

Prolonged fall drought adds financial pressures to stressful year for beef producers



Photo courtesy of Matt Barton UK CAFE Agriculture Communications.

Fall pastures suffered from drought conditions across the state causing beef producers to use stored hay earlier than expected.

While certain areas across the state suffered from limited rain during the summer, most had drought conditions all fall.

"While fall 2022 data isn't tabulated, it likely will be a Kentucky 'top ten' driest looking at rain-fall data since 1895," said University of Kentucky Extension Meteorologist Matt Dixon.

Dixon pointed out that portions of the Purchase area of western Kentucky experienced extreme drought in late October and early November. This area of the state is a major production area for second-crop soybeans.

Joe Goggin, president of the Boyle County Cattleman's Association, said that Boyle County was hit hard by the late summer drought. Goggin, who partners with his son Logan in a back-grounding operation, said he had to start feeding hay in late September. He added that late spring and early summer rains were limited but did come at the right time for the area corn crop and did "green up" the pastures.

Goggin pointed out that beef producers already felt the profit pinch in spring when fertilizer prices skyrocketed. Now, feed costs are substantially more.

Goggin said producers who usually feed grain were now feeding hay, which seemed to be plentiful in the area. He said producers were looking to nutritionists to find alternate feed sources.

One alternate feed source Goggin noted is a distillery byproduct commonly known as stillage, and its use was on the rise. But Goggin said it was critical to work with a nutritionist when feeding stillage.

Dr. David Williams, of Burkmann Nutrition, agreed that the use of stillage is increasing. Williams was also very cautionary about beef producers using stillage without putting pencil to paper and doing the math and, as Goggin cautioned, working out the ration.

SEE **PROLONGED**, PAGE 2

STATE NEEDS VETS TO GO LARGE

Shortage in large-animal vets results in working group created by commissioner

Industry representatives gathered last month to continue figuring out how to tackle the large-animal veterinarian shortage. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture says this is a nationwide shortage, but the picture is even bleaker here, with more than 1 million head of cattle in the state and only 3 percent of vets dedicated to large animal practices.

"A lot of factors play in this problem, but it really comes down to the financial sides, although there's a lot of different components," said Keith Rogers, KDA chief of staff.

Rogers said there's been a shortage of vets period, but it's become more and more obvious across the board in recent months. He's talked to many farmers who can't find a large animal vet within three counties of where they live.

The Nov. 14 meeting at the Kentucky Exposition Center was actually the second one held bringing together ag producers, vets and ag-animal industry representatives to refine and develop plans to address that shortage.

"The first one was held in June; that was the starting point in all of this — and it has taken on a life of its own," Rogers said.

He said for example, a state vet position is vacant.

"We just created a field vet position ... interviewed three candidates and have still not been able to fill it. The demand is much greater than the supply."

The shortage is forcing salaries up for those types of vets, Rogers added. "And with our budgetary constraints and salary structures, we've not been able to secure anyone for what we can pay."

The average salary for a first-year small animal vet is around \$96,000, while an equine vet will make around \$58,000, according to the KDA. But the average debt for a graduating vet is around \$218,000, equating to about a \$3,000-per-month repayment on a 10-year loan.

Large vets also experience longer, more strenuous work hours than small-animal vets, along with unpredictable schedules out in the field. KDA says that almost 40 percent of large animal vets in the state are within 10 years of retirement, and they're not seeing new vets taking their place.

Rogers said right now, vacancies for large animal vets are what they're seeing in departments of agriculture across the country. But this shortage has been on the radar of cattlemen, he said, and farm bureaus for more than a decade.

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Prolonged fall drought adds financial pressures to stressful year for beef producers

FROM PAGE 1

According to Williams, the significant drought effect their clients experienced meant feeding stored hay in October because of depleted pastures, which is very unusual.

Williams said beef producers must be aware of the lingering effects of hay quality during winter feeding. He noted that hay harvested this fall would be higher in fiber and lower in digestibility than spring-harvested hay. This high-fiber hay will have decreased calories per pound, and fall-calved cows will need more calorie intake. Producers may see a reduced performance in cattle throughout the winter if they depend on drought-stricken hay, which could lead to rebreeding issues in the spring.

Williams said beef producers should forage test, which is easy to obtain through University of Kentucky Extension offices. Again referring to increased corn and soybean prices, correctly balancing a beef ration with forage can save producers money. Williams referred to the Beef Forage Supplement Tool as essential. He said

the tool provides meaningful data and assesses what supplementation is needed for adequate nutrition through the winter.

With increased feed costs, Williams said pregnancy testing cows is also vital, making sure each cow is “carrying her weight” and open cows are culled or put on a maintenance ration.

Cattle are eating drought-stricken pastures down to the ground and ingesting soil, which is another concern for producers, Williams said. Soil consumption can lead to increased parasite problems because cattle consume parasite eggs. Cattle can consume soil-borne clostridium bacteria and the disease blackleg. Williams said beef producers have experienced sudden deaths of mature cows grazing drought-stricken pastures, and that can be attributed to blackleg.

If increased feed costs, increased equipment costs, and decreased pastures leading to earlier hay feeding weren't enough problems for beef producers, both Goggin and Dixon discussed reduced groundwater levels.

“Ponds are tremendously low and are essential water sources for beef producers,” Goggin pointed out.

Dixon agreed.

“We've also seen signs of hydrological drought with farm ponds, streams, and even the major rivers seeing levels diminish,” he said. But Dixon was optimistic about levels rising with regular rains starting in late November and continuing into December.

What have all these additional profit pressures done to cattle numbers? Goggin, a loan officer for Central Kentucky Ag Credit, says at this point, he hasn't seen large sell-offs, and while Kentucky cattle numbers are down, that's just following the national trend. David Williams agreed that Burkman had not witnessed cattle liquidation from their customers.

University of Kentucky Agriculture Economist Dr. Kenny Burdine said producers are responding to the pressure, however.

“Pre-drought high input costs and drought in areas of high cattle numbers, coupled with high cull cow prices, pro-

vided a perfect storm for increased cull cow sales,” he said.

As of the first of November, 12 percent more cull cows, or 400,000 nationally, have been harvested, Burdine said. There are no USDA numbers state by state until January, but he expects Kentucky to be on track with the national numbers.

But on the positive side, Burdine noted that supply fundamentals for the next few years look very good with the decrease in cow numbers. He said that the U.S. beef cattle herd supply would have much tighter, smaller cow herds producing fewer calf numbers, but prices should be good.

While beef prices should be upward in the next few years, Kentucky beef producers must be experts in tracking costs, efficiently balancing rations, and making educated management decisions to see profit margins increase.

(Additional information about stillage use will be published in the Jan. 5, 2023 edition of the Pride.)

By Toni Riley
Field Reporter

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MARKET REPORT: WEEK OF Dec. 5, 2022

Farmers Regional Livestock Market of Glasgow, LLC

Compared to last week: Feeder steers sold steady to 5.00 higher on a light test. Feeder bulls sold 3.00 to 5.00 higher. Feeder heifers sold unevenly steady. Slaughter cows and bulls sold 3.00 to 5.00 lower. Supply included: 61% Feeder Cattle (18% Steers, 1% Dairy Steers, 43% Heifers, 38% Bulls); 17% Slaughter Cattle (1% Steers, 87% Cows, 12% Bulls); 23% Replacement Cattle (1% Stock Cows, 75% Bred Cows, 10% Bred Heifers, 9% Cow-Calf Pairs, 5% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 20%.

FEEDER CATTLE:

Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 12 Head 443# 171.50; 1 Head 470# 191.00; 9 Head 532# 164.00; 3 Head 532# 181.50; 2 Head 593# 160.00; 1 Head 615# 161.00; 25 Head 650-674# 145.00-160.00; 1 Head 735# 130.00; 12 Head 758-785# 143.00-153.00; 3 Head 827# 152.00; 2 Head 868# 147.00; 1 Head 915# 134.00; 3 Head 967# 148.00; 3 Head 1020# 141.00; 1 Head 1095# 131.00. Medium and Large 2-3: 9 Head 456-471# 140.00-153.00; 3 Head 505# 140.00; 2 Head 595# 130.00; **Dairy Steers:** 3 Head 350-390# 116.00-121.00; 4 Head 473# 123.00. **Heifers:** Medium and Large 1-2: 2 Head 205# 166.00-171.00; 2 Head 312# 143.00; 46 Head 351-375# 146.00-151.50; 2 Head 435# 140.00; 51 Head 458-478# 140.00-147.50; 64 Head 521-548# 130.00-140; 21 Head 555-579# 138.00-143.00; 12 Head 602-648# 126.00-140.00; 5 Head 675# 123.00-126.50; 5 Head 745# 122.50; 3 Head 770# 121.50-133.00; 1 Head 800# 122.50. Medium and Large 2-3: 14 Head 467# 130.00. **Bulls:** Medium and Large 1-2: 2 Head 215-230# 187.00-195.50; 14 Head 270-284# 170.50-172.00; 1 Head 335# 158.00; 30 Head 353-362# 160.00-173.00; 29 Head 448# 165.50; 24 Head 522# 153.00; 35 Head 581-585# 132.00-143.00; 18 Head 652-677# 128.00-142.00; 13 Head 728-747# 124.50-128.50. Medium and Large 2-3: 4 Head 445# 144.00; 7 Head 460# 145.00; 10 Head 519# 137.00; 13 Head 565# 128.50.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE:

Steers: 1 Head 1280# 120.00 Cows: Breaker 75-80%: 13 Head 1415-1696# 61.50-68.50; 16 Head 1185-1805# 70.50-79.00. Boner 80-85%: 37 Head 1010-1365 62.00-72.50; 13 Head 1055-1390# 73.00-80.50; 9 Head 1090-1335# 57.00-61.00. Lean 85-90%: 14 Head 870-1215# 57.00-64.00; 8 Head 875-1010# 65.00-68.50; 12 Head 720-1140# 47.00-56.00; 2 Head 630-820# 35.50-44.00. Bulls 1-2: 7 Head 1470-1980# 90.00-99.00; 3 Head 1805-2150# 102.00-105.00; 7 Head 1355-2020# 81.00-89.00.

For a full listing visit: <https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2198>

Kentucky ag economists predict record-high 2022 cash receipts

Kentucky farmers have been on a wild ride throughout 2022. Spiraling inflation, major weather events, supply chain and trade disruptions, soaring input prices, labor issues and other factors offered challenges to the state's agriculture sector. Add to that the war between two major global markets, Russia and Ukraine, generated significant impacts on commodity prices, ag trade flow and availability of farm inputs and global food supplies.

During the Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual meeting, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment economists shared their predictions for the state's agriculture and forest economies. Despite significant challenges, the economists predicted the state's 2022 agricultural receipts will approach a record-high \$8 billion, well surpassing the 2021 record-high of \$6.9 billion.

"Adjusted for inflation, our 2022 estimate, if achieved, will be 19% higher than the inflation-adjusted average over the previous 10 years," said Will Snell, UK agricultural economist. "Even with record increases in input expenses and considerably lower government payments, the U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts farm income will be higher in 2022."

Mother Nature dealt harsh blows to Kentucky farmers in 2022.

"Extensive periods of excessive rain early in the growing season, followed by drought conditions during the critical growing periods, led to lower crop yields and a poor curing season for tobacco," Snell said.

The December 2021 tornado in Western Kentucky and the devastating July flooding in Eastern Kentucky destroyed agriculture infrastructure in both regions and likely affected farm income and marketing.

"While Kentucky benefitted from relatively high national commodity prices, low levels on the Mississippi River adversely impacted local grain prices during harvest season due to limited grain flow. Additionally, domestic and export markets induced a significant grain carryover into 2023," Snell said. "Despite all those challenges, the Kentucky agricultural economy remained strong overall."

Snell anticipates that Kentucky farm-level prices will more than offset the lower yields for most Kentucky agricultural enterprises.

Even with challenges from the tornado and avian influenza, economists expect poultry to regain the top spot in Kentucky agriculture with a 20%-market share of receipts. The list continues with soybeans and corn, both with 18%, equine with 16% and cattle at 13%.

"While broiler production was down in Kentucky, wholesale broiler prices were up over 40%, year-over-year, mainly driven by record high wholesale breast meat prices," said Jordan Shockley, UK agricultural economist. "High prices more than made up for the decrease in overall production, leading to poultry regaining the top spot in Kentucky agriculture."

Equine markets continued to show strength during 2022, as annual Keeneland sales were 12% higher than 2021. Pursues continue to grow and this continues to support sale values and stud feeds.

UK agricultural economist Kenny Burdine said cat-

tle prices were higher in 2022 for heavy feeders and calves, but increased production costs eroded most of that price improvement.

"Elevated feed prices continue to incentivize placement of heavier cattle into feeding programs, which

has increased the value of gain for Kentucky producers and encouraged adding more pounds before sale," he said.

By Aimee Nielson
University of Kentucky



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He's making a list, he's checking it twice...he's gonna find out who's naughty or nice..." We all know the tune to the classic Christmas carol. We sing it over and over again until it's just embedded into our brains.

Well folks, I hope that's how you will start feeling about me and my message about estate planning. It's much more important than finding out who is naughty or nice; it's about finding out who has made plans and provisions for their families, farms and causes dear to them.

My favorite thing is sharing the good news of Kentucky FFA, and to be sure, there is a lot of good news to share. Things like a record number of Kentucky FFA members (20,000+), growing programs, students engaging in entrepreneurship, and more! It's inspiring work and you can follow our social media to see all of it.

As much as I love that good news, I have a sobering message to share, too. Did you know only 33 percent of Americans have estate plans in place? That means that 67 percent of people haven't made plans and provisions for their families, their land, their business, end of life care, and so much more. That's staggering to me.

I do understand why folks are hesitant to make the plans. No one likes to think about the end of their life or make hard decisions about what will happen. It's hard and it's sad, but it's one of the most loving and responsible things you can do for your family.

My job is helping people make planned gifts to ensure the long-term health of the Kentucky FFA Foundation. It's an honor to help people give back to the cause they love. In doing this work, I have become passionate about encouraging folks to make estate plans, regardless of whether or not you include Kentucky FFA.

To help get you started, the Kentucky FFA Foundation is proud to offer a planning resource on our website. It's free to look around and glean information, there is no obligation. Visit kyffa.planmygift.org and let 2023 be the year you make estate plans.

While we are "making lists and checking it twice," I wanted to provide our annual

YEAR END GIVING CHECKLIST.

- The CARES Act allows a \$300 deduction for those who

SEE **YEAR**, PAGE 6

You're a neoliberal, I'm a neoliberal, we're all neoliberals—for now

For almost 50 years, the world has gotten faster, richer, and yes—fatter. The power behind all that (ahem) growth has been neoliberalism.

It's not a political label or a personal slander. Instead, as author Rana Foroohar explains in her new book, *Homecoming*, neoliberalism is "an economic and political philosophy that capital, people, and goods should be able to cross borders freely in search of the most productive and profitable returns."

In short, it was the energy behind Ronald Reagan's "trickle down" economics, the muscle that pushed Bill Clinton's free trade dealmaking, and the theory that powered the Bush and Obama Administrations' embrace of China's labor might and its mighty ag imports.

"Politics," writes Foroohar, both an assistant editor of the *Financial Times* and a contributor to CNN, "takes place at the level of the nation-state. But economics has, for the last forty years, been an increasingly global affair..."

And, she quickly adds, more and more of this global game plays by "rules... [that] have been dictated by a global technocratic class whose members have more in common with one another than the majority of the people in their own country."

That's especially so in the fields and pastures of farmers and ranchers who run into powerful neoliberal forces—mostly global business cartels—in nearly every aspect of their livelihood: seed, fuel, fertilizer, machinery, meatpacking, transportation, exporting.

That's because, Foroohar explains, the more success neoliberalism has in business, the more disconnected it becomes from peoples' daily lives. "Too many people crafting and/or benefiting from the system mistook free trade for foreign policy and believed that unified global markets would always beget global politics."

It hasn't. What once was promoted as a "safe markets-safe world" idea to counter the last century's dance with fascism, socialism, and war has now grown into populism, a "natural result of this disconnection between the global economy and national politics."

As the last decade in rural America has made plain, that disconnect between economics and politics is almost complete.

Foroohar knows this; large portions of her book outline how the built-in resiliency that once was characteristic of the nation's farm and ranch communities has been replaced by highly specialized, inherently fragile industrial farms and livestock operations where



FOOD
&
FARM
FILE

Alan
Guebert

As the last decade in rural America has made plain, that disconnect between economics and politics is almost complete.

SEE **YOU'RE**, PAGE 12

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Burley meeting set for Jan. 19



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The start of the 2022 burley market season has seen stronger prices than initially expected by most growers. The quality of much of the state's burley, after a difficult production season, has been a concern for many as they headed to the market. The global burley shortage has companies stepping up at the start of this marketing season with stronger prices for growers.

Unfortunately for many growers, the strong prices might not be enough to help them come out ahead this season. After facing a significant increase in production costs and then reduced yields due to weather, I am concerned the attrition we have seen the past few years will continue in 2023.

The Council for Burley Tobacco's board members have been in communication with companies throughout this season relaying reports from the field. We have had extensive discussions on the quality concerns growers are facing this year, along with the impact of the increased price for all inputs has had on our overall production costs. While the strong start to the market season is a good sign for burley farmers, we have got to continue to work together to make sure companies hear our concerns.

The Council for Burley Tobacco is working closely with the new Kentucky Burley and Dark Producer Association to advocate for Kentucky's tobacco farmers with the companies and on state and federal legislative issues. The two organizations are also working across state lines to strengthen alliances with other tobacco organizations, including Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina and the Burley Stabilization Corporation. We all realize that there is strength in numbers, and if we are the voices for our grower members, it is important for all tobacco growers—burley, flue-cured, and dark fired—to work together.

I invite all tobacco growers to join us on Jan. 19 for the Council for Burley Tobacco and the KBDPA's first joint annual meeting. The meeting will begin at 9:30 am CST at Holiday Inn University Plaza in Bowling Green. We will have speakers to provide updates on research, crop insurance, GAP, and the 2023 market projections.

To register for the 2023 joint meeting, visit www.councilforburleytobacco.com and follow the registration link on the home page. Registration is free for all tobacco farmers, but pre-registration is required for the grower luncheon. If you are unable to attend the annual meeting, then we still encourage you to still visit the website and renew your Council membership to make sure we have up-to-date information for you to receive our newsletter and tobacco news.

KOAP looks toward 2023

Another fiscal year has come and gone for the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy. This past year marked the first full year under the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. This has been a successful transition, thanks to our strong team here at KOAP, our extension partners with the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University, our county program administrators, and our participating lenders. It has been great to visit with so many counties and recipients in person throughout the year.

One of the recipients highlighted in the 2022 KOAP Annual Report is Farmstead Butcher Block. Owners, Clifford and Carol Welch, decided to open the U.S. Department of Agriculture certified processing plant in Central City during the pandemic when it was almost impossible to get their livestock processed. The Welch's learned about the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund grant and loan programs from their local extension agent, Daryl Simpson. After working with KOAP staff and the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development team, the Welch's were awarded \$250,000 as a Meat Processing Investment Program forgivable loan and \$20,000 in county grant funds toward the construction of Farmstead Butcher Block. In November 2021, the Welch's were approved for a \$250,000 Agricultural Processing participation loan with the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation. These additional funds allowed the Welch's to finish the state-of-the-art USDA processing facility that included an original kill box design that Clifford created with the guidance of Temple Grandin, a well-known animal behaviorist.

As the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board rolls into 2023, the board kicked the tires and checked the oil on its state and county programs to evaluate for program changes. County programs reauthorized for 2023 include: County Agricultural Investment Program, Deceased Farm Animal Removal, Next Generation Beginning Farmer, Shared-Use Equipment, and Youth Agricultural Incentives Program. State Programs reauthorized for 2023 include: Food Safety and Efficiency Incentives, Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives, On-Farm Energy Efficiency, and On-Farm Water Management programs. A few of the changes to CAIP included adding the Small Ruminant Quality Assurance Program and Pork Quality Assurance Plus Certification as pre-requisites for goats, sheep, or swine categories in the Small Animal Investment Area.

The KADB also reauthorized the State Support to Limited Allocation Counties Initiative for 2023 and 2024 to provide state funds to counties with MSA allocations below \$30,000. The counties may use the funding for any project/program in line with the County's Plan for Agricultural Development.

On Nov. 18, the KADB and KAFC had a joint board meeting at the Pulaski County Farmers' Market in Somerset. Board members also had the opportunity to observe their dollars at work with tours to Continental Refining Company and KNS, projects funded by both KADF and KAFC. They then visited three KADF funded projects: Pulaski County High School Greenhouse, Summit Meat Processing, and Pulaski County Farmers Market.

Having the opportunity to work with the members of KADB and KAFC has been an incredible honor. It is due to their dedication to Kentucky agriculture that they volunteer to share both their time and expertise in guiding the future of the Master Settlement Agreement funds. As we continue to work to diversify our commonwealth's agricultural economy, I am eager to see where these investments will take us in the upcoming years.



**KENTUCKY
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**Brian
Lacefield**

Having the opportunity to work with the members of KADB and KAFC has been an incredible honor.

Year end giving checklist

FROM PAGE 4

take the standard deduction rather than itemize. You can do that at kyffa.org/donate

- **Giving Through an IRA:** If you are 59½ or older you can take a distribution from your IRA and then make a gift to the Foundation without penalty. If you are 70½ or older you can give any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to the Kentucky FFA Foundation. You will not pay income taxes on the transfer. If you are 72 or older you can use this transfer to satisfy your required minimum distribution

- **Gifting Securities:** Gifting securities when prices are down can be advantageous for estate planning purposes as it shifts future appreciation out of your estate and onto beneficiaries who may be in a lower tax rate.

- **Donor Advised Funds:** Contribute to a donor advised fund and enjoy a tax savings on that amount when you itemize.

Check these off your to-do list to end the year on an organized note.

- Update your will or living trust. Ensure that your designations are still appropriate, and your charitable intentions are noted.

- Review your retirement plan beneficiaries. Assess your named beneficiaries to ensure you've considered your loved ones and favorite causes.

- Review your life insurance policy. If you have a policy that is no longer a significant piece of your estate plan, consider making a gift by assigning ownership to the Kentucky FFA Foundation or making us the beneficiary.

If I can ever be a resource to you as you make plans or you want to discuss a gift to Kentucky FFA, please feel free to contact me, Sheldon McKinney at (606) 782-4620 or sheldon.mckinney@kyffa.org.



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The Official Publication of the Kentucky Poultry Federation and The Farmer's Pride Advertising Supplement

December 15, 2022



JANUARY BEGINS KPF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

January begins the 2023 membership drive for the Kentucky Poultry Federation. You can either renew or become a new member of the KPF and support Kentucky's poultry industry. Remember, we are YOUR organization and YOUR voice; the Kentucky Poultry Federation needs your support and commitment to this organization as we enter a new year. By becoming

a member, you can utilize that voice and help build a stronger Federation.

To become a member of the Kentucky Poultry Federation simply download a membership application at www.kypoultry.org. Dues to the Federation are payable on a calendar-year basis. Membership applications are due by April 1, 2023.

As a member, you will also receive subscriptions to the Poultry Times and The Farmer's Pride. Our quarterly newsletter, The Sunnyside, is published in The Farmer's Pride. All members who provide an email address will receive the Cheeps and Chirps newsletter electronically.

Join the Kentucky Poultry Federation today!

2022 Kentucky Poultry Federation Scholarship Recipients

The Kentucky Poultry Federation (KPF) awarded four students with scholarships during the 24th annual Kentucky Poultry Festival Hall of Fame Banquet held in Lexington. The Kentucky Poultry Federation President, Barton Williams, presented four individuals, \$2,000 academic scholarships to Jordan Reddick, Chaz Wilson, Eli Flanagan, and Kaylee Latham.

The Kentucky Poultry Federation academic scholarships were established to benefit the children and grandchildren of Kentucky poultry complex employees, growers, and allied members. The scholarships assist graduating high school seniors or currently enrolled college students in continuing their education. Applicants are required to submit a completed application, current transcripts, two letters of recommendation, and two essays.

2022 KPF scholarship recipient, Jordan Reddick is a current student at Murray State University majoring in agriculture following the tradition of his family by studying there. Jordan wishes to further his agriculture education and continue to support his family's farm by using regenerative practices. Upon graduation from MSU in 2024, Jordan plans to return to his family farm in Bardwell, Kentucky, and continue improving the farm and setting goals for the future. Reddick Farms grows for Pilgrims and operates a livestock and row crop operation.



Eli Flanagan, Chaz Wilson, Jordan Reddick and Kaylee Latham were all awarded scholarships through the Kentucky Poultry Federation. Pictured with them is Melissa Phillips.

2022 KPF scholarship recipient, Chaz Wilson hails from Smiths Grove, Kentucky. He is currently attending Western Kentucky University majoring in agriculture business. He chose this career path to ensure he has the skills to manage any size farm. Chaz's family farms for Perdue and upon graduation from WKU in 2025, he plans to return

to work on the farm and help it become more efficient and successful.

2022 KPF scholarship recipient, Eli Flanagan is a recent graduate of Bardstown high school and now attends the University of Kentucky as a Chemical Engineering student. Eli knew from a young age that engineering would be his path of study. Excel-

ling in math and science through high school, he is certain to create better solutions in the agriculture/poultry industry. Eli's family owns 4-E farms.

2022 KPF scholarship recipient, Kaylee Latham is from Albany, Kentucky. Family is a huge part of Kaylee's success. Her dad is an employee with Tyson and many people in her family

Kentucky Poultry Federation recognizes two poultry farms



Morrison Poultry

The Kentucky Poultry Federation awarded two family farms on October 1, 2022 at the annual meeting and festival in Lexington, Kentucky. The two farms were recognized due to their unique litter management practices, community involvement, conservation techniques, nutrition management, and environmental management.

Morrison Poultry

Morrison Poultry, LLC began operation in October 1999 with four broiler barns built and owned by Tim and Deena Morrison of Wingo, KY. Two additional barns were added in 2004. Morrison Poultry also row crop the 20 tillable acres on the farm. They use crop rotation between corn and soybeans. Morrison Poultry is deeply

concerned about its environmental footprint and has taken steps to reduce its effect on the environment. Great care was taken in choosing the location for the operation. The operation is located down a dead-end road with no visible neighbors. Morrison Poultry, LLC is in a partnership with a local businessman who, in exchange for their litter, replaces their rice hulls. The litter is sold to local farmers for use as fertilizer in their fields. They have a litter storage shed that can house crusting between cleanouts with minimal odor. They have a total cleanout every four flocks.

Hagan Brothers Farm

Jason and Dustin Hagan, are third-generation farmers from the small

town of Whitesville in Western Kentucky. Alongside their dad, they operate a 3500-acre farming operation. In 2018, to diversify the operation, they built four 43X600 foot poultry houses and raise broiler chickens for Perdue Foods. The broiler houses hold 31,100 birds per house. The average flock is harvested at 47 days old and raise approximately five flocks per year. After having the houses in production for a year they were able to stop raising tobacco, which was much more labor intense than any other part of the farming operation. They raise 1750 acres of corn and 1750 acres soybeans. They utilize the manure from the poultry houses as a natural fertilizer for their row crops. Decreasing input cost significantly by no longer having to rely 100 percent on

commercial fertilizer, is a great benefit. The four poultry houses will provide 800-1000 tons of poultry manure (litter) each year. This litter is excellent, low-cost fertilize that returns nutrients and organic matter to the soil, building soil fertility and quality. The litter contains macronutrients Nitrogen(N), Phosphorus (P), and Potassium (K). Poultry manure is very good for the soybean crop and works well for corn also. Hagen Brothers Farm collects soil samples and has them analyzed every three years to see what the soil needs. They also take tissue samples of their crops to see what nutrients they are needing. Since applying poultry litter to their poorer-quality crop ground, they have had an increased yield on those fields.



Hagan Brothers Farm.

Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year

2022 KY Poultry Federation Hall of Fame Inductee: Edward Putnam

Edward Putnam was no stranger to the poultry industry throughout the southeast. He grew up on a poultry farm in south Alabama and worked in the industry throughout his entire life. His dad, Morris Putnam, was an independent broiler producer and served as president of the Alabama Poultry and Egg Association in the 1960s. This

After retiring from the poultry industry, he was not done with poultry. He built six houses of his own. Poultry was simply a part of his DNA.

Edward graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelors and Master's degree in Poultry Science. Straight out of college he began working for ConAgra in North Alabama for six

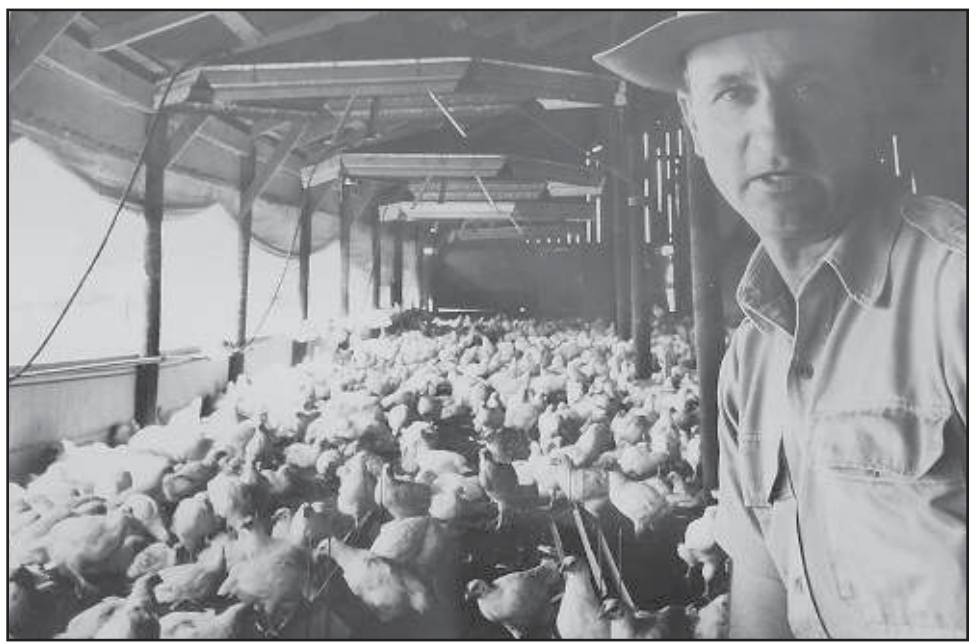


led Edward to understand the value in the industry but also the importance of leadership serving the associations and the impact it can have on the industry.



years. He worked in the broiler division, hatchery, plant sanitation, eviscerating, and packing. He then left ConAgra to work with Pilch as a hatchery manager in Troutman, North Carolina. This experience led him back to Alabama with Wayne Poultry.

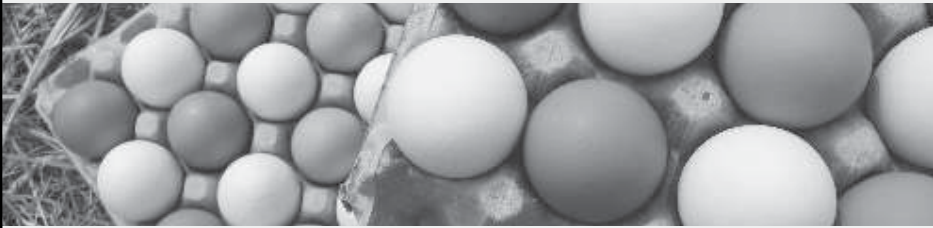

Edward moved to Monticello in 1991 and began working for Avian Farms. He recruited contract growers, and oversaw the building of the Kentucky hatchery and research farm and new office better known as the "White House". He served as the President of the Kentucky Poultry Federation from 1995-1996 representing Avian Farms. During this time, he helped to plan and coordinate the first Ky poultry festival that we are still attending today. He was a Christian and was active in his church through mission work, and building committees, and loved working with the tech



crew. His wife Lynn, sons Aaron and Andrew, and daughter Lorna Anne are a part of his story and their dedication to Edwards's passion for the poultry industry.

Edward Putnam passed away on


March 3, 2022, in his home of Bogue Chitto, Mississippi. Representing Edward for this award is his family. His family accepted this award on behalf of Mr. Putnam.



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French Toast Croque Madame Casserole

Ingredients

2 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus more for the baking pan
2 cups half-and-half
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
10 large eggs
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
14 slices white bread, about 1/2 inch thick
12 ounces Gruyere, grated (about 3 1/2 cups)
14 thin slices Black Forest ham
Nonstick cooking spray, for the foil
Confectioners' sugar, for dusting
Warm maple syrup, for serving, optional
Seedless raspberry jam, for serving, optional

Directions

Position an oven rack in the middle of the oven and preheat to 375 degrees F. Lightly butter a 9-by-13-inch metal baking pan.
Whisk together the half-and-half,

vanilla, 4 eggs, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon pepper in a large mixing bowl.

Lay 7 slices of bread in a single layer on a cutting board. Sprinkle 2 heaping tablespoons of Gruyere on top of each slice. Top each with 2 slices of ham, folding the ham as needed to fit. Place the remaining 7 slices of bread on top to form 7 sandwiches. Cut each sandwich in half diagonally. Dip both sides of each sandwich half into the custard mixture and transfer to the prepared baking pan, arranging in 2 long shingled rows. Pour any remaining custard over the sandwiches and sprinkle the remaining Gruyere on top.

Spray a large piece of foil with non-stick spray. Place the foil sprayed-side down on top of the baking pan, crimping the sides of the foil around the pan to seal. Bake for 30 minutes. Remove the foil and bake until the custard is set but still slightly jiggly, about 10 minutes more. Switch the oven to broil and broil until the top is light golden brown, another 3 to 5 minutes. Allow to rest for 5 minutes.

Meanwhile, heat the butter in a large nonstick pan over medium heat. Crack 3 eggs into the pan (it's okay if they run together) and lightly sprinkle with salt. Cook until the whites start to set, 1 to 2 minutes, then cover and continue cooking until the whites are set but the yolks are still runny 1 to 2 minutes. Transfer to a plate and repeat with the remaining 3 eggs.

Divide the casserole among 6 plates, dust with confectioners' sugar, top with the maple syrup or jam if using, and finish with a fried egg on top.

Christmas Day Chicken

Ingredients

16 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (4 ounces each)
2 cups sour cream
1/4 cup lemon juice
4 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
2 teaspoons celery salt
2 teaspoons pepper
2 teaspoons paprika
1 teaspoon seasoned salt
1 teaspoon garlic salt
1-1/2 to 2 cups crushed butter-flavored crackers
1/2 cup canola oil
1/2 cup butter, melted

Directions

Place the chicken in 2 large shallow bowls. In another bowl, combine the sour cream, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, and seasonings. Pour over



chicken; turn to coat. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Preheat oven to 350°. Drain and discard the marinade. Coat chicken with cracker crumbs; place in 2 greased 13x9-in. baking dishes.

Combine oil and butter; drizzle over chicken. Bake, uncovered until a thermometer reads 165°, 30-35 minutes.

3 c. shredded leftover turkey or rotisserie chicken
1 c. frozen peas
1/2 c. fresh flat-leaf parsley, chopped

Directions

Step 1 Heat oven to 375°F. Lightly butter a shallow broiler-proof 2-quart casserole dish. Cook the pasta according to the package directions. Drain the pasta and return it to the pot.

Step 2 Meanwhile, heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms and 1/4 teaspoon salt and cook, tossing occasionally, until golden brown, 4 to 5 minutes; transfer to a plate.

Step 3 Reduce heat to medium, and add the remaining tablespoon oil along with the onion, celery, and 1/2 teaspoon of each salt and pepper and cook, covered, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables are tender, 6 to 8 minutes.

Step 4 Sprinkle the flour over the vegetables and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Stir in the wine and then the broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, stirring occasionally, until slightly thickened, 3 to 4 minutes. Remove from heat.

Step 5 Add the cream cheese, lemon zest, juice, and 3/4 cup Parmesan and stir until the cream cheese melts. Add the sauce to the pasta along with the turkey and toss to coat, then fold in the mushrooms, peas, and parsley.



Turkey Pasta Bake

Ingredients

Unsalted butter, for casserole dish
8 oz. penne
2 tbsp. olive oil
1 (8-ounce) package of cremini mushrooms, sliced
Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
1 medium onion, chopped
2 stalks of celery, chopped
1 tbsp. all-purpose flour
1/2 c. dry white wine
1 c. low-sodium chicken broth
1 c. grated Parmesan cheese
4 oz. cream cheese
1 1/2 tsp. grated lemon zest, plus 2 tablespoons fresh juice

Merry Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Kentucky Poultry Federation and Kentucky Egg Council would like to say thank you to all those who have contributed to our organization in 2022.

It is our members and allies who are the backbone of our organization. Through your continued support and dedication to our organization, we will continue to make every effort in 2023.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

You're a neoliberal, I'm a neoliberal, we're all neoliberals—for now

FROM PAGE 4

efficiency and growth are paramount to community and resilience.

Chapters include “The Problem with Big Food,” “Move Fast and Grow Things,” and “Two Americas.” All point to how the world’s adoption of neoliberal economics has left it and most citizens vulnerable to increasingly brittle “global supply chains” and rising fascism (witness today’s Hungary, Poland, Sweden, and Italy) while strengthening one-time—and likely future—foes like China.

But, as the book’s title suggests, “the paradigm of globalization is now changing” from a “system of concentrated power and oligopoly” to a world where “regionalization and localization are the future.”

One example of this sea change, she cites, is how “the Biden Administration’s trade representative, Katherine Tai, has outlined a new direction for U.S.-China trade, one that puts labor and national interests ahead of consumer prices and individual corporate interests.”

That Americans-first approach with our biggest foreign trader is “a key stake in the heart of the usual neoliber-

al corporate interests,” she opines, and don’t think for a minute that the rest of the world hasn’t noticed.

Another example is the federal government’s mid-2022 approval of \$52 billion “in grants and incentives for domestic semiconductor manufacturing.” That critical need was magnified during the Covid pandemic when breakdowns in the international supply chain left U.S. security agencies empty-handed and the nation vulnerable.

In one way, Foroohar’s vision of “homecoming” is already in place in North American agriculture: integration. It’s a “way of increasing productivity, resilience, and sustainability,” she explains, all critical elements in tomorrow’s farms and ranches.

Integrators, however, will need to focus more on “regional markets” and less on “global markets.” Today’s market-grabbing oligopolists can expect much more government regulation—and even more government-supported competition—than before, too.

In Homecoming, Foroohar builds a strong case for neoliberalism’s continued weakening. The world—and especially farmers and ranchers—should hope she’s right.

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Shortage in large-animal vets results in working group created by commissioner



Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles spoke to a group of industry representatives in November, as further work was being done to correct the large-animal veterinarian shortage in the state. Quarles announced a smaller working committee will be created to continue developing initiatives to attract more candidates.

FROM PAGE 1

“The other side that triggered this was about two years ago, the Kentucky Board of Vet Examiners, that licenses vets, was moved over to the KDA and attached there for administrative

purposes,” Rogers said, adding that the board has really “stepped up in a proactive way with our support and connection.”

But these continued meetings are “the one thing that hadn’t happened

over the last 10 years. We’ve not had vet and ag production industries sit down together.”

Conversations have been in place with Auburn University’s College of Veterinary Medicine about the problem. Due to this, Rogers said there’s already been some successes.

A conversation is in the works involving Auburn over the criteria vet schools use for students to enter. A limited number of Kentucky students can attend Auburn at in-state tuition rates.

“Let’s say we adjusted the criteria for five slots, and it wasn’t all about the grades or ACT scores — it might be

about their passion to go back to rural Kentucky, or their passion to treat large animals, maybe rewarding some students with slots, finding a way to identify those potential candidates ...”

Vet school is extremely competitive, Rogers said. And with Kentucky not having one, the 32 or so slots the state gets at Auburn “have become very competitive.”

The Auburn University preceptorship program is a federal grant that takes vet students into a Kentucky rural practice. During Kentucky’s first Auburn pro-

SEE **STATE**, PAGE 15

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Merry Christmas, and Many Thanks!

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State works to expand vet education options

FROM PAGE 14

gram, 20 students were placed in state practices during their studies, and 15 are coming back to the state to begin their careers.

“We’re really trying to identify ways for students coming out of vet school or who have come out in the past few years, to decide to come back to rural Kentucky to do large animal practice.”

He said KDA identified other programs that could be beneficial to resolving the shortage, including modifications made to the Large Food Animal Veterinary Loan Program, offered by the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation. It helps those licensed to practice to construct, expand, equip or buy into a practice serving large/food animal producers.

Also, the Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program, offered by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, provides funding for Kentucky vets to increase service to large/food animals in the state. Applicants can receive up to 75 percent reimbursement for eligible expenditures, not to

exceed \$100,000 in state and country funds as a lifetime limit.

The Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program is also offered, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture. It provides up to \$75,000 in loan repayment over a three-year period to help offset a portion of debt incurred for vet medical degrees, in return for service in certain high-priority vet shortage situations. Kentucky identifies the area of the state where qualified applicants are needed.

Rogers said that due to the shortage, there are also some new vet schools coming online, like Lincoln Memorial University, which just graduated its first accredited class.

He said this is a long-term situation, “and we know we’re not going to get it solved this or next year. It will take many years to address,” but he thinks they’re on the right track.

Ag Commissioner Ryan Quarles spoke at the November meeting, announcing that he would be creating a small working group to continue developing solutions.



A second organized meeting was held on Nov. 14 at the Kentucky Exposition Center, bringing together industry stakeholders affected by the large-animal veterinarian shortage. Kentucky Department of Agriculture Chief of Staff Keith Rogers said it was attended by 56 people, representing a “good cross-section” of those in the industry.

Rogers said those at the meeting were asked to submit names of individuals they’d like representation from to be assigned to the smaller group, and the plan is to get it organized by the end of the year.

“We want to let that group start to set

priorities within these different items, further refine the suggestions, and there will probably be some subcommittees coming out of that. That’s the process going forward.”

By Bobbie Curd
Field Reporter

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Looking ahead to 2023

The Forage Doctor



By Jimmy Henning

This will be the last Forage Doctor column for 2022 and it is a good time to reflect about how to up your forage game in 2023. Here are some thoughts.

1. Get a current soil test on all your fields. This is about as basic as it gets, but it is a great place to start. If you haven't done so already, make sure you pay extra and measure the organic matter. The concept of regenerative grazing starts with good soil management, and soil organic matter is the easiest and most cost effective measure we have for soil biological activity and health.

2. Up your hay game. This too starts with testing. Test all of the lots of hay on the farm this winter, and test hay as you make it next year. And strategize how you will store hay so you can access each lot of hay independently. It does little good to have great hay that you cannot access when you need



If you were going to up your forage game in 2023, what would be on your list? Maybe it would be to develop a better summer pasture system like this field of improved crabgrass at the Loretto Motherhouse Farm in Marion Co. Maybe you need to adjust your cow number and size to match your forage base. Regardless of your choice, we in the UKY College of Agriculture Food and Environment are ready to help you meet your goals.

it. Know how much hay you need and how much you want to carry over from

year to year. More than just an academic number, it is a way to gauge early in

SEE **LOOKING**, PAGE 17

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Looking ahead to 2023

FROM PAGE 16

the year if you need to start looking for extra forage.

3. Take a long hard look at whether you ought to be making your own hay. At the risk of appearing completely out of touch, I have to point out that economists by the busload point out the high cost of owning hay equipment for small cow herds. Academically, their logic is unimpeachable on a dollars and cents basis. The alternative to not owning hay equipment is buying all your hay – which may or may not be doable in your area. It introduces a lot of risk that you just don't want to take. I surely understand that, as I am about as risk-averse an individual as there is. Whether or not you can take the plunge to depend solely or partly on an outside hay source, at least give it some thought. It may take a year of research to find producers who might want to be your hay partner. If you are particularly good at hay making, maybe you become the hay provider for others. Something

to think about.

4. Work on the cattle side of the equation. Improving your cattle game could take many forms. First, do your cows fit your forage base? With forage alone, are you able to keep cows in a body condition score of 5 to 6 for most of year? Do you have a controlled calving season, and are your cows settled in the first half of the breeding season? Are your cows too big? Do you have too many of them? Or both? You do realize, I am sure, that this cattle advice is coming from a forage agronomist without a cow to his name. My state of 'cowlessness' has caused my daughter much angst over the years, but that is a story for another day. No matter, it is still a sound idea to get the livestock side of the equation right for a forage program to be profitable.

5. Get radical about maintaining residual plant heights, especially for grasses. Any grazing manual you consult will recommend preserving three to four inches of tall fescue or

orchardgrass in pastures, yet we don't often meet this goal. We have become accustomed to accepting overgrazing pastures, especially in autumn. I fully understand that the cows have to be somewhere, but have you considered what would happen if we limited the overgrazing to a few fields and really rested the remainder? I guess I am simply pointing out where practice and theory are at odds. Maybe I could hear from some of my pasture-savvy friends on this question.

6. Finally, have a summer grazing plan that is not reliant solely on cool season grasses, especially tall fescue. Whether it is alfalfa, red clover or dedicated fields of native grasses, bermudagrass or summer annuals, all can give summer production while resting cool season grasses. None of these options are necessarily cheap or easy, but they can prevent overgrazing tall fescue or orchardgrass so they can be more productive when rains come in autumn.

These are just a few ideas about how

to up your forage game in 2023. I know the list could be much longer, but it is a start. I truly hope you have a great Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you at forage events like 'Forages at KCA' (KCA Annual Meeting in Lexington, Jan 5-7) and the Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference (Feb 21, Cave City Convention Center).

Happy foraging.



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“What Child Is This?”

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:11-12 NIV



A good question: who is this Jesus, who came into this world as so many children do, born to a mother who found herself pregnant out of wedlock, born in the humblest circumstances, a manger being perhaps the modern equivalent of a cheap hotel room or a homeless camp (and probably not as well-furnished as a modern barn) and who eventually dies a most ignominious death, hung from a cross. So the first answer is clear: Jesus is God with us, and with us in the humblest of circumstances. When we look at Jesus' life, we see that he was constantly serving, feeding, and teaching others. So the second answer is also clear: Jesus is God for us. And not only does he feed us with his own flesh and blood and teach us how to live a good and holy life, but he literally dies for us, as the once and for all sacrifice for all of humanity. The final answer to the question “What Child is This?” is that Jesus is the savior of the world, the personal savior of all who believe in him, but more than that, he who redeems creation itself. What child is this? If only we understood how important that question really is!

— Christopher Simon



Ratatouille Soup

1 small eggplant, peeled and cubed	1 medium bell pepper, chopped	1 24 ounce jar chunky garden style pasta sauce
2 teaspoons salt	1 medium onion, chopped	2 cups water
1 pound lean ground chuck	1 tablespoon finely minced garlic (about 3 cloves)	1 teaspoon dried basil
1 tablespoon canola oil	1 14.5 ounce can low sodium beef broth	1 cup uncooked whole grain pasta
1 medium zucchini, chopped		

Place the cubed eggplant in a colander. **Toss** with the salt and let set for 20-25 minutes. Thoroughly **rinse** in cold water and press as much water out of the eggplant as possible. Set aside. In a large heavy pot, **brown** the ground beef over medium heat until crumbly and no longer pink. **Drain**. Raise the heat to medium-high. **Add** the canola oil to the same pot. **Return** the beef to the pot. **Add** the zucchini, bell pepper, onion and garlic. **Cook** together for 5-7 minutes, until onion is translucent. **Add** the eggplant to the mixture and continue to **cook** for 5

minutes. **Add** the beef broth, pasta sauce, water and basil. Bring to a **boil**, then reduce heat to medium-low, **cover** and **simmer** for 10 minutes. **Add** the pasta. Raise heat to medium. Bring to a slow **boil** and **cook**, stirring occasionally for 10-12 minutes, or until the pasta is tender.

Yield: 12, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 210 calories, 10 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 35 mg cholesterol, 680 mg sodium, 19 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 8 g sugar, 13 g protein



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Roasted Beet and Orange Salad

- 3 **medium** fresh beets (about 1 pound)
- 4 **medium** navel oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 4 **ounces** crumbled feta cheese
- 1/2 **cup** chopped walnuts (optional)
- 1/4 **cup** minced fresh mint

Orange Vinaigrette:

- 2 **tablespoons** olive oil
- 1 **teaspoon** grated orange zest
- 2 **tablespoons** orange juice
- 1/2 **tablespoon** apple cider vinegar
- 1 **teaspoon** honey
- 1 **teaspoon** Dijon mustard
- 1/2 **teaspoon** salt
- 1/4 **teaspoon** pepper

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. **Wash** hands with warm soap and water, **scrubbing** for at least 20 seconds. **Scrub** beets and **trim** tops to 1 inch. **Wrap** in foil; **place** on a baking sheet. **Bake** 50 to 60 minutes or until tender. **Remove** foil; **cool** completely. **Peel** beets and **chop** into bite-sized pieces. In a small bowl, **whisk** oil, orange zest, orange juice, vinegar, honey, mustard, salt, and pepper until blended. In a large bowl, **combine** cooked beets and orange sections. **Add** the vinaigrette and **toss** gently to coat. **Spoon** mixture on serving plate and **top** with feta cheese, walnuts, and fresh mint.

Yield: 4 servings. **Serving size:** 1/4 of recipe.

Nutrition Analysis: 330 calories, 23g total fat, 6g saturated fat, 25mg cholesterol, 510mg sodium, 27g total carbohydrate, 5g fiber, 18g total sugars, 1g added sugars, 8g protein, 0% DV vitamin D, 15% DV calcium, 6% DV iron, 10% DV potassium.



Recipes courtesy of Ky Proud

A year after the tornado, UK research and education center looks back, pushes forward

PRINCETON, Ky., – A year ago, a tornado outbreak destroyed most of the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center in Princeton.

UKREC director Carrie Knott and the center's farm managers, facilities superintendent and animal and food sciences personnel led the effort to secure and care for animals, assess damage and offer support. Area farmers assisted with cattle care and debris cleanup. County extension offices and the Kentucky Soybean State Office donated office space and internet connections to help UKREC faculty and staff maintain their commitments to research and extension.

"We knew we were not going to stop doing our work, but we also knew it was going to be very challenging and very different," Knott said. "We were fragmented at that stage, but through the following months, we began to put temporary facilities in place to allow us to continue serving the agricultural community."

In the months following the disaster, UK agricultural meteorologist Matt Dixon, assistant extension professor for

biosystems engineering Morgan Hayes, extension professor Josh Jackson and extension associate Karin Pekarchik interviewed people who played important roles in the tornado response. The effort came together as the Western Kentucky 2021 Tornado Resilience Oral History Project.

Interviews, available at <http://bit.ly/3hd4ipj>, include Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, Kentucky agriculture commissioner Ryan Quarles, KDA chief of staff Keith Rogers, UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment dean and vice president for land-grant engagement Nancy Cox, UK Grain and Forage Center for Excellence director Chad Lee, UKREC director Carrie Knott, KDA safety coordinator Dale Dobson and many more.

Though the center remains in recovery mode, it has pressed on with programs like Wheat Field Day in May and Beef Bash in October.

"It was important to continue the Beef Bash tradition and move forward with the program at the UKREC," said

SEE **A YEAR**, PAGE 26



'Tis the season for celebrating friends and neighbors like you!

Greetings and best wishes to all of the folks who make our town such a wonderful place to work and live. We can't imagine anywhere we'd rather be this holiday season, and we're especially grateful for your support through the challenges and setbacks of this past year.

Looking ahead, we're excited to keep on growing with this community and sharing more time with all of you in 2023. Thanks again for sticking with us. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!



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Blue Grass South Stanford, KY Dec. 5 & 8, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 141 hd. 591# 188.00 blk-charx 27 hd. 606# 169.00 blk 20 hd. 681# 169.00 blk-charx 66 hd. 775# 174.00 blk-charx 186 hd. 804# 178.00 blk-charx 61 hd. 860# 172.00 blk-charx 59 hd. 869# 175.25 blk 56 hd. 877# 173.00 blk 56 hd. 884# 168.00 blk-charx 61 hd. 899# 173.00 blk 56 hd. 915# 168.75 blk 50 hd. 1016# 160.50 blk-charx Holstein Steers: Large 3 50 hd. 1106# 123.50 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 80 hd. 595# 171.75 blk 80 hd. 624# 166.00 blk-charx 75 hd. 677# 162.50 mixed 71 hd. 719# 164.75 blk 61 hd. 800# 162.00 blk-charx	KY-TN Livestock Auction Guthrie, KY Dec. 8, 2022 Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 626# 135.00 blk-bwf Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 21 hd. 419# 159.00 blk-bwf 35 hd. 493# 144.00 blk-bwf 36 hd. 545# 143.00 blk-bwf 30 hd. 621# 140.00 blk-bwf Cattlemen's Livestock Bowling Green, KY Dec. 5, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 22 hd. 638# 154.50 blk-bwf 22 hd. 736# 146.50 blk-bwf Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 27 hd. 455# 147.00 blk-bwf 72 hd. 484# 160.00 blk-bwf weaned 31 hd. 513# 144.00 blk-bwf 40 hd. 539# 151.00 blk-bwf weaned 26 hd. 572# 140.00 blk-bwf 24 hd. 719# 142.25 blk-bwf weaned	Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY Dec. 5 & 6, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 24 hd. 566# 179.75 blk 20 hd. 623# 161.00 blk-charx 28 hd. 691# 178.00 blk-charx 48 hd. 712# 166.25 rfw-blk 24 hd. 775# 169.50 blk-charx 132 hd. 780# 164.75 mixed 60 hd. 809# 171.25 blk-charx Holstein Steers: Large 3 28 hd. 641# 134.50 71 hd. 722# 140.00 65 hd. 734# 139.00 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 43 hd. 567# 166.00 blk-charx 32 hd. 601# 164.00 blk 91 hd. 606# 166.75 mixed 70 hd. 627# 167.25 blk-charx 91 hd. 638# 164.25 mixed 88 hd. 639# 169.00 blk	Paris Stockyards Paris, KY Dec. 8, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 27 hd. 500# 188.00 blk 52 hd. 602# 175.00 blk 34 hd. 670# 175.00 blk-red 134 hd. 775# 180.00 mixed-blk 60 hd. 803# 179.50 blk 69 hd. 803# 174.25 blk-charx 53 hd. 884# 168.00 blk-mixed 54 hd. 899# 172.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 21 hd. 509# 157.00 blk 33 hd. 644# 154.00 charx 20 hd. 644# 139.50 blk-charx 29 hd. 709# 158.50 blk-charx 67 hd. 743# 163.95 blk
Farmers Livestock Glasgow, KY Dec. 5, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 22 hd. 674# 160.00 blk Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 29 hd. 448# 165.50 blk 24 hd. 522# 153.00 blk 29 hd. 581# 143.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 375# 151.50 blk 43 hd. 458# 147.50 blk 31 hd. 527# 140.00 blk	Blue Grass Maysville Maysville, KY Dec. 6, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 45 hd. 610# 172.50 blk-charx	Washington Co. Livestock Springfield, KY Dec. 5, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 28 hd. 696# 164.00 blk 65 hd. 708# 174.50 blk 64 hd. 750# 173.50 blk 60 hd. 833# 170.75 blk Holstein Steers: Large 3 32 hd. 646# 160.50 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 32 hd. 646# 160.50 blk	Blue Grass of Richmond Richmond, KY Dec. 9, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 28 hd. 565# 180.00 blk 124 hd. 758# 182.00 blk 64 hd. 798# 170.00 mixed 67 hd. 829# 170.00 blk 56 hd. 848# 172.80 mixed 59 hd. 858# 173.00 blk 56 hd. 862# 175.60 blk 60 hd. 940# 167.50 blk 43 hd. 960# 164.70 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 31 hd. 508# 146.00 blk-weaned
Blue Grass of Campbellsville Campbellsville, KY Dec. 7, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 44 hd. 604# 160.10 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 55 hd. 563# 153.50 blk 76 hd. 707# 166.25 blk 70 hd. 787# 161.00 blk	United Producers Owenton Owenton, KY Dec. 7, 2022 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 62 hd. 820# 163.00 blk	Lake Cumberland Livestock Somerset, KY Dec. 10, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 59 hd. 879# 171.75 blk-charx	Mid-KY Livestock Market Upton, KY Dec. 6, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 22 hd. 765# 161.00 blk 31 hd. 773# 154.50 mixed 22 hd. 842# 155.00 blk-charx Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 562# 137.00 blk
	Russell County Stockyards Russell Springs, KY Dec. 7, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 69 hd. 713# 174.25 blk-red-charx United Producers Irvington Irvington, Ky Dec. 5, 2022 Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 28 hd. 616# 144.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 25 hd. 445# 141.75 blk	Blue Grass of Albany Albany, KY Dec. 7, 2022 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 74 hd. 737# 175.00 blk-charx-red 69 hd. 715# 177.95 blk-charx-red 25 hd. 700# 163.25 blk-charx	



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							Indiana Ohio Illinois Iowa		
							Yellow Corn Spot Bid 6.32		
12/09/2022 4:00 pm est Bids for next day Cash Bids Corn #2 Yellow Corn #2 White Soybeans #1 Y Wheat #2 SRW Barley		Louisville	Pennyrile	Purchase	Bluegrass	Green River	Northern KY	Dried Distillers Grain (\$/ton) 10% moisture 205.00-255.00	
		6.30-6.45	6.39-6.59 6.95	6.44-6.74	6.09	6.59	6.58	Modified Wet Distillers (\$/ton) 55-60% moisture 112.00-125.00	
		14.26 7.34	14.64-14.69 6.94-6.98	14.99 NA	13.84 NA	14.74 NA	14.59 NA		
New Crop Delivery Contract Corn #2 Yellow Corn #2 White Soybeans #1 Y Wheat #2 SRW Barley		6.30-6.49	6.54-6.59 NA	6.74	6.39	6.72	6.65	Kentucky Weekly Cattle Receipts as reported at local markets:	
								11/19/22	23,394
								11/26/22	6,479
								12/03/22	27,983
								12/10/22	27,914

Weekly Feed Ingredient Price Wholesale prices, \$ per ton Rail or Truck FOB Location	Owensboro Grain 12/12/2022	Commonwealth Agri-Energy Hopkinsville 12/12/2022	St. Louis Weekly Feed Region 12/09/2022	Memphis Weekly Feed Region 12/09/2022	Corn Belt Feedstuffs Region 12/09/2022	Daily Direct Hog Prices LM_HG218 12/12/2022 Barrows & Gilts Purchased Swine Receipts: 7,864 Base Price: \$79.00-\$85.00 Wt. Avg. \$82.99 Compared to prior day, wt. avg. base prices were 0.63 higher. 5 Day Rolling Average: \$83.44	FOR DAILY LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN MARKET REPORTS CALL FARMLOT 1-800-327-6568 1-502-573-0553
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Distillers Grain Modified	—	138.00	—	—	—		
Distillers Grain Wet	—	80.00	—	—	—		
Corn Condensed Solubles	—	NA	—	—	—		
Corn Gluten Feed 20-21 pct	—	—	290.00	—	180.00-227.00		
Corn Gluten Meal 60 pct	—	—	790.00	—	630.00-720.00		
Cottonseed Meal 41 pct	—	—	NA	375.00-395.00	NA		
Whole Cottonseed	—	—	—	335.00	—		
Wheat Middlings	—	—	—	—	—		



Here We Grow Again:
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New Holland Sheep and Goat Auction New Holland, Pa. December 5, 2022

Compared to last week, woolled and shorn lambs sold weak. Hair breed lambs sold weak. Ewes 100 to 200 lbs sold weak; ewes 200 to 250 lbs sold strong. Hair ewes sold strong on a light comparison. No comparison on bucks or hair bucks. Buyer demand was moderate on a moderate supply for the slaughter sheep sale. Slaughter kids sold unevenly steady. Nannies/does sold weak. Bucks/billies sold weak. Wethers sold steady on a light comparison. Buyer demand was moderate on a moderate to heavy supply for the slaughter goat sale.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS WOOLED & SHORN: Choice and Prime 1-3 55-58 lbs 390.00-420.00; 70-78 lbs 240.00-250.00; 82 lbs 270.00; 90-99 lbs 205.00-210.00; 103-113 lbs 195.00-200.00. Choice 1-3 50-55 lbs 310.00-345.00; 60-68 lbs 230.00-265.00; 70-77 lbs 185.00-245.00; 80-88 lbs 205.00-245.00; 90-99 lbs 160.00-195.00; 100-125 lbs 138.00-182.00; 102-138 lbs yearlings 125.00-142.00; 152-160 lbs 110.00-140.00. Good and Choice 1-2 50 lbs 265.00; 65 lbs 215.00; 85 lbs 162.00; 105-106 lbs 140.00-160.00; 190 lbs 105.00. **HAIR BREEDS:** Choice and Prime 1-3 50-58 lbs 295.00-350.00; 78 lbs 250.00; 80-82 lbs 225.00-230.00. Choice 1-3 53-55 lbs 265.00-307.00; 63-65 lbs 220.00-250.00; 70-76 lbs 190.00-235.00; 83-88 lbs 170.00-190.00; 90-98 lbs 170.00-195.00; 104-130 lbs 147.00-185.00. Good and Choice 1-2 44 lbs 175.00; 56 lbs 220.00; 75-79 lbs 150.00-187.00; 110 lbs 130.00; 125 lbs 115.00; 185 lbs 80.00.

SLAUGHTER GOATS KIDS: Selection 1 30 lbs 75.00; 40-49 lbs 90.00-180.00; 50-59 lbs 175.00-220.00; 60-69 lbs 175.00-225.00; 70-79 lbs 195.00-235.00; 80-89 lbs 170.00-230.00; 90-99 lbs 225.00-227.00. Selection 2 40-49 lbs 100.00-120.00; 50-59 lbs 120.00-165.00; 60-69 lbs 150.00-165.00; 70-79 lbs 145.00-155.00; 80-89 lbs 145.00-150.00. Selection 3 40-49 lbs 35.00-75.00; 50-59 lbs 100.00-115.00; 60-69 lbs 100.00-105.00.

United Producers Inc. Graded Sheep/Goat Sale - Bowling Green, Ky. December 8, 2022

Total Receipts:1369 Graded:1097 Lamb prices were up 8.00 to 10.00 on light lambs, mid and heavy weight lambs sold steady. Kid prices stayed steady with good demand.

SLAUGHTER LAMBS WOOLED: Choice and Prime 1-2 88 lbs 195.00; 113-117 lbs 145.00-155.00. Choice 2 60 lbs 190.00. Good and Choice 2-3 54 lbs 225.00.

HAIR BREEDS: Choice and Prime 1-2 55-56 lbs 290.00-305.00; 69 lbs 235.00; 72-79 lbs 215.00-225.00; 84-85 lbs 185.00-205.00; 92 lbs 190.00; 100-116 lbs 190.00-215.00. Choice 2 50-53 lbs 250.00-300.00; 63-67 lbs 220.00-235.00; 83 lbs 190.00; 90 lbs 175.00-185.00; 105 lbs 120.00. Good and Choice 2-3 54 lbs 235.00; 63 lbs 200.00; 90 lbs 115.00.

SLAUGHTER GOATS KIDS: Selection 1 55 lbs 310.00; 70 lbs 305.00; 84 lbs 275.00. Selection 1-2 97 lbs 230.00. Selection 2 30 lbs 265.00; 52-56 lbs 325.00-330.00; 61-66 lbs 295.00-300.00; 96 lbs 200.00; 119 lbs 195.00. Selection 2-3 49 lbs 265.00; 65 lbs 240.00.

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A year after the tornado, UK research and education center looks back, pushes forward

FROM PAGE 19

Katie VanValin, extension beef specialist. "It was vital for us to fellowship with those in the Kentucky beef industry and to talk about the challenges and learning experiences we have had recovering and rebuilding from a natural disaster."

UK CAFE associate dean for research Jamie Matthews said the beef unit at Princeton has historically been a crit-

ical component of CAFE's beef cattle extension and research programs.

"We are excited that we've sustained that program during this challenging recovery and rebuilding phase," he said. "We are looking forward to future operation and contributions."

UKREC scientists have spearheaded many important research endeavors, including no-till research projects, precision agriculture application studies

and a soil fragipan research breakthrough. The center has been a resource for research-based information in agronomics, forages, beef management, disease control, pest control, precision agriculture, grain storage systems, soil fertility and grain marketing.

Insurance will cover rebuilding costs for most buildings, though no concrete timeline is available. Knott said they are still putting temporary facilities in place

and planning for the future.

"We hope to have most everything built in the next five years, but we won't have a specific timeline until more buildings are under construction," she said. "It will take time, but we will not stop serving the agricultural community. We'll be efficient and resourceful, and we will continue the strong tradition of the UKREC in Kentucky by preparing now for the next 100 years."

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PRIDE IN AG EDUCATION – Today's Farm News for Tomorrow's Farm Community

Reaching ag students in classrooms across Kentucky



K-12 students can now enter poster and essay contest

'Kentucky Agriculture is Everywhere' Theme Reflects on the Importance of Farmers

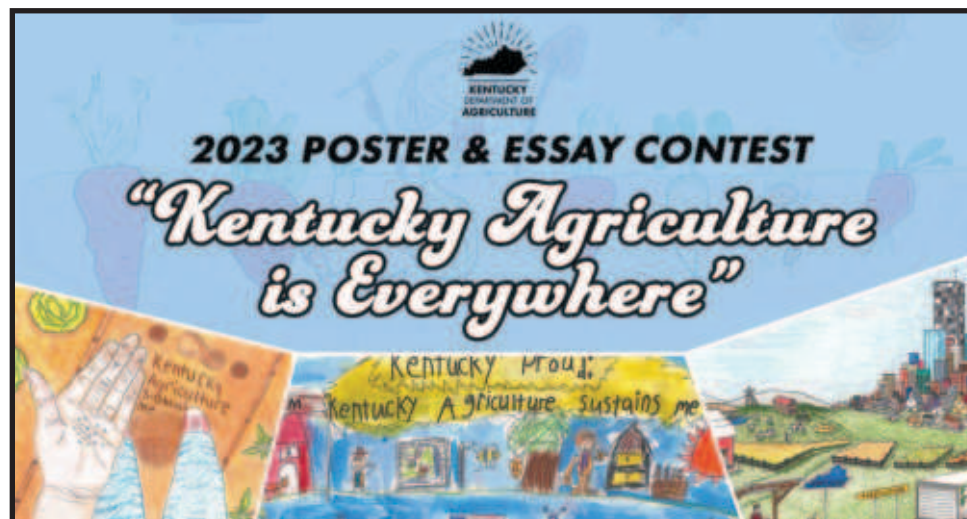
Kentucky students are invited to enter the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's (KDA) annual Poster and Essay Contest, Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Ryan Quarles has announced.

The theme of the 2023 contest is "Kentucky Agriculture is Everywhere," encouraging contestants to illustrate in words or pictures how agriculture impacts their everyday world.

"Agriculture is everywhere. It's in the things we eat, the things we wear, the places we live," Commissioner Quarles said. "Emphasizing the importance agriculture plays in our everyday lives reveals its importance in all we do and have. This year's contest allows students to give that knowledge greater thought."

Students in grades K-12 may submit a poster, an essay of 500 words or less, or a digital entry, which may be photos or original digital artwork. Each entry must include the actual written theme and be postmarked by Friday, March 3, 2023.

Winners will be notified by Friday, April 14, 2023. Winners in the poster and essay competitions will be selected in each grade.



One statewide winner will be selected for digital artwork. Each winner will receive a \$100 award from Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom and will be recognized at the 2023 Poster and Essay Contest Awards Ceremony next year. Winning entries will be displayed in Commissioner Quarles' Frankfort office and at the 2023 Kentucky State Fair in August in Louisville.

There are a few different approaches students can take with their entries:

1) Show or tell how agriculture is "everywhere" in their community, county, or commonwealth. What farms, farm items, or farm products do they see where they live? We encourage you to think beyond a typical farm scene with a barn. Learn about agriculture in your county. Learn about

agriculture across the commonwealth.

2) Show or tell how Kentucky agriculture contributes to your daily life and how farm products are all around you. How many times do you benefit from Kentucky agricultural products? Students can research the many products that are made from different crops and livestock by visiting www.teachkyag.org.

3) Show or tell how people in other states or countries benefit from Kentucky agricultural products. The top exported Kentucky farm products by value are horses, soybeans, corn, tobacco, and pre-mixed animal feeds. Kentucky agriculture trade highlights and news.

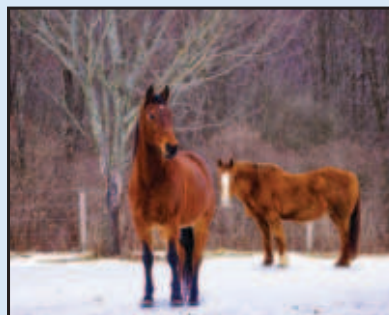
For more information, including complete contest rules and an entry form, go to <https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/poster-essay-contest.html> or contact Elizabeth Gordon, director of the KDA's Education and Outreach Division, at Elizabeth.Gordon@ky.gov or 502-782-4125.

Kentucky's Top Agricultural Exports in 2021

1. Horses (Other livestock) - \$786.3 million
2. Soybeans - \$652.2 million
3. Corn - \$319.4 million
4. Tobacco - \$224.6 million
5. Feeds and other feed grains - \$217.8 million

Total exports - \$3.1 billion

Source: USDA Economic Research Service



PRIDE IN AG EDUCATION Classroom Questions

1. Names several factors that are causing financial pressures for beef producers.
2. Summarize what ag economists say they expect the 2022 ag receipts to look like.
3. Summarize the Morgan and Hagan family farms, which were honored recently by the Kentucky Poultry Federation.
4. What are some of the reasons there is a large animal veterinarian shortage in the U.S. and Kentucky?
5. What are some potential solutions to the large animal veterinarian shortage?

kycorn CONNECTION

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

KY Corn's CORE Farmer Program Kicks off Class 6



CORE Farmer Program Class 6 heard from Richard Strode, Philip McCoun, and Russel Schwenke. The forum was moderated by UK's Chad Lee.

Seventeen new participants kicked off the first session of KyCorn's CORE Farmer Program in early December by learning from successful growers with long careers. This marks Class 6 of the program focused on agronomic decision-making, farm management education, and peer networking over seven learning sessions spanning a two-year period.

Other discussions about generational transition and advice to maximize their experience and how to get and give back the most regarding this program were also part of the first session curriculum.



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Trade School Educates, Empowers Farmers On Policy, Export Topics

Farmers, corn organization staff and members of the local community gathered to dig into the hot topics of trade policy and exports at the "trade school" held last week in Louisville. The event was a collaboration of the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) and the National, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio Corn Growers Associations.

"So much has happened in the last few years in terms of trade and exports," said Richard Preston, Ky-Corn past president and grower from Glendale. "Our members really see how important these topics are, and we were thrilled to be able to offer them an opportunity to come together and learn about what it really means for their operations."

USGC is the corn industry's export market development organization, supported by checkoff and farm bill dollars to develop new export customers overseas, while NCGA is the organization focused on federal policy affecting corn farmers, including trade agreements.

This trade school is one of several hosted across the country. While every trade school event is different based on current events and local interests, each aims to demonstrate the importance of trade to the agriculture industry and farmers' profitability; connects topics in the news to the systems and structures of trade; and offers training on how participants can talk about trade issues in their communities.

The Louisville school included an Ohio River lock tour provided by the Army Corps of Engineers. The key message for participants is simple but not easy: trade policy and market development lead to sales.

"We really wanted people to walk away from this event feeling more confident in their depth of knowledge about how trade impacts their work and empowered to use that knowledge when talking with policy and decision makers," remarked Preston.

Learn more about trade and market development efforts at kycorn.org.

