



# The Mason County mAGazine

A Monthly Agricultural Newsletter



## IN THIS ISSUE:

Pregnancy Testing  
Program

CAIP Deadlines

Timely Tips

Hay Testing

Soil Testing

Upcoming Programs

Important Dates

## A NOTE FROM YOUR AGENT

Hello all,

Tobacco is going into the barns and calves are hitting the ground, which can only mean one thing—we're heading into fall here in Mason County!

I'm especially excited to get out on farms this month to pull hay samples and help you get a clear picture of your forage quality. I'll also be hosting a Cattle Pregnancy Testing Workshop, and I hope many of you will take part in this hands-on learning opportunity.

This month is also Free BQCA Month, so be sure to register if you need to update your certification. In addition, I'm happy to share that all soil testing, hay testing, and plant sample analysis are now free through the Mason County office. This is a fantastic resource for you as producers, and I encourage you to take advantage of it!

As always, don't hesitate to reach out—I look forward to working with you this fall and seeing many of you at upcoming programs!

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!

Cooperative  
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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 race, color,  
status, gender,  
accommodations  
University  
Levin

# REGISTER

are on the basis  
pregnancy, marital  
age



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

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 Find us on  
Facebook



# Mason Co. Conservation District

# SHARED-USE

## EQUIPMENT



GREAT PLAINS 1006NT DRILL

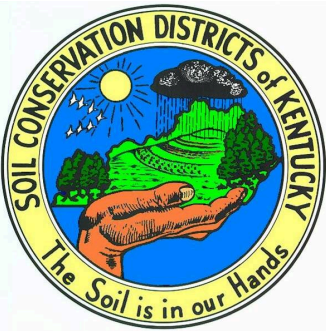


INLINE WRAPPER HYBRID X

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



Your completed project for Mason County's CAIP program is due in The Conservation District office by the close of business **October 10, 2025**. Remember that in order to get reimbursed for your project you will need specific paperwork. If you have any questions please call the Conservation District office (606-759-5570) Monday thru Friday 8am-4:30pm.





## Spring Calving Cows

- Bulls should have been removed from the cow herd by now! 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. Don't keep trying to get open spring cows bred – move them to fall calving or sell them when they wean this year's calf. If you don't have a bull pen and want to tighten up the calving season, remove the bull and sell him. Plan on purchasing a new bull next spring. If that is not feasible, then schedule your veterinarian to pregnancy diagnose the herd and cull cows that will calve late.
- 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.
- Limited creep feeding can prepare calves for the weaning process since they can become accustomed to eating dry feed. This will especially benefit those calves which you are going to keep for a short postweaning period – like the CPH-45 program. It's time to start planning the marketing of this year's calf crop.
- Begin evaluating heifer calves for herd replacements – or culling. Each time you put them through the chute you can evaluate them for several traits, especially disposition. Consider keeping the older, heavier heifers. They will reach puberty before the onset of the breeding season and have higher conception rates.
- This has generally been a reasonably good year for pastures, but many parts of the state have experienced some drought. Evaluate moisture condition and consider stockpiling some fescue pastures. It's not too late to apply nitrogen for stockpiling fescue if moisture conditions are suitable.
- Stresses associated with weaning can be minimized by spreading-out other activities commonly associated with weaning – like vaccinations, deworming and, perhaps, castration and dehorning (which should have already been done!). Therefore, this month is a good time to do a "preweaning" working of cows and calves.
- When planning the preweaning working, consult with your veterinarian for advice on animal health products and procedures. One procedure that can be done now is pregnancy checking cows. Early pregnancy diagnosis will allow time to make culling decisions prior to weaning time. Feeding non-productive cows through the winter is a costly venture so pregnancy diagnosis is a business decision for most producers.

## Fall Calving Cows

- Fall-calving should start this month. Get your eartags ready. Cows should be moved to a clean, accessible pasture and be watched closely. Tag calves soon after they are born and record dam ID and calf birthdate, etc. Castration is less stressful when performed on young animals and calves which are intended for feeders can be implanted now, too.
- If you haven't started calving quite yet, then it's time to get ready. Be sure you have the following:
  - record book
  - eartags for identification
  - iodine solution for newborn calf's navel
  - calf puller
  - castration equipment
- Watch for those calves which may come early and be prepared to care for them.
- Be on guard for predators – especially black vultures.
- Move cows to best quality fall pasture after calving. Stockpiled fescue should be available to these cows in November-December to meet their nutritional needs for milking and rebreeding.
- Start planning now for the breeding season. If using AI, order supplies, plan matings and order semen now.

# TIMELY TIPS

DR. LES ANDERSON, BEEF EXTENSION PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

## General

- Keep a good mineral mix available at all times. The UK Beef IRM Basic Cow-Calf mineral is a good choice.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Plan the winter-feeding program. Take forage samples of hay you will feed this winter. Request protein and TDN analysis so that supplemental feed needs may be estimated. Don’t wait until you run out of feed in February to purchase extra feed. Plan to minimize hay storage and feeding losses because feed is too expensive to waste.
- If you have adequate moisture, stockpiling fescue might be a viable option. Nitrogen application to fescue pastures can be made now and allow them to grow and accumulate until November, or when other sources of grazing have been used up. To make best use of this pasture, put fall-calvers, thin spring-calvers, or stockers on this pasture and strip graze.
- Don’t graze sorghum or sudan pastures between the first frost and a definite killing frost because of the danger of prussic acid poisoning. Johnsongrass in stalk fields can also be a problem after a light frost. Grazing can resume after the sorghum-type grasses have undergone a killing frost and dried up.

# 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\*\***



## SOIL TESTING

To maximize yield and economic return on every acre, begin with a soil test. A current soil test from the University of Kentucky ensures you will receive more accurate fertilizer recommendations, optimized for your crop, field history and production methods.

University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service publication AGR-1, Lime and Nutrient Recommendations, was recently updated for the 2025-2026 crop seasons, and new recommendations are a result of a review of soil fertility research and soil test data collected across the state. It covers nutrient recommendations for grain crops, forages, tobacco and several specialty crops.

To get reliable recommendations, it is important that the submitted soil sample accurately represents the field or area from which it was taken. Analytical results provided on the soil test report form are for the sample submitted, and the listed recommendations are based on those results. All recommendations are made on the assumption that a representative soil sample was taken. If soil sampling procedures are questionable, accurate nutrient and lime rate recommendations for the sampled field or area cannot be assured. Because results can vary between fall and spring sampling, it is better to consistently sample a given field at the same time of the year.

When sampling untilled fields in the fall, an equal number of cores should be collected from both between and close to the rows. For tilled areas, take soil cores to the depth of primary tillage (plow, chisel plow, big disc, etc.), usually six to eight inches. With pastures, lawns, no-tilled areas and turf, take soil cores to a depth of four inches.

With changing fertilizer and commodity prices, each production field should be sampled every two years. Annual sampling is preferable for high-value crops or rotations that remove large amounts of soil nutrients, such as alfalfa, tobacco and double-crop silage. Sampling each year after manure application is also recommended.



Field research yield and soil test relationships measured by the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station were used to establish the phosphate and potash recommendations contained in AGR-1. Those recommendations strive to enable each soil/field to supply a sufficient level of available plant nutrients, regardless of seasonal weather and assuming good management practices.

Contact the Mason County Extension office for additional information, or view AGR-1 at <https://publications.ca.uky.edu/agr-1>.

Source: John Grove, research and extension soils specialist; and Edwin Ritchey, extension soils specialist, UK Research and Education Center at Princeton



## 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**



### **Cooperative Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth 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.



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification

# Help Shape Kentucky's Recycling & Waste Management Future

Whether you're a waste management professional, an industry leader, or a concerned citizen, **your voice is vital in shaping Kentucky's future approach to sustainable materials and waste management.** These facilitated conversations for each Area Development District (ADD) will guide the creation of Kentucky's new plans, ensuring they're comprehensive, effective, and beneficial for all Kentuckians.

Learn more about this effort at <https://blueprintkentucky.ca.uky.edu/ky-mat-mgmt-planning>

## Listening Sessions for Fall 2025:

### SEPTEMBER

- 3rd - Bluegrass ADD Residents
- 9th - Buffalo Trace ADD Residents
- 10th - Northern Kentucky ADD Residents
- 24th - Purchase ADD Residents
- 25th - Pennyrile ADD Residents

### OCTOBER

- 7th - Green River ADD Residents
- 8th - Barren River ADD Residents
- 16th - City of Louisville Residents
- 22nd - FIVCO ADD Residents
- 29th - KIPDA ADD Residents

### NOVEMBER

- 4th - Big Sandy ADD Residents
- 5th - Kentucky River ADD Residents
- 18th - Cumberland Valley ADD Residents

### DECEMBER

- 2nd - Lake Cumberland ADD Residents



All sessions are 1pm-4pm local time.  
Learn more about session locations & register using the QR code above.

# BEEF BASH



**SEPTEMBER 20, 2025**  
**9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**  
**C. ORAN LITTLE RESEARCH FARM**

 **Cooperative  
Extension Service**



## BEEF BASH

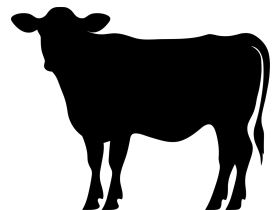
The University of Kentucky is hosting its annual Beef Bash at the C. Oran Little Research Center on Saturday, September 20.

Join industry leaders, producers, and educators for a full day of informative sessions, research updates, and networking opportunities focused on the future of beef production.

The event combines social, educational and industry interaction and should have something for everyone interested in beef and the Kentucky beef industry. The event moved to Saturday this year to include youth participants.

The event will include live cattle demonstrations, research presentations, commercial and educational exhibits. Visitors may also take various tours or can simply sit on a bale of straw and visit with university or industry leaders, commercial representatives and fellow cattle producers.

To register, please scan the QR code below!



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Intermediate Grazing School Sept. 24-25, 2025 - Versailles, KY



Kentucky Master Grazer  
Educational Program

- This year's program has undergone significant updates to intensify its focus on the crucial role of soils and hands-on application in successful grazing management.
- The event occurs on Wednesday, September 24 and Thursday, September 25 at the Woodford County Extension office in Versailles, Kentucky.
- Topics on the first day include introduction to soils, rotational grazing, meeting nutritional needs on pasture, grazing math concepts, travel to a local grazing operation, portable/seasonal water systems, methods to access pasture production and determine stocking rate, hands-on small paddock set-up demonstrations.
- Topics on the second day include fence types and costs, a grazing system design case study and exercise, grazing myths that impact profitability and a discussion on how to reinvigorate a rundown farm.
- Registration costs \$60 per participant and ends Sept. 20. To register and purchase online, visit <https://2025IntermediateGrazing.eventbrite.com> For more information contact Caroline Roper at 270-704-6618 or [Caroline.Roper@uky.edu](mailto:Caroline.Roper@uky.edu)

# Join us for an Open House!



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

Come see what extension is all about!

Mason County Extension Office  
September 22<sup>nd</sup> 5 PM – 7 PM

## What's happening:

- 4-H Enrollement
- Homemaker Enrollment
- Booths: Agriculture, Horticulture, FCS, 4H, and many more!
- Kids' Coloring Contest (Pick up a sheet at the office ahead of time if you'd like)
- "Milk" a cow!
- Giveaways
- Mason Co Cattlemen's is grilling- so come hungry!



MASON  
COUNTY  
**CATTLEMEN'S**  
ASSOCIATION



**Kentucky Extension  
Master Gardener**



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4-H Youth Development  
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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.  
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

# Cooperative Extension Service



## BUFFALO TRACE AREA FARM SCHOOL

**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

 Cooperative  
Extension Service

BUFFALO TRACE COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION SERVICE OFFICES PRESENTS

NOVEMBER 7, 2025

## BARNYARD THEATER



### FEATURING

DAVID APPELMAN  
CHUCK BAILEY  
ADAM HINTON  
JENNIFER MEADOWS

 **STRAUB ELEMENTARY GYMNASIUM**

387 CHENAULT DRIVE, MAYSVILLE, KY

### PROGRAM INFORMATION:

 **4:00PM-5:45PM HEALTH SCREENINGS**

 **6:00PM- DINNER & SHOW**

- FREE CHILDCARE
- GENERAL SCREENINGS
- RESP. FIT TESTING
- VISION CHECK
- FREE GIVEAWAYS
- DRAWING FOR UK TICKETS



**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION  
OFFICE FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS AT:**

- 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

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

# MASTER CATTLEMAN PROGRAM

 Cooperative  
Extension Service  
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

Cooperative  
Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
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4-H Youth Development  
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# IMPORTANT DATES

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 20	Beef Bash   9:00-3:00   C. Oran Little Research Farm- Versailles	✓
Sep 22	Open House   5:00-7:00   Mason Co Extension Office	
Sep 24-25	2025 Intermediate Grazing School   7:30-4   Woodford County Extension Office	✓
Sep 30	BQCA   10:00   Mason County Extension Office	✓
October 2	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Plumbing   6:00   Mason Co Extension Office	✓
October 9	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Plant Diseases   6:00   Mason Co Extension Office	✓
October 16	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Poultry   6:00   Mason Co Extension Office	✓
October 23	Buffalo Trace Farm School- 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*

Mason County

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Maysville, KY 41056

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