HOMETOWN NEWS FOR KENTUCKY'S FARM COMMUNITY

OCTOBER 21, 2021

270-384-9454

Where's the 'real' beef?

Quarles presses USDA on 'fake meat' labeling

"Let me be perfectly clear — the importance of clear and transparent labeling is a consumer-protection issue." That's Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles' take on why he filed comments with the U.S. Department of Agriculture over "meat" labeling of lab-grown products, which are derived from animal cells.

In 2019, Quarles had already worked with Kentucky General Assembly members to pass a bill — HB 311 which forbids such labeling of these lab-grown products as meat. It passed both houses, with only one opposing

But back in November of 2018, the USDA and Food and Drug Administration announced a merger of sorts. The two federal agencies would now share jurisdiction over the production of these lab-grown proteins. That means the FDA regulates the lab stage until cell harvest, and the USDA regulates the production and labeling of products.

This September, USDA announced it would open a 60-day comment period in order to develop labeling rules for these products containing cultured animal cells.

In a letter to Sanda Eskin, deputy under secretary for Food Safety with the USDA, Quarles wrote that Kentucky's agriculture is diverse, and he represents the 76,000 family farms of the state.

"We grow everything from apples to zucchini and our farm families raise a wide variety of livestock." That's why, Quarles wrote, he led the previous effort in 2019 to raise awareness in the state about the arrival of lab-grown protein products.

"I believed then, as I do now, that such products should not be allowed to be marketed in the same way as products from traditional animal agriculture," the letter states.

Quarles wrote that he believes in the free market and the spirit of competition, but that as new technology emerges, consumer protection agencies — at both the state and federal level — should be proactive in "helping educate consumers about new products," and work to give them the ability to differentiate how they are derived.

SEE LABELING, PAGE 13



Honey sold at the Kentucky State Fair was certified to assure consumers that is is indeed Kentucky honey.

Special label guarantees Kentucky honey

The large banner above the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association State Fair booth read CERTIFIED KENTUCKY HONEY. Most folks purchasing honey may have been unaware of the significance this designation has for Kentucky honey producers and themselves as honey con-

The Certified Kentucky Honey label guarantees the honey is from hives located in the state from bees who have foraged within a few miles of those hives. A Kentucky Proud label does not provide that same assurance.

A Kentucky Proud label means that a product has been grown, raised, produced, processed or manufactured in Kentucky, but it does not

require that all steps to get a product to the consumer be taken in Kentucky. The program is designed to make accommodations for situations such as beef production where cattle are produced in Kentucky but processed elsewhere.

In 2017 the KSBA first identified several problems associated with mislabeled honey and adulteration with honey sold in Kentucky, some carrying a Kentucky Proud label.

Current Kentucky Certified Honey Program Manager Scott Moore explained why such a problem exists.

"The main driving force is honey is not defined

SEE SPECIAL, PAGE 27



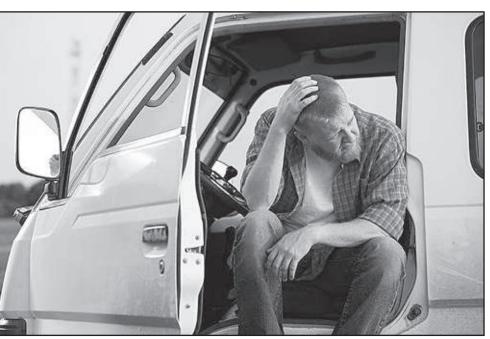
PRIDE IN AG — What's the difference between pesticide free and organic?

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4	MARKET REPORT

OPINION

Volume 33, Number 8 270-384-9454 www.thefarmerspride.com COCTOBER 21, 2021 THE FARMER'S PRIDE 270-384-94

UK centers train community members to recognize signs of mental distress



Agricultural work can be a source of stress, anxiety and depression due to its unpredictability and physical and mental demands. University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Envi-

ronment researchers are helping train Kentuckians to recognize signs of mental distress in members of their local agricultural community. The program is seeing great success.

Through the college's Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention and the Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center, Kentuckians who regularly interact with farmers and rural health care providers are learning Question-Persuade-Refer. QPR is a nationally recognized suicide prevention program that helps individuals recognize when someone is facing mental hardship and connect them with health care professionals. UK researchers took the existing QPR program and developed additional materials to help participants identify farm-related stressors and agriculture-specific behavioral clues that may indicate a farmer is going through a difficult time.

"When the 2018 federal farm bill appropriated money for mental health services for farmers, it really opened up the conversation about mental health in the agricultural community almost overnight," said Joan Mazur, professor and deputy director of the Southeast

Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention. "People really seem to appreciate the opportunity to talk about mental health, use the word suicide and have conversations about struggles they see in their communities."

During the summer of 2020, with support from a U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agrisafe subaward, the Southeast Center trained 17 certified QPR Institute trainers who, in turn, used those skills to train 415 Kentuckians as part of their Agricultural Community QPR for Farmers and Farm Families program.

"We really wanted to leverage this important policy 'moment' and develop a community-based support network to address this difficult issue," Mazur said "We asked people to participate who we knew were already embedded in rural agricultural communities, working with farmers on a regular basis and

SEE UK, PAGE 11

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Total Receipts: 760 Supply included: 21% Feeder Cattle (100% Dairy Steers); 52% Slaughter Cattle (87% Cows, 13% Bulls); 27% Replacement Dairy Cattle (19% Fresh/Milking Cows, 2% Bred Heifers, 16% Springer Heifers, 11% Open Heifers, 35% Baby Bull Calves, 17% Baby Heifer Calves). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 90%.

Dairy Steers: Large 3: 528# 85.00; 660# 90.00; 701-748# 77.00-79.00; 763# 86.00; 826# 80.00.

Cows: Breaker 75-80%: 1385-1755# 50.00-57.00; 1435-1825# 58.00-65.00. Boner 80-85%: 1085-1435# 48.00-57.00; 1115-1365# 58.00-66.00; 1110-1365# 40.00-47.00. Lean 85-90%: 710-1185# 38.00-47.00; 840-1075# 48.00-54.00; 720-1065# 28.00-37.00.

Bulls: 1-2: 1555-2060# 85.00-93.00; 1745-1955# 94.00-100.00; 1270-1845# 73.00-82.00.

Fresh/Milking Cows: Medium 1125.00-1200.00; Common 700.00-1025.00; Common 800.00 Jersey.

 $\underline{\mathbf{Bred\ Heifers:}}\ \mathrm{Medium\ T2\ 825.00;\ Common\ T2\ 750.00\text{-}775.00}.$

Springer Heifers: Approved T3 1100.00-1175.00; Medium T3 875.00-1075.00; Common T2-3 850.00; Common T3 700.00-850.00.

Open Heifers: Medium 525# 300.00-360.00; Medium 725# 560.00; Medium 830# 655.00; Common 450# 190.00; Common 650# 375.00.

830# 655.00; Common 450# 190.00; Common 650# 375.00. **Baby Bull Calves:** 29 Head 15.00-80.00; 9 Head 130.00-235.00 Beef Cross; 12 Head 50.00-120.00 Crossbred; 3 Head 20.00-30.00 Jersey.

<u>Baby Heifer Calves:</u> 13 Head 30.00-70.00; 3 Head 130.00-160.00 Beef Cross; 9 Head 60.00-110.00 Crossbred.



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Outdoor classroom celebrated in Taylor County



CAMPBELLSVILLE, Ky. – Friends of the Homeplace on Green River gathered last week to celebrate Kentucky's outdoor classroom and learn about plans to include livestock on the working farm.

The 227-acre historical farm is a project of residents in Adair, Taylor and Green counties that brings together agrarian history and a modern mission to teach rural American culture.

Last Thursday, Homeplace board members and supporters joined with the Taylor County Chamber of Commerce for a lunch meeting and ribbon cutting. The ribbon cutting served as a dedication for Kentucky's outdoor classroom, Billy Fudge, president of the non-profit organization told the crowd.

The farm is open to school tours and hosts several events each year that are open to the public. There are walking

trails and a log pen barn. Several crops are produced on the farm, including heirloom corn varieties.

One thing that has been missing, however, has been the presence of farm animals, which are usually only on-site for events. During the meeting, a sign was unveiled recognizing Kentucky Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureaus in Adair, Green and Taylor counties for providing funding for fencing for a barn lot that will give several goats a home.

"In 20 years we've never had animals here on a full-time basis," Fudge said. "They only visit when we need them for a petting farm or teaching purposes. The barn lot was appropriate place to start."

The four-acre barn lot will be home to goats that are part of an embryo transfer project. Future plans include using a 30-acre pasture field for livestock as well.

Fudge said too many people do not have the chance to experience the outdoors and "we are 'experience deficit' when it comes to nature, agriculture and just life in general."

"That's what the Homeplace is here for – to provide the opportunity for our school system and our teachers to bring whole classes, entire grades out here to the Homeplace and have them an experience in the outdoors and with agriculture and natural resources," he said.

The luncheon portion of the meeting was held in a barn and included Warren Beeler as speaker.

Beeler, known as "Mr. Kentucky Agriculture," talked about the advances in modern agriculture. As former director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy, Beeler said he had seen good projects fail and questionable projects succeed, all for one reason.

"It's all about the people," he said.

The ones who succeed have several things in common, he added.

"They are all excited as the dickens about the project. They have a passion that just eats them up."

SEE FARM, PAGE 13



Nutrient Management Planning in Kentucky



CAP* 102 — Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for confined livestock operations



CAP* 104 - Nutrient Management for cropland



CAP* 114 – Integrated Pest Management

* Conservation Activity Plan practice, as part of N.R.C.S. EQIP program

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4 | OCTOBER 21, 2021 UPINIUN 270-384-94

What to do next



ONE VOICE

Sharon Burton

Beeler said
he has learned
from watching
people, and
he has seen
people succeed
because of
their passion,
hard work,
willingness
to learn and
their positive
attitude.

admit I'm not a super fan of pageants, but they have their place and sometimes provide a positive message for young women. This year's Miss Kentucky, Haley B. Wheeler, is a native of Powell County, an eastern Kentucky county where Stanton serves as the county seat.

Wheeler has attended numerous agriculture events since earning the 2021 title and often sings a wonderful rendition of "My Old Kentucky Home." When she gets the chance, she tells the story of how she competed six times before winning the title of Miss Kentucky.

Her story is one of perseverance and determination and that is a positive message whether the one telling it is wearing a crown or a baseball cap. She intends to visit every county in Kentucky as Miss Kentucky, and I have no doubt that she will reach her goal and she will leave each county with a thoughtful and positive message.

Last Thursday, she shared the stage – or really, the barn floor – at Homeplace on Green River with Mr. Kentucky Agriculture, Warren Beeler. Beeler's message is always a positive one, and it's one I never get tired of hearing.

Beeler talked about seeing projects make their way through what was then the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy and how he saw a difference in the programs that succeeded and the ones that didn't. Beeler said he has learned from watching people, and he has seen people succeed because of their passion, hard work, willingness to learn and their positive attitude.

I was sitting next to a school superintendent who asked me if I was able to get notes on one of Beeler's comments because he wanted to keep the quote. Beeler gives that type of message: the kind you want to put on a poster so it will be a daily reminder.

I love to see people defy odds to build some-

SEE WHAT, PAGE 6

THE FARMER'S PRID

Education comes in many forms

he value of a good education is, in so many ways, immeasurable in that it will take a person to places they may have never dreamed of. It will serve as the foundation for all we do, no matter our job title. And it's something that once we have it, it can never be taken away.

But we are all different and we all learn differently. Luckily, education comes to us in a variety of ways and can be obtained in many places and at many levels. Gaining an education, in whatever way is available to us, is one of the most important things we will ever do.

That's why, as an organization, education is so important to Kentucky Farm Bureau. Each year, our volunteers spend countless hours working in their local communities to support educational endeavors in several different ways.

Whether we are reading ag-related stories to elementary children, working with students who become involved in our many KFB educational programs such as IFAL and KFB Outstanding Youth, or getting the word out about scholarship opportunities provided at the county and state levels, being involved in education is a huge part of Farm Bureau not only here, but across the country.

As is the case each year, KFB awards numerous scholarships to hundreds of students across the state. Our county leaders take great pride in their respective scholarship programs, and while getting through the pandemic has not been easy, those programs haven't slowed down. It is just as critical now to award these scholarships as it has ever been.

This year, the total amount of state and county scholarship dollars given reached an all-time high, and I can't thank the county volunteers enough for all the work they put in throughout the year to make this happen.

And I thank the students for their hard work in getting to this point in their lives. I hope each one is having an amazing time in their postsecondary endeavors and I want to encourage each one to continually reach for their educational goals. As is the case with most things that are worth having, achieving these goals will not always be easy, but the rewards will be great.

It's worth remembering that our efforts to help educate our young people are not only a benefit to them but ultimately to our communities and the economic well-being of the state.

Whether they get a two-year or four-year degree, an industry certification, an education through our military branches, or graduate degrees, our future depends on these young people who will one day become leaders in all sectors of business, government, and our agricultural industry.

To those scholarship recipients embarking on this next chapter in their lives, remember, this is just the beginning of a lifelong journey of learning. As the world around us continues to change, so will its educational needs. We sincerely hope this opportunity before you will lead to many great successes. I, for one, can't wait to see all the wonderful things you will accomplish for your communities, this state, and our great nation. Good luck, and congratulations!

MARK HANEY is the President of the Kentucky Farm Bureau.



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT

Mark Haney

total amount
of state
and county
scholarship
dollars given
reached an alltime high

This year, the

The Farmer's Pride

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Harvest takes a backseat



MARKET WATCH

Dewey Strickler

China is facing an energy crunch from increased costs of coal that is impacting processors.

ormally, during this time of the season, the focus is on he vest progress and calls. For they at 1 car ntly taking a backseat to soaring energy costs that are increasing inputs.

Since August, crude oil has risen 32 percent in value while natural gas has shot up 122 percent since April. This will have a huge impact on the grains, especially corn because of increased harvest and drying costs.

Meanwhile, the increase in fertilizer costs for next spring almost guarantees fewer planted acres of corn. These issues, plus weather in South America, will make for an interesting winter.

In other developments, ending stocks have risen to 1.5 billion bushels, which is an adequate supply. Exports are slowly improving but were disappointing last week at 29.3 million bushels. They must average 50.7 million bushels each week to reach USDA's target of 2.090 billion bushels. Looking at harvest, it is progressing swiftly and is 41percent complete versus the average of 31percent.

Just a few months ago, the soybean bulls were running all over themselves, but are nowhere to be found now. This is because of ending stocks rising to a comfortable level of 320 million bushels, as well as production in South America expected to be at a record. In addition, China is facing an energy crunch from increased costs of coal that is impacting processors. This could affect soybean imports but, so far, the USDA has not reduced them. Meanwhile, export inspections last week were a marketing year high at 59.2 million bushels with China taking 72percent of shipments. Looking at harvest, it is progressing at a fast pace and is 49 percent done versus 40percent for the average.

The outlook for wheat remains positive as stocks are shrinking. Since 2016, domestic ending stocks have been declining and are currently at 580 million bushels, their lowest since 2013. Meanwhile, global stocks have been on the downswing since 2019.

However, exports could use a boost as they have been trending lower since 2016. Last week, inspections were a token 15.9 million bushels. The decline in futures midweek is disappointing for the bulls. However, they were drug lower from weakness in corn and soybeans, as well as Egypt canceling their tender. Looking at winter wheat planting, it is 60 percent complete which is par for the average.

DEWEY STRICKLER is president of Ag Watch Market Advisors, LLC. Email Strickler at agwatchdls@comcast.net or go online at www.agwatch.biz.

Friday night lights

very farm kid who grew up before the change-everything 1970s changed almost everything will recall Friday evenings meant quick chores, a quick supper, and a family night in town.

Back then, nearly every store in nearly every rural community remained open for business until 9 p.m. on Fridays so everyone - but mostly farm families - could shop, stroll the storefronts, or just visit friends.

On the southern Illinois dairy farm of my youth, my parents loved "going to town" on Friday nights because it was a cheap, tire-them-out method to entertain five children under the age of Sia. "which has led to a significant decline in the

Shopkeepers, however, had to dread seeing us tumble out of our dull green, late-1940s Chevy station wagon and head for their stores, prepared to touch everything from candy jars to BB guns to cowboy boots. You could trace our tornadic path from Schrieber's General Store on Market Street to Mr. Kirsch's Western Auto store on Main Street by following a not-very-high trail of smudged glass, stainless steel, and ting the state of the

and tin. some shippers now "consider it more efficient to ship empty con My mother, who had kept us roped and corralled since the last great Friday night breakout, gladly turned us loose on town as she slowly and most importantly, alone - examined sewing patterns and the "material" each required to make us school shirts, jackets, or dresses.

Most times, my father just "stayed with the car" in hopes of having a quiet conversation with someone other than a cow, kid, or hired man. Failing any, silence served his purpose, too.

The Friday night trips took a wonderful turn when my two older brothers and I began to earn a twice-monthly paycheck for farm work like baling hay and milking cows. The earnings, accrued at 50 cents per hour, were usually combined into one "farm" check to all three. This single-check payout required us to collectively present it to the bank teller the following Friday night for any of us to get a penny.

But, boy, when we did, off we ran - rarely with more than \$10 apiece--to buy BBs, black licorice drops, Levis jeans in any color but blue, or, if particularly flush, a baseball to replace the old one invariably lost in the corn (or wheat or alfalfa or soybean) field the previous week.

As my older brothers got their drivers' licenses we began to go to town on our own. That often meant going to a different, smaller town so as to not have the terminally embarrassing experience of bumping into our parents during any mid-teenage strut.

During one of these prothers only excursions, I made the widily extravagant choice (I still can't believe I was once this radical) to get my first barbershop haircut. I was shocked with how soothing, almost therapeutic, it was compared to my mother's "Stop moving!" cuts.

Then, right before the barber finished, he shaved the back of my tanned, skinny neck with warm shaving cream and a straight razor. It. Was. Life. Changing. And all for \$2. I couldn't find a better way to spend four, sweaty hours of farm wages until I went to college, the backbone (of our food system) as formers, fishers

until I went to college. A couple of whom affe the backbone (of our food system) as farmers, fishers, A couple of years later, my next oldest brother, David, made the ultimate Friday-night move: He bought a used 1963 Ford Fairlane (50 cents an hour can stack up if you only go to town once a week) and he and I often spent Friday evenings meeting girls at the local movie theater or enjoying an in-town hamburger.

My parents never spent one second worrying about their budding Casanovas, though, because just before we'd leave those evenings my father would quietly mention that "One of you is milking with me in the morning."

That always put us home in bed before Dad had finished reading that day's St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Those freedom-filled Friday nights, like David's '63 Fairlane, are long gone. Still, every now and then as I turn out a Friday's last light, I can hear my father say, "One of you is milking with me in the morning," and I nod to acknowledge the chance to earn another dreamy, \$2-haircut.



FOOD & FARM FILE

Alan Guebert

As my older brothers got their drivers' licenses we began to go to town on our own.

ALAN GUEBERT publishes a weekly column Farm and Food File through the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, events and contact information are posted at farmandfoodfile.com. Contact Alan Guebert by email at agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com.

6 I OCTOBER 21, 2021 **THE FARMER'S PRIDE** 270-384-9454

What's the right message about agriculture and food?



TEACH KY AG

Jennifer Elwell

What comes with that, however, is that many people equate local and small with a better way to produce food.

n the early days of my agriculture career, I had a message "playbook" that aligned to my industry's priorities and values. This was something I needed since I was fairly new to commercial agriculture. While I don't think this was a bad thing, I do feel I had a very narrow view of agriculture in Kentucky. I was also quick to defend against ideas and information that were not in alignment with the "playbook."

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to sit on a much higher perch as well as understand and appreciate different perspectives. I want to be sure to acknowledge my experience with the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program, which allowed me to see all sectors of agriculture here at home, our nation. and the world. I was also fortunate enough to be involved in several nationwide initiatives that worked to help farmers and agribusiness folks better tell their story. This accumulated experience encouraged me to find a way to serve all of Kentucky agriculture.

One of the first things I did on the job was to create a new set of messaging guidelines or "Guiding Principles" that could describe all farmers, regardless of what they produce and the methods they use:

- 1. Kentucky farmers make product and marketing decisions based on their environment, available resources, economics, and values.
- 2. Sustainability occurs with a unique balance of environmental, economic, and human factors. What is sustainable for one farm may not be sustainable for another.
- 3. Modern agriculture combines scientifically-proven technologies and methods that reduce environmental impact, improve food safety, and increase production with fewer resources.
- 4. Farmers carefully consider cost of doing business, production risks, environmental risks, food safety risks, animal comfort, and customer needs. Customer needs, however, may not always be what is in the best interest of the farm, livestock, or product quality.

I believed this would make my job of educating about agriculture so much easier, but at each program and speaking event, I am reminded that most people have a very romanticized view of farming, farms should not be businesses governed by rules of economy, and commercial or "big" agriculture is misunderstood and often feared. Following an event, I often call a colleague or friend to vent and brainstorm about a better method to foster awareness, and then I crank out the next "game" to help students and consumers catch a glimpse of farming reality. I've got several in my idea notebook.

I remember having an interesting Facebook discussion about meat at the grocery store where I was trying to explain the production cycle of beef cattle and

the fact that cattle are not born into cramped feedlots and force fed corn their entire lives. I mentioned that many of our Kentucky cattle may have made their way back to the local store shelves.

"I'm not talking about Kentucky Proud cattle," was the response, and it made me understand that we do a great job marketing the "local" message. What comes with that, however, is that many people equate local and small with a better way to produce food. I have come to learn that farm size is not an indicator of food safety or quality, but I can also argue that there are particular advantages to both small and large farms.

I am concerned for the operations that find themselves in the middle. I've been seeing it across many industries, especially stores and restaurants. Either cater to the wealthy with premium, specialty items, or feed the masses with the lowest priced goods. Small businesses are most likely going to go with the first route. The larger businesses will do both. Those pedaling mid-priced goods are struggling.

Food marketing is an interesting beast. The more I take students through our Food for Thought marketing and food decisions activity, which is part of the EngAGe Kentucky program sponsored by the Kentucky Livestock Coalition, I remind myself that businesses will find any advantage and market to a defined audience. Can you blame them?

The good news is that we all need to eat. What we choose to eat will continue to be quite varied and from different sources. Therefore, the right message is we need ALL the farmers.

JENNIFER ELWELL is executive director of the Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom, Inc. and CEO of Farm Scholar, LLC. She can be reached at 502-921-2625 or jennifer@teachkyag.org.

ONE VOICE: What to do next

FROM PAGE 5

thing successful, whether it's a non-profit effort or a successful business. I attended a leadership conference this past weekend and heard several stories from people who have defied odds and who have an inspiring story to share.

One of those stories came from Jamie Kern Lima, the founder of IT Cosmetics. She and her husband quit their jobs and invested everything they had into a cosmetic company designed for real women. She suffered skin problems and set out to find solutions for people like herself. She didn't push the "perfect model" image but used real women with real skin problems for her promotions. She also ran into one rejection after another and almost went bankrupt.

She told how a potential investor told her that he loved her products but didn't think people would buy them from a woman with her body type and her weight. While she was devastated, she also said she had a "knowing" inside her that she was doing what she was called to do.

Years later, she sold that cosmetic company for \$1.2 billion.

A lot of people are going through challenges right now, and some might think it's time to quit and move on. Maybe it is. The roles we have in life come in seasons, and it's important that we know that our purpose today may not be the same purpose we had in the past. It's all about the "knowing."

I think Miss Kentucky Haley B. Wheeler had a knowing, and I'm confident that something she

accomplishes this year will make a major impact on someone's life. I don't think we get that "knowing" for ourselves; it's really about being who we are supposed to be so that we can contribute to this world and to others while we are here.

As the conference this weekend ended, my pastor commented that we really only take away from events like this what we give ourselves time to digest. I know that to be true.

It's important that we take that time to be quiet, to listen, to hear that voice, so we know how long to stay where we are and where we go next. If you have that "knowing," it doesn't matter what comes against you because you will know you are where you should be.

SHARON BURTON is editor of The Farmer's Pride.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Letters must include the author's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters should be no longer than 500 words and will be edited for clarity.

Send letters to: Letter to the Editor The Farmer's Pride P.O. Box 159 Columbia, Ky. 42728

USDA introduces new insurance policy for farmers who sell locally

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is rolling out a new insurance option specifically for agricultural producers with small farms who sell locally. The new Micro Farm policy simplifies record keeping and covers post-production costs like washing and value-add-

USDA's Risk Management Agency created this new policy based on research directed by the 2018 Farm Bill, and it includes feedback from producers who grow for their local communities. The policy will be available beginning with the 2022 crop year.

"We are excited to offer this new coverage for producers who work to provide their communities with fresh and healthy food," said RMA Acting Administrator Richard Flournoy. "USDA is focused on supporting local and regional food systems, and this new crop insurance policy is designed with this important sector of agriculture in mind."

The new policy is offered through Whole-Farm Revenue Protection and it has distinct provisions that can provide more access to the program, including:

• No expense or individual commodity reporting needed, simplifying the recordkeeping requirements for producers

• Revenue from post-production costs, such as washing and packaging commodities and value-added products, are considered allowable revenue

The Micro Farm policy is available to producers who have a farm operation that earns an average allowable revenue of \$100,000 or less, or for carryover insureds, an average allowable revenue of\$125,000 or less. RMA's research showed that 85% of producers who sell locally reported they made less than \$75,000 in gross sales.

The Micro Farm policy builds on other RMA efforts to better serve specialty and organic crop growers. This includes WFRP, which provides coverage for producers with larger operations that may not be eligible for Micro Farm. RMA recently made improvements to WFRP as part of a broader set of new policies and expanded policies to assist specialty crop and organic producers.

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation approved the Micro Farm policy in late September, and additional details will be provided later this fall.

More Information Crop insurance is sold and deliv-

ered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and on line at the RMA Agent Locator. Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at rma.usda.gov.

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Sautéed Pork Tenderloin Medallions with Lemon-Garlic Sauce

1/4 tsp. salt, divided 1/4 tsp. plus 1/8 tsp. black pepper

2 tsp. olive oil, divided 2 cloves garlic, minced

1 pork tenderloin, (1 lb.), trimmed 1/2 cup dry white wine (or low-sodium chicken broth) 1/2 cup chicken broth, low-sodium Grated zest and 1 tbs. lemon juice 1 tbs. fresh parsley, chopped, OR 11/2 tsp. chopped fresh sage or rosemary*

Cut pork into 12 slices, about 1-inch thick. Sprinkle pork on all sides with 1/6 tsp. of the salt and 1/4 tsp. of the pepper. Heat 1 tsp. of the oil in a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add the pork and cook, turning once, until the pork is well browned and internal temperature reaches 145° F, about 11/2 min. on each side. Transfer pork to serving platter and cover to keep warm.

Add the remaining 1 tsp. oil to skillet. Add garlic and cook, stirring constantly, until garlic is fragrant, about 30 sec. Add the wine and broth. Increase heat to high and cook, stirring to scrape up the browned bits from the bottom of the skillet, until the liquid is reduced by two thirds, about 5

Remove the skillet from the heat and stir in the remaining 1/6 tsp. salt, remaining 1/s tsp. pepper, the lemon zest and juice, and the parsley. Serve the pork medallions drizzled with the sauce (makes a generous 1/1 cup; about 11/2 tbs. per serving).

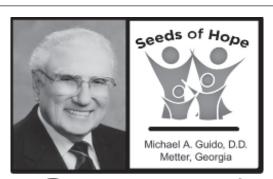
To substitute fresh herbs with dried herbs, use 1 1/2 tsp. dried parsley or 3/4 tsp. dried sage, or 3/4 tsp. dried resemary. Makes 4 servings.



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THE FARMER'S PRID



Crowns and Compassion

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Not really. It means that when we became His children, He crowned us with His loyal, never-ending, steadfast love. We are His now, and we will be His forever throughout eternity, and nothing will ever separate us from Him or His love

In his letter to Timothy, Paul wrote that "If we die with Him, we will also live with Him, and if we endure hardship, we will also reign with Him."

Although we may suffer great hardships in this life, God assures us that someday we will live eternally with Him. So, it's worth it even though we may - at times - doubt it. And when we live in Christ's Kingdom, we will share His eternal reign with Him.

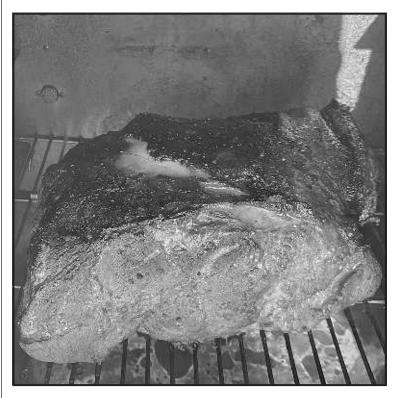
There may be times when our suffering may cause us to doubt God's love. When these doubts arise, we must never forget that we have been crowned with His love and compassion. "Our present sufferings," said Paul, "are not worth comparing with the incredible glory that will be revealed in us." The assurance of His love gives us hope.

Once crowned with His love and compassion, we need to remember that we will, as Paul also said, "see the incredible wealth of His grace and kindness." When we are crowned by God Himself, what more can we ask?

Scripture For Today: And crowns you with love and compassion. Psalm 103:4b

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Smoked Pork Butt



3 cup brown sugar substitute (such as Sukrin® Gold) tablespoons applewood rub seasoning (such as

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2 tablespoons onion powder

2 tablespoons smoked paprika

1 tablespoon garlic powder

1 tablespoon salt

1 tablespoon ground black pepper

8 pounds boneless pork butt

2 (12 fluid ounce) cans or bottles stout beer, divided

2 (12 fluid ounce) bottles hard apple cider, divided

Combine brown sugar substitute, applewood rub, onion powder, smoked paprika, garlic powder, salt, and pepper in a bowl for seasoning.

Trim pork butt, but leave a layer of fat on one side. Rub entire pork butt with 1/2 cup of seasoning blend. Cover with plastic wrap and let sit in the refrigerator for 3 days. Set aside remaining seasoning blend for another use.

Preheat smoker to 230 degrees F (110 degrees C). Place your favorite wood chips or pellets into the smoker.

Place pork butt onto the middle rack, with the fat side facing up. Pour 12 ounces of stout and 12 ounces of cider into a drip pan.

Smoke pork for 4 hours. Add remaining stout

and cider to the drip pan and add more wood chips or pellets. Continue to smoke for 3 hours more. Remove the drip pan, pour drippings into a bowl, and reserve.

Continue to smoke the pork until a meat thermometer reaches 196 degrees F (91 degrees C), 1 to 3 hours more. Let rest for 1 hour.

Pull the pork with 2 forks. Pour as much of the reserved drippings over the pulled pork as you prefer. Serve.

Honey Garlic Pork Chops

5 (1-inch thick) boneless pork chops

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

1 teaspoon garlic powder

1 tablespoon olive oil

Glaze:

1 cup honey

½ cup brown sugar

1/4 cup soy sauce

2 teaspoons chopped garlic 2 tablespoons butter

1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

1 dash cayenne pepper, or to taste

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Season pork chops with salt, pepper, and garlic powder. Heat olive oil in a skillet over medium heat. Brown pork chops 3 to 4 minutes per side. Transfer to the prepared baking dish.

Whisk honey, brown sugar, soy sauce, garlic, and butter together in a bowl and pour over the pork chops in the baking dish.

Bake in the preheated oven for 25 minutes. Remove from oven and let pork chops sit in the baking dish 5 minutes more to soak up juices.

Serve pork chops topped with extra sauce.



Recipes courtesy of allrecipes.com

Commissioner praises contributions of female farmers



Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Ryan Quarles spoke at the annual Kentucky Women in Agriculture conference in Lexington Monday, a day before the state officially celebrated 'Kentucky Women in Agriculture Day.'

Recognizing the importance of women in Kentucky's farming sector, Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Ryan Quarles spoke at the Kentucky Women in Agriculture annual conference in Lexington, a day before the state officially celebrated "Kentucky Women in Agriculture Day," on Tuesday.

"Any time women find a seat at the table in any profession, it's a win," Commissioner Quarles said. "That follows true in agriculture, as well. Recent survey data has shown women make up nearly 40 percent of our producers. I was happy to join Kentucky Women in Ag today to help celebrate the contribution our female producers have to our farm economy."

KWIA's membership is comprised of women who own and operate farms and agribusinesses, as well as agriculture entrepreneurs, state and federal per-

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sonnel, ag educators and students, and consumers. The annual conference provides attendees with the

opportunity to network and nurture a recognized agriculture and agribusiness community. By empowering women through education, involvement, and action, KWIA has a positive influence on Kentucky agriculture.

That influence is important, as the number of female farmers in Kentucky keeps growing. In 2017, 42,946 women farmed in Kentucky, up 36.7 percent from the number identified in the previous 2012 U.S. Department of Agriculture census. Of those, 33,550 were involved in making day-to-day decisions on the farm, 26,215 were the principal producers on their farms, and 12,648 listed farming as their primary occupation, the census found.

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land – whether rural or urban – growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. USDA will start collecting information for the next census in 2022.

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KADB approves more than \$2.8 million for projects

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved \$2,829,845 for agricultural diversification and rural development projects across the commonwealth at its monthly board meeting.

State and County Funded Proj-

City of LaGrange was approved for \$245,000 in state funds and \$5,000 in Oldham County funds for the construction of a farmers' market pavilion to provide a permanent structure for local farmers' markets. For more information on the project contact, Russ Morris at wvrussnky@live.com.

Hancock County Cattleman's Association was approved for \$5,000 in Hancock County funds for a Hancock County Youth Agriculture Production cost-share program. For more information on the project contact, Evan Tate at evan.tate@uky.edu.

Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development was approved for \$900,000 in state funds over a two-year period to deliver technical assistance and provide educational opportunities to agricultural and rural businesses. For more information on the project contact, Aleta Botts at

abotts@kcard.info.

Kentucky State University was approved for \$990,000 in state funds for the continuation of the KSU Mini Grant Program, which provides assistance and mini grants to small-scale and underserved farmers statewide in the areas of aquaculture, value-added products, organics, food insecurity, farmer educational support, and agroforestry. For more information on the project contact, Joni Nelson at joni. nelson@kvsu.edu.

Meat Processing Investment Program (MPIP)

MPIP provides funding for meat processors who are currently or plan to become USDA certified to financially incentivize economical expansion of businesses to process Kentucky meat products.

One MPIP Level 2 grant was approved by the board totaling \$30,426: Goldy's Meats in Crittenden County.

One MPIP Level 3 grant was approved by the board totaling \$238,599: Burnett's Enterprise in Graves County.

On-Farm Energy Efficiency Incentives Program

The On-Farm Energy Efficiency

Incentives Program provides incentives for Kentucky farm families to increase the energy efficiency of existing equipment or facilities on the farm.

Eight On-Farm Energy grants were approved by the board totaling \$66,070:

Hickman (\$10,150) LaRue (\$10,150)

Madison (\$10,150)

Marion (\$2,520)

McLean (\$10,150)

Ohio (\$10,150) Rockcastle (\$2,650)

Webster (\$10,150)

County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP)

CAIP provides Kentucky agricultural producers with cost-share assistance on practices to allow them to improve and diversify their current farm operations. CAIP covers a wide variety of agricultural enterprises in its 11 investment areas, including, but not limited to bees and honey, equine, forage, beef and dairy cattle, goats and sheep, horticulture, poultry, swine, timber and technology, as well as energy efficiency and production; farm infrastructure and water enhancement, marketing, and value-added production.

Three CAIP were approved by the board totaling \$298,000:

Adair (\$45,000)*

Johnson (\$3,000)* Woodford (\$250,000)

Next Generation Farmer Program (NextGen)

for a specialized program that would benefit producers ages 18 to 40 that have been engaged in an agricultural operation for a minimum of three

NextGen addresses the growing need

One NextGen Program was approved by the board totaling \$36,000: Woodford (\$36,000)

Youth Agricultural Incentives Program (YAIP)

YAIP encourages youth to engage in and explore agricultural opportunities.

Two YAIP programs were approved by the board totaling \$15,750:

Adair (\$5,500)*

Shelby (\$10,250)

All application periods and deadlines for CAIP, NextGen and Youth and leasing information for Shared-Use programs will be advertised locally.

*Existing programs receiving additional funding.



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UK centers train community members to recognize signs of mental distress

FROM PAGE 2

who really cared about farmers' mental health. We wanted to find ways to break down the boundaries that farmers can put up."

Alethea Bruzek, UK Cooperative Extension Service agent, was among the UK and Kentucky State University extension agents and faculty members initially trained in QPR. Since being trained, she has trained others.

"I have a unique opportunity to reach farm families through my work in extension," said Bruzek, Boyle County family and consumer sciences extension agent. "This training gave me the tools that I need to start a conversation with someone in my local farming community, who may be struggling. It was a great chance for me to try to help."

The centers received additional support from the 2020-2021 Kentucky Legislature through an effort championed by Kentucky Rep. Brandon Reed. The legislature's allocation provided funding for 40 more QPR trainers to train an additional 300 Kentuckians in the Kentucky Rural Mental Health and Suicide Prevention pilot program. The second cohort of participants are located in counties with high needs for these services. They live in areas with high rates of morbidity and mortality and a large number of farms.

"It is extremely rare to have support from a state legislature to address rural mental health, and we are so appreciative that our legislators have made this issue a priority," Mazur said.

The centers are also studying the effectiveness of the trainings. In the first group of participants, UK researchers surveyed them three days before and one month after the training.

"Our findings show that the training had a statistically significant impact

upon trainees. After the training, participants were twice as willing to intervene with someone who needs help," said Carolyn Oldham, director of continuing education for the Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center. "In our first group of trainers, two had actually intervened with a producer within the first month after learning QPR."

The second cohort of participants is in the midst of training. Researchers will survey this group at one month, six months and one year after they complete the program.

The researchers are also working with the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center to upgrade the state's suicide hotline so when a Kentuckian calls it, a fellow Kentuckian answers the phone. Callers to the Kentucky hotline are also asked if they are a farmer or member of a farm family, which will allow researchers to track mental health issues in rural communities.

The Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention and the Central Appalachian Regional Research and Education Center are funded by the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety and directed by Wayne Sanderson, a professor in the UK Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering.

Plans are underway for the project to build on the Kentucky model and extend and expand their agricultural community-based QPR train-the-trainer model to other Southeastern states the center serves.

The center also developed a video that highlights the importance of suicide prevention education and features some participants from the first co-hort. It is available online at drive. google.com/file/d/1cXcmtfN3C6x-J3mapD3xPq-nHGN1B6_nn/view.



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Thinking about high fertilizer prices



Fertilizer prices have gone crazy. This increase hits forage producers disproportionately hard, in my opinion, because they don't get to sell all of the product that is grown when they fertilize. Not all pasture is grazed and not all hay gets sold. I have been thinking about this issue, and have had several questions as well. If there is an original approach to the challenge of high fertilizer prices, it is this: Get the benefits from applying fertilizer without applying fertilizer. Bear with me - there are some things that are cheaper than fertilizer that can get more forage out of your fields. But in many cases, fertilizer is just necessary.

Get a current soil test. A soil test costs less than \$10 and is even free in many places. Knowing the current pH and phosphorus and potassium status has never been so important. A soil test allows you to target fertilizer applications to fields that have the potential to

respond. If the phosphorus or potassium soil test level for a given nutrient is in the low range, then the probability of a yield response is high (Table 1). If the phosphorus or potassium soil test level is in the medium or high range, the probability of a yield response diminishes. So, our best advice at this time is that if your soil test value is a solid medium, do NOT apply that phosphorus or potassium fertilizer until prices moderate.

Monitor soil test levels in hayfields closely. Since hay removes much higher quantities of nutrients than grazing, it is important to closely track nutrient levels and apply phosphorus or potassium fertilizer when soil test values drop below the medium range. This will prevent nutrient mining and yield decline.

More on that later.

Control weeds. Every pound of phosphorus or potassium that plants like ironweed or thistle take up is robbed from your forage. Controlling weeds leaves more nutrients for desired forages. Herbicides can often be applied for less than \$20 per acre, and sometimes a lot less.

Lime according to your soil test. Apply all the limestone that is needed as if you were growing clover. Limestone has not had the large run up in price that we have seen with nitrogen, phosphorus or potassium. In many places lime is priced below \$20 per ton, spread. Ok, so technically lime might be considered a fertilizer because it

does supply calcium. More importantly, applying needed lime will get pH into the optimum range for nutrient availability and more importantly, for legumes.

Upgrade your legume game.

Legumes fix atmospheric nitrogen into nitrogen compounds the plants can use, and you don't have to pay extra for it. To be sure, legumes do need a modest amount of phosphorus and potassium, but in return they give you a big bonus, free nitrogen. In order to get the same yields from a grass- clover field as you would with grass plus nitrogen, we know we have to have at least 25 percent clover by weight in the stand – which looks like 75 percent clover visually.

We need to make distinction about what kind of legume needed. For most, this is red clover. We need the high yield of red clover to replace the nitrogen-driven yields of grass that we were depending on. Red clover seed of an improved variety costs around two dollars per pound. Seeding ten pounds of red clover per acre costs about \$20 – a bargain for the 150 pounds of nitrogen

SEE THINKING, PAGE 15

UKY Soil Test Level	Probability of Yield Responset
Very High	0%
High	<25%
Medium +	25 to 50%
Medium	50%
Medium -	50 to 70%
Low	70-90%
Very Low	>90%

†These are estimates and will vary with soil type and environmental conditions.

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Labeling for lab-grown product under review by USDA

FROM PAGE 1

He said consumers should be able to clearly tell between which protein products are "whipped up in a lab and those raised on a family farm."

A 2018 article by "Scientific American" said the meat is made by taking a muscle sample from an animal where stem cells are collected. Those cells are then multiplied "dramatically," to allow them to differentiate into primitive fibers that then bulk up to form muscle tissue. It says one tissue sample from a cow can yield enough tissue to make 80,000 quarter-pounders.

The article also states that "clean meat," as advocates call it, would have to overcome multiple barriers "if it is to be commercially viable," with two of those being cost and taste. The cost of creating one patty from lab-grown meat back in 2013 was more than \$300,000, and said to be "overly dry." Expenses have since dropped, with some institutes offering research grants around the world to help companies reach commercial-level production, in terms of cost.

Advocates of this process say it eliminates the killing of animals for food and reduces environmental costs of meat production, since it involves sustaining only cultured cells and not an entire animal. They argue it can fight climate change

However some experts say that due to the process, lab-grown meat is built on the same foundation as our current food system, and that it's on the way to creating more challenges within that system, perhaps even replicating the ones advocates say it solves. Opponents also say it's disruptive to the understanding of where food comes from, not to mention to the country's farms, and could make our food future worse instead of better.

Friday, Commissioner Quarles re-emphasized that he, and Kentucky farm families, believe in the free market, but "it's incredibly important that we stand up for our industry and for transparency for our consumers."

The USDA says its Food Safety and Inspection Service has already received thousands of comments on the topic of labeling, since the joint jurisdiction was announced between it and the FDA in 2018. But, it says the agency needs specific types of comments and information about using animal cell culture technology.

"We need to make sure that the USDA hears loud and clear from us," Quarles said. "... I hope farmers across the state will join me in advocating for our industry on the federal level as well."

Comments will be open through Dec. 2. To submit a comment, visit <u>regulations.gov</u>, or mail to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

By Bobbie Curd Field reporter

Farm serves as outdoor classroom

FROM PAGE 3

The second thing, he noted, "They work. They understand success is earned, and it's what you do when you don't have to do anything that makes all the difference."

He said people who succeed are also willing to listen and learn, and they "have a can do, very positive attitude."

Mark Haney, KFB president, was also on hand for the event. He thanked the Taylor County chamber for hosting their meeting at Homeplace on Green River.

"Anytime we can get a Chamber to

recognize and spotlight agriculture all across the state of Kentucky, it is extremely important," Haney said.

Haney said farmers spend time beyond production making sure they are up-to-date on the latest technologies and innovations in the industry.

"We also want to teach farming, teach agriculture, teach the way of life in agriculture to our children, but we in the farming world don't have time to do that...We're dependent on projects like this," he said.

By Sharon Burton snburton@farmlandpub.com





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Economic forecast bleak for ag sectors, consumers



Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Ryan Quarles.

Supply chain issues and inflation brought on by the pandemic are causing problems in a variety of Kentucky's economic sectors including agriculture, a legislative committee heard in Frankfort on Oct. 6.

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Ryan Quarles told the Interim Joint Appropriations and Revenue Committee that supply chain issues are at a critical point.

"Our farmers, in the middle of harvest, are just one worn out part, a broken part, away from being shut down for two or three weeks," he said. "It's kind of ironic that a half-million-dollar piece of equipment can be shut down for a \$30 part."

Quarles says this is not just a short-term issue. "We're starting to see increases in input costs going into the spring of 2022, most notably on fertilizer and parts. We have barges that contain the parts that we need, which are not being unloaded, and of course, if you're shipping out, there's a shortage of shipping containers."

While net farm cash receipts from crops are expected to go up this year, Quarles says that's not the whole story. "Our feed costs are going up as well, whenever grain costs go up."

A labor shortage is another big problem for the agriculture industry, according to Quarles. "There are over 10 million jobs available in America right now. It's hard to attract folks in ag to begin with; it's hard work and you can't 'Zoom' it in. You have to show up every day despite the weather conditions, and it's really becoming an issue."

There are other shortages affecting agriculture, Quarles stated. "In the dairy industry, you're seeing various types of containers, because they are having a hard time finding plastic bottles. Our friends in the bourbon industry are having trouble finding glass bottles to put bourbon into right now. There are no shipments of bourbon going to some states because you can't find the glass to bottle it."

Tom Underwood, executive director of the Kentucky Wholesale Distributors Association, said

shortages also exist for a number of products at the wholesale level. As a result, he suggested that anyone shopping for Christmas should do it now, to avoid being shut out.

By Tom Latek

Kentucky Today



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Thinking about high fertilizer prices

FROM PAGE 12

that a good stand of red clover can fix annually. Red clover is also nutritious and its isoflavones directly counteract the vasoconstriction that hurts cattle production. It is often discounted as a hay crop because it is dusty due to the hairs on its stems, but it will be good cattle feed. Obviously, seeding red clover either by frost seeding or interseeding next spring will take some time to get into full production. Focusing on getting and maintaining high levels of red clover in fields for the long term is the best way to reduce dependency on fertilizer nitrogen.

Develop a whole new appreciation for manure. Most of the nutrients livestock consume are cycled

High energy costs and wet weather

have delayed the harvest of what is

expected to be a record corn crop for

a University of Kentucky agricultural

engineer is recommending producers

consider harvesting and mechanically

"Wet weather and higher energy

costs certainly have the potential to

squeeze producers' profits, especial-

ly if additional wet weather further

the average of 5 percent," said Sam

McNeill, agricultural engineer in the

UK College of Agriculture, Food and

high energy prices, most producers

could benefit from heated air drying

The National Agricultural Statistics

Service is projecting Kentucky corn

producers will harvest 268 million

bushels this fall with average yields

make the 2021 crop the largest on

around 185 bushels per acre. If these

production levels are realized, it would

McNeill calculated yields of 150, 200

and 250 bushels per acre by current

their crop by at least five moisture

Environment. "Even with this season's

delays harvest and losses climb above

drying corn still left in the field.

the state. To preserve yield and quality,

back to the soil through manure and urine. Feeding hay on low fertility land and spreading manure captured from a feeding area can be welcome sources of nutrients. Rotational stocking during the growing season will better distribute manure and urine on pasture land.

High fertilizer prices can help you make some bold shifts in your forage program. Strategic fertilization based on soil tests, not letting weeds rob nutrients from your forages, taking advantage of the relatively good prices for limestone, using more legumes and making the most from manure are all good outcomes to a bad situation.

Happy foraging.

Consider drying remaining corn crop

Note: The author wishes to thank Chris Teutsch, John Grove and Edwin

corn prices of \$5 a bushel and pro-

jected harvest losses of 2 percent, 5

percent and 8 percent. He then com-

pared them to the costs associated with

heated air drying the corn by five and

10 moisture points using current ener-

gy prices and average dryer efficiency.

He found that producers can expect

returns from drying the corn at least

five moisture points if they anticipate

er. Gains from drying the crop by five

their harvest losses will be 5% or great-



Seeing a fertilizer truck in a hay field might be a rare sight this fall and winter. High fertilizer prices can drive some bold and beneficial changes in a forage operation.

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farms and farmers selling multiple commodities. including specialty crops to wholesale markets. The policy is also designed to meet the risk management needs of diversified crop or livestock producers including those growing specialty crops and/or selling to local and regional markets, farm identity preserved markets, or direct markets.

points could range from \$6 to \$48 per acre, depending on yield when all costs are considered. "This range of values is anticipated this season, but producers can use their own values to quickly estimate a meaningful comparison for their operation," McNeill said. "The value and satisfaction of knowing the crop is safely out of the field depends on individual operations." McNeill has posted a spreadsheet to the UK Biosystems and Agricultural

By Katie Pratt University of Kentucky

bae/grain-storage-systems.

Engineering website to help producers

determine the best options for their

operation. It is available at uky.edu/

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News from the Kentucky Corn Growers Association and Kentucky Corn Promotion Council

Nitrogen-Use Tool Intended to Help Farmers Curb Rising Input Costs

Tool development that will that help growers reduce input costs has been an investment priority for the Kentucky Corn Promotion Council. This report shares findings that may help.

The University of Kentucky proposed an experiment to examine the interactive effects of cover crop practices and landscape topography on the profit maximizing nitrogen rate for corn. Sam Leuthold, Ole Wendroth, Hanna Poffenbarger, and team wanted to determine how corn yield and reliance on nitrogen inputs vary by landscape position and how this spatial variability is affected by a cover crop.

Using KyCorn funding, they established field trials in the 2019 and 2020 growing seasons at two locations: an on-farm collaboration in Hardin County KY, and the University of Kentucky Spindletop research farm in Fayette County. In the falls of 2018 and 2019, they established three cover crop treatments, a cereal rye monoculture, a cereal rye/crimson clover mixture, and a winter fallow. Following cover crop termination the subsequent spring, four nitrogen rates were applied, which ranged from 0-240 pounds N per acre. Nitrogen was applied as a split application, with 37 pounds applied at planting as a 2X2, and the remainder surface applied at the V5 stage. Once reaching maturity, the corn was harvested, either by hand or using a 2-row plot combine, depending on location.

When analyzing their results, they observed a significant effect of landscape position at all experimental locations, with the depression consistently yielding significantly higher than the slope and the summit. The presence of a cover crop decreased corn yield by about 7 bu/acre averaged across nitrogen rates, landscape positions, and site-years.

When they examined the variability in yields between cover cropped and non-cover cropped plots, they saw somewhat increased variability across landscape positions when the corn followed the rye or mixed cover crop. That variability was further observed when they examined topographic attributes across these fields, such as the slope. Their data from the field trials showed that yield decreased with increasing slope, and this effect was slightly more pronounced following a cover crop. This finding suggests

that a cover crop may increase spatial
variability in corn yield in the short
term. However, over the long term,
cover crop use is expected to conserve
topsoil, which may provide a yield
advantage relative to no cover crop on
sloping land over time.
Three of the four site-years (Hardin

County 2019, 2020, and Fayette 2020) responded to nitrogen and the results are summarized in the table. The yield was lowest on the summit and greatest in the depression, with less obvious differences when adequate nitrogen was applied. Averaged across the three site-years, the nitrogen rate that maximized yield (among the rates applied) was 160 lb N/acre on the summit and 240 lb N/acre on the slope and depression regardless of cover crop presence. The delta yield, a measure of crop response to nitrogen fertilization was similar among treatments, except for the non-cover cropped depression treatment where the delta yield was lower. To see full results, visit kycorn.org/research.

	Summit		Slo	pe	Depression	
	Cover*	No Cover	Cover	No Cover	Cover	No Cover
Yield at 0 N	136	144	143	150	184	200
Yield at Optimum N	194	191	195	202	240	226
Delta Yield	58	47	52	52	56	26
* Averaged across the rye and mixture treatments, which had similar effects on corn yield.						

USDA to Survey Corn Production Costs and Chemical Use

In the next few weeks, a U.S. Department of Agriculture representative may contact you to participate in the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). This survey is a major source of U.S. farm production and economic data that has a direct impact on farm policy. This year the survey will focus on production practices and chemical use for corn producers.

Please help enumerators complete the survey by

providing input on your nutrient and fertilizer use, tillage and pest management practices, and production costs for corn farming. To protect the health and safety of producers, partners, and employees, NASS has suspended in-person interviews. Instead, representatives from USDA will call to schedule a telephone interview.

For more information about ARMS, visit: nass.usda.gov/go/arms.

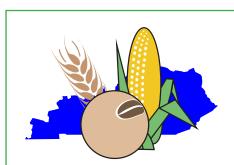


17

2021 Crop Predicted to Smash Production and Yield Records

According to NASS, Kentucky corn production is forecast at **268 million bushels**, which would be a record high if the estimates hold.

Average yield is estimated at a record high **185 bushels per acre**. If the final corn yield is **180 bushels** per acre or more, it will only be the second time that the state average has been at least **180**. Last year's average was **184 bushels** per acre.



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hich can adversely affect each









alth and productivity. The Difference Between Pesticide Free and Organic?

configuration the consecut back oduced with North Replies farming the exactly relieve, but a supilibration of the consecution o stokealthy make notice that some disease that not be following inests, such as spider mites, formstignery enfected the best National Pork Bound (Perundenes, Iowa) and the Kentuckyn Berkitoes, ants, fruit flies and

look, and sound, similar. Specifically, you may have questioned the difference between pesticide-free and organic labeling. Is there a difference between the two? Does one mean more than the other?

To gain some insight into the ន្សាទ្ធប្រើខេត្តប្រសាស្ត្រស្វាស្ត្រសាធាន្ត្រសាធាន្ត្រសាធាន្ត្រសាធាន If something is organic, doesn't and organic, BestFoodFacts.org reached out to Dr. Paul Vincelli. Extension Professor and Provost's Pistinguished Service Professor tradeoffs ex that the product was produced

What does in wear to be akes was while organic growers are pesticide-free? What about a lance sallo experiments of the sallo exper

Dr. Vincelli: "'Pesticide-free' is not a strictly defined term, but it might be used to refer to crops that were not treated with any synthetic (human-made) pesticides. Pesti-GUSLODE CASED AND FOR AND THE MARKETS ES that act to kill pests: insects, weeds, or disease-causing organisms c'Organice commonly housing felsats certified higging hericustre ciff this includes substances that all products certified to have been may be designed to mimic attegory #2 are approved for use Continue reading at National Organic Program (NOP) of the USDA's Agricultural Marketing seramimal welfare. Despite thent, etc.

The NOP is responsible for and individual housing2fortatural pesticides applied to creating national standards for plants. These are perticides organically produced agricultural products. If a product meets their standangerthadipenablese the farmer ample would be copper-based pesticides. Copper is USDA organic seal; however, it should be noted that these regulaseedre working environment as not been created by human nutritional value.

Duin three mannes the BOAK industribes pesticides made from natuorganic standards, a product must contain the follown of kreenies. Org

of And farming of the confidence of the confiden stances

Overseen by a HSDA National Organic Program – authorized certifying agent, following all USDA organic regulations

that mean that it is pesticidefree?

Dr. Vincelli: "No. It means only according to the standards of the commonly committed to using limited to no pestalidad they tan garoup southings plant's tissues allow sowas, which goath penticidal, plants can't run away to escape I recall only one instance in which often do-use pesticides allowed under the NOP standards."

Have you wondered what a pesticide is? According to Dr. Vincelli, there are three categories of sub-

1. Synthetic pesticides. These are pesticides the best by a man ork natural substances. These are applied to the plant in some way: as a spray, a seed treat-

plants. These are pesticides made from natural substances. mined by humans, but the copper-based active ingredient design. Another example would rally occurring bacteria found in the soil. These naturally occur-

Produced Nuclean acida assible. Author paints of that effort ucts are approved for use in organic agriculture. Pesticides one-sizes titegodlachones tor the plant in some way, much like synthetic pesticides.

> Natural, internal pesticides. 3. These are natural chemicals synthesized internally by the living plant to defend itself against pest/disease attack. Plants are figuratively assaulted constantly by microorganisms and insects that want to conthese attacks, they must defend themselves through chemicals. Plants are rather remarkable chemists, and defense against attack is a big reason for this.

"When people say the word, inesticide, they almost always are thinking of category #1, said Dr. by organic producers. Even though they are natural, they are toxic to target pests—and sometimes to non-target organisms also, including humans. But since these substances are natural, many people mistakenly believe that they cannot be pesticides, but they are, because they kill or disrupt pests. A common assumption about natural substances—pesticides or not—is that, since they are natural, they must be safe. It is an easy assumption to make. I often find myself making the same assumption. However, it is an invalid assumption. The world

thaistafeforazzaldeousness Joshkaaith asv some adsectivem at a dosely doe thright lighteintick termind where there are

Is organic food safer to consume than conventionally hrraginged foods — it's up

Dr. Vincelli: "Simple answer: I purchase and eat both conventional foods and organic foods. This is because I am generally impressed with the rigor of the regulatory process for pesticides. Most of the time our federal review and approval of pesticides by EPA is impressive and designed to protect public health while maintaining agricultural productivity. In my 35+ I recall only one instance in which I thought the federal government was not adequately protecting public health through conservative decision-making about a pesticide. That was a recent example. But almost always, our government does an excellent job of vigorously east and the safety of pesticides on

kyfoodandfarm.info/engage.



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Soybeans #1 Y Wheat #2 SRW Barley	11.25 NA	11.58-11.73 6.84	11.63-11.87 NA	11.53 NA	11.53 NA	11.75 NA
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Corn #2 Yellow Corn #2 White	4.97-5.40	5.17-5.23	5.23 5.68-5.73	5.18	5.42	5.33
Soybeans #1 Y Wheat #2 SRW Barley	11.25 6.61	11.58-11.73 NA	11.88 NA	11.53 7.11	11.53 7.01	NA 7.17

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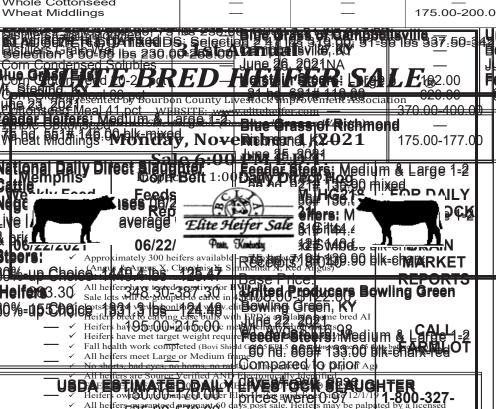
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Special label preserved for Kentucky honey

FROM PAGE 1

by the USDA. It is not regulated, and there are very loose guidelines for labeling."

The A, B, and C grades are all voluntary and self-monitored, which is why all honey is grade A. There are no standards for the different grades, which allows producers to apply their grades. USDA provides no enforcement for the production or labeling of honey.

Moore said honey is the third most adulterated food commodity behind milk and olive oil. Adulterated honey is mixed with impurities. Again, because there is no government regulation, honey can be cut threefourths with other sweeteners, such as rice syrup or high fructose corn syrup and still carry a honey label.

He also noted that compounding the problem is cheap imports from China by way of Vietnam, imports from Brazil and Argentina, mixed with U.S. honey.

It all comes down to consumer demand. The U.S. can't produce enough honey. In 2010 the U.S. imported 50 percent of its honey consumption. Now, it's up to 70% percent.

And, according to KSBA president Tom Ballinger, Kentucky can't produce enough either. Antidotally, he told of how Kentucky honey producers bring in honey from South Dakota, where honey is a byproduct of crop production. Producers there have two large harvests, and their honey is much cheaper. Kentucky producers can triple their investment by adding South Dakota honey.

In 2018 with these concerns, the KSBA received grant funds from the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy to develop a Certified Kentucky Honey program, which Moore monitors.

Producers who want to sell certified Kentucky Honey must first make the application and then be available for third-party verification and random sample testing to ensure the honey is as labeled.

Testing is conducted by a laboratory with tests that will compare pollen samples in the honey to a database of pollen from Kentucky plants, which provide forage for bees. Testing is expensive, but Moore hopes to work with the Bluegrass Community and Technical College, which is in the process of setting up such a laboratory.

Kentucky Certified Honey is still feeling the effects of the pandemic on the marketplace, and certified applications are just now returning to pre-Covid-19 numbers. In the first year of 2019 were nearly 150 certified producers.

Producers who want to be certified do not have to be KSBA members, but an application comes with a KSBA membership. KSBA has a membership of around 500. Moore estimated there are 2400 honey producers in the state.

Moore said that purchasing Kentucky Certified Honey is very important for people who want to know where their food comes from. Honey from out of state or out of the country isn't made from the same plants and won't carry the same pollen as a health benefit.

Ballinger, one of the largest commercial honey producers in the state, said the certification is important to producers and allows them to sell honey at a premium. Ballinger does a great deal of one-on-one promotion of Kentucky Certified Honey and says education is the key to making consumers aware of the importance of buying certified honey.

Ballinger would like to see KSBA develop a marketing campaign to tell consumers what Kentucky Certified Honey means, but funds are currently not available. Until then, he is regularly on the road promoting Kentucky Certified Honey.

Learn more about the Kentucky Beekeepers Association and Kentucky Certified Honey at kybees.org

By Toni Riley Field Reporter





Tim Haley, Principal Broker/Auctioneer

Will Gregory, Principal Auctioneer / REALTOR

51 Sold Lane, Russellville, KY 42276



ATTENTION: DAIRY FARM FAMILIES!

You're invited to attend Your Kentucky Area Dairy Producer Meetings for 2021

The ADA of Kentucky and The Dairy Alliance will cover industry issues, promotional efforts and upcoming events. The ADA of Kentucky will hold elections in *even-numbered districts*. There will be plenty of time for discussion, questions, fellowship and good food! While you are welcome at any Kentucky district meeting, elections will be held in even-numbered districts.

Please RSVP at least one week prior to your meeting.

For more information contact Denise at 270.970.4792

NOTE: Districts have been rearranged and renumbered! Please verify your correct district and meeting place. The NEW District 10 will have two meeting dates/locations to choose from, but you only need to attend one of the meetings.

	For more information contact Deni	se at 270.970.4792	
	DISTRICT AREAS	MEETING DATE, TIME & LOCATION	PLEASE RSVP TO YOUR DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
1	Christian, Todd	Wednesday, October 27 - 7:00 p.m. CST Christian County Extension Office 2850 Pembroke Road, Hopkinsville, KY	Open Seat 270.970.4792 P.O. Box 77, Loretto, KY 40037
2	Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Henderson, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg, Union, Webster	Wednesday, October 27 - 7:00 p.m. CST Christian County Extension Office 2850 Pembroke Road, Hopkinsville, KY	Open Seat 270.970.4792 P.O. Box 77, Loretto, KY 40037
3	Allen, Barren, Butler, Logan, Simpson, Warren	Thursday, November 18 - 7:00 p.m. CST Cave City Convention Center 502 Mammoth Cave Street, Cave City, KY	Tonya Cherry 270.590.4312 1242 South Combs Lane, Fountain Run, KY 42133
4	Breckenridge, Bullitt, Daviess, Edmonson, Grayson, Hancock, Hardin, Hart, Jefferson, LaRue, McLean, Meade, Ohio	Thursday, November 18 - 7:00 p.m. CST Cave City Convention Center 502 Mammoth Cave Street, Cave City, KY	Hope Reynolds 270.528.6188 1018 Bales Road, Magnolia, KY 42757
5	Casey, Green, Taylor	Thursday, November 4 - 7:00 p.m. EST Taylor County Extension Office 1143 South Columbia Avenue, Campbellsville, KY	Jeff Deener 270.789.9019 139 Sanders Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718
6	Boyle, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Madison, Marion, Mercer, Nelson, Spencer, Washington, Woodford	Tuesday, November 9 - 7:00 p.m. EST Marion County Extension Office 415 Fairgrounds Rd, Lebanon, KY	Kim Jones 270.402.1383 3310 Highway 52, Loretto, KY 40037
7	Cumberland, Metcalfe, Monroe	Thursday, November 18 - 7:00 p.m. CST Cave City Convention Center 502 Mammoth Cave Street, Cave City, KY	Dale Fudge 270.407.1173 163 Fudge Street, Gamaliel, KY 42140
8	Adair, Russell	Thursday, November 11 - 7:00 p.m. CST Adair County Extension Office 409 Fairgrounds Street, Columbia, KY	Billy Rowe 270.634.0334 499 Norman Grant Road, Columbia, KY 42728
9	Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Clinton, Estill, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, Magoffin, McCreary, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Wayne, Whitley, Wolfe	Monday, November 8 - 6:30 p.m. EST Marcella's Farm to Fork - <i>Please park in the lot behind restaurant</i> 216 Cedar Rapids Road, Mount Vernon, KY	Ronnie Patton 606.309.5138 5049 Highway 490, East Bernstadt, KY 40729
10	Anderson, Bath, Boone, Bourbon, Boyd, Bracken, Campbell, Carroll, Carter, Clark, Elliott, Fleming, Franklin, Gallatin, Grant, Greenup, Harrison, Henry, Johnson, Kenton, Lawrence, Lewis, Martin, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Oldham, Owen, Pendleton, Robertson, Rowan, Scott, Shelby, Trimble	Tuesday, November 2 - 7:30 p.m. EST Shelby County Extension Office 1117 Frankfort Road, Shelbyville, KY Friday, November 5 - 6:30 p.m. EST Blue Licks State Park 10299 Maysville Road, Carlisle, KY	Judy White 502.321.0903 2550 Pea Ridge Road, Waddy, KY 40076
11 - IN	Clark, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Green, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Lawrence, Martin, Orange, Perry, Pike, Posey, Scott, Spencer, Sullivan, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Warren, Warrick, Washington	Wednesday, November 3 - 6:30 p.m. CST RZ's Cafe 104 North Main Street, Ft. Branch, IN	Kelly Obert 812.779.8531 7826 S 550 E, Fort Branch, IN 47648