CALL: (606) 564-6808 TO SIGN-UP

DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS 9/1/25

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



HAY TESTING

The Mason County Extension Office now has a hay probe available to check out at the office to help producers collect hay samples for lab analysis.

WHY TEST YOUR FORAGE?

- Tested forages can mean higher profit, whether feeding cattle, horses, goats, sheep or other livestock. Knowing the nutritional value will help you minimize your cost and maximize your production.
- The analysis report, assists producers in balancing feed rations for their livestock. Each livestock species take a different energy level at different stages of their lives. A ration balance will help maintain a healthy diet.
- Forage testing helps determine fair market value and establish an equitable price for forage sales.
- Buying or Selling Hay: The Forage Testing Program maintains a list of Kentucky hay producers that have their hay tested through KDA. The service is offered throughout the state and the information may be viewed on this KDA “Forage Sales Directory/Tested Hay” webpage.

Contact me if you have any questions or to learn more about submitting samples for analysis!

****If you would like to have samples taken for the East KY Hay contest, those samples will be taken later in the summer****



Spring Calving Cows

- Fescue pastures don't generally produce much this month. Some of us have had some rain but the heat has punished our pastures and cattle this summer. Most of you may have some forage going into the usually dry months. Keep rotating pastures to permit calves to continue gaining weight. Always keep minerals available.
- Bulls should have been removed from the cow herd by the end of the month. They should be pastured away from the cow herd with a good fence and allowed to regain lost weight and condition. It is a good time to evaluate physical condition, especially feet and legs. Bulls can be given medical attention and still have plenty of time to recover, e.g., corns, abscesses, split hooves, etc. If removing the bull is not practical for you then call your herd veterinarian and schedule a pregnancy diagnosis. Market your "late-bred" cows and keep those that conceived early in the breeding season.
- Repair and improve corrals for fall working and weaning. Consider having an area to wean calves and retain ownership for postweaning feeding rather than selling "green", lightweight calves. Plan to participate in CPH-45 feeder calf sales in your area.

Fall Calving Cows

- Dry cows should be moved to better pastures as calving time approaches. Cows should start calving next month. Yearling heifers may begin "headstart" calving later this month. Plan to move cows to stockpiled fescue for the breeding season, so it will soon be time to apply nitrogen fertilizer.
- Prepare for the fall-calving season (usually September). Get ready, be sure you have the following:
 - record book
 - ear tags for identification
 - calf puller

General

- Perhaps the most tedious aspect of agriculture is keeping records, generating reports, and using data to make management decisions. Consider using one of the many electronic data collection and management systems available on the market. We recommend Stocket.us for a simple, inexpensive web/app platform.
- Provide shade and water! Cattle will need shade during the hot part of the day. Check water supply frequently – as much as 20 gallons may be required by high producing cows in very hot weather.
- Select pastures for stockpiling. Remove cattle and apply nitrogen when moisture conditions are favorable. Stockpiled fescue can be especially beneficial for fall-calving cows after calving. Reproductive rates are highest in fall-calving cows grazing stockpiled fescue.
- Avoid working cattle when temperatures are extremely high – especially those grazing high-endophyte fescue. If cattle must be handled, do so in the early morning.
- Do not give up on fly control in late summer, especially if fly numbers are greater than about 50 flies per animal. You can use a different "type" of spray or pour-on to kill any resistant flies at the end of fly season.
- Keep a good mineral mix available at all times. The UK Beef IRM Basic Cow-Calf mineral is a good choice.

Response of Pasture Weeds to Herbicides and Mowing

Weed Species	Life Cycle ¹	Preferred Time for Herbicide Treatment ²	2,4-D (various products)	dicamba (Clarity, etc.)	dicamba+ 2,4-D (Weedmaster etc.)	Crossbow	PastureGard	DuraCor	GrazonNext	Chaparral ³	metasulfuron ³ (MSM60, Patriot, etc.)	Sharpen	MOWING ⁴
Amaranth, Spiny (Pigweed)	A	May-July	F/G	F/G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	G	-	X
Aster spp. (White Heath Aster)	A	July-Sept	F/G	G	G	G	-	-	-	-	F	P	R
Burdock, Common	B	Feb-Mar	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	F	P	R
Buttercup spp.	A	Feb-Mar	G	F/G	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	P/F	X
Carrot, Wild (Queen Anne's Lace)	B	May-June	F/G	F/G	F/G	F/G	F	G	G	G	G	P	R
Chickweed, Common	A	Nov or Feb-Mar	P	F/G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	P/F	X
Chicory	P	Feb-Mar or Aug-Nov	F/G	F/G	G	G	G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Clover, White	P	May-Aug	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	P	X
Cocklebur, Common	A	May-July	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	R
Dandelion	P	Oct-Nov or Mar-Apr	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	G	P	X
Deadnettle, Purple	A	Feb-Mar	P	F/G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	-	X
Dock, Curly or Broadleaf	P	Feb-Apr	P/F	F	F/G	G	F/G	G	G	G	G	P	X
Dogbane, Hemp	P	May-Aug	P/F	F	F	G	G	P/F	P/F	P/F	P	P	S
Garlic, Wild	P	Nov or Mar-Apr	F	F	F	F	P	F	F	F/G	G	P	X
Goldenrod spp.	P	June-Aug	F	F/G	F/G	G	F	F	F/G	F/G	P	P	S
Hemlock, Poison	B	Nov or Mar-Apr	F/G	F/G	F/G	F/G	P	F/G	F/G	-	F	P	R
Henbit	A	Feb-Mar	P	F/G	G	F	F/G	G	G	G	G	-	X
Horsenettle	P	July-Aug	P	P/F	F	F	P/F	G	G	F/G	F	P	X
Ironweed, Tall	P	June-Aug	P	F	F	G	G	G	G	G	P	P	S
Jimsonweed	A	May-July	F	G	G	G	-	G	G	G	-	-	R
Lespedeza, Sericea	P	June-July	P	P/F	P/F	G	G	P/F	P/F	F/G	F/G	P	X
Marshelder (Sumpweed)	A	May-July	F/G	F/G	G	G	F	G	G	G	F	-	R
Milkweed, Common	P	July-Sept	P	F	P/F	F	P/F	P/F	P/F	P/F	P	P	S
Mint, Perilla	A	May-July	F	F	F/G	G	F/G	G	G	G	-	-	S
Multiflora Rose	P	Apr-June or Sept	P	P	F	G	G	F	F	F/G	G	P	X
Passionflower, Maypop	P	May-July	P	P	P	P/F	F	P	P	P	-	-	X
Plantain, Broadleaf or Buckhorn	P	Oct-Nov or Mar-Apr	F/G	F	F/G	G	F	G	F/G	F/G	F/G	P	X
Pokeweed, Common	P	May-July	F	F/G	F/G	F/G	P	F/G	F/G	F	P	P	S
Ragweed, Common	A	May-July	F/G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	P	R
Ragweed, Lanceleaf	A	May-July	F/G	G	G	G	-	G	G	-	P	-	R
Sida, Arrowleaf	A	May-July	P	P	P	-	-	F	F	F	-	-	R
Sneezeweed, Bitter	A	May-July	F/G	F/G	G	G	G	G	G	G	-	-	R
Sorrel, Red (Sheep Sorrel)	P	Sept-Nov or Mar	P	F	F/G	F/G	F	-	-	F/G	F/G	P	X
Spurge, Nodding	A	June-July	P	P	P	P/F	-	P/F	P/F	G	G	-	R
Thistle, Bull	B	Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Thistle, Canada	P	Prebud or Oct-Nov	P	P/F	F	F	P/F	G	G	G	F	p	S
Thistle, Musk	B	Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Thistle, Plumeless	B	Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Tickclover (Desmodium spp.)	P	June-Aug	P	-	F	F/G	F/G	F/G	F/G	-	-	P	R
Trumpetcreeper	P	Aug-Sept	P	P	P/F	F	F	P	P	-	P	P	X

Control: **G** = Good or Excellent; **F** = Fair (suppression or partial control); **P** = Poor; **-** = No Information

¹ Life Cycle: **A** = Annuals; **P** = Perennials; **B** = Biennials

² The preferred time for herbicide treatment will depend on environmental conditions and other factors.

³ May cause temporary yellowing, stunting and seedhead suppression of tall fescue (consult label). Metasulfuron is an active ingredient in several products (e.g. Chaparral, MSM60, Patriot, Purestand).

⁴ Mowing: **R** = Timely mowing reduces top growth and seed production; **S** = Suppression of top growth; **X** = Not very effective

Note: This table should be used only as a guide for comparing the relative effectiveness of herbicides to a particular weed. The herbicide may perform better or worse than indicated in the table depending on the species, weed size, time of application, and/or extreme weather conditions. Consult herbicide label for weed height or growth stage and product amount. Read and follow all label directions and precautions before herbicide application.

Adapted from *Weed Management in Grass Pastures, Hayfields, and Other Farmstead Sites* (AGR-172; revised 3-2021). Available at <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/agr/agr172/agr172.pdf>.

Listing of pesticide products implies no endorsement by the University of Kentucky or its representatives. Criticism of products not listed is neither implied nor intended.

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Revised 3-2021

New World Screwworm (NWS)



New World screwworm (NWS, *Cochliomyia hominivorax*) is a devastating pest. When NWS fly larvae (maggots) burrow into the flesh of a living animal, they cause serious, often deadly damage to the animal. NWS can infest livestock, pets, wildlife, occasionally birds, and in rare cases, people.

SYMPTOMS

- **Behavioral Changes:** Animals may appear depressed, stop eating, and isolate themselves.
- **Wound Characteristics:** Look for enlarging, foul-smelling wounds.
- **Eggs and Maggots:** Look for eggs near the wound and maggots. (NWS resembles common blowflies, requiring careful inspection).

CONTROL STRATEGIES:

- **Veterinarian/Caretaker Action:** Wound examination, treatment (quarantine), and animal movement restrictions.
- **Sterile Fly Release:** Lab-raised, sterilized male NWS flies are released to mate with females, making eggs unhatchable.



For more information, contact your local county extension office. If you suspect NWS, contact a USDA veterinarian or the Kentucky state veterinarian for identification assistance.

Source: USDA APHIS
An Equal Opportunity Organization.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

**September
is Free!**

BQCA

BEEF QUALITY CARE ASSURANCE



Mason County Extension Office

- **September 3 - 10-11:30 AM**
- **September 11 - 5-6:30 PM**
- **September 30 - 10-11:30 AM**

**Please bring \$5 IF you wish to
purchase a farm sign**

REGISTER HERE



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



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification

Cooperative Extension Service



FARM SCHOOL FOR WOMEN

4 THURSDAYS IN OCTOBER

6:00PM MEAL WILL BEGIN AT 5:30PM

FLEMING CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG

CALL YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE TO
REGISTER BY 9/26/2025

-BRACKEN: (606) 735-2141
-FLEMING: (606) 845-4641
-LEWIS: (606) 796-2732
-MASON: (606) 564-6808
-ROBERTSON: (606) 724-5796



OCTOBER 2
PLUMBING BASICS

OCTOBER 9
PLANT DISEASES 2.0

OCTOBER 16
BACKYARD POULTRY

OCTOBER 23
**CONTAINER
GARDENING**

OR REGISTER USING
THE QR CODE



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

MASTER CATTLEMAN PROGRAM

 Cooperative
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Agriculture and Natural Resources

PRESENTED BY THE BUFFALO TRACE COUNTIES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICES

THURSDAYS: JANUARY 8–FEBRUARY 12

- 1/8/26: GENETICS (AT MASON COUNTY)
- 1/15/26: MARKETING & PROFITABILITY (AT BRACKEN)
- 1/22/26: HERD HEALTH (AT FLEMING COUNTY)
- 1/29/26: NUTRITION (AT MASON COUNTY)
- 2/5/26: REPRODUCTION & RECORDS (AT LEWIS CO.)
- 2/12/26: FACILITIES & WINTER FEEDING (AT ROBERTSON)



CALL TO REGISTER OR USE
QR CODE:

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796

OR
\$100 per
person
\$125 per
couple

MEAL
BEGINS AT
5:30PM

we will serve until a
little after 6pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY: 12/1/25

PROGRAM
6PM-9PM

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GERMANTOWN FAIR SCHEDULE

Monday, August 4, 2025 Admission \$10.00

Carnival Rides Open		6:00 pm
Mechanical Bull		6:00 pm
Market Sheep & Goat Show	Show Barn	6:00 pm
Kids Power Wheels	Back Track	7:15 pm
Demolition Derby	Back Track	7:30 pm
Chicken Rodeo	Center Ring	7:30 pm
Miss Germantown Fair	Pavilion	7:30 pm
Pen the Pig	Center Ring	8:15 pm

Tuesday, August 5, 2025 Admission \$10.00

Floral Hall Entries	Exhibit Hall	8:00 am - 2:45 pm
Mechanical Bull		6:00 pm
Carnival Rides Open		6:00 pm
Market Swine Show	Show Barn	6:00 pm
Remote Control Activities	Center Ring	7:00 pm
Kids Power Wheels Derby	Back Track	7:15 pm
Demolition Derby	Back Track	7:30 pm
Miss Teen	Pavilion	7:30 pm

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 Admission \$10.00

Carnival Rides Open		6:00 pm
Market Beef Show & Supremes	Show Barn	5 :00 pm
Mechanical Bull		6:00 pm
KOI Drags	Back Track	7:00 pm
Garden Tractor Pull	Back Track	7:00 pm
Fun Horse Show	Center Ring	7:00 pm
Little Miss & Mister & Pre-Teen	Pavilion	7:30 pm

GERMANTOWN FAIR SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 7, 2025 Admission \$10.00

Sensory Day	Center Ring	10:00 – 11:30 am
Carnival Rides Open		6:00 pm
Mechanical Bull		6:00 pm
Micro Mini Tractor & Truck Pull	Show Barn	6:00 pm
Contest Show	Center Ring	7:00 pm
Barrel Racing & Pole Bending		
Baby Show, Baby Miss & Mister,	Pavilion	7:30 pm
Tiny Miss & Mister		
Battle of the Bluegrass	Back Track	7:30 pm

Friday, August 8, 2025 Admission \$15.00

Carnival Rides Open		6:00 pm
Mechanical Bull		6:00 pm
Corn Hole Tournament	Kids – 5:00 pm Adult	6:00 pm
Pedal Power Tractor Pull	Center Ring Area	6:30 pm
Ranch Rodeo Contest	Center Ring	7:00 pm
Battle of the Bluegrass	Back Tract	7:30 pm
Band: Flashback	Pavilion	8:00 pm

Saturday, August 9, 2025 Admission \$15.00

Floral Hall Pick-Up	Exhibit Hall	9:00 am – Noon
Cruise-In		9:00 am - Noon
Mechanical Bull		6:00 pm
Carnival Rides Open		6:00 pm
Saddlebred & Roadster Horse Show		7:00 pm
Mud Sling	Back Track	7:30 pm
Band: ReBoot	Pavilion	8:00 pm

LIA SHOW & SALE 2025



LIA SHOW & SALE 2025



Summertime Sensation Casserole

4 strips turkey bacon	½ teaspoon salt	2 cups tomatoes, chopped
⅓ cup minced onion	⅓ teaspoon black pepper	⅓ cup reduced fat shredded cheddar cheese
3 tablespoons diced green pepper	1 teaspoon dried sweet basil	
4 ears fresh sweet corn		

1. In a large skillet, **cook** turkey bacon until crisp.
2. **Drain** turkey bacon on paper towel, **chop** and put aside. Do not drain pan. **Cook** onion and green pepper in bacon drippings over medium heat until tender.
3. **Cut** corn from cob and add to onion and green pepper mixture in skillet.

Add salt, black pepper, basil and tomatoes. **Cook** 5-10 minutes. **Add** chopped turkey bacon and cook an additional minute.

4. Pour skillet contents into a greased 1-1/2 quart casserole dish.

5. Top with shredded cheddar cheese.

6. **Bake** at 350°F for 30 minutes, or until cheese is melted and bubbling.

Yield: 5, ½ cup servings.

Nutrition Analysis: 160 calories, 7 g fat, 2.5 g sat. fat, 25 mg cholesterol, 680 mg sodium, 19 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 7 g sugar, 8 g protein.



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

Kentucky Sweet Corn

SEASON: July to August

NUTRITION FACTS: Corn is low in fat and is a good source of fiber and B vitamins, with 90 calories in a one-half cup serving.

SELECTION: Look for ears with green shucks, moist stems and silk ends that are free of decay. Kernels should be small, tender, plump and milky when pierced. They should fill up all the spaces in the rows.

STORAGE: Keep unshucked, fresh corn in the refrigerator until ready to use. Wrap ears in damp paper towels and placed in a plastic bag for 4 to 6 days.

PREPARATION: To microwave: Place ears of corn, still in the husk, in a single layer, in the microwave. Cook on high for 2 minutes for 1 ear, adding 1 minute per each additional ear. Turn the ears after 1 minute. Let corn set for several minutes before removing the shucks and silks.

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

To boil: Remove shucks and silks. Trim stem ends.

Carefully place ears in a large pot of boiling water. Cook 2 to 4 minutes or until kernels are tender.

To grill: Turn back the shucks and remove silks. Sprinkle each ear with 2 tablespoons of water and nonfat seasoning such as salt, pepper or herbs. Replace shucks and tie them shut with a string that has been soaked in water. Place ears on a hot grill for 20 to 30 minutes, turning often.

SWEET CORN

Plate It Up! Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Kentucky, Nutrition
and Food Science students

June 2012

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IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 4-9	Germantown Fair	
Aug 14-24	KY State Fair Louisville, KY	
Aug 28	Mason Co Cattlemen's Meeting 6:00 Mason Co Extension Office	✓
Sep 1	Labor Day Office Closed	
Sep 1	Deadline to sign up for Hay contest!	
Sep 3	BQCA 10:00 Mason County Extension Office	✓
Sep 9	Pregnancy Testing Program 6:00 PM 7580 Taylor Mill Rd Maysville, KY	✓
Sep 11	BQCA 5:00 Mason County Extension Office	✓
Sep 24	2025 Intermediate Grazing School 7:30-4 Woodford County Extension Office	✓
Sep 30	BQCA 10:00 Mason County Extension Office	✓
October 2	Farm School For Women- Plumbing 6:00 Mason Co Extension Office	✓
October 9	Farm School For Women- Plant Diseases 6:00 Mason Co Extension Office	✓
October 16	Farm School For Women- Poultry 6:00 Mason Co Extension Office	✓
October 23	Farm School For Women- Container Gardening 6:00 Mason Co Extension Office	✓
November 7	Barnyard Theater 4:00 Straub Elementary	

CAIP Education Eligible ✓



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

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