


Cooperative Extension Service

 Kenton County
 10990 Marshall Rd.
 Covington, KY 41015
 (859) 356-3155
 Fax: (859) 356-0363
 kenton.ca.uky.edu

 Extension Agent for Agriculture &
 Natural Resources

Extension Agent for Horticulture

good to grow

Ag & Horticulture Newsletter Spring 2023

Spring Tasks for Beef Cattle Producers

Source: Les Anderson, Extension Beef Specialist

Rural Kentucky pastures are beginning to show off spring calves. For cattle producers, this brings in a new cycle of farm management. Farmers have a lot to remember to ensure healthy calves and to successfully rebreed cows. Observe spring calves closely, checking them at least twice a day. Check first-calf heifers even more. Be ready to assist heifers after one to two hours of hard labor or 90 minutes after the 'water bag' is visible. Be prepared to dry and warm chilled calves as soon as possible. Remember that each calf should get colostrum within an hour of birth. It's also important to begin identifying calves with ear tags or tattoos while they are still young and easy to handle. Record the birthdate and the dam ID. Castrate and implant commercial male calves as soon as possible and weigh registered calves within the first 24 hours of birth. Go ahead and separate cows that have calved and increase their feed. Supplemental energy is important for cows receiving hay to prepare them for rebreeding. A 1,250-pound cow giving approximately 25 pounds of milk per day will need about 25 pounds of fescue hay and five pounds of concentrate daily to maintain good condition. To go from a condition score of 4 to 5, add an additional two pounds of concentrate to support that cow. Cows must be in good condition to conceive early in the upcoming breeding season. Avoid feeding hay in excessively muddy areas of pastures to avoid contaminating cows' udders. Calf scours is something to watch for in the herd. If scours becomes a problem, move cows that have not calved to a clean pasture. Calves with scours may become dehydrated and need fluids to reverse the situation. Consult your veterinarian and send fecal samples to the UK Veterinary Diagnostic Lab to determine the most effective drug therapy.

Plan to vaccinate calves for clostridial diseases like blackleg and malignant edema as soon as possible. It's also a good time to get yearling measurements on bulls and heifers, if necessary, for special sales. You may need to increase bulls' feed to increase their conditioning for breeding or order semen if you plan to use artificial insemination.

Prepare for Poison Hemlock Control

Now is the time to be on the lookout for patches of poison hemlock. Last year we received many questions about this invasive weed but often it was a little too late to effectively treat it. Once this weed begins to flower, it is much harder to control. The main goal at that time is to prevent it from seeding widely. This plant is dangerous if ingested or if plant sap finds its way into eyes, broken skin, mouth, or nose. Mowing or using a string trimmer in hot weather can cause fine particles to be airborne, causing a contact risk. Poison hemlock is a biennial so digging the roots out is not necessary. Disturbing the soil can bring new seeds to the surface for germination.



If you start now, you will be able to prevent this weed from going to seed and spreading further. Look for the ferny low-growing foliage in areas where you saw it growing last year and in nearby areas that have open patches of ground. The stems will be smooth and have some reddish spotting. Now is the time to plan herbicide sprays, mowing, or solarization to keep these plants in check and prevent flowering. When the plant is actively growing and following package directions, spray the young foliage with an herbicide containing 2,4-D or Triclopyr which are selective broadleaf herbicides. Glyphosate can also be used but is non-selective and will kill most other plants if sprayed as well. Repeated mowing from April through mid-July can reduce seed production. Solarization can be effective but requires that plastic tarp be left on the area for close to 2 months during warm weather in some cases. If you have questions, contact the Cooperative Extension for more information about managing poison hemlock and other horticulture topics.



Help Eliminate those Invasive Pear Trees Please!

Very soon, in northern Kentucky, you will be seeing clouds of white flowering trees lining the local highways, and while they may look beautiful, these plants are far more sinister in their habit. Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*)--often called Bradford Pear—"grows rapidly and is adapted to a wide variety of environmental conditions. It has spread along power lines and rights of way; in fields, parks, and other natural open areas; and in the understory of forests and woodlands." (MDC)

"A single wild tree can spread quickly by seed and vegetative means, often forming dense thickets within several years and outcompeting native plants. In forested settings, it leafs out earlier than our native trees, effectively shading out spring wildflowers." (MDC) By helping to remove and control populations of this plant, you can help native species stay competitive in their local environment.

CONTROL RECOMMENDATIONS

Remove Small Trees

"In areas with light infestation, remove small trees by hand when the soil is moist, with care taken to remove the entire root. When too numerous, foliar spraying with a 2 to 5 percent systemic herbicide solution of glyphosate or triclopyr can be utilized in mid to late summer." (MDC)

Cut Medium to Large Trees

"Medium to large trees should be cut down and stumps treated immediately with herbicide to prevent re-sprouting. Effective herbicides include glyphosate and triclopyr at a 25 to 50 percent solution.

Less labor intensive control options include basal bark treatment and girdling.

Use basal bark treatment for trees up to 6 inches in diameter by applying a 1:5 ratio of the ester formulation of triclopyr and basal oil in a 12-inch wide band around the entire circumference of the tree base.

Herbicide uptake is most successful in late winter/early spring or during the summer.

Mature trees can be girdled during the spring and summer, by cutting through the bark around the entire trunk, 6 inches above the ground."

Plant Alternative Native Trees

"Instead of landscaping with Callery pear, we recommend planting a variety of other small trees, especially natives, such as:

American plum (*Prunus americana*), Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus* spp.), Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*), etc. "

To show our commitment to removing this species, you can pick up an extra free tree at the Kenton County cooperative extension tree seedling giveaway if you show us a photo of your cut down pear tree! Details in flyer.

Information sourced from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)

<https://mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/invasive-plants/callery-pear-control#:~:text=Medium%20to%20large%20trees%20should,basal%20bark%20treatment%20and%20girdling>.





University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
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Cooperative Extension Service

WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY POND?



Learn what is happening in your pond water. Discussion will include water clarity, invasive aquatic plants, algae, and strategies to ensure a healthy pond for fish or livestock.

**MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023
6:30 PM
KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION
10990 MARSHALL RD,
COVINGTON, KY**

**Call [859]356-3155 or visit
kentoncountyextension.org
to register**



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

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, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



Non-Invasive Shrubs



Learn about replacements for
common invasive shrubs when
planning or updating your landscape.

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

10 am | 10990 Marshall Rd, Covington

6 pm | 450 Kenton Lands Rd, Erlanger



Call (859)356-3155 or visit
kentoncountyextension.org
to register!



Is your herd bull ready for breeding season?

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



Is he sitting down on the job?



Bull Breeding Soundness Examinations

**Saturday,
April 15, 2023**
at **Kenton County Fairgrounds**

Cost per bull for examination
\$25 for NKCA members - \$50 for non-members
Vaccinations are additional

- Exams by licensed Veterinarians
- For all breeding age bulls (over 12 months old)
- Semen test
- Physical examinations
- Vaccinations and deworming available for extra charge



Please call the Boone County Extension Service at 859-586-6101
By April 8 to schedule an appointment.

(program will be cancelled if there are less than 25 bulls)

Jerry Brown
Boone County Extension Agent
for Agriculture

Sponsored by:

Northern KY Cattle Association □ **UK Cooperative Extension Service**

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



Tree Seedling Giveaway

April 22, 2023

9 am - 1 pm

Covington Farmers Market
3rd and Court Streets

10 am - 2 pm

Kenton County Cooperative Extension office
10990 Marshall Rd.

Trees available on a first come first served basis:

American Persimmon
Kentucky Coffee Tree
Silky Dogwood
Willow Oak
Virginia Pine

***Kenton County residents only**

***ID will be required for pick up**

***3 bare root tree seedlings per household**

***BONUS 4th tree if you show us a photo of an invasive
Bradford/Callery pear tree you've cut down in your yard!**



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**SAVE
THE DATE!**



CAMPBELL COUNTY FARM & LIVESTOCK EXPO

Saturday, April 29th

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Alexandria Fairgrounds

For more information:

Campbell County Cooperative Extension

michelle.simon@uky.edu

(859) 572-2600

Campbell County Conservation District

patti.dischar@campbellkyconservation.org

(859) 635-9587

Programs & Activities

- Tractor Driving Contest for all Ages
- Herding Dog Demonstration
- Kentucky State University:
Mobile Processing Unit for Poultry, Rabbit & Fish
- Sheep & Goat Hoof Trimming & Shearing
- Building Your Own Cattle Scales
- Matching Equipment to Your Farm Needs
- Equipment Auction



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

 **University of
Kentucky**
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment





Planning & Preparing Horticulture Exhibits for the Fair



May 9, 2023

10 am - 450 Kenton Lands Rd, Erlanger, KY

OR

6 pm - 10990 Marshall Rd, Covington, KY

New and current exhibitors are invited to learn about category changes and preparing home grown horticulture and field crop items for the Kenton County Fair.

Register today!

859-356-3155

www.kentoncountyextension.org



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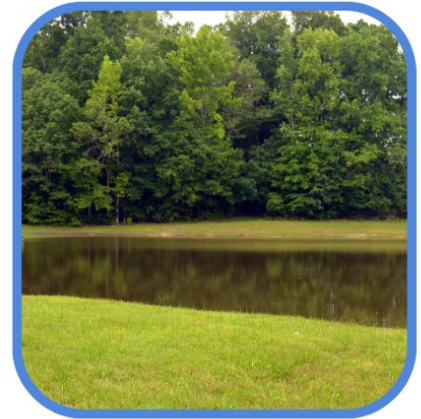


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Agriculture and Natural Resources

WATERING OPTIONS FOR LIVESTOCK

MAY 11, 2023
7:00 P.M.
10990 MARSHALL RD
COVINGTON, KY

Join Steve Higgins from University of Kentucky as we discuss how to ensure a good source of water for your livestock operation. We will discuss ways to capture water, waterer designs, how to make water available in your back pastures, and how water quality affects the health of your herd.



**REGISTER
TODAY!**

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BACKYARD CHICKENS

May 18, 2023


1:00 pm – 450 Kenton Lands Rd, Erlanger, KY

OR

6:30 pm – 10990 Marshall Rd, Covington, KY

Join us as we discuss raising chickens on a small scale. We will discuss housing, feeding, predator control, bio security and, choosing your first brood. We'll round out the evening with egg recipes that your entire family will love! (After all, what will you do with all those eggs?)

Register Today!

 (859) 356-3155

 kentoncountyextension.org

BCS: DO YOU KNOW YOUR HORSE'S SCORE?

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

6: 00 p.m.

**Kenton County
Fairgrounds**

**Light refreshments
will be served**

Learn the technique to evaluate a horse's body condition at this hands on program.

Experts will teach you ways to assess if the horse is too fat, too thin, or about right.



**REGISTER
TODAY!**

**Call (859)356-3155 or visit
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NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
INDEPENDENCE, KY
PERMIT #59

Kenton County
10990 Marshall Road
Covington, KY 41015

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Red Potato Salad

6 medium red potatoes
cut into 1½ inch pieces
4 cups fresh green beans
cut into 1½ inch pieces
1 small red onion,
chopped

1 red bell pepper,
chopped
1 yellow bell pepper,
chopped
1 cup chopped
cherry tomatoes

¼ cup mayonnaise
2 tablespoons red
wine vinegar
2 teaspoons fresh
oregano
Salt and pepper

1. Wash vegetables in warm water.
2. Boil potatoes until tender and drain.
3. Boil green beans until tender crisp and drain.
4. Place the potatoes and green beans in a bowl.
5. Add chopped red onions, peppers and tomatoes.
6. In a small bowl, **mix** mayonnaise, red wine vinegar and chopped

oregano.
7. Add to potato mixture and mix lightly.
8. Season with salt and pepper. **Mix** well. **Serve** cold.

Yield: 16, ½ cup servings

Nutritional Analysis:
140 calories, 1.5 g fat,
0 g saturated fat, 0 mg
cholesterol, 35 mg sodium,
26 g carbohydrate, 6 g
fiber, 3 g sugar, 5 g protein.

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

