

Fayette County Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter

February 2025

 Cooperative Extension Service

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/>

February is here, and spring is within reach! While we still have a few more weeks of braving the mud and cold weather, we have warmer, brighter days just around the corner. There are many program opportunities lined up for the next couple of months and I hope that you all will take advantage of them to grow, learn, and connect with the resources that the extension office has to offer. As always, I would love to hear from you with any questions you may have!



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 25, 2025 ~ 2025 KY Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference; Fayette County Extension Office, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington; Registration is required; For more information, cost to register, or to register, please go online to <https://forages.ca.uky.edu/events/2025-ky-alfalfa-and-stored-forage-conference> or see the flyer in this newsletter; If you have questions, please contact Krista Lea at krista.lea1@uky.edu

February 26, 2025 ~ 2025 FCCD CAIP Workshop; Fayette County Extension Office, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington; 6:00pm; **Please RSVP to support@kyfccd.com;** For more information, call the Fayette County Conservation District at (859) 202-1811 or see the information provided later in this newsletter.

February 27, 2025 ~ Pastures Please!!; Fayette County Extension Office, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington; 5:30pm; Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information; To RSVP, please call (859) 257-5582 or email fayette.ext@uky.edu.

March 11, 2025 ~ Regional Tobacco Gap Annual Training; Harrison County Extension Office; 6:00-8:00pm. Registration required; Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information and how to register.



WEATHER ALERT
ALERTS FORECASTS AGRICULTURE

for android

for iOS

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.



Cauliflower Mushroom Poppers

1 head cauliflower, chopped	¼ cup Parmesan cheese	1 teaspoon salt
60 whole baby Portabella mushrooms	¾ cup crushed bran flakes	¼ teaspoon pepper
1 cup nonfat plain yogurt	½ cup chopped red bell pepper	½ teaspoon garlic powder
½ cup reduced fat shredded cheddar cheese	½ cup chopped green bell pepper	Paprika

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. **Grease** a 9-by-13-inch baking pan. **Steam** the cauliflower by placing in a saucepan in ½-inch of boiling water, cover with lid and cook for 5 minutes. **Drain.** **Place** cooked cauliflower in a bowl and **mash** using a potato masher. **Remove** the stems and **scoop** out the caps of mushrooms. **Chop** stems for later use. **Combine** yogurt, cheddar cheese, Parmesan cheese, bran flakes, bell peppers, salt, pepper and garlic powder in a medium

bowl. **Stir** in cauliflower and ½ cup of the reserved chopped mushroom stems. **Stuff** the cauliflower mixture into the hollowed mushroom caps. **Sprinkle** with paprika. **Bake**, uncovered for 20 minutes.

Yield: 20 servings, 3 mushrooms per serving

Nutritional Analysis: 45 calories, 1.5 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 200 mg sodium, 5 g carbohydrate, 1 g sugars, 4 g protein.

For Plate It Up! recipes, visit:
<http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/content/plate-it-kentucky-proud>



For Cook Wild Kentucky recipes, visit:
<https://www.planeatmore.com/recipes>



Private Pesticide Applicator Training - Fayette County

We are holding two training sessions to obtain or update your private applicator certification. The trainings will be held at the Fayette County Extension Office located at 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington, KY. You will only need to attend one session. The dates are:

Thursday, March 6, 2025 - 9:00am-12:00pm

Monday, March 10, 2025 - 5:00-8:00pm

Please RSVP to Allison Tucker by email at allison.tucker@uky.edu or by phone at (859) 257-5582. Seating is limited.

Beef Quality Care and Assurance Training - Fayette County

We are holding a Beef Quality Care and Assurance (BQCA) Training on **Tuesday, March 18, 2025**, at 5:30pm, at the Fayette County Extension Office, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington, KY. Certification is good for 3 years and is required for CAIP projects relating to cattle production.

COST: \$5.00 - Due on date of training.
 Exact cash or check payable to Kentucky Beef Network will be accepted for payment.

Please RSVP to Allison Tucker by email at allison.tucker@uky.edu or by phone at (859) 257-5582. Seating is limited.

2025 Horses & Horsemen:

Join us for the 18th annual

PASTURES PLEASE!!

Thursday, February 27



Schedule:

- 5:30 — Meal
- 6:00 — Aerial Applications: Does a Drone Fit
 - Brett Reese
- 6:30 — Weeds to Watch Out For
 - Dr. Bill Witt
- 7:00 — Cost Share Opportunities for Horse Owners
 - Krista Lea

RSVP to 859-257-5582

Fayette County Extension Office

1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, KY 40504

Thank you to our sponsors:

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Genetics Cooperative
Lexington, KY 40506



2025

Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference

Alfalfa Updates and Producing Grass Hay for Premium Markets

When: Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm (EST)

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

Registration: <https://KYAlfalfa2025.eventbrite.com>

General Admission: \$45.00

General Admission + KFGC Renewal: \$60.00

Student Admission: \$15.00

Register online or mail a check payable to "KFGC" to:

Krista Lea
N222 Agriculture North
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0091

Sponsorship

Sponsor: \$250.00

Premium Sponsor: \$500.00

<https://KYAlfalfa2025.eventbrite.com>



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

CAIP 2025



The County Agricultural Incentives Program (CAIP) (Formerly County Agricultural Investment Program) is supported by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF) to offer cost-sharing assistance for practices that aim to enhance farm income, increase product value, and diversify agricultural operations. Fayette County CAIP provides applicants with a 25% to 75% cost-share reimbursement, with a maximum of \$4,000. For more information, please visit our website: www.kyfccd.org/caip.

Important Dates:

- Applications will be accepted March 1 - March 31.
- Retroactive receipts will be accepted, up to October 1, 2024.
- Deadline for approved applications will be October 31, 2025.

Investment Categories:

- Agricultural Diversification
- AgriTech and Leadership Development
- Large & Small Animal
- Farm Infrastructure
- Fencing and On-Farm Water
- Forage and Grain Improvement
- Approved Forage Seed List
- Innovative Agricultural Systems
- On-Farm Energy
- Poultry and Other Fowl
- Value-Added & Marketing

2025 FCCD CAIP Workshop Wednesday, February 26th, 2025 at 6pm at the Fayette County Extension Office.
RSVP: support@kyfccd.com.
This event will satisfy the CAIP Educational Requirement.

KENTUCKY  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

UK MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
KSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY AND THE SCIENCES

REGIONAL TOBACCO GAP ANNUAL TRAINING

Please bring your GAP card with you so it can be scanned and your attendance recorded.



Tuesday, March 11, 2025



6:00- 8:00 pm



**Harrison County Extension Office
668 New Lair Road
Cynthiana, KY 41031**



**A MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED SO
PLEASE REGISTER BY CALLING
859-234-5510**



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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, UK Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Forage Timely Tips: February

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

- Remove animals from waterlogged pastures to limit pugging and soil compaction.
- Continue grazing stockpiled tall fescue if available.
- Assess grass stands. If thin, consider frost seeding legumes.
- Begin frost seeding with at least 6-8 lb/A red and 1-2 lb/A ladino white clover on closely grazed pastures.
- On pastures with lower fertility, consider adding 10-15 lb/A annual lespedeza to above recommendation.
- Consider applying N at 40 lb/A in mid to late February on some pastures to promote early growth (not on frost seeded pastures).
- Sign up for shared use drills for spring renovation.
- Apply lime and fertilizer according to soil test if not done in fall.
- Control problem weeds like buttercup in late February when day temperatures are forecasted above 50 degrees for 3 consecutive days.

UK Beef Management Webinars

If you are interested and would like to register, email dbullock@uky.edu with Beef Webinar Series in the Subject and your name and county in the message. You will receive an invitation and password the morning of the presentation. Each session will be recorded and posted for later viewing. All meeting times are 8:00pm ET / 7:00pm CT.

March 11, 2025 ~ *Preparing for a Successful Spring Breeding Season*

Dr. Les Anderson, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

April 8, 2025 ~ *Health Update and Internal Parasite Field Study Results*

Dr. Michelle Arnold, Extension Veterinarian, and Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

If you have any questions or need additional information, please email dbullock@uky.edu. If you are already registered, you will get a Zoom invitation the morning of each session with the link and password.

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>.

March 3, 2025 ~ *Backyard poultry production: General nutrition and mixing your own poultry feed* - Dr. Wilmer Pacheco, Extension Specialist and Associate Professor, Department of Poultry Science, Auburn University

April 1, 2025 ~ *Sprouting grains for poultry diets* - Alicia Halbritter, ANR Agent, UF/IFAS, Baker County Florida

May 6, 2025 ~ *Alternative grains for poultry diets* - Dr. Jacquie Jacob, University of Kentucky

June 3, 2025 ~ *Alternative protein sources for poultry diets* - Dr. Jacquie Jacob, University of Kentucky

Placements Below Expectations in January Cattle-on-Feed Report

Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky

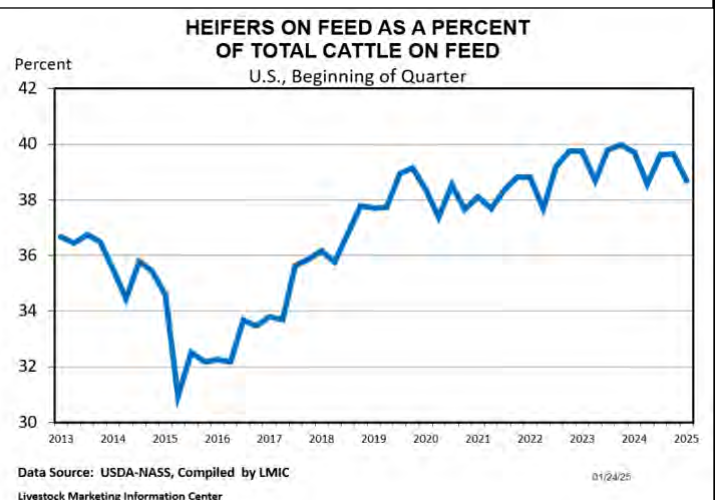
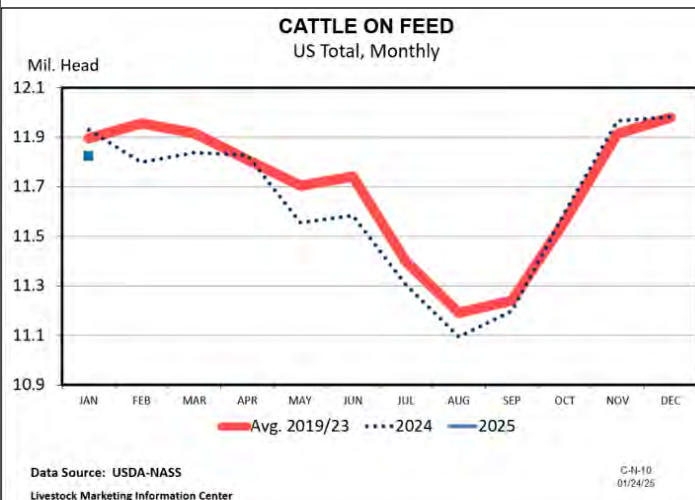
The January Cattle on Feed report was released on Friday afternoon. Total on-feed inventory to start the year was estimated at a little over 11.8 million head, which is down by just under 1% from January of 2024. Despite the fact that feeder cattle supplies have been lower, feedlot inventories ran above year-ago levels for eight of twelve months in 2024 as lower feed prices encouraged longer feeding times. While I don't want to read too much into it, this was the largest year-over-year decline since May.

Placements were once again the headliner of the report as they came in below, and outside the range of pre-report estimates. December 2024 placements were estimated at 1.64 million, which was 3.3% below December 2023. On the surface, this seemed logical as December represented a full month of not receiving live cattle imports from Mexico. This also marked the second month in a row with placement levels being more than 3% below year-ago.

Friday's report was also a quarterly cattle-on-feed report, which means it included an estimate of the steer / heifer breakdown. In the absence of a July cattle inventory report, this has been one of the main indicators economists have been tracking for evidence of heifer retention. Heifers accounted for 38.7% of total on-feed inventory on January 1, 2025. While this doesn't speak to retention, it is worth noting that this is about 1% lower than last January and 1% lower than October 2024. So, it does bear watching as we move further into 2025. Again, I think imports from Mexico had some impact here as heifers had represented a higher than usual share of imports prior to the ban in late November.

Last week's cattle on feed report will be overshadowed later this week as USDA-NASS will release their annual inventory estimates on the afternoon of January 31st. While beef cow slaughter was down sharply for 2024, most are still expecting continued decreases in beef cattle numbers at the national level. It will be interesting to see the state-by-state numbers and specifically to look at areas where heifer retention may have already begun. Given the favorable price outlook for calves, I think heifer retention is very possible in 2025 if weather is cooperative. But I also think this will be a relatively slow cow-herd expansion once retention does begin.

Feeder cattle and calf prices were generally higher last week, as were fed cattle prices. Boxed prices were down slightly, but all prices were sharply above year ago levels. Live and feeder cattle futures were up sharply on the week.



Weekly Kentucky Livestock and Grain Summary

USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

Frankfort, KY

Monday, February 10, 2025

For Week Ending:

Saturday, February 8, 2025

Receipts: 21,557

Last Week: 28,208

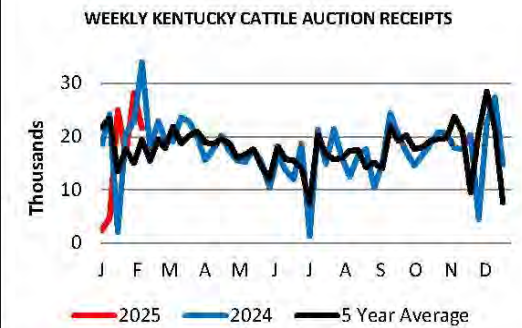
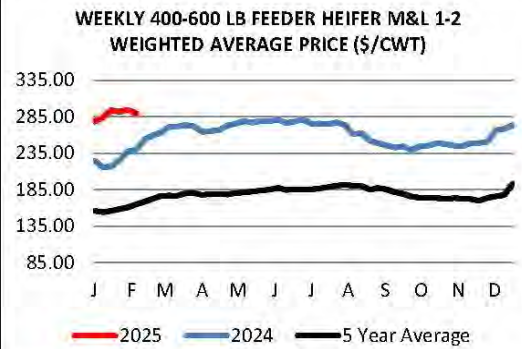
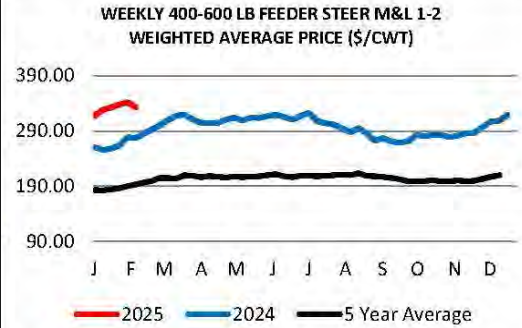
Last Year: 34,000

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers sold mostly 5.00 to 10.00 lower with moderate to good demand. Yearlings were mostly steady with good demand. Buyers were active showing best interest for long weaned preconditioned cattle. Slaughter cows and bulls were unevenly steady with good demand.

[View Full Summary](#)

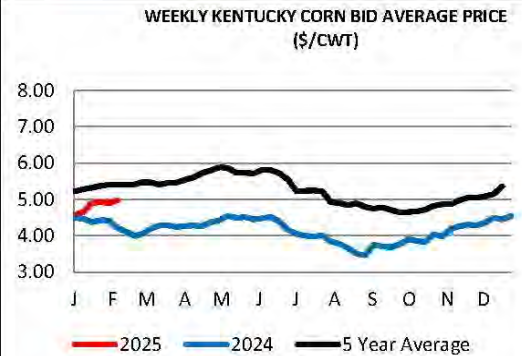
STATE AVERAGES

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Prior Week</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Steers (M&L 1-2)			
350-400 lbs	363.37	362.16	291.46
400-450 lbs	338.39	359.52	289.27
450-500 lbs	335.15	346.91	280.15
500-550 lbs	314.94	327.62	268.37
550-600 lbs	303.11	310.92	257.01
600-650 lbs	284.09	295.23	246.75
650-700 lbs	272.08	280.98	235.09
700-750 lbs	261.71	268.57	225.16
750-800 lbs	256.73	262.81	222.42
800-850 lbs	246.38	251.37	208.51
850-900 lbs	241.42	252.85	209.03
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	313.15	324.80	253.20
350-400 lbs	313.49	324.19	250.91
400-450 lbs	306.22	313.12	245.51
450-500 lbs	291.13	300.93	242.37
500-550 lbs	277.74	280.06	230.71
550-600 lbs	267.02	274.89	224.29
600-650 lbs	253.29	261.21	216.52
650-700 lbs	247.53	254.71	209.14
700-750 lbs	233.95	232.05	198.13
750-800 lbs	226.68	230.72	197.62



WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

	<u>Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Slaughter Cows			
Breakers	116.00-146.00	130.00-157.50	110.00-133.00
Boners	116.50-145.50	130.00-160.00	93.00-133.00
Lean	102.00-135.00	112.00-150.00	50.00-119.52
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	140.00-175.00	160.00-192.00	100.00-158.00



[View Full Report](#) **Jan 23, 2025** **Bowling Green, KY**

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 66
Kids: Selection 1 50 lbs 425.00; 60 lbs 425.00. **Selection 1-2** 83 lbs 292.50.
Selection 2 53 lbs 370.00; 68 lbs 350.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 522
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 55-57 lbs 335.00-337.50; 60-66 lbs 342.50-352.50; 72-75 lbs 332.50-340.00; 88 lbs 265.00; 91 lbs 275.00; 120 lbs 142.50; 135 lbs 142.50. **Choice 2** 51-57 lbs 330.00-340.00; 65 lbs 297.50; 78 lbs 290.00; 88 lbs 270.00; 120.00 lbs 142.50. **Woolled-Choice 2** 73 lbs 290.00; 118 lbs 140.00.

[View Latest Grain Report](#)

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Prior Week</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
GRAINS			
Corn	4.78-5.18	4.67-5.12	3.82-4.58
Soybeans	9.65-10.91	9.57-10.68	11.09-12.08
Red Winter Wheat	4.97-6.04	4.61-5.79	5.12-6.06

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](#)

Cooperative Extension Service

Fayette County Cooperative Extension
1140 Harry Sykes Way
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Allison Tucker

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& Natural Resources
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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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