

Estill County Farm Scoop

Agriculture & Natural Resources

 **Martin-Gatton**
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
University of Kentucky.



Cooperative Extension Service

Estill County

76 Golden Court

Irvine, KY 40336

(606) 723-4557

Fax: (606) 723-5912

Estill.EXT@uky.edu

November

In this issue:

- Fall Grazing Do's and Don'ts
- Time to Talk Turkeys
- Estill County Cattlemen's Meeting
- Grazing Conference
- Beekeeping Program
- Preparing Beef Cows for Winter
- Crop Protection Webinar Series
- Homemaker's Houseplant Group

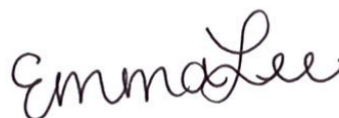
Fall Grazing Do's and Don'ts

Although it's fall now, KY and many regions of the US are still experiencing the aftermath from an exceptionally dry summer. Even as milder temperatures bring cool-season forages out of their drought-induced dormancy, producers must continue to be mindful about grazing management. A recent article by Craig Shaeffer at Univ. of MN reminded producers to avoid overgrazing, reduce stocking rates, give pastures adequate rest, and control weeds this fall.

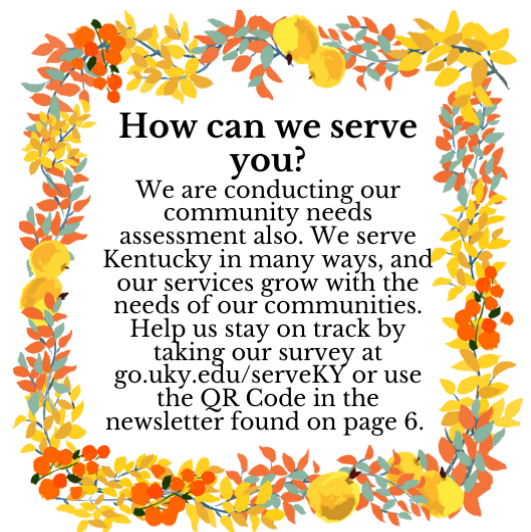
Avoid overgrazing. Some species can tolerate more defoliation than others, but in general, plants must not be grazed lower than 4 inches.

This is typically advised at any time of year, but it is especially critical following a dry growing season. When cool-season forages go dormant during drought, plant leaves and stems stop growing but growing points and crowns remain active. Overgrazing removes these growing points and drains root reserves.... *read more about this on page 6.*

As always, let me know if I can help in any way. Happy November!



Emma Lee, County
Extension Agent
for Agriculture & Natural
Resources
Emma.lee@uky.edu



How can we serve you?

We are conducting our community needs assessment also. We serve Kentucky in many ways, and our services grow with the needs of our communities. Help us stay on track by taking our survey at go.uky.edu/serveKY or use the QR Code in the newsletter found on page 6.

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
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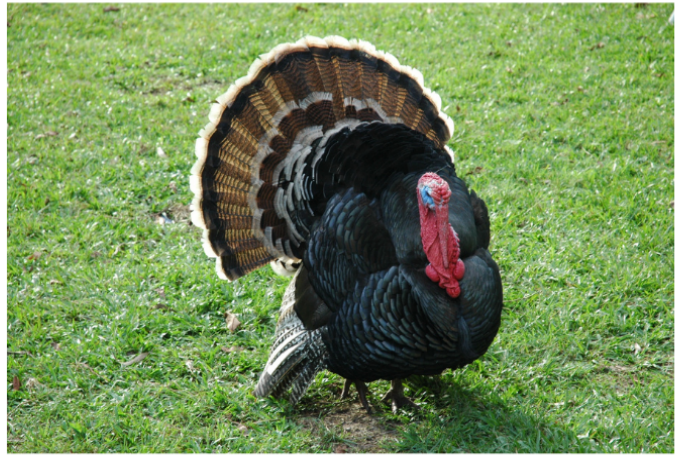


Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Time to Talk Turkeys

Source: Jacquie Jacob, extension poultry project manager

It that time of year when talk turns to turkeys. Technically, there is only one breed of turkey, with several varieties, although many people incorrectly refer to these varieties as breeds. Turkeys are raised only for meat. They are not raised for egg production, as with chickens, ducks and quail. As a result, turkeys do not produce very many eggs. The most common type of commercial turkey raised in the United States is the Broad-Breasted White. It has a larger breast than the other varieties of turkeys. The term heritage turkeys refers to naturally mating turkey breeds native to the Americas. These varieties date back to early Colonial times. They are Beltsville Small White, Bourbon Red, Jersey Buff, Narragansett, Royal Palm, Slate, Standard Bronze and White Holland. Heritage turkeys grow at a much slower rate than Broad-Breasted Whites. The result is a smaller bird but one with a more balanced dark-to-white meat ratio; a more intense, sometimes gamey flavor; and a thicker layer of fat surrounding the breast. A young male turkey is called a Jake and a young female is called a Jenny, while a baby turkey is a poult. Older females are called hens, and older males are called toms. Adult males are sometimes called gobblers. Turkeys have brightly colored growths on their throat called caruncles and a flap of skin that hangs over their beak called a snood. They also have a wattle, which is a flap of skin under the beak. You will see all these things turn bright red when a tom is upset or courting a female. As turkeys get older, it is easier to tell the toms from the hens. Toms are typically larger overall than hens and have larger snoods and caruncles than the females. There are two species of turkeys, both native to the Americas: the North American (*Meleagris gallopavo*) and the Ocellated (*Meleagris ocellata*) turkey. The North American wild turkey is the species from which all domesticated varieties of turkeys originated. The Ocellated turkey, sometimes called the Mexican turkey, is native to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico.

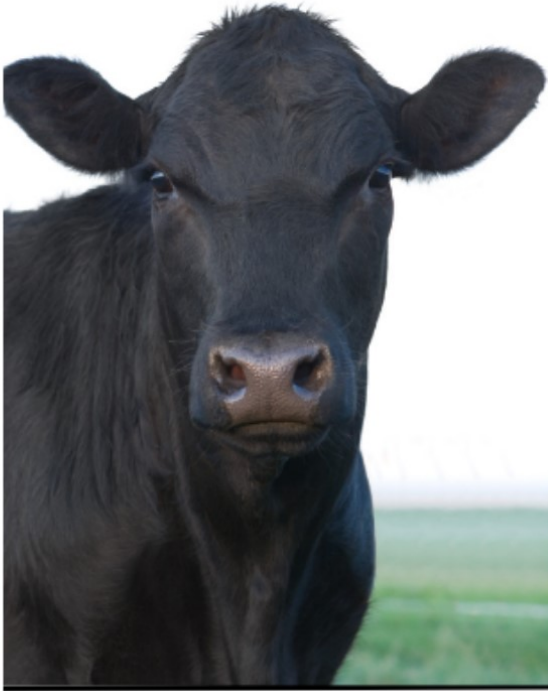


Raising wild turkeys is illegal in some states, including Kentucky. The prohibition includes domestic strains of wild birds. The law is meant to protect native populations. The wild turkey was first domesticated by the Aztecs. Turkeys provided a source of protein, and the feathers were used for decorative purposes. Very little genetic selection was used with these early domesticated turkeys. The explorers took these turkeys back to Europe with them. After some early genetic selection in Europe, these turkeys were re-introduced into America with the first settlers. While the initial genetic selection of domesticated wild turkeys occurred in Europe, the different varieties were developed in the United States, with the possible exception of the White Holland. Many options are available for those interested in starting a small flock of turkeys. If fast growth and good feed efficiency are important, the commercial strains of turkey are your best option. The Midget White, a smaller version of the Broad-Breasted White, is well suited for small farms.

If you are looking at raising heritage turkeys there are several varieties to choose from. The Bourbon Red was developed in Kentucky and is suitable for small flocks. If you would like to enter your turkeys in poultry shows, purebred varieties are required. Choose one of the eight varieties recognized by the American Poultry Association in their Standard of Perfection. The Royal Palm turkey is primarily an ornamental variety, but any of the other varieties are well suited to the small flock.

For more information about turkeys or other poultry, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service.

Estill County Cattlemen's Meeting



The Estill County Cattlemen's Association will meet on November 6th, immediately following the beef program held at 6:00 pm.

**Monday, November 6th
after program at 6:00 pm**

Please notice that this meeting will be held on Monday, instead of the scheduled meetings that usually happen on Thursday!

Meeting will be held at
Estill County Extension Office
76 Golden Court, Irvine, KY

Grazing Conference

Low Stress Livestock Handling for Serious Graziers



Reducing Livestock **Stress** in Grazing Systems
Curt Pate, Curt Pate Stockmanship



Fencing for Multi-Species Grazing
Lewis Sapp, Stay-Tuff Fence



Designing Flexible **Watering** Systems
Jeff Lehmkuhler, University of Kentucky



Designing Livestock Handling **Facilities** for Existing Structures
Chris McBurney, McBurney Livestock Equipment



Local Forage **Spokesperson**



Optimizing Resources with **Multi-Species** Grazing
Greg Brann

**Nov. 1, 2023 - Lexington
Fayette County
Extension Office
7:30 AM- 3:30 PM EST**



Beekeeping: Getting Started

Join us on November 28th at 6:00 pm to learn how to start beekeeping. Tammy Horn Potter, the Kentucky State Apiarist will be our guest speaker.

This meeting will take place at the Estill County Extension Office at 76 Golden Court, Irvine, KY 40336.

If you would like to attend or have questions, please call Estill County Extension Office at (606) 723-4557.



Emma Lee

Emma Lee, County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

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4-H Youth Development
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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
University of Kentucky.

PREPARING BEEF COWS FOR WINTER

PRESENTED BY DR. JEFF LEHMKULER

Dr. Jeff Lehmkuler will be speaking about how to prepare beef cows for winter. If you would like to attend, please call the office at (606) 723-4557 to sign up!



NOVEMBER 6TH AT 6:00 PM

AT THE ESTILL COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE LOCATED AT 76 GOLDEN COURT, IRVINE, KY 40336

emma lee

Emma Lee, County Extension Agent
for Agriculture & Natural Resources

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Lexington, KY 40506



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Crop Protection Webinar Series Begins November 2

Beginning November 2, 2023, the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will present a series of four webinars covering field crop protection. Hosted through the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center, the webinars will feature UK Extension pest management specialists discussing plant pathology, weed science, and entomology topics.

The one-hour webinars will be held on Thursday mornings in November and will take place via Zoom at 10 a.m. EST/ 9 a.m. CST. Pre-registration is required for each webinar.

“We are excited to work with the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center again to offer these webinars to anyone who wants to learn about the latest University of Kentucky research on grain crop pest management.

Information discussed in these webinars will be helpful as farmers and advisors make decisions on what practices to implement in 2024,” said Dr. Kiersten Wise, UK Extension Plant Pathologist. The webinars are open to agriculture and natural resource county Extension agents, crop consultants, farmers, industry professionals, and others, whether they reside or work in Kentucky or outside the state.

Participants may receive one hour per webinar in continuing education units for Certified Crop Advisers. Kentucky pesticide applicators can receive one continuing education unit in Category 1A (Ag Plant) per webinar.

For more information, contact Jason Travis by phone at (859) 562-2569 or by e-mail at jason.travis@uky.edu.

By Jason Travis, Agriculture Extension Associate

Fall Grazing Do's and Don't continued from page 1...

Continued from page 1...

Orchardgrass and other perennial cool season grasses store energy in stem bases and are especially susceptible to combined stress of overgrazing and drought. Shallow rooted species like KY bluegrass and clovers are also damaged by overgrazing.

Reduce stocking rates. With less forage available, reducing the number of animals on pasture will stretch feed supplies. This can be achieved by culling cattle from the grazing herd and/or relocating livestock to a dry lot or sacrifice paddock and feeding them hay. Assess feed costs and cull prices to determine the most cost-effective solution. If feeding hay, calculate how much forage will be needed through the winter. For example, one 1,200- pound cow that eats 2% of its bodyweight in hay will eat approximately 2.5 tons of forage from Oct through May.

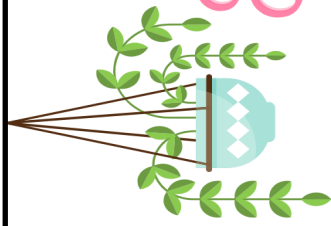
Give pastures rest. Even if pastures start to green up after some precipitation, drought-stressed plants are likely not strong enough to withstand regular grazing. Giving livestock access to a pasture before it has sufficient time and moisture to make a full recovery can reduce stand persistence.

It takes 4 to 6 inches of water to produce a ton of cool -season grass or alfalfa. Smaller amounts of rainfall may stimulate regrowth, but grazing should be delayed until there is 8 to 10 inches of regrowth. While grazing regrowth before plants reach these minimum heights may provide forage, it can weaken plants and reduce the long-term productivity of the pasture.

Control weeds Some weed species can take advantage of drought conditions and proliferate when cool-season forage goes dormant. Many weeds are low nutritive value, and some weeds like lambsquarters and pigweed can accumulate high levels of nitrates during drought. To successfully eliminate weeds, it is best to apply herbicide around a rainfall event. Always read the herbicide label prior to use.

~ excerpt from article by Amber Friedrichsen, Hay and Forage Grower.
Hayandforage.com





Homemaker Houseplant Special Interest Group

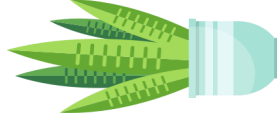
Join us every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm for the Homemaker's Houseplant special interest group. These meetings will be held at the Estill County Extension Office at 76 Golden Court, Irvine, KY 40336. This group will meet to fellowship with other plant lovers, as well as participate in a monthly presentation and activity.

Our first meeting will be held on November 14th at 6:00 pm. Cheyenne Lamb will be teaching us how to make holiday bud vase arrangements!

Please bring a small bud vase for this activity.

If you would like to sign up for this club or have questions, please call Estill County Extension Office at (606) 723-4557.

We encourage you to attend if you are interested! You are also welcome to join homemaker's any time. Dues are \$10 and can be brought to the extension office.

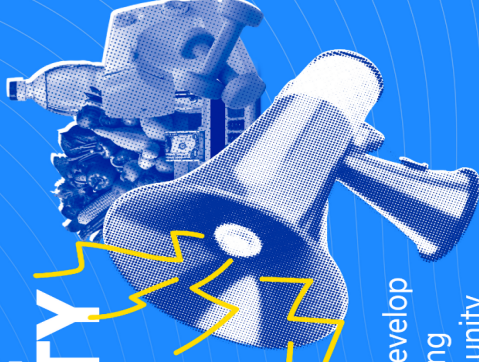


Take the Community Assessment Survey and be entered for a chance to win one of two \$50 grocery cards.

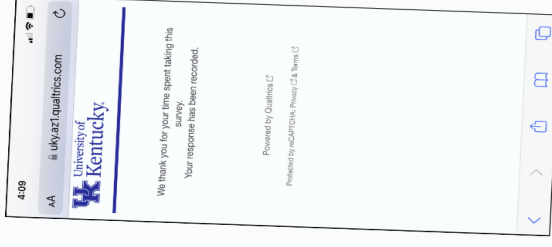
An equal opportunity organization

ESTILL COUNTY

**How can we
serve you?**



Take a ten-minute survey to help us develop programs addressing needs in our community.



HOW TO ENTER

Visit <https://go.uky.edu/serveKY>

- Complete the ten-minute survey (make sure you choose ESTILL County)
- Take a screenshot of the final page and email the image along with your name and a valid phone number to estill.ext@uky.edu

ADDITIONAL WAY TO ENTER

- Stop by the Estill County Extension Office and pick up a paper copy of the survey. Bring the completed survey back to be entered.

For more information on the Community Assessment Survey contact the Estill County Extension Office at 606-723-4557.

Estill County
76 Golden Court
Irvine, KY 40336

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Yummy Sweet Potato Casserole

6 medium sweet potatoes	3 tablespoons melted butter
1/4 cup maple syrup	1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons brown sugar	1/2 cup ground cinnamon
2 eggs	1/2 cup chopped pecans
1/2 teaspoon salt	
3/4 cup low-fat vanilla Greek yogurt	
1/4 cup brown sugar	
1/2 cup ground cinnamon	
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract	
1 tablespoon cinnamon	
1 tablespoon rolled oats	
1 tablespoon maple syrup	

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. **Peel** sweet potatoes and **cut** into 1-inch cubes. **Place** sweet potato cubes in a medium saucepan and **cover** with water. **Cook** over medium-high heat until tender. **Drain** and **mash**. In a large bowl, **mix** together mashed potatoes, maple syrup, brown sugar, eggs, salt, yogurt, vanilla and cinnamon. **Pour** into a 13-by-9-inch baking dish. Topping: In a medium bowl, **mix** the brown sugar and oats.

Add in syrup, melted butter, salt and cinnamon; **blend** until mixture is coarse. **Stir** in pecans. **Sprinkle** over sweet potato mixture. **Bake** 30 minutes, or until topping is lightly browned.

Yield: 12, 1/2 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 190 calories, 7 g fat, 2.5 g saturated fat, 10 mg cholesterol, 190 mg sodium, 31 g carbohydrate, 20 g sugars, 4 g protein.



For more Plate it up recipes visit
<https://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/content/plate-it-kentucky-proud>