

# Fayette County Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter

September 2025



Cooperative Extension Service  
Fayette County Extension  
1140 Harry Sykes Way  
Lexington, KY 40504-1383  
Phone (859) 257-5582  
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<http://fayette.ca.uky.edu/>

To me, August flew by, and I can't believe it is already September! However, I am looking forward to this month as that means fall is almost here. There will be tons of fall programming, including, but not limited to the Feeder Calf Grading Clinic, Equine Farm & Facilities Expo, and the Invasive Plants of Woodlands program at Kelley's Landing in October (see pages 3 & 5 for more information).

Just a reminder, the deadline for hay samples for the Central Kentucky Hay Improvement Program is September 29th. If you would like to participate, please reach out to me to set up a time for me to come take samples.

I hope this month brings some cooler weather and treats everyone well in their agricultural endeavors. As always, I am here to help answer any questions!

Allison Tucker  
Fayette County Extension Agent for  
Agriculture & Natural Resources  
[allison.tucker@uky.edu](mailto:allison.tucker@uky.edu)

## Publication Spotlight:

### Soil Testing: What is it and What it Does (AGR-57)

Different soil types, different fields, and often areas within the same field vary in the availability of plant nutrients...Soil testing is the best way to identify these differences and to adjust liming and fertilization practices. The full publication can be found on line at <https://publications.ca.uky.edu/agr-57>

If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please email [allison.tucker@uky.edu](mailto:allison.tucker@uky.edu).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

|| **September 8, 2025 ~ Feeder Calf Grading School;** Bluegrass Stockyards, Lexington, KY;  
|| 6pm; 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; 5pm; 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; 9:00am; For more information or to register, please go online to <https://www.ca.uky.edu/event/beef-bash-2025> or <https://news.ca.uky.edu/article/beef-bash-2025>; Questions: please email [maggie.ginn@uky.edu](mailto:maggie.ginn@uky.edu)

|| **September 24-25, 2025 ~ 2025 Intermediate Grazing School;** Woodford County Extension Office, Versailles, KY; 7:30am-4pm; For more information or to register, please go online to <https://forages.ca.uky.edu/events>

|| **2025 UKY Fall Fencing Schools**  
|| *September 30, 2025 ~* Hardin County Extension  
|| *October 2, 2025 ~* Russell County Extension  
|| 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-4pm; To register, please go online to <https://forages.ca.uky.edu/events>

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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.



## Tomato Basil Bruschetta


<b>3 plum</b> tomatoes, chopped <b>1/3 cup</b> thinly sliced and coarsely chopped onion <b>2 cloves</b> garlic, minced <b>1 tablespoon</b> red wine vinegar <b>6 tablespoons</b> olive oil	<b>1 tablespoon</b> minced fresh basil or 1 teaspoon dried basil <b>1/2 teaspoon</b> dried oregano <b>1/4 teaspoon</b> salt <b>1/8 teaspoon</b> ground pepper <b>1 pound</b> loaf, whole wheat French bread, cut into 1/2 inch slices
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- 1. Combine** tomatoes, onions, garlic, red wine vinegar, 2 tablespoons olive oil, basil, oregano, salt and pepper; set aside.
- 2. Preheat** broiler of oven.
- 3. Lightly brush** both sides of bread slices with remaining olive oil and
- arrange on ungreased baking sheet.
- 4. Place** three to four inches from the broiler and heat slices for two to three minutes on each side or until golden brown.
- 5. Top** each slice with tomato mixture, using a
- slotted spoon and serve.

**Yield:** 16, 1/2 inch slices

**Nutritional Analysis:** 140 calories, 5 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 250 mg sodium, 19 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 0 g sugar, 4 g protein.

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



**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.planeatmove.com/recipes>



## RINSE AND RETURN PROGRAM

### 10:00AM-12:00PM - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

### Fayette County Extension Office; 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington KY

The Rinse and Return Program is a voluntary, cooperative program sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the Agri-Business Association of Kentucky (ABAK). Other partners include the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, which helps coordinate the Program on a county level, Farm Bureau, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the local conservation districts, and the Ag Container Recycling Council. Due to the materials previously held by these pesticide containers they cannot be recycled with your ordinary household plastics. This program allows for the proper recycling of these pesticide containers. For additional information: <https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/pest-and-recycling.html> (scroll to "Rinse and Return Recycling Program")

Be sure to triple rinse all chemical containers before bringing them to the Extension Office:

- Remove cover from container. Empty the pesticide into the spray tank and let the container drain for 30 seconds.
- Fill the container 10% to 20% full of water or rinse solution.
- Secure the cover on the container.
- Swirl the container to rinse all inside surfaces.
- Remove cover from container. Add the rinsate from the container to the sprayer tank and let drain for 30 seconds or more.
- Repeat steps 2 through 5 two more times.
- Puncture container.

## Forage Timely Tips: September

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

- If not already done, soil sample and apply fertilizer as needed.
- Plant perennial grasses and legumes. Consider using a novel endophyte tall fescue.
- Harvest hay as needed. Do not harvest alfalfa after mid-September.
- Scout pastures, identify perennial weeds and woody brush. Consult an agricultural professional to determine the control strategy.
- Closely monitor livestock and do not overgraze. Pasture plants accumulate energy reserves in the fall that help them overwinter and regrow in the spring.
- Feed hay to allow pastures to stockpile for winter grazing.
- Rest native warm-season grass fields until after frost for better winter survival.



# 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



College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service



Ag Equine Programs  
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

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Greetings:

On behalf of your Central Kentucky Extension Agents, we would like to invite you to attend the Annual Equine Farm and Facilities Expo. The Expo will be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, from 5:00 - 8:00pm at Big Creek Livestock, 1310 Thatchers Mill Rd, Paris, KY. This event will begin with registration and trade fair at 5:00pm, with educational programming beginning at 6:15pm. A meal will be provided courtesy of our sponsors. Please see the enclosed flyer for a detailed schedule of events.

We hope you will take time out of your busy schedule to attend this event. Many thanks to Big Creek Livestock for hosting this event.

Please RSVP for the meal to the Bourbon County Extension Office: (859) 987-1895

Sincerely,

*A. Tucker*

Allison Tucker  
Fayette County Extension Agent  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
allison.tucker@uky.edu

*Lindsay Arthur*

Lindsay Arthur  
Bourbon County Extension Agent  
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Louisville, KY 40206

## Hay Testing Even More Important in 2025

### Dr. Chris Teutsch, UK Research and Education Center at Princeton

In many parts of Kentucky first cutting hay was delayed. Although yields were good, forage quality is another story. As the grass plant reaches maturity (gets mature seed) yield goes up, but quality decreases (Figure 1). This year we were on the right side of this figure, good yield but lower quality. We have already got our hay testing results back from the lab for our first cutting and that is exactly what they show (Table 1).

I wish we could have been more timely in our hay harvest this spring but weather conditions were just not conducive to dry hay harvest. In fact, weather records indicate that we are seeing a trend toward fewer baling days in May (baling day = 3 curing days + 1 harvest day). It is just getting tougher to be timely with our first cutting harvested as dry hay. So, the question becomes what do we do? The list of practical solutions is short; in fact, there is really one viable alternative and that is baleage. High quality baleage can be made with a curing window as short as 2 days (one day to mow and wilt and a second day to bale and wrap).

This provides more opportunities to harvest at the correct stage of maturity (late boot to early head).

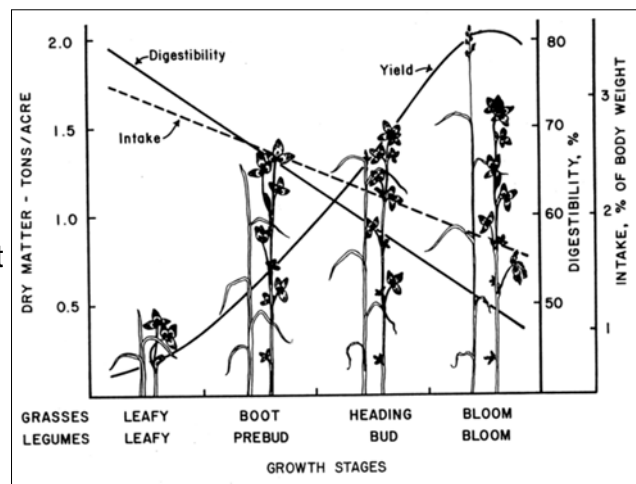


Figure 1. As plant maturity increases, yield increases and forage quality (digestibility and crude protein) decreases. The single most important factor impacting forage quality is stage of maturity at harvest.

Field	CP†	ADF	NDF	TDN	Meet CP Requirements		Meet TDN Requirements	
	%	%	%	%	Dry	Lactating	Dry	Lactating
1	8.9	40.1	59.1	55.5	yes	no	yes	no
2	9.9	39.4	60.0	56.2	yes	no	yes	no
3	8.2	41.6	67.2	53.8	yes	no	yes	no
4	10.6	41.0	64.5	54.5	yes	yes	yes	no
5	8.3	40.7	65.6	54.8	yes	no	yes	no
Avg	9.2	40.6	63.3	55.0	yes	no	yes	no

Table 1. Forage quality of 2025 first harvest hay at UK Research and Education Center in Princeton. †CP, crude protein, ADF, acid detergent fiber, NDF, neutral detergent fiber, TDN, total digestible nutrients.

### Hay Testing Even More Important in Wet Years

In years like this one, hay testing becomes even more important. Since most of Kentucky's first cutting hay was put up at an advanced stage of maturity, testing is going to be a critical part of making sure that we meet the nutrient requirements of our cows this winter. The single most important factor impacting rebreeding in cow herds is body condition at calving. To design an effective supplementation program for our lower quality hay we must know what the quality is. If you have never tested your hay, this is the year to start!

#### FORAGE MANAGEMENT TIPS

✓	Test first cutting hay and use the results to develop a supplementation strategy for this winter.
✓	Grazed summer annuals pastures and fertilize with 40-60 lb N/A if regrowth is desired.
✓	Identify pastures to stockpile for winter grazing. Pastures should be well drained and have a strong sod. Limit summer grazing so that they are ready to grow as conditions cool and rain comes in late summer.
✓	Do NOT mow hayfields or graze pastures closer than 4-5 inches.
✓	Soil test pastures to determine nutrient needs.
✓	Use UKY variety testing results to select varieties that will be planted in the fall.
✓	If drought occurs, confine animals to one pasture and feed hay.





## FAYETTE COUNTY 4-H & FFA LIVESTOCK AND COUNTRY HAM SHOWCASE SALE



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!**  
**09.04.2025**

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

**BLUEGRASS  
STOCKYARDS**

4561 Iron Works Pike  
Lexington, KY 40511

For more information contact:  
Allison Tucker - [allison.tucker@uky.edu](mailto:allison.tucker@uky.edu)  
Allison Keeton - [allison.keeton@uky.edu](mailto:allison.keeton@uky.edu)

**UK Cooperative  
Extension Service**

## FEEDER CALF GRADING SCHOOL

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

**REGISTER NOW**

**September 8<sup>th</sup>**

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



Call your county  
Extension Office



4561 Iron Works Pike,  
Lexington, KY 40511



**S&B**

Event sponsor: **CATTLE CO.**

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## 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  
up.  
859-257-5582 or email  
[allison.tucker@uky.edu](mailto:allison.tucker@uky.edu)



## CELEBRATE TREE WEEK BY TALKING INVASIVES

Cooperative Extension Service | Horticulture | LEXINGTON | Cooperative Extension Service | Agriculture and Natural Resources

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](mailto:REENA.MARTIN@UKY.EDU) OR [ALLISON.TUCKER@UKY.EDU](mailto:ALLISON.TUCKER@UKY.EDU) TO RSVP OR CALL THE FAYETTE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE (859) 257-5582

**UK Martin-Gatton**  
College of Agriculture,  
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**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:**  
**September 29**

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# All About Goats! Webinar

JOIN EXTENSION AND INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS FOR THE FALL 2025 SERIES



## Goat Health and Care Sept. 22

During this session, Extension Specialist, Dr. Brady Campbell, will review proper care for goats of all ages and explain how to help keep them healthy and continue production.

## Farm Business and Management Oct. 6

Extension Specialist, Eric Richer, and Extension Educator, Pressley Buurma, will help guide participants in farm management strategies and provide options for enterprise budgeting and record keeping as it relates to goat production.

## Livestock Marketing Nov. 3

Join us as Extension Specialist, Garth Ruff, discusses the ins and outs of the goat market. He will also discuss how to market goats to fill the current wants and needs of the customers.

## Hay and Grain Production Nov. 17

Throughout this session, Extension Educator, Jordan Penrose, will present tips and tricks on hay and grain production for goats as well as what type of crops would work best for your production system.

## Coyote Management Dec. 1

This session is going to focus on how to manage interactions between coyotes and goats. Experts will also explain the current status of coyote research in Ohio.

**THE OHIO STATE  
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# SURVIVING HIGH PRICES

WEBINAR SERIES



**WEDNESDAYS: 2-3 P.M. ET | 1-2 P.M. CT | 12-2 P.M. MT | 11-12 P.M. PT**

DATES	TOPICS
September 10	Industry Margins & Beef Demand
September 17	Differences in this Cattle Cycle & Import Dynamics
October 1	Risk Management & What To Do With Profits
October 8	Operation Resiliency & Contract Grazing
October 22	Integrated Crop-Livestock Systems & How Not to Need a Hay Baler
October 29	Defining "Better Genetics" & Economics of Reproduction Strategies

Join us for a 6-week series to learn about & discuss the uniqueness of the current cattle cycle so we can better understand how to help our producers manage their operations through record-high prices! Speakers will include Extension economists and specialists from across the United States.

Visit this link or scan the QR Code to register: [bit.ly/register-for-SHPWebinar](https://bit.ly/register-for-SHPWebinar)



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Weekly Kentucky Livestock and Grain Summary

USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

Frankfort, KY

Monday, August 25, 2025

For Week Ending:

Saturday, August 23, 2025

Receipts: 13,432

Last Week: 14,388

Last Year: 17,635

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers sold steady to 6.00 higher with exceptions to sharply higher. Yearling steers and heifers sold 5.00 to 10.00 higher with good to very good demand for feeder and yearling classes. Slaughter cows and bulls sold steady to 2.00 lower with good to very good demand.

[View Full Summary](#)

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	477.07	450.43	293.46
400-450 lbs	448.43	423.26	296.93
450-500 lbs	429.78	408.03	286.40
500-550 lbs	395.67	393.27	281.43
550-600 lbs	380.99	375.52	270.13
600-650 lbs	371.90	360.31	257.91
650-700 lbs	354.47	351.39	249.77
700-750 lbs	338.09	335.52	237.79
750-800 lbs	335.61	342.78	234.10
800-850 lbs	338.46	325.38	234.87
850-900 lbs	319.23	317.72	229.99
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	397.12	404.83	267.12
350-400 lbs	403.30	401.35	270.90
400-450 lbs	387.89	382.88	260.42
450-500 lbs	375.59	368.87	254.76
500-550 lbs	359.00	348.55	246.65
550-600 lbs	348.07	341.51	243.63
600-650 lbs	329.61	328.23	227.45
650-700 lbs	322.40	324.25	224.44
700-750 lbs	304.88	291.94	212.52
750-800 lbs	304.12	279.13	213.81

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	150.00-182.00	160.00-205.00	142.00-171.00
Boners	140.00-178.00	160.00-197.00	110.00-169.00
Lean	127.00-169.00	150.00-184.00	100.00-152.00
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	184.00-220.00	202.00-226.00	162.00-189.00

[View Full Report](#)

Aug 14, 2025

Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 210

**Kids Selection 1** 51 lbs 385.00; 65 lbs 345.00; 90 lbs 295.00. **Selection 1-2** 67 lbs 350.00. **Selection 2** 53-54 lbs 305.00-335.00; 68 lbs 275.00-340.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 670

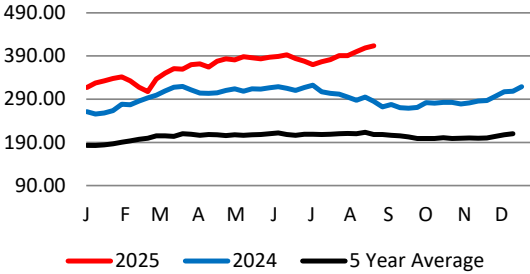
**Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2** 56-58 lbs 300.00-305.00; 66-68 lbs 267.50-285.00; 72-75 lbs 265.00-275.00; 91-95 lbs 230.00-237.00. **Choice 2** 50-55 lbs 285.00; 65 lbs 257.50; 76 lbs 235.00; 94 lbs 225.00; 155 lbs 142.50.

**Wooled-Choice & Prime 1-2** 135 lbs 162.50. **Choice 2** 83 lbs 230.00.

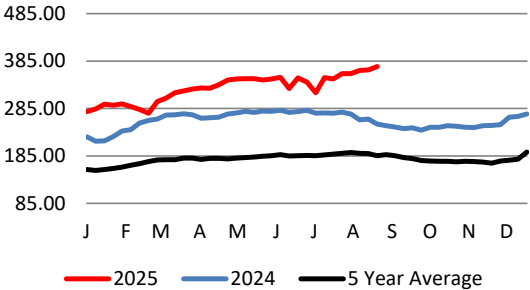
[View Latest Grain Report](#)

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	3.73-4.13	3.66-4.10	3.31-3.66
Soybeans	9.63-10.44	9.58-10.44	8.64-9.58
Red Winter Wheat	3.96-4.93	4.00-4.96	4.13-4.52

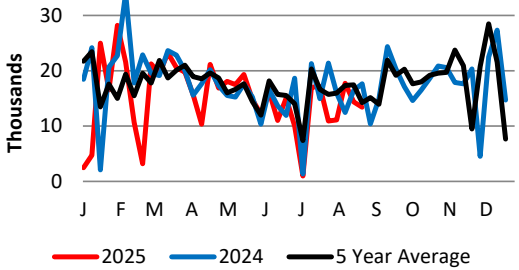
WEEKLY 400-600 LB FEEDER STEER M&L 1-2  
WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE (\$/CWT)



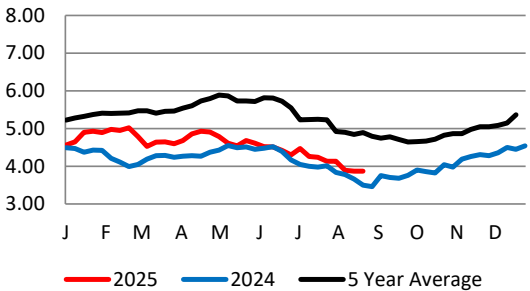
WEEKLY 400-600 LB FEEDER HEIFER M&L 1-2  
WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE (\$/CWT)



WEEKLY KENTUCKY CATTLE AUCTION RECEIPTS



WEEKLY KENTUCKY CORN BID AVERAGE PRICE  
(\$/CWT)



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



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Allison Tucker  
County Extension Agent for Agriculture  
& Natural Resources  
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