



The Old Farmhand: Part Two

October/ November 2022



Jessica Barnes
Jessica Barnes,
County Extension Agent For Ag.
& Natural Resources Education

A Note from Jessica



Hello everyone! Fall is in the air and I hope this newsletter finds you and your family doing well. The 2022 harvest around the county is in full swing. So far the corn yields have been average to above average (depending on when the corn tasseled over the summer) and the soybean yields are looking promising so far as well. Most of the tobacco around the county has been housed and a lot of the second cutting grass hay is in a bale. We are in

need for some rain to finish out some late planted soybeans and to get the cover crops and wheat germinated and off to a good start. I know there was a lot of grass seeded into pastures and hay fields this fall as well that is also needing a rain so that it can get strong enough to survive the winter. Please, be cautious of Johnsongrass and sorghum type grasses this time of year with frost. Do not graze for 14 days after a non-killing frost and don't graze until the plant has dried down after a killing frost. Have a safe harvest season!

2022 Top Farm Hand Award

The Top Farm Hand award is given to an individual each year who has made significant contributions to the farming community and Extension over the years.

This year the 2022 Top Farm Hand was awarded to Mr. Keith Smith! Keith has been very active in Extension and farming for most of his life and has been an excellent mentor to me since I began my Extension career. If you see Keith out and about, please congratulate him on this honor!



Five Things to Do to Improve the Efficiency of Winter Feeding This Year

Dr. Katie VanValin, Assistant Professor Beef Nutrition, University of Kentucky

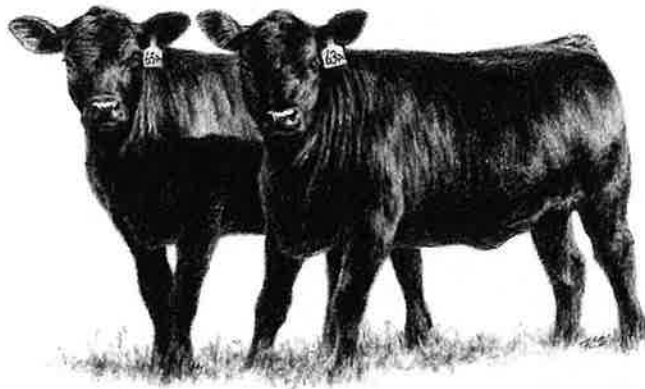
Undoubtedly, 2022 has had its fair share of challenges thus far. High input prices likely led to fewer hay acres being fertilized, which with the added pressure of drought, can lead to lower quality and quantity of stored forages moving into this winter. You might be in for sticker shock if you haven't purchased feed recently. It can be easy to get caught up in things we have little to no control over, so here are five things we can do to improve this year's winter-feeding program.

1. **Body condition score the herd:** Calves should be weaned from the spring calving cows (or will be very soon). It's easy to get caught up focusing on the weaning weight of the calves or managing a pre-conditioning program but don't forget about the cows. Now is the time to assess the body condition score of the herd. Spring calving cows will have their lowest nutrient requirements of the entire year shortly after weaning the calf. Now is the time to efficiently add condition to thin cows to set them up for success during the 2023 breeding season. Sorting cows by body condition score can allow for more efficient herd management and for those thin cows to receive the extra nutrition they require without overfeeding them in adequate condition. It is much more challenging to add condition to cows as they approach calving or have a calf at side. The ideal body condition score for mature cows is 5, while targeting younger females to a BCS 6 can ensure they have the extra condition required to meet their additional nutrient requirements for supporting growth.
2. **Test your hay:** This is something we always recommend, but in years like 2022, this becomes even more important. Hay tests provide valuable information about the energy and protein concentrations in the sample. All lots of hay should be tested, and a lot is defined as hay harvested from the same field on the same day and stored under the same conditions. Testing all lots of hay allows producers to match lots of hay to the herd so that the lowest quality hay is being fed when the cows' nutrient requirements are the lowest while saving the best quality hay for when nutrient requirements are their highest. Feeding the right hay to the right cow at the right time can drastically decrease the amount of supplement required to maintain body condition.
3. **Evaluate supplement costs:** At some point throughout the year, some supplementation is likely required to meet the energy and protein requirements of the herd. Using hay test results can help determine the most efficient supplement to match the energy and protein deficits in the hay. The University of Kentucky Forage Supplement tool is a simple-to-use online tool that provides recommendations for supplementation based on hay test results. Also, reach out to your local county extension agent or nutritionist to assist in interpreting hay test results. Now is the time to sharpen the pencil and determine which supplement options will be the most economical to pair with available forage. Remember, the feed that was the most economical last year may not be the most economical choice this year. Just because one feed costs more on a \$/Ton basis does not mean it is the most expensive supplement to feed. The amount of a particular supplement required must also be considered.
4. **Feed hay efficiently:** Regardless of quality, when the quantity of hay is tight, available hay stores must be fed efficiently. Research has shown that feeding hay in a hay ring prevents feeding waste, especially rings that contain a solid skirted bottom. Hay feeding pads and fence line feeders can also reduce hay feeding losses. While these measures will not completely reduce hay feeding losses, these losses can be reduced from 45% to as little as 6% by using hay rings. Moving hay rings or utilizing bale grazing can help to limit trampling damage around these hay feeding sites and help to distribute manure evenly across the feeding area.

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5. Stockpiling forages: Although nitrogen application can increase the amount of stockpiled forage available to graze during the winter, tall fescue can still stockpile even without a nitrogen application. Closing off certain fields during the fall growing season can allow the forages in these fields to stockpile, which can then be grazed during the late fall and early winter. While the nutrient quality of stockpiled fescue declines over time, nutrient content can remain adequate for supporting dry cows. Consider setting up a simple strip grazing system using temporary electric fencing to prevent trampling losses when turning cattle out on stockpiled forages.

Contact your local county extension office for more information about establishing an effective and efficient winter-feeding program.



UK Beef Management Webinar Series

Darrh Bullock, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

We will start back on the UK Beef Management Webinar Series on October 11 with a Shoot the Bull session and the full agenda for the fall is below. Registration is necessary if you have not registered in the past (If you have ever received an invitation then you should be registered). If you would like to register, please send an email to dbullock@uky.edu with Beef Webinar in the subject line and your name and county in the message. You will receive the direct link with a password the morning of each meeting. This invitation will directly link you to the site and you will be asked for the password which can be found just below the link. Each session will be recorded and posted for later viewing. **All meeting times are 8:00pm ET/7:00pm CT.**

The library of all UK beef related videos, including past webinars, can be found at:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC5aJFY_Be8XJZ_03_QI73TK0826T8Fjq

Remember all sessions are 8:00pm Eastern/ 7:00pm Central and please let us know if you have any issues.

October 11, 2022

Shooting the Bull: Answering all your Beef Related Questions! – Updates and Roundtable discussion with UK Specialists

November 8, 2022

From Hay Sample to Feed Bunk: Winter Feeding Considerations for Cattle – Katie Mason, Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee

December 13, 2022

Packer and Consumer Trends with Some Holiday Beef Ideas – Gregg Rentfrow, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky and Alison Smith, Kentucky Beef Council Retail and Foodservice



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FALL TO THE PAST OPEN HOUSE

HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE



Come celebrate Harrison County Cooperative Extension as we enjoy a blast from the past, showcase current club and extension happenings, and show our appreciation to community members. Stop by anytime between 8am- 8pm. Refreshments will be available all day. Supper, live band, and 4-H entrepreneurs will take place from 5:30-7:30pm.

Have some old 4-H, Homemaker, or Extension projects, records or memorabilia? Help us decorate with our theme by dropping items off to the Harrison County Extension Office by Friday, October 31st.

Friday, November 11th



Homesteading Series



University of Kentucky
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Join us on the 1st Tuesday of each month now through March (excluding January) to learn more about homesteading on your very own property! These courses are suited for those who are interested in homegrown and self-sufficiency whether you are just beginning or have an established operation and just need a few more resources.

5 Courses Available

Small Scale Rabbit Farming	Meat Canning	Poultry Production for Meat	Beekeeping
<p>Fill your freezer with the other white meat! Learn how to raise rabbits for meat on your homestead, farm, or even in your backyard.</p>	<p>Discover how to can and store the meat you produce to feed your family all year round.</p>	<p>Purchasing, housing, feeding, maintenance, tips/tricks and more to fill your freezer with homegrown poultry.</p>	<p>Find out what you need to start and care your own apiary for honey production and pollination.</p>
October 4 6:00pm	November 1 6:00pm	December 6 6:00pm	February 7 6:00pm

Gardening for the Homestead

Fill your kitchen with a homegrown bounty of fruits and vegetables. Discover the how-tos of raising fresh produce at home.

March 7
6:00pm

To register for the courses or for more information, contact the Harrison County Extension Office at 859-234-5510

Harrison County Extension Office
1000 Harrison County Extension Office
Harrison, KY 40301



ESTATE PLANNING SERIES

Harrison County Extension Office

Have you planned for your future?

Do you know what will happen to your things after you pass?

Talk to experts to begin your estate planning!

RSVP to 859-234-5510 by
November 1, 2022

**CAIP
Eligible
Program**



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THE IMPORTANCE OF ESTATE PLANNING

Monday, November 7 - Nichole Huff,
General Estate Planning

Monday, November 21 - Steve Isaacs,
Farm Succession Planning

Monday, December 5 - Local Attorney,
Question & Answer

6:00 pm each night



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HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

Month to Month Gardening Series

Join us on the 1st Thursday of each month to discuss timely gardening topics and plan your garden to-do list for the month!

1:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5, June 2,
July 7, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, & Nov 3

Registration is **REQUIRED**
to register, call 859-234-5510



Happy Fall Y'all

Dead Animal Removal
Country Side Industries
859-421-1867

Timely Tips

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

Fall-calving herds

- The calving season should be in full swing for fall-calving cows. Check cows frequently. Identify calves and commercial males should be castrated and implanted.
- Take accurate records of calving and calving performance. Our new app (X10D) makes data collection and reporting simple, easy, and convenient.
- Put fall-calving cows on accumulated pasture before the breeding season. Be sure to save some grass in the breeding pastures.
- It is time to get everything ready for the fall-breeding season, too. Line-up semen, supplies, etc. now and get your bulls ready to go (don't forget their breeding soundness evaluation). Breeding soundness exams are a vital component to reducing the risk of reproductive performance and need to be conducted 30-45 days before EVERY breeding season. Contact your herd veterinarian to schedule the exams.
- Obtain yearling measurements (weight, hip height, scrotal circumference, etc.) on replacement animals - especially for registered ones.
- Contact your herd veterinarian and schedule pelvic area examinations and reproductive tract scores for your potential replacements. Use pelvic area to identify larger heifers with smaller than normal pelvic areas so you can remove them from the breeding pool. Reproductive tract scores can be used to identify immature heifers for culling. Typically, heifers with a reproductive tract score less than 3 have limited ability to conceive early in the breeding season.



HARVESTING
The
Holidays
NOVEMBER 5, 2022

FREE Rides and bouncers for the kids

Come out to Harrison Square and Connersville Pike and enjoy a day of fun for the whole family!

10 AM - 4 PM
SATURDAY, NOV 5

These and many more!

It all adds up to a **Family Fun Day** you won't want to miss!

COOKIE CONTEST
Think yours are the best? Take the challenge and let our judges decide! For more information, contact Allison Realty 859-234-0888.

ENTERTAINMENT by
Kentucky Bluegrass Cloggers
Trudy Sosbe Rose & Ben Clifford
Cedar Valley Bluegrass

In Partnership with
HARRISON COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

VENDORS for your holiday shopping enjoyment

For information on becoming a vendor, contact Macy or Madison at 859-234-1036 or email mflorence@cynthianademocrat.com or rmward@cynthianademocrat.com

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"Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities"

Kentucky Beef Conference



October 17, 2022

In person

Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

5:30-6:30

Registration, visit
sponsors, meal
\$10 registration fee

**RSVP by October 10th
to Fayette County
Extension Office
859.257.5582**

**Zoom Webinar –FREE
Registration Link:**

**[https://forms.gle/
JfvpRkiQ1Hx9ocnh9](https://forms.gle/JfvpRkiQ1Hx9ocnh9)**

Once registration is
complete, you will be
emailed the zoom link.

6:30—Welcome & Sponsor Recognition

Beau Neal, Fayette County Agriculture &
Natural Resources Extension Agent

Extension Remarks

Dr. Laura Stephenson, UK Extension
Director

Beef Outlook & Marketing Strategies

Patrick Linnell, Cattle-FAX Analyst

7:15—Asian Longhorned Tick Concerns

Dr. Michelle Arnold, UK Ruminant
Extension Veterinarian

7:45-Feeding Drought Stressed Forages

Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK Beef Nutrition
Extension Specialist

8:05—Breeding Stock Investment in Expanding Beef Market

Dr. Kenny Burdine, UK Beef Economic
Extension Specialist

8:30—Adjourn

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

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

