# Fayette County Agriculture Extension Service & Natural Resources Newsletter

**Cooperative Extension Service** 

**Fayette County Extension** 1140 Harry Sykes Way Lexington, KY 40504-1383 Phone (859) 257-5582 Email: fayette.ext@uky.edu http://fayette.ca.uky.edu/

August 2025

# Happy August!

I hope everyone has managed to stay cool this past month. With the wet weather and few dry spells, it has made it a difficult year for haymaking a row crop planting. The heat and humidity have also put a lot of stress on livestock, affecting performance and condition. I hope that we are headed for some cooler temperatures this month. Be sure to check out the Forage Tips for August located on page 2 of this newsletter to help you better prepare your fields going into the fall. Also, for anyone interested in submitting forage samples for the Central Kentucky Hay Testing Program, please call the office or email me, as the deadline is quickly approaching. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions!

Allison Tucker Fayette County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources allison.tucker@uky.edu (859) 257-5582



# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

|| August 14-24, 2025 ~ Kentucky State Fair; Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY; For more information, please go online to https:// kystatefair.org/

September 4, 2025 ~ Fayette County 4-H & FFA Livestock and Country Ham Showcase Sale: Bluegrass Stockyards, Lexington, KY; Dinner: 6:00pm; Sale: 7:00pm; Please see the flyer in this II newsletter for more information.

September 8, 2025 ~ Feeder Calf Grading School; Bluegrass Stockyards, Lexington, KY; || 6:00pm; Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information; RSVP by August 29, 2025.

September 16, 2025 ~ 2025 Horses & Horsemen: Farm & Facilities Expo; Mike & Chris Stokley, Big Creek Livestock, Paris, KY; 5:00pm; For more Information, please see the flyer in this newsletter; RSVP to Bourbon County Extension Office: (859) 987-1895.

September 20, 2025 ~ Beef Bash 2025; C. Oran || Little Research Center, Versailles, KY; For more information or to register, please go online to https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/beef-bash-2025-registrationtickets-1478821267219; If you have any questions, please email maggie.ginn@uky.edu

September 24, 2025 ~ 2025 Intermediate Grazing **School**; Woodford County Extension Office. Versailles, KY; 7:30am-4:00pm; For more || information or to register, please go online to https://forages.ca.uky.edu/events

October 28, 2025 ~ 2025 KY Grazing Conference - East; Clark County Extension Office, Winchester, KY; 7:30am-4:00pm; For more information or to I register, please go online to https:// forages.ca.uky.edu/events

# Cooperative **Extension Service**

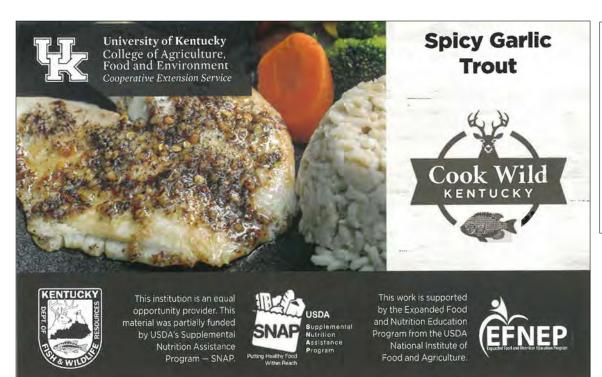
Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development

## MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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For Plate It Up!
recipes, visit:
 http://fcshes.ca.uky.edu/
content/plate-itkentucky-proud

# **Spicy Garlic Trout**

- \* 21/2 pounds trout fillets
- \* 1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- \* 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- ¼ ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes, depending on desired spiciness
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground pepper
- Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, especially after handling raw fish.
- 2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- Place trout fillets on a baking pan lined with foil.
- In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, garlic powder,

brown sugar, red pepper flakes, salt, and pepper.

- Use a spatula to spread mixture all over top side of trout fillets. Loosely cover fillets with a second piece of foil.
- 6. Place pan in oven. Check fillets after 10 minutes. Fish should reach an internal temperature of 145 degrees F and flake easily with a fork.
- Serve immediately. Store leftovers in the refrigerator within 2 hours.

Yield: 10 servings Serving Size: 4 ounces

### Nutrition facts per serving:

190 calories; 10g total fat; 1.5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 65mg cholesterol; 180mg sodium; 1g total carbohydrate; 0g dietary fiber; 1g sugars; 1g added sugars; 24g protein; 20% Daily Value of vitamin D; 4% Daily Value of calcium; 10% Daily Value of iron; 8% Daily Value of potassium.

For Cook Wild Kentucky recipes, visit:

https:// www.planeatmo ve.com/recipes



# **Forage Timely Tips: August**

Source: **UK Forage News**, https://kyforagenews.wordpress.com

- Make plants to attend upcoming grazing and fencing schools.
- Do NOT graze cool-season pastures closer than 3 to 4 inches to conserve soil moisture and prevent overheating of the crowns.
- If drought conditions limit pasture growth, close off pastures and feed hay in a sacrifice area.
- Graze warm season annuals or perennials to allow cool season grasses to recover.
- After first good rain in August, seed winter annuals (such as small grains, ryegrass, crimson clover, and brassicas) for late fall and early spring grazing.
- Plant alfalfa after first good rain in August to allow sufficient size going into winter and reduce potential for sclerotinia damage.
- Consider renovation of cool-season grass pastures that have thinned.
- In mid-August to early September, exclude livestock from pastures to be stockpiled and supply 60 lb N/A and any needed lime, P and K.



# FEEDER CALF GRADING SCHOOL

Join us for an engaging feeder success and maximize profits. and evaluating feeder calves. calf program where you will gain experience in grading improve your marketing Learn key strategies to

# **REGISTER NOW**

# September 8<sup>th</sup>

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RSVP Please RSVP by Friday August 29th 6:00pm at Bluegrass Stockyards



Extension Office Call your county



4561 Iron Works Pike, Lexington, KY 40511



CATTLE CO.



Event sponsor: (

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT





Please join us in supporting our local 4-H

and FFA Youth! This is your opportunity to purchase locally-raised animals and country hams, all while giving back to the

youth of Fayette County!

SAVE THE DATE

LIVESTOCK AND COUNTRY 4-H & FFA

SHOWCASE











09.04.2025 DINNER STARTS AT 6:00PM SALE FOLLOWS AT 7:00PM

STOCKYARDS BLUEGRASS

4561 Iron Works Pike Lexington, KY 40511

Allison Keeton - allison.keeton@uky.edu Allison Tucker - allison.tucker@uky.edu For more information contact:

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Extension Service Cooperative



# Corn is Demanding a Lot of Water and Our Soils Should Have It

Dr. Chad Lee, University of Kentucky KENTUCKY FIELD CROPS NEWS

According to the July 6, 2025 USDA Crop Progress Report, 40% of corn in Kentucky had reached silking and 4% had reached the dough stage. From the earliest appearance of tassels until pollination is complete corn demands the most water and is the most sensitive to a lack of water. The corn at dough stage is on the other side of the peak water demand. Corn will need adequate water all the way to black layer (R6 growth stage or physiological maturity) but its demand declines at about the blister stage (R2) or shortly after.

Some estimates place corn water use as high as 0.33 inches per acre per day from tassel until blister. Since the corn canopy fully shades the soil, this 0.33 inches per acre is transpired from the crop into the atmosphere. Water moving from the soil into the roots and through the plant helps it develop, grow and maintain plant functions. A lack of water disrupts nutrient uptake, temperature regulation and stops or slows growth.

For much of the corn in Kentucky these past few weeks, water use was likely at 0.33 inches per acre per day with air temperatures exceeding 86 degrees Fahrenheit most days since June 21st. For example, Christian County, KY has had ten days above 86 F since June 21. In Simpson County, every day but one has been above 86 F. In Hardin County, every day since June 21 has been above 86 F.

Most pollen drop occurs in the morning and most fields have had adequate water to this point. Based on these factors, pollination should have been successful in fields already pollinated. For corn currently pollinating, we should expect good seed set as well.

Corn in this region will require roughly 20 to 25 inches of water from planting to black layer and about 10 to 12 inches from silking to black layer. The typical Crider silt loam soil will hold about 6 to 8 inches of plant available water at field capacity. Indications are that most soils across the state are holding enough water to complete pollination and get corn through early seed development. These fields will need timely rains to complete seed fill, but all things considered, much of the corn crop is favorably positioned.

For the 60% of corn that was not at silking on July 6th, that ranges from V2 (two fully emerged leaves) to V14 (just a few days before tasseling and silking) across the state. The corn will grow rapidly through the vegetative stages. Younger corn will demand less water and that water demand will increase the closer it approaches tassel and silking. Corn in those fields should not be suffering from a lack of water for most of the state. Those fields with younger corn will need a few more timely rains than corn at silking to finish out the crop.

Any corn that is suffering from sidewall compaction and subsurface compaction is not in a good position. Roots restricted mostly to the seed furrow or roots restricted to shallow depth in the field will not be able to access as much water. These plants are at great risk for running out of water. In fact, right now rolling corn leaves are likely due to soil compaction.

If soil compaction is suspected, use a tile spade to dig out some corn plants. Pretend that you are trying to pot that corn plant into a 5-gallon bucket and dig an area large enough to fill that bucket. Once you have the corn plant out of the soil, you can either gently knock soil off the roots with the spade or use a garden hose to wash the soil away. Roots should be growing mostly in a half globe shape, and most of roots should be in the upper 8 inches or so with some roots extending beyond that. If all the roots look like a mohawk or clearly bend at 2 to 6 inches, then those plants are suffering from compaction. If corn roots are severely limited by compaction, there is no economically sound way to help those plants recover at this point. A gentle 1 inch of rain occurring over about a 4-hour period every 5 to 7 days is the only thing that can save those plants.

# 2025 Horses & Horsemen:

Farm & Facilities Expo

Tuesday, September 16th

RSVP to Bourbon County Extension Office: 859-987-1895

### Schedule:

5:00: Registration and Trade Fair

6:00: Dinner

6:15: Welcome & Farm Overview

Arena footing and maintenance - Dr. Coleman, UK Equine Extension Specialist

Pasture Walk - Central KY ANR Agents

Heavy Use Areas & Farm Infrastructure - Dr. Bob Coleman

Horsemanship Demo - Mike & Chris Stokley

Location: Mike & Chris Stokley

**Big Creek Livestock** 1310 Thatchers Mill Rd

Paris, KY 40361











Kentucky.

Ag Equine Programs



# TALKING INVASIVES

Join us on an invasive species walk at the new Kelley's Landing Park! We will be discussing and identifying Kentucky's invasive plants and how they effect our woodlands. We will also be discussing management techniques to control those invasive plant species.

**OCTOBER 17TH, 2025** 1:00 - 3:00PM

8949 Old Richmond Rd, Lexington, KY 40515

PLEASE EMAIL REENA.MARTIN@UKY.EDU OR ALLISON.TUCKER@UKY.EDU TO RSVP OR CALL THE FAYETTE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE (859) 257-5582

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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT



# **Small and Back Yard Poultry Webinars**

Welcome to the world of poultry! As part of the online United States Cooperative Extension System, known as eXtension, the following webinars will be held in 2025. All webinars begin at 3:00pm Eastern Time. Pre-registration is required.

To see a full list of webinars, past and future, and to register, please go online to https://poultry.extension.org/webinars.

September 3, 2025 ~ Poultry Poopology 101 - Dr. Jennifer Timmons, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore

I October 2025 ~ TBD

November 4, 2025 ~ Raising black soldier fly larvae for feeding chickens

- Dr. Anne Fanatico, Sustainable Development Department, Appalachian State University

# **2025 CENTRAL KENTUCKY** HAY IMPROVEMENT **PROGRAM**

Testing provides nutritional value of hay to assist in balancing rations, and can result in reduced feed cost, increased animal performance, and information to improve forage stands.

Free analysis to determine hay quality and livestock needs.

> **Call the Fayette County Extension Office to sign**

859-257-5582 or email allison.tucker@uky.edu



DEADLINE TO REGISTER: September 29

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT





# Ten or more farmed or forested acres in Kentucky? Summer is a good time to update your agriculture water quality plan

Source: Amanda Gumbert, UK water quality extension specialist

The Agriculture Water Quality Act was passed by the Kentucky Legislature in 1994, mandating that landowners with 10 or more acres in agricultural production must develop a water quality plan. Ten or more acres of crops, livestock or trees that will be harvested qualify for a plan and implementation by law.

This plan documents the best management practices you're using to protect water resources. These best management practices could include planned grazing systems, rotational grazing for livestock, filter or buffer strips around crop fields, animal waste manure storage structures and nutrient management plans. It should also include plans to limit livestock access to streams. Additionally, the document should include information on the proper handling of herbicides and pesticides, as well as the maintenance of septic systems.

To implement a water quality plan, first look at the activities in your operation. You can use a webbased planning tool (https://soilandwater.ca.uky.edu/awq) to answer questions about the operation. By answering these questions, you can identify the appropriate best management practices needed. Then, you document that these practices are being used and properly maintained.

In many cases, proper practices are already in place, and creating an agriculture water quality plan provides a document stating that you are following proper procedures to protect the water quality on your farm.

However, keep in mind that an agriculture water quality plan is not a voluntary document; it is a mandatory document required by the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act. Periodically review and update your plans to reflect changes in farming and forestry practices or land ownership. Additionally, a water quality plan is required by the local Soil and Water Conservation District if you plan to apply for state cost-share programs.

By implementing an agriculture water quality plan, you help protect both surface and groundwater from agricultural contaminants. Keeping the state's water resources clean protects human and animal health and reduces the cost of treating drinking water.

For more information on the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act, please contact your local extension office.

# **Publication Spotlight:**

Tall Fescue Novel Endophyte Varieties and Establishment for Livestock and Horse Farms (AGR-275)

"Endophyte" refers to a fungus that lives *within* the fescue plant, meaning it cannot be seen with the naked eye. The full publication can be found on line at

https://publications.ca.uky.edu/agr-275

If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please email allison.tucker@uky.edu.



# Weekly Kentucky Livestock and Grain Summary

## USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

**Frankfort, KY** Monday, August 4, 2025 For Week Ending: Saturday, August 2, 2025

Compared to last week feeder steers 3.00-5.00 higher with instance to 10.00 higher. Heifers were 3.00-6.00 higher with instance to 10.00 higher. Yearling steers sold 3.00-6.00 higher and yearling heifers 6.00-10.00 with limited comparisons. Demand was moderate to good through the half of the week with extremely hot and humid weather restricting cattle movement affecting supply and demand. Slaughter cows were mostly 3.00 to 5.00 higher and slaughter bulls steady to 5.00 higher with good to very good demand for slaughter classes.

View Full Summary

| Steers (M&L 1-2)  | <u>This Week</u> | <u>Prior Week</u> | <u>Last Year</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 350-400 lbs       | 413.27           | 411.24            | 326.65           |
| 400-450 lbs       | 406.42           | 400.10            | 308.55           |
| 450-500 lbs       | 391.82           | 385.89            | 297.56           |
| 500-550 lbs       | 368.69           | 366.40            | 284.87           |
| 550-600 lbs       | 370.70           | 360.56            | 283.56           |
| 600-650 lbs       | 356.30           | 342.88            | 270.92           |
| 650-700 lbs       | 335.90           | 338.27            | 265.07           |
| 700-750 lbs       | 326.77           | 325.43            | 258.82           |
| 750-800 lbs       | 323.04           | 322.63            | 241.93           |
| 800-850 lbs       | 316.90           | 301.87            | 236.96           |
| 850-900 lbs       | 306.15           | 304.30            | 244.39           |
| Heifers (M&L 1-2) |                  |                   |                  |
| 300-350 lbs       | 375.29           | 386.35            | 299.41           |
| 350-400 lbs       | 381.48           | 373.46            | 288.51           |
| 400-450 lbs       | 366.79           | 361.72            | 277.91           |
| 450-500 lbs       | 356.24           | 356.97            | 272.25           |
| 500-550 lbs       | 339.97           | 336.19            | 263.59           |
| 550-600 lbs       | 336.38           | 328.99            | 259.40           |
| 600-650 lbs       | 323.49           | 315.90            | 242.59           |
| 650-700 lbs       | 309.11           | 306.00            | 235.62           |
| 700-750 lbs       | 287.13           | 285.75            | 233.44           |
| 750-800 lbs       | 281.79           | 281.36            | 222.12           |
|                   |                  |                   |                  |

### WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

| Slaughter Cows  |           | <u>Average</u> | <u>High</u>   | <u>Low</u>    |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| _               | Breakers  | 134.00-174.00  | 153.00-195.00 | 145.00-165.00 |
|                 | Boners    | 125.00-175.50  | 153.00-197.00 | 131.00-166.50 |
|                 | Lean      | 120.00-175.00  | 150.00-187.00 | 95.00-149.00  |
| Slaughter Bulls |           | <u>Average</u> | <u>High</u>   | <u>Low</u>    |
| Yield (         | Grade 1&2 | 179.00-209.00  | 200.00-225.00 | 155.00-190.00 |

View Full Report Jul 24, 2025 Bowling Green, KY

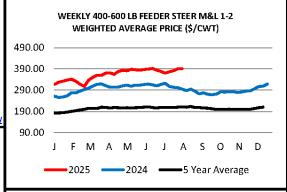
### SLAUGHTER GOATS: 86

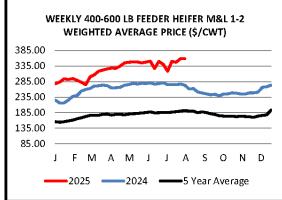
**Kids Selection 2** 35-38 lbs 250.00-262.50 **Selection 2-3** 31-38 lbs 202.00-202.50.

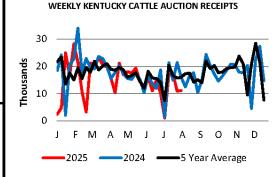
# **SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 664**

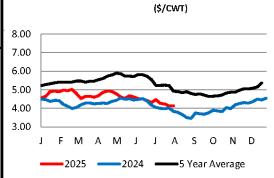
**Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2** 55 lbs 265.00; 60-66 lbs 235.00-255.00; **77** lbs 222.50-240.00; 89 lbs 217.50; 90 lbs 20.00; 110 lbs 197.50. **Choice 2** 52-57 lbs 247.50-255.00.**Wooled-Choice and Prime 1-2** 78 lbs 230.00; 94 lbs 227.50; 100 lbs 20.00; 140 lbs 205.00. Choice 2 75 lbs 210.00; 80 lbs 135.00; 143 lbs 160.00.

| View Latest Grain Report             |           |            |            |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| GRAINS                               | This Week | Prior Week | Last Year  |
| Corn<br>Soybeans<br>Red Winter Wheat | 3.88-4.44 | 3.99-4.54  | 3.50-4.17  |
| Soybeans                             | 9.12-9.83 | 9.49-10.50 | 9.87-10.80 |
| Red Winter Wheat                     | 4.19-5.03 | 4.34-5.32  | 4.34-5.06  |



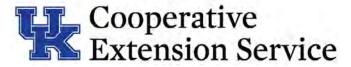






WEEKLY KENTUCKY CORN BID AVERAGE PRICE

# USDA-KY Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News Frankfort, KY Levi Geyer, OIC 502-782-4138 Email: Levi.Geyer@usda.gov USDA Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News



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

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# Fayette County Cooperative Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter

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Allison Tucker
County Extension Agent for Agriculture
& Natural Resources
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

