


Trimble County Extension May 2024 ~ Newsletter

*4-H Youth Development
Family & Consumer Sciences
Agriculture and Natural Resources*

 Cooperative
Extension Service

Trimble County
43 High Country Lane
Bedford, KY 40006
Phone (502) 255-7188
<http://trimble.ca.uky.edu>



TRIMBLE FARMERS MARKET KICK-OFF

Courthouse Square
Bedford, Kentucky

May 2, 2024

3:00 - 7:00 PM

All are welcome!
Come support local
vendors.

Each Thursday:
May through October



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

Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification

Family & Consumer Sciences

Jane E. Proctor
Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences

Trimble Thimbles Sewing Group

Trimble County Extension Service
9:00 a.m. ~ 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month
May dates: 5/11 & 5/25 See below for May 11 project!

Jelly Roll Rug

May 11, 2024 ~ 9:00 a.m.
Trimble County Extension Service

Come learn how to make this fun project!
Supply list: 1 roll x 2.5" Strips (40 strips)
1 1/2 yards Quilt Batting 90-96" wide
or 50 yards Bosal 2 1/2" rolled batting
Sewing machine with thread and needle
Call if you have questions (502) 255-7188



Simply Sharing Group

Time Well Spent: Organizing tips for increased productivity
Wednesday, May 15, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Trimble County Extension Service
Pitch in lunch to follow. Please call to RSVP: (502) 255-7188.

Trimble County Homemaker Council Meeting

May 20, 2024 ~ 5:30 pm Trimble Co Extension Service

Taste of Puerto Rico May 22, 2024 11:00 a.m.

Trimble Co Extension Service
Presented by **Carolina Robles**,
Jefferson County FCS Agent
Call to RSVP by 5/20
(502) 255-7188



4-H Youth Development

Ralph R. Han III
Agent for 4-H Youth Development



4H PROJECT DAYS

JUNE 6 & 7: 12:00 - 3:00 PM
Trimble County Extension Service

3-5 projects suitable for county fair entry.
Call to register by May 30: (502) 255-7188



KENTUCKY

SHOOTING SPORTS



LEARN BY DOING

Trimble County 4-H Shooting Sports

Practice Sessions
May 2, 9, 16, 23 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Practice Range:
300 Trout Ridge Road
Bedford, KY

Any interested Youth
ages 9 - 18 welcome!
Equipment supplied
(502) 255-7188



Disciplines: Archery & Shotgun



4-H CAMP

JULY 29- AUGUST 2

KENTUCKY 4-H CAMPING CENTER
LAKE CUMBERLAND KENTUCKY

~ Canoeing ~Swimming ~Shooting Sports
~High Ropes ~Hiking

Now accepting camper applications for youth ages 9 - 14.
Counselor in Training, teen leaders and adults applications.



Agriculture & Natural Resources

Upcoming Events & Dates

May

May 15th: Mastering the Field: Essentials for Hay Field Management
United Producers Inc., Owenton, KY 8:30 a.m.

May 16th: Third Thursday thing - Aquaculture
KYSU Research Farm - Frankfort, KY 10:00 a.m.

May 17th: Mobile Processing Unit Training (Cost \$75)
KYSU Research Farm-Frankfort, KY, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

May 28th: What's Floating on my Pond?
United Producers Inc., Owenton, 6:30 p.m.

June

June 11th: Ag Funding Workshop Trimble County Extension Office, 6:00 p.m.

June 17th-22nd: Trimble County Fair Trimble County Park

June 19th: Mastering the Field: Essentials for Hay Field Management
United Producers Inc., Owenton, KY 8:30 a.m.

Homesteading Series!

Trimble County Extension
1:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Please RSVP
(502) 255-7188

May 14 -
Food Preservation - Canning

June 18 -
Green Cleaning

July 23 -
Fabric Dying (10:00 am to 4:00 pm)



BEEKEEPING SERIES

MAY 15, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Enemy of your Hive - Part 2 Diseases
Trimble County Extension Service

Extraction Field Day: July 8 6:00 PM

TLC Honey Farm - Bedford, KY



Please
RSVP
(502)
255-7188



UK Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

Forage Field Day

May 21, 2024 ~ 5:30 PM

Bo & Dottie Crouch Farm

8775 Hwy 55 Campbellsburg, KY

Featured Speakers:

Dr. Jimmy Henning
Extension Forage Specialist

Krista Lea, MS
UK Plant & Soil Sciences

Dr. Katie VanValin
Extension Beef Specialist

~ Meal prepared by Trimble County Cattlemen ~

No Cost to attend!

Please rsvp for the meal and
session: (502) 255-7188
Counts towards CAIP education.

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Lexington, KY 40506



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Spring is here! With the temperatures still fluctuating, be careful with your gardens. If you have plants out, take caution in keeping them protected from frosts. I will be starting a quarterly Agriculture & Natural Resources mailing. If you would like to be added to the mailing please call (502) 255-7188 or email me at regina.utz@uky.edu with your information.

Regina Utz
Agent for Ag & Natural Resources



Effective Strategies to Prevent Plant Disease in Your Garden

In the unseen sphere of our vegetable gardens, plant pathogens including fungi, bacteria, nematodes and viruses are ever-present threats. However, with proactive measures, gardeners can successfully manage these threats and maintain healthy vegetable gardens.

Selecting the right location for your garden is the first step in prevention. Opt for a sunny area with well-drained soil to discourage the growth of pathogens. Raised beds can be an effective solution for improving drainage and air circulation around plants. It's also crucial to clear out old plant debris, which can harbor diseases from the previous season.

When choosing plants, prioritize disease-resistant varieties and inspect any transplants for signs of disease before introducing them to your garden. For seeds, consider those that have been treated with fungicide to give them a better chance of thriving. Planting in warm soil and ensuring proper spacing between plants are additional measures that can minimize stress and disease susceptibility.

Crop rotation is an invaluable strategy, especially in smaller gardens. Changing what's planted in a specific area every few years can prevent the buildup of soil-borne diseases. For crops that are particularly disease-prone, consider skipping their cultivation for a few years or growing them in containers separate from the garden.

Maintaining a weed-free garden throughout the growing season is essential. Weeds can serve as hosts for pests and diseases, transferring them to your vegetable plants. Proper watering techniques can also make a significant difference; water at the base of plants to avoid wetting foliage, and if overhead watering is necessary, do so early in the day to allow leaves to dry.

Avoiding mechanical injury to plants, such as from gardening tools or rough handling, can prevent openings for pathogens. Furthermore, refraining from working in the garden when plants are wet can reduce the spread of diseases.

By taking these steps gardeners can effectively manage plant diseases. This approach not only protects the garden from the myriad of pathogens waiting to attack but also leads to a bountiful and healthy harvest.

Source: Rick Durham, Extension Professor, Dept of Horticulture

Beware of Reducing Feed at Calving!

Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky

Following a Master Cattlemen session I got asked a common question about body condition and feeding cows at calving. The producer's question was he had heard that he should reduce feed to his cows before calving to keep birth-weights lower to reduce calving problems. He indicated that the Body Condition Scoring (BCS) of his cows as they begin to calve was only 4. This is a frustrating question because it comes up often and nothing could be further from the truth.



Several researchers have addressed this issue over the last 20-30 years. Each of these experiments had cows that were fed to maintain weight, decrease weight, or increase weight right before calving began. The result of underfeeding cows before calving results in the exact problem the producer is trying to avoid. The research demonstrated that poor nutrition and low BCS precalving:

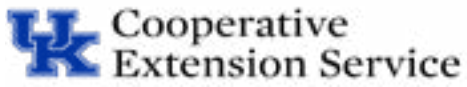
- Increased calving problems
- Decreased calf health (low colostrum consumption and poor-quality colostrum)
- Increased calf death loss
- Increased the number of days for females to resume estrous cycles.

One of the most extreme research trials on prebreeding nutrition in cows was conducted by Dr. Steve Loerch at The Ohio State University. At that time, the cost of hay was much higher than the cost of grain and Dr. Loerch was examining the impact of feeding corn as an alternative to hay for gestating and lactating cows. The cows used were large framed Charolais-cross cows and were either fed around 11 pounds of whole shelled corn, 2.5 pounds of a pelleted supplement, and 2 pounds of hay (dry matter basis) or offered hay and a salt and mineral mix free choice from November to April. Hay was predominantly first-cutting orchardgrass testing around 72% neutral detergent fiber (NDF) and 9.5% crude protein (CP). Cows fed free choice hay ate twice as much feed resulting in double the feed costs compared to limit feeding the corn-based diet. In this study, cows consuming the corn-based diet had fewer calving problems than the cows consuming forage-based diets. Limit-feeding corn to meet the nutrient requirements of cows did not negatively impact calving performance, pregnancy rate, or calf weaning weight. I don't bring this trial up to endorse feeding gestating cows corn-based diets but rather to reinforce that feeding cows prior to calving does not increase calving problems even if cows are fed corn-based diets.

This producer indicated that his cows were at a BCS of 4 prior to calving and this is going to create some issues for him. Rebreeding performance of cows is greatly influenced by BCS at calving. Cows that are thin (BCS < 5; visible ribs) at calving take longer to resume estrous cycles and therefore are delayed in their ability to rebreed. As precalving BCS decreases, the number of days from one calving to the next (calving interval) increases in beef cows. Females with a precalving BCS <5 tend to have production cycles greater than 1 year. For example, cows with a precalving BCS of 3 would be expected to have a calving interval of approximately 400+ days, while a cow with a precalving BCS of 6 would have a calving interval of approximately 360 days. Thin cows are anestrous for a longer period of time and are therefore more likely to be open at the end of the breeding season. They may also result in lighter calves to sell the next year because the calves from these thin cows will be born later in the calving season.

Let's consider the impact of anestrus and calving date for a herd in BCS 4 that calves from March 1 until May 10. Bull turnout is May 20 and the length of anestrus for mature cows (BCS 4) is 90-120 days and for young cows is 120-150 days. A mature cow (BCS 4) that calves on March 1 will begin to cycle sometime in the month of June and will likely conceive later than desired. However, the thin mature cow that calves on April 20 won't cycle until end of July/middle of August and her opportunity to conceive is minimal. Thin two-year olds nursing their first calf will likely begin cycles 4-5 months after calving and will have limited opportunities to conceive.

Reducing nutrients before calving is a huge mistake but this strategy has been circulating in the beef industry for decades. At first glance, it seems logical, but no research supports the notion of limit-feeding cows prior to calving and this dogma has cost the industry millions of dollars. So, beware of reducing feed to your cows at calving. It won't impact calf size but will impact your cows ability to rebreed.



Trimble County
PO Box 244
43 High Country Lane
Bedford, KY 40006-0244

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